

# HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



## May General Meeting

Our May meeting will feature well known author Mary White. Mary will be talking on the general theme of land and water management (or mis-management), based on her recent publication "Listen... Our land is Crying" and her soon to be published book "Running Down. Water in a Changing Land".

The meeting will be held on Friday 26 May at the Conservation Hut, Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, commencing at 7.30 pm. Visitors are very welcome.

## Silicon Smelter

A public information meeting was held at Katoomba on 7 April. The meeting, organised jointly by the Blue Mountains Environment Centre, National Parks Association and BMCS, was attended by about 125 people. Speakers included BMCC Councillor Carol Gaul and Deputy Mayor Angelique Henson. Other speakers were Greg Standen (Lachlan Regional Transport Committee), Noel Plumb (NPA) and Jon Rickard (BMCS).

Sentiments expressed at the meeting ranged from outright opposition to the smelter to acceptance of the smelter, provided it met environment sustainability criteria. The Society's Management Committee view generally aligns with this latter approach.

Key environmental criteria included the need for the smelter's carbon to come from a truly sustainable source — certainly not native forests. Transportation of the smelter's raw materials and finished products should be by rail. Jon Rickard spoke about the 615,000 tonnes per annum of greenhouse gasses attributable to the smelter, and the need for carbon sinks to be created to absorb this amount of carbon dioxide.

Resolutions passed at the end of the meeting covered these main issues. These will be forwarded to Mr Debus and the Premier for consideration.

Communities and Governments have long accepted that heavy industry has to be dirty and environmentally degrading. This proposed smelter presents a very

### THE DEADLINE

FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF HUT NEWS IS  
FRIDAY 23 MAY 2000

## URBAN SPRAWL or MEDIUM DENSITY or NEITHER? Defining a Sustainable Development Threshold for the Blue Mountains.

There are few opportunities for communities to influence these major questions on their futures. A Local Environment Plan is the important legal document which determines these questions about the future growth of an area. During the latter part of this year there will be opportunities, organised by Council for individual residents and organisations such as ours to influence what will be in the Blue Mountains LEP 2000.

BMCS is holding a workshop to involve members in developing our policy position on the Sustainable Development Threshold. It is hoped that this workshop will also assist members in becoming actively involved in the consultation process planned by Council, as individual residents.

Members with particular expertise will form a panel of speakers. These will include Malcolm Hughes on planning, and Jill Currow on ecological sustainability. It is hoped that a representative from NPWS will be able to speak on the impacts on the National Park, and also a Council officer able to present Council's position. Issues for debate include:

- Should the Sustainable Development Threshold be determined by the impact on the surrounding Blue Mountains National Park?
- If the existing growth trend is not opposed, should the increase be accommodated by higher density living, or by extending the urban area?
- If increasing growth is to be opposed, what planning controls are available to limit this growth?

Did you know that these very issues were hotly debated by the community around 1974/76? Did you know that the Federal government funded an extensive and expensive process of studies, community consultation and a "referendum"? Come and find out what the community said then and what happened to all this?

Come along, learn something and have your say in developing our position.

**When?** Wednesday 17th May, 7.30 pm

**Where?** Springwood Health Centre, 288-292 Macquarie Road, beside the Fire Station

**Enquiries:** Lyndal Sullivan 47 82 1635 (ah)

real challenge to environmentalists to sell a different point of view.

Silicon is used for a multitude of modern purposes — cells for solar energy, aluminium alloys for cladding aircraft, sealants, resins, plastics, enamels and rubbers, to name just a few.

job that combines working for the environment with earning a living, let me know and I will include you on a mailing list for all job advertisements that cross my desk. If you have an e-mail address, let me know as this will save us some postage. *Ross Coster (4759.1247).*

(Electronic chips consume less than 1% of world silicon production.) If we want these products, surely it's better that they be made in Australia in an environmentally friendly way, rather than force them overseas where they may not be made with environmental sustainability considerations taken into account.

This smelter is being proposed for an area where jobs are short. Why not have the jobs that are offered by the smelter, plus the extra jobs that come from the associated forestry activity needed to provide the carbon sink?

