



HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow"

From the President

My big news for this month relates to our legal action against Delta Electricity for alleged water pollution of the Cocks River. The Court has turned down Delta's appeal against the 'Protective Costs Order' which limits the costs of the proceedings to a maximum of \$20,000 (as opposed to potentially \$230,000). This was an enormous relief which enables us to continue with the case (see page 4).

The other important events of this month centre on the 10th anniversary of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. We will be kicking up our heels at the bushdance on Saturday 27 November and then launching our 'World Heritage Experience' website on November 29, as part of the official celebrations.

Talking about world heritage reminds me of the things that make the Blue Mountains so wonderful – the diversity of eucalypts and suites of interconnected ecosystems.

I am writing this message in the Conservation Hut, having just spent a few hours talking with journalists from a show called "Earth's Frontiers" on CNN. The point of the segment was to discuss the proposals for commercial development in National Parks.

I reiterated the point that we support accommodation providers in our gateway towns and don't need eco-resorts in the bush. With Sydney continuing to expand, I stated that the coffee shop was not an endangered species, unlike many of the plants and animals which should be the main focus of the National Parks Service.

The show will be on in November and on the CNN website for one month.

Tara Cameron

Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage 10th Anniversary Celebration

BUSH DANCE

Saturday, 27 November, 2010

6 pm start

Mid Mountains Community Centre, Lawson

Bring your family and friends and
Dance to the music of the
GANG GANG BUSH ORCHESTRA

Entry free ... All welcome ...
Food and tea/coffee for sale

Organised by the
Blue Mountains Conservation Society

Enquiries: **Christine 4787 7246**
hutnews@bluemountains.org.au

Celebrate World Heritage and dance the night away

We will not have a Friday night meeting this month. Instead we will celebrate, with NPWS and the Blue Mountains community, the 10th anniversary of World Heritage Listing for the Greater Blue Mountains.

Ten years ago we gathered at Govett's Leap to celebrate the Listing, and the anniversary celebration will again be at Govett's Leap, on Monday 29 November. (See page 3 for full details).

During the celebration will be the launch of our fabulous new website, The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Experience, along with Shadows in the Bush (Earth Journeys with Katoomba High School students). Both these projects will be on display at the NPWS Heritage Centre at Blackheath from 29 November to 12 December.

The Society's other contribution to the World Heritage Anniversary celebrations will be the **BUSH DANCE** on Saturday 27 November. If you've already been to one of our bush dances with the rollicking sounds of the Gang Gangs, you'll know what fun it is for folks of all ages. You don't even have to know the dances. Patrick calls them all for you, and having two left feet is no problem - believe me, I know! So come along and bring all your family and friends. All welcome.

Christine Davies

"Hut News", the newsletter of
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HUT NEWS EDITORIALS

The deadline for the next issue of Hut News
is 20 November 2010

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRIES

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BUSHCARE GROUP

The Valley of the Waters Bushcare
Group meets second Saturday of each
month, 9am till noon. Tools and gloves are
available. Bring a drink, a snack and a hat.

New members are always welcome.
Phone Karen on 4757 1929.

Nursery News

Kevin Bell, Nursery Manager

Children's Reading and Plants: What is the relation between these two things? We are cooperating with Blue Mountains City Council libraries in a venture to encourage children to read. When a child has read a certain number of books they will be given a voucher by library staff and this voucher can be redeemed at our nursery or at one of our community stalls for a plant. The more the children read, the more plants they get. What a nice idea! We are very happy to participate in this scheme.

Callicoma serratifolia: This is our featured plant this month and the scientific name derives from the Greek, *kalos* = beautiful and *kome* = hair, referring to the flower clusters while Latin gives us *serratus* = toothed and *folius* = a leaf. It is a monotype genus (ie. having only one species.) The common name, *Black Wattle*, refers to its use by early European settlers at Port Jackson as the main species in "wattle and daub" huts and by the similarity of its flower clusters to those of some wattle species. It coppices easily to form straight sticks, ideal for that building purpose.

