

HUT NEWS

"Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow's People"



Environmental Education

A new sub-committee or working group has formed following the workshop on Environmental Education. We did agree that it is important for community members to become aware they live in a special place, that is, in the centre of Blue Mountains National Park.

A diversity of ideas emerged for future projects such as, supporting the concept of a Field Study Centre; promoting *Earthworks* courses that focus on waste production and recycling; and regular workshops on broad issues of sustainable living, e.g. the benefits of composting toilets.

We agreed that a small group of members was needed who could look after public events, such as World Environment Day and Wild Aware at Katoomba Public School. Input from artists who have skills in preparing displays is welcome.

This new working group has the excitement, challenge and fun of starting these and other new projects. If you would like to be involved in these new projects, then please come along to our meetings. For information phone Meredith on 4782.4823.

Demystifying Submissions and EIS's

It isn't necessary to be a sophisticated writer to write an effective letter or submission. Finding the focal issues and political weaknesses in Reports and EIS's is important, according to Robin Mitchell. Robin will share his experiences from both perspectives – preparing Environmental Impact Statements and reading other peoples EIS's from the other side of the fence!

So do come along and pick up a few tips on how to make letter writing easy, at an informal Workshop on Saturday 8 July at 2pm, Mid-mountains Centre, Lawson. Contact Meredith of 4782.4823.

Bob Debus Address

Last month we gave the wrong address for our local member and NSW Minister for the Environment Bob Debus.

The correct address is: The Hon Bob Debus, Member for Blue Mountains, 3/107-109 Macquarie Road, Springwood 2777 or The Hon Bob Debus, Minister for the Environment, Level 25, 59-61 Goulburn Street, Sydney 2000.

Land and Environment Court Need for Reform

At our general meeting on Friday 28 July, Kathy Ridge of Nature Conservation Council will speak about the reform of the Land and Environment Court.

The Society has just prepared a comprehensive submission to the Review Committee which has been established to look into the operation of the Land and Environment Court.

Very often, good decisions made by our Council are overturned by the Land and Environment Court when the developer appeals. The Court is very focussed on protecting developers rights rather than the environmental rights, and opportunities for the community to participate in the operation of the court are unduly restricted.

The composition of the judges and assessors in the court is weighted in favour of people with a legal or engineering or valuation background — botanists, ecologists and environmental scientists are not represented.

The meeting at the Conservation Hut, Fletcher Street, Wentworth Falls, starts at 7.30 pm. Visitors are welcome.

Volunteers Needed

Capertee Valley Tree Plantings

Since 1994, the Capertee Valley Regent Honeyeater Recovery Group and its volunteer supporters have planted approximately 16,500 trees and shrubs in the Capertee Valley north of Lithgow.

The next planting weekend is on 19-20 August, a time when there will almost certainly be Regent Honeyeaters in the valley.

On the weekend of 8-9 April, 50 keen birdwatchers and landowners worked together to plant 4500 trees and shrubs in the Capertee Valley. The sites planted included a significant extension of an area of natural White Box regeneration (700 trees and shrubs supplementing 500 planted several years ago), the linking of two large remnants near Noola Road (2300 trees and shrubs) and the widening of the riparian strip at an important

Regent Honeyeater breeding site along the Capertee River (900 trees and shrubs). The ultimate effect of all this will be better habitat for Regent Honeyeaters and other woodland birds.

An extra advantage of coming along to plant is that you get to visit parts of the valley that are on private property and not normally accessible to birdwatchers. On the Saturday we planted to the constant calling of Striped Honeyeaters, and at other times Jacky Winters, Hooded Robins, Restless Flycatchers and Dusky Woodswallows perched on

nearby fence posts.

Diamond Firetails, Little Lorikeets and Black-chinned Honeyeaters were also seen, but the highlight of the weekend was on Sunday afternoon when a pair of Black Falcons soared right over us during a short break from digging!

If you would like to participate in the August planting, phone David Geering on freecall 1800 621 056, or contact Carol Proberts for a registration form (phone 4782.1831, email origma@lisp.com.au). 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.

With This Newsletter ...

