

HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



Come to our April Meeting

Our April meeting will be addressed by cartographer and bushwalker Brian Fox. Brian recently published the Upper Blue Mountains Geographical Encyclopaedia — an A to Z reference guide to 1100 place names across the upper Blue Mountains. Brian has also been actively involved in the revised editions of the 1:25,000 maps for Jamison, Katoomba and surrounding areas — maps that are invaluable for local bushwalkers.

Before we hear the guest speaker there will be a short business section and supper. Members are urged to come along to learn more about some of the current issues and meet members of our new management committee. It is also a good opportunity to raise issues with which you are concerned, and to meet other members over supper.

Also at the meeting we will meet Rebecca Brand and Jane Murray, students from UWS Hawkesbury who, as part of their environmental management and sustainable tourism studies, prepared an action plan on the National Pass. They received a distinction for this work and will present their final report to members.

The meeting will be held on Friday 28 April, at the Conservation Hut, Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, commencing at 7.30 pm. Visitors are very welcome.

Autumn Plant Sale

Saturday, 15 April, 9 am to 12 noon, outside the Conservation Hut, end of Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls.

Thousands of native plants will be available, mostly as \$2 tubestock (50 x 50 x 120 mm), but some in 125 mm diameter pots at \$4 each. We will also have fertiliser pellets for natives, 500 grams for \$4.

Autumn is a good time for planting your natives: they have a good chance to settle in before the rigours of winter, and when spring arrives they will develop freely as the days lengthen.

We look forward to seeing you at The Hut on Saturday 15 April. (David Coleby, BMCS Nursery Manager: Phone/Fax: 02-4784-1395)

New Committee

Welcome to our new Management Committee. Contact details are at the bottom of this page. There are two vacancies — Publicity and Education. If you would like to find out more about either of these positions, please

Lithgow Silicon Smelter

Good News for Pilliga and Goonoo

Conservationists have welcomed the Premier's announcement to save the Pilliga and Goonoo forests from being burnt for charcoal for the Lithgow silicon smelter furnace.

But Not for Other Western Woodlands

The Government is still looking to feed 190,00 tonnes a year for 40 years of other western woodlands and forest to the charcoal furnace and the Lithgow silicon smelter. The Premier's announcement lessens the threat to the Pilliga but concentrates it elsewhere — notably in the New England Tableland forests, Mudgee and Lithgow and Upper Hunter.

AND No News for Local Forests

In the smelter proposal, an additional 30,000 tonnes of timber is needed for fluxwood or woodchips from local forests. The life of the smelter is 40 years. The impact of logging on local forests over this time would be considerable, and there is no evidence to show the sustainability of this logging.

The Smelter EIS fails to define local forests and to name tree species that would be logged. We are assuming that the Forestry Department would log native hardwood forests within a 2-3 hour drive of Lithgow, an area which includes some forests of high conservation value and other remnant native forests which provide refuge habitats to wildlife.

When will research commence in this area as part of the Comprehensive Regional Assessment process under the supervision of the Resource and Conservation Council?

PUBLIC MEETING, Friday 7 April, 7.30 pm, at Katoomba Civic Centre: Members are invited to come along to participate in a discussion about the environmental aspects of the silicon smelter proposal.

contact a committee member.

Council Rejects Better Community Consultation

At a recent Council meeting, Councillors voted 8:4 against extending the time for business papers to be available to the public prior to a meeting, claiming it would create difficulties for the administrative staff.

Blue Mountains First councillors Angelique Henson, Herman Kozelj and Sharon Burrige, and Greens Councillor Carol Gaul spoke for the community's

right to better access to their elected representatives, but were overwhelmingly voted down by other councillors.

Business papers are only available from the Saturday morning prior to the Tuesday night's meetings. As some Councillors go straight to the Council meeting from work on Tuesday, this means any consultation with them on issues of importance must be done by Monday night, a period of less than 3 days.

This deadline often creates incredible pressure for community groups and other residents, and indeed at times for Councillors, who only have one working day on which to ask any questions they may have of Council staff. At a time when the emphasis at all levels of government is increasingly on the importance of community consultation and input, this decision is disappointing and difficult to understand.

