

SYDNEY BUSH WALKERS INC

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 regroups, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea breaks, stops for views
	3	Strenuous, fit walkers only - short regroups, 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
- 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.

Le	gend
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

	Advance Notice and Extended Walks
Mon 5 Jun - Sat 10 Jun	West MacDonnell NP - Ormiston Gorge Mt Giles Bowmans Gap
Sun 18 Jun - Sat 1 Jul Q	West MacDonnell NP - Larapinta End-to-End [TRIP FULL] Maps: NT Parks and Wildlife Map Set The Larapinta is one of the iconic walks in Australia stretching over 230km of the West MacDonnell Ranges near Alice Springs. It covers spectacular scenery, views forever from the high points and lush, moist gullies. Starting from the west we climb Mount Sonder which gradually fades into the distance over the next 7 days, from which point Mount Gillen, south of Alice, gradually comes into focus. We'll walk the 16 sections in 14 days with three food drops. Walkers will need to be experienced with multi-day walks and be able to adapt to the sometimes variable desert conditions. Grade: L232-Q
Sat 1 Jul - Sun 9 Jul	Blue Mountains NP, Kanangra-Boyd NP, Nattai NP - Mittagong to Katoomba Walk Kanangra, Yerranderie 9 day walk starting from Wattle Ridge near Mittagong and finishing at Katoomba. 1 day Stopover at Yerranderie ghost town for day walks to nearby mountains. 1 night at Catholic Bushwalkers Club hut at New Yards. Side trips to Tonalli Gap, Axehead Mountain, Kiaramba Springs and Kowmung River. Return via Little Dingo Ridge and Tarros Ladder to Katoomba. First part of the route is along the Nattai River and then crosses over Beloon Pass to the Wollondilly River. Grade: M232
Mon 3 Jul - Fri 7 Jul	Nitmiluk NP - Katherine Gorge Kayaking Over three days, paddle about 18 km through the spectacular Katherine Gorge. No kayaking experience needed. Day 1: Sydney to Katherine Gorge. Days 2 - 4: Three days kayaking through Katherine Gorge. Day 4: Katherine Gorge to Sydney. Grade: S211

	THE STEAM TO SOME WHITE TO SOME TO SOM
Mon 10 Jul - Mon 17 Jul Q	West MacDonnell NP - Larapinta Trail [TRIP FULL] Maps: NT Govt official LT pack I did highlights of Larapinta in 2021 with XXXXXXXX. As far as I could tell, the whole Trail is highlights. I want to do the highlights we missed, viz sections 1 (Simpsons Gap - Alice Springs) and 6-9 (Ormiston Gorge - Hugh Gorge). I plan to walk from West to East, with one food drop. Total distance is 110 km. To allow time to explore, the daily distances will be kept low - only about 15 km, on average. Grade: L222-Q
Mon 21 Aug - Sun 27 Aug	Spain - Canyoning Spain Pyrenees / Sierra de Guara Expressions of interest. We will either engage a local canyoning guide in absence of a SBW canyoning leader joining us and being able to source quality information to allow us to self guide. Expect 6 canyons. Experienced (flowing water, single rope, etc). Dates are not in concrete. Number limits. Grade: M333E
Fri 25 Aug - Sun 27 Aug	Ku-ring-gai Chase NP, Great North walk, Garigal NP, Hawksbury, The Spit to Manly - Oxfam Trailwalker Sydney Oxfam, a charity dedicated to eliminating poverty around the world, will be holding its annual Trailwalker Event in August 2023 and I am calling for interested parties to join me in forming a group to walk the 100km trail in 40 hours. This will be my first Trailwalker event so it would be great to find other likeminded people who I can share this experience with. Each team must have a minimum of 3 to a maximum of 6 participants over the age of 18. An entry fee is payable and there is a fundraising requirement for each Trailwalker to raise \$500. The commitment would also involve getting together for regular training walks leading up to the event. Please contact me if you are interested or would like to discuss further. More information is available of the Oxfam Trailwalker website https://trailwalker.oxfam.org.au Grade: X221
Mon 28 Aug - Sun 17 Sep	Corsica - GR20 Corsica Tough walk, lots of info available so read up. No guide, will attempt to stay in Lodges but will not be pre-booking, will take a tent as fallback. Will be able to purchase meals/food from lodges. Dates are not in concrete need to deal with transfers from prior event but the window is about right with 16 days trekking. Number limits. Grade: M333E
Sun 10 Sep - Sun 24 Sep	Kosciuszko NP - Lodge-based ski day trips from Charlotte Pass Pass Maps: Perisher Valley, Kosciuszko Enjoy the luxury of dry boots, skiing from the door, day trips to places like Lake Cootapatamba, Mt Kosciuszko, Mt Townsend, Mt Lee, Mt Carruthers, Mt Twynam, Watsons Crags, Blue Lake, Club Lake, Mt Stilwell, Twin Valleys, etc, or sharpen up your teles on the lifts. (Lift operation at Charlotte Pass depends on snow cover.) Experience the outrageously cooperative spring snow and choose the grade to suit yourself. Cost for the week \$770 for Southern Alps Ski Club (SASC) members and \$952 for SASC non-members, fully catered. Great value for full board. You may be able to come for less than the full week, cost pro-rata. 50% deposit required on booking and should be paid early as it is likely the lodge will be full for both weeks. Week 10-17 is fully booked. As at May 1 there are six places still available in week 17-24. Grade: M222, There is a wide variety of day trip choices available, you can vary the grade to suit yourself.

