



sydney bush walkers
sbw
Leading the way since 1927



Autumn Program 2024

SYDNEY BUSH WALKERS INC

Covid-19 Updates & Conditions

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic the conditions which activities are operating under may differ from usual, and can change at short notice with government advice.

Please refer to <https://www.sbw.org.au/SBW-Activities-Program> for current information.

Integrated Program

THE INTEGRATED PROGRAM <https://program.sbw.org.au/> combines the Seasonal Program and any changes/additions which have come through the Weekly Updates. It is the most up to date source of what is happening with the club.

SIGNING-UP: Once you've perused the program and want to join a walk it is best to go to the Integrated Program and click on the leader's email address from there. That way the subject line & draft email content will be pre-populated – saving you some time, and giving the leader more consistent information.

WALKS GRADING

Day Walk:

A day walk means walking all day - the walks usually start at 8:00am and finish by dark. Often we have dinner afterwards.

Weekend Walk:

A weekend walk may start Friday night and camp at the start or early Saturday morning. On the first day, the party usually gets to camp after 3:00pm and before dark, (hopefully). Happy hour occurs before dinner and is a time when party members share 'nibbles'. The next day's walking could start between first light and 9:00am, usually 8:00 to 8:30am. We usually get back to the cars between early afternoon and dark. After dark finishes do happen, however they are usually not planned for. Often a dinner is arranged at a venue on the way home.

THE GRADING SYSTEM

The Grading System is shown at the bottom of each page and has 4 categories: (D)istance, (F)itness, (A)scent, (T)errain and (E)xposure

Distance S < 10km, M 10-19km, L 20-30km, X >30km; Fitness 1-3; Ascent 1-3; Terrain 1-3; Exposure

D - Distance:	S Short - under 10 km per day
	M Medium - 10 - 20 km per day
	L Long - 20 - 30 km per day
	X Extra Long - more than 30 km per day
F - Fitness:	1 Beginners - frequent long rest breaks
	2 Intermediate - stand up regroup, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea breaks, stops for views
	3 Strenuous, fit walkers only - short regroup, short meal breaks, potentially fast paced
A - Ascent:	1 Flat to undulating
	2 Undulating with one or more 200m to 300m climbs
	3 Climbs of 300m plus, or one or more large steep climbs
T - Terrain:	1 Formed tracks and / or open terrain, no scrub
	2 Sections of rough track and / or off track and/or creek crossing and / or rock scrambling
	3 Similar to 2 for long periods and / or thick scrub
E - Exposure:	Mild to high exposure to heights (yes or no)

Note that some walks may involve an **exploratory** component where the leader is exploring a new area or feature.

Q - Qualifying: Prospective members note that qualifying walks are indicated on the program with a Q

IMPORTANT: All Q walks require a good level of fitness. It is advisable that new members do a number of easier walks with the club prior to applying for a Q rated walk.

Walker Guidelines – before the walk

1. If you wish to participate in a programmed activity, contact leaders with reasonable notice. We recommend that weekend walks should be booked a week in advance and day walks should be booked by the Tuesday prior to the weekend of the walk. Many leaders send out walk information early in the week leading up to the walk, and later signups cause them additional work. At minimum, no later than 2 days before a day activity and 4 days before a full weekend activity.
2. Inform the leader of your level of experience and ability, and also any factor that may impair your walking. The suitability of any person taking part in a club activity is entirely at the discretion of the leader. Leaders may refuse to take any person on activities irrespective of whether that person is a member or not. By clicking on the leader's email address from the Integrated Program (<https://program.sbw.org.au/>) you will get a draft email with the information the leader would like to know.
3. Leaders may cancel an activity if there are insufficient participants (less than 4) or if circumstances are likely to make conditions unsafe.
4. Advise the leader early if you have to withdraw from the activity as this allows someone on a waiting list to go.
5. Visitors are only permitted with the express permission of the leader.

Walker Guidelines – on the day

1. Arrive on time. Leaders and vehicles (at their discretion) will only wait 15 minutes.
2. Ensure you're adequately equipped for the activity and all possible conditions with suitable clothing, hat, rain gear, sunscreen, food, sufficient water for the conditions (typically minimum of 2L), First Aid kit, torch and appropriate footwear. Check the club's website and New Members' booklet for details.
3. You will need to sign the activity sheet, after noting any hazards/risks that the leader will have indicated may be encountered. If you have any questions, ASK!
4. Let the leader know if you are taking any medication or have a medical condition that may require treatment.
5. Be prepared to follow the leader's directions. They are volunteers but will have experience.
6. Walk together - this enhances group safety. Always keep sight of the person ahead - if you're having trouble keeping up, you need to stop for water, a blister repair, rest or toilet break, TELL the leader. Never leave the party or fall behind the "tail".
7. Allow sufficient space to ensure that you are not injured by branches flicking back or pressuring the pace of the person ahead.
8. On activities of more than one day you will have to provide your own camping gear. Prospective Members can borrow camping gear from the SBW Gear Officer: gearofficer@sbw.org.au
9. We expect walkers to be prepared and self-sufficient.
10. Carry out all rubbish. Minimum impact is our aim: "Take only photographs, leave only footprints".
11. Have a sense of adventure and humour handy!
12. Leave a record of your intentions with a responsible person. All walkers should advise relatives/friends that they may return home later than planned due to unforeseen circumstances. Emphasise that they should wait ~15 hours after your expected return before becoming concerned.

PLEASE NOTE: All participants, including visitors, are reminded that they join in activities as volunteers. Your fitness is your responsibility. Bushwalking and other activities on our program have associated risks including but not limited to the risk of accidental injury. All persons joining in any activities of the Sydney Bush Walkers Inc. accept sole responsibility for any injury howsoever incurred and the Sydney Bush Walkers Inc., its office bearers and appointed leaders are absolved from any liability in respect of any injury or damage suffered whilst engaging in any such activity.

Legend		
Colour Codes	Abbreviations	
Day Q Walk	NP: National Park	
Overnight Q Walk	SF: State Forest	
Social Activity	NR: Nature Reserve	
Extended Walk	RP: Regional Park	
Any other Activity	SCA: State Conservation Area	

All Map scales are 1:25000 unless otherwise specified.

Electronic topographic maps can be found on

- <https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/etopo.html> – select the map name from the drop-down list
- <https://maps.ozultimate.com/> - enter the Map Name into the search button on the right-hand side