Members might be amazed to know that during the debate, Cr Mark Greenhill referred to Society members (us?) as being "elitist"!

Send a Postcard

FORESTS IN THE FURNACE

Energy produced by burning native forests is not renewable, sustainable, greenhouse neutral or eco-friendly.

Please send the enclosed postcard to tell the NSW Government that your electricity must **not** come from native forests. (The full story is in Greenhouse Corner on page 3.)

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

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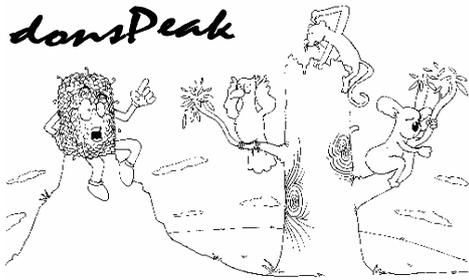
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THE DEADLINE
FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF HUT NEWS IS
FRIDAY 21 APRIL 2000



Urban Crowd Control ...

Punch and counter-punch continue over whether Sydney can cop any more people. With all its many warts, Sydney remains one of the world's most attractive and promoted places. If Australia allows any more immigration at all, newcomers will still flock to the 'Emerald City'.

Why don't Premier Carr and the Conservation Movement draw up a log of claims on the Federal Government tied to the Feds' promotion of Sydney's growth? (Suggestions: Preservation of all remaining greenspace including the Harbour foreshores, St Mary's and Lower Blue Mountains; real public transport improvements; progress on water and sewage recycling; more energy efficient building codes, for a start.)

... And Rural Grandstanding

Forests Minister Kim Yeadon has suggested that environmentalists may not be happy with proposals for off-road vehicle activity in State Forests, but that has really been with us for quite a while. A rural issue that should be drawing greenies to the barricades is that the New South Wales and Queensland Governments have both allowed politics to override the effective control of clearing on private rural land. This threatens increased salinity, increased greenhouse gases, and loss of biodiversity.

Nostalgia

In 1975, I was in a group of cyclists which held up cars on the Harbour Bridge and made John Laws late for his radio show. We were (literally) read the NSW Riot Act.

Last month, Greens MLC Lee Rhiannon was in a group who did the same on the Eastern Distributor and were journalistically blasted by the Daily Telegraph's Miranda Devine, understudy to Laws in 'Acute Petrolmania'. Clearly, these tactics are taking an uncommonly long time to curb pro-car government policies. *Don Morison.*

WIRES Training

Blue Mountains Wildlife Information and Rescue Service needs more members to rescue and care for native animals.

Find out what is involved in becoming a WIRES rescuer at an Information Day on Saturday 13 May, 1-4 pm. The General Training Course will be held on 20 and 27 May, 9 am to

4 pm.

For more information or to register phone 4754.2946.

Down With Lawn!

Are you sick of mowing grass? Does your lawnmower monopolise your leisure time? Are you constantly weeding your "lawn", then watering it, then mowing it, again and again? And don't you hate the ghastly noise your mower makes, and the heat and fumes it discharges? And isn't it always going wrong, or needs new blades or won't start? Don't you wish the bloody thing would go away?

If you have answered yes to any one of these, let alone yes to the whole lot, then read on. Salvation is at hand!

Convert your "lawn" into a mulched area, free of weeds. The work is minimal, the costs are small, and the aesthetics are superb.

Begin by collecting old newspapers (but do not include glossy paper publications): the BM Gazette or SMH are just right. If you haven't enough right now, wait until garbage night, creep around and steal other people's piles of old newspapers: the best and cleanest are usually tied up with string.

When you have a big enough pile (say waist high) you can begin to cover up your "lawn". No digging, no poisoning, no raking, no nothing.

Just lay the papers on the lawn, about 80-100 pages thick, make sure they overlap, and soak them thoroughly using the garden hose. This will collapse the papers onto the grass and exclude light and air. Your "lawn" will die. Hurrah!

Of course the aesthetics are as yet incomplete. So, go to a supplier of landscaping materials and choose your favourite woodchip mulch: it will cost about \$40 a cubic metre, delivered.

Mulch is easy to spread about 80-100 mm thick over the newspapers, and at this rate of application one cubic metre will cover 10-12 square metres. If you're mean you can get a coverage of 20 square metres from one cubic metre if you cut the depth of mulch to 50 mm.