Enclosed with this newsletter are two leaflets:

- **Weed of the Month:** Wandering Jew
- **WIRES:** Helping Wildlife (one of four leaflets printed using money donated by the Society)

"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: Robin Mosman, Ph/Fax 4757.1354 First Vice President: Meredith Brownhill, Ph.4782.4823
Second Vice President: Imre Gahl, Ph.4784-3286 Correspondence Secretary: Frances Love, Ph.4757.2585 Meetings
Secretary: Heather Hull, Ph.4739.1493 Email heatherhull40@hotmail.com

Membership Secretary: Ross Coster, Ph.(H)4759.1837 (W)4759.1247 Fax 4759.1095 Email haytech@pnc.com.au

Treasurer: Les Coyne, Ph:4757.3327 Fax:4757.2820 Email coyne@pnc.com.au Publicity: Jim Wallace 4784.3305

Land Use: Lyndal Sullivan, Ph.4782.1635 Walks Convenor: Bill Graham, Ph.4759.1692

Plant Nursery Manager: David Coleby, Ph/Fax:4784-1395 National Parks Officer: Lachlan Garland, Ph.4754.2796

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

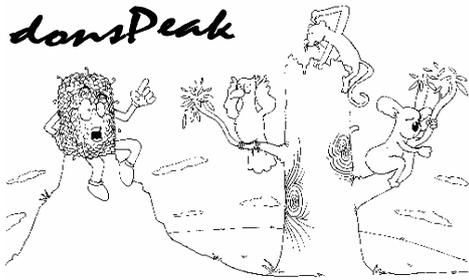
Education Subcommittee Convenor: Meredith Brownhill, Ph.4782.4823

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

Projects: Don Morison, Ph.4782.9974 or 4759.2128 Kathy Gott, Ph.4739-8124 Martin Beveridge, Ph.4758.9829
Helga Esamie, Ph.4787.7690 Email platypus@pnc.com.au Mike Purtell, Ph.4751.2143 Email mike.purtell@mis.net.au

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

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



Genes, Zoos, and Dr John

If Earth Sanctuaries successfully sets up in the Wolgan Valley near Lithgow, New South Wales will have several establishments committed to the welfare of our threatened wildlife, including Taronga and Western Plains Zoo.

This creates potential for great progress, but several things will need to happen for that potential to be fulfilled.

Firstly, all the wildlife protagonists need to co-operate with each other and share information. Secondly, there will need to be a sensible balancing of commercial and conservation objectives. Government subsidies, donations, sponsorships and shareholders' subscriptions (favoured by Earth Sanctuaries' Dr John Wamsley) may all have a role to play. Biodiversity is not just about saving cuddly mammals. Birds, reptiles, invertebrates, etc, all need funding.

Major issues in dealing with native wildlife include avoiding stress to individual animals and preserving the genetic health of overall animal populations. Australia-wide, the regulation of native wildlife breeding is inconsistent. The sale of native animals as pets is allowed in some states but not in others. Jill Dark, a BMCS member and Wildlife Rescuer believes native animals treated as pets become excessively stressed.

There needs to be a national investigation into the effect of all native fauna breeding on the genetic health of wild populations. Let us hope that all wildlife advocates co-operate with that process.

Andren Stands Alone

Peter Andren is the independent member for Calare, the Federal electorate covering Lithgow and Bathurst. In recent parliamentary committee findings, Andren alone advocated a moratorium on Genetically Modified crops. While few prominent people apart from Andren and Prince Charles might oppose the GM juggernaut, it does raise many legitimate concerns, especially the risk that modified plants might spread into allegedly unaffected areas.

A Timely Reminder

Bob Debus has kindly reminded us that we will not be waiting much longer for some of the expected outcomes of the Katoomba-Echo Point process (mentioned in this column in early May). An example is the Echo Point walking track work, which will reduce erosion and improve presentation of a much-visited natural area. State funding for this work was featured in a Gazette advertisement (24-May) and related Field Officer positions were advertised on 21 June.

Don Morison.

Upper Mountains Sewerage

Your Comments are Needed!

For some years members of the Water Cycle Sub-Committee have been working with Sydney Water and other stakeholders on plans to upgrade sewerage infrastructure in the townships of Medlow Bath, Blackheath and Mt Victoria.

At present Medlow Bath has no reticulated sewerage system, relying instead on Septic and pump-out systems. Blackheath is served by an ageing and under-designed Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) that at present discharges very poor quality effluent to Hat Hill Creek and on to the Grose River. Mt Victoria is served by a recently upgraded STP that discharges high quality effluent to Fairy Dell Creek and Cocks River.