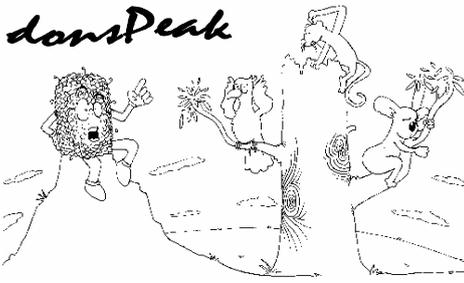
Why can't we have heavy industry that is an environmental showpiece? Are our Governments and business decision makers listening?

## Looking for a Job?

As the contact point for Society e-mail I receive lots of advertisements for jobs in the area of environmental activism. Many of these jobs involve doing contract work for the Nature Conservation Council and sitting on committees.

If you are interested in a

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

It is saddening that there is a difference between the Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council and some environmentalists over proposed development of Aboriginal land near Garigal National Park at Terrey Hills.

Bushland in any part of Sydney's surrounds could in future be affected by Aboriginal land claims and the Metropolitan Aboriginal Land Council has been very patient while Warringah Council has been attempting to negotiate a land swap — in contrast to some other potential developers and subdividers of urban fringe bushland.

However, at the time of writing, the issue has not been resolved and a major injection of State or Federal funds may provide the only solution.

## Katoomba Funds Fiasco

Nearly two years after the Katoomba "Charette" meetings, environmentally important works such as the repair of eroding walking tracks near Echo Point remain incomplete. Society members such as Kevin Bell, who were pessimistic about the Charette and associated plans from the beginning have every right to say "I told you so".

Council and State Government put millions into the Katoomba-Echo Point process but so far it has gone mainly into salaries, consultants' fees and intersection works to bring more cars into the town centre — not what the residents who attended the meetings were expecting.

## Tuckey's Law

Federal Forests Minister, Wilson Tuckey, has proposed a policy amounting to 'zero tolerance' of protestors against logging of old-growth forests. In the same month, Radio National's 'Background briefing' exposed the Carr Government's maximum tolerance of those who illegally clear vegetation from private land. Taken together, these approaches could return NSW to the days of the Rum Corps when the Law protected only the greedy. If the Law were applied to all without discrimination we would indeed be in a different environment.

Don Morison.

## Katoomba Airfield

Bushwalkers in the Grose Valley in the National Park, and residents of North Katoomba and Medlow Bath will have not-so-fond memories of the noise from "joy flights" which operated from this airfield some years ago. The leasee now wants to upgrade the airfield for tourism purposes and so is seeking to either purchase the site or be granted a lease in perpetuity.

The airfield is located on Crown

Land, surrounded by National Park. The Dept Land and Water Conservation is currently reviewing the future use of the Katoomba Airfield site which is at the end of Grand Canyon Road Medlow Bath. There has been a draft document on display at the Council Chambers and the Blackheath Library. This report supports the rehabilitation of the site and that it be reserved for environmental protection, with some limited continued use of the airfield for emergencies.

We urge members to write to the Department supporting our position that this site should be incorporated into the Blue Mountains National Park. It should not continue as a commercially operated airfield, because of the environmental impact on sensitive hanging swamps, water quality and the National Park. Any future continued use should be strictly limited to emergency firefighting and managed by NPWS.

The closing date for submissions has been extended to 12th May. The address is: Land Assessment Officer, Dept Land and Water Conservation, Sydney Metropolitan Office, PO Box 3935, Parramatta NSW 2124. Enquiries: Lyndal Sullivan 4782 1635 (ah).

## About the BMCS Nursery

Blue Mountains Conservation Society operates two nurseries for the propagation of Australian native plants.

The older (1990) nursery is within the Workshop Compound of the Heritage Centre of the National Parks and Wildlife Service on Govetts Leap Road in Blackheath. Access is via Lyndsays Lane from the roundabout on Govetts Leap Road, about 3 km east from the Great Western Highway and Blackheath Railway Station.

Society volunteers work at the Blackheath nursery on Tuesday mornings, 9 am till 12 noon, and we welcome retail customers. Come and see us for your Australian natives!

At Blackheath we keep our seed bank, and much of our plant stock is grown from seed we collect locally. This is important when customers require plants of known provenance, as in revegetation and bushcare. We also grow plants from cuttings, especially for garden use, and often these plants derive from native plant populations from other Australian States.