Together, the newspapers and mulch will suppress weeds, protect the ground from erosion, help to provide valuable humus as the newspapers rot, improve your soil condition, reduce the water loss from your soil, and provide you with a superb area for you to have a display of native Australian plants. If you're real smart, you may be able to offset the cost of the mulch by selling the lawnmower.

So, don't let the grass grow under your feet! Just think of all that free time you'll have when you have no "lawn". Remember, a lawn is a life sentence, just like marriage. Getting rid of your lawn also means that you will no longer need to dispose of the cuttings over the back fence, and wouldn't that help the environment!

Ring me with your queries, but above all, do it! *David Coleby, BMCS Nursery Manager, Phone/fax: 02-4784-1395*

Koala Records Wanted

Details of koala sightings are required for a survey being conducted in

the Blue Mountains region.

If you have seen a koala in the Blue Mountains or know of sightings, historic and current, please call 9962 9996 or visit our web page, (<http://wildscenes.com.au/koalas>). *Miroslav Belik, Managing Director, Wild Scenes.*

Managing Natural Resources
Is the Federal Government set to opt out of national environment issues?

Society members have been examining an Australian Government discussion paper about national environmental policy. This document outlines a possible strategic framework for "Managing Natural Resources in Rural Australia".

Firstly it is alarming that there is no proposal for developing a sustainable natural resource policy for the **whole** of Australia. Urban and coastal areas have been excluded.

It is also alarming that there is no clearly defined leadership role for the Commonwealth government in matters of national significance. Land-clearing is a major national and international issue. Instead of proposing major structural changes to the legal and economic systems to reverse this devastation, the proposal is to pass responsibility down to regional bodies!

With conservative estimates of more than 400,000 ha per year of native vegetation being cleared, dramatic changes are required. These changes can only come from the levels of government with financial and legislative powers.

A regional framework has merit in promoting coordination and community consultation. However, it is not a substitute for action by our elected national government on national environmental issues.

Another cause for alarm is the withdrawal of the previous commitment made by all Australian governments to "reverse the decline in the quality and extent of Australia's native vegetation" and achieve "no net loss of native vegetation by June 2001". It is now proposed that is good enough that there be "no net loss of native vegetation" by 2005.

The paper does canvas some good ideas such as "stewardship payments" and lower rates for landholders who manage their land for conservation. These ideas cannot be implemented by regional bodies alone.

Other income generating ideas such as schemes which allow trading of permits to pollute or to emit greenhouse gases are of some concern, and need extensive community debate.

Any members interested in pursuing this issue of National Policy are asked to contact Lyndal Sullivan, 4782.1635 (ah).

More Next Month About
The Great Honeyeater Migration

In the bush, Banksias are getting ready to produce nectar. With the first Autumn chill, the mass migration of honeyeaters will commence. Watch out for them, flying from the south in small groups. (See Dates for Your Diary for details of a Birdwalk on Thursday 20 April.)

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

President's Report

The President's Report, which was presented at the AGM, is enclosed with this newsletter. It shows just what a busy and successful year the Society has had. Many thanks to management and sub-committee members who have worked so hard during the year and done a great job!

Thursday Bushwalks

Walk in a Mountain Gorge

Majestic trees create leafy frames around blue sky;

And throw shade to where fern and moss thrive under its protection.

Rock faces dripping moisture, highlight Nature's sculpture;

Providing images for enthralled minds.

The waterfall plunging from high above, seems anxious to reach a resting place in the clear, murmuring pool.

A gentle energy surrounds the beauty, and those who feel it know a personal peace.

(Myf Young, January 1998)

Autumn bushwalks will commence on 4 May. There will be eight walks, on Thursday mornings, each walk of approximately three hours duration, of medium grade, and held at a leisurely pace. During the walks we will learn a little about the Blue Mountains environment, flora and fauna, geology, Aboriginal and European history. Special guests will show us areas of their expertise.

There will be a charge of \$20 for the eight walks, to cover expenses. Numbers will be limited. Contact Christine Davies 4787.7246 for more information.

