

*it*

Quarterly Magazine  
Canberra Bushwalking  
Club



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Canberra Bushwalking Club Inc GPO Box 160

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Windswept clouds over the Australian Alps *by Cynthia Breheny*

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## **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This year's Christmas Party will be held on Sunday 11 December from 6 pm onwards.

The address is in the covering email. (It is a members only event.)

Please bring: a folding chair, cutlery, plate, cup, drinks and all your own food. A BBQ will be provided so you can cook up a storm if that is your preference.

The club will provide some salads. You can also bring a tale from a recent CBC walk, a bowl of jokes and a basket of laughter.

There will also be a gear sale, so bring any no-longer-needed bushwalking items along. Your cast-offs may be just what someone else has been looking for.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

## **JANUARY BBQ**

The annual CBC BBQ , our first social event for 2023, will be held on Wednesday 18 January at 6pm at Black Mountain Peninsula. This is more information the website. Let's hope it's fine for a change!

## CBC Committee 2022-23

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### GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS:

Members' contributions are welcomed - articles, poems, recipes, photos, artworks and other items related to bushwalking, conservation and allied activities. Articles may be up to approximately 2,500 words in length, although most will probably be considerably shorter. Those describing long trips, especially if they are exploratory or unusual in some way, may need to be longer in order to be useful to readers interested in the areas described.

Please send all contributions to

contributions@canberrabushwalkingclub.org

If you would like a short message to be published in the Monthly Update, please mark it as **URGENT**.

**Disclaimer:** Any opinions expressed by individual authors do not necessarily represent the views of the Editor, the Committee or members of CBC.

***Deadline for contributions to the next Quarterly Magazine (except for Committee Reports) will be 6 February 2023.***

Please follow the ***Detailed Guidelines*** on page 20 when making a contribution.

**All members of the committee** can be contacted in one email to:

committee@canberrabushwalkingclub.org

**Web site:** www.canberrabushwalkingclub.org

**Facebook contributions:**

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## President's Pontifications

Hopefully by now most (if not all) of you will have 'onboarded' with Bilby and are now having fun exploring what activities are on offer. It's no surprise that some activities have had to be postponed, relocated or even cancelled given the conditions. The level of water saturation across the landscape has meant that walking in our parks and reserves requires extra caution, particularly on windy days, with trees more likely to fall when their roots are no longer held by the soil. So, what can we active-minded folk do when it's raining outside and we can't get out and about? Well here's a couple of suggestions:

Spend some time checking out hiking hacks to lighten your load. There are oodles of sites with ideas some of which are very clever, some quite useful and others quite quirky. While the Club has a policy of not endorsing products you might get a bit of fun checking out the multi-use bandana, camping shoes made from recycled inner soles, bread bags over your socks, Tyvek rain mitts and even ultra-light bidets (yes you read this right) using a child-sized sinus wash kit. Here are some fun sites to while away your time:

[Lightweight Backpacking: Gear and Tips to Lighten Your Load - Exploring Wild](#)

[44 Ultralight Backpacking Tips Thru-Hikers Can Actually Use - The Trek](#)

Some tips I've picked up from watching what others bring on trips? Use the travel size toothpaste tube and refill it at home using a syringe (you can buy these at the chemist very cheaply). Maybe use toothpaste powder or make your own toothpaste dots? Or, consider brushing without toothpaste.



*A nice cuppa at Oldfields Hut after a freezing walk up Bimberi.*

Make your own reusable cup/pot cozy out of reflective windshield and aluminium tape. This works a treat and only takes about half an hour to make: [https://youtu.be/-FTIn2\\_5Pgo](https://youtu.be/-FTIn2_5Pgo). Alternatively, try re-sealable and reusable aluminium bags to rehydrate your food. These are super cheap and can be bought easily over the internet – alternatively you could wash out the foil pouch from your commercially-purchased dehydrated food and use it to rehydrate your meals for the remaining nights.

