

HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



World Environment Day

The World Environment Day Festival will be held at Springwood Civic Centre, on Saturday, 16 June, 10 am to 4 pm

There will be storytelling, music and entertainment for children and adults.

A lively workshop about our precious Blue Mountains swamps will be run by Jim Wallace (12.30 to 1.30 pm). If you live near a swamp then this is a terrific opportunity to learn about its complex ecosystem.

If you want to learn about greening your home, renovating, native gardens and World Heritage then do come along and join in the festival.

Shopping Bags

Did you know that 14 million plastic bags go into landfill in Australia every day? Just imagine how many more blow into bushland on a windy day or end up in our rivers and oceans.

Well, the Society is taking action and will now sell its own calico reusable shopping bags. There will be the above message and our lovely bird logo printed on the bags. Every bag sold and used will contribute to sustainable living and will also raise \$1.50 for the Society.

They will sell for \$5 at our Friday monthly meetings and at street stalls.

2BLU Promotes Conservation

Blue Mountains Community Radio 2BLU is broadcasting a series on conservation. The program started on May 30 and will be on air every second Wednesday from 2.30 to 3.30pm. Its two producers, Rosie Newling and Paul Mannings will work with the support of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society and its members.

Issues being covered will range from local activities such as bush regeneration, to reflections on sustainable living and

Council Budget and Councillors' Promises

This month Councillors will decide on their budget for the next financial year.

Before the 1999 Council elections, nine of the elected councillors answered a questionnaire in which they said they would vote to significantly increase funding for bushcare and a weeds-eradication program. (The three councillors who did not respond to the Society's questionnaire were: Van der Kley, Kime and Myles.)

Will the Councillors vote to implement their promises this year? **Ask them!**

Unfortunately, it does not look likely. The draft budget, which is prepared by council staff, proposes a reduction from the 2000/2001 budget for an item called "bushland/catchments protection/weed control". Details are not given.

Another expenditure item that we were hoping would appear in the draft budget but has not, is a new Environmental Scientist position. This position is needed to ensure all new developments get vetted by someone with environmental knowledge, hopefully to put an end to the sort of environmental destruction we have seen with the hanging swamp at North Katoomba.

the impact of globalism, to giving local artists a stage to perform their works.

Presenting interviews with people highly respected by the community, having discussions involving academics, or opening the radio waves to poetry recitals and performances by local solo artists and bands will reflect the richness and breadth of conservation and its many links to our lives at this point of history, and hopefully also offer a program that caters for many tastes.

The series opened with an interview with Dulcie and Reg Toseland, two revered elders of the Blue Mountains Conservation movement, reflecting on the beginnings of the Society and its history up to today. On June 13, Jenny

Smith and Max Hatherly will talk about the sacking of Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment Management Trust by the Carr Government, the ramifications of this action and the latest developments.

On June 27, Dr. Ted Trainer from the University of NSW will talk about his vision of a sustainable community, and a fortnight later local artists will take centre stage.

The producers of the program encourage community participation, so if anyone is interested to contribute anything from

ideas to wanting his or her own program, contact Paul on 4754.4451.

Hawkesbury-Nepean Trust

CHANGE (Coalition of Hawkesbury and Nepean Groups for the Environment) is calling on the State Government to restore the Hawkesbury-Nepean Management Trust. Help keep up the pressure! Write to the politicians in the catchment.

CHANGE rejects the notion that any Government agency can do the same job as the trust; demands that the Government give back to the community the voice it has lost; demands adequate funding for the restored Trust.

The Hawkesbury-Nepean needs an effective Trust with the resources to do the job well.

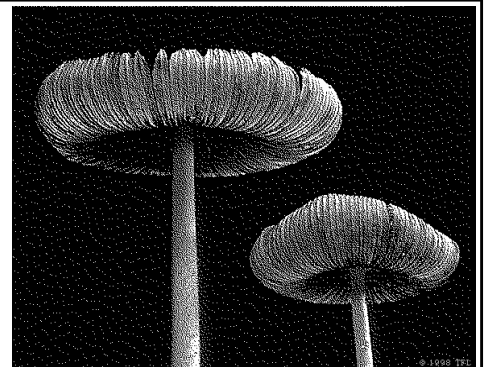
Treasures from the Kingdom of Fungi

"The Russians call it razh, or mushroom passion . . . During a slide presentation by mushroom photographer Taylor F. Lockwood, I am witness to fungi as vivid and resplendent as anything found in the sea or sky -- mushrooms that resemble milky-white icicles, bright orange coral, green trumpets of blown glass, tiny bluebells, and smoky umbrellas made of lace. I am not surprised that Lockwood travels now to other countries during their mushroom seasons. He has an eye. More important, he has the razh." (S.F. Weekly, "The Nightcrawler", Dec. 14, 1999)

Taylor Lockwood is a photographer specialising in promoting the beauty of mushrooms and other fungi. He is at present travelling in Australia, with his slide show, which he will present at our general meeting on Friday, 29 June.

