

HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



November General Meeting

Our speaker in November will be Ian Brown. Members will remember Ian's overland trip to the South Pole. Ian will be talking about his adventure, and about environmental issues relevant to the Antarctic.

The meeting will be held on Friday 26 November at the Conservation Hut, Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, commencing at 7.30 pm. As always, visitors are very welcome. This will be our last meeting for the year.

Living With Our Wildlife

Keep Dogs and Cats Inside at Night

The story last month about a Springwood koala who was chased into a hedge by dogs when it wandered from the bush into an adjoining backyard highlights a problem faced by native animals in the Blue Mountains.

Living "next door" in that patch of bushland, even though we may never see them, there is a great diversity of native mammals who have evolved to coexist. There may be all sorts and sizes of possums and bats, bandicoots, quolls, antechinuses, wombats, and even koalas. Most of these animals are active at night.

Their boundaries are set by Nature as they establish "territories" which they defend against their own kind. Unfortunately they don't recognise our artificial boundaries, like fences.

The Springwood koala was lucky — he was able to escape into a hedge and was not injured by the dogs. Not all are so lucky, and many native animals are killed and injured by dogs and cats.

The easy solution is for people, especially those living near bushland, to keep their dogs and cats in at night, from early dusk to after sunrise.

Let's consider our neighbours, the native wildlife. After all, they were here first!

Not So Bonny Broom

"The broom, the broom, the bonnie bonnie broom ..." These sentiments, expressed in an old Scottish folk song, may be shared by those who have enjoyed this October's display of bright yellow flowers in the upper Mountains. However, Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) has become a weed in many of the countries into which it has been introduced — USA,

700 Members

The Society welcomes our 699th and 700th members, Annette Macrae and Tony Reed from Winnalee.

This means our membership has now doubled in just 40 months.

At this rate of growth we will achieve our target of 1,000 members in September 2002.

Thank you to all members for their continuing support, and to all new members for helping 'boost the numbers'.

The Society has never been bigger, more active or more vibrant, and I am proud to be a part of it. *Ross Coster, Membership Secretary.*

Canada, New Zealand, Hawaii, South Africa, India, Iran. It has become a weed in NSW, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania. In the Barrington Tops National Park 10,000 hectares are said to be infested.

In the Blue Mountains, Scotch Broom occurs predominantly above 600 metres. It is spread solely by seed, but it seeds prolifically, an individual plant producing up to 6000 per year. These seeds are ejected up to 4 metres as the pods crack open on hot summer days. It is an invasive weed of bushland and, as with other weeds, it alters the bushland habitat in which it grows making it unsuitable for native plants and animals. Scotch Broom is classified W2 under the Noxious Weeds Act of 1993. This means that you must **fully and continuously suppress and destroy** this plant if it is growing on a property you occupy.

Scotch Broom is a difficult plant to eradicate. Slashing causes the plant to coppice (grow new shoots from its cut stem), and the access of light brings about the rapid germination of thousands of seedlings. The best method is to kill the parent plant by cutting and painting with herbicide, then pull out seedlings.

Contact Blue Mountains City Council



or your local bushcare group for advice.

"Broom Busting"

Come along for a few hours of "broom busting" in Katoomba on **Sunday 21 November** (28 November if raining). We will work on an

area around the Fork 'n View and The Rooster restaurants and above Cliff Drive, which overlooks the Kedumba Valley. An infestation of Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) in this area is on the very edge of the National Park. It is easy access for people of all ages to attend and help out.

Meet at the parking area next to the Fork 'n View Restaurant on Cliff Drive at 9 am. Tools will be supplied but please bring your own to assist if possible. Gloves would also be handy. It should only take a few hours if we get a lot of eager participants.

Our Gorse project in Wentworth Falls was a big success. Let's make this an even bigger hit on one of the Mountains' most noxious weed. Contact Laura Hays, Bushcare Officer on 4782.7692.

Bushcare Christmas Party:

Sunday 12 December, 12 noon onwards, Megalong Valley Hall.