	THE SYDNEY BUSH WALKERS INC – Winter Program 2023
Sat 16 Sep -	Central Honshu - Japan Alps [TRIP FULL] Maps: Mapple's Yama to Kogen series
Sat 30 Sep	Nokogiri-dake (Southern Alps), Tengu-dake (Yatsu-ga-take), Kasumisawa-dake and Dainichi-dake
Q	(Northern Alps). All over 2600 m. Nokogiri-dake is a full pack walk (you'll have to bring your tent!),
	elsewhere we'll stay in mountain huts. Each peak requires a two-day or three-day trip.
	Dates may be subject to minor adjustment
	Grade: L232-Q
Mon 18 Sep -	Corsica - Canyoning/Diving Corsica Maps: TBA
Sun 24 Sep	Expressions of interest. We will either engage a local canyoning guide in absence of a SBW
	canyoning leader joining us and being able to source quality information to allow us to self guide.
	Expect 5 canyons with a 2 x Optional Dives. Experienced (flowing water, single rope, etc). Dates are
	not in concrete need to deal with transfers from prior event. Number limits.
	Grade: S323E
Mon 18 Sep -	Nepal - Nepal - Fikuri home stay and camping trek Maps: Custom
Wed 27 Sep	Walk in Nepal in an area infrequently visited by trekkers. Fikuri trek passes through the area of
	Nuwakot located between Kathmandu and Langtang region. Views to the Langtang area including
	peaks of Langtang Lirung, Ganesh Himal, Manasalu. This trip is a mix of camping and homestay in
	local homes. The area is populated mainly by the Tamang ethnic group. By Nepal standard it is not a
	hard trip with maximum altitude of ~3800m and maximum camp of 3000m. Bus to Bettrawati then
	walk to homestay village of Mane Goun. We will do a circuit with overnight camping via Fikuri
	Danda returning to the village for another homestay. Suitable for reasonably fit people both
	experienced and Nepal newbies. The trip will take in enjoyment of the natural environment as well
	as experiencing local cultural traditions. Dates include arriving and departing in Kathmandu. Early
	indication of interest appreciated as this trip precedes another and flight dates need to be
	confirmed.
	Grade: S231
Mon 25 Sep -	Nepal - Nepal Kanchenjunga Circuit Maps: Nepal
Mon 23 Oct	Like our 2022 Trek in Nepal this will be challenging. No Porters, Tea House. This is known route so
	do some research. Dates are not in concrete need to deal with transfers from prior event but the
	window is about right with 21 days trekking. Number limits.
	Wilder is about 1811 than 22 days a citating. Hamber initias
	Grade: M331E
Sun 1 Oct -	Western Japan - Western Japan [TRIP FULL] Maps: Mapple's Yama to Kogen series
Mon 16 Oct	Three mountains in Shikoku (1700-1900 m) and two smaller ones in Kansai. A couple of nights in
	mountain huts and one in a temple, the rest in ryokan and hotels. A free day in Nara, sightseeing
	time at Mt Koya, and two days on the Kohechi branch of the Kumano Kodo.
	Dates may be subject to minor adjustment.
	Grade: L231

Sun 15 Oct -Sun 29 Oct

South Korea - South Korea Autumn Leaves [TRIP FULL] Maps: Korean National Parks Service maps Invigorating cool autumn weather, maple and gingko autumn leaves highly likely, World Heritage Buddhist temples, relaxing hot springs, exotic foods and alcohols, cheap hiking gear.

Hotels and B&Bs. No huts, no tents, no sleeping bags.

M231 day walks. All on track. No creek crossings. Minimal rock scrambling. Day packs only. Typical day walk will be 16-20 km, ascent 800m, same descent, steep sections most days. Estimated cost for food, accommodation, land transport, entry fees is about \$150/day per person twin share or double. Plus alcohol, plus international air fare. Single rooms may be available for a supplement.

This is an overseas trip, so the normal insurance arrangements of SBW do not apply.

Participants to arrange own international air travel and travel insurance.