Since "discovering" mushrooms and realising how little our culture knows about them, he has spent much of his time photographing them and presenting his slide show to audiences in North America and all around the world. With a background and education in music, art and the sciences, he became a naturally inspired promoter of a kingdom of species which deserves more attention than it has usually received in the past.

The June general meeting, on Friday



29 June, at the Conservation Hut, end of Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, starts at 7.30 pm. Visitors are very welcome.

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

P.O. Box 29, Wentworth Falls, 2782

Phone 4757 1872 Fax 4757 1753

Email: bmcsc@pnc.com.au

Web page: <http://www.pnc.com.au/~bmcsc>

President: Robin Mosman 4757.1354

(fax)

4757.4503

First Vice President: Bob Seaborne 4751.6100

(e-mail) malpabob@bigpond.com.au

Second Vice President: Jim Wallace 4784.3305

Correspondence Secretary: Frances Love

4757.2585 (e-mail) flove@pnc.com.au

Meetings Secretary: Heather Hull 4739.1493

(e-mail) heatherhull40@hotmail.com

Membership Secretary: Elizabeth van Reyswoud

Phone/Fax 4759.2508

(e-mail) ereyswoud@hermes.net.au

Treasurer: Bart Beech 4739.9947

(e-mail) bbeech@invensys.com.au

Publicity: Margaret Sleath 4759.3350

(e-mail) msleath@ozemail.com.au

Land Use: Lyndal Sullivan 4782.1635

(e-mail) lyndalsullivan@telstra.easymail.com.au

Walks Convener: Bill Graham 4759.1692

(e-mail) wigherit@ozemail.com.au

Plant Nursery Manager: David Coleby

Phone/Fax 4784.1395

National Parks: David Patfield 4757.3949

(e-mail) drpatfield@bigpond.com

Education: Meredith Brownhill 4782.4823

(e-mail) mountains@hermes.net.au

Bushfire Rep: Hugh Paterson 4751-2303

(e-mail) goodbush@pnc.com.au

Bushcare: Clive Heywood-Barker

4782.9209

(e-mail) ozbundu@hotmail.com

Projects: Helga Esamie 4787.7690

(e-mail) platypus@pnc.com.au

Ian Baird 4782.6775

(e-mail) ianbaird@mountains.net.au

Serge Domicelj 4784.1907

(e-mail) domicelj@hermes.net.au

Newsletter Editor: Christine Davies 4787.7246

(fax at BANC, mark for attn C Davies) 4787.7777

(e-mail) hutnews@pnc.com.au

A Wood-Substitute Fuel

A member has emailed to congratulate us on our firewood leaflet, distributed with May Hut News, and added:

"There's one aspect which is very important and which your brochure failed to mention, and that is the availability of alternative wood-substitute fuel.

It is made from waste fruit cartons, which, once they reach the end of their useful life, are normally taken to the tip (up to 12 cubic metres of fruit cartons are tipped each day in Sydney alone).

The manufacturer collects these old cartons, and extrudes them into solid blocks about the size of house bricks. The price is competitive with wood, they burn like wood, with the same amount of heat, and they are equally suited to both open fires and slow-combustion wood burners.

Enquire at your local hardware shop, and give them a try, or you can arrange to order your winter supply in bulk, just like firewood. In this way, you would be helping by reducing the amount of rubbish going to tips and reducing the amount of firewood being burned!"