It is a hardy, attractive small tree, frost tolerant and adaptable to various soils provided moisture is available. It is found on the coast and adjacent tablelands from south-east Queensland to the South Coast of NSW and is quite common in the Blue Mountains, mostly beside streams or in shady, damp areas. Cream flower heads 1 -2cm in diameter appear in Spring. The serrated lanceolate leaves, 5-13 cm long, are particularly attractive, smooth and shiny on the upper surface and pale with soft white to rusty hairs on the under-surface, giving them a velvety feel and most inviting to stroke. Try it! Young foliage has a bronzed appearance, further adding to its charm. It makes an ideal garden plant for a dampish area and we have stocks at the moment.

The continuing cold weather has slowed growth of our seedlings but we will have a good range available for sale in November, so come and see us. Our Lawson nursery is open Wednesday mornings and we will be at the Blackheath Community Markets on Sunday 7th November, Sunday 5th December and the Lawson Magpie Markets on Sunday 21st November. The Magpie Markets resume after the school holidays in February.

If you are looking for a gift for a friend or relative who is a garden enthusiast, we have the perfect solution; a plants voucher for \$10, \$20 or \$50, redeemable anytime. They will love it! Kevin Bell.



Flowers of *Callicoma serratifolia*

Photo by Brian Walters, <http://anpsa.org.au:80/c-ser.html>

Celebrating 10 years of world heritage for the Greater Blue Mountains

Come and help celebrate *our future, our heritage, our place* at

World Heritage Listing Day Celebration Govetts Leap, Blackheath Monday 29 November 2010

Join us from **9.00am** for a cuppa, NPWS Discovery Ranger activities, music, 'history hut' or see the exhibitions on display at the NPWS Heritage Centre. Formalities begin at **9.30am** and will include:

- formal **Smoking** ceremony;
- **Welcome** to Country;
- performance by local **school children singing** in Darug language;
- the **Greater Blue Mountains story** shared by a performing troupe;
- short **speeches** from guests invited such as the NSW Governor, the NSW State and Federal Environment Ministers and local members;
- acknowledgement of all those involved in promoting and protecting the GBMWA through a **ceremonial coals and campfire** (you are also invited to bring something from their area to go into the fire such as a gumleaf or charcoal);
- **launches** of the *Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Experience* (Blue Mountains Conservation Society) web and DVD **AND** *Shadows in the Bush* (Earth Journeys, supported by the BMCS) Exhibition **AND** a new booklet *Biodiversity, Fire and Climate Change* (Dept Environment, Climate Change and Water);
- celebrating *our future* with the **Patrimonto pledge** (youth heritage ambassador) for 10 year old (those born in 2000, the year of inscription) guests;
- Wanda the Wombat and friends to **dedicate the wishes for world heritage** collected over previous months; and
- **Put Yourself in the World Heritage Picture** and be a part of a giant human World Heritage Emblem (pictured) that will be photographed by means of a high-cam.

To complete the celebrations, share the **10th birthday cake** and a **sausage sizzle**, enjoy music and conversations whilst appreciating the spectacular view.

Free transport to and from Blackheath station thanks to Fantastic Aussie Tours. Remember to bring your own water bottle – refilling available from a water tank provided.

Your RSVP is appreciated to 02 4784 7300 or via email to gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au by Friday 19 November (please note we have a wet weather contingency so do still come along!)

Displays in Blackheath Heritage Centre 29 November to 12 December

Shadows in the Bush - a pilot schools program with Katoomba High of resulting photographic work from a 3-day camp in their WH bush-room

The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Experience – a new interactive website developed by the Blue Mountains Conservation Society

The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Experience DVD

A DVD of 40 of the 360 degree panoramas of our Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Locations include Grose and Jamison Valley Lookouts, Kanangra Falls, Jenolan Caves, Temple of Doom and Kedumba Valley.

The 25 minute DVD has a background of pleasant acoustic music.

Priced at \$20 (\$15 for BMCS members) the DVD would make an ideal Christmas Stocking filler.

The DVD is expected to be available in late November. To place your order or for more information email

sales@bluemountains.org.au or go to www.bluemountains.org.au/sales.shtml

or leave a message on 4757 1872

A birds-eye view of the Blue Mountains

At our monthly meeting on Friday 29 October, Alan Page presented a preview of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Experience. It is a fabulous project. If you missed the meeting you will be able to see it on display at the Blackheath Heritage Centre.

