



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Darug and Gundungurra people, and pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging.

## Tourism after the pandemic

Land Use Subcommittee

The current hiatus in international tourist visitor numbers created by the COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity to step back and consider the future of tourism in the Blue Mountains.

‘Sustainable tourism’ is often used to badge tourism in the Blue Mountains and the achievement of Eco Destination Certification status seems to confirm that perception. With the recent purchase of the Katoomba golf course clubhouse for a Global Planetary Health Leadership Centre, along with its target of net zero carbon emissions by the end of 2025, Council is on its way to achieving its goal of making the Blue Mountains ‘the sustainability capital of Australia’.

But these slogans and aspirations often don’t match reality on the ground. Before the COVID pandemic, tourism in the mountains was arguably already unsustainable in terms of infrastructure provision, residential amenity and the environment. Parking, toilets and waste bins at popular destinations, other than the main drawcard sites, were either non-existent or unable to cope with increasing visitor numbers. Rubbish left behind by visitors to these locations inevitably made its way into the national park, contributing to the cumulative impact of human activity on the world heritage area downhill. Crowding and parking and traffic chaos at peak times created havoc for local residents. With regional tourism now increasing these problems are returning.

Right now, Katoomba and the southern escarpment ‘tourism precinct’ are the subject of a Council masterplanning process. ‘Opportunity sites’ in this precinct include the old Katoomba golf course. For many years ‘big tourism’ developers have had their eyes on the

golf course as an ideal site for a large scale hotel / resort / conference centre or tourist ‘hub’. Currently, the golf course is a popular public recreation area for walking, birdwatching and picnics and the Society wants it to remain in public hands for the continuing benefit of residents and visitors. The golf course could also be used for educational activities associated with the adjoining Global Planetary Leadership Centre.

It’s time for a community discussion about what ‘sustainable tourism’ looks like and how tourism can be better managed. The Blue Mountains could be a leader in sustainable tourism if we pivot away from mass market and ‘big tourism’ models to one more befitting our status as a city in a world heritage area and (potentially) ‘the sustainability capital of Australia’. More ‘big tourism’ development on the escarpment will only further diminish the scenic values of the world heritage area. Instead, we need to consider how to encourage and grow a more diverse local tourism sector, particularly indigenous, low impact nature-based and sustainability-related tourism.

So during the upcoming Council election period you may hear from ‘big tourism’ industry and some candidates. They may say that what the Blue Mountains needs is a quick recovery to a ‘business as usual’ mass-market model of tourism and new large-scale hotels, resorts and conference centres. We urge you to consider what a better future for tourism in the Blue Mountains could be and ‘vote for the environment’ in the upcoming Council election.

You’ll find our 2021 Council Election webpage at <https://www.bluemountains.org.au/elections/bmce21/>

# Management Committee meeting 19 June, 2021

The following were matters for discussion or decisions by the committee meeting on 19 June, 2021:

- Report on a Lock the Gate meeting.
- Progress on the July planning day.
- Petition to confine domestic cats to be shared and discussed with BMCC.
- BMCC Cemeteries Strategic Plan. Submission being developed.
- Inclusion of 'Acknowledgement of Country' in Hut News
- Brand refresh progress. Presentation to be given at planning day.
- Membership drive and possibility of membership form for school children.
- Invitation to participate in the Stakeholder Reference Group for the Katoomba Masterplan. Representative to be announced.
- Bushfire recovery funding of \$6.6 million to be given to NPWS by Commonwealth Government, to be spent within 12 months.
- Funding for new data projector and screen approved.
- BMCS representatives attended the NPWS plan of management workshops. Member involvement in the process sought and responses received. Ongoing process with a submission to be developed.
- Resilient Blue Mountains attended the meeting and spoke about their activities. The meeting discussed methods of assisting.
- Endorsement of submissions to BMCC about Buttenshaw Park, Wentworth Falls Lake Reserve and disposal of Crown land at 32 Greens Road, Warrimoo.

## New Members

The Society welcomes the following new members:

Ros Powell  
Kellie Walsh  
Wendy Rockwell  
Gabriel Walsh  
Olivia Walsh  
Roberta Johnston  
Michael Kapell  
Kirsty Dickens  
Judy Matheson  
Helen Rogers

There are currently 923 members.