And now for some Australian content. If you haven't yet discovered this forum then check it out. Lots of good advice here from fellow outdoors enthusiasts [Bushwalk Australia Forums Index](#)

Another suggestion that can potentially really lighten your load? Ask an experienced bushwalking friend to go through your pack before a walk and let them help you decide what you really do and don't need. I recall spending a lot of time several years ago before a Tasmanian trip cutting down on everything in my pack.

## President's Pontifications *continued*

Then I had a friend (with many years of multi-day hiking trips under her belt) have a look through my pack. We literally tipped everything out and she questioned some things like why I needed a comb (who looks at your hair during the trip). Leave that in the car for when you return, she said. Sunscreen? Sure, but the whole tube? No way – squeeze some into one of those mini kid's reusable yoghurt pouches (they weigh all of 6 grams). Deodorant? Nope – a good birdbath with a wet chux each night works just as well. Camp shoes? Really – do you need them at all?

There are also a couple of free websites out there that will help you calculate your pack, keep a list for future trips, and really lets you identify (using a pie chart) where all that weight is! I found this really useful last year when packing for a 14 day off-track walk in the West MacDonnells [How to Calculate Backpack Weight with LighterPack \(backpackers.com\)](#)

We Aussies are renowned for being great inventors and very practical thinkers. How much time have you spent checking out the websites of the other Australian bushwalking clubs? There's heaps of good tips and tricks to be found and no need to reinvent the wheel. Here's an unashamed plug for some of our colleagues whose sites are full of suggested gear checklists, recipes, hacks, clothing recommendations. And of course – don't forget to check out your own Club's homepage! It's all there folks:

[Adelaide Bushwalkers | Takes you places](#)

[Bushwalking NSW](#)

[BATEMANS BAY BUSHWALKERS INC.](#)

[BackpackGearTest.org - Home Page](#)

[Equipment and food | CanberraBushwalkingClub](#)

Speaking of being inventive I thought I'd share with you one of our last-minute hiking hacks on a trip I led in late October to Mt Bimberri. We needed a quick bridge on the approach to the Goodradigbee and here's Karina showing some CBC ingenuity.

Well, it's still raining outside and I intend to spend the day experimenting with some hiking hacks. If you've got any you'd like to share just drop me a line at [president@canberrabushwalkingclub.org](mailto:president@canberrabushwalkingclub.org)

Lastly, I do hope you are enjoying this first edition of the Club's quarterly *it* magazine. After many years of producing our newsletter monthly we thought it was time to move onto providing our members with something that could accommodate longer trip reports, photographs, recipes, letters to the editor and the like. I hope you like it.

'Till next time - happy and safe walking everyone.

Terrylea, President



*Photo: An innovative way of crossing the overflow of the Goodradigbee River*

## Editor's Effusions

Canberra Bushwalking Club's *it* is, of course, primarily for the benefit of our Club members. However, it is also of historical value in recording the bushwalking and conservation activities of the club, and as such is of wider interest. Bushwalkers have for more than a century been prominent in charting routes through wild places which have since become immensely popular areas for outdoor recreation and taken for granted. Bushwalkers have also been vital in the conservation of our natural landscapes, cared for over millennia by Australia's First Nations people. We can be proud that our Club, along with others in the bushwalking fraternity/sorority, continues to do both today.

My hope is that our new Quarterly *it* Magazine will continue this tradition, as well as informing and entertaining the membership.

Much has changed since I was Editor in 1974-75. Then we sticky-taped together a long roll of contributions and took them to a typist for typing and printing, followed by an evening *it* Collation. When I was Walks Secretary (2001-03) I formatted the Walks Program for publication in *it*, a fiddly but straightforward job. Now I'm confronted with one of the steepest learning curves of my life, getting the hang of the totally unfamiliar program Publisher. I'm indebted to David Springthorpe, the Editor for CMW, for getting me started and responding in detail to my cries for help. And also to my husband Frank, who helps me deal with my more mundane computer crises. Useful hints will be gratefully received!