The capacity of the Blackheath nursery is about 15,000 treepots. There is a 5 x 3 metre greenhouse with three heated trays for propagation, and a fully-enclosed 8 x 8 metre shadehouse which will hold 10,000 treepots. Outdoor areas accommodate another 5,000 treepots.

The younger (1999) nursery is at the rear of the premises of Mt Hay Technology, 25 Livingstone Street, Lawson, New South Wales, 2783, a business owned by Ross and Heather Coster. The Lawson nursery houses our plant stock for wholesale and contract purposes: no retail sales are conducted at Lawson, and Society volunteers attend as required.

The Lawson nursery has a shadehouse 10 x 10 metres, with a capacity of 10,000 treepots in four lanes of 2,500, all

with automatic preset watering; a bin, 2.4 x 2.4 metres square x 1 metre high, for potting mix; and a workshop, 4.5 x 4.5 metres x 2 metres high, with concrete slab floor. Two more shadehouses, each 10 x 10 metres, are under construction, to bring the capacity to 30,000 treepots.

Twice a year, spring and autumn, BMCS Nursery volunteers transport a range of native plants to the forecourt of the Conservation Hut at the end of Fletcher Street in Wentworth Falls, where members and the public enjoy a Saturday morning sale between 9 am and 12 noon.

The most vital commodity in the operation of the BMCS Nursery is the enthusiasm and commitment of the volunteers. If you would like to join our team on a regular basis, then don't hesitate to phone or fax me. (David Coleby, BMCS Nursery Manager, Phone/Fax: 02-4784-1395).

## Second Annual

### Cross Mountain Walk

Wheeny Creek - Mount Wilson - Grose River - Mount Victoria

Start: Evening, Monday 2 October

Finish: Afternoon, Sunday 8 October

A social and 'personal achievement' event, with exceptional fitness not required. Some nights with beds, mainly camp out. Join for all or part of the six days. Warm up walks start in July. Contact Don Morison, PO Box 170, Katoomba 2780 by mid-June.

## Water Nymphs Dell

Water Nymphs Dell is on the route of a well known old walking track in Wentworth Falls, on the northern side of the railway line.

The Council Reserve through which the track goes, extends from the upper catchment of Blue Mountain Creek in Taylor Avenue down to the National Park on the east. A team of Bush Regenerators has been working in the Reserve since 1998 with funding from the Urban Runoff Control Program.

You are invited to an Open Day on Saturday afternoon May 6th to see what's been happening. Meet at the URCP sign in Taylor Avenue at 2pm.

The reserve has no community caretakers as yet. So if you are interested in becoming part of a bushcare group or helping in some other way, come to the Open Day or call Margaret Turton from URCP on 4780 5437 (bus) or Lyndal Sullivan on 4782 1635 (ah).

## Learn About Bushcare

### Bush Regeneration Workshop

May 21, 9am to 3 pm, Blaxland. For anyone who wishes to join a bushcare group, or learn about bush regeneration or weeds on their own property. Contact Hugh Paterson 4751.2303.

## 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 Honeyeater Migration

Here in the Blue Mountains we regularly witness one of the most spectacular autumn bird migrations in Australia. If you happen to live along a major flight path you will probably have noticed them — streams of Yellow-faced Honeyeaters flying northwards in their thousands, a truly amazing event to watch and one which usually continues on most fine-weather mornings from late March to mid-May.

These small greyish-brown birds can be easily recognised by their flight call — a brisk repeated "dep dep ..." which is a real feature of autumn. As the season progresses they are joined by an increasing number of White-naped Honeyeaters. Both these species make their way up the south-east Australian coast and tablelands — possibly many have come from Victoria and the high country and are heading towards areas rich in winter flowering plants, especially on the northern NSW coast and into Queensland. The Atlas of Australian Birds (1984) gives the longest recorded movement of a banded Yellow-faced Honeyeater as 756km and of a White-naped as 252km.

As they fly through the Blue Mountains they follow the gullies and escarpments northwards along traditional routes (good places to watch them include Kings Tableland, Darwin's Walk, Narrow Neck and Shipley Road before the Megalong turn-off), stopping regularly in treetops.