Kosciuszko NP ©Lauren Curtis

Advance Notice and Extended Walks

<p>Sat 2 Mar - Tue 5 Mar</p>	<p>Murrumurang NP - Murrumurang 3-day coastal hike Maps: https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au A new walk completed on 28/2/23. A 34 km walking trail through Murrumurang NP from Pretty Beach to Maloney's Beach along the coastline. Arrive at Pretty Beach Sat 2/3/24 to hike out the next day Sun 3/3/24, finishing at Maloney's Beach on Tue 5/3/24. A car shuffle required for Maloney's beach to trip it back to walk start. We are doing the Camping Only Package - \$61.50 each. I have booked 4 spaces to secure the March dates. Easy pace, lots of swimming if weather is on our side. https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/walking-tracks/murrumurang-south-coast-walk-camping-only Grade: M221</p>
<p>Sat 16 Mar - Sun 17 Mar</p>	<p>Kangaroo Valley - SAVE THE DATE - Coolana Annual Bush Camp Maps: Burrier Come along to Coolana for the Annual Bush Camp! SBW has a beautiful river front property called Coolana, situated in the Kangaroo Valley. A 60 hectare Wildlife Refuge. Coolana is a wonderful place to be at peace with nature. There are cliff lines, eucalyptus, rain forest, palms and grassy flats perfect for camping, beside a meandering river. Meet the wallabies and the wombats by torchlight, see their eyes glow in the dark. Sit back, relax and watch the clouds roll by. Take a walk, swim or kayak on the river. Haven't been to Coolana before? This is your opportunity... new members, prospective members, full members, inactive members... all are welcome! Grade: NA</p>
<p>Tue 26 Mar - Thu 28 Mar Q</p>	<p>Royal NP - Great South Coast Walk - Stage 1 - Kurnell to Otford Maps: Otford, Port Hacking The Great South Coast Walk is the longest (and newest) coastal walk in Australia and goes from the southern side of Sydney to Mallacoota in Victoria. 660 km in total. Completing it will be done in stages and if its anything like my recent north coast walks will likely take a few years. Stage 1 starts at Kurnell and will be a three day walk to Otford. Rather than take the Coast Track in Royal NP we will head inland. Our first night's camp will be at Bonnie Vale and our second night will be at Uloola Falls. The walk will finish at Otford. Both start and finish accessible by public transport. Short ferry ride across Port Hacking. Nearly all on track except for a short section off-track between the Hacking River and Garrawarra. Expect a few leeches. Grade: M222-Q, 50km</p>
<p>Thu 28 Mar - Tue 2 Apr Q</p>	<p>Victorian Alps - Victorian Alps - Mt Feathertop and Bogong High Plains Maps: VICMAPS - Falls Creek, Feathertop, Mitta Mitta Diamantina Hut - The Razorback - Mt Feathertop - Diamantina Spur - Jaithmathang Trig - Falls Creek - Spion Kopje - Mt Arthur - Mt Bogong - Mt Nelse North - Mt Jim - Mt Loch - Mt Hotham. 6 days of alpine walking covering a large part of the Feathertop and Bogong areas with detours over peaks and high camping. Mostly on exposed alpine tracks, long days with many big climbs and unpredictable weather - must be prepared for snow and high winds, some camping on exposed peaks. Opportunity for a pub dinner and supplement provisions at Falls Creek on day 2. Stunning views almost the entire walk. Suitable for members and prospectives with experience in extended walks at a moderate pace with a light pack. Stoves only. Grade: L332-Q</p>

<p>Sat 13 Apr - Sun 5 May</p>	<p>Nepal - Everest Base Camp, Ama Dablam Base Camp plus Rhododendrons Maps: Everest Base Camp, Nepal Map Publishers, available in Kathmandu</p> <p>Expressions of interest are sought for a trek to Everest Base Camp in April/May 2024. It is designed to traverse rhododendron forests that flower in April and the standard Everest Base Camp trek misses. This trek is designed to minimise the drawbacks of flying into Lukla to start the trek to Everest Base Camp (risk of altitude sickness, risk of weather disrupting the start of and consequently the whole trek) by driving to Paphlu to start the trek. The walk from here to Namche Bazaar will take in spectacular rhododendron forests in bloom and allow for appropriate acclimatisation. There will be an opportunity to visit Ama Dablam Base Camp (4,800m) during a rest day. After visiting Everest Base Camp (5,300m) there will be an opportunity to see a sunrise from Kala Patar (5,545m) before beginning the descent to Lukla and flight to Karhmandu. There is a Plan B in the event of disruption at Lukla airport.</p> <p>Grade: M232E</p>
<p>Wed 24 Apr - Sat 27 Apr Q</p>	<p>Mannus and Munderoo State Forests - Hume and Hovell Track Maps: Tumbarumba, Munderoo, Lankeys Creek</p> <p>Full pack walk from Tumbarumba to Lankeys Creek (62 km), following in the footsteps of the first explorers to find out what lies between Sydney and Melbourne. The first stage (between Yass and Tumut) proved very attractive in 2020, but then the bushfires came and wiped out the next section of the Track, to Tumbarumba. It's still closed. So, while they're fixing it up, why not take a peek at the final stage (to Albury)? We'll do just half of that. Three days walking, two, three or fours days camping, depending on where we decide to stay at the start and the finish.</p> <p>Grade: L211-Q</p>
<p>Fri 26 Apr - Mon 13 May</p>	<p>Scottish Highlands - Cape Wrath Trail [TRIP FULL] Maps: Various</p> <p>The Cape Wrath Trail is a bit of a misnomer - there is no constructed trail, no signposting and no fixed route. If you've walked the West Highland Way, this is NOTHING like that! From Fort William in the south to Cape Wrath Lighthouse (at the NW tip of Scotland) over 18 days, linking valleys ("glens") and passes ("bealachs") through the remote and mountainous North West Highlands. Dramatic scenery over mostly straightforward terrain including estate roads, historic tracks, faint deerstalkers paths and trackless ground. Plenty of bogs, and plenty of ascents, rugged in places. Optional diversions to various Munro summits which will increase the difficulty. Mixture of accommodation and wild camping. Several food resupply points. Possibility to join just part of the adventure.</p> <p>Grade: M233, 320km, 10000m ascent, more for optional Munros</p>
<p>Mon 13 May - Fri 17 May Q</p>	<p>Killalea, Seven Mile Beach - Great South Coast Walk - Stage 2 - Otford to Shoalhaven Heads Maps: Otford, Appin, Bulli, Wollongong, Albion Park, Kiama, Gerroa</p> <p>This stage will cover most of the Illawarra coastline from the southern boundary of Royal National Park to the northern side of the Shoalhaven River. We can't walk along the Illawarra Escarpment due to trackwork so we'll stick to the beaches and headlands. But the views will still be spectacular. There will be a short bus trip to bypass Port Kembla but otherwise it's following formal paths, bush tracks and beaches. Expect a mix of campgrounds (probably 4 nights). From Shoalhaven Heads there is a bus to Bomaderry/Nowra.</p> <p>Grade: M222-Q, 120 km or so</p>

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<p>Wed 15 May - Tue 1 Oct</p>	<p>France - EOI Hexatrek - May 2024 Maps: http://hexatrek.com</p> <p>HexaTrek is a 3034 km hiking trail, connecting 14 of the most beautiful national parks and crossing France from the Vosges to the Pyrenees. The path follows the highest mountain regions of the country, often nicknamed "l'Hexagone" for its hexagonal shape, joining together some of the most emblematic summits, natural wonders and wildest places. Stopping off in the most picturesque villages, HexaTrek is a journey into wilderness, tradition, history and French culture. This walk has stunning scenery, (ignore) concentrate instead on the fact this will be a hard walk with 138,000 metres of elevation change. Looking for expressions of interest from suitably fit and experienced multiday walkers.</p> <p>Hard days (plenty) maximum 25klms per day. Easy days (few) minimum 25klms per day. Budget – 12K. Very very limited numbers (3). Dates are approximate only. 140 days (just a guide) including 20 zero days (end to end).</p> <p>Grade: L332E, 3034km, 138,000m elevation gain</p>
<p>Fri 31 May - Sun 16 Jun</p>	<p>Glacier Bay NP Alaska - Sea Kayaking - Wildlife and Glaciers Maps: Various</p> <p>Our 2023 trip was so good we are going back. The Parks day boat will drop us off in the West Arm. Starting in the Scidmore Bay area we will make our way over to the east Arm and then paddle back to Bartlett Cove via the Beardslee Islands. The wildlife that we will see is too numerous to list here but expect a lot of brown bears, feeding humpbacks, seals, rafts of sea otters and all sorts of birds. Whilst we will paddle to a few tidal glaciers the focus will be wildlife. The waters are enclosed and we do not paddle in large swells. However you still need to be a proficient paddler able for example to ride the tidal surge in and out of Adams Inlet. The water temperature means we don't want any swimmers and dry suits, which cant be rented, are compulsory. More important though than paddling ability is being able to cope with brown bears. The distance between high water mark and the scrub is not great so camp is often restricted to a 10m zone. The bears forage a lot in the inter tidal zone so having a brown or black bear wander through camp can be expected up to daily. For flights its Gustavas via Juneau.</p> <p>Grade: M222</p>
<p>Sun 2 Jun - Sun 7 Jul</p>	<p>Peru - Peru trekking - Cusco and Chachapoyas</p> <p>From Cusco, the Vilcabamba route to Machu Picchu and the Ausangate circuit, both featuring snow capped mountains. Treks in the less visited north eastern Andes from Chachapoyas – through the Belen valley to Kuelap archeological site, and Great Valley of the Condors. Ruins, mummies, sarcophagi, cloud forest, lakes, hot springs and more. UPDATE Nov 2023: Places still available.</p> <p>Grade: M231E, The only particularly steep passes are on Ausangate</p>
<p>Tue 4 Jun - Fri 7 Jun</p>	<p>Main range NP, Queensland - Scenic rim trail Maps: Cunningham gap</p> <p>Thornton to Cunninghams gap along a relatively new and well maintained trail with a basic toilet and water tank at each campsite. The first day is only 10 km, but has a 710 m climb. Then we enter rain forest at about 950 m altitude and stay at or above this height for most of the rest of the walk. Many lookouts to enjoy views over SE Queensland including great views from camp 2. Total distance and climb of about 50 km and 2100 m. A car shuffle is required. Approximately \$23 campsite fee. Only a small group is allowed. Joint walk with the bush club.</p> <p>Grade: M232</p>
<p>Wed 12 Jun - Tue 25 Jun</p>	<p>Catalonia - Cami Gironi Maps: Michelin Espana Noreste</p> <p>This is the easternmost of Spain's Caminos de Santiago. It runs 232 km from Coll de Panissars (a low (350 m) pass through the Pyrenees) south-west through Catalonia to Montserrat, one of Europe's great monastic centres. Undulating, between 100 and 1000 m. Staying in hotels (I don't think there are any pilgrim albergues). R&R days in Gerona and Vic. On the whole, a rather up-market Camino.</p> <p>Grade: L221</p>