Meg McKone



*Open forest on the way to Oldfield's Hut*

Our club's submissions regarding conservation issues are of great import since they represent the views of over 400 members. Since our renewed committee came on board in late October we have made submissions as follows:

- Letters to Perrotet and Overall regarding the pause of culling feral animals in all national parks in NSW;
- Submission supporting the establishment of a camping area near Maddens Plains on the Great Southern Walk in the Illawarra State Conservation Area;
- Letter to Senator Pocock regarding cross-border feral horse issues;
- Submission to ACT Government on Nature-Based Commercial Tourism Framework;
- Submission on the Commercial Recreation in Kosciuszko National Park Wilderness draft amendment;
- Face to face contact with Alicia Payne Federal Member for Canberra regarding feral horse problem;
- Attended *Tourism development in protected areas* held by NSW Bushwalking Federation in Sydney 18/11/22. Conclusion: Overnight roofed accommodation for users of protected areas should be provided in existing or new buildings in nearby settlements.



Do we want tourist accommodation in Namadgi National Park?

*Photo by Meg McKone*

A warm welcome to the following new members (as at 24 November) who have joined since the last newsletter:

Alison Whalley

Andrew Conley

Jeet Singh

In the same period 22 guests have registered to try club activities, which I hope they enjoy and that they choose to become members.

Our new membership and booking system Bilby has brought with it many changes, and I know we are all still on a learning curve and getting used to it. For membership related matters, it has changed things significantly and I'm happy to say for the better.

Since Bilby launched I have not had one query from members and potential members unable to renew or join because of problems with our previous system. Before Bilby I received these types of queries most, if not all, weeks. I am also able to get data about our membership numbers much more easily, and I'm confident it is also more accurate.

On that note, as at 24 November 2022 we have 418 members. This is down on the numbers reported in the previous newsletter; however those numbers were based on data in the previous system. We now have cleaner data and I believe the previous reported numbers were inflated slightly.





**The headline might have read ‘Nine bushwalkers washed out to sea’, but it didn’t.**

“Communities across eastern Victoria have been urged to move to higher ground after heavy rain flooded rivers in the region, with more severe weather expected overnight.” proclaimed ‘The Guardian’ as we turned the car into the Ulladulla camp ground.

A massive onshore movement of moist air was heading our way in the coming week. It caused extensive flooding in Sydney, further south in the Shoalhaven area and towards Victoria.

But the forecast belied the beautiful sunny day of our arrival. The trauma of storms that had battered this coastline the previous few months was everywhere apparent: kelp, torn from its super strong rock anchors laid piled high on the nearby beach. Much of the beach sand had disappeared and hundreds of sea squirts shared the little that remained.

We ambled to the adjacent rock platform. And it is not just any rock platform. It is ~270Ma old Wandrawandian Siltstone is littered with high quality Permian cold water marine invertebrate fossils, so much so that in the 1960s a number of new bivalve species were identified. Pennie identified Crinoids but the rest of us remained largely ignorant of what we were seeing. There is now a Guided Fossil Walk and an associated web site.

That evening, under the fluoro brightness we mulled over the weather apps. We had a few water crossings and a kayak trip planned. David was particularly concerned about the impact storms would have on tide height. Washed out beaches and strong river flows were not part of the original equation. What with Jacqui being so light and petite there was the fear we could see her bobbing down the river.



Permian marine fossils

*Photo by Alan Laird*



Eroded beach front

*Photo by Alan Laird*

The weather was kind for the first two walking days. Indeed everything was kind to us. With Pennie driving a support car the intended six walking days only required a day pack. Overnights were spent either car camping or at AirBnBs. It was all very glam - and why not!! The biggest issue was remembering the toilet code in a desperate bid to relieve yourself in the early hours of the morning.