After supper Alan showed a preliminary version of the DVD mentioned above. The results of the photography are amazing. The panoramas, each a series of still shots, blend together to give a birds-eye view of our beautiful Blue Mountains - perhaps that of a Wedge-tailed Eagle soaring across the landscape, riding the thermals. There is even the illusion of ripples moving on the lakes. Christine.

Dawning, by Reg Reid

Soft textured rolling hills
Shadowed gullies
Mist so still.
Rocking treetops
Grass in patches may be seen
Changing shades of brown and green.

Silent breezes kiss the morn
Birds rise on wing
The day is born.
Growing shadows
Sun's new light floods blue white haze
Traces of the night erase.

Warm the comfort of the sunrise.
Joyful is the bird's first song.
Pleasant is the dawning of a new day,
Comfort of our soul prolonged.

The Coxs River case: Win in the Court of Appeal

Tara Cameron

Volunteers from the Society have been actively monitoring approximately 30 sites in the upper Coxs River catchment since September 2006. Their findings indicated serious water pollution, with high levels of salinity, phosphate, pH and turbidity. Additional testing by Dr Ian Wright from UWS found levels of salt and metals (aluminium, arsenic, copper, nickel, zinc, boron and fluoride) above ANZECC (2000) guidelines for the protection of aquatic ecosystems.

The Society wrote to the Minister for the Environment in 2007 in the hope that action would be taken. The lack of action led us to commence legal proceedings against Delta electricity for alleged pollution of the Coxs River by Wallerawang Power Station.

The Society was unsuccessful in gaining Legal Aid for the proceedings so our legal team, the Environmental Defender's Office and barrister Tom Howard (acting pro bono), applied for a 'Protective Costs Order' to limit costs. This order was granted by the Land and Environment Court in August 2009. It limited the costs to \$20,000 as opposed to costs up to \$230,000. Delta electricity appealed against the decision. On 18 October 2010, the appeal was dismissed.

The upholding of the 'protective costs order' is a landmark decision. It allows the Society to continue with the action against Delta electricity. More broadly, it is an avenue for community groups and individuals to access the courts for public interest matters such as pollution. It should be noted that this will not open the floodgates to ridiculous claims because the 'protective costs order' was quite difficult to achieve and an arguable case had to be established.

The Society has been in good communication with Delta Electricity and is aware of recent changes to their licence. However, we remain concerned about the water quality and the impact on aquatic life.

Learning to Live with Fire in the Lower Blue Mountains

Workshop organised by the
Nature Conservation Council of NSW

You are invited to attend an informative half-day event exploring everything you need to know about living safely with fire in the Lower Blue Mountains, from understanding fire behaviour and local ecology to how homes can be better protected from wildfire.

Hear expert speakers from the CSIRO, the NSW Rural Fire Service, Blue Mountains City Council and the Nature Conservation Council.

Lunch will be provided and rsvp essential by 5th November.

Date: Saturday 13th November

Time: 10:00am - 3:00 pm

Venue: Winmalee Presbyterian Hall, Corner of Hawkesbury Rd and High School Drive, Winmalee.

Enquiries and bookings: Anne Miehs 9516 1488
or amiehs@nccnsw.org.au

Can Buffer Zones protect the bush?

A recent study of "urban edge effects" in the Blue Mountains by Peter Smith and Judy Smith, partly funded by ConSoc, addressed this question. Here is an edited version of their findings.

"Urban edge effects can have an adverse impact on native flora and fauna in the adjoining bushland. We surveyed edge effects at sites in the Blue Mountains where the urban area is separated from bushland by a perimeter road. Common edge effects included weed invasion, physical disturbance of the vegetation and soil, incidental rubbish, dumped rubbish, dumped plant material, tree felling/lopping/ringbarking and visits from domestic dogs.

"The maximum extent of obvious edge effects (all types combined) varied between sites, from 9 m to 60 m from the edge of the road. At most sites (77%), edge effects were restricted to distances of 40 m or less into the bushland, but a significant number of sites (23%) had more extensive edge effects. Sites with extensive weed invasion were associated with older housing, suggesting that weed invasion will increase over time at sites adjacent to younger housing.

"Weed invasion frequently extended further than 60 m into the bushland along drainage lines and tracks. Edge effects were more extensive on flatter topography than downslope of housing, apparently because the former is subject to more intensive use by local residents. The actions of local residents have a major influence on edge effects, and are responsible for much of the variability observed between sites.