# Katoomba Airfield Open Letter

In a bid to drive greater awareness about the proposed development of Katoomba Airfield, the Society coordinated the publication of an open letter in the Sydney Morning Herald to Minister Pavey, NSW Minister for Water, Property and Housing. Signatories to the letter included over 40 community leaders, local and state-wide environmental groups, and representatives of the outdoor industry.

The coming together of such a significant number of prominent leaders and groups is groundbreaking and demonstrates the widespread concern for the future of the Blue Mountains National Park and the importance of its World Heritage status.

Since reinvigorating the airfield campaign in November, the Society and community have maintained consistent pressure on the NSW Government and this letter reaffirms the resounding and broad opposition to commercial development.

We are very concerned about developer pressure that saw the original decision reviewed. With a second proposal currently under review, the decision that sits with the NSW Government risks ruining the park for the vast majority of people.

The open letter explains the impact the proposed lease would have on the area, especially the Grand Canyon, Grose Valley and nearby towns. It calls on the Minister to stick to the original decision to decline the lease while asking that the site is added to Blue Mountains National Park.

In addition to the letter, a petition of over 800 signatures was recently presented to the Upper House of the NSW Government. It too calls on the Government to reaffirm the original decision to reject a helicopter-based commercial lease, stop offering any further commercial leases over the site and have it added to the park.

For more information about the campaign please visit:  
[www.bluemountains.org.au/airfield](http://www.bluemountains.org.au/airfield)

# Profile of a youth climate activist

Will Potter from the Hawkesbury area

Clare Power

Will Potter is a 19 year old organiser, and a community member who is concerned and wants to have a positive impact on the climate crisis.

Will recently initiated a group of community activists to leverage the capacity of the Macquarie electorate as the most marginal seat in the country to demand strong climate change policies. I recorded the following conversation with Will in May, 2021:

*'I first learnt about climate change in a geography lesson in year 9. There was a graph that looked at the impact of rising emissions and where we were headed, with pictures. With 2 degrees of warming, it showed bushfires and rising sea level wiping out islands, and I'll never forget at 6 degrees it was a black picture showing the end of civilisation, and if you looked at where our emissions were headed that was also where we were headed.*

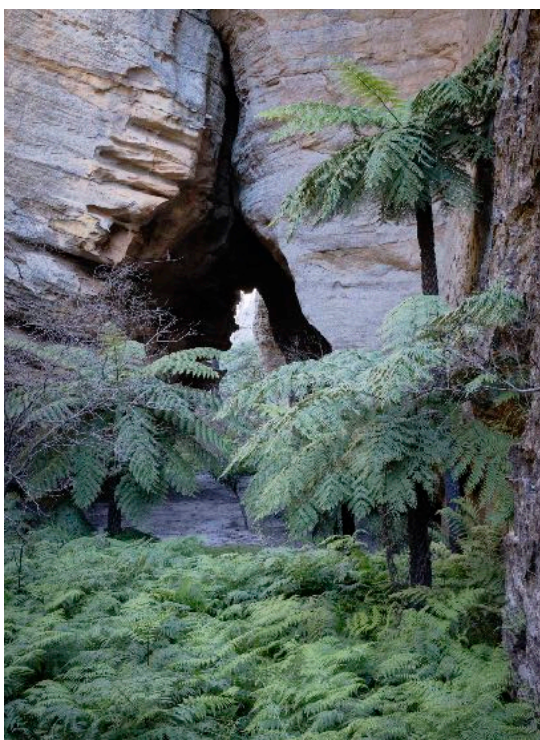
*So I was very frightened by that, and I looked around the classroom and no one seemed as frightened as I was, and I thought that was isolating, that everything could continue on as normal while I felt so strongly about this issue. So I decided to get active, I tried firstly sending emails to politicians and doing all those things an individual might do, and I didn't get any responses so I felt I didn't have much power as an individual. So I went to my principal to talk about getting solar panels on the roof of our high school, and he wasn't interested. He said it wasn't the priority for students and parents.*