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<p>Fri 14 Jun - Thu 20 Jun</p>	<p>Tjoritja / West MacDonnell Ranges, NT - Canyon of Defiance and Mt Giles https://ecat.ga.gov.au/geonetwork/srv/eng/catalog.search#/metadata/68385 Expressions of interest are invited for a remote walk to Canyon of Defiance and Mt Giles in the Chewings Range (7 days). Ormiston Gorge - Bowmans Gap - Red Walls - Canyon of Defiance (2 nights, with a day-trip into the canyon) - Upper Giles Spring - skyline traverse to Mt Giles (water carry) - Ormiston Gorge. Subject to transport availability and permits. Some parts are steep, rocky and rough. High and low camps. Previous multi-day walking experience required. Ideal for those who have done the Larapinta Trail and are ready to walk off-track. This area is well-known to the leader. Party limit 5 people. Grade: M223E</p>	<p>Maps:</p>
<p>Mon 17 Jun - Sun 30 Jun Q</p>	<p>Balkans - The Peaks of the Balkans It is a 190km long-distance hiking trail traversing the Western Balkans. It covers highlights and highlands of Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro. There are options to ascend Mount Trekufiri, Hajla, Taljanka and Persllopi Pass, with amazing panoramas. The hike is along ancient paths used by shepherds for generations, sweeping alpine landscapes such as in Valbona Valley, and exquisite elevations such as Jelenka Pass (2,272m). The hike is for 11 days but also giving few days before and after for sightseeing and arranging the logistics when there. Grade: M332E-Q</p>	<p>Maps: Balkans</p>
<p>Sun 23 Jun - Sat 29 Jun</p>	<p>Tjoritja / West MacDonnell Ranges, NT - Redbank Gorge and Mt Razorback loop NT https://ecat.ga.gov.au/geonetwork/srv/eng/catalog.search#/metadata/68385 Expressions of interest are invited for a remote walk from Redbank Gorge around Mt Razorback in the Chewings Range (7 days). The first and last days are for air and ground transport between Sydney and Redbank, leaving 5 full days walking. Redbank - Razorback summit (high camp with short water carry) - Crawford Creek North - Crawford Creek West (water carry) - Camel Pool - Redbank. Subject to transport availability and permits. Some parts are steep, rocky and rough. Previous multi-day walking experience required. Ideal for those who have done the Larapinta Trail and are ready to walk off-track. The part between Redbank and Razorback is well-known to the leader, but the Crawford Creek area is exploratory. Party limit 5. Grade: M223E</p>	<p>Maps:</p>
<p>Fri 28 Jun - Sun 7 Jul Q</p>	<p>Catalonia - GR11 - Catalan Pyrenees (West) Stages 23 -32 of the GR11, 118 km from the border with Aragon at Espitau de Vielha, eastwards to Andorra. The route stays just south of and beneath the summits of the Pyrenees, rising to 2757 m at its highest point. Distances most days are quite short, but the ups and downs are formidable - 1500 m not unusual. Staying in refugis and hotels. Easily extendable to other Sages of the G11, or combined with my immediately preceding Camino. Grade: M232-Q</p>	<p>Maps: Editorial Alpina GR11</p>

<p>Sat 29 Jun - Tue 27 Aug</p>	<p>Ivvavik NP, Tombstone SP, Snake River - Yukon Packrafting and Walking Maps: Caltopo</p> <p>This trip replaces the previously advertised "Canada 65 North". We have been able to get a suitable aircraft and permit for the Firth River hence the change. The trip is in three parts and is described on the assumption of someone joining for all of it but individual sectors are available.</p> <p>Part 1 starts in Whitehorse on 29 June when we will begin the drive to Inuvik in the Mackenzie River Delta. Its about 1300km along the Dempster Highway to Inuvik with punt crossings of rivers etc. Inuvik is at 68 degrees north and has a majority Inuit population. On 4 July we fly by float plane to Margaret Lake in the Ivvavik National Park to begin our packrafting and hiking on the Firth River. This is a land of contrasts: forest and tundra, craggy peaks and alpine meadows, wild coastline and ice filled seas. The Porcupine caribou herd, grizzly bears, mountain sheep, muskox and wolves thrive in this area, along with millions of migratory birds. The Firth features a long canyon stretch, Class III & IV rapids and Inuvialuit cultural sites. It finishes at the Arctic Ocean. The flight back to Inuvik is 21July. You need to be a solid class 3 paddler and dry suits are required.</p> <p>Part 2 starts on 22 July when we begin the drive to Mayo. We have 18 days to get there and about 10 days of that time will be spent in the Tombstone Territorial Park which is on the way. Details being worked on but probably a 6 day walk plus day walks. Tombstone is best known for its granite spires.</p> <p>Part 3 starts on 9 August and is the Snake River packrafting previously advertised. Float plane from Mayo to the Snake River headwaters. The Snake is continuous class 2 and has some really great walking. If you just paddle and do the odd day walk its 12 days to the Peel River. We will take 18 days and do some multi day walks in the Bonnet Plume Range amongst the limestone towers and glaciers. The flight back to Mayo is 26 August and the next day its only 6 hours drive back to Whitehorse.</p> <p>Grade: M323</p>
<p>Wed 10 Jul - Wed 17 Jul</p>	<p>Tjoritja / West MacDonnell Ranges, NT - Hugh Gorge Highlights Maps:</p> <p>https://ecat.ga.gov.au/geonetwork/srv/eng/catalog.search#/metadata/68386</p> <p>Expressions of interest are invited for a remote walk in the eastern part of the Chewings Range visiting points of interest around Hugh Gorge (8 days). Hugh Gorge - Tunnel of Time - Mulga Creek - High Camp (water carry) - Macrozamia Amphitheatre - Fringe Lily Creek south - Luge Gorge - north of Paisley Bluff (high camp, water carry) - Stuarts Pass - Brinkley NW spur - Standley Chasm. Subject to transport availability and permits. Some parts are steep, rocky and rough. High and low camps. Previous multi-day walking experience required. Party limit.</p> <p>Grade: M223E</p>
<p>Fri 9 Aug - Thu 22 Aug</p>	<p>French/Swiss Alps - The Walker's Haute Route: Chamonix to Zermatt [TRIP FULL] Maps: Maps of</p> <p>the Swiss survey, Landeskarte der Schweiz (LS/Carte National de le Suisse, www.swisstopo.ch)</p> <p>The classic Chamonix to Zermatt trek from Mont Blanc to the Matterhorn in the Pennine Alps: 225kms, crosses 11 passes and gains more than 12,000m of ascent and descent over 14 days of trekking; staying in mountain huts and some hotels. Discover delightful villages sitting in some of the most dramatic scenery in the world, wander meadows and forests, skirt exquisite tarns, and tackle the challenging Europaweg. Suitable for walkers with previous alpine trekking experience. I did the Tour du Mont Blanc hike this year and now I am keen to go back for more. Contact me for more details. Small group. As this is an overseas hike, participants will need to take out their own insurance as normal club insurance does not apply.</p> <p>Grade: M332E, Contact leader for more details</p>