Much of those two days was spent either walking the beach or paralleling it on foreshore tracks through beach succession vegetation. We were walking south from Gerroa to Ulladulla, the second stage of the re-enactment of David and Pennie's great 2004 walk from Sydney to Mallacoota. There were nine walkers and Pennie, who was much loved and drove the support vehicle as well as David Briese, Daniele Leyder, Philip and Jan Gatenby, Lois Padgam, Bernard Morris, Jacqui Rosier, Ian Turland and Alan Laird.

Much of the beach front had been badly undercut by storm surges. Sandy cliffs, some about two metres high stretched forever along the water's edge, cliffs held together by the long sinewy roots of sand dune grasses. Washed up tree trunks, some no doubt originating far up the Shoalhaven River, lay scattered above the reach of the foamy waves and jammed against the eroded dune. They were occasionally piled high in jumbles stretching for fifty metres or more. Closer to the water's edge forest detritus formed arty brown and yellow curtains on the sand as they streamed in and out with the foamy wave front. And of course there was plenty of kelp, freed by the storm from its rock anchor on which it once thrived, now forming thick mats across the sand.



Crossing the fast moving bar at Wollumboola Lake *Photo by Alan Laird*



Kayaking the mangrove forests at Huskisson  
*Photo by Daniele Leyder*

While walking on the beach you are left to your own thoughts and inner world as you quietly make your way along long stretches of beach. It is a very private time and one where we all reflect and reassess our life and bring new understandings to our existence and our future. It is a quiet time and a time for rejuvenation. That's one of the joys of walking.

The weather forecast was not good:

New South Wales is bracing for more wild weather including up to 150mm of rain over the next four days and flash flooding, as the Bureau of Meteorology warns of dangerous conditions across large parts of the state.

The bureau on Tuesday afternoon warned NSW could be hit by severe weather in the coming days, with coastal regions and adjacent slopes from the Hunter down to the south coast expected to be the hardest hit.

The Guardian 5 April 2022

Hmmm....eyeballing the weather from the protection of the luxury AirBnB we were enjoying contradicted the forecasts: the weather looked great – blue sky, and not much cloud or wind. It was a perfect day to glide on kayaks eleven or so kilometres across the Shoalhaven River, onto muddy islands and through mangrove forests. And so it came to pass. We stopped at a muddy island and squished our toes into the soft mud that was home to hundreds of mud crabs. The crabs would emerge from their holes and slowly make their way across the soft squish. Our slightest movement caused them to scurry en-mass back down the nearest hole, only to emerge again in a minute or two and repeat the process.



Champagne and cheese on Jervis Bay

*Photo by Philip Gatenby*

Lunch of course was partaken at far more salubrious establishment: the Pelican Rocks seafood restaurant. It was voted the Best Fish and Chips in NSW in 2017, 2018 and 2019. We didn't ask what had happened since then! But we did have an impressive meal.

In deteriorating weather on the third walking day we arrived at another magnificent AirBnB, at which Pennie had thoughtfully laid out our packs for easy collection. The shower arrangement was a bit interesting. The room itself was the shower cubicle, complete with a central shower head that drained straight through the wooden floor. The door opened to a magnificent beach view outside, and for anyone outside, it opened to a magnificent naked body view inside!

The rain depression was encroaching, and with a water crossing this morning and flood warnings splashed all over the news and weather apps we tentatively approached Lake Wollumbula. Though not yet raining at the crossing, we were wary that there was plenty of rain in the catchment. It was a forecast low tide but with the Sydney storms now raging, our confidence in being able to make the crossing was declining. The current turned out to be quite strong, and it was quite high - at upper thigh level. I feared for Jacqui! We knew we would be safe if Jacqui could make it so we made her go first. She later emerged with a mile wide smile on the other side!

In intermittent rain we walked through heavily decomposing vegetation and a pretty muddy and occasionally smelly 'track'. It was pretty bleak, from both the terrain and the weather perspective.