*From that moment, I realised that if I wanted the power to make change I needed to organise the parents and students to actually care enough that they wanted solar panels on the school. I reached out to my friends, I started forming a small local group and we reached out to other schools and to Council so we formed a local group advocating on climate by students in the electorate and then we expanded from the Hawkesbury to the Blue Mountains because we all shared the same MP. So that's how we started the Macquarie Electorate student climate activists (MESCA).*

*We never got solar panels on the school but we did have a lot of other impacts, like Hawkesbury Council have set a net zero emissions policy just in the last month. So it's great to see the impact that dedicated leaders can have.*

*I joined the school strike movement when it started in 2018, and worked on the national campaigns. I now help coordinate the Change Makers organising school. It teaches the skills of how to make change in the world and it's run by prominent community organisers, such as Amanda Tattersall, who is from Change Makers, and a founder of Get Up. I strongly recommend people who are interested in the skills of organising to attend.*

*Now I'm not a high school student, but I still support them. Currently I'm concerned about the election and how we can use that to get better climate action in Australia. I've called in community leaders to organise around the election and to get the best climate policies so that our community can benefit. We've seen the fires and the floods in the Hawkesbury, we know the impact of the climate crisis first hand. It impacted our homes and our lives and our animals and our amazing bushland, and we know family and friends who've been directly impacted. We know climate change is making these events more extreme and more regular so it's our responsibility to make a difference on that.'*



*A lovely scene in the proposed Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area in Wolgan State Forest. Photo Ian Watson*

# What does sport have to do with climate action?

Clare Power

Sport is the next site of activism in relation to climate change, both in the impact of extreme weather on sport and through 'sportwashing'.

The Climate Council released a report titled 'Game, Set, Match: Calling Time on Climate Inaction'. It outlines how climate change is affecting sport in Australia, and how sport can also be a powerful force for change. The report points out that sporting clubs and codes contribute to climate change but can rapidly cut their own greenhouse gas emissions by changing the way they build venues, power events, travel and by cutting waste.

The Climate Council report also suggests that professional and community sports can switch sponsorship from fossil fuel-backed companies to those that invest in climate solutions. However, major polluters have sponsorship deals with many different sports including tennis, football and cricket. This is being referred to as 'sportwashing' where polluting and high carbon industries present themselves as supporting healthy activity while, in reality, they jeopardise health through contributing to climate change and diminished ecosystems.

A co-author of a recent report into sportwashing suggests that "major polluters had replaced tobacco companies as big sports sponsors, and need to be stopped for the same reason tobacco sponsorship ended: for the health of people, sports and the planet."

Santos, the company behind the Narrabri Coal Seam Gas Project hosted a Festival of Rugby in Narrabri in February 2021. The Santos Coal Seam Gas Project will cause irreversible damage to Gomeroi Country, the Pilliga Forest as well as the Great Artesian Water Basin. Gamilaraay Next Generation activists held protests and condemned the company for currying favour with the local community by sponsoring a rugby game between the NSW Waratahs and Queensland Reds. Gamil means "no" in Gamilaraay: the language spoken by the Gomeroi people. Situated on what is today described as north

western NSW, the Gomeroi Nation is currently saying 'gamil' to the proposed Narrabri Gas project.

Santos are positioning themselves as a company committed to a clean low carbon future and have become a sponsor of Tennis Australia with a commitment to delivering a range of tennis activities in regional and indigenous communities.

The decision by Tennis Australia to accept Santos sponsorship is in contradiction to a UN announcement that all four Grand Slam events had united in the fight against climate change by joining the Sports for Climate Action Framework. 350.org have initiated a campaign 'Tell the Australian Open to say NO to Santos'. You can sign the petition at <https://act.350.org/sign/tell-australian-open-say-no-santos/>

## Gardens of Stone Visitors Map

The Visitors Map is full of suggested walks and trips. It is in full colour, 60 by 85 cm in size, and covers the entire Gardens of Stone region at a 1:100,000 scale, making it ideal for planning your next trip to the area. You can buy a map on the society's website at <https://www.bluemountains.org.au/sales-map.shtml>

## Are you concerned about environmental damage or a development related activity in your neighbourhood but don't know who to contact?

The Society's Planning & Development Resource Kit may help you.

<https://www.bluemountains.org.au/pdrk-welcome.shtml>

# Resource Recovery at Springwood Public School

Cathy Cavanagh

Springwood Public School is aiming high with Principal Mehmet Mehmet seeing it as a 'Lighthouse School' - a community hub for collection and recycling.