"Based on the results of the study, we recommend that a buffer of native vegetation at least 60 m wide should be retained around significant habitats, and that this buffer width should be the same whether the vegetation is downslope, upslope or across slope from urban development. The buffer should consist entirely of native vegetation. A cleared area is not a substitute for a buffer of native vegetation, since it will have microclimatic and other edge effects on the adjoining bushland. Nor is a garden an effective buffer, being a source of nutrient enrichment and weed invasion of the adjoining bushland.

"The buffer will bear the brunt of the adverse impacts associated with proximity to urban development. Vegetation within the buffer can be expected to degrade, but provided the buffer is wide enough, there should be no degradation of the significant habitat being protected."

The full report, "Urban edge effects in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales: implications for design of buffers to protect significant habitats" can be found in *PACIFIC CONSERVATION BIOLOGY* Vol. 16: 92–100. Surrey Beatty & Sons, Sydney. 2010.

Loose Feathers, with Carol Probets

At this time of year throughout the Blue Mountains, male Satin Bowerbirds are busy maintaining their bowers. This is a time-consuming job, for it involves collecting, painting and decorating, guarding against theft and most importantly, entertaining members of the opposite sex!

The bower, for those who haven't seen one, consists of a layer of sticks on the forest floor onto which is built two walls of upright twigs, arched over to form an avenue resembling a tunnel without a roof. In front of this avenue, usually on the northern side, the bird arranges his collection of objects. The intense blue favoured by the Satin Bowerbird is a colour which echoes the sheen on the mature male's plumage.

Blue is a relatively difficult colour to find in nature, but today's prevalence of plastics has changed that. The modern bower is usually decorated with an impressive array of blue plastic - drinking straws, clothes pegs, bottle tops, etc, items that are much more durable than the flowers and berries that would have been chosen previously. The blue wing feathers of rosellas are also often used.

Look closer and you'll find that there are also many yellow, straw and brownish coloured items amongst the blue. Often you'll find the yellow crest feathers of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos, or fresh yellow flowers. Straw, brownish leaves, onion skin, snail and cicada shells are also common. But put something red in the bower, stand back, wait and watch what the bird does! Red is definitely uncool in Satin Bowerbird culture.

The bowerbird paints the inside walls of the bower using a mix of saliva and chewed plant material, berries, dirt or charcoal. Researchers from Queensland have found that a freshly painted bower is one of the features that increases the male's attractiveness to visiting females. Other things which affect his mating success are the decorations and his display (his dancing and singing ability, including the range and accuracy of his mimicry).

If you find a bower it's important to check for the plastic rings from the tops of milk bottles, which being blue, often end up in bowers. These should be removed or cut in half as they present a danger if left unbroken. When the bird picks up the ring it can flip over his head getting caught around the neck and between the bill mandibles. This prevents the bird from eating and drinking, with fatal results.

Bowerbirds are unique and endlessly fascinating inhabitants of our gardens and local bushland. Next month I'll write about a few of the bowers I've visited around the mountains and some of the interesting things that bowerbirds do.

Carol Probets *origma@westnet.com.au*



Membership Application Form

(Use capitals please—even for email address)

Name(s) 1.
2.
3.

Address:
.....PC

Phone(s)

Email

MEMBERSHIP FEES (please circle one item)

Single \$25 Concession (Senior/Student)\$15
Household \$30 Concession (Senior/Student)\$20
Corporate (open to negotiation) \$100

Bushwalkers only:
(\$20 per walker per annum) \$.....

Donation (tax-deductible) \$.....

TOTAL AMOUNT INCLUDED \$.....

Note: All fees include GST at the relevant rate.

Send my copy of Hut News by

Please tick box mail internet only

Would you like to be involved in any of the following activities or working groups? (Please underline): Land use/development issues; Environmental Education; Threatened species issues; Web or database management; Plant nursery assistance; Bushcare; Publicity/photography; Water quality/sourcing studies; Society administration.

I/We agree to support the aims and objectives of the Society as set out on reverse side of this membership application:

Please sign if named above.

Signature(s) 1.
2.
3.