But glam was not far away: it was in the form of a champagne and cheese cruise on Jervis Bay. Pretty special! The cruise enabled us to cross Currumbene Creek to Huskisson. The Brieses certainly know how to put on a walk!

That night we stayed at 'The Shed'. It looked like a modern corrugated iron farm shed with a high roof line and few windows. Two bedrooms had double garage roller doors as a wall! The 'bedrooms' were partitioned off and used a sheet for a ceiling.

We arrived pretty jolly and satiated from our Champagne cruise only to find that the shed's air con had been left on at 18 degrees and it was freezing inside. The air con remote didn't work, so we opened the double garage doors to warm the place up!! There was only one shower and toilet but its most notable aspect was the jet engine exhaust fan. It was so noisy and so powerful that a gale blew up under the closed door. It was like a bathroom blower to dry your hands - you just step out of the shower and you were dry and freezing in no time and all without using a towel. Even opening the door took a hefty shoulder

shove! But the jug and microwave worked fine and we all settled in comfortably. Well perhaps all. Ian decided to sleep outside. But sometimes he just does that!

That night the storm caught up with a vengeance. While partaking another glam dinner, this time at the Husky Pub, the rain poured down and poured down. The forecast was for very heavy rain, with some apps saying ten to sixteen cm of rain the next day!!! And the following days were projected to be very wet as well..Hmmm... we thought, with weather apps at the ready. Let's decide tomorrow morning about whether it will be safe to continue.

The tin roof of The Shed thundered most of the night, even drowning out the jet engine exhaust fan, and by morning we all instinctively dressed for the car. Evacuations occurred in Sussex Inlet. And nearby Vincentia experienced 24 cm of rain in a 72 hour period. We all knew the creeks would be impassable and the idea of nine Canberra bushwalkers washed out to sea while crossing a swollen creek during a flood crisis would not look good. Walking for three more days in the rain was also not a very appealing prospect.

So we decided it would be best to pull the plug and head back home. It was a bit sad as we were all keen to complete the walk, but reality bites and we made the right decision.

So, thanks David and Pennie for organising and running such a wonderful trip, albeit shortened due to dangerous conditions developing. There is a lot of work and time spent organising a trip of this type and your efforts have not gone unnoticed nor unappreciated. So, a special thank you to you both.

Thanks also to all who participated. I think we all had a very satisfying and challenging time and really enjoyed ourselves. I think we are a congenial and considerate group and work well together.



The lovely Pennie resting after a wonderful cruise .

*Photo by Philip Gatenby*



The view from Careys Peak

*Photo by Laeli Hogan*

Recently I took three bushwalking friends on a trip to Barrington Tops, where what we saw both inspired and disturbed us. A three-day pack walk up from the Williams River took us through majestic rainforest, a true glimpse into the ancient Gondwana forests of the past. We walked past massive bluegums, cedar and Antarctic beech, their buttresses stretching out a metre or more into the surrounding soil while their canopy stretched so far overhead it was almost impossible to glimpse the sky beyond. There were giant ‘strangler figs’ whose network of climbing branches and stems reached upward to embrace the parent tree in a beautiful but deadly lattice that would eventually strangle the tree. We warily sidled around stinging trees whose barb is said to inflict injury and unbearable pain. We visited the waterfalls and rock pools of the Williams River and swam (very briefly in my case!) in its very cold but clear waters.

We made a base camp in a small hut named in honour of Selby Allyn, a well-loved early member of the Newcastle Bushwalking Club, who led many exploratory walks into this region in the 1950s. The small hut is located in a beautiful grove of myrtle trees on the edge of a creek leading down to the headwaters of the Williams River. A day walk took us up past the rainforest belt into mountain gum and snow gum woodland through a lovely meandering track up to Carey’s Peak, which looks out over a volcanic rim of very steep and thickly wooded peaks that drop down to the Allyn River, another one of those rivers roaring down this wet season towards the flood plains of the Upper Hunter region. Beautiful, wild country.