Reforms Needed

NSW Land and Environment Court

The Society recently made a submission in response to the review of the Land and Environment Court that is presently in progress. As has been reported in the media, the Court has

Our Home & the Environment Embodied Energy

So far we have explained how we will use less energy for heating and cooling our house. We wanted to go further than this and reduce the amount of energy used in constructing the house. To do this we examined the embodied energy of all the materials we could use in the building process. Embodied energy is the energy consumed in producing and transporting a product to its place of use. For example we discovered that the embodied energy of a concrete slab on the ground has almost three times the embodied energy of a timber floor; and that a timber framed, brick veneer wall has more than three times the embodied energy of a timber framed weatherboard wall. The production of aluminium is extremely energy intensive, its embodied energy being 170 times that of air-dried hardwood ("Building Materials, Energy and the Environment" by Bill Lawson). To highlight this issue we will go through our thinking on choosing the product that is at the core of the construction of the house — wood.

Other options for construction could have been straw bales or mud bricks, which possibly have lower embodied energies but we chose wood because we are renovating an existing timber framed, fibro house, which sits on a narrow terrace. Thick straw bales or mud walls wouldn't fit on the site as easily or blend in with the original part of the house being retained.

There are other ethical issues we had with the use of wood, which we'll discuss in a later edition. The embodied energy in timber use relates to the energy used in felling the tree, transporting it to a mill, milling, kiln drying, transporting to a factory or shop and then transportation to the site of use. There is a mill in Victoria, which radially cuts wood. This minimises the amount of wastage (energy) from the log and produces a weatherboard, which shows off the original curve of the tree trunk. One reason we discounted using this wood however, was the transportation energy used in getting the timber to the Blue

Mountains. Similarly we were not happy with western red cedar (transported from the USA), or hardiplanks (made from New Zealand pulp).

Some years ago Jessica had a few pine trees removed from her block. A friend had come in with

Michael Trickett, a Katoomba man who has a mobile Lucas mill. He had milled these trees into structural timber for a house frame. Once the wood is milled it is stacked in your backyard and dried by the wind and sun (no polluting energy). Suddenly, it came to pass that our neighbours were about to have 7 pines removed. We had no time to think. Our neighbours were happy for us to mill their trees (less tipping fees for them). We were on a roll and put an add in the Gazette and some fliers in local shops. Soon we were offered around 70 trees, though we only needed half. They were mostly radiatas and European cypresses, which were being removed from local gardens. With Michael we milled them on the site then drove the wood home on the back of a trailer to be stacked in the yard.

So that was it, we had found a product that was a waste product, only a small petrol engine was used to run the mill and the furthest we had to go was from Wenty to Blackheath. Recently the structural radiata timber was graded by State Forests and was passed for construction. We also milled all our weatherboards and internal lining and cupboard timber from cypresses and some cedar. All this was done with the minimal amount of embodied energy (but lots of bruises and sweat!).

The next issue continues on the theme of embodied energy and looks at recycling. Cheers -

Greg Wellham and Jessica Yuille.



earned a reputation recently of being a "Developers' Court", in which developers not satisfied with a Council decision can appeal, and stand a very good chance of having a Council refusal overturned.

In our submission, we urge that any reform to the Court and associated legislation address the following issues:

Expanded public involvement in the Court process. This could occur in a number of ways, for example, expanding rights of third party appeals to those who object to developments. Presently these rights of appeal only exist in the case of those developments that require an EIS. It was also suggested that a "fighting fund" be established to help the Community to fund the cost of some Court cases;

Misuse of the Court process by developers. We are concerned that the threat of Court action may often lead Councils to make decisions that may compromise environmental quality. Also, developers often submit "amended proposals" to Court following a refusal by Council, in an attempt to get a more favourable hearing by the Court.

Training of Judges and Assessors in Environmental issues. There is a

need to ensure that decision makers in the Court are trained to address current environmental issues. They need to be able to make informed judgements about the environmental issues they adjudicate on, not simply rely on the evidence of so-called experts. How can they make informed judgements without some level of training?

Systems Thinking

"The first commandment of economics is Grow, Grow, Grow forever. Companies must get bigger. National economies need to swell by a certain percent each year. People should want more, make more, earn more, spend more - ever more.

The first commandment of the Earth is: Enough. Just so much and no more. Just so much soil. Just so much water. Just so much sunshine. Everything born of the Earth grows to its appropriate size and then stops. The planet does not get bigger, it gets better. Its creatures learn, mature, diversify, evolve, create amazing beauty and novelty and complexity, but live within absolute limits.

Now, when there's an inconsistency between human economics and the laws of planet Earth, which do you think is going to win?" (Donella Meadows, from EcoSTEPS Netletter, March 2001)

World Heritage Celebration and Dedication

The sunset gathering at Govett's Leap on 12 May 2001 was a fitting way to celebrate the Blue Mountains World Heritage Listing.

