



**all nations**  
BUSHWALKERS INC



**Winter Newsletter**  
**June 2017**

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

### **Fish Pool, Jellore State Forest** **15 January 2017** **Grade 4** **Leader: Charles Bowden**

This little known, but very enjoyable walk, follows a fire trail up Mt Waratah, before taking a side track down a gully to Hidden Creek. From there it's a question of following Hidden Creek to within cooee of the Nattai River, before taking a track that crosses over the creek down to the river.

We had a fine warm sunny day for our walk and seven bushwalkers turned up to take part. I had initially hoped to be able to motor up the fire trail to the summit of Mt Waratah, but those expectations were dashed when we found a brand new gate had been installed halfway up, so we only saved about 200m of distance and 50m of ascent.

Distressingly the gate and boulders lining the trail were no deterrent to several trailbike riders, who appeared as we were getting out of the cars. We were to encounter them repeatedly over the next couple of hours. They even negotiated the narrow gully track to Hidden Creek, in spite of fallen trees and limbs. Fortunately, they weren't interested in following us down Hidden Creek, but confirmed my suspicion that the track links up with a fire trail on the opposite ridge.

Hidden Creek had experienced some recent flooding and had been magically cleared of undergrowth and dense bush. However, the flooding had undermined some of the banks, and there was quite a bit of rubble and tumbled boulders to scramble over and around. We even disturbed a wombat, possibly looking for a new home.

We had lunch at Sluice Box Falls before reaching the Nattai River, where recent flooding had wreaked far more remarkable changes. A considerable amount of rocks and rubble had been swept down the river and piled up at the bends near Fish Pool, so much so that I was a little afraid Fish Pool might have disappeared. Fortunately, this turned out not to be the case, but the landscape around had changed markedly.

Before reaching Fish Pool, we encountered a large red-bellied black snake sunning itself on the rocks. It rapidly headed for the water and disappeared into a crevice. Undaunted we enjoyed a relaxing swim and "massage" from the waterfall over Fish Pool before heading back.

The track back goes up Anticipation Spur before reaching the large sentry boulders that make up Spellbinder Rocks. Here we paused to take in the view over the hills before reaching the fire trail and returning to the cars.



Thank you to Diane, Suseela, Richard, Derek, Ulrike and David for taking part, and additional thanks to David for helping out with transport.

Relaxing in Fish Pool - photo Charles Bowden

# WALK

## Cowan to Brooklyn 29 January 2017 Leader: Liam Heery

Grade 5

The weather was always going to be a factor in this walk, and it wasn't until on the day that I finally decided on the route.

You may think that the route was already defined as the track from Cowan to Brooklyn is one of the most walked tracks north of Sydney. However, I was only going to be following the Great North Walk for a portion of the walk, to just after Jerusalem Bay.

The route I chose was to take Vize Spur to Porto Ridge and then down into Brooklyn (a more direct route by line of sight), with a potential diversion via Peak Hill, weather permitting.

The weather was reasonably kind with forecast maximums of 29 degrees, one degree within my limit! One of the participants had heard that the Bush Club had decided this route was impassable due to being overgrown, and that they didn't think it could be done anymore.

Well, a red flag to a bull and we donned our bush armour as we headed onto Vize Spur. Sure enough it was heavily overgrown, but not long afterwards became reasonably passable. Route finding was also fairly easy, as we followed the spine of the spur until we overlooked Porto Bay.

From here it was a case of heading down the side of the ridge into a side creek and locating slots and ledges in and out of some cliff faces. Once at the creek, which was luckily dry, we had an unimpeded highway to the mangroves at Porto Bay.

We then needed to traverse to the other side and cross Porto Creek. However, I didn't think that the tide would be fully in and there wasn't much room for movement around the creek edges.

Stopping to have lunch and hoping that the tide would have dropped somewhat, we had a well earned rest on rocks overlooking the tidal mangroves.

After lunch the tide hadn't dropped enough, so we attempted to short cut our exit up to Porto Ridge. Our unsuccessful attempt to get through the undergrowth, and then cliff lines, meant that by the time we made it back to the bay the water level had dropped enough for us to easily walk in the mangroves along the out-flowing creek.

We were then able to follow a relatively easy route, again right up the centre of the spine to Porto Ridge. However, as it was now the hottest part of the day, we had to make plenty of rest stops and change point a number of times. Our navigation was spot on though, as we walked straight onto the Porto Ridge cairn.