This year, however, their numbers are considerably down. Where I live at the head of Katoomba Falls Creek I regularly count them as they fly up the valley and across a gap between tall trees. This morning (21st April) was the best count so far this year, with around 300 birds an hour. Compare that with other years when it's not uncommon to get 4000 birds an hour flying over on a good morning! So, where are they?

Nectar-feeding birds can be

extremely variable from one season to another, a point which was well illustrated earlier this year by the sudden appearance of Rainbow Lorikeets in the upper mountains in response to the excellent flowering of *Banksia serrata*. The honeyeaters might be taking a different route this year, perhaps going further inland, or they might even be staying put if conditions are favourable. The only thing I know for sure is that autumn just isn't the same without thousands of intensely restless honeyeaters to distract me from my work. *Carol Proberts.*

## Warming Up the Earth — Losing All the Species

Global warming is believed to be responsible for the extinction of the Golden Toad and disappearance of 20 other frog and toad species from the Costa Rican highland forests. This is said to be due to a 'dramatic' decline in the frequency of dry-season mists in the forests, which correlates with warmer ocean temperatures in the Pacific.

Elsewhere, the BBC reports that two South Pacific Islands have disappeared as sea levels rise. Both Tebua Tarawa and Abanuea were uninhabited but used by fishermen. Other Pacific islands are experiencing the effects of rising sea levels with most of the coastline of the Marshall Islands suffering from erosion and beaches being swept away in the islands of the Maldives. Some islands are experiencing severe flooding due to storms and high tides leaving the soil saline. It is estimated that a temporary sea wall for only one Marshall Island would cost \$100 million, which is more than the country produces annually. Conservative estimates say that the sea level will rise by two or three feet over the next century. (This article was published in the journal of Friends of the Earth "Chain Reaction" Their source was Earth Island Journal.)

## Task for a Student?

We are often approached by students, typically from the University of Western Sydney Hawkesbury, looking to do volunteer work for the Society as part of their studies. At present one such student, Veronica Lansom, is doing a project for us researching inholdings in the Blue Mountains National Parks as part of her Bachelor of Landscape Management and Conservation. The work we get from these students is high quality and involves dedicating more hours than many of the Committee or Sub-Committees can offer.

Can you think of a research project that a student could do for the Society, or a local Bushcare group? If yes, let me know and I will include your suggestion in a list of projects for any students that offer their services in future. *Ross Coster (4759.1247)*

## Greenhouse Corner

### What is Integral Energy Up To?

During recent weeks I have been contacted by John Ross from Integral Energy. John spoke some time ago at our general meeting about what Integral is doing to reduce Greenhouse emissions.

Integral buy 12% of their electricity from alternate (not coal) energy sources, and have reduced their greenhouse impact by over 2.8 million tonnes per annum. At Smithfield in western Sydney Integral has developed a co-generation facility that generates electricity from natural gas, and uses the waste heat as process heat for a factory. The facility generates 160 megawatts into the grid, and the re-use of waste heat makes it very efficient. In south west Sydney Integral runs a methane reclamation facility at a waste depot that generates 95 megawatts into the grid and reduces emission of methane into the atmosphere. At Oberon west of the Blue Mountains Integral are investigating possible sites for a wind power scheme. Wind power is an economical technology that produces clean power with almost no environmental impact.

Perhaps Integral's most exciting project is their community green power scheme. Under this scheme, money contributed by customers (over 12,000 of them now) is used to buy and install solar power systems on the roofs of schools. The most recent such installation is at Blaxland High School. The system cost \$18,000 and generates 1.4 kilowatts of clean green energy, reducing the school's electricity bill at the same time.

If you want to contribute to this scheme, just sign up for the rounding option on your electricity account by ringing 131002. This will cost you a maximum of \$6 per year. I've been a member for over a year now.

The other scheme that Integral run that is of interest is their energy audit program. Ring John Ross on 4782-5296 during business hours and he will visit your home or business and advise you on how you can dramatically reduce your electricity use and therefore your greenhouse impact. The service is free and can make a big difference.