Meet in Gangneung City (North East Coast near Odaesan NP) on afternoon of Sunday 15 October 2023

Trip ends in Seoul on morning of Sunday 29 October 2023.

Party limit 10.

Joint walk with The Bush Club.

Expressions of interest sought.

Grade: M231, Typical day walk will be 16-20 km, ascent 800m, same descent, steep sections most days.

Wed 25 Oct -Sat 4 Nov

Taman Negara - Malaysia - Gunung (Mt) Tahan Maps: Custom

Expressions of interest requested. Please book in early for this trip to confirm.

Gunung Tahan is the highest peak in Peninsular Malaysia It is within one of the oldest rainforest in the world and a refuge for Malayan tigers, wild elephants, sun bears, and other elusive wildlife. The planned walk is from Kuala Tahan - Mt Tahan - Merapoh, and will take 7d, 6n. we will have a guide (compulsory) but otherwise be self sufficient. It's a tough walk through varied terrain but mostly in the jungle on track with all the obstacles you can think of.

We will spend three days, two nights before the Tahan trek camping at Jelawang waterfall, visit Gua Ikan (Fish Cave) and climb Gunung Stong, Ayam and Baha to get used to the area. This part of the trip will be catered. I have allowed two extra days for transport but this may not be required.

Grade: M332

Fri 3 Nov -Mon 27 Nov

Nepal - Annapurna Base Camp, Khopra Ridge and Poon Hill Trek Maps: Annapurna Base Camp, Nepal Map Publisher (available in Kathmandu)

Expressions of interest are sought for this teahouse trek (no camping) which will visit Annapurna Sanctuary and Annapurna Base Camp (ABC), Poon Hill and the little-visited Khopra ridge. These are usually considered three separate treks but can all be visited in the one trek. Maximum compulsory altitude is modest at 4,130m but the views of Dhaulagiri (world's 7th highest mountain, 8,167m), Annapurna I (10th highest, 8,091m), Annapurna South (7,219m), Machhapuchhare (fishtail mountain, 6,997m) and others are considered by many to be equal or superior to any on the Everest trek but at much lower altitudes. Optional trek to Kayher Barahi Lake (4,650m) from Khopra Ridge, plus optional Mardi Himal Trek along the south Ridge of Machhapuchhare before the ABC trek taking an extra four days before the ABC trek and meeting up with the ABC party on their second day of trekking.

Grade varies day-to-day. M232 is typical. Optional walk to Barahi Lake is a 12-hour day. Total cost is surprisingly modest. Party limit.

Grade: M232E

	THE SYDNEY BUSH WALKERS INC – Winter Program 2023
Sat 4 Nov -	Coolana SBW property on Mount Scanzi Road Kangaroo Valley - Bush care Coolana Kangaroo
Sun 5 Nov	Valley Maps: BURRIER
	Bush Care at Coolana, Mount Scanzi Road Kangaroos Valley including weeding, mowing, clearing tracks and around sheds, checking trails, join a saturday night dinner up top if desired, camp with the wombats on the flats. Grade: S111
Sun 5 Nov -	Hong Kong - Hong Kong - Green Hills, Sandy Beaches, Glorious Food Maps: Peter Spurrier, The
Mon 13 Nov	Serious Hiker's Guide to Hong Kong Hong Kong is 75% undeveloped hilly countryside with National Parks, green hills and sandy beaches. You can walk it on day trips from your comfortable hotel in bustling downtown Kowloon using cheap transport. November climate is usually cool and dry. M231 day walks on MacLehose Trail, Sai Kung Country Park, Lantau Peak, Lamma Island, Hong Kong Island, Ma On Shan Country Park. Typical day walk will be 15 km, ascent 500m, same descent All on track. No creek crossings. No rock scrambling. Moderate pace. All walks finish long before the shops and restaurants close. No packing and unpacking - stay in the same hotel the whole week. Estimated cost for food, accommodation, land transport, is about \$180/day per person twin share or double. Plus alcohol, plus international air fare. Single supplement available on request. This is an overseas trip, so the normal insurance arrangements of SBW do not apply. Participants to arrange own international air travel and travel insurance. Group limit 14. Joint trip with The Bush Club. Expressions of interest sought.
	UPDATE as at 17/5/23: trip confirmed, 4 spots remaining Grade: M231, Typical day walk will be 15 km, ascent 500m, same descent
Sat 13 Apr - Sun 5 May 2024	Nepal - Everest Base Camp, Ama Dablam Base Camp plus Rhododendrons Camp, Nepal Map Publishers, available in Kathmandu 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. Grade: M232E

	Regular Activities
Tuesdays	Climbfit Indoor Climbing Weekly Tuesday night indoor climbing at Climbfit Macquarie. Leader will be there from 6. \$23 casual entry fee (\$30 if you need to rent a harness/ \$33 also includes shoes). No climbing experience required.
Thursdays	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.