ENQUIRIES: Phone (02 4757 1872

Email: membership@bluemountains.org.au

Please cut out and forward this form with your cheque or money order to:

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc.
PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

Photo: a male Satin Bowerbird

<http://museumvictoria.com.au/forests/animals/bowerbird.html>

Photographer: Gary Lewis
Gary Lewis Photography Pty Ltd

BLUE MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Blue Mountains Conservation Society is a community organisation working to achieve the preservation and regeneration of the natural environment of the Greater Blue Mountains.

The Society believes that World Heritage status provides an opportunity for local community members to become custodians of the unique biodiversity and scenery of the Blue Mountains.

The Mission of the Society is to help conserve the natural environment of the Blue Mountains.

The Aims and Objectives of the Society are to:

- Disseminate and foster an understanding of the ideals of Conservation.
- Promote the need for ecological sustainability.
- Protect the natural environment—flora, fauna, habitat, water, land and air.
- Actively oppose those human activities which degrade or destroy the natural environment.
- Repair the adverse effects of human activities upon the environment.
- Encourage the love of the natural environment by conducting a regular program of bushwalks.
- Increase the pool of expert knowledge about the natural environment, through meetings, excursions, research and other activities.
- Provide information to the public on matters of Conservation, especially through the Conservation Hut at the Valley of the Waters, Wentworth Falls.
- Maintain close and friendly relations with like-minded groups.

Welcome to new members

Bonnie Tucker, Wentworth Falls
Wendy Blanchard, Blackheath
Meg Kwon, Hazelbrook
Christine Day, Blackheath
Peter Hinchy, Blackheath
Trevor Hansford, Woodford
Shirley Hansford, Woodford
Jenny Priestley, Wentworth Falls
Louise McArdle, Mt Riverview

Late August by the lake by Brendan Doyle

Winter, won't you linger?
Pushy Spring's already in the mix
with its precocious azalea and cherry-blossom.
One measly snowfall is all you gave us
and the odd morning mantle of frost.
Your pastel palette of reeds and heather
too soon's replaced by gaudy pinks and reds.
I look into the lake's mirror
and see no regrets.
It's been a cold one, the locals say.
I'm not convinced.
Winter's also in the mind.
Don't let these chirpy water-hens
chase you away.
Not yet.
Winter, won't you linger?

Christmas gift idea

Most of us will know like-minded environmentally-conscious people who are not yet members of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society.

Here is a chance to help the Society, and the environment. Give a one-year membership to a friend for Christmas.

Annual membership fees are Single \$25 (\$15 concession), Household \$30 (\$20). Bushwalkers pay \$20 extra per walker per annum.

Send the details with your cheque to Membership Secretary, PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls 2782 and your friends will receive a gift voucher and one year's subscription to Hut News, with the option of becoming full members if they wish.

Enquiries to Lachlan Garland, 4757 1929, email lachlan.a.garland@bigpond.com

Ponder this

If you feel the whole world's gone mad or that you're losing your grip on reality? This quote to reassure yourself that it's everyone else that is going mad...

Quote from Ian Barnes, Regional Manager Forests NSW South Coast Region ABC SE Regional radio 21 October 2010:

Tim Holt (presenter): do you foresee the day when there will be an end to the conflict over logging native forests?

Ian Barnes: Yes, I do. There will be an end to it when most Australians understand the system sufficiently and the energy crisis gets to the point where we have to rely on solar driven energy industries and forestry is one of them. Just the fact that we've got trees out there that collect energy and convert it to stored energy that we can use is a huge piece of capital that Australians have yet to seriously think about..... it'll take a few years yet.

(received by email from Keith Muir)

Down the Wallaby Track — a backward glance, with John Low

THE ARMISTICE STAIRS

As World War I came to an end the area above Lyrebird Dell at Leura was transformed into a place of special significance where people could reflect upon the human cost of the preceding decade. For a small village Leura paid a high price. Among its fourteen dead, at least three lie in the Lone Pine Cemetery at Gallipoli, this connection recognised when work began in 1918 on a 'Lone Pine Avenue' traversing the top of the reserve between the junction of Malvern and Balmoral Roads and the picnic area at Gordon Falls. The avenue was completed in early 1919 and along each side plane trees were planted, forming a tranquil corridor of memory in which each tree represented one of Leura's soldiers. The final touch was added in May 1921, on a bitterly cold and windy day, when the Governor of NSW unveiled the Memorial Gates, their sandstone pillars carrying the names of all who enlisted from the village.