The Society presently has two bushcare groups and is involved with other bushcare activities. Many of our members also work with other bushcare groups. The day will include free food and drink, lots of games (cricket, frisbee, hackie sack), prizes and giveaways. All members are invited to come along and enjoy a great bush picnic. More info: Christine 4787.7246.

"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 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

Correspondence Secretary: Anne Merton, Ph:4757-1220 Email amerton@ozemail.com.au

Meetings Secretary: Heather Hull, Ph.4739.1493 Email heatherhull40@hotmail.com

Land Use: Robin Mosman, Ph. 4757.1354;

Treasurer: Les Coyne, Ph:4757.3327, Fax:4757.2820, Email: 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

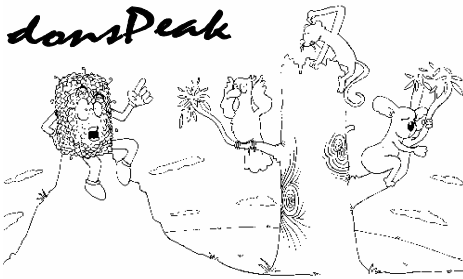
Publicity: Position Vacant Bushcare: Laura Hays Ph:4782.7692, Email: casahays@pnc.com.au

Education: Catriona Gillies Ph:4782-1235, Email: echoecho@hermes.net.au

Bushfire Rep: Hugh Paterson, Ph:4751-2303, Email: goodbush@pnc.com.au

Newsletter: Christine Davies, Phone 4787-7246 Fax 4787-7777 Email: hutnews@pnc.com.au

THE DEADLINE
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF HUT NEWS IS
WEDNESDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1999



'Roving Reporter'

This columnist has decided to travel this month which **might** broaden my mind.

The Chinese-appointed Chief Executive of Hong Kong has decided to clean up the choking air in this city of 7 million people. The owners of Hong Kong's 12000 diesel buses don't agree with him. But the editor of Hong Kong's daily newspaper takes the side of the Chinese Chief Executive — rather wisely, I think. Despite the population density, Hong Kong has some pleasant educational nature walks.

From an aircraft above Western China and Kozakhstan, it was clear that New South Wales is not the only place with a dry land salinity problem. The banks of the Main River in Frankfurt, Germany had too many weeds for my liking.

Outside Paris, the remnants of the massive park of Versailles Palace had been lovingly preserved with trees up to 200 years old. The entrance to the palace was being disrupted by firefighters waging an industrial campaign, so Bob Debus would have felt at home.

In Forest Park in Western Ireland, there is plenty of cleared land along with natural grasses and moors. Nevertheless, it is an impressive sight.

Overall, I have been impressed by what I have seen of the other nations efforts at caring for their natural environment. More than ever I am inclined to compare Australians to the characters in the short stories of British author W. Somerset Maugham. So often those characters were expatriates living in a natural paradise somewhere in the world — yet they did not appreciate their good fortune.. *Don Morison.*

Darwin's Walk Revived

In 1836 Charles Darwin stayed at "a little inn, called the Weatherboard", and "followed down a little valley and its tiny rill of water" to where "an immense gulf is unexpectedly seen through the trees". More recently, people heading down that little valley along Darwin's Walk would have seen Jamison Creek struggling through groves of unhealthy pine trees, tangles of honeysuckle and ivy, and masses of other weeds.

Members of the **Jamison Creek bushcare group** have been weeding the lower half of the creek since 1993, slowly making their way upstream, but the inundation of weeds at the top of the creek was beyond any volunteer group.

The Urban Runoff Control Program has funded the professional bush regeneration presently being done along the upper half of the creek. Pines and

many other weeds have been removed.

This intense work will certainly give a huge boost to the overall health of this wonderful corridor of bush which contains quite a few rare plants. However there has been a spate of letters to the Blue Mountains Gazette complaining about the cutting down of pine trees and criticising the "destruction" of Darwin's Walk.

This letter from members of the Jamison Creek bushcare group, which appeared in the Blue Mountains Gazette on 22 September, is in response to those letters.