Given the time it took to come up to this point, I decided that we would by-pass Peak Hill and head straight for Dead Horse Bay along the old Porto Ridge track.

A leisurely swim at Dead Horse Bay made up for all the sweat and scrapes made on this alternative route (still passable) from Cowan to Brooklyn. We even had time to have a cooling ale or two at the Brooklyn pub, before catching the next train back to Cowan and home.

Thanks to Nick, Bob and Jacqui for joining me and making this a most enjoyable day out. And for those conscious of losing weight, after weighing myself on Monday morning, I had dropped just over two kilos!!



Swamp dwellers! - photo Nick Collins

### Keen to learn more about bushwalking?

<http://www.bushwalking101.org/>

By the National Parks Association of  
NSW

- Gear
- Footwear
- Sun protection
- Water collection and treatment
- Map reading
- On track navigation

## President's Soapbox

This will be my last Soapbox for the time being as I shall not be standing for another term as club president at the next AGM. After 5 years in the role and some 10 as a Committee member, I feel it's time to take a break and allow someone else with fresh ideas and energy to lead the club.

I would like to thank not only the members of the current Committee, but also past Committees, for their marvellous support and hard work. Without the high level of commitment from such dedicated individuals, the club would cease to function. I am very grateful to each and every one of them. To those of you who might be thinking of contributing to the effective running of the club, please consider nominating for a position before the AGM in June. I can assure you it will be both rewarding and fulfilling.

In the meantime, I shall continue to contribute to the club's program of activities and take part in everyone else's!

The Club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 24 June at the Woodstock Community Centre. Further details appear elsewhere in the newsletter but the AGM will end with BYO brunch and the ever popular Photographic Competition.

Please come along to elect a new Committee and hear how the club has performed over the past 12 months. I hope that you will be able to attend and I look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

*Charles Bowden*



## Welcome to 7 New Members

Neil Ashburner  
Leila Plameras  
Mauro Vecchi  
Elizabeth Newham  
Joe Khouri  
Connie Tan  
George Kapuscinski

*See you in the bush*



**Next ANB committee meeting  
Tuesday 8th August 2017 at 6:30pm**

**Woodstock Community Centre**

**Burwood**

**22 Church Street Burwood**

*All members are welcome ...  
Come along and have your say*

# MARATHON WALK

26 March 2017

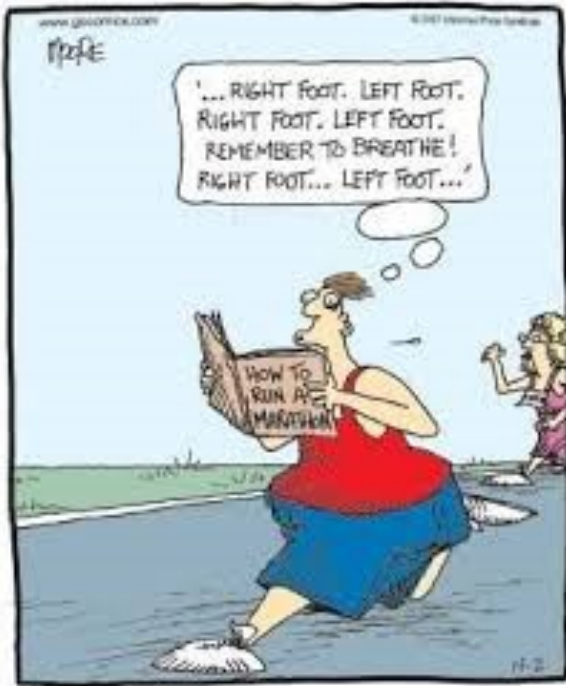
Grade 5+

Co-ordinator: Nick Collins

A marathon is a long-distance event with an official distance of 42.195 kilometres (26.219 miles, or 26 miles 385 yards). The event was instituted in commemoration of the fabled run of the Greek soldier Pheidippides, a messenger from the Battle of Marathon to Athens, who reported the victory.

The marathon was one of the original modern Olympic events in 1896, though the distance did not become standardized until 1921. More than 800 marathons are held throughout the world each year, including the annual All Nations Marathon Walk!

Early start, Late finish and it went like this in between.....



Well done to;  
Fiona Bachmann  
Helen Hindin  
Jacqueline Joseph  
Nick Collins  
Navodit Narain  
Paul Monaghan.....

who completed the marathon, and unlike Pheidippides the Greek messenger lived to tell the tale!