We then ventured out on one of the tracks that take the walker around the high plateau, where deep sphagnum bogs, swamps and wetlands retain snow melt and rainfall and slowly release it into the headwaters of the rivers on the eastern side of the plateau. What we saw disheartened and dismayed us. Since 2020 (according to NPWS sources) a monoculture of broom has taken over as an understory among the snow gums and black sallees, and great swathes of the tree cover are dead or dying from Phytophthora, the root fungus that has become established so widely in Australian forests. It's said that the 2020 bushfires which impacted the region and left much bare ground, encouraged the dieback, but there are reports by the NSW Department of Environment of it already established there by 2011. A quarantine area has been fenced off in the swamp area but it's unclear how helpful that has been because of the continuing spread of the fungus in accessible areas. Cleaning stations have been established at fixed points in the park; but we walked straight out of an area badly affected by dieback, down a trail towards untouched forest, without a cleaning station in sight.

Are the NPWS badly resourced? Demoralised by the scale of the problem? Giving up? Phytophthora is regarded as a key threat to the biodiversity of the region, which as a surviving remnant of world heritage Gondwana rainforest must be protected under Commonwealth legislation.



Cascade and Pool in the Williams River

*Photo by Laeli Hogan*

With regard to the broom, there's a report by NPWS of a 'four-day blitz' where park staff and many volunteers cleared 35 000 square metres of broom after the 2020 fires...but judging by its regrowth, the blitz had little impact.

These are sad findings, especially considering the magnificence of the forest which encircles the plateau. Let's hope the local park services are able to access generous funding to fight these threats to this beautiful area.



Strangler fig

*Photo by Paula Filmer*



Tree stump

*Photo by Laeli Hogan*





Broom on the tops

*Photo by Laeli Hogan*



Selby Ally Hut

*Photo by Laeli Hogan*

*Based on a presentation by Robert Walters at the Club monthly meeting on 18 May 2022*

Both Light to light (L2L) and Wharf to Wharf (W2W) are beautiful south coast walks close to the ocean. Four of us did the L2L March last year and W2W in April this year in perfect sunny weather.

As the name suggests, the Light to Light Walk goes from lighthouse to lighthouse – in the Ben Boyd NP, south of Eden, from Boyds Tower, which was never used as a lighthouse, to Green Cape Lighthouse.

The Wharf to Wharf Walk goes from the beautiful Tathra Wharf to Merimbula Wharf, and for the most part is in Bournda NP. It is a Community Project linking existing trails, officially opened in late June 2021.



Boyds Tower *Photo by Robert Walters*



Green Cape Lighthouse *Photo by RW*

Tathra Wharf *Photo by Robert Walters*Merimbula Wharf *(photo: tripadvisor)*

**Length:** Both have similar lengths – around 30 km.

**When to go?** Best to avoid mid-Summer for both walks. In Winter, overnight temperatures can approach freezing point. We did both walks North to South, taking advantage of having the sun behind us.

For Wharf to Wharf, we were lucky as a week earlier we would have had to contend with track closures after the recent heavy rains and swollen creeks and high tides ended up not being a concern in crossing sandbars (Moncks Creek crossing at Wallagoot Lake, Bournda Lagoon and Back Lagoon near Merimbula).

**Packs? Car shuffles?** For L2L, we did it in 3 days, with overnight packs, rough camping the first night at Mowarry Point and staying at Bittangabee Bay Campground the second. We left one car at Green Cape, returning in the second car to Boyd Tower to start our walk. We were mindful that there was no drinking water available at Mowarry Point - the nearest was at Saltwater Bay Campground, 4km further south. At Mowarry Point, we were rewarded with glimpses of dolphin pods and a beautiful sunset and sunrise. And a nice swimming spot at Bittangabee Bay.

For W2W, we recommend 2 days. We did it in 2 days with daypacks (camping at Hobart Beach Campground in the middle, with car shuffles to start- and end-points).