Like many public schools in the Blue Mountains, it is set in spacious grounds with bush forming a large part of the perimeter. There are many environmental initiatives evident in the school such as a sensory garden and the growing recycling and resource recovery project.

Year 3 teacher Tracey McManus, has done much to reduce waste produced each day by the large group of students and staff (over 500). Soft plastic, Return & Earn, Commingled and Organic stations have been set up to pursue a Zero Waste to Landfill target. The aim of reducing the plastic waste has already achieved a reduction from six to two bags per week.

Mrs McManus says that 'changing the terminology changes the mentality' so in place of

'garbage bins' the school talks about 'resource recovery'. Now the only things that go in the waste bin are 'Band-aids' and coffee cups.

Her students learn about 'nude food' and how to pack their lunches with no wrapping. On a visit to her classroom her students enthusiastically informed me about the notorious plastic food wrap. For them it will forever be "bad wrap" or "sad wrap". I have first hand evidence of the success of this as I have witnessed my granddaughter who is in Mrs McManus' class, chiding her mother when she reached for the 'sad wrap' to wrap the lunches.

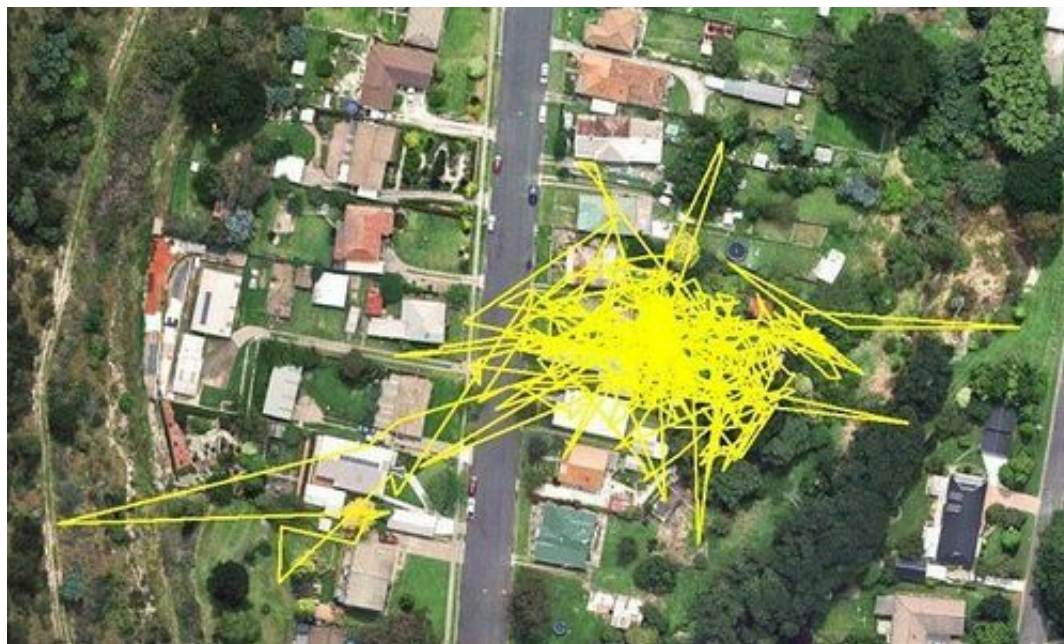
The latest project for Mrs McManus and her class is the building of a frog pond for the vulnerable Red Crown Toadlet (the Aboriginal totem for the school.)

Hut News will follow up this project as it progresses through the year.



*Tracey McManus, year 3 teacher at Springwood Public School.*

# Cats



*The tracks on one day of a domestic cat in Lithgow, NSW, as recorded via a global positioning system device attached to its collar. May 2016. (Supplied: Central Tablelands Local Land Services)*

## Feral Cat Pandemic Report

Meredith Brownhill

The final report from the Federal Parliamentary Inquiry into feral and domestic cats is now available. It is titled, *Tackling the feral cat pandemic: a plan to save Australian wildlife*.