# SNORKELING

Gordon's Bay, Delwood Beach & Clifton Gardens  
February & March 2017

Gordon's Bay proved to be the most popular of the 3 final snorkel outings of the season. Water conditions at all three locations were somewhat cloudy due to runoff from the heavy rain we experienced throughout summer but, the days were sunny and the water was warm.



*glossodoris atromarginata* - photos Charles Bowden

The conditions didn't hamper the marine life that were still varied and plentiful, just the photographers trying to capture their images.

A big thanks to all those who came along and enjoyed a much more successful snorkelling season than last summer.



Procession of Stripeys

# WALK

## Bondi To Maroubra 16 April 2017      Grade 2 Leader: Denise Kruse



Beach views - photos Denise Kruse

Ten joined me on this picturesque walk from Bondi to Maroubra, after some had cancelled. We met at Bondi Junction bus exchange for the Bondi Beach bus, starting the walk at 10am at Bondi Beach. We walked around to Bronte Beach for coffee and morning tea, and then onwards to Coogee via the coastal track, reaching the beach at 1pm.

I had promised the troops that they could buy fish and chips for lunch and all but two took me at my word. After fending off seagulls and admiring, and consuming, our evil food, we bid goodbye to Laura and visitor Joe, and continued the walk to Maroubra via a combination of road walking and coastal pathway exchanging gossip as we walked.

We reached Maroubra beach just after 2pm and seven of us had a debrief in the pub. Well you need to, don't you?

Thanks to those who come and made it a great day: Ed, Linda, Molly, Laura, Neil, Joe, Charbele, Len, Julie and William. The weather was sunny and warm and there weren't too many on the tracks.



The Troops!

## We Need You!!



*Calling all members who have always wondered how they could help the club, but don't fancy leading a walk, or organising a social event. The Committee of the All Nations Bushwalkers has to be elected every year. It would be great to have some new people join the committee who may be able to inject fresh ideas, and are enthusiastic in wanting to help the club continue and grow for another fifty years.*

*There are seven positions on the committee that are all up for grabs each year at the AGM. Three of the present committee have already indicated that they won't be seeking re-election, so at least three new committee members will be needed to ensure that we can continue to operate in the current efficient manner.*

*This year the AGM will be held on the morning of Saturday June 24th in Woodstock, Burwood.*

*To see what each committee member is responsible for please visit this link:*

*<http://www.anbwalkers.org.au/node/256>, or alternatively just contact the current position holder this link:*

*<http://www.anbwalkers.org.au/node/52>*

*and ask them about their role.*

*Ask not what All Nations can do for you, but what you can do for All Nations!*

# WALK

## Nepean Gorge via Mulgoa Trig Blue Mountains National Park 30 April 2017      Grade 3 Leader: Charles Bowden

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Gully view of Nepean River - photos Charles Bowden

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Opening this popular walk to Meetup resulted in a gratifyingly large number of bookings. There were some initial concerns over numbers being limited by car availability but in the end there were sufficient vehicles to transport everyone. For the statistically minded, 31 people came along in a 10 vehicle convoy, both records for a walk I have led.

The weather forecast no doubt contributed to the high acceptance rate as we had fine sunny weather with the temperature hovering around 23C most of the day.

The walk got off to a hesitant start when a NPWS ranger waiting at the entrance gate informed me that this section of the park was actually closed, apparently since Easter, while road grading and maintenance was being undertaken. Perhaps our sheer numbers won her over as she radioed the works foreman who gave approval for us to proceed. Whatever the case, I was very grateful for the ranger's understanding and the work crew's co-operation as the prospect of relocating elsewhere would have been daunting.

After taking in the sights of the Nepean River and

the Blue Mountains National Park beyond from the Rock and Ravine lookouts, we encountered our first machine, a large roller, on our way to Riley's Mountain lookout. We avoided being flattened and enjoyed the panoramic vista from the lookout before dodging a bulldozer to reach the Nepean Narrows lookout.

At this juncture, another hiccup occurred when the slot & ledge descents to the track below proved to be a little too challenging for some. The group was split into two with Len & Catharina kindly offering to lead the smaller group of a dozen by a different route using fire trails while the rest made the off-track descent.

After lunch, the two groups merged again back at Riley's Mountain lookout where the vista took on the warmer hues of the setting sun. It was then a stroll back to the cars along the freshly graded and widened fire trails.

Many thanks to everyone who came along and my especial gratitude to the drivers who contributed the carpool, including Nicki and George from Meetup.



