



all nations
BUSHWALKERS INC



Spring Newsletter

September 2018

PO Box Q23 Queen Victoria Building,
Sydney NSW 1230
<http://anbwalkers.org.au/>



NEWSLETTER OF ALL NATIONS BUSHWALKERS INC • FORMERLY ANC BUSHWALKERS INC & ALL NATIONS CLUB WALKABOUT GROUP • FOUNDED 1964 • INCORPORATED 1992

WALK

Knights Deck via Ironmonger Spur and Cattle Dog Ridge, Wild Dog Mountains

Blue Mountains National Park

1 July 2018 Grade: 5

Leader: Charles Bowden

DECKED OUT

I decided to place this strenuous walk in mid-winter, hoping that the cooler weather and a fine winter's day would coincide to provide the best conditions - and so it turned out.

What I didn't expect to find was a full turnout of SES, Police Rescue and other emergency services at Dunphys campground on arrival. It transpired they were undertaking training exercises, including a father and child 'lost' somewhere in Breakfast Creek. Apart from the massive amounts of equipment in some backpacks, we also noticed a drone being unpacked and later a helicopter scouring the area.

It was reassuring to see the scale and extent of the resources being put into the search. So, we set off feeling somehow safer in that knowledge.

Our main goal was to find and ascend Cattle Dog Ridge, a route none of us had done before. This proved to be easier than expected. A prominent track leading from an old farm gate on the southern bank of Breakfast Creek took us to the base of the ridge. Here a discernible track led us up the spine to a rocky outcrop consisting of large conglomerate boulders. We found a small cave which looked as if it might have been deliberately excavated before walking to the top of the outcrop. Here we feasted on a magnificent 180 degree vista, from Cronje Mountain in the west to Narrowneck Plateau in the east. The lookout 'deck' even had a stone platform with ancient grinding grooves to add further interest.



Charles taking in the Vista—photo Fiona Bachmann

WALK

Winmalee Shaws Ridge 1 July 2018 Grade: 2 Leader: Denise Kruse

After reaching Blue Dog Ridge, we soon arrived at Knights Deck, another lookout with stunning views which we absorbed while having lunch. Then followed a steep descent via Blue Dog Spur to the junction of Breakfast Creek and Cox River. Breakfast Creek was unexpectedly dry, in spite of recent rain, with only the occasional shallow pool, while Cox River seemed placid and lower than normal.



Descending Blue Dog Spur—Photo Charles Bowden

The climb up Ironmonger Spur to Ironpot Mountain proved particularly arduous for yours truly but encouragement and sustenance from my hardier companions saw me safely to the top. By this stage the sun was setting but there was still sufficient light to see us safely across the mountain and down to the farm track and then dirt road back to the cars, past dozens of kangaroos munching unconcernedly in the twilight.



Twilight exit to Dunphys Campground—photo Fiona

My thanks to Sandra, Fiona, Harold, Nick and Liam for joining me on this excursion and sharing in its delights and travails.

Shaws Ridge is in the lower blue mountains near Winmalee. The walk is on well marked fire trails with an ascent.

Ed and Denise were joined by twelve members on a beautiful Winter's day, meeting at Hawkesbury Road, Winmalee, before driving to the start of the track. We followed Shaws Ridge up to Springwood Ridge for lunch overlooking the valley. Four did the optional walk with Ed, up to the Grose Mountain lookout, returning to the remaining walkers for lunch.

After lunch we retraced our steps and followed the fire trail through Blue Gum Swamp, returning to the cars at about 2:30pm.



Shaws Ridge Walkers—photo Denise Kruse

Six joined Ed and I at Lapstone Hotel for a hot drink/wine/soft drink and a debrief and we were on our way by 4:00pm.

Thanks to the car drivers who picked us up at Strathfield (Sandie/Trevor, Leah, Ed/Denise) and those who attended: Andrea, Luci, Francesco, Molly, Linda, Catharina, Charbele, Stephen, and Pan. It was a relaxing day and we were able to solve the issues of the world.

So, see you next time in the bush?

President's Soapbox

This is my first Soapbox as president and I'd like to take the opportunity to welcome the newly elected committee and thank everyone that came along to the enjoyable AGM at the end of June. As always, there was a hotly contested photo competition with amazing shots of flora and fauna as well as some interesting shots of members! For those that don't know, there are plenty of fantastic pictures from previous club walks on the website at <https://anwalkers.org.au/photos>.