Volunteers Needed: Capertee Valley Tree Plantings

The Capertee Valley Regent Honeyeater Recovery Group was established in 1993 to help conserve the Regent Honeyeater in the Capertee Valley (the most important of the key breeding areas for this endangered species).

Since 1994, the Group and its many volunteer supporters have planted approximately 12000 trees and shrubs on various sites throughout the Valley.

The 6000 trees and shrubs planted in the Valley last year, using funds provided by the National Heritage Trust, are thriving. A further 8000-10000 trees and shrubs are to be planted during 2000.

Two weekends have been scheduled for this year, 8-9 April and (tentatively) 19-20 August. There will be a choice of camping (at Glen Davis) or cottage accommodation (at around \$20 per night) and Saturday evening meal available (at a modest cost).

New recruits are most welcome — don't let lack of experience deter you as instruction will be provided.

If you would like to join us in April or are interested in participating in the August planting, contact Jane Miller on 4739 1190, email: wrengraf@pnc.com.au

Learn about Bushcare!

Bush Regeneration Workshop, May 21, 9am-3pm. - Pippas Pass, Blaxland

This workshop is for anyone who

Greenhouse Corner

FORESTS IN THE FURNACE:

The wood fired greenhouse

The Commonwealth Government's most recent initiative to the greenhouse crisis is to push renewable energy production.

Bioenergy — the burning of organic matter in electricity generation — is the main focus of these efforts to achieve the Commonwealth Government's 2% renewable energy target. This translates to a requirement for 9,500 GWh of energy production across Australia in 2010, which could require up to 5 million tonnes of wood a year. As non-export quality woodchips (read non-commercial old growth forests) are very cheap and Mr Col Dorber of the NSW Forest Products Association is keen for "an early expansion of biomass fuel utilisation", bioenergy is fast becoming forests in the furnace.

The type of bioenergy being implemented in NSW is called co-firing. This is the substitution of wood for coal in a coal-fired power station and has been successfully trialed at Liddell and Bayswater power stations using 5 per cent wood in the feed stock. Meanwhile the Western Australian Government's renewable energy response includes investigation of burning mallee for electricity. This earns the WA Government a nomination for the Colong Foundation's 2000 Environmental Abuse Oscar (but NSW State Forests is also a hot contender).

Burning native forests would put Australia's response to Climate Change into reverse gear. Solar energy and other genuine renewable energy initiatives reduce greenhouse gas output but burning native forests and most other biomass initiatives do not.

There are at least three reasons why burning woodchips is not sustainable:

- Firstly, many millions of tonnes of CO2 would be generated at the power station by the time the trees cut for electricity have grown back;
- Secondly, the wood stocks in native forests would have severely declined in the forests in the meantime due to the massive logging (2 million tonnes of wood chipping each year in NSW are proposed for co-firing);
- Thirdly, the eucalypt forests used for commercial timber production in NSW are already overcut and cannot support further logging for electricity generation. State Forest's claim of using sawmill waste could provide only a small fraction of the wood fuel required. The only substantial source of woodchips is the non-commercial native forests.

wishes to join a bushcare group, learn more about bush regeneration or wants to learn more about weeds on their own property. It will cover areas important to bush regeneration — weed control methods, herbicide, basic strategy and hands on demonstration on how to control weeds by cut and paint, and other techniques for removal as well as weed recognition basics.

There will also be a talk about the problems and plant associations on site. Participants can also bring along weeds to be identified in clear plastic bags.

To sign up contact Hugh Paterson, ph.4751.2303, (email goodbush@pnc.com.au) by 7 May. It will be a good day!

Earth Sanctuaries

You may remember the conflict we had with Earth Sanctuaries last year over

These precious old growth forests would be targeted by the power generating scheme, destroying the last refuges for our wildlife outside national parks.

For these reasons energy from native forests is not renewable, sustainable, greenhouse neutral or eco-friendly. Despite these considerations, foresters will continue to support the logging of non-commercial forests for co-firing. They want to clearfell these so-called 'rubbish forests' and to replace them with commercial tree species. The foresters' rubbish timber, however, are the wildlife rich old growth forests that until this spate of forest burning schemes were safe from the most destructive force on this planet — us.