The title is curious given that domestic pet cats outnumber feral cats, i.e. there are an estimated 3.8 million pet cats and an estimated 2.8 million feral cats, according to the Threatened Species Hub, National Environmental Science Programme (submission 72, p14).

Submissions to the Parliamentary Inquiry have come from varied organisations such as Australian Veterinary Association, RSPCA and National Farmers' Federation, to name a few.

The submission by Birdlife Australia confirms our community awareness that urban bushland is important, stating *our urban spaces can be important refuges for birds, particularly those impacted by recent fire and drought events* (submission 94 p5).

There is a delightful submission by the Friends of Paganoni Swamp in Western Australia, about the importance of wildlife in improving soil and aiding plant fertilisation (submission 18).

The Australian Wildlife Conservancy relate how they are building predator free sanctuaries for endangered wildlife. The Parliamentary Committee has recommended that the Australian government assists in creating a network of safe havens as a new national conservation mission.

Thirteen NSW local councils made submissions outlining the difficulties they have in managing roaming cats in NSW, due to inadequate legislation and lack of resources.

The Parliamentary Report is important and the six recommendations do give direction for a co-operative governmental and organisational approach to wildlife protection and cat management across Australia. The report with the recommendations for action can be found at <https://www.aph.gov.au/feralanddomesticcats>



Cute but... this little face was photographed, far from houses, in Ngula Bulgarabang Regional Park by Alan Page.

## Take action, sign a petition

Allen Greer

Many local residents burn with white-hot anger at domestic cats roaming through their properties at any time of the day or night, pooping and urinating in their freshly turned vegie patches, flower beds and children's sandbox, scaring and killing the native wildlife in their gardens, spraying their plants and buildings and even wandering into their houses.

But currently in New South Wales, there is absolutely nothing a person can do about it, because the definition of a "nuisance cat" puts a virtually impossible burden of proof - documented "repeated" physical damage - on the offended property owner.

The argument that roaming domestic cats are "just doing what cats do" is ridiculous. All animals roam if allowed to, otherwise councils wouldn't employ rangers to round them up. We don't allow dogs or domestic stock to roam freely through the neighbourhood, so why are domestic cats exempt? It beggars belief.

To try to stop this, I have started an online petition to confine cats to their owner's property. Confinement is recommended by the RSPCA and is in line with best-practice animal welfare. The petition has received nearly 5600 signatures in two weeks. It can be found at [https://me.getup.org.au/petitions/a-petition-to-confine-domestic-cats-in-new-south-wales?just\\_launched=true](https://me.getup.org.au/petitions/a-petition-to-confine-domestic-cats-in-new-south-wales?just_launched=true)

If you are sick and tired of domestic cats roaming at will, sign the petition. You will never get a better chance to do something about it.

## 'Cats in Australia, Companion or Killer'

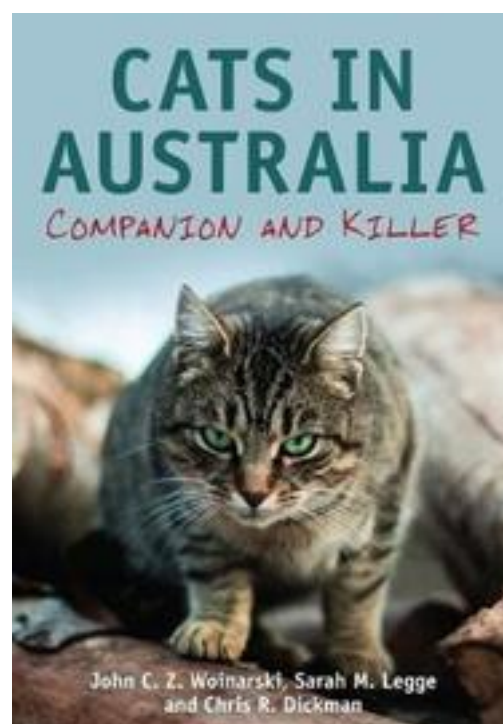
Book review by Meredith Brownhill

The book, *Cats in Australia, Companion or Killer* is an extensive review of Australian research into the impacts of cats on native wildlife.

It has drawings of small marsupials now extinct, maps correlating cat densities with fauna attrition and a map of fox and cat free island havens, among many other graphics.