Sydney Water initially wanted to connect all three townships to the Sewage Transfer Tunnel at Katoomba for transfer to Winmalee, and then decommission the STP's at Blackheath and Mt Victoria.

To the surprise of Sydney Water (and myself initially) community workshops selected a preferred option of local treatment and discharge to local streams, after thoroughly studying a range of alternate options.

The preferred option includes a pipeline to Blackheath from a new pumping station at Medlow Bath, sewer mains in most areas of Medlow Bath and Blackheath that are currently without sewerage, and a completely rebuilt Blackheath STP, using the latest in nutrient removal and disinfection technologies.

The effluent from the upgraded plant will cause less pollution than the background stormwater flow!

The main reasons for this community preference are:

- The townships are self-contained in their water harvesting through the dams at Medlow Bath and want to remain self-contained
- Residents want to take responsibility for their own pollution, not just export it to Winmalee
- Local treatment and discharge leave open the future option of direct or indirect re-use of the effluent locally (*This is a highly important consideration. Future options, which may include potable reuse, are greatly compromised when high quality effluent is mixed with industrial waste. Effluent from the upper mtns townships is primarily domestic (not mixed with industrial discharges) and of high quality.*)
- Connection to the tunnel to Winmalee is seen as an open-ended solution that may allow, or even stimulate, development in the townships
- Effluent treated to an acceptable level for discharge to Hat Hill Creek (and Fairy Dell Creek) will be of extremely high quality from the use of latest technologies, and is seen as a way to push Sydney Water to greater measures
- Drilling of a tunnel to North Katoomba (where the Winmalee Tunnel currently starts) risks massive

impact on ground water

- Removal of about 3.5 million litres per day from the Grose River Catchment is against the principles of Total Catchment Management and would rob the Grose of vital flow

- The tunnel option would cost \$14 million more, money that could be better spent on improving stormwater quality

Sydney Water have agreed to pursue this preferred option and have prepared and exhibited an Environmental Impact Statement over 18 months ago. The EPA have accepted the preferred solution, as has the Water Cycle Sub-Committee.

Unfortunately the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Colong Foundation for Wilderness, and the Total Environment Centre still prefer the Tunnel option.

A preference for removal of ANY discharge from the National Park and wilderness areas is very understandable and as a simplistic view is valid, however people already live in the middle of this environment. It is necessary to deal with the consequences and responsibility that go with the privilege of living here. Pumping to a tunnel does not constitute best practice and will stymie future options.

We need to break this stalemate and get on with the project! Septic leakage in Medlow Bath is polluting the Grose river now, as is poor quality effluent from Blackheath STP. When STP Upgrades are completed the primary pollutant source will be stormwater, which we need to target through community education and stormwater treatment.

I need your comments on the preferred option before I can start to lobby the relevant politicians. Please give me a call and tell me what you think. Ross Coster, Water Cycle Sub-Committee (4759.1247)

Welcome to New Members

Deborah Hunt, Leichardt
Adam Curry, Faulconbridge
Ian Brown & Marianne Bate, Mt Victoria
Kalin Kirkpatrick, Faulconbridge
Sue Beevers, Woodford
Julie Truscott, Wentworth Falls
Michael Burlace, Hazelbrook
Robert Hutchison, Blackheath
William S. Tatlow, Leura
Jose De Koster, Blackheath
Ross Cole, Wentworth Falls
Alan Mitchell, Earlwood
Ed Golja, Katoomba

Native Plants for Sale

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Native Plant Nursery is open on Tuesday mornings from 9 am to 12 noon.

There is a good range of native plants for sale as tubestock (\$2) or in 125mm pots (\$4). Volunteers are welcome to help. Contact David Coleby (4784.1395).

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

Book Review

Battle for the Bush, by Geoff Mossley, is a detailed and extremely well documented account of the developments that led to the declaration of the first very large national parks in NSW — the Blue Mountains and Australian Alps — and the people that campaigned to preserve them.

The book's seven chapters describe the birth of the bushwalking and conservation movement in the 1920s, the major conservation proposals made for the Blue Mountains and Australian Alps national parks and how they fared, through their efforts to protect the natural environment.