NSW forest policy jumps into the furnace

Already over 60,000 tonnes of native forests a year is being burnt at Liddell power station and perhaps an equal amount at the Bayswater power station. Up to half a million tonnes of forest could be burnt in the two Hunter District power stations annually. Plans are afoot for other power stations throughout NSW to burn trees. A NSW State Forests newsletter estimates that 200 megawatts of energy could be generated by 2 million tonnes of woodchips from NSW forests. Based on these estimates co-firing could increase woodchipping in NSW five fold (last year 473,000 tonnes of woodchips were produced from native forests in NSW).

At the moment co-firing by burning native forests mixed with coal in power stations is being supported by the NSW Government. Somehow the basics have been ignored. To reduce the greenhouse effect, CO2 must be removed from the atmosphere. Of all the bioenergy initiatives, only plantations on previously cleared lands can significantly achieve this aim. Stopping native forest clearing can only help prevent the problem from getting worse.

Logging existing forests and burning farm waste are just distractions from what is necessary for genuine renewable energy initiatives.

The enclosed postcard is provided to help you to send a message to the NSW Government that your electricity must **not** come from native forests. More information on this important issue can be obtained from the 'Forests in the Furnace' section of the Colong Web Site (www.colongwilderness.org.au).

Keith Muir, Colong Foundation.

land at Bell that has subsequently been added to Blue Mountains National Park.

While I believe that Earth Sanctuaries behaviour during their campaign to acquire this land was unacceptable, the Society has never had anything against the establishment of an Earth Sanctuary in the Blue Mountains. Our only argument with them was their choice of site and their attempts to redirect land destined as National Park into private hands.

Good news then that Earth Sanctuaries have **bought** 2,000 hectares of degraded farm land in the Wolgan Valley north of Lithgow. They intend to rehabilitate this land and set up a wildlife park as a tourism and conservation business.

Good luck to Earth Sanctuaries in this venture. I personally and the Society Management Committee wish them well!

Ross Coster



Urban Sprawl or Medium Density? or Neither?

Defining a sustainable development threshold for the Blue Mountains.

If you are concerned about the future of the Blue Mountains, plan on coming to a workshop to be held at Springwood on Wednesday, 17 May, starting at 7.30pm. There will be a panel discussion and an opportunity for you to have your say. Enq: Lyndal Sullivan, 4882.1635 (ah).

Welcome to New Members

Sylvia Beamer, Emu Plains
 Robyn Hall, Hazelbrook
 Peter and Di Clark, Katoomba
 Margaret and Ron Keen, Wentworth Falls
 Paul Kohn, Leura
 James Waugh, Katoomba
 Matthew Magnus, Leura
 Kathleen Wilson, Leura
 Sondi Stankov, Leura
 Leslie Tully, Carlingford

Dunn's Swamp in the Rain

After a short break in the weather on Thursday, the rain settled in with a vengeance for our weekend camp at Dunn's Swamp. Even so, 24 people came to the camp, though not all on the same days.

Some of the over-eager, who arrived early, got drenched and went home. The exploration party, who are assessing possible new National Parkland, arrived on Friday and went for a walk in the rain on Saturday morning. They reached the entrance of Cudgegong State Forest for a photo, thought about fording the Cudgegong River but decided it was too deep, then went back to camp for lunch. The pessimistic stayed at home.

The optimistic left home in pouring rain on Saturday morning — *they don't have so much rain out there!* Even their optimism was tested on the drive into Dunn's Swamp when they found pot-holes full of water along a slippery road, with water gushing along the sides.

One of the early arrivals staked the Society's claim to a cave, the biggest and best in the camping area. The optimists arrived to find the exploration party firmly entrenched in the cave, with a good fire burning, and eating hot pasta. And the rain did ease!

We swam, admired the grey reflection of the grey clouds in the lake, saw kangaroos, watched the sunset and the tiny slither of an almost new moon, listened to the plovers and the water birds calling in the night, and cooked and ate while warm and dry, with a nice camp-fire burning and candles on the wall.