**Terrain:** L2L was pretty easy and the path is well marked. But there was quite a lot of re-growth following the Summer 2020 bushfires. On the W2W, there are quite a few headlands from Tathra to Hobart Beach – so ups and downs. Plus lots of beach walking from Hobart Beach to Merimbula.

**Vistas:** On L2L, the terrain is varied - coastal forests and heathlands, rugged red sandstone cliffs and sheltered coves. Unfortunately, the forests have taken a hit after the bushfires. The red rocks were a highlight, especially at Red Rock Bay. Mowarry Point, Red Cliffs and Black Cliffs were other highlights.

On W2W, we were rewarded with rugged cliffs, spectacular headlands, secluded bays, lagoons and long, isolated beaches. It was very pretty walking through the melaleuca stands and the treetops were like a carpet.

**Linkage to Great South Coast Walk:** David Briese gave a presentation on the Great South Coast Walk at our May 2019 General Meeting. The 660km coastline walk from Sydney to Mallacoota follows a series of established tracks, forest trails and pathways. In total, there are 11 stages of the walk. The 9th stage is Sapphire Coast (50km) – taking in W2W, while the 10th stage is Ben Boyd NP (66km) – taking in L2L.

*Editor's Note: Alan Laird's "The South Coast Walk Stage 2" appears in this edition and forms the basis of the entertaining talk he gave to the October Meeting.*



Sandy Beach Creek and Bournda Lagoon



Red Rock Bay

Fellow Club member, Melinda Brouwer, recently had some of her ceramics displayed at the National Botanic Gardens. 99.5% of the habitat of the **Golden Sun Moth** which featured prominently in her work has been drastically altered since European settlement, and some of its remaining habitat in the ACT has been proposed or approved for urban development.

*(Information from Cynthia Breheny, Conservation Officer, CBC)*

Here are two of her works and the text provided at the exhibition:

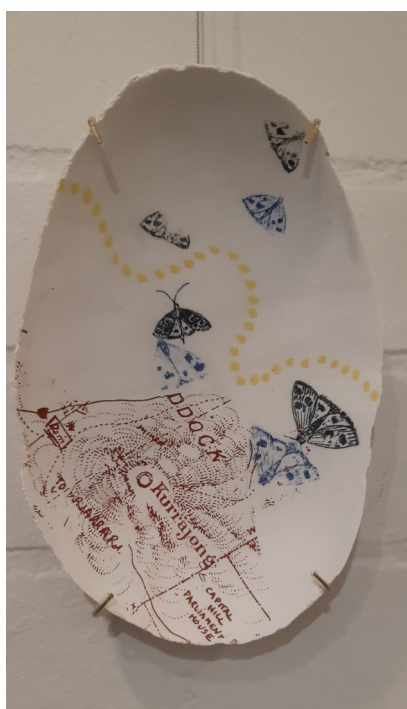
**A good sheep paddock.....**

Natural Temperate Grasslands, on which Canberra was built, are explored in these works. Flat and apparently uninteresting, Natural Temperate Grasslands appear to be ideal places to build, however closer inspection reveals that they are places of considerable beauty and diversity. Because they are such easy places to farm and develop, the grasslands are now very rare.

These works celebrate the layers of life which have inhabited the Canberra area through time, and the remnants of grassland which remain. Grassland remnants are home to many fascinating and rare species, including Golden Sun Moths, Perunga Grasshoppers and Earless Dragons, which feature on some of the bowls.

Interactions between the natural world and its human inhabitants are explored in these works. The original human inhabitants of the region are reflected in the shapes of the bowls, integrated into which are representations of the flora and fauna. Layers of European Australian history overlies this substrate.

**Melinda Brouwer**



## BUSHWALKING INFORMATION

### Bushwalking NSW Video: Show Your Team Spirit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrdEMKouJ5A>

Everyone who has led a walk will know that it's a very different experience from being a participant. Also, reasonable expectations of a volunteer club leader are different from those of a leader of commercial trips. This video has some great tips for making bushwalks enjoyable and rewarding for all involved.