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<p>Thu 29 Aug - Sun 8 Sep Q</p>	<p>Mutawintji NP - Mutawintji NP Expressions of Interest Maps: Nuclea, Grasmere Expressions of interest for a trip to Mutawintji National Park in far western NSW. Dates include 2 days drive there and 1 day very long drive back. May be possible to meet in Broken Hill if flying. Combination of day and pack walking. Day walks will be on track near the Heritage Zone and may include a guided 1/2 day walk in the Heritage zone (self guided not allowed in Heritage area), if this can be arranged. The pack walks will be off track in the Wilderness zone in an arid area. There is some permanent water, but favorable autumn and/or winter rains will be required for the trip to go ahead. Dates are flexible. Permit required so indicate interest early. Grade: M213-Q</p>
<p>Mon 2 Sep - Thu 12 Sep</p>	<p>Ticino, Switzerland - Ticino Canyoning Maps: Swiss Topo Ticino is truly the El Dorado of canyoning. Within a short drive of Bellinzona are scores of canyons, ranging from the touristic to very demanding. Ticino has the highest concentration of top quality canyons in the world, as well as beautiful alpine scenery and walking. I've undertaken 27 canyon descents in and around Ticino, and am looking forward to more next northern summer. Grade: M222</p>
<p>Wed 2 Oct - Wed 16 Oct</p>	<p>Japan - Japan Alps Maps: Yama to Kogen series Five separate walks, up five separate mountains in the Northern, Central and Southern Alps. One is a day trip; the others are all 2 or 3 day full pack walks. You will need your tent and all your gear. These are the mountains, and their heights. Do your own research! Mt Ariake 2248 m Mt Kekachi 2415 m Mt Anbeiji 2363 m Mt Ikeguchi 2376 m Mt Nokogiri 2685 m I anticipate these will be quite tough mountains, but there are two rest days in the program, one to be devoted to a Puffing Billy style rail trip up the spectacular Kurobe Gorge (and back). The number of nights in tents (6) is almost balanced by nights in hot springs inns (5). Estimated land cost 180,000 yen (does not include booze, nor food while camping). Sorry, no room for Prospectives Grade: M232</p>
<p>Fri 18 Oct - Sat 2 Nov</p>	<p>Japan - Japan: 7 Mountains in Kanto Maps: Yama to Kogen series The Kanto region surrounds Tokyo. There are probably 40 million people living there, but you'd never know it, once you are in the mountains. Our seven mountains are arranged roughly in a line from Tadami (270 km north of the capital) to Lake Motosu (120 west of it, nestled behind Mt Fuji). Mt Aizu-Asahi 1624 m Teishakuzan 2060 m Mt Nyoho 2483 m Mt Shirasuna 2140 m Wanakurayama 2036 m Mt Kentoku 2031 m Mt Kenashi 1964 m Wanakurayama (also known as Hakusekisan) involves a 2-day crossing, with a night in a mountain hut (bedding and food provided). The rest are all day trips. The basic pattern is alternating days - first day travel, next day hike. Apart from the mountain hut, we will stay in ryokan (inns), hotels and cabins/bungalows. Day packs will be good enough. No baggage transfers, but we start and finish in Tokyo, so you can leave your good clothes there. Moving about in the first week will be in a rental van. We'll be able to ditch that, and rely on public transport, in the second week. My cost estimate for the whole trip's land cost is 230,000 yen (doesn't include drinks). Grade: M232</p>

Regular Activities	
Tuesdays	<p>Indoor Climbing at Macquarie Park Indoor climbing is a great way to become more confident at rock scrambling and also helps build strength and flexibility. Join us at Climb Fit Macquarie every Tue evening (6pm) for some exercise and good fun! Absolute beginners welcome! \$23 casual entry fee (\$30 if you need to rent a harness/ \$33 also includes shoes). To find out more: https://www.climbfit.com.au</p>
Wednesdays	<p>Orienteering – Sydney Summer Series Sydney Summer Series is "a series of running events timed over 45 minutes that involve visiting a variety of local features, or checkpoints. These checkpoints are marked on specially prepared orienteering maps that are used to help navigate your way around the local parks, streets and bush tracks where the events are held. https://www.sydneysummerseries.com.au/ You can either walk or jog by yourself or with a friend. Cost is \$20 for Adults and \$10 for juniors (under 21) per event. We usually go to the pub after the event, it's a good way to socialise and discuss route choices.</p>
Thursdays	<p>Stair Training at The Rocks Join Thursday night stair training to build your fitness for hills. Circuit of 8 sets of stairs around The Rocks and Barangaroo. A chance to get to know other walkers. Send a text if you want to join. Be ready to start at 6.30pm from Agar Steps, Millers Point. Please note at times there may be alternative leaders for this activity. Check the SBW Integrated Program for the particular evening's details.</p>

Additional Expenses
<p>TRAVEL: SBW recommends fuel travel costs are recovered at 30 cents per kilometre shared by all the occupants in the vehicle, including the driver/owner. Drivers may however suggest any amount they believe appropriate. There may be other expenses such as tolls & park entry fees. In non-Covid times we encourage car sharing, it is environmentally friendly, helps with driver fatigue and it is a good way to get to know other club members.</p> <p>ABSEILING/CANYONING: On abseiling trips, fees may be charged for use of the ropes.</p>