Bush Revived

The bush regeneration happening along Jamison Creek, Wentworth Falls, can be likened to a long overdue spring clean, where mess and chaos are created during the clean-up before order or healthy bush is restored again.

The reserve around Jamison Creek has been used by tourists coming to the Mountains for over 100 years, yet its care has been neglected for most of this time. Consequently, pines, honeysuckle, ivy, privet, broom, erica, agapanthas and other weeds have spread into the reserve from the surrounding urban area. It is now a huge task to remove all these weeds. The importance of doing so however, has been recognised by the Urban Runoff Taskforce Program which has funded the professional bush regenerators doing the work.

The weeds have been smothering the bush, so of course there are now some bare patches where they have been removed and burnt patches where the piles of weeds have been burnt off. It does look ugly but in a couple of years, the bush, which is habitat for our native animals, will grow back.

If we want to see native birds and other animals in our gardens, be able to walk in healthy bush close to our homes and protect the wonderful biodiversity of our area, then we have to start looking after what bush remains within our towns. Jamison Creek Reserve contains quite a few rare plants which would be threatened by weeds.

As volunteer members of Jamison Creek Bushcare Group, we are pleased to see the great bush regeneration being done along the upstream section of the creek. There are enough weeds for us to cope with along the downstream half of the creek.

We believe if people can just be patient, they will see a wonderfully revived Jamison Creek. (Fiona Lumsden, Chris Newman, Rebecca Newman, Tony Williams, Jessica Yuille.)

Come Along and Help

This month the Jamison Creek bushcare group is concentrating on Scotch Broom while it is out in flower and before it seeds in early December and would love some extra help. They meet on the first Friday and third Saturday of each month at 9 am. For more information call Jessica Yuille on 4757.2783 or Chris Dewhurst at BMCC on 4780.5623.

Workers for the Environment

In the past few months the Blue Mountains and the environment has lost three special people.

Marie McInnes, who was Publicity Officer for the Society about two years ago, passed away in August after a lengthy battle with Motor Neuron Syndrome. Marie was an energetic campaigner for the environment, and a keen member of the leisure walkers group.

Joyce Moffitt of the Bathurst Conservation Group was a strong campaigner for the environment over many years and a friend of mine. She was passionate in her love for the beautiful area around Airly and Genowlan and was involved in the campaign to save Airly for many years. She will be sorely missed. *Ross Coster.*

Philippa Fincher was Land Use Officer for the Society. Her efforts were par excellence. She inspired many to support her to share the load. Above all, she was a very kind and gentle person who had a great sense of humour. I am grateful for my time with BMCS and Council that I was able to work with Philippa Fincher. *Mark Williams.*

World Heritage Nomination

Letters have been received from Bob Debus, and Robert Hill, State and Federal Environment Ministers, concerning the World Heritage Nomination. Both letters are encouraging, with Senator Hill's letter including the statement

"I am disappointed with the World heritage Bureau's recommendations regarding the Greater Blue Mountains Area nomination. They are inconsistent with the advice of the independent experts involved in the assessment and nomination process. My Department is evaluating the Bureau's recommendations and is liaising closely with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service regarding options for progressing World Heritage listing of the Blue Mountains. I intend to pursue a stand alone nomination of the greater Blue Mountains Area, and seek the earliest possible date for inscription on the World heritage list. I will be discussing the matter further with my counterpart, the Hon Bob Debus MLA."

We will be maintaining close contact with both ministers on the matter.

Welcome to New Members

Don Hart, Blackheath
Annette Macrae and Tony Reed, Winmalee (700th! Member)
Dennis Bateman, Faulconbridge
Annette Visser, Faulconbridge
Ben Correy and Lynette Hailstone, Wentworth Falls
Margaret Jakovac, Lawson
Helen Drewe, Lithgow
Greg and Madeleine Sheehy, Warrimoo
Brenda Maidment, Faulconbridge
Rosaline Sunter, Springwood
Rebecca Jackson, Wentworth Falls
Serge Domicelj, Leura
Leogh Nilsson, Blackheath
Annabelle Solomon, Winmalee

Four Australian Seasons

Summer

A hot wind scorches eucalypt leaves.
Mammals hide under sandstone eaves.
Reptiles bask on the hotplate rock,
And cockatoos circle in a raucous flock.
Cicadas call with their factory roar,
While thirsty cattle crowd the bore.
Acacias frame the midday glare,
And brace themselves for the bushfire's flare.
Drought brings utes and guns for hire
To cull the roos along the wire.
Beauty, horror, rise and fall,
Australia's Summer has it all.

