

Ensuring the Peace, so that those who come after may Bush Walk when and wear they wish

At the start of World War Two, many Members of SBW chose to give of their bush and leadership skills and “*joined up*”. They served in all Theatres of the War across the globe, and in all the Australian Services. Unfortunately four did not come home:

Reg Hewitt, A.I.F,	who died as a POW in Malaya.
Gordon Mannell, RAAF,	who died flying over the skies of Europe
Norman Saill, RAAF,	who died in an aircraft crash near Port Moresby
Gordon Smith, A.I.F,	one of Australia’s premier Athletic Sportsmen and a leader of many bush walking trips (the oft used Pass off Kanangra Tops is named after him). He died as a POW at Sandakan in Borneo, shortly before the commencement of the infamous Death March

In 1947 the Federation of NSW Bushwalking Clubs empowered Tom Moppett and Brian Harvey (both previous President’s of S.B.W.) to arrange for the construction of a War Memorial to Bush Walkers. As a result, a brass plate was affixed to Splendour Rock, which is the magnificent view-point at the southern end of Mount Dingo. Here the eye is drawn to the distant Kanangra Walls, which for many is the spiritual home of Bush Walkers, and a spot beloved of many of those who fell.

<http://www.bushwalking.org.au/SplendourRock.html> The plate was unveiled at sunrise, on Anzac Day, 1948. Every year since, a bushwalk has been organised to conduct a Dawn Service on Anzac Day.

Members of SBW have also served, often with distinction, in Borneo, Vietnam and in the subsequent Peacekeeping Operations, both overseas and within Australia.