The other highlight of the AGM was the variety of homemade food for the morning tea, which led to the suggestion of a 'best dish' competition for the AGM next year. This suggestion will be considered by the committee, as do all suggestions and comments that members make. In fact, I'd encourage anyone that an idea to enhance club activities to either contact one of the committee members directly or send an email to club@anwalkers.org.au. This is your club and it is what the members make it.

On your weekly 'What's Up' email, you may have noticed that there are now news feed items as well as the list of club activities for the next fortnight. The aim is to ensure you hear about initiatives and news items in a timely manner as well as hearing about them later in the quarterly Keeping Track. Have a look to see what is happening at your club.
Hope to meet you all (again) on a walk soon.

Helen Hindin
President

Welcome to New Members

**Joan Ho
Peter Gregory
Graham Foxcoft
Paula Fitzpatrick
Kanya & Peter Gosper
Mehri Behayar
Vaughan Parkinson
David Whyte
Chanthakorn Ketwong
Hee Yue
Lina Lee**

See you in the bush.....



Walking Update

A waterfront walkway has been recently built in front of the old submarine base at Kirribilli.

it is now possible to walk from the end of High Street along the waterfront to join Hipwood Street, and thus makes a nice detour for those walking north from Kirribilli Station across Milson Park to join up with Anderson Park, before continuing on to Cremorne Point and places further east..

Thinking about leading a walk, or walking regularly?

It is a good idea to have first aid training.



Email club@anwalkers.org.au or speak to a committee member if you are interested. Once approved, and on successful completion of the course, ANB will reimburse you up to the value of \$120.

WALK

Rhodes to Cabarita
29 May 2018 Grade: 2
Leader: Denise Kruse

What could be better than a sunny warm autumn day for a walk I hear you ask? Well nothing of course, and nine agreed with Ed and I that it was a perfect day for a walk.

We met at 9.30am at Rhodes train station and set off. We crossed Concord Road and walked past the club's usual Christmas venue in Kokoda Memorial Park and then behind Concord Hospital following the well marked track along Parramatta River. Along the way we had morning tea, admired Yaralla House and selected which of the posh houses of Majors Bay we would like.



We sprinted for an earlier ferry and returned to Olympic Park for Chinese/mixed lunch, arriving back at the cars by 2pm.



Enjoying the Walk—Rhodes to Cabarita

Thanks to those who joined us for this fun day out – Tricia, Connie, Molly, Daniel, Sunmi, Andrea, Bryan, Virginia and Francoise.

ROGAINE

Kitchener

17 June 2018 Grade 3-5
Co-ordinator: Charles Bowden

This year's Paddy Pallin Rogaine was held at Kitchener, a village located near Cessnock. Overnight camping was arranged on the grounds of the local public school with access to a proper toilet block, which was much appreciated.

The sole local pub had a busy evening on Saturday with the influx of overnighing rogainers, and tried to cater to all tastes with their phalanx of TV screens showing rugby league, union, AFL and soccer matches.

Sunny weather offset a chilly start to the day and the two ANB teams had an enjoyable day finishing within 20 points of each other. The course covered sections of Aberdare State Forest and Werakata National Park and was notable for the number of track and trails, many created by trail bikes. This meant that a lot of teams got high scores, especially those prepared to run all day. Well over half the 169 teams (alas, not us) secured over 1000 points. The overall winners collected 3160 out of a possible 3870 points.



L to R Liam, Leah, Charles, Helen & Alison

For the record ANB1 (Alison & Liam - 830 points) came 132nd overall and 32nd out of 38 in Veteran Mixed category. ANB2 (Charles with first-timers Helen & Leah - 810 points) came 134th overall and 33rd in the Veteran Mixed category.

Many thanks to Liam, Alison, Leah and Helen for joining me for a very enjoyable outing in particularly pleasant forested countryside.

New Car reimbursement rate to be effective from the commencement of the Winter program on 1 June 2018



The car pool cost is 35¢ per kilometre (plus any other reasonable costs, e.g. National Park entry OR road toll fees). This cost is shared equally between everybody. The walk leader's decision will be final. The easiest way to divide the money is for each person (including drivers) to pay their share into a pool and then the drivers take equal shares. This ensures fair payments. Rounding at any stage of calculation to nearest whole dollar is customary to simplify change owing.