Kosciuszko NP ©Lauren Curtis

Autumn Program Activities

2-3 March

Sat 2 Mar	Ku-ring-gai Chase NP - Peach Trees lookout – ANZAC cave Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park exploration. Come with me to find the ANZAC memorial cave below Peach Trees lookout. Other highlights will include a lovely secluded bay, a possible Aboriginal ring tree, and a beautiful stand of Eucalyptus luehmanniana (Yellow Top Mallee Ash). Fire trail walking to Peach Trees lookout, then off-track for the loop to the water and back. Must be fit and agile, a confident rock scrambler and able to cope with pushing through thick vegetation for long periods. Grade: M223	Maps: Hornsby
Sat 2 Mar Q	Centennial Park - Basic Skills workshop (BSW) The SBW Basic Skills Workshop covers three areas – Navigation, Bushcraft, and First Aid, which are all required for Prospective Members seeking to advance to Full Membership status. Experienced SBW members will be on hand to facilitate this event. We wish to run our next Basic Skills workshop on 2nd March 2024, but this will be subject to sufficient numbers registering for this workshop. Additional BSWs will be run in early July and early November this year. Grade: S111-Q	Maps: Botany
Sat 2 Mar - Sun 3 Mar	Kanangra-Boyd NP - Kanangra Canyoning Workshop This trip will assist canyoners developing greater confidence as a self-sufficient SRT canyoner, and will benefit those joining David Mason's Ticino trip. Box Creek on Saturday to workshop skills. Either Kanangra Main or Kalang Falls on Sunday. Small group size unless additional leaders join in the group. Must have prior SRT experience and comfortable with larger multi-pitch canyons. Grade: S332E, Canyon grade up to V4A3III	Maps: Kanangra
Sat 2 Mar - Sun 3 Mar	Coolana - Keep fit with Bush Care Enjoy Camping at Coolana on your or own or with others. Kangaroo Valley's river front property and nature reserve. Picking up sticks, weeding, mowing, etc camping, walking, swimming Grade: S112	Maps: Bundanoon
Sun 3 Mar	Berowra Valley NP - Clean Up Australia - Berowra Creek; around Galston Gorge Montview Pde - Ulolo Trail / Galston Rd - Ulolo Trail - Offtrack (Berowra Crk) - Galston Gorge (RubbishDropCarpark) - OffTrack Down Berowra Crk and Return -(RubbishDropCarpark) - Benowie Walk - McKay Trail - Montview Pde Following my registered Clean-Up-Australia trip last year near Jerusalem bay on the Great North Walk...I was hoping for more SBW's to throw in their hat to help out once more while getting out in the bush. From my previous trip down a nameless creek leading into Jerusalem Bay it was obvious that our suburban creeks are sadly the origins of future waste impacting further into our rivers, inlets and harbours. Come join me to help put a stop to this! I have registered this event on the 'Clean Up Australia' website and will therefore be receiving a 'Clean-up Pack' with gloves and various rubbish bags to assist in our endeavor. If you cannot join me in my locality then maybe have an area in mind closer to home or a completely different area that you think could benefit from this event...then step-forward and advertise ASAP for a CleanUpAustralia. Please register your event at https://www.cleanup.org.au/create-a-clean-up . Grade: S222E	Maps: Hornsby

9-10 March	
Sat 9 Mar	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Boorong Crag Maps: Katoomba, Mt Wilson</p> <p>Reputedly the best lookout over the Grose Valley. From the Mount Hay Road, short side trip to Butterbox Point, then Mount Hay, Venus Tor and Boorong Crag, all on the edge of the Grose Valley. Return. Moderate undulations. All on track or at least a pad.</p> <p>Grade: M222</p>
Sat 9 Mar - Sun 10 Mar Q	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Kanuka Brook Maps: Penrith, Springwood</p> <p>Falconbridge - Sassafras Creek - Glenbrook Creek - Bunyans Lookout - St Helena Ridge - Kanuka Brook (camp) - Lost World Lookout - Glenbrook Creek - Falconbridge. Gentle walk down Sassafras Gully, ascend to St Helena Ridge via Bunyans, then a rough pass down to the beautiful campsite beside Kanuka Brook. Return on Sunday via the Lost World and Magdala Creek. Descents from both St Helena Ridge to the campsite and Lost World to Glenbrook Creek are steep and scratchy with mild exposure. Preference given to prospectives with prior overnight experience.</p> <p>Grade: M222E-Q</p>
Sun 10 Mar	<p>Sydney Harbour NP - Newy to Syd, the coastal route - #6 Manly to Circular Quay Maps: Sydney</p> <p>Heads, Parramatta River</p> <p>Dreamed up as a coastal alternative to the GNW (Great North Walk)... what would it look like if you walked from Newcastle to Sydney, but followed the coastline as closely as possible? This is the final stage, taking us through to the Obelisk in Macquarie Park that officially marks the southern terminus of the GNW. Expect a chunk of footpath walking, complemented by some beach walking, scenic lookouts, well established walking trails and coastal scenery. Maybe a little (optional) rock hopping here or there if suitable tides/conditions. Opportunities for a quick dip and even a potential cafe stop or two. Participants should be comfortable walking at a brisk pace. About 35km. Walk will be postponed in the event of overly hot weather.</p> <p>Grade: X211, approx 35km</p>
Sun 10 Mar	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Mount Solitary and Melvilles Lookout Maps: Jamison, Katoomba</p> <p>Narrow Neck LO - Golden Stairs - Federal Pass - Ruined Castle - Korrowal Knife Edge - Mt Solitary - Katoomba View Cave - Melvilles LO - Return. A well known route with wonderful views at multiple points along the walk. The major ascents/descents are quite steep; on outward journey they involve 200 and 250 metres change in relative height and are repeated on return journey. Some mild scrambling and exposure to heights at Ruined Castle, Korrowal Knife Edge and Katoomba View Cave. Most people can cope with this but if this is not your thing then please don't apply.</p> <p>Grade: M221E</p>
16-17 March	
Sat 16 Mar	<p>Morton NP - Mt Carrialoo - Promised Land Lookout - return Maps: Bundanoon</p> <p>I've seen Mount Carrialoo on the Program many times and I've never been there. Time to fix that! We'll go up McPhails Trail, find our way onto Mount Carrialoo, then head East to the Promised Land Trail and the lookout to enjoy some views (I hope) before returning the same way. All new for leader but done by many others previously.</p> <p>The goal is be at Coolana for the annual bush camp before Happy Hour.</p> <p>Grade: M232E</p>

<p>Sun 17 Mar</p>	<p>Kangaroo Valley - Coolana - Upper Kangaroo River cycle Bring your bike along to the bush camp at Coolana. On Sunday we'll have a late-ish start and ride from Coolana to Kangaroo Valley and then out on the Upper Kangaroo River Road, returning the way we came. The route is apparently interesting enough to warrant a page on the Kangaroo Valley tourism website. "This ride is about experiencing the Valley floor with its lush green pastures and visiting the Upper Kangaroo River at several points along the way. It is also a great way to appreciate the beautiful scenery of forested escarpments that enclose the Valley." Swimming opportunities along the way. You'll need to get your bike & helmet to Kangaroo Valley to participate in this activity. Approx 35km round trip. Grade: NA, approx 35km cycle</p>	<p>Maps: Kangaroo Valley</p>
<p>Sat 16 Mar - Sun 17 Mar</p>	<p>Kangaroo Valley - SAVE THE DATE - Coolana Annual Bush Camp Come along to Coolana for the Annual Bush Camp! SBW has a beautiful river front property called Coolana, situated in the Kangaroo Valley. A 60 hectare Wildlife Refuge. Coolana is a wonderful place to be at peace with nature. There are cliff lines, eucalyptus, rain forest, palms and grassy flats perfect for camping, beside a meandering river. Meet the wallabies and the wombats by torchlight, see their eyes glow in the dark. Sit back, relax and watch the clouds roll by. Take a walk, swim or kayak on the river. Haven't been to Coolana before? This is your opportunity... new members, prospective members, full members, inactive members... all are welcome!</p>	<p>Maps: Burrier</p>
<p>23-24 March</p>		
<p>Fri 22 Mar - Sun 24 Mar Q</p>	<p>Coricudgy SF - Mount Coricudgy This is a research trip for a new book about the Australian Army activities in the area during the 1960s. Final details will depend on the state of the road, but the plan is to drive as far as possible, hopefully to the intersection at GR 522 627, establish a camp there and take day trips to the top of the mountain. Combination of trail and off-trail walking. Exploratory. Distances unknown, likely 12-15 km every day. Likely scrambling and exposure. Grade: M232E-Q</p>	<p>Maps: Coricudgy</p>
<p>Sat 23 Mar - Sun 24 Mar Q</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Victoria Falls to Mount Hay An overnight trip on the Grose River. Day 1: 12 km - Descent 500M from Victoria Falls lookout to Acacia Flat campground. Beautiful waterfalls and a nice campground near the river. Day 2: Exit via Lockley Pylon, Flat top to Mount Hay road. Only 7-8 km but one climb of 600 M. Mostly on track. Would require a car shuffle. Party limit 8. Grade: M232-Q</p>	<p>Maps: Katoomba</p>
<p>Sun 24 Mar Q</p>	<p>Morton NP - Shoalhaven River Longpoint to Badgerys Tallong - Long Point LO and Spur - Shoalhaven River- Badgerys Spur. Car swap required. Walk off-track along river flats and rocky river banks. Wading in water, possible floating with your pack and swimming at some crossings. Multiple river crossings. You will get wet everything. If you can't swim, best not to apply. Taking shoes off at each of the multiple river crossings is not advised as river stones are slippery and we won't have time. A 500 metre descent down Long Point and 500m steep ascent up Badgerys Spur. Robert Sloss, in his book Bushwalking The Southern Highland, describes the scenery at Long Point "You only have to walk a few metres along Long Point Spur to discover that the natural beauty of the Australian wilderness is going to distract your attention from the track. The breathtaking views into the Shoalhaven Valley, Barbers Ck Valley and Kingpin Mountain will never be forgotten." This will be my fourth time doing this walk and I keep coming back. The walk is 14km. The descent, ascent, off-track walking, wading and rock-hopping along the river tire unfit inexperienced walkers (and middle aged leaders) If you are fit and adventurous you will enjoy this walk. Grade: M233-Q</p>	<p>Maps: Caoura</p>