Our scribe was amazed at the large size of the turnout — a very tangible recognition of the community support for the listing.

The list of speakers was impressive, and included: Dawn Colless representing the Dharug people; Mayor Jim Angel, who described the day as the most important in the history of the Blue Mountains; Geoff Mosley, author of the book that triggered the campaign; and State and Commonwealth Environment Ministers Bob Debus and Robert Hill.

Geoff Mosley encouraged the Commonwealth to proceed with further applications, to extend the boundaries of the World Heritage area, and to extend the criteria for the listing.

Bob Debus announced the finalisation of Plans of Management for the Blue Mountains, Wollemi, Nattai and Kanangra-Boyd National Parks. He also foreshadowed the gazetting of the Grose Wilderness, and paid tribute to the work of the Confederation of Bushwalkers for their work in achieving this.

Senator Hill announced a Commonwealth grant of one million dollars for a World Heritage Interpretive Centre at the Hawkesbury end of Bells Line of Road. He also confirmed that the Commonwealth would again approach UNESCO to have the area listed for its cultural values (in addition to the natural values for which it is currently listed).

For your scribe, the highlight of the night was the resounding support from the gathering when Bob Debus congratulated Keith Muir and the Colong Foundation for the quality of the campaign they ran to help bring about the successful nomination. Our Society also enjoyed good coverage, with both the

Mayor and Bob Debus giving recognition to the Society's role in helping to achieve the World Heritage Listing.

The World Heritage Listing is further proof that Community groups can make a difference.

Living in Your Catchment

The Sydney Catchment Authority/Blue Mountains Conservation Society jointly-funded project for a portable display and website to raise awareness about how we can reduce our impact on the Blue Mountains Catchment is one of those things that turns out to be bigger than you could imagine and seems to have a life of its own. The website could be seen to be acting as a catalyst to bring the Mountain community's focus on to that question of questions: **How can we live sustainably in this beautiful yet fragile environment?**

The website will offer a broad-section of personal viewpoints of experts in the field (with anecdotes, jokes, poems, etc) as well as an evocative story that speaks to our hearts, and through loads of practical hints and initiatives, encourages us towards a collective sense of place and responsibility.

Although we have hired someone to write the story and put it together, a large part of the website and all of the display is being done voluntarily by members. This, in itself, is a valuable function of the project, that it brings us into that whirlpool of activity that is part of the solution we are seeking. So, if you are prepared to get your feet wet, cast your eyes over the following tasks that, as yet, have not been bagged:

- interview experts and transcribe onto disc (question format provided)
- indigenous calendar of seasons in the Blue Mountains
- collating of info about environmental science career paths
- someone who can do a simplified Eco-footprint measuring exercise for

Membership Enquiries
Contact Elizabeth van Reyswoud
Phone/Fax: 4759.2508 (a.h.)
Email: ereyswoud@hermes.net.au
Post: PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls 2782

the website, or locate a downloadable software program to do it

- cartoon-drawing to fit the content of the website
- anyone familiar with street-level action programs such as Global Action Program or neighbourhood initiatives (e.g. Adopt-a-Squid, Clean Up Australia, car-pooling) to document that for the website in a format that people are encouraged to take up- if this interests you, please contact me and we can discuss further
- collector of 365 handy hints for screen saver (some resources provided)
- researcher to locate relevant freebies for the display (e.g. sink strainers, EPA pamphlets)
- volunteers to sit with the portable display at shopping centres, etc.
- unusual photos of water in the Mountains suitable for website or display
- researcher of relevant inspiring quotes, poems, etc about water (pref. local)

I look forward to hearing from you! (Vera, 4782-5375) And if you can't help with this project, perhaps you can fill out the enclosed Voluntary Skills Inventory for the future.

Ecotours

The successful ecotour earlier this year attracted 80 members, so the tour was booked out early. The interest in ecologically sound building and living is wonderful. Clearly there is a need for information and inspiring examples to help the community move into sustainable living.

Future ecotours will be run by Wild Aware, the environmental celebration at Katoomba Public School in October.



Newly Arrived Custodians

It was 1789 when 19 year old Lieutenant Dawes and two companions stumbled to Mount Twiss, near Linden, on the first excursion by white humans into what is now the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. It was probably 5000 years ago that the predecessors of the Gandangara, Dharug and Wiradjuri people migrated into the same territory. Although they had lived in the Nepean area and other warmer lowlands before that, it was learning skills such as sewing possum skin cloaks with bone needle and sinew thread that let them inhabit the NSW highlands.