Additional Expenses

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.

ABSEILING/CANYONING: On abseiling trips, fees may be charged for use of the ropes.



	Winter Program Activities
Sat 3 Jun Q	Blue Mountains NP - No Waterfall for Mossy Old Men A fun little circuit on and around the Wollangambe River, extending John Kennett's recent Caley's Haycock walk. From Mount Wilson we'll take the Boronia Point Trail, then go off-track to the Wollangambe 5 exit. Next it's downstream to the bottom of what John identified as Old Man Canyon. After lunch and a chilly wade, we'll ascend to the tops via a ramp and head west to the Waterfall of Moss canyon access pad, which we'll descend via a short down climb with a hand line. A brief wade/swim will take us to the Wollangambe 2 exit and out. Grade: M223E-Q
Sat 3 Jun Q	Blue Mountains NP - Federal and Lindeman passes Katoomba to Leura return (partially on the same trail). There will be a little bit of exposure and some slippery rocks. The trail is sometimes difficult to find because it's not being maintained by the NPs and due to fallen trees. Beautiful views of cliffs, waterfalls and the three sisters. There is an option for an early exit in Leura, after about 8km. Public transport friendly; however, it's approx. 15 min walk from and to the train station Grade: M222-Q
Sat 3 Jun - Sun 4 Jun Q	Blue Mountains NP - Wild Dogs Circuit - Blue Dog / Knights Deck An overnight circuit starting and finishing at Dunphy's Campground. Some steep climbs, great views and a nice camp near the Coxs River. Dunphy's Campground - Carlon Creek - Breakfast Creek - Cattle Dog Ridge - Blue Dog Ridge - Knights Deck - Blue Dog Spur - Coxs River Camp - Ironmonger Spur - Ironpot Mountain - Dunphy's Campground The Cattledog and Blue Dog Ridge section is new for the leader. I'm expecting some thick scrub and regrowth from after the fires but we should still get some great views. We'll camp down by the Coxs River and return the next day up the Ironmonger Spur track which isn't too bad at the moment but is a good leg workout. Grade: M233-Q
Sun 4 Jun	Ku-ring-gai Chase NP - Cowan to Taffy's rock and lookout Lovely walk past Jerusalem bay and then following a beautiful ridge to Taffys rock and on to Taffy's lookout. There may be thick bush between Taffy's rock and the lookout. Wonderful views of Cowan Creek and the Hawkesbury. Grade: M222
	June Long Weekend: 10-12 June
Sat 10 Jun	Royal NP - Heathcote Circuit Heathcote Station – Karloo Pool – Uloola Falls – Audley – Kangaroo Creek – lunch – Engadine track – Heathcote Station. A lovely walk through some of the highlights of the Royal National Park with pools, creeks and waterfalls. Climbs totalling approx 400m. Please book in by Monday night 5 June. Grade: M221, Approx 19 kms