Published in 2019 it has current scientific data and evaluates ethics, law and policy in cat management. The authors conclude *the evidence implicating cats in the decline of Australian wildlife is compelling* (p.236).

The authors, John Woinarski, Sarah Legge and Chris Dickman are affiliated with the Threatened Species Recovery Hub of the National Environmental Science Programme. The book is a CSIRO publication.



# Ramblings

## Narrow Neck Banksias Bounce Back

Alan Page

I was overjoyed to see the Heath-leaved Banksia (*Banksia ericifolia*) seedlings on Narrow Neck now topping 600mm in height (2ft in the old money). And there are hundreds of them.

Not so many Silver Banksias (*B. marginata*) or *B. cunninghamii*, but a few. Hairpin Banksia (*B. spinulosa*) is happily regrowing from its lignotuber. And then there's Old Man Banksia (*B. serrata*). It has the best recovery arsenal of all, and is regrowing from seed, lignotuber and epicormic buds. It seems to choose the best recovery / rebirth process depending on the severity of its burn.

Observations are so far restricted to trails and tracks so as not to harm the seedlings.

Let's hope that those plants that only regrow from seed are given the five to seven years required to produce more seeds before the next bushfire.

### Grasses on Narrow Neck

The numerous grasses now on Narrow Neck seem to be providing a healing dressing over the burnt landscape – and also restricting erosion from the life-giving rains.

But I do wonder whether the abundance of grasses is an indication that our vegetation communities are moving to more arid ones due to climate change.

### A Fourth Flannel Flower

A few years ago Ian Brown and I went in search of the fourth flannel flower that grows in the Greater Blue Mountains – the Dwarf Flannel Flower (*Actinotus gibbonsii*).

The other three are the Sydney Flannel Flower (*A. helianthi*), the Lesser Flannel Flower (*A. minor*) and the Pink Flannel Flower (*A. forsythii*).

But although we searched in the general area where it had been recorded, we were unsuccessful. It then dawned on us that it may be similar to the Pink Flannel Flower and only grows in the summer following a bushfire. That is, its dormant seeds are awakened by

enzymes in the smoke and then need some good rain.

This theory was strongly supported when earlier this year Ian found a patch of Dwarf Flannel Flowers. He took me there a few days later and although he exclaimed 'here we are', I couldn't immediately see them because they are mainly prostrate and unlike the Pink Flannel Flower, they blend into their surroundings.

The flowers are about 10mm across – half that of the Pink Flannel Flower.

We didn't publicise our find back then in order to protect this uncommon but delightful plant.



Dwarf Flannel Flower, *Actinotus gibbonsii*. Photo: Alan Page



## Clarence sand mine

Meredith Brownhill

Has anyone seen the Clarence sand mine recently?

On a day out to look at swamps and the fire recovery of vegetation on Newnes Plateau recently, a friend and I were shocked at the sight of this expanding mine. On the way home we did stop to take photos but the sun was setting and it was too dark.

The size of the mine i.e. the hole in the ground is huge. There is a brick wall next to the road and behind security fencing, machinery and lighting were being used as darkness fell. Adjacent land has been cleared. Does anyone know if the mine is complying with its development approval?

When reading the Society Minutes Books some years ago I found an entry which I copied – it reads:  
*'What can we do to stop sand mining in the mountains? .... Some areas have been zoned for donkey years for extraction.'*  
Well, that was 1981 and here we are in 2021 still worrying about sand mining.

Can anyone provide an update on what is happening at this Clarence mine?



*Acacia asparagoides*, an uncommon wattle without a common name. It grows in the upper Blue Mountains. Photo: Alan Page

## River access threatened by land sale

Tim Vollmer

Public access to a popular section of the Wollangambe River at Mount Wilson is threatened by the sale of a large parcel of pristine bushland.

The 28 hectare property is entirely covered with moist basalt cap forest, home to ancient trees and towering ferns. It borders Blue Mountains National Park and the popular Cathedral of Ferns.

Beyond its scenic and environmental value, the land also includes about 800 metres of the Wollangambe Two walking track. This provides access to a spectacular stretch of the Wollangambe River for bushwalkers and canyoneers.