In his 1989 book 'Blue Mountains for World Heritage', Dr Geoff Mosley wrote

that, if we could go back in time 60 million years, we would still recognise the major landforms of the Jamison Valley. The ages of these landforms and of the Wollemi Pine species overshadow the few millenia of human presence in the recently dedicated World Heritage area.

I was horrified to hear of the destruction of 2500 year old Buddhas in Afghanistan. But it is hard to compare even that to the treasure of geological, zoological and botanical history we must protect from threats as custodians of the World Heritage of the Blue Mountains.

Rex the Wonder Zoologist

Fat cats are definitely not extinct in Leura and big cats may not be extinct in Lithgow either, a finding which has plunged former Blue Mountains resident Rex Gilroy into the media spotlight. Rex has seen a Thylacine in the Blue Mountains (or was it a

Thylaco Carnifex, a carnivorous cat previously believed missing since the last ice age?).

Jim Smith once obtained an account of a meeting between Rex and a Yowie at Katoomba's Devil's Hole. Apparently the two stared at each other for a few seconds and then the Yowie screamed! Conservationists are working hard to protect threatened species but we know that, as long as Rex's sharp eyes are operational, some of our very rarest fauna will continue to be seen in the Mountains.

How to Use Less Fossil Fuel

British politician John Prescott has had a rise in approval rating since he punched an egg-throwing fuel price demonstrator. (Petrol costs over \$2.50 Australian per litre in Britain.) The Howard Government, which bows and scrapes to fuel price whingers, should take note! *Don Morison.*



Wednesday Pleasure Walks

We welcome all members of average fitness to walk with us on a new series of weekday pleasure enviro-walks.

The Wednesday Pleasure walks will commence on July 4 as a regular weekly event, including a monthly bus trip.

The first walk is to Lockleys Pylon led by Jock McKechnie. See details of this and other planned walks in Dates for your Diary.

Six Day Activity

17-23 September, 2001

This is the revised and final program for the third annual six day walk advertised in May Hut News.

Sept 17 Some walkers stay overnight Jenolan area.

Sept 18 Bush camp, Black Range area

Sept 19 Car accessible camp, Cox's River area

Sept 20 Billets, Katoomba area

Sept 21/22 Bush camp, Grose Valley.

Sept 23 Walk out to Blackheath.

Planning/Warm ups: June 16, July 3, July 28, Aug 21 — meet Blackheath Station west carpark 9.30 am.

Those available as walkers, 2WD support drivers, assistance with planning or liaisons with Blue Gum Pathways organisers, should leave their details with Don Morison 4759.2128, or PO Box 170, Katoomba 2780.

Environmental Education

Environmental Education has always been important for the Society. Members at the old Conservation Hut gave out information and told people about the Blue Mountains and its natural environment. Our Nursery volunteers sell native plants to encourage native gardens. Bushwalking is an important way for us all to learn about the environment, to develop a relationship with the land and make friends.

One of the objectives for the Society this year is to establish a network of environmental education groups with Council, meeting occasionally and sharing resources. We also want to lobby Council to increase its Environmental Education activities amongst its staff and within the community.

Is there a member who would like to liaise with Council and focus on these objectives? You would be able to work in the education sub-committee with their support. Ring Meredith 4782 4823.

Welcome to New Members

Mel MacArthur, Kyeemagh

Corrie Douglas, Wentworth Falls

Marshall and Rebecca Wilkinson,

Lane Cove

Clive Heywood-Barker, Katoomba

Maria Arranz, Faulconbridge

June Deane, Glenbrook

Dos Morris, Lapstone

Jo Carroll, Lawson.

THE DEADLINE
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF HUT NEWS IS
FRIDAY 22 JUNE 2001

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

June 16 (Sat) World Environment Day Festival. Springwood Civic Centre, 10 am to 4 pm. (See enclosed brochure)

June 16 (Sat) Management Meeting, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre, Lawson.

June 29 (Fri) General Meeting, at the Conservation Hut, 7.30 pm. (See page 1).

QUOLL CLUB (Activities for 12 and under)

For more information contact Jessica on 4788.1200. For a copy of the Quoll Club Newsletter, contact the Membership Secretary (details on Page 2.)