The book reveals, in particular, the strength of the voluntary conservation movement in the 1960s and 1970s, which grew with and out of the bushwalking clubs of Victoria and NSW. Faced with threats to the national parks, such as the proposal for mining in the Colong Caves area of the Blue Mountains, there was a new wave of public-backed action by these groups that helped strengthen protection for these and other natural areas. The book also reveals the breadth of the vision contained in park proposals for the Alps and Blue Mountains underpinning Geoff Mosley's statement — "one good plan is better than a million band-aids".

The author was Director of the Australian Conservation Foundation for many years and is still an active conservationist and environmental historian. He wrote the report on the Blue Mountains that helped The Colong Foundation initiate the Blue Mountains for World Heritage process, which was finally supported by Governments at all levels.

He concludes his book by expressing hope that World Heritage proposals for the south east forests, the Alps and the

Blue Mountains help inspire conservationists to continue fighting for wilderness.

For inspiration, direction or just a good read on the roots of nature conservation in NSW and Australia, this book is worth getting. Available from Colong Foundation at Level 2, 362 Kent Street, Sydney 2000, phone: 02.9299.7341. Costs \$24.95, postage free. (Review by Fran Kelly, Total Environment 2000/Issue 1)

Timeline

The Association for Environmental Education Western Sydney have undertaken the task of compiling Timeline Australian Information collected from interested naturalists and Natural History groups in the Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment to help establish a database for the region during 2000-01 and beyond.

Would you like to help? Underneath are the lists for July-August. You may be able to help verify the information currently listed, and ADD records of **reliable** and **conspicuous** indicators of seasonality or indicators of the health of the local environment.

These events could include: when something happens for the first or last time each year (first bloom of flower, migratory bird leaving); when the numbers of something common reach a peak or a trough (large hatching of insects, absence of swallows); effects of a natural or human-made catastrophe (regrowth after fire, storm impact); distribution changes in plant or animal populations (weeds spread, return of native bees, tree-planting program); effects of major weather changes (series of frosts, torrential rains, persistent high winds); major behavioural changes seen in animals (flocking, nesting, hibernation, territory defence); interesting plant and animal associations (pollinating an orchid, rosella attacking galls on wattle).

What to look for (July-August)

Birds nesting: black swan, white-faced heron, sea eagle, crested pigeon, lyrebird, brown thornbill, eastern spinebill, whipbird, grey fantail, Australian raven, fairy martin, black duck, black-shouldered kite, swamphen, spotted turtle-dove, spotted pardalote, noisy miner, New Holland honeyeater, peewee, magpie, satin bowerbird, darter, whistling kite, masked plover, powerful owl, rock warbler, bellbird, yellow robin, grey thrush, grey butcherbird, welcome swallow.

Butterflies: Phigalia skipper, common brown ringlet, halyzia skipper, Australian painted lady, wanderer, meadow argus.

Common Trees flowering: Scribbly gum (E. haeastoma), grey ironbark (E. paniculata),

Greenhouse Corner

Should We Be Vegetarians?

It has been pointed out to me that meat eaters have more greenhouse impact.

The amount of land used to raise animals for meat is far greater than that used to raise crops. This leads to additional land clearing with subsequent greenhouse gas releases from burnt and rotting vegetation. A given hectare of land will produce far more protein under crops than with grazing animals. Transporting and storing meat requires refrigeration with subsequent energy use.

More importantly, all animals produce methane as part of their digestive process, and methane is about twelve times worse than CO₂ as a greenhouse trap.

So what do we do? I personally try to avoid beef (although I love a good steak!), as cattle are the worst producers of methane and use the most land for a given kilo of protein. Lamb, pork and particularly chicken are far less resource-intensive types of meat. We use lamb or chicken mince at home instead of beef mince in bolognese, lasagne, and hamburgers. The takeaway at Lawson even serves lamburgers!

For our health we should all be eating more vegetables and less meat, with the spinoff effect of reducing greenhouse impact. So while I don't advocate us all becoming vegetarians, eating less meat is definitely good for us and good for the planet. *Ross Coster.*



spotted gum (E. maculata), forest red gum (E. tereticornis), narrow-leaved ironbark (E. crebra), yellow bloodwood (E. eximia), forest sheoak (Allocasuarina torulosa).