It has the added bonus of being set near Katoomba, in the magnificent scenery of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

Waiting for the leader to finish taking photos on the eastern spur of the Canyon of Defiance, Tjoritja NP, NT. *Photo by Meg McKone*



A second BNSW video, **Volunteering is Richly Rewarding**, is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ys-sT6S7HO4>

### Guidelines for Contributions *continued from page 3*

#### Please follow these Detailed Guidelines when making a contribution

- The most acceptable text software is Word.
- Please do not embed images in your text, but send them as attached files, preferably jpg.
- Please ensure your articles have been thoroughly edited and spell-checked.
- Please send photos with a caption and the name of the photographer. If a photo is not yours, make sure you have permission to use it.
- Photos should be high resolution, though I would appreciate it if you could straighten seriously oblique horizons.
- If you are sending a link, please include the web address.
- Please specify the topic of your contribution in the Subject line of your email.

Hey folks, how about a personal challenge to get us out walking a bit more? Can you bag 26 named hills/trigs in 26 weeks, each beginning with a different letter of the alphabet?

From 1 January, find walks via the new Bilby booking system that include a hill or two and get to those high points. The views are usually grand and mountain tops seem to lift us above the routine of everyday life.

But don't stop after you've achieved your goal. Maybe you could top 30 or 50 or ....

Walk leaders, how about including a hill or trig on your next offered walk?

"I can't find a walk that includes a destination beginning with X," you say. Read all the details here <https://canberrabushwalkingclub.org/whats-on/are-you-up-for-it/>, or look up the CBC website for What's On, Current Special Events.

## Are you up for it?

Your CBC Committee



**Z** is for Mt Zeil, 1531 metres, the highest peak in the NT, here approached from the east.

*Photo by Meg McKone*

## EQUIPMENT EXCHANGE

### ***.Club's Excess Gear for Sale (cheap):***

Past members have generously donated gear to the club, usually with the hope that it will continue in good service.

Periodically we need to shed a surplus.

Items available are:

Large packs \$20; small packs \$20; day packs \$5.00; 3-season sleeping bags \$10; inner sheets \$2.00; 2-man tents \$20; stoves (Whisperlite) \$20; cooking gear, water bottles, containers and stuff bags; 1: 25 000 maps AGD 84, GDA 94; mats, lilos, boots, miscellaneous.

Contact Rob (6231 4535) or [robhorsfield@bigpond.com](mailto:robhorsfield@bigpond.com) to arrange a visit.

### ***Gear Broker:***

Rob is able to facilitate gear sales and purchases among club members with a degree of security

Contact him on 6231 4535 or [robhorsfield@bigpond.com](mailto:robhorsfield@bigpond.com) to register on either list:

Sales: Date, name, phone number, item for sale, asking price

Purchases: Date, name, phone number, item sought.

Rob would contact potential sellers/purchasers, supplying the necessary details, after which the parties make their own arrangements.

Rob Horsfield, Gear Officer, October 2022





## Presentation of the Greg Buckley Award to Andrew Meers by the President



*Photo by Greg Buckman*

This year's recipient of the CBC Greg Buckley Award, Andrew Meers, received his plaque at a morning tea held in his honour at the National Arboretum on 26th October 2022 arranged by members of the Club's Committee. The Award was presented by President, Terylea Reynolds, in recognition of the outstanding contribution Andrew has made as the Club's Webmaster over many years. In particular, we are all indebted to Andrew for the smooth transition to the Club's new activity and membership management software system, Bilby.

As the first club, bushwalking or otherwise, to use Bilby, CBC has been fortunate enough to play a major role in its development and design, thanks to Andrew. His technological expertise, guidance and hard work have also been invaluable in ensuring our new system represents value for money.

The CBC is indeed fortunate to have Andrew on our Committee and we all hope that he will now have more time to get out and about and enjoy the bush. If you see him, be sure to say 'hello'!