It is said that, as the Lone Pine Avenue was being laid out, on the day the Armistice was signed, a 'lone pine' was planted to celebrate the peace. The 'War-To-End-All-Wars' was over and a resurgent public optimism was evident, something that also found expression in another small event that took place at the same time.

A walking track into Lyrebird Dell had existed since at least the 1890s and work to refurbish and reconstruct this path was underway at the time hostilities ceased. As news of the peace came through Alexander Raymond Sinclair, a local tradesman, was volunteering his time to work on the construction of a series of concrete steps crossing a steep section of the track. He was so moved by the occasion that he purchased some small coloured tiles and cemented what a local journalist later described as his "cabalistic inscription" into the step on which he was working - '1918 11-11-11'. The track was completed

in early 1919 and this section has been known ever since as 'The Armistice Stairs'.

On the morning of the 11th of this month people all over Australia will mark the 92nd anniversary of Armistice Day. What better place to honour the thoughts and feelings of those long ago folk who grieved for their dead and looked to a future of new possibilities than a walk through Leura's memorial precinct. Though only thirteen plane trees survive and the original 'lone pine' has gone (bushfire I think) and been replaced by one planted in 2004, quiet and sanctuary can still be found there – and you can walk down the Armistice Stairs into Lyrebird Dell.

Despite all that has happened in the world since 1918, the "mystic sign" of the Armistice remains as a small symbol of peace and a declaration of hope.

John Low <johnlow@iprimus.com.au>



PAWA TRIVIA NIGHT 6:30pm 25TH NOVEMBER CARRINGTON HOTEL

The Protected Areas Workers Association (PAWA) of NSW is holding a Trivia Night to raise monies for its international ranger assistance programs in third world countries. Further information on PAWA can be obtained from <http://www.pawansw.org>

\$10 per person, prize for the winning team,
great raffle prizes
18 teams of 5 people

To ensure your team has a table, register your team's unique name by phoning the Blackheath Visitor Centre on 47878877.

Supported by the Blue Mountains World Heritage Unit

A Native Garden

The weather in Blackheath in October was variable, though not unusual. There were hot days and there were nights when the water in the bird bath froze. One day it snowed, while the wind howled from the west and the sun shone in the east. Waratahs are beautiful in the bush. In the garden the wattles are setting seed and the mint bushes are a blaze of purple.

I recently came across a story I wrote in 2002 about seeing a Wedge-tailed Eagle over my garden. The birds listed as being in the garden were magpies, currawongs, crimson rosellas, king parrot, red wattle bird, bower bird, grey thrush. My native garden was then two years old.

In 2010 the garden has grown and the list of birds is very different. There are still the birds that were here in 2002, but the little birds far outnumber the larger ones - Eastern Spinebills, New Holland Honeyeaters, White-eared Honeyeater, a Treecreeper, blue wrens, Red-browed finches, thornbills. Recently a tree frog found the pond and bellowed each night all night for a week. Lizards bask in the sun. There are myriad insects, spiders and other small creatures - leaf eaters, flower eaters, pollinators, predators, prey. A small (unidentified) bird nested outside my bedroom window, heard in the early hours of the morning. A male Satin Bower Bird has been collecting sticks from the ground litter for his bower. Nearly all the plants came from the Society's native plant nursery.

The garden is untidy, needs a bit more work than I put into it (almost none), but what a joy it is. Christine Davies.

BLUE MOUNTAINS CONSERVATION SOCIETY BUSHWALKING ACTIVITIES

Membership of the bushwalking group is open to Society members. The BMCS Bushwalking Guide which explains the numbered grades can be found on the Society's website www.bluemountains.org.au or can be posted on request. For more information call Maurice Kerkham 4739 4942 email mauricekerkham@hotmail.com or write to PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls 2782. **Late changes to the program will be published on the website.**

SATURDAY WALKS: Usually a full day longer walk at a faster pace. Before attending ring the designated contact person or the Group Co-ordinator Jim Percy 4758 6009 or email jp34@tpg.com.au