Common plants flowering: Wattles (Acacia decurrens, A. elongata, A. falcata, A. fimbriata, A. longifolia, A. ulicifolia), Banksias (B. ericifolia, B. oblongifolia, B. spinulosa), Sydney Boronia (B. ledifolia), hop bush (Dodonaea pinnata), Gompholobium grandiflorum, grey, green and pink spider flowers (Grevillea buxifolia, G. mucronulata, G. sericea), Hakea sericea, Hardenbergia violacea, Hovea linearis, Kennedia rubicunda, Geebung (Persoonia oblongata).

Other Indicators: donkey orchids in flower, cupmoth cocoons on eucalypts, cup fungi under eucalypts, common eastern froglet and tusked frog calling after rain, orioles and pied currawongs eating the seeds of the white cedar, seeds forming on Geebung, male satin bowerbird decorating bower, double-banded plovers return to New Zealand. **(Additions to the Other Indicators list would be greatly appreciated.)**

If you can help or want to know more about Timeline, contact Christine on 4787.7246.

The Blue Mountains

I love the Blue Mountains, their clear, bracing air, with scenery enchanting and wildflowers rare.

I love golden wattle and eucalypts tall, the tree ferns and mosses and all creatures small.

I love the deep valleys with cloud lying low, like some mighty river that's laden with snow.

I love the cool canyons and cascading falls, the cliffs climbing skyward with coloured stone walls.

I love early bird-calls — the music of dawn, that tell us with wonder a new day is born.

I love the flame robins and 'kookas' and wrens; rosellas and gang-gangs are all my dear friends.

I love the rich Autumn, resplendent in gold, with red and with orange and colours untold.

I love frosty mornings and mist in one's face, while snow swirling softly I gladly embrace.

I love glorious Springtime, with earth dressed so bright, when 'daffies' and 'rhodos' bring increased delight.

I love vivid sunsets and star-studded skies, then stirrings at daybreak when deep darkness dies.

I love hidden treasures that wait for the sound of bushwalkers' footfalls, then yield up their ground.

I love the Blue Mountains, their parts great and small; I thank God and praise him, for he made it all.

© Brian Black.

On Thursday Bushwalks

Birdwalk with Carol Proberts

On Narrowneck, Banksias flowering profusely; honeyeaters darting from tree to tree, dancing in the air to catch insects. A chorus of alarm calls, as a Peregrine Falcon flies over. Pilotbirds on the track. Lyrebirds singing in the valley, the ring of bellbirds.

Walk with Jim Smith

Down the 'blacks' ladder' sliding muddily past navy-blue fungi. (Diana Levy)

On Reinert's Pass

Ancient rainforest, cool, dark, and silent, water falling gently ...

A Birthday Lunch

At Castle Head
"Just wait while
I wash the champagne
out of my
glass" (Sylvia)

(Blue Mountains Interpretive Bushwalks, winter season, will commence on Thursday 27 July. There will be 8 walks with expert guests on some. Total cost will be \$20 per person. Numbers will be limited. For more info. or to register, contact Christine Davies, 4787.7246.)

Red-Browed Treecreepers

On the 1st June 2000, on Narrowneck, a pair of treecreepers were identified as Red-Browed Treecreepers. After identification we were able to notice that the birds were feeding on the topmost bare branches where the bark was hanging in strips. As White-Throated Treecreepers have commonly been seen on our bushwalks, it was interesting to find this article written by Jim Smith in the Society's newsletter, September 1985.

"On the 8th June 1985, on the Prince Edward Cliff Walk, only a few hundred metres from the Three Sisters, I saw a small flock of five Red-Browed Treecreepers. Apart from the red streak over the eye and the heavily striated chest, numerous behavioural differences from the more common White-Throated Treecreeper were apparent. The Red-Browed species has a softer call and appears to forage more slowly and thoroughly than the White-Throated. Numerous neck contortions were engaged in, in order to peer behind the peeling ribbons of bark. They also descended regularly to the ground, a behaviour rare in the White-Throated species. Look closely at the Treecreepers — it may not always be the White-Throated Treecreeper."