Perched on Nepean Narrows

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# WALK

## Grand Canyon

14 May 2017

Grade 5

Leader: Ed Youds

Story: Denise Kruse

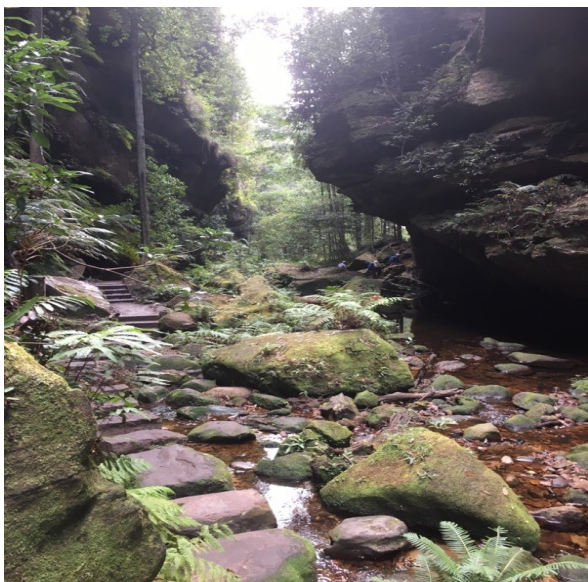
For a fleeting moment we had fourteen booked for Ed's walk, but sadly it wasn't to last, and by the start of the walk numbers had whittled down by half to seven. However we weren't deterred and eventually had a great day with great company and largely sunny weather. Six of us met up at Strathfield for a car pool to Blackheath, arriving at the start of the walk at 10.20am, where we were joined by Ian.

We then followed the Grand Canyon track down Neates Glen, admiring the canyon and recent work as we walked. We bumped into Meiha and her son walking in the reverse direction. After morning tea we followed the Beauchamp Falls detour for lunch at Beauchamp Falls, assisting a lost walker on the way.

After lunch we then climbed back to the Grand Canyon track eventually following it up to the Evans Lookout and carpark. We then walked back to our cars, arriving at about 2.30pm.

The day was finished with drinks/cake/coffee at the Lapstone Hotel.

Thanks Ed for the walk and thanks to those who attended: Ian, Len, Bryan, Molly and Neil.



Grand Canyon - photo Denise Kruse

# PHOTOS

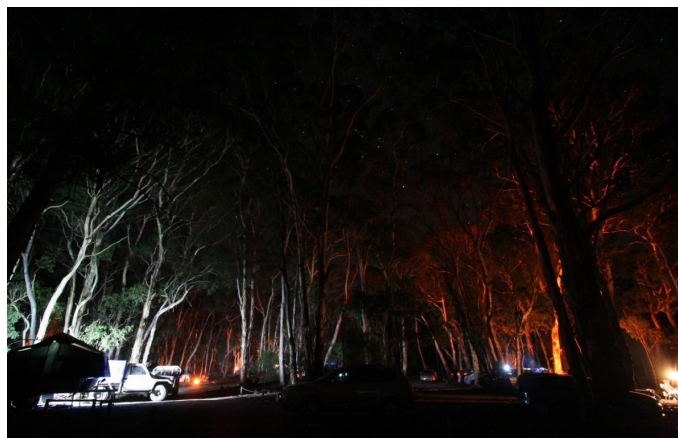
By Nick Collins.....



Eats mates and bushwalkers Charles & Françoise



Nick, Liam, & Alison taking on Kanangra Walls .....



.....and continuing into the night

# FUNNY PHOTOS

Can you guess where these photos are?

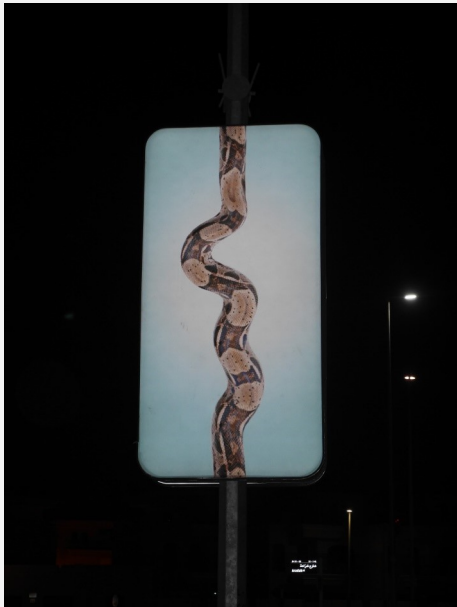
These are real photos taken without editing or alteration.