<p>Sun 24 Mar</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Introductory Rogaine: Lower Blue Mountains Maps: Rogaine map provided Rogaining is great way to improve your navigation for bushwalking. This event is being set by SBW member Nicole Mealing. What is Rogaining? A fun team sport, navigating using map, compass and clues to visit as many checkpoints as possible within the time limit. It's a "choose your own adventure" experience in outdoor environments where teams explore the course for as much or as little of the allocated time as they like. Event description: The Blue Mountains is one of the most iconic pieces of bushland in the world, so what better way to explore it than with an added navigational challenge? This event will explore the beautiful bush tracks, parks, lookouts and streets of the Lower Blue Mountains. Knapsack Reserve and Darks Common will be key features of this course. Will you choose to visit Lennox Bridge, the oldest stone arch bridge on mainland Australia? Will you walk the old tramway route through sandstone cuttings to spectacular views over Glenbrook Creek? Will you find yourself down under Lapstone Viaduct or up on Cripple Creek? There will be plenty of route options for all ages and fitness levels with the course including Blaxland, East Blaxland, Mount Riverview, Glenbrook, Lapstone, Leonay, Emu Heights and Emu Plains. Entries close on Monday 18 March. Further details at: https://nswrogaining.org/2024-metrogaine/ Form your own team (maybe with some fellow SBW members) and enter at the above address, or contact me and I will try to coordinate SBW teams. Grade: M222, Whatever you plan!</p>
<p>29 March – 1 April (EASTER LONG WEEKEND)</p>	
<p>Fri 29 Mar - Sun 31 Mar Q</p>	<p>Morton NP - Ettrema Creek Maps: Nerriga, Touga I haven't visited Ettrema Creek previously, though several club trips have been held in the area in recent years. I think it has a reputation of being both difficult walking and a beautiful wilderness area: a deep gorge with waterfalls, pools, rock formations, and clear water. This trip will probably best suit those who don't mind my lack of experience in the area or those willing to share their knowledge. Hopefully with planning and patience we can find the route and enjoy the walk. Planned route: Bullfrog Creek - Ettrema Creek - Myall Creek. Participants should be prepared for off-track walking, compulsory wading and short swims while carrying a full pack, extended rock hopping, and some exposed scrambling. Suitable young members and prospectives welcome. Suitable older members and prospectives also welcome. A small group. The walk might not proceed in unsuitable weather. Grade: S233E-Q</p>
<p>Fri 29 Mar - Mon 1 Apr Q</p>	<p>Oxley Wild Rivers NP - Yarrowitch and Aspley Rivers Maps: Kangaroo Flat, Kunderang, Green Gully, Rowleys Creek Travel to and camp at Nowendoc NP on Thursday evening and camp. Meet in Walcha Friday morning for 4WD taxi transport to the start point at Kangaroo Flat. Walk down to the Yarrowitch Rv via Black Springs FT. Camp on the Yarrowitch. Day 2 proceed downstream, join the Aspley Rv and set up camp at Rabbit Flat. Day 3 down the Aspley to junction with Rudsons Ck to camp. Day 4 Big climb out to Budds Mare, either off track near Rusdens or track near Riverside. Day 2 or Day 3 will likely include a side trip to Paradise Rocks. Mostly offtrack, some thick scrub, exploratory for leader. Transport from Walcha to the trailhead is estimated at between \$40-\$60 depending on numbers. A car shuffle may also be required for the exit point or alternatively paid transport may be arranged. Some exposure at Paradise rocks. Limited numbers. Fit walkers only. Grade: M333E-Q, 750m ascent on last day 730m to Paradise Rocks</p>

<p>Fri 29 Mar - Mon 1 Apr</p>	<p>Wollemi NP - Colo Lilo Long weekend Maps: Six Brothers, Colo Heights Culoul Range - Hollow Rock (poss) - Crawford's Pass - Wollemi Creek - Colo River - upstream river explore - Pass 7 - Culoul Range This is your last chance to enjoy daylight savings before it's all over, relaxing on this long weekend lilo trip with magnificent, rugged scenery on the pristine upper Colo River region, with camping by the river on sandy banks. Planning to partly explore upper Colo river (and possibly camp) from Wollemi creek confluence as well as exploring some side creeks and exit passes time permitting. Old-school canvas lilo mandatory and puncture repair kit, Wet suits optional. As we will be liloing it's very important to have all camping gear, clothing, food in waterproof bags with pack-weight on the lighter side. You must be a good swimmer and capable rock-hopper and scrambler, especially while carrying a multi-day pack. This is one of my Easter favourite bludge trips as I have led this typical trip over numerous years....come and see for yourself why I keep returning here! Small group size due to limited camp space with steep and exposed entry and exit passes. Grade: M232E</p>
<p>6-7 April</p>	
<p>Sat 6 Apr Q</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Pierces Pass and Adventure in Wongarra Hill Maps: Mt Wilson In the past I have been visiting Wongarra Hill and Walls Lookout several times (led four times for SBW, including recently on April 1 2023), and found a lot of beautiful nature spots such as "Arch" and "Eagle Rock" and a few waterfalls only visible after rainfalls. This Saturday we are going to revisit this area by partly off track after walking on Pierces Pass (single yo-yo of +/-500 meters) as warm-up. Route: Walls Lookout Car Park - Pierces Pass Road - Pierces Pass - Grose River - Pierces Pass - Rigby Hill - Hungerford's Hilley - Walls Lookout - Wongarra Gully - Wongarra Hill - Walls Lookout Car (ca 15 KM, +/-850 meters, partly off track). This walk is for full members, but fit prospective members are most welcome. Party limit applies. Grade: M332-Q</p>
<p>Sat 6 Apr - Sun 7 Apr</p>	<p>Morton NP - Shoalhaven River and Billy Bulloos Canyon Maps: Caoura Caoura Rd, Tallong- Badgerys Spur - Shoalhaven River - Camp near junction with Billy Bulloos Canyon. Return route on Sunday depends on what we find. An early start on Saturday to enable time for exploring various passes; Bushrangers, Dynamite and an unnamed pass from Shoalhaven River up to Funnels FT. These may involve mild exposure to heights but I am not sure as they are all exploratory. Expect multiple river crossings with wet everything and possible pack floats. If you can't swim then best you not come. Grade: M233E</p>
<p>Sun 7 Apr Q</p>	<p>Mugii Murum-ban SCA - Pagoda Heaven and South East Genowlan Mountain Maps: Glen Alice This unique area, part of the Gardens of Stone region, has an active coal mine underneath it. Find out why it must be better protected for future generations. Park vehicles on top of the escarpment above Airly Mountain and follow the Genowlan Mountain Trail as far as GR 266 330. Climb north north east to the tops, then explore Pagoda Heaven, a highly dissected, pagoda-studded area to the east and south. Descend underneath the cliff line in a southwesterly direction to GR 266 327. From here, climb a narrow south trending ridge. Continue to the top of the escarpment and follow it south west all the way to Genowlan Trig. Take the fire trail from there to reconnect with the vehicles. About 10 km. Partly exploratory. Scrambling and exposure. Grade: M333E-Q</p>