While access has been generously provided by the family who have owned the land for more than half a century, a new private owner would be within their legal rights to stop the public crossing the property. That means a new owner could effectively shut the popular Wollangambe Two lilo trip, which draws thousands of visitors a year to the area, as well as closing off several technical canyons.

Few parcels of private land in the Blue Mountains have such significant recreational and environmental value as this property. It is important that the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) understands this and make its acquisition a priority.

I urge Society members to take a moment to email the NPWS Blue Mountains Branch ([npws.bluemountainsbranch@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:npws.bluemountainsbranch@environment.nsw.gov.au)) requesting that they urgently examine the purchase of this land and its addition to Blue Mountains National Park.

For those of you who are recreational canyoneers or bushwalkers, particularly people who use the Wollangambe Two exit track, please highlight the importance of this land to ongoing recreational access to the neighbouring national park.

It is also worth highlighting that this property, with large grassy areas on the ridge top, could also provide an ideal location for a formal NPWS campground, improving public access to the area while taking pressure off the increasingly crowded Cathedral Reserve across the road.

# Walks Program, June - July 2021

**NOTE: This program was prepared before the current lockdown and has been suspended until Saturday 10 July. Please refer to the appropriate walks leader if you are in doubt about it.**

The walks program also appears on our web page: <https://www.bluemountains.org.au/bushwalking.shtml>

## Saturday walks

Saturday walks are usually for a full day and are longer at a faster pace. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water.

Coordinator: Harold Thompson 0409 010737 or email [harold.thompson@bigpond.com](mailto:harold.thompson@bigpond.com)

Date	Walk description	Contact	Meet at	Grade
July 17th	Two Mt Wilson Tracks. To Wollangambe Crtr and Bowen Ck 10K	Diana 0432619305	Mt Vic Stn car park 8.30 am	3
July 24th	Redledge Pass 8km Map Katoomba	Harold 0409010737	Katoomba Stn car park 8.30 am	3
July 31st	Hydro Majestic Paths. 7km Map Katoomba	Andrew 0414990955	Hydro Majestic 8.30 am	3
Aug 7th	Valhalla, Thor, Asgard Hds. + mine & cave 11km. Map Mount Wilson	Alice 0425738766	Went. Falls Stn car park 8.30 am	3
Aug 14th	Redhands Cave & Kanuka Brook 8k Map Springwood	Harold 0409010737	Glenbrook Stn car park 8.30am	3

## Monday walks

Short day walks of 3-5 hours, Suitable for walkers of average fitness. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water.

The Group Coordinator is Keith Dorrian 0411 162 345 [keithdor53@hotmail.com](mailto:keithdor53@hotmail.com)

Date	Description	Meeting Place	Activity Leader	Grade
5 July	<b>Sassafras Gully Road Springwood to Fairy Dell, via Perch Ponds and Magdala Creek.</b> Approx 10 km. A pleasant walk but, a lot of creek crossings, steep accent out of the valley and some fallen trees to be negotiated. Also a chance of Lyrebird sightings.	Springwood, car park behind Westpac 9.00 am	Colin Ford 0421 502 954	3
12 July	<b>Blue Gum Swamp and Bees Nest Hill Winmalee.</b> 13 kms with 270 ascent/descent, otherwise it's all on track with a couple of minor water crossings	Springwood Station car park (north side) 8.35 am. Car pool.	Angela Berry 0427 133 327	3
19 July	<b>Lost world Springwood from Martins Lookout</b> 465 metre steep climb down and 465 metre climb up. ' Great views	Springwood. Car park behind Westpac 9.00 am. Car pool \$3.00	Lyn Bevington 0432 352 850	3
26 July	<b>Baltzer Lookout Blackheath,</b> Car pol to end of Ridgewell Rd then via Burrumooka Trail and return.Great Views Approx 9km	Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre at 9.40am car pool.	Tracy 0434 362 611	2
2 August	<b>Martin's Lookout Loop Springwood.</b> Steep descent to Glenbrook Creek, than walk past pools and waterfalls back to the starting point.	Springwood Westpac car park 9.00 am	Colin Ford 0421 502 954	3
9 August	<b>Fortress Ridge Track Leura.</b> Very scenic walk. Approx. 8Km from Mt Hay Rd	Leura car park. 8.30 am. Car pool \$5-00	Mave Roberts 4784 2691	3