One is locally in Sydney.

One is further away.

Can you guess where they are?



Send your answers to [editor@anwalkers.org.au](mailto:editor@anwalkers.org.au) by the next newsletter deadline.

All will be revealed next edition!

Last edition's photos were of our own Nick Collins 'with the flock' or 'worried about the future'(!) protesting President Trump's travel bans. Snapped by the Editor.



The second photo was taken at Adelaide Zoo.



*Editor's Note*

If you have any submissions of Funny Photos for the next edition send them to; [editor@anwalkers.org.au](mailto: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...





# WALK

## Breakfast Creek 12 March 2017      Grade 3 Leader: Charles Bowden

Although this unsurveyed walk was undertaken in a 'private' capacity as there were just 3 walkers on the day, it is worth mentioning because it covered new terrain (for us), was successfully completed, and will probably be revisited as it turned out to be easier than anticipated.

The object of the walk was to follow Breakfast Creek from its junction with Carlon Creek up to where it is crossed by the Mitchells Creek fire trail. In the process, we expected to locate Glenalan Falls which are not marked on the topographic map, as well as to check out other potential routes into or out of the creek.

Aside from Glenalan Falls, we encountered other small falls and several large pools, ideal for a swim in warm weather. There was little scrub to hinder our progress along the creek, which at times was as fast as walking on a track. Some scrambling was involved in getting above several falls and careful navigation was needed at major creek junctions.

We also discovered tracks leading down from (or up to) Lyrebird Ridge and Faithful Hound Ridge, which will be worth exploring on another occasion.

Thank you to Liam and Nick for joining me on another adventure in the Wild Dog Mountains.



First of many large pools - photo Charles Bowden

## WANTED: WALK LEADERS

### *Your Club needs more walk leaders*

For a variety of reasons such as injury, retirement, work commitments or relocation, the Club's pool of walk leaders has diminished significantly over the past 12 months. This has placed increasing pressure on remaining walk leaders to put on more activities. Unfortunately, this is not a sustainable situation and the Activities Program will begin to suffer with gaps appearing unless additional walk leaders join in.

Leading a walk is a great way to get to meet and know your fellow members as well as encouraging visitors to join the Club. You also get the pleasure and satisfaction of introducing people to favourite haunts and locations in and around Sydney.

If you are interested in leading walks but are uncertain how to go about it, please contact our Program Co-ordinator, Liam, or Club President, Charles, for advice and guidance. Otherwise, if you have the knowledge and confidence, please contribute to the Club's Activities Program. You don't need to wait for the next quarter; short notice walks can be placed on the Program at any time!

You can add an activity by logging into the ANB website. Go to the 'For members' section and select 'Create Content', then 'Activity' and input all the activity details.

Or once logged on try;  
<http://www.anbwalkers.org.au/node/add/activity>



## All Nations Bushwalkers AGM

Saturday June 24 2017  
9:00am meeting followed by  
11:00am brunch and  
photo competition

Please bring a plate of food to  
share.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

Note there will be no kitchen  
facilities available.

Renwick Room  
Woodstock Community Centre  
Church Street, Burwood

## PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION to be held at the AGM

**Photos: Any size, in colour or black  
& white, and taken by you since the  
last AGM.**

*Categories are:*

**Nature** (taken on a club activity)

**People** (taken on a club activity)

**Open** (any subject, taken anywhere  
in the World)

*4 entries per category for a viable competition.  
If insufficient entries in a category then the entries  
will be included in the "Open" section  
(Sorry, only one entry per person per category).*

### How to Enter:

Open to all club members who attend the AGM

To be entered on the back of photo:  
Category, your name, when and where taken.

On arrival at the AGM, hand your entry to  
the co-coordinator

### Prizes:

A first and second prize in each category;  
First prize \$25 with a certificate  
Second prize \$15 with a certificate

*If you don't have access to a colour printer  
contact Charles Bowden, who will print your  
prize-winning photos for you at no charge.*

## Change of Details

Don't forget to notify our Treasurer  
Helen Hindin of any of the following:

- change in address
- email address
- phone numbers

email us at: [club@anbwalkers.org.au](mailto:club@anbwalkers.org.au)

To change your details on the website you  
need to make the alterations yourself.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE -

4th August 2017

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
[editor@anbwalkers.org.au](mailto:editor@anbwalkers.org.au)

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

A quote "The big print giveth and the fine print taketh away." Monsignor J. Fulton Sheen