Autumn

Relief at last from the searing heat,
Calm before the cold and sleet.
Exotic leaves brown, crumple and fall.
Sunlight takes on a sickly pall.
Snakes and lizards go to ground,
While migrant birds are northern bound.
The morning air has an ominous bite,
And early frosts kill overnight.
Jumpers are hauled from bottom drawers,
And orchards covered up with gauze.
The sun sinks west in a crimson blaze
On clear and crispy Autumn days.

Winter

Chilling clouds wide, grey and low,
Oft times harbour rain or snow.
Western winds of dry and dust,
Sting the eyes with every gust.
May shorn sheep stand still together,
Turned as one against the weather.
Stock and fauna spar for feed,
Grazing limits neither heed.
Cracking lips and frozen pipes,
Mainly borne by hardy types.
May be mild in Europe's eyes,
But Winter's hardship in disguise.

Spring

Greenness pokes through crumbling soil,
Bracken springs from its ferny coil,
Skinks come out of their sleeping holes,
And magpies dive from telegraph poles.
Wattle, bottlebrush in flower,
Fat ewes lambing by the hour.
Fragrance fills the warming day,
The scent of Summer on the way.
Life renews its powerful hold
That loosened in the dark and cold.
Problems fade and spirits lift —
Spring is nature's perfect gift.

Danielle Duyckers 1996

Invitation to a Workshop

Inholdings and Significant Adjacent Properties to Blue Mountains National Park. Saturday 27 November, 2-5 pm, Mid Mountains Community Centre, Lawson.

The first objective is to create a vision of conservation for Blue Mountains National Park which will give us clarity for future directions. We would like to present this vision to Bob Debus as Minister for the Environment.

The second objective is to identify sensitive land that needs protection and inclusion into the National Park. If you are aware of land that could be included, bring this information to the workshop or pass it on to Don or myself.

Wyn Jones is coming and maps will be available. Ongoing projects will arise that entail site inspections, research into

flora and fauna on site, lobbying, etc. This workshop provides an excellent opportunity to pursue your interests in conservation and to become part of a lively sub-committee.

Other topics for discussion include: **World Heritage**, general effects of inholdings; **Packsaddlers property in Megalong Valley**, now owned by NPWS but still facing uncertainty; **Queen Victoria Hospital site on Kings Tableland** - the patients are gone, what is its future? **Scenic Railway property in Katoomba**, how will its noisy new activities affect the National Park? **Jamison Valley vehicular trail**. It's no longer in use for sewage sludge transport but it's still open; **Blackheath Quarry**, what are its prospects for rehabilitation? **Other significant adjacent properties**, maps of possible park additions.

Come along on 27 November if you can, or write to Don at PO Box 170, Katoomba 2780 and ask to be kept informed. Workshop information will be available from Meredith on 4782.4823 evenings.

Green Power

Creating a renewable energy market.

The Green Power Accreditation Program was established by the Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) in Sydney in 1997.

Consumers pay their regular electricity company a little extra for their electricity to be supplied from renewable energy sources and in return the electricity suppliers buy the equivalent amount from approved renewable energy generators on their behalf. The whole process is audited by SEDA to make sure the suppliers meet demand and comply with the strict rules of accreditation. Suppliers must buy 60 per cent of the renewable energy from new sources, to make sure that the program drives investment in renewable energy.

Every energy retailer on the eastern seaboard offers Green Power and there are now more than 47,000 Green Power customers in Australia.