Cot 10 I···	Morton ND Evaluring Monelith Valley & The Costle in Budayangs Money Corong
Sat 10 Jun - Mon 12 Jun	Morton NP - Exploring Monolith Valley & The Castle in Budawangs An exploratory trip for leader. Leaving Long gully campground we go via Kalianna Ridge to set up a base camp at Cooyoya Creek. Over next few days we will explore Monolith Valley, climb Mt Owen, climb the Castle & go exploring. There will be lots of scrambling & some exposure so you need to comfortable with this. Grade: M222E, Given exposure walk is weather dependent
Sat 10 Jun -	Blue Mountains NP, Kanangra-Boyd NP - Exploring the Jenolan River Maps: Jenolan, Hampton
Mon 12 Jun Q	Black Range Rd - Moorara Trail – Jenolan River – Coxs River – Six Foot Track – Black Range Rd Day 1 We walk down Moorara Trail to the upper reaches of the Jenolan River. From there we'll walk downstream to the Coxs River and set up camp near Mumbedah Creek. Day 2 We reach the Coxs River and walk upstream as far as, or near to, the official Six Foot Track campsite. Day 3 We join the Six Foot Track to return to our starting point. Great wilderness, lots of wet feet, a beautiful circuit in the Wild Dogs. Party limit 8. Grade: M232-Q
Sun 11 Jun	Blue Mountains NP - Lapstone to Glenbrook, lower Blue Mountains Maps: Springwood We'll go down to the Nepean river and then will walk along the Glenbrook creek, Jellybean pool and Blue pool. Most of this walk is off track and involves a lot of rock hopping. It is subject to water levels staying reasonably low. This walk is public transport friendly Grade: M222E
	17-18 June
Sat 17 Jun	Brisbane Water NP - Little Wobby to Wondabyne Maps: Broken Bay, Gosford A great way to explore the Brisbane Water National Park. Jump on the ferry from Brooklyn to head over for the start of the walk at Little Wobby. This trail has great views for much of the way including sections looking over the Hawkesbury River. Approx 20 km. Prospective members welcome. Grade: L212
Sat 17 Jun	Blue Mountains NP - Mt Solitary Maps: Katoomba
Q	Narrow Neck Lookout – Golden Stairs – Ruined Castle – Mt Solitary – East Col and return. Classic walk with great views. Some steep climbs totalling 700m. Please book in by Monday night 12 June. Grade: M231-Q, Approx 20 kms
Sun 18 Jun	Blue Mountains NP - Mt Victoria to Blackheath We'll start from Victoria Falls, descend into the Grose Valley, follow the river down to Blue Gum Forest, thence up to Blackheath. Most of the routes from the Grose to Blackheath are closed, so we'll probably have to come up Perrys, then follow the rim to Govetts Leap. Iconic Blue Mountains scenery throughout. About 17 km, up/down both about 600m. Car shuffle. Grade: M231
Sun 18 Jun	Currambene SF - Navigation Training: Paddy Pallin Rogaine Rogaining is a fabulous way to improve your navigation. Six hours with just a map, compass and your partner(s) working out which features to follow, how to maximise points and get back to the start on time! If you've been thinking you should improve your nav then this is the best way to do it. The details for the Rogaine are available at https://nswrogaining.org/2023-paddy-pallin-6hr/ Make your own team (2-5 members) or contact me I will try and facilitate some SBW teams. I will provide some guidance in advance of the rogaine on how to plan etc for those who want it. Grade: M222, Grade could range from S111-X333 - your choice
	24-25 June

	THE SYDNEY BUSH WALKERS INC - WINLEY PROGRAM 2023
Sat 24 Jun Q	Wollemi NP - The Colo: Bob Buck's Last Pass On the Colo river, a steep pass from the corner at Colo Meroo towards Putty Road. As private property prevents us from walking through to the road, we will negotiate a creek back to Colo Meroo. We will start at the Bob Turner Track car park, so must do a second climb after lunch. Grade: S233-Q
Sat 24 Jun - Sun 25 Jun	Kosciuszko NP - Guthega Snowshoe Circuit Intermediate+ skill snowshoers with prior experience in snow camping welcome to join in a circuit trip out of Guthega. Dependent on conditions, we will most likely head to Mt Anderson via Illawong, camp up high, explore the Anderson area and exit via Gills Knobs and the dam wall. Start early Saturday morning and finish just after lunch Sunday. Grade: S232
Sun 25 Jun	Royal NP - Royal National Park Walk Waterfall Railway Station - Uloola Track - Uloola Falls - Adley - Winfred Falls Trail - Anice Falls Trail - Maianbar - Bundeena This is a long walk all on track. We will stop for morning tea at Audley. Do not forget to bring money for the ferry trip to Cronulla. Grade: L211
Sun 25 Jun	Heathcote NP - Waterfall to Heathcote Explore the heart of Heathcote National Park, easily accessed via train at each end. Track follows Heathcote Creek downstream, crosses Battery Causeway and then it is a bit of a climb up the pipeline fire trail to Heathcote station. Grade: M221
Sun 25 Jun Q	Blue Mountains NP - Birrabang Walls and Yileen Spur Birrabang ridge runs from Bell's Line of road to Birrabang Walls. There are some interesting pagodas and spectacular views of Gross Valley, north to Dalpura Head and South to Pierces Pass. Return along Birrabang Ridge and descend into Yileen gully. A short walk along a Pierces Creek tributary, feet remain dry, and short climb to Yileen spur with a series of rocky outcrops and stunning views east to Pierces Pass. Majority of the walk is off track. Gaiters and gloves are recommended however the shrub is not too dense. Altitude 984-1006 metres. Map Central Blue Mountains Mt Wilson 8930-1N. Grade: M222-Q
	1-2 July
Fri 30 Jun - Sun 2 Jul Q	Barrington Tops NP - Mid Winter Barrington Tops Three days in the beautiful Barrington Tops area, the middle day likely walking with day packs only. Route will start and finish with the Corker (900m ascent). Camping two nights on the tops (\$6 booking required). Mostly on track, but some off track sections on day one and day two second day. Route mostly known to leader, but some exploratory components. Expect a diverse range of vegetation and unique scenery. Fit, hardy and suitably experienced prospective members welcome. Participants must be prepared for cold weather (camping above 1300m). NB leader out of contact 2-11 June. Grade: M232-Q
Sat 1 Jul Q	Newnes SF - Cathedral Cave and Diamond Cavern Find out for yourself why this unique area must be better protected for future generations. We will visit two stunning locations — Cathedral Cave and Diamond Cavern, starting and finishing on a firetrail off Sunnyside Ridge Road. Scrambling and exposure. About 6 km. Grade: S223E-Q