## Tuesday Walks

Medium day are 3 -5 hours. Suitable for walkers of average fitness. Bring morning tea, lunch and adequate water. Co-ordinator: Susan Nicholls phone: 4754 1516 email: [suerosn@bigpond.net.au](mailto:suerosn@bigpond.net.au)

Date	Walk description	Contact	Meet at	Grade
6 July	Barangaroo foreshore, Pyrmont to Circular Quay. Easy 8K	Judith Dyer 0419 780 640	Central, Top of escalator 9.30 am	1
13 July	The Nature Track. Med 8K	Rob Hunter 0400 672 336	Wentworth Falls Station 9.12 am	3
20 July	Springwood – Lawsons Lookout. Med 2.5K Springwood History Walk. Easy 4K	Colin Ford 0421 502 954	Westpac car park, Springwood, 9.15 am	2 1
27 July	Vale Lookout walks, Grose Wold. Med 4K	Ken Robinson 0417 514 534	Westpac car park, Springwood 9.00 am	2/3
3 August	Jordan Springs to Ropes Crossing (Great West Walk). Easy 8K	Doug Nicholls 0455 850 753	Penrith Station on Concourse Bridge 8.30 am	1

## Thursday walks

Thursday walks are 2 - 3 hours conducted at a leisurely pace. Bring morning tea, adequate water and lunch .  
Coordinator: Beverley Thompson, phone: 4757 2076, email: [denfenella12@bigpond.com](mailto:denfenella12@bigpond.com).

Date	Walk description	Contact	Meet at	Grade
15 July	Gordon Falls, Leura	Chris 0413 107912	Cnr The Mall and Megalong St. 9.30 am	2
22 July	Christmas in July at Katoomba RSL	Book with Beverley 4757 2076	At the club at noon	1
29 July	Victoria Falls, Mt. Victoria Take lunch	Tracy 0434 362611	Mt Victoria station 9.50 am Car pool	2/3
5 August	Lawson cemetery and golf course	Keith 0411 162345	Cnr New St and Waratah St. Lawson 8.45 am	1



*A stunning rock formation with Pantoney's Crown in the background. This site is in the proposed Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area in Wolgan State Forest.  
Photo Ian Watson*

# About us

## Who we are

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society (BMCS) is an incorporated voluntary group of more than 900 members helping to conserve the World Heritage Blue Mountains region. It was originally the Katoomba and District Wildlife Conservation Society, formed in 1961.

We are governed by a management committee and much of our conservation work is undertaken by sub-committees and campaigns. We also have a native plant nursery, several bushwalking groups and a Bushcare group.

## Contact us

- Call the Membership Secretary, Ross Coster on 02 4739 2987
- By mail at PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls, NSW 2782
- By phone at 02 4757 1872 (leave a message)
- By emailing [bmcs@bluemountains.org.au](mailto:bmcs@bluemountains.org.au)

## Visit us

Web page [www.bluemountains.org.au](http://www.bluemountains.org.au).  
 Facebook: Blue Mountains Conservation Society  
 Twitter: bmcsnsw  
 Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/blue\\_mts\\_conservation\\_society/](https://www.instagram.com/blue_mts_conservation_society/)

## Become a member

You can become a member by

- Contacting our Membership Secretary, Ross Coster on 02 4739 2987
- Emailing Ross at [membership@bluemountains.org.au](mailto:membership@bluemountains.org.au)
- <https://www.bluemountains.org.au/joining.shtml> or scan this with your mobile:



## Management Committee Officers

Office holders of the management committee are elected at the annual general meeting from members who volunteer for roles. There are some vacancies (see below). If you are interested in filling one of those roles please contact the President.

### President

Tara Cameron  
 0419 824 974  
[taracameron4@gmail.com](mailto:taracameron4@gmail.com)

### Senior Vice President

Madi Maclean  
[gos@bluemountains.org.au](mailto:gos@bluemountains.org.au)

### 2nd Vice President

Susan Crick  
 0409 829 635  
[susan@bluemountains.org.au](mailto:susan@bluemountains.org.au)

### Administration Officer

Caroline Druce  
[jatz@bluemountains.org.au](mailto:jatz@bluemountains.org.au)

### Bushcare Officer

Paul Vale  
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