In New South Wales alone, since the inception of Green Power accreditation, more than \$120 million has been spent or committed to construct new renewable energy facilities. They include the largest windfarm in Australia at Crookwell, the Singleton Solar farm (the largest in the southern hemisphere), Broadwater sugar mill bagasse generation and the hydro-electricity generator on the Illawarra water supply pipeline. Across Australia, 32 new generators have been constructed since January 1997 to supply electricity for Green Power.

Hydro-electric projects that divert water from rivers, or from one river to another, and do not adequately allow for environmental flows, can severely alter ecosystems associated with the river. Such projects are not recommended for inclusion in Green Power products.

The average house on 100-per-cent Green Power creates around 8 tonnes of

Greenhouse Corner

Refrigerators and Freezers

The electricity used by a two-door refrigerator typically generates up to 1.5 tonnes of greenhouse gas and costs up to \$180 to run each year.

Which appliance?

Buy the right size fridge to suit your needs: a larger model with the same star rating as a smaller model uses more energy and generates more greenhouse gas. Check the numbers on the energy labels when comparing fridges of different sizes. A 400 litre 5 star rated refrigerator saves almost half a tonne of greenhouse gas each year and \$50 compared with a 4 star rated product of the same size.

Install appliances carefully. Ensure good air circulation around the coils at the back of the refrigerator: save up to 150 kilograms each year. Locate refrigerators and freezers in cool spots, out of the sun: save up to 100 kilograms each year.

Use appliances efficiently. A third of Australian homes have at least two fridges. Switch off the second fridge: save up to a tonne and \$120 each year (for a single door fridge). Set the correct temperature for the fridge. Setting the temperature 1°C lower than necessary generates around 50 kilograms more greenhouse gas each year. Put cold items back in the fridge immediately after use. Opening the fridge door generates a tenth as much greenhouse gas as cooling a 2 litre bottle of drink that has warmed-up to room temperature. Ensure door seals are clean and the door closes properly: save up to 50 kilograms each year.

And also: If the motor runs almost all the time, ring for maintenance: otherwise you will waste over 20 kilograms of greenhouse gas for each week the fault remains. If disposing of an old refrigerator, make sure the CFCs in it are reclaimed. Avoid running LPG/electric fridges on electricity: they generate around three times as much greenhouse gas as electric-only fridges of the same size. Using LPG, they generate about as much greenhouse gas as electric-only units.

A Note on Car Pooling

A Member of the Society has pointed out to me that Car Pooling is a great idea, but hard to implement. If you want to car pool, call Easy Share on 1300 302 402 and join an organised car pool. This service will put you together with people making similar trips to yourself. You can offer your services as a driver, or just enlist to be somebody's passenger. It costs \$49 per year to join, but will save far more money, and greenhouse gas, in the same period. If you are on the internet, check out Easy Share at www.easysshare.com.au for more information.

Ross Caster, Membership Secretary.

greenhouse gas emissions less than a house using conventional coal-fired electricity. This is equivalent to taking the emissions of one car off the road each year.

It is easy to become a Green Power customer. In NSW, phone 136 206 and you will be automatically connected to your electricity supplier. (From: *Habitat, October 1999*)



"Oh, to be on Risby Hill"

This Spring I have been unable to go walking, and can only dream of the array of wildflowers on display on the exposed hill-tops surrounding the Grose Valley. The following is a description of a walk with the Society to Lockley's Pylon on 21 October 1995.

Walking in the Clouds Among Jewels and Wildflowers

It was a perfect day for this walk which has to be on everyone's list of "top five walks". The weather was cool after a heatwave, with the monotonous blue sky obscured by a moist mountain mist.

Wildflowers seen along Mount Hay Road were beautiful, especially white *Hakea dactyloides*, blue *Conospermum tenuifolium* (sprawling conesticks) and the yellow swamp-dwelling *Xyris*, but the flowers along the walk were beyond our wildest expectations. I have a list of 45 species which were flowering and these exclude the lovely grasses and little white flowers (LWF's) which I could barely see let alone identify.