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Sun 7 Apr	South Coast - South Coast Walk Coalcliff station - Wodi Wodi Walking Track - Forest Walking Track - Sublime Point Lookout - Sublime Point Walking Track - Thirroul station. Not too hard a walk, with some good views. May finish with a drink. Finishing at Thirroul station as there are more trains to catch. Grade: M222	Maps: Appin, Bulli
Mid Week		
Mon 8 Apr - Fri 12 Apr	NA - Visit to Canberra Stay in centrally cabins and day visits to local attractions Grade: S111	
13-14 April		
Sat 13 Apr Q	Blue Mountains NP - Lawson Ridge to the Kolonga Labyrinth Nice track to a lookout over Wentworth Creek and then a challenging off-track descent to the junction with Wirralie Brook and the Kolonga Labyrinth. NB : it ain't called a Labyrinth for nothing. Sharp turns in Wentworth Creek may reveal some beautiful gorge country. Solid climb back to Lawson Ridge. Grade: M233-Q	Maps: Katoomba
Sat 13 Apr - Sun 14 Apr Q	Nattai NP - Wanganderry Walls The walk start/ends about half an hour north-west of Mittagong. We'll wander from Ben Har out along the Wanganderry Walls. There will be great views of Bonnum Pic, lovely rocky ridges and probably a reasonable dose of scrub in between (my last visit was before any significant regrowth from the fires). The following day we'll visit some new lookouts and/or detour to Bonnum Pic if we have time. The route is largely off-track. Grade: M222-Q	Maps: Hilltop, Nattai
Mid Week		
Fri 19 Apr	Northern Beaches - Newy to Syd, the coastal route - #5 Palm Beach to Manly Dreamed up as a coastal alternative to the GNW (Great North Walk)... what would it look like if you walked from Newcastle to Sydney, but followed the coastline as closely as possible? The last stage ended at Patonga, finishing off the Central Coast stretch. (Although some have humorously suggested that I should be staying on the north bank of the Hawkesbury river all the way through to Windsor!) Now it's onto the much logistically easier Sydney stages. Expect a mixture of some urban street walking, beach walking, scenic lookouts, well established walking trails and superb coastal scenery. Maybe a little (optional) rock hopping here or there if suitable tides/conditions. Opportunities for a quick dip and even a potential cafe stop or two. Participants should be comfortable walking at a good pace. About 35km. Starting time from Palm Beach will be around 7:30am. (Rescheduled from January) Grade: X211, approx 35km	

20-21 April		
Sat 20 Apr	Guula Ngurra NP - Mandari Granodiorite	Maps: Hanworth
<p>Guula Ngurra NP is a relatively new National Park near Canyonleigh in the Southern Highlands, which is only open to the public occasionally. It has rugged mountain and river scenery and makes an interesting case study in environmental restoration. In March 2023 I organised a successful though slightly difficult trip to the northern corner. The main aim of this walk is to visit an area of granodiorite in the eastern half on the Wingecarribee River. It is a relatively uncommon rock type in the Sydney area, with hopefully interesting cascades and swimming holes. Route: Tugalong Station - Limestone Creek FT north east to Wingecarribee River - explore river - return. The route to/from the river should be on a clear trail though steep in places. Off-track rock hopping and scrambling is likely along the river. Depending on progress the actual walk grade might be higher than advertised, in which case the walk could be a Q walk.</p> <p>Grade: M232</p>		
25-28 April (ANZAC Day Thurs 25 April)		
Thu 25 Apr - Sat 27 Apr Q	Wollemi NP - Bungleboori Wollangambe Junction	Maps: Wollangambe
<p>Wild country. Very rarely walked. From Mount Irvine, the Tesselated Pavement, ridge lines heading north before crossing to the junction of the Wollangambe river and Bungleboori Creek. Shape of the junction is similar to the dramatic Dinosaurs Tail further down the Wollangambe where it meets Bowens Creek. Middle day devoted to exploring up Bungleboori Creek. Third day, take a spur and ridge towards Long Flat Mountain but turn down and cross the Wollangambe just north west of the Tesselated Pavement. For Prospectives seeking an overnight Q, preference to those who have walked with me before or who have completed a fairly tough day Q.</p> <p>Grade: M233-Q</p>		
Thu 25 Apr - Sun 28 Apr Q	Deua NP - Woila Creek	Maps: Snowball, Badja
<p>Camp at Middle Mountain Rd and Currambene Ck crossing on Wednesday night. Day 1 Pikes Saddle to Euranbene Mountain, Tarlington Trk to Woila Ck Day 2- 3 Explore Woila Ck, possible ascent of Mother Woila perhaps trying a new route that does not require rock climbing as a day trip. (More Lidar analysis required). Alternatively the classic circuit; Scouts Hat, Tabletop, Horseshoe PT. Day 4 exit via Dampier Trig. Fit people only, heavy scrub in places, maybe a lot of places, steep terrain and scree, exposure.</p> <p>Grade: M333E-Q, 750-850m ascent if tackling M. Woila</p>		

<p>Thu 25 Apr - Sun 28 Apr</p>	<p>Morton NP, Budawangs - Extended Anzac LWE; Budawangs High Camp Mt Tarn, Caves'n Cracks Maps: Budawangs Sketch Map</p> <p>Wog Wog - Profile Rock Summit - Burrumbeet Caves - Yunga LO (happy Hour?) - Mt Tarn High Camp (2 nights) - Explore Mt Tarn - Return via same route - Wog Wog - Nerriga Pub experience, not compulsory ;)</p> <p>Following my previous Budawangs Mt Tarn Trips in 2018 and 2021; I'm looking forward to return to Mt Tarn for another High Camp trip, with an interim overnight camp on the way at the Burrumbeet Caves. Participants will be well rewarded for their efforts with views/ vista's of the surrounding areas; in particular, dawn, sunset and open sky. All water will need to be carried to our high camp, albeit not really that high (and I know of reliable sources nearby).</p> <p>Plan to explore Western Rocky outcrops, cracks and crevices, including 'Anvil Rock' areas. A sense of the "Budawangs unknown" is all that is required to enjoy this sort escapade for the adventurous SBW'r. I plan to car-camp the Wednesday night beforehand at Wog Wog (though not compulsory)...enough of my rambling...come and experience it first-hand!</p> <p>I invite Budawangs aficionados and capable newbie's (preference given) to the area to join us for a mix of 'campcave' and 'high-camp' experiences' in this spectacular (and my most favourite) rugged area of the Morton National Park.</p> <p>For inspiration, checkout my past SBW high-camp trips in the area; YOU WILL BE enticed! https://www.flickr.com/photos/164155312@N02/albums/72157709673574316/page2</p> <p>Part-exploratory for leader; with limited party size, exposure, off-track, scrub (Budawangs), poss handline use and associated exploratory parlava.</p> <p>Grade: M222E</p>
<p>Sat 27 Apr</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Black Horse - Wild Dogs Maps: Jenolan</p> <p>From Dunphy's camp we head down Carlon Creek walking track, it is an easy mud track, some stinging nettle and possibly we ferns to brush past. Then we walk a short distance along Breakfast Creek before climbing up Black Horse Ridge pad and onto Black Horse Ridge. There will be some undergrowth but it is relatively easy walking. At the top (beyond the Black Horse Ridge lookout), the undergrowth is thick with some fallen trees, however, the pad is OK. This section will be about 45 mins. Then the walking is pleasant, we follow an undulating track (Blue Dog Ridge Trail) to Medlow Gap where we join a fire trail back to Dunphy's. It is a good stretch of the legs with excellent bush surrounds.</p> <p>Grade: M222</p>
<p>Mid Week</p>	
<p>Wed 1 May</p>	<p>Brisbane Water NP - Little Wobby Beach to Wondabyne Station Maps: Broken Bay, Cowan, Gosford</p> <p>Find out why the link between Wobby Beach and Mt Wondabyne should be added to the official route of the Great North Walk instead of the current one from Patonga via a non-existent ferry service. We will start with a real ferry from Brooklyn to Little Wobby Beach. A short climb to Highway Ridge and then some spectacular views of the Hawkesbury River. From there onto to Rocky Ponds and Mt Wondabyne (more views). Then onto Kariong Brook Falls and finally to one of the world's shortest railway platforms (Wondabyne) to catch the train home.</p> <p>Grade: L222</p>