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

June 08 (Fri) Valley of the Waters Bushcare Group. (2nd Friday of every month) Contact Karen on 4757.1929 for the meeting place. (following Friday if wet).

June 10 (Sun) Digger Cooper Reserve Bushcare Group. (2nd Sunday of every month) Meet 9 am at the Reserve (GWH, West of Sorenson Bridge). Contact Ross Coster 4759.1247.

BUSHWALKS: *Carry drinking water (minimum 1 litre), bring morning tea, and lunch for day walks. Wear shoes with a good tread.*

Early Warning: A Walks Leaders Planning meeting will be held on 21 st July, Saturday morning, 9.30-11.30 and your participation is requested to finalize following six months program and discuss any walks related topics. Please register with me if you can attend and nominate a discussion topic. Bill Graham 4759.1692

Monday Leisure Walks: *Usually half day walks, easy/medium, leisurely pace.*

Note: **Bus Trips will be monthly from May. Program/Bookings 4759.1692.**

June 04 Pine Forest to Two Lakes. Contact Jock McKechnie 4758.6346. Meet at

Katoomba Station, Gearins Hotel side, 9 am. Easy, half day, BBQ after.

June 11 Bullaburra Walks from the station with June Tobin. Some Bruce's Walk; Redgum Park for BBQ lunch. Contact Bill Graham 4759.1692. Easy/medium.

June 18 Den Fenella. Contact Norah Gaynor 4757.4058. Meet Wentworth Falls Station 9 am. Easy, half day. Lunch or coffee at Conservation Hut.

June 18 Glow Worm Tunnel Bus Trip, starting from Katoomba Council Depot at 8.30 am. Seats still available. Contact Bill Graham 4759.1692.

July 02 Red Hand Cave to Kanuka Brook. Carpool from Glenbrook Station carpark at 9.30 am. Contact Allan Macaulay 4739.2767. Medium, half day. BBQ lunch.

July 09 Grand Canyon. Meet Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre 9am. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. Medium. BBQ lunch at Govett's Leap.

****NEW****

Wednesday Pleasure Walks:

July 04 Lockleys Pylon. Meet Leura Carpark, cnr. GWH at 9 am. Contact Jock McKechnie 4758.6346. BBQ lunch.

July 11 Mount Banks.

July 18 Murphy's Glen Turpentine Track.

July 25 McMahon's Point Lookout (Kings Tableland).

Aug 01 Ferntree Gully Bus Trip

Weekend Bushwalks: *Bushwalkers are requested to phone the leader before 8 pm the day before the walk. The leader may cancel the walk if fewer than 4 walkers register, or if other circumstances make conditions unsafe. These walks are of various grades, full or half day.*

June 02 (Sat) Pierce's Pass. Contact Bill Tocher 4758.8545. Meet Mt Victoria Station 9.30 am. Car pool to Bell's Line of Road start. Medium, hard climb out, day, bring lunch.

June 09 (Sat) Ruined Castle. Meet Katoomba Station, Gearins Hotel side, 9.30. Contact Matthew Martin 4782.4218. Medium, day, bring lunch.

June 17 (Sun) Warrimoo to Blaxland. Meet Warimoo Railway car park, 9.30. Contact Anna Marie Houterman 4759.2353. Medium, Half day.

June 23 (Sat) Rodriguez Pass and the Horse Track to Evans Head. Meet Blackheath commuter carpark 9.30. Contact June Baxter 4787.7312. Medium/hard, day, bring lunch.

June 30 (Sat) Mount Piddington Tracks. Meet Mount Victoria Station 9.30. Contact Jim Wallace 4784.3305. Medium, day, bring lunch.

July 08 (Sun) Bonnie Doon, Nellies Glen and the Devil's Hole. Meet Gearins Hotel. Contact Mary and Terry Flynn 4787.6918 for meeting time and advice on climbing as grade is medium with a hard climb out. Bring lunch.

Bill Tocher is organising the weekend program for us. Please give him your cooperation on 4758.8545.

Walks are generally Easy to Medium Grade, unless otherwise noted. Easy: Mostly good surfaces, but some rough or steep sections. Suited to people of average fitness. **Medium:** Includes rough or steep sections, some of which may require clambering over natural obstacles. Discuss with leader if in doubt. **If this is your first walk,** or you are in any doubt, contact the leader or Bushwalks Convener Bill Graham 4759.1692.