	THE SYDNEY BUSH WALKERS INC – Winter Program 2023
Sat 1 Jul - Sun 2 Jul	Blue Mountains NP - Lost World Loop From Springwood down Sassafras Gully to Glenbrook Creek. Pick up water at Western Creek and carry up an untracked ridge with a bit of scrambling via Sharks Head Cave to Lost World to a dry camp. Hopefully we'll have a good sunset and sunrise. Next day The Bullants Track, Florabella Pass and Green Point back to Springwood. Small group - there's not much room for tents. Grade: M222
Sun 2 Jul	Morton NP - Wombat Hill Lookout Join a fun activity for the main purpose of what will hopefully be expansive views of Lake Yarrunga and its surrounding valleys from a high plateau at the northern end of Morton NP in the Southern Highlands. There are two ways to join this activity: mountain bike ride from Moss Vale (or where you like along the way) through Meryla SF to the beginning of the wilderness area near Meryla Pass, which is a 45 km return ride half sealed/unsealed roads, then walk to Wombat Hill Lookout which is an easy 6-8km return walk on a flat fire trail; or meet us only for the walk. The activity will be done fast enough for the six hour gap between trains from Moss Vale. It will be rescheduled if the weather is unsuitable for good views. New for leader. Grade: S211
	8-9 July
Sat 8 Jul - Sun 9 Jul	Blue Mountains NP - Lions Head, Kedumba Valley Park cars at the Old Queen Victoria Hospital, walk out along Lions head ridge to Lions head, down rolling stone pass to overnight at Kedumba river crossing campground. Next day cross Kedumba river, walk below the eastern side of Mt Solitary and swing back east to the cars via Kedumba pass. A combination of fire trails, walking tracks, pads and off track, Tricky steep descent on day one, day 2 can be best described as uphill. 12 kms both days. Great views of the valley and a very nice camp site with toilet. This walk would suit perspectives as a first overnighter or members wanting to test some new gear. Grade: M222E
Sun 9 Jul Q	Blue Mountains NP - Lions Head to Katoomba via Mount Solitary Maps: Jamison, Katoomba Kedumba Rd - Lion's Head and Pass - Kedumba River - East Col - Mt Solitary - Federal Pass - Ferber Steps - Katoomba Oval CP. 2 classics in one go! Long and hard day with some of the best vistas the Blue Mountains has to offer. Early start in order to finish within daylight. Very strong pace will be set therefore a high level of fitness is required. Great training for the likes of K2K or 6Ft. Grade: X333E-Q
	15-16 July
Fri 14 Jul - Sun 16 Jul	Morton NP - Crafts Crown and surrounds A trip to a rarely visited feature of the northern Budawangs, named after former SBW member, Frank Craft, on the 50th anniversary of his death. We'll take the standard route from Wog Wog to Corang Arch, then head north past Profile Rock to camp on or near the Corang River. On day 2, we'll take day packs and head north to Barney's Hill and Crafts Crown before returning, potentially taking in the Canowie/Corang junction cascades on the way. Grade: M223

Sat 15 Jul Sydney CBD - Australian Museum & Dinner Social Event This is a social event primarily aimed at younger aged members and prospectives, but others are welcome to join. The idea is to spend a couple of hours exploring the Australian Museum then enjoy a group dinner at an inexpensive restaurant or pub nearby. A good opportunity to see some natural and cultural heritage and catch up with other members. Entry is free (purchase your own food and drinks). Come for only part of the event if you like. Both new and experienced members and prospectives are welcome. This is my idea, but if you think the plan, date, and/or time, could be improved I am happy to discuss. Grade: NA 15-16 July Kamay Botany Bay NP - Kurnell to Cronulla - grab your binoculars - whale season walk Maps: Port Sat 15 Jul This one-way walk starts from Kurnell and follows the coastline along the clifftops to Boat Harbour. From there we head along the beaches of Greenhills, Wanda and Elouera into Cronulla. Approximately 13 km walk. Accessible by public transport. We'll be stopping along the clifftop section of the walk for some whale spotting, so bring binoculars if you have them. Relaxed pace. Grade: M211 Sun 16 Jul Ku-ring-gai Chase NP - Cowan to Taffys Rock Maps: Cowan Departing from Cowan Station, we will follow the GNW past Jerusalem Bay then leave the main track to follow a footpad to Taffys Rock. We return by the same route. 15km/800m ascent overall. Great views from Taffys Rock and various vantage points along the route. Grade: M222 22-23 July Sat 22 Jul -**Gardens of Stone NP - Pantoneys Crown** Maps: Ben Bullen Sun 23 Jul A few things up in the air with the route - the only definite is the plan to camp on Pantoneys Crown. Q Depending on road conditions/closures we will either approach from Hutchison Road (Ben Bullen) via Tarpeian Rock or from the Baal Bone Trail. Either way we will end up at Baal Bone Point and then across to the southern pass of Pantoneys Crown. The way out will depend on the route taken in/the weather/party composition - either Point Cameron, Crown Creek Trail or Moffitts Pagoda. All the routes options have the good stuff: exposure, scrambling, pack-passing, off-track. Who knows what the scrub is like now - probably scrubby! Grade: M233E-Q Sun 23 Jul Blue Mountains NP - Mt Solitary - East Col Maps: Jamieson An out and back walk to the East Col of Mt Solitary. Long approach, steep climb, grand vistas for lunch. Grade: M232 Sun 23 Jul **Blue Mountains NP - Bruces Walk** Maps: Katoomba Who was Bruce? Why didn't he drive? All will be revealed as we follow the route of this walk that was opened on 21 November 1931. Medlow Bath station to Lawson station. A variety of walking surfaces, from rough walking tracks to suburban streets, including some ladders of doubtful progeny. We may have time to find a hidden waterfall. Grade: L222 29-30 July