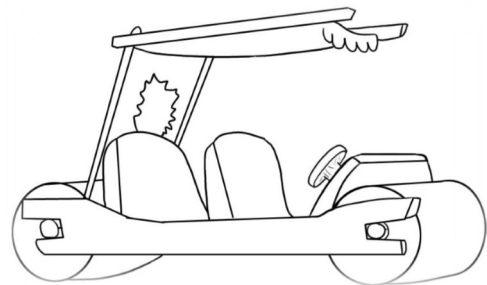
Example

- There are 3 cars and 10 participants
- One car with a driver plus 1 passenger and two cars, each with a driver and 3 passengers
- The cars make a total round trip of 150 km

The cost is computed as follows:

$150\text{km} \times 3 \text{ cars} = 450\text{km}$ (total distance travelled by 3 cars) $\times 35\text{¢/km} = \$157.50$, rounded up to \$160.00. There are 10 participants (including drivers) therefore $\$160.00/10 = \16.00 , paid by each participant, and divided equally between the three drivers (\$53.33 to each driver).

If the round trip is greater than 300km the driver is to agree with the passengers (prior to departure) what rate is to be used, which should be lower than 35¢/km



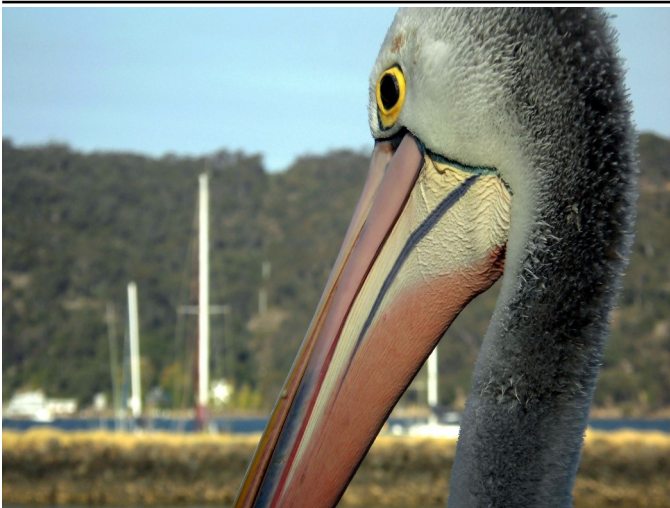
ANB AGM PHOTO COMPETITION



L to R photo comp winners and runners up- Denise Kruse, Jan Steven, Nick Collins , Charbele Uraine



1st People by Nick, subject—Len



1st place Nature Brooklyn by Nick



2nd place Nature SS Minmi Shipwreck, Cape Banks, Botany by Charbele



1st place Open Chameleon by Jan



2nd place People Lighthouse by Denise Kruse

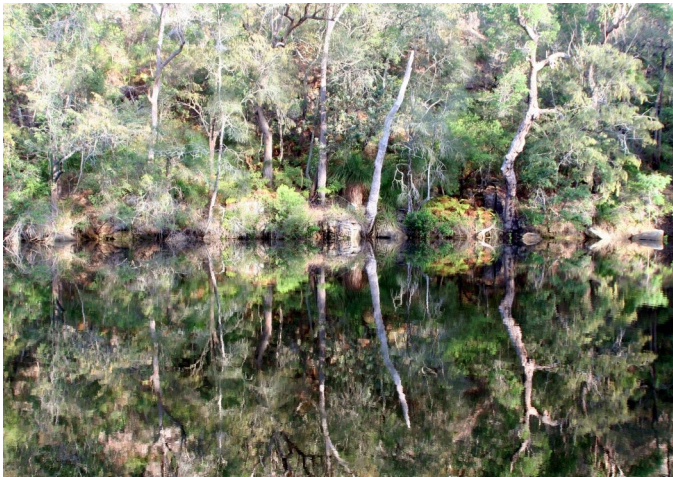
ANB COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2018/19

Our Committee for 2018/2019

President	Helen Hindin
Secretary	Sarah Burke
Treasurer	Liam Heery
Programme Co-ordinator	Richard Barnett
Membership Enquiries Officer	Michele Mawer
Newsletter Editor	Fiona Bachmann
Webmaster	Paul Monaghan



L to R—Paul, Helen, Sarah, Fiona & Liam.



2nd place Open Berowra Creek Crosslands by Nick



Richard



Michele

WALK

Bantry Bay **15 July 2018 Grade: 2** **Leader: Len Sharp**

This walk didn't start out too well for two of our members.

Pan left her spare shoes on the bus and Françoise arrived at her bus stop early, only to see the bus disappearing into the distance.

However, everybody else was on time at the meeting place; the car park opposite the Austrian Club.

It was a magnificent sunny day with a breeze blowing from the north west.

We started the walk along the fire trail, passing the large coloured display by the Mountain Bike Association, showing the various routes in the national park and their grading.

I thought a national park was to preserve the bush and the environment, not to carve it up for mountain bike tracks.

