

**UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS BUSHWALKING CLUB
ACTIVITIES 17 DECEMBER 2011 – 18 MARCH 2012**

www.ubmc.org.au

Guide to the Grades

We have decided to adopt the Confederation of Bushwalking Clubs NSW Guidelines

Grade 2 (Easy Medium) Mostly on well marked tracks of low gradient. Tracks should not be steep. Distance not to exceed 15 km.

Grade 3 (Medium) usually mostly on tracks, could be some steep sections, rougher terrain, could be off track. Distance not to exceed 20kms. Suitable for fit beginners.

Grade 4 (Medium Hard) Off track (up to 25% of walk) or long distance track walk. Tracks could be steep; maybe some rock scrambling. Suitable for people who have completed a few walks and want more.

Grade 5 (Hard) off track or difficult terrain May be rock scrambling, creek walking. Distance not to exceed 30 km. May be short and difficult. Not suitable for beginners

X = Exploratory; leader has not covered the area before

Creek = Involves wading, swimming, climbing over boulders (block ups)

Abseil = Involves abseiling. Must have harness, helmet and waterproofing and pack large enough to help carry rope

Pack = Carrying an overnight/weekend pack

Camp = Base camp, short walk in from cars

Date	Grade	Where	Comment
Saturday 17 December	Creek M	Upper Bell Creek Map Mt Wilson	Fantastic Creek some deep water canyon sections. Preferably wet suit or lilo
Sunday 18 December	E ½ day Social	Berghofers Pass Mt Victoria Map: Hartley	6 km 1,75 hr, 130m down & up Café in Mt Vic at end
Saturday 31 December	Creek M	Wollangambe 1 Side trip up Kelvinator Canyon Map Wollangambe	Some long swims lilo or wet suit essential. The most popular stretch of the river
Sunday 1 January	E ½ day	Lion's Head Map Katoomba	Great views and a scenic track
Saturday 7 January	Creek M	Wollangambe 2 Map Wollangambe	Lilo or wet suit essential. Side trip up Whungee Whungee Canyon
Sunday 8 January	E ½ day Social	Hassans Walls Map Hartley	7 km 2.5 hr, 150m up and down Café in Lithgow afterwards

Date	Grade	Where	Comment
<i>Monday 9 January</i>	M	Clarence – Edgecombe Colliery Site – Clarence Maps Lithgow, Hartley	A new area with an interesting history
Saturday 14 January	M	Valley of the Waters – Princes Glen – Lawton Creek -Lindeman Pass Map Katoomba	Wet feet but no more. Beautiful rain forest creek 400 m asc/dec/
Sunday 15 January	Abseil HX	Bowens Creek Canyon, North Branch Lower Section. A very pretty canyon near Mt Wilson Map: Mt Wilson	2 small abseils, some swims with the usual steep walk out.
Monday 16 – Thursday 19 January	Pack M	Colo River through part of the rugged gorge from Canoe Creek to Bob Turners Track. 4 day full pack lilo trip 25 kms Maps Mountain Lagoon Colo Heights	Short but steep entry and exit and boulder hopping around rapids. Need liloing experience Dates are a little negotiable
<i>Wednesday 18 January</i>	M+	Bungleboori Creek to Paddy’s Creek Map Lithgow	Spectacular Formations and a deep canyon. Waterproof Pack advisable
Saturday 21 January	M	Roberts Pass – Lindemans Pass – Leura Cascades Map Katoomba	Historical tracks. Wonderful scenery so close to home
Sunday 22 January	eM	Springwood - Sassafras Gully –Martins Lookout – Springwood Map Springwood	Lovely rainforest some good swimming holes
<i>Monday 23 January</i>	M	Mt Sinai – Aboriginal Site – Scenic Hill – Ida Falls Map Lithgow Hartley	Also visiting old Blue Mountains and Honeysett Colliery Sites. WW 11 Gun Emplacements
Saturday 28 January	MHX	King Georges Brook off the Bell Line of Road Map Mt Wilson	Expect to get wet No abseils, tape will be carried
Sunday 29 January	Abseil HX	Breakfast Creek Canyon If time walk out up Rocky Creek Canyon or else Rocky Creek exit Map Rock Hill	3 abseils, longest about 25 m. Ever wanted to visit St Pauls Cathedral but can’t afford the airfare?
Saturday 4 February	Creek	Du Faur’s Creek. In at the side creek out at Joes Canyon Map Mt Wilson	One of the best creek trips. Lilo or wet suit essential
Sunday	M	Victoria Falls to Pierces Pass	Takes in the best of the Grose

Date	Grade	Where	Comment
5 February		Map Mt Wilson	Valley with the easiest exit.
<i>Monday</i> <i>6 February</i>	M	Dargan Arch & No7 Tunnel Arch 2 short walks to explore Maps Lithgow Hartley	A chance to inspect an aspect of the 1910 Zig Zag railway deviation
Saturday 11 February	EM	Balmain East to Birchgrove Ferry from Circular Quay	Trip to an older part of Sydney
Sunday 12 February	HX Abseil	Looking Glass Canyon Lovely little canyon near the Newnes ruins. 8 short abseils Map Mt Morgan	Very long day, big walk in and out. Will try a new route, if not successful will do Firefly Canyon
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>15</i> <i>February</i>	MH	Upper Wollangambe River (468940) to exit (505932) Map Wollangambe	Float or walk downstream
Saturday 18 February	MHX	Hat Hill Creek Further exploration	Wet feet and more. Beautiful mossy creek.
Sunday 19 February	MX	Kanangra Walls Road – Mt Thurat Fire Trail – Bil Misty – Thurat Head Map Kanangra	Should be spectacular views of Kanangra Gorge
<i>Monday</i> <i>20</i> <i>February</i>	M	River Lett to Hartley Vale via Hyde Park swimming hole (Aboriginal Site) Map Hartley	Possibility of discovering an old silver mine
Saturday 25 February	MHX	Oronga Canyon Amazing Grose Valley Lookout Map Mt Wilson	Expect to get wet. No abseils, tape will be carried
Saturday 25 February	SOCIAL	Planning Meeting and get together	Location to be decided nearer the time WATCH THIS SPACE!!
Sunday 26 February	E	Lockleys Pylon Mt Hay Road Map Katoomba	Help me show some English tourists the wonders of the Grose Valley. Let's hope for a cool day!
Saturday 3 March	H	Wild Dogs Jenolan Gorge – Goolara Peak – Scrubbers Hump Map	Another go at Jenolan Gorge. Long day but great feeling of achievement