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Sat 29 Jul	Blue Mountains NP - Wild Dogs - Blackhorse Maps: Jamison, Jenolan
	Dunphy's campground, descend down Carlon's Creek into breakfast creek for a short distance before a steep climb up Blackhorse ridge and then onto Medlow Gap and several km of fire trail
	back to Dunphy's.
	Grade: L332
Sat 29 Jul Q	Blue Mountains NP - Flat Top to Blue Gum Forest via Lockley Pylon Maps: Katoomba Fortress Ridge Carpark – Flat Top – Lockley Pilon – Du Faur Head – Blue Gum Forest – lunch – return
ď	to cars.
	Classic walk approaching Blue Gum Forest from the Leura side. Spectacular views and a big climb
	out. Climbs totalling 640m. Please book in by Monday night 24 July.
	Grade: M231-Q, Approx 15 kms
Sun 30 Jul	Blue Mountains NP - Mount Hay and Surrounds Maps: Katoomba, Mt Wilson
	Mount Hay is one of the most distinctive mountains in the Blue Mountains NP. This walk should
	have superb views of the Grose Gorge and the surrounding plateau as well as interesting rock
	formations and vegetation. New for leader. The main objective will be to visit Butterbox Point, Mount Hay, and if not too overgrown Venus Tor. The intent is for a mostly easy walk following well-
	used tracks but the route to Venus Tor is reportedly less well established and could be overgrown.
	On paper the walk is short so we might supplement it with a nearby walk such as to Fortress Ridge
	or Lockley Pylon and/or it could be timed to align with sunset views. The walk might be rescheduled
	if the weather is unsuitable. Grade: M212
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	5-6 August
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Sat 5 Aug **Mount Royal NP - Mount Carrow** Maps: Carrabolla For anyone keen to get to explore some of the wonders of Mount Royal NP, but not keen on an Q overnight packwalk, this is your chance. The first of two day walks in Mount Royal NP, car camping at Youngville campground overnight (booking required). Participants encouraged to arrive Friday night to support an early start on Saturday morning. This walk is largely exploratory for leader and mostly off track, but builds on other walking in the general area. There may be a faint pad in some places, exact quality of scrub (and volume of stingy & scratchy plants) unknown. Expect some steep ascents and descents. Hoping for some views in following the ridgeline to Mt Carrow. If time, may extend walk to include the Narrows and Smiths Mount. Fit, hardy and suitably experienced prospectives members welcome. Preference will be given to participants who are signing up for both the Saturday and Sunday walks. NB leader out of contact 2-11 June. Grade: M233-Q Sat 5 Aug -Morton NP - Mt Talaterang Maps: Milton, Tianjara Sun 6 Aug Mt Bushwalker - Gadara Pass - Pallin Pass - Mt Talaterang - Talaterang Creek & return This was one of the first trips I did when I joined SBW - I haven't re-done it since so the route finding could be a bit rusty. Expect some scrambling, fabulous views and happy hour spot... and no doubt a fair bit of scrub. Grade: M223E Sun 6 Aug **Mount Royal NP, Barrington Tops NP - Mount Royal** Maps: Carrabolla Q For anyone keen to get to explore some of the wonders of Mount Royal NP, but not keen on an overnight packwalk, this is your chance. The second of two day walks in Mount Royal NP, car camping at Youngville campground overnight (booking required). Ascend Mount Royal, follow the range, and descend Fal Pinnacle. Route is known to leader. Participants can expect a diverse range of vegetation, spectacular scenery and a narrow, rocky, exposed spine along Mount Royal. Includes sections that are slippery & steep, as well as some scrambling & exposure. Scrub in places. Mostly off track, with a few km on firetrail/dirt road to finish. Be prepared for some steep ascents and descents. Fit, hardy and suitably experienced prospectives welcome. Preference will be given to participants who are signing up for both the Saturday and Sunday walks. NB leader out of contact 2-11 June. Grade: M233E-O 12-13 August Blue Mountains NP - Pierces Pass to Victoria Falls Return Sat 12 Aug Maps: Mt Wilson Starting from Pierces Pass we walk down to the Grose River, then travel along the river toward Q Burra Korain Flat. The walk then heads up to Victoria Falls and Victoria Cascades. Enjoy lunch with great views of Falls or cascades. We return the same way. Fit prospectives welcome on this enjoyable qualifying walk. Grade: M232-Q Sat 12 Aug -Blue Mountains NP - More Blue Labyrinth Exploration Maps: Penrith Sun 13 Aug Pisgah Rock - Erskine Creek - Follow spur and cliffs to Little Crater Ridge - Little Crater Ridge to Big Q Crater Ridge - Camp above Big Crater creek - Nebo Ridge to Nebo Point - Some way or another to Erskine Creek - Pisgah Rock. Close to the location of the hardest day walk I did with the club. What can be more pleasurable than repeat this scrubby experience for two full days? Hopefully this one will have more views. Some seriously steep terrain probably necessitating scrambling or the use of a handline. Totally exploratory to leader. Check the map before signing up and state off-track experience when booking. At least it is close to Sydney. Grade: M223E-Q