It is good to see that Integral are taking the greenhouse effect seriously. Rest assured that I will be working to see that they do even more in future to help save the planet. *Ross Coster*



## To The Bushwalkers

The gold of gompholobium  
Above a dimpled sapphire sea,  
And pink of eriostemon  
Beneath a twisted grey gum-tree!  
And fair as flowers and ocean blue,  
And joyous as the springs caress,  
My comrades of the bush are you,  
Bright keen and fresh with happiness.  
It is not shape of form or wealth,  
Or youth, or strength that makes you fair,  
But kiss of sunshine gold, and health  
Of free fresh purifying air.  
Oft have I watched the dawn's pale hue  
From on my bed beneath the sky,  
And love the earth the more for you,  
Who loved the same wild things as I.

Marie Byles, March 1942

(Published in "Sing With the Wind"  
(100 Bushwalkers' Poems), selected by  
Colin Gibson

## Welcome to New Members

Tricia Kidd, Blackheath  
Matthew Martin, Katoomba  
Denis Williams, Leura  
Gordon McClatchee, Wentworth Falls  
Robyn Wade, Blackheath  
Peter Wright, Springwood  
Keith Kelly, Faulconbridge  
Doug and Nan Swinburn, Leura  
Petra Wilhelm, Leura  
Machteld Baljet and Marcel Hoevenaars,  
Blackheath

## Positions Vacant

There are still two vacancies on the Management Committee — Publicity and Education. If you would like to find out more about either of these positions, please contact a committee member (contact details at the bottom of page 1).

## Walking Track Heritage Study

The final version of the Blue Mountains Walking Track Heritage Study is now complete. This volume combines the Historical Report prepared by Jim Smith and the Heritage Assessment and Conservation Guidelines prepared by MUSEcape Pty Ltd (Chris Betteridge) and David Beaver. Copies can be purchased from NPWS Heritage Centre, Blackheath, for \$30.

NPWS will use the information and guidelines within the report when undertaking works in relation to Blue Mountains walking tracks under its care and control. NPWS has forwarded copies of the report to agencies, interest groups and individuals that have responsibilities and/or interest in walking tracks. It is hoped that this document will be an important reference for all those concerned and will provide a basis for assessment and management of cultural values for walking tracks in the Blue Mountains area.

The authors have also completed NSW Heritage Office database forms that will be included on the Heritage Office internet website. There are separate item listings for 318 tracks and 9 track complexes. The NSW Heritage Office website is at [www.heritage.nsw.gov.au](http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au).

### Bushwalk, 10-12 June

Three day walk, **Kanangra Walls to Katoomba**, one of the classic walks in Australia, via Mount Cloudmaker, Konangaroo, Wild Dog Mountains, Narrowneck Peninsula. Contact Warwick Mosman 4757.1354.

### Popes Glen Bushcare Group

Popes Glen is located on the eastern side of Blackheath — a little valley which supports tall gums, lush ferns, hanging swamps and abundant wildlife. It is the only corner of the mountains where *Eucalyptus dalrympleana* (Mountain Gum) is found — a tall majestic tree with mottled bark and often a great supplier of tree hollows for possums and birds.

Popes Glen has unique character and charm, and is certainly a pleasant place to spend a Saturday morning bushcaring! Alan Lane got the force going for the group over eight years ago now, and today it stands as one of the program's great success stories. The regeneration results achieved by the group are exceptional examples of this technique of land restoration. In a site that was once choked solid with holly and honeysuckle, today stands bushland which bursts with species richness. Tree ferns, shrubs, groundcovers, grasses and young mountain gums abound. There has also been drainage works, track construction and an Urban Runoff Control Program bush regeneration contract that has greatly extended the area treated by volunteers.

However this group is not one to rest on their laurels. As with all sites, there is still so much more to be done. The group has plans and energy but always needs a flow in of new faces to make things happen. If you live over this side of

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>MAY</b>						
1 Bushwalk					6 Bushwalk	
8 Bushwalk	9 Bushcare				13 Bushwalk	
15 Bushwalk		17 Bushcare 17 Workshop			20 MCM Meet 20 Bushwalk	21 Workshop
22 Bushwalk				26 Gen Meet		28 Bushwalk
29 Bushwalk						
<b>JUNE</b>					3 Bushwalk	
5 Bushwalk					10 Kanangra to Katoomba	
	13 Bushcare					
19 Bushwalk		21 Bushcare			24 MCM Meet	
26 Bushwalk				30 Gen Meet		

### MAY

- 17 (Wed) **Urban Sprawl, Medium Density or Neither.** Workshop (See Page 1)
- 20 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 21 (Sun) **Learn About Bushcare.** A workshop at Blaxland (See Page 2).
- 26 (Fri) **General Meeting**, 7.30pm, at The Hut. Guest: Mary White (See Page 1).