Date	Details	Contact	Meet at	(km)	Grade	Map
Nov 13	Evans Lookout to Govetts Leap and Blackheath via Popes Glen	Bill 47 58 8545	Carrington Hotel Bus stop to Blackheath. Bus departs 8.35 a.m.	~6	2	Springwood
Nov 20	Mt. York Historic Walks - Lawson's Long Alley/Cox's Road circuit	Ros 47 33 3880	Mt. Vic C.P 8.15 a.m.	15	3	Hartley
Nov 27	Lawson Ridge to side ridge to Urella Lookdown. Steep descent 150 m to Jim's Creek. Steep ascent with some scrambling 140m. Approx half off or rough track	Jim 47 58 6009	Lawson Station CP north side 8.00a.m.	15	3/4	Katoomba
Dec 4	Grand Canyon. Evaluate the new upgrade. Grand by name and grand by any measure	Ros 47 33 3880	Blackheath Station CP west side 8.15a.m	6	3	Katoomba

MONDAY LEISURE WALKS: Short Day walks of 3-5 hours, suitable for walkers of an average fitness. Bring morning tea and lunch and adequate water. The Group Co-ordinator is Judith Dyer, 4758 6310, judithbushwalker@hotmail.com

Date	Description	Grade	Contact	Meet
Nov 15	Popes Glen & Pulpit Rock , Blackheath. Stunning Grose Valley views.	2	Tera 4751 3303	Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre, 9am
Nov 22	Radiata Plateau and Mt. Elphinstone, Katoomba	2	Mary 47 57 4569	Katoomba Station 8.30 a.m.
Nov 29	BUS TRIP. Bidjigal Reserve, Baulkham Hills. Book and pay Keith 47 36 1010. Fare \$12. New walk to dam and convict road	2	Ken 47 58 6310	BMCC Depot South Street, North Katoomba 8.00 a.m.
Dec 6	Dargan Dams, Clarence. Historic steam train water supply. Contribution to carpool	2	Maurice 47 39 4942	Mt Vic Railway Stn. 9.45 a.m.
Dec 13	Berghofer's Pass Mt. Vic. Explore early Blue Mountains' road.	1	Mary 47 57 4569	Mt. Vic Railway Stn. 9.45 a.m.
Dec 20	CHRISTMAS PARTY. Short walk in Rhodo Gds Followed by lunch at Hotel. (Lunch bookings Judith 47 58 6310.	1	Ros 47 33 83880	Gardner's Inn, Blackheath. Walk 1045 a.m. and Lunch 12.30

THURSDAY PLEASURE WALKS: Walks of 2-3 hours conducted at a leisurely pace to suit walkers on the day. Bring morning tea, adequate water and lunch if noted. Group Co-ordinator is Gail Schwedler 4782 1215 platypusprotected@yahoo.com.au

Nov 11	Katoomba Cascades to Three Sisters, Round Trip. Fantastic cliff top walk, lots of steps, returning via park, road and track. Bring lunch for picnic.	2	Gail 4782 1215	Opposite BM Council Chambers car park, 9.30am
Nov 18	Bus Trip. To Dunn's Swamp. Fabulous walk on the banks past Pagodas. Bring lunch.	2	Simone 47 57 3416	Meet BMCC Depot South Street Nth Katoomba 8.00 a.m. sharp
Nov 25	Lake Woodford and Linden Dam. Follow upper reaches of lake to dam wall. Hard climb out. Bring lunch.	2/3	Maurice 48 39 4942	Meet Haxlebrook Shopping Centre 9.15 a.m.. Car Pool.
Dec 2	Fairfax Track, Blackheath. Easy flat walk through wildflowers.	1	Gail 47 82 1215	Blackheath Neighbourhood Ctr. 9.45 a.m.
Dec 9	Royal Botanic Gardens. Walk through the Gardens to Mrs. Macquarie's Chair. Bring lunch.	2	Maurice 47 39 4942	Top of escalators. Central Station 9.30 a.m.
Dec 16	CHRISTMAS PARTY Razz Restaurant, Springwood 12.30 p.m. Optional walk through Birdwood Gully after lunch. For details and to book your place please contact Gail 47 82 12 15.			

Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage 10th Anniversary Celebration BUSH DANCE

**Saturday, 27 November, 2010, 6 pm start
Mid Mountains Community Centre, Lawson**