TBD - A Group Walk Sun 13 Aug Maps: TBD This is an experimental activity! I'm not sure it will work but I am interested to try it. Rather than a normal walk with a defined destination and leader, this walk has neither. My hope is to form a group of interested participants who discuss ideas for a walk, agree on the details, then complete it together without one single leadership style. Hopefully we can develop a better understanding of each other and the walk will be better as a result. I think it would suit three types of people. 1. You have a sense of curiosity and open-mindedness to try a different format. 2. You know me and/or the type of person who would be interested in the activity. 3. Or maybe you are interested in leading your first walk with the club and want some guidance or practise. For the concept to work well I think it would be best to express interest by one month prior. **Grade:** M222, Grade is variable. 19-20 August Sat 19 Aug Popran NP - Hawkesbury River 270º: Berowra Trig Maps: Cowan From the old Pacific Highway, moderate undulating ridge off-track to Berowra Trig above Bar Point. A brilliant 270 degree panorama of the Hawkesbury River taking in Milson Island, Bar Point, Bar Island and Pumpkin Point. Lots of spring wildflowers. Spectacular rock formations. Grade: M222 Wollemi NP - Deep Pass Sat 19 Aug -Maps: Rock Hill Sun 20 Aug Deep Pass is on the edge of Newnes Plateau. This is a chance to camp somewhere nice, without much hard work. The campground is less than 1 km from the car park. It's steep, but it's close. After pitching our tents, we'll find something to do. There will be plenty of options. Grade: S111 26-27 August Watagans SF/NP - Navigation Training: Lake Macquarie Rogaine Sat 26 Aug Maps: TBA Rogaining is a fabulous way to improve your navigation. Six (or twelve!) hours with just a map, compass and your partner(s) working out which features to follow, how to maximise points and get back to the start on time! If you've been thinking you should improve your nav then this is the best way to do it. The details for the Rogaine will become available at https://nswrogaining.org/coming-events/ Make your own team (2-5 members) or contact me I will try and facilitate some SBW teams. I will provide some guidance in advance of the rogaine on how to plan etc for those who want it. Grade: L222, Grade could range from S111-X333 - your choice 2-3 September Fri 1 Sep -**Wollemi NP - Pomany Range Adventure** Maps: Widden Mon 4 Sep Co-leader Kevin Songberg. Strictly limited numbers. One two-day overnight walk and two one-day walks from a base camp exploring the Pomany Range (south east of the Yodellers Range). The plan Q 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. Grade: S333E-Q Sat 2 Sep **Dharug NP - Flat Rock Ridge Wildflowers** Maps: Gunderman Q From Mill Creek on the Hawkesbury, the Creek circuit then detour to Group 6 engravings. Very good wildflowers at this rocky site. Then down Flat Rock Ridge past more engraving sites towards Starkey Trig, opting to return to Mill Creek via the Trig or a shorter route. Grade: M223-Q

Images: Front cover: Tjoritja / West MacDonnell NP @Lauren Curtis; Back cover: Barrington Tops NP; @Lauren Curtis