### JUNE

- 24 (Sat) **Management Committee Meeting.**
- 30 (Fri) **General Meeting** (Guest: Jill Dark, "Australia's arid lands").

### 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.)

### MAY

- 09 (Tues) **Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group.** Contact Jessica 4757.2783 for the meeting place. (following Tuesday if wet).
- 17 (Wed) **Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group.** Meet 9 am at the Reserve (GWH, West of Sorenson Bridge). Contact Ross Coster 4759.1247.

**BUSHWALKS:** Wear shoes with a good tread, bring morning tea (and lunch for day walks). **Always carry drinking water (minimum of 1 litre, more in hot weather).**

### MAY

- 01 (Mon) **Eighth Avenue, North Leura.** Meet Leura Carpark 9 am. Contact Christina Jones 4784.1101. BBQ afterwards. **Half day, Medium.**
- 06 (Sat) **Gardens of Stone National Park via Cullen Bullen.** Meet Mt Victoria Station 9 am. Contact Meredith Brownhill 4782.4823. **Full day, Medium.** (Long drive, plus 4-5 hour walk)
- 08 (Mon) **Inspiration Point.** Meet Fairmont Resort, lower carpark, 9 am. Contact Jan Cutler 4784.3079. **Half day, Easy.**
- 13 (Sat) **Six Foot Track, Megalong to Cox's River.** Meet Blackheath Railway carpark 8.30 a.m. Contact Ron Wheeler 4757.1526. **Full day, Medium.**
- 15 (Mon) **Bell to Wollongambe Lookout.** Meet Mount Victoria Station 9 am. Contact Jock McKechnie 4758.6346. **Half day, Medium.**
- 20 (Sat) **Red Hands Cave, Campfire Creek Circuit.** Meet Glenbrook Railway Station carpark 9.30 am. Contact Matthew Martin 4782.4218. **Full day, Medium.**
- 22 (Mon) **Walls Ledge.** Meet Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre 9 am. Contact Norah Gaynor 4757.4058. **Half day, Medium.**
- 28 (Sun) **Lokyers Line of Road.** Meet Mount Victoria Railway Station 10 a.m. Contact Dennis Golding 4787.5412. **Full day, Medium, steep sections.**
- 29 (Mon) **Bus Trip to the Glow Worm Tunnel,** departing Katoomba 8.30 am. (Limited numbers). Contact Bill Graham 4759.1692. **Full day, Medium.**

### JUNE

- 03 (Sat) **Mystery Walk.** Meet Hazelbrook Station carpark (south side) 9.30 am. Contact Kate McManus 4758.7936. **Half day, Medium.**
- 05 (Mon) **Gordon Falls to Gladstone Lookout.** Meet Leura Station carpark 9 am. Contact Christina Jones 4784.1101. **Half day, Easy.** BBQ afterwards.
- 10-12 **Kanangra Walls to Katoomba.** Contact Warwick Mosman 4757.1354. **3 days, Hard.** (See description at top of this page.)
- 19 (Mon) **Berghofers Pass.** Meet Mount Victoria Station 9 am. Contact Bill Graham 4759.1692. **Half day, Medium.** BBQ at Mt. York afterwards.
- 26 (Mon) **Hat Hill Road, Anvil Rock, Wind Eroded Cave.** Meet Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre 9 am. Contact Norah Gaynor 4757.4058. **Half day, Easy.**

**Walks 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, suited to fit and experienced walkers. **If this is your first walk**, or you are in any doubt, contact the leader or Bushwalks Convener Bill Graham 4759.1692.

Blackheath then please drop in one morning. They work on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9 am to 1 pm, but you would be welcome to come to any part thereof. If you are interested,

give Alan a call on (02) 9890 2413 and he will put you on the mailing list. *Chris Dewhurst, BMCC Bushcare Coordinator.*