This area was burnt in the January '94 bushfire and is now magnificent. Trunks of trees are blackened and dead trunks of mallees stand above vigorous regrowth from their bases. There had been a spurt of growth after recent rains and there were red gum tips of every Eucalypt.

As we walked the swirling mist moved to reveal glimpses of random hills, cliffs, rocks and gullies. Every spider's web glistened with diamonds of moisture. In the grassy heath was a profusion of native iris, vanilla lily and *Dampiera*, with scattered yellow *Isopogon* (drum sticks), white *Conospermum* and *Pimelia*. There were many other prominent flowers, and tiny hidden flowers such as *Hybanthus* and sundews, and the rarer orchids — dotted sun, donkey orchid, and a solitary hyacinth orchid flowering early. There were waratahs, at their very peak, on a hill (Heather wanted to hug every one of them), flannel flowers at the cliffedge, *Boronias* in a sheltered gully, and mauve mint bushes growing on the side of a cliff.

New flowers for me were on the unusual plants of the Euphorbiaceae family, *Pseudantus pimeleoides* with showy white flowers, and *Amperea xiphocladis* (broom spurge) with tiny flowers dotted along square leafless stems.

We walked past the base of Lockley's Pylon to Du Faur's Head. The mist had risen and clung only to the mountain tops and we had a leisurely lunch looking down into the Grose Valley. On the way back the mist descended to add more jewels to the spiders' webs and to cool us on the homeward journey. *Christine*.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NOVEMBER						
1 LeisWalk					6 Bushwalk	
8 Leis Walk	9 Bushcare				13 Bushwalk	
15 LeisWalk		17Bushcare			20 MCMeet 20 Bushwalk	21 Broom Busting
22 LeisWalk				26 GenMeet	27Workshop	28 Bushwalk
29 LeisWalk						
DECEMBER					4 Bushwalk	
6 LeisWalk					11 Bushwalk	12 Picnic
13 Leis	14 Bushcare	15 Bushcare			18 MCMeet	

NOVEMBER

- 20 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 26 (Fri) **General Meeting**, 7.30 pm, at the Hut. Guest: Ian Brown, "Antarctica".
- 27 (Sat) **Workshop: Inholdings and Significant Adjacent Properties** to Blue Mountains National Park. 2-5 pm, Lawson. (See page 3).

DECEMBER

- 12 (Sun) **Bushcare Picnic**, 12 noon, Megalong Valley Hall. (See page 1)

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.)

NOVEMBER

- 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.
- 21 (Sun) **"Broom Busting"** at Katoomba. (See page 1)

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

NOVEMBER ****Please read notes on grading of walks**

- 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 a moonlight snack. Contact Karen Roberts 4739.5425. **Easy.**
- 21 (Sun) **Bus Excursion to Long Neck Lagoon.** Cancelled.
- 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.**

DECEMBER

- 04 (Sat) **Edenderry Falls.** Meet Blackheath Station carpark 9.30. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. **Hard.**
- 11 (Sat) **Leura Forest.** Meet Leura Station carpark 9.30. Contact Ron Pendred 4782.1978. **Medium (many steps.)**
- 18 (Sat) **Christmas Party** at 9 Levy Street, Glenbrook, 7 pm. Contact Wende Vanamois 4739.1658. Plenty of soft green lawn, BBQ available. Night walk to nearby lookout to see the lights. BYO drinks, food, chair, children.

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.

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) **Euroka Clearing.** Plenty of kangaroos! Meet Glenbrook Station 8.30. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. **Easy.** BBQ afterwards.
- 22 (Mon) **Kanimbla Valley and Cox's River.** Meet Mount Victoria Station 8.30. Contact Rosemary Butler 6355.2292. BBQ after. **Medium.**
- 29 (Mon) **Mount Wilson Mystery Walk.** Meet Mount Victoria Station 8.30. Contact Jan Cutler 4784.3079. BBQ after. **Medium.**

DECEMBER

- 06 (Mon) **Mount Piddington.** Meet Mount Victoria Station 8.30. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958.
- 13 (Mon) **Christmas Party at Leura Cascades.**

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

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.