This is not the only area in Garigal that has had paths put in. They are on the western side of the valley and the natural stone bridge, and upstream on Middle Harbour Creek near the Cascades.

In fact, one of the riders passed very close to us at speed without giving any warning. After walking 550 metres The Bluff lookout was reached.

The views over Bantry Bay from the lookout are superb; you can see the length of the bay.

It was sunnier on the eastern side of the lookout, and out of the breeze, so we had morning tea there. The only view here was the new housing development across the valley which reached right up to the boundary of the national park.

Morning tea over it was time to start the walk proper by descending the stone steps on the Bluff Track.

One of our party tripped on the steps, falling forward, landing on her hands and hurting an ankle.

After this she elected not to continue and would wait for us back at the club.

We continued into the valley where the track had deteriorated, with yellow clay and wet sections.

Another good reason to bring those suggested changes of shoes and clothes, in case of slips.

The Austrian Club has a casual clothes policy but not a good look for us if covered in mud.

Two small streams were crossed in a rainforest environment, and the second one required a small area of rock to be negotiated.

Further on we passed under a large overhang and then more open forest where there had been a prescribed burn. This provided a look at the rock outcrops normally hidden in the undergrowth.

There were now glimpses of the bay through the trees to our right.

Further on the views improved and we could see the yachts and cruisers anchored in the bay.

Across the bay were glimpses of buildings on the shoreline.

These are the abandoned explosives storage buildings.

The explosives formerly stored there were not for military purposes but for civilian use, such as construction.

Bantry Bay was chosen for the storage as it is a narrow valley with steep sides, and if there was an accidental explosion the force of it would be directed upwards.

A small park was our next way point with a picnic table and more importantly, primitive pit toilets; there being nothing at the start of the walk as the club didn't open until noon.

In bushwalking, what goes down inevitably must go up, and so it was for us.

We tackled the Timbergetter's Track with its well-made stone steps leading up to Seaforth Oval.

There are better facilities there, usually open when sports are being played, and so it was on our walk. Some of us waited at the intersection with the Engravings Track, our now level track, back to the start of the walk and most importantly, our lunch at the Austrian Club

The track started out as a narrow bush track and then opened out to a fire trail running parallel and close to the Wakehurst Parkway. Along the way are the aboriginal engravings, after which the track is named.

There is a large open area of rock here and a variety of engravings ranging from shields to fish, a whale and boomerangs. Or are the 'boomerangs' phases of the moon?

Liam also advised that the shields are used to delineate tribal boundaries.

We were running slightly behind schedule at this point, so could only spend a short time at the engravings.

The new housing construction we had seen from the lookout was passed as we took a dead end side street, which, luckily for us, went close to the oval and the Austrian Club where outside our patient (in more ways than one) wounded member was waiting.

Luckily also that a table had been booked a week before, as the club was crowded.

We had a window seat in the upstairs area, really a mezzanine level, between the bar and the kitchen.

Apparently, the crowd was due to thirty people who had just walked in, which is perfectly acceptable to the club.

We ordered our meals and for some they still had to wait about an hour to be served; the luck of the draw as they say, but I didn't hear any complaints.

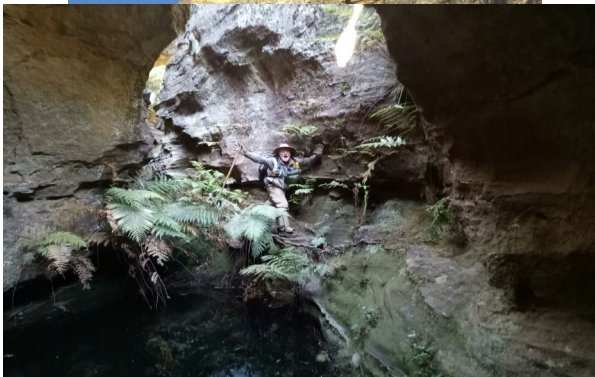
I personally enjoyed the wheat beer which has a nice clean taste without any chemical taint and, of course, the Apple Strudel for dessert.

Everybody enjoyed their meal and the walk.

So, thanks for their company to Jacqui, Liam, Catharina, Heran Kim (a new member on her first walk), Daniel (thanks for the wheat beer), Denise, Ed and Pan.

Thanks also to those who drove, for giving lifts to all those who came by bus.

Finally to the Pagodas Gardens of Stone National Park—photo Nick



Charles traversing Sunnyside Canyon—photo Freda Moxom

PHOTOS

Gardens of Stone National Park 12 July 2018 Grade: 4 Leader: Freda Moxom

It always pays to be prepared. You never know when your path may be blocked (even before the walk starts). For those of you that like to collect gadgets, here's another to add to your kit.....