4-5 May	
<p>Sat 4 May - Sun 5 May</p>	<p>Morton NP - Folly Point Astro Photography Weekend Maps: Sassafras and Endrick</p> <p>Last Spring I led a walk to Folly Point campsite and thought how nice it could be to camp at the Folly Point lookout one day and experience the incredible Budawang sunset and sunrise views from the convenience of the large open rock platform. So I'm heading back with my camera to coincide with a new moon and the peak of the Eta Aquariids meteor shower hoping to get some great golden hour and Astro landscape shots. This of course is weather dependent and it's entirely possible we could end up bunkering down at the Folly Point campsite where it's sheltered somewhat from the elements, and not see a single star, meteor, or sunset/sunrise for that matter. Either way it's still a great walk through the Budawang wilderness. The route follows the Endrick River Fire trail to Newhaven Gap, then follows the Folly Point trail to the Lookout. We will need to pick up water from the FP campsite and time permitting, may also spend time exploring the rock pagodas at the Point. Route is approximately 18-20km each way and requires a good level of fitness due to the distance. The trail from Newhaven Gap to Folly Point is well defined but still hilly, scrubby and slow going in parts. Invite is open to members and fit prospectives with or without camera equipment – those not interested in photography are still welcome to come along and enjoy the views.</p> <p>Grade: L222</p>
<p>Sun 5 May Q</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Victoria Falls to Perrys Lookdown Maps: Mt Wilson</p> <p>One of the classic day walks through the Grose Valley. Celebrate the start of the cool weather walking season. One big down, one big up. Victoria Falls - Grose River - Little Blue Gum - Blue Gum Forest - Perrys Lookdown. Car shuffle required.</p> <p>Grade: M232-Q, 14 KM</p>
11-12 May	
<p>Fri 10 May - Sun 12 May Q</p>	<p>Wollemi NP - Yodellers Range South Adventures Maps: Widden</p> <p>Co-leader Kevin Songberg. One two-day overnight walk and one one-day walk from a base camp exploring the southern part of the Yodellers Range. The plan for each walk is to be advised, and our progress will depend on the terrain and availability of water. Exploratory. Scrambling and exposure. About 6 km every day.</p> <p>Grade: S333E-Q</p>
<p>Sat 11 May</p>	<p>Banff Mountain Film Festival Social Event</p> <p>The Banff Mountain Film Festival consists of a series of short films and documentaries about mountain culture, sports, and environment from around the world. More information: https://banffaustralia.com.au/. Several screenings are scheduled this season. This one is at 2-5 pm 11 May, at Seymour Centre, Chippendale. I am hoping we could form a small group to watch it together. I suggest you purchase your own ticket then let me know if you are planning to attend so we can meet before or after, but feel free to discuss alternative ideas with me. We probably won't be able to sit together. We can have food and/or drink before or afterwards if there is interest. Seating is limited and likely to book out early. I haven't attended previously.</p>
11-12 May	
<p>Sat 11 May Q</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Dark Valley Maps: Kurrajong</p> <p>Named by Caley in 1804, Dark Valley is a trackless mossy glen with waterfalls and big red yabbies. From the Paterson Range near Bilpin, we take Browns Ridge and the Fishermans Track down to the Grose River, then walk upstream on the remnants of the 1858 Engineers Track before ascending Dark Valley. You will need to be pretty fit, and competent at rock hopping and negotiating rocky descents.</p> <p>Grade: M233-Q</p>

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<p>Sat 11 May</p>	<p>Blue Mountains NP - Lockley's Pylon to Acacia Flats Maps: Katoomba, Mt Wilson Lockley Pylon track, Du Faur Head Track (excellent views down to the Grose Valley) and then steep decent down to the Grose River & Govetts Creek. Following a crossing of the creek we are treated to the magnificent Blue Gum Forest. Then we follow the track to Acacia Flat for lunch. Return via same track. Grade: L232</p>
<p>Mid Week</p>	
<p>Mon 13 May - Fri 17 May</p>	<p>NA - Farm Stay at Peppercorn Ridge Situated at Foot of Mt Cambewarra 10 minutes from Beery. House stay with visits to local attractions Grade: S111</p>
<p>18-19 May</p>	
<p>Fri 17 May - Sun 19 May</p>	<p>Morton NP - Budawang's - Monolith Valley Maps: Corang Wog Wog Campground - Corang Peak - Corang Arch - Mt Bibbenluke - Corang River (camp 2 nights). Day 2: Day trip to Mt Cole and Monolith Valley with time to explore this spectacular area. Some sections of rock scrambling and very mild exposure possible. Day 3: Return via same route. Gently undulating, almost the entire walk is on a very well-formed track with continuous grand views and impressive rock formations. Stove only area. Grade: M212E, 3 day walk commencing early Friday</p>
<p>Sat 18 May - Sun 19 May</p>	<p>Coolana - Coolana Bush Care Maps: Bundanoon Enjoy a weekend at Coolana helping look after our piece of bush. Camp in the car park or down on the river flats. A great social evening on Saturday night is assured. With lots of fun counting wombats and other native animals and birds. Contact Sally for more details. Grade: S111</p>
<p>Sun 19 May Q</p>	<p>Ben Bullen SF, GOS SCA - Poseidon Arena: Poseidon and Hades Ridges Maps: Ben Bullen Find out why this spectacular area must be better protected for future generations. Park at GR 284 190 on Moffitt Trail. Walk south and explore Poseidon Ridge and its remarkable rock formations. Descend from the end of the ridge and climb Lower Hades, the southern end of Hades Ridge; then ascend Hades Ridge and follow it northwards, enjoying its pagodas and rock sculptures. At around GR 289 192, walk down to Moffitt Trail and back to cars. Partly exploratory. Scrambling and exposure. About 6k. Grade: S323E-Q</p>
<p>25-26 May</p>	
<p>Sat 25 May - Sun 26 May Q</p>	<p>Kanangra-Boyd NP - Bullhead Ridge - Colboyd Ridge (masochistic bush-bashing?) Maps: Kanangra, Yerranderie Kanangra Walls - Cottage Rock - Bullhead Ridge - Cambage Spire - Kowmung River (Camp) - Stonehag Hill - Colboyd Ridge - Pindari Gap - Kanangra Road These ridges used to be fine examples of why we loved walking in Kanangra. Currently they are probably overgrown and hard-work (at best) and impassable (at worst). I may get cold feet and decide we'll just go to 100-man cave but only one way to resurrect old footpads is to walk them... There is some exposure on both Cambage Spire and Stonehag Hill. A good head for heights is necessary. You will definitely earn your Q on this - best if you are fit, know how to pack light and enjoy bush-bashing if you want to come on this trip. Grade: S233E-Q</p>

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See you on the track...