Date	Grade	Where	Comment
Sunday 4 March	E ½ day	Lawson and Hazelbrook Waterfalls Bedford Creek Map Katoomba	Easy ramble around some very pretty waterfalls
Saturday 10 March	M	Dalpura Creek and Canyon Map Mt Wilson	Lovely creek definitely wet feet and a couple up to the waist
Sunday 11 March	M-	Valley of the Waters – Vera Falls	Beautiful rainforest. All on track. Steep climb out.
Saturday 17 March	Bike Social	Bike Ride around Olympic Park. Swim at Aquatic Centre	Maybe River Cat to Darling Harbour for a late meal. Kids welcome,. Train to Sydney
Sunday 18 March	EM	Mt Victoria – Little ZigZag - Reinitz Pass Mt Piddington – Fairy Bower	2 separate very attractive historic walks. Option of continuing on to Fairy Bower

ADVANCED NOTICES

BHUTAN HIGH TRAILS VIA LAYA 9 APRIL - 26 APRIL 2012 WORLD EXPEDITIONS

18 DAY TREK 13 OF WHICH TREKKING OVER FOUR 4000 METRE PASSES

Bhutan is one of the least –touristy countries in the world; measures gross happiness and has the Himalaya as part of its land. Happy and warm people, pristine environment and cultural integrity are just some of the attractions of this country.

If interested, all details are at www.worldexpeditions.com - Search Region – Himalaya, Country Bhutan for trips

There cannot be too many better ways to experience this country.

UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS BUSH WALKING CLUB - GENERAL INFORMATION

- Welcome to the club.** We invite enthusiastic walkers to come along and enjoy the wonderful Blue Mountains with us. With this in view, the following points are made to assist new people enjoy their walks with the club. We recommend that the first walk should be Grade E (Easy) or Grade EM (Easy/Medium). This is not only in your interest but is also fair to the other participants of the walk who will be inconvenienced and disappointed if a walk cannot be completed.
- The leader of the activity should be contacted several days beforehand, do not leave it to the last minute. The leader will advise you of the meeting time and place and of any special requirements for that trip. The leader may ask you about your walks experience and if he/she feels it would be inappropriate for you to take part in the walk then that decision is final.
- Standard equipment for any bushwalk would include: - sensible, comfortable footwear, hat, jumper, water bottle, food, first aid supplies, backpack, wet weather gear, sunscreen etc.
Always carry 1 litre of water, 2 litres on hot days or maybe more.
- If you have any health problems that may affect your ability to do the walk you must tell the leader before the walk starts. If you are under 18 an adult member must accompany you.
- On the day of the walk please arrive at the meeting place on time. If you are more than a few minutes late and the leader does not know where you are, do not expect to be waited for.
- When transport is arranged by private car it is normal for passengers to share the costs with the driver. Please make sure that you do contribute.
- While on the walk please remain with the party and ensure that the leader knows of your whereabouts at all times. Do not hesitate to ask for assistance if you need it and offer assistance if it appears to be needed. Bushwalkers help each other.
- Please remember to follow the Minimal Impact Code of Bushwalking and take out what you take in.
- On abseiling trips there is a rope fee of \$5 per trip

Walks Leaders

Reminding members on the Google Group the week before your walk has greatly increased the numbers on walks. Access the Group yourself but if you do not have access to the Google Group, contact Kate on 9939 2624 with the reminder that you would like to go to members.

The Club now has Personnel Locator Beacons (PLB's) and First Aid Kits. They are located with Geoff (Blackheath) 4787 7539, Karin (Faulconbridge) 4751 9578 and Kate (Katoomba) 4782 3122. Please ensure that someone on your walk has a PLB and a First Aid Kit.

Please provide Ann Mikkelsen (4757 3111) with a list of those who attended the walk and report any injuries or incidents.

Walks Leaders should also leave their route with a responsible person who should contact Roger on 4787 7432 if the party has not returned by the following morning. He will contact the BWRS.

Web site www.ubmbc.org.au

President	Roger Clarke	4787 7432
Vice President	Karin Kirkpatrick	4751 9578
Treasurer	Helen Simpson	4782 6916
Secretary	Kate Girdwood	4782 3122

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Single Membership \$25 per calendar year

Couple \$40 plus \$10 per extra family member.

Concession \$5 off above rates.

Membership is normally for a calendar year. If you wish to join please complete a Membership Form (available from the web site or the Treasurer) and send it together with a cheque to the address listed below. If Family Membership is required please list the names of all the people to be covered by your membership.

Upper Blue Mountains Bushwalking Club (UBMBC Inc.)

C/o Helen Simpson

5 Victoria Street, Katoomba NSW 2780