Harold chain sawing the path clear. Photo—Fiona



Then they're off—photo Nick Collins

WALK

Mt Kembla Circuit 8 July 2018 Grade: 3 Leader: Charles Bowden

A fabulous sunny winter's day greeted the throng of thirteen walkers that assembled at the Mt Kembla lookout carpark. A quick briefing and it was off to climb Mt Kembla itself first up. There have been many changes to the Summit track since I was here last, several years ago now.

The track has been cleared, information signs erected, posts and chains placed on steep and narrow sections, steps added as well as a shiny new ladder near the summit. At the summit itself, the rocky viewing platform has been desultorily fenced off: there is a gap for those wanting to ignore the warning sign and perch on the rocks.

The views along the coast with Wollongong front and centre were spectacular so the platform made for an ideal morning tea stop before descending again.



Descending Mt Kembla—photo Charles Bowden

Then it was onto the Ring track that goes around the mountain, first wending its way down through a gully thick with cabbage tree palms before debouching onto the dirt road between Cordeaux and Farmborough. Sadly, this road, although closed to vehicles, is being used by trail bikes and we twice had to jump aside to avoid being run over.

The track from the road to the historic coal mine adits is now heavily overgrown and I missed the marker poles so that we overshot and ended having to backtrack for a few hundred metres. The adits now have new metal grilles to replace the formerly crumbling brick barriers and it is consequently no longer possible to enter inside. Large stinging trees have also made themselves at home nearby which is disconcerting.

We had lunch on the apron where the coal used to be loaded onto carts; large chunks of coal are still visible. Following lunch, we resumed our stroll along the dirt road until we reached Cordeaux Road. From there it was a short walk to the historic cemetery at Windy Gully which commemorates some of those who died in the worst mining disaster in Australian history: ninety-six men and boys killed on 31 July 1902. The cemetery has been restored and is being well maintained.



Examining graves and plaques—photo Nick Collins

Not long afterwards we reached the cars and adjourned to the Mt Kembla pub for a thirst quencher or a gut warmer (a chilly wind was blowing!), depending on need.

Many thanks to all who came along and special thanks to the drivers who helped out with the carpool.

FUNNY PHOTOS

Can you guess where these photos are?

These are real photos taken without editing or alteration.

One is locally in Sydney. Bonus points (Bragging rights being the only prize) for guessing which train station the passengers boarded and alighted, as well as the train line.

The second is on another continent.



Why wear your wings out when you can get cheap Sunday travel?



Send your answers to editor@anwalkers.org.au by the next newsletter deadline.

Last edition's photos were;.....

- Caltex Cooma Ladies (obviously) bathroom
- Sick bags on board MV Ushuaia crossing Drake Passage en route to Antarctica



Editor's Note

If you have any Funny Photos to submit for the next edition send them to;
editor@anwalkers.org.au

They should be unedited real sightings, preferably on a walk or travelling, but anywhere, and in good taste that everyone can enjoy!
Such as this busker spotted in Hyde Park Sydney...



Advanced notice

FOR THE DIARY

Annual Christmas Party
Come and join us

**Saturday 1st December
2018**
From 4:00pm

BBQ Area at
Rhodes Memorial Park,
Rhodes

Bring: BBQ food to cook
**Salads, Bread and Tea &
Coffee will be provided**

Newsletter Editor

- Collect, review and collate ANB stories and photos.
- Compile the quarterly Keeping Track newsletter
- Club printing
- Participate in the ANB committee

Get involved as a sub-editor now or as Editor at the 2019 AGM
Information on the role is available at
[Newsletter Editor Duty Statement](#)

Or
email the current editor;
editor@anwalkers.org.au
to find out more about the role.

Bushwalking NSW



Members are encouraged to volunteer to be a delegate for All Nations Bushwalkers at general meetings of Bushwalking NSW.

This is to represent the club's interests and feed back to the committee what is going on in bushwalking around the state. The meetings are scheduled as follows;

Tuesday 20th November

Tuesday 19th February

Tuesday 21st May

Generally in the evening at Redfern Town Hall. It is fine to volunteer to attend on just one date. Please express your interest stating your preferred date to: club@anwalkers.org.au

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE -

9 November 2018

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO
editor@anwalkers.org.au

Pictures submitted: 300DPI resolution preferred to achieve good reproduction quality and photos should be separate files from the story text.

A quote "Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose."— Lyndon B. Johnson