Conferences

NSW Environmental Education Conference 2000: UWS Hawkesbury, 5-6 August. Speakers include Les Robinson (Social Change Media), Ronnie Harding (UNSW), Stuart Hill (UWS) and Syd Smith (DET). Workshops will be held in the afternoon, either on campus or by bus-tour to various sites to investigate issues in Waste, Water, Biodiversity and Community Action.

The conference fee of \$75 covers proceedings, lunches, morning and

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
JULY					1 Bushwalk	2 LeisWalk
3 LeisWalk					8 Bushwalk	
10 LeisWalk	11 Bushcare				15 Bushwalk	
17 LeisWalk		19 Bushcare			22 MCMmeet 22 Bushwalk	
24 LeisWalk				28 GenMeet		
AUGUST					5 Bushwalk	
7 LeisWalk	8 Bushcare					
14 LeisWalk		16 Bushcare			19 MCMmeet	
21 LeisWalk				25 GenMeet		
28 LeisWalk						

JULY

- 22 (Sat) **Management Committee Meeting.** 9 am, Mid Mountains Community Centre, Lawson.
28 (Fri) **General Meeting.** 7.30 pm at the Conservation Hut, Wentworth Falls. Kathy Ridge of Nature Conservation Council will speak about the reform of the Land and Environment Court (See page 1)

AUGUST

- 19 (Sat) **Management Committee Meeting.**
25 (Fri) **General Meeting.** Guest speaker will be Noel Child, technical consultant for the Western Sydney Alliance: "Badgery's Creek Airport Proposal — Flaws, Fiddles and Falsehoods".

QUOLL CLUB (Activities for 16 and under)

- July 30 (Sun) **Explore Jamieson Creek where Darwin walked.** Meet 10 am, corner of Fletcher and Jamieson Streets, Wentworth Falls.
For more information contact Jessica on 4757.2783. For a copy of the Quoll Club Newsletter, phone Ross Coster 4759.1247.

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

JULY

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

Monday Leisure Walks: Usually half day walks, leisurely pace.

- July 03 **Terrace Falls.** Meet at Hazelbrook Station carpark at 9 am. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. BBQ afterwards. **Half day, Medium.**
July 10 **Queens Road.** Meet Lawson Bowling Club carpark 9 am. Contact Jock McKechnie 4758.6346. **Half day, Easy.**
July 17 **Portal Waterholes and Old Oaks track.** Meet Glenbrook Station 9 am. Contact Allan Macaulay 4739.2767. **Half day, Easy.** Good tracks.
July 23/24 **Bus Excursion to Mudgee.** (Already booked out.)
July 31 **Euroka Clearing to Nepean River.** Meet Glenbrook Station 9 am. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. **Half day, Easy.**
Aug 07 **Bruce's Walk, Bullaburra end.** Ideal medium walk for winter. Meet Bullaburra Station carpark 9 am. Contact June Tobin 4759.1280. **Half day, Medium.**

Weekend Bushwalks: Walks of various grades, full or half day.

- July 01 (Sat) **Undercliff/Overcliff and Rocket Point.** Meet at Conservation Hut, Wentworth Falls at 9.45am. **Half day, Easy.**
July 08 (Sat) **Three Brothers.** Meet at Medlow Bath, opposite Hydro Majestic, 9.30am. Contact Liz Stark 4754.4966. **Day, Medium.**
July 15 (Sat) **Narrow Neck.** Meet Katoomba Station (near Gearins Hotel), 9 am. Contact Kees Putting 4759.1958. **Day, Easy.**
July 22 (Sat) **Blue Gum Swamp.** Meet Springwood Station carpark 9 am. Contact Corrie Brook 4757.4574. **Day, Easy.**
Aug 05 9.30am. **South Woodford Waterfalls.** Meet Hazelbrook Station carpark (Sat) Contact Kate McManus 4758.7936. **Half day, Easy.**

Walks have been graded. 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. **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.

afternoon teas and transport for the "mobile workshops". The cost to attend for one day and the concession for unwaged participants is \$40. Contact Rick Fleming (phone 4579 1136) or Bill Dixon(email bdixon@hncmt.nsw.gov.au) and a brochure will be forwarded to you when the program is finalised.

Sustainable Sydney 2000, Powerhouse Museum, Thursday 20 July — the second Greenprint for Sydney conference. Contact Total Environment Centre, Level 2, 362 Kent Street, Sydney 2000, fax 02.9299.4411, for registration form or more information.