There was a heavy shower in the wee hours, then the morning was dry. The reflections returned to the lake; the mist lifted from the pagodas, Kookaburras were bathing in a muddy puddle and having fun; water birds were running along the water to take off; Swampheens visited the camping ground, searching for food. The more energetic went for walks around the lake and to climb pagodas. The children swam. The only

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
APRIL 3 LeisWalk						9 Bushwalk 9 LeisWalk
10 LeisWalk	11 Bushcare				15 PlantSale 15 Bushwalk 15 MCMeet	
17 LeisWalk		19 Bushcare	20 Birdwalk			
				28 GenMeet	29 Bushwalk	
MAY 1 LeisWalk						
8 LeisWalk	9 Bushcare				6 Bushwalk	
15 LeisWalk		17 Bushcare 17 Workshop			13 Bushwalk	
22 LeisWalk				26 GenMeet	20 MCMeet 20 Bushwalk	21 Workshop
29 LeisWalk						28 Bushwalk

APRIL

- 15 (Sat) **Autumn Plant Sale**, 9 am to 12 noon, Conservation Hut. (See Page 1)
- 15 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 28 (Fri) **General Meeting**, 7.30 pm, at the Conservation Hut, Wentworth Falls
 Special guest **Brian Fox**, cartographer and bushwalker. (See Page 1)

MAY

- 17 (Wed) **Urban Sprawl, Medium Density or Neither**. Workshop (See Page 4)
- 20 (Sat) **Management Committee**, 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre.
- 21 (Sun) **Learn About Bushcare**. A workshop at Blaxland (See page 3)
- 26 (Fri) **General Meeting**, 7.30 pm, at The Hut. Guest will be Mary White.

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.)

APRIL

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

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

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.

APRIL

- 09 (Sun) **Phantom Cave**. Meet Katoomba railway (near Gearins Hotel) 9.30 a.m. Contact Jim Wallace 4784.3305. **Medium**.
- 15 (Sat) **Oaklands Falls**. Meet Hazelbrook Railway carpark 9.30 a.m. Contact Kate McManus 4758.7936. **Medium**. Do you know where this is?
- 20 (Thu) **The Honeyeater Migration**. Meet at Wentworth Falls Station (Stockyard carpark) at 9.30 a.m. Bring morning tea and binoculars. Contact Christine Davies 4787.7246. (Half-day)
- 29 (Sat) **Mystery Walk**. Meet Hazelbrook railway car park (south side), 9.30 a.m. Kate McManus 4758.7936. **Medium**.

MAY

- 06 (Sat) **Gardens of Stone National Park via Cullen Bullen**. Meet Mt Victoria Station 9 am. Contact Meredith Brownhill 4782.4823. **Medium**. (Long drive, 4-5 hour walk)
- 13 (Sat) **Six Foot Track, Megalong to Cox's River**. **Medium**.
- 20 (Sat) **Red Hands Cave, Campfire Creek Circuit**. **Medium**.
- 28 (Sun) **Lockyers Line of Road**. **Medium, some steep sections**.

LEISURE WALKS (Usually morning walks — bring a drink and morning tea.)

****Slippery and uneven surfaces. Please wear shoes with a good tread.**

APRIL

- 09 (Sun) **Welcome Autumn — Brunch at Wentworth Falls Lake**. Meet at 10.30 at the dam end of the park. BYO. Contact Jan Cutler 4784.3079.
- 10 (Mon) **South Lawson Waterfalls**. Meet Lawson War Memorial in Honour Avenue. Contact Lorna Bennie 4759.2368.
- 17 (Mon) **Northern Sydney Harbour Foreshores Walk**. Meet Lawson Bowling Club carpark 8a.m. Limited number. ☎ Bill Graham 4759.1692 for car allocation.

MAY

- 01 (Mon) **Eighth Avenue, North Leura**. Meet at Leura Carpark at 9 am. Contact Christina Jones 4784.1101. BBQ afterwards at Christina's place. **Medium**.
- 08 (Mon) **Inspiration Point**.
- 15 (Mon) **The Lost City**.
- 22 (Mon) **Walls Ledge**.
- 29 (Mon) **Bus Trip, Glow Worm Tunnel** (Ltd numbers). Bill Graham 4759.1692.

annoyance was a speed boat which periodically took off at high speed for short dashes across the lake (you could row across it in a few minutes!), making noise and waves, scattering wildlife and leaving an oil slick to pollute the river. There will be another camp in March next year.