

Kevin's Wilderness Journeys

KEVIN'S WALK ON THE WILDSIDE



ISSUE 7: APRIL 2004

Welcome to this the seventh issue of 'Kevin's Walk on the Wildside.' Now that I have a new web address with a lot more room to play with I've decided to make a PDF version of the newsletter. This will make the monthly ezine/magazine easier to print and distribute (should anyone wish to do so).

Not only is there a new printer friendly version of the ezine available, but also there is more information and photos available in it. In fact, it's going to be a brand new start with some past articles repeated for this new printer friendly format. Hopefully this will be a better looking and more useful approach to the ezine. By the way, I'd welcome your feedback on this if you're interested in doing so. Just send an email to me at KevinHere@emaildownunder.com.

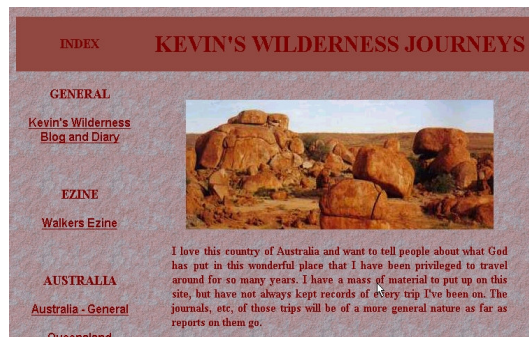
CONTENTS:

1. Kevin's Wilderness Journeys: Web Site
2. Kevin's Wilderness Blog
3. Australia Trip 1
4. The Oxfam Challenge Borneo
5. Kevin's Wilderness Walkers Mail Group
6. The Colong Foundation for Wilderness
7. CSIRO Publishing
8. Subscribe/Unsubscribe Information

1. KEVIN'S WILDERNESS JOURNEYS: Web Site

Visit my web site for trip descriptions, track notes, photos, screensavers and lots, lots more. You can even post your own photos and trip descriptions by sending them to me for consideration. A screen grab of the front page is at the right showing the Devil's Marbles.

Visit the web site at:
<http://wilderness.esmartweb.com/index.html>



2. KEVIN'S WILDERNESS BLOG:

I have a blog now on the site - a place for leaving any thoughts or comments concerning preparations for future trips, wilderness news, etc. Just go to the site's front page and click on the link to the blog. It really is as simple as that.

Whenever I begin to plan my next trip news of it will appear first in the blog. I don't have any major trips planned at the moment, but I am thinking of a weekend trip in the next month or so - not sure when yet

however. It will be when my work commitments allow.

3. AUSTRALIA TRIP 1:

One of the first pages I put up on my wilderness journeys site had to do with my first major trip in Australia back in 1998. I called the trip Australia Trip 1, for I intended to have many other such trips in the years to come. Since that first trip I have been able to travel to many places within Australia, including another 2 of what I called Australia trips.

On this Australia Trip 1 web page I have a journal from the trip I took and links to various photo albums from the trip. Below is the first day' s journal entry. For the full journal of the trip, including all the links to the photos from the trip, go to <http://wilderness.esmartweb.com/Australia/oztrip1.html>.

Day One (Friday): May 1 - Newcastle to Warrumbungle National Park (434km)

My original intention was to travel to Gloucester the night before, then travel across the Barrington Tops to Gundy and Scone, join the New England Highway to Wingen, Murrurundi and Willow Tree. From Willow Tree left to Blackville, Yarraman and Bundella, then right to Premer, left to Coonabarabran and onto the Warrumbungle National Park.

A change in my itinerary meant I went straight to the Warrumbungle National Park. The drive took about five hours of travelling, experiencing some horror roads from before Blackville to Purlewaugh. There were huge holes in the gravel section and great mounds between the tyre tracks. I collected a TopKnot Pigeon and saw many Hawks, Wallabies, a Fox and all manner of birds.

The country was great though, and obviously very drought affected.



ABOVE: Grand High Tops



ABOVE: Belougery Spire



ABOVE: Behind the Breadknife



ABOVE: From the Grand High Tops

ABOVE: Photos from Australia Trip 1 - Day 2

I had to put my tent up in the dark, but it's very comfortable here in the Blackman Campsite (has modern ablutions block). I'm looking forward to a good sleep. Entry fee to the park was \$7.50, with camp fees for two days being \$20.00.

4. THE OXFAM CHALLENGE BORNEO

The Oxfam Challenge Borneo will take place between June 1-14 and August 12-15, 2004. The challenge involves walking jungle trails, mountain climbing, caves, beaches and boat travel. To be part of the challenge may be a challenge in itself. Registration is \$500.00 and then an additional \$5000 is required for the challenge itself and for supporting Oxfam Community Aid Abroad. It's well worth the work though as these trips may very well be once in a life time journeys for many. Visit the site at:

<http://www.caa.org.au/challenge/borneo.html>

Surf all over the Oxfam challenge site and find out about further challenges and opportunities including Oxfam Challenge Yunnan in China and Oxfam Challenge Vietnam/Cambodia. There's also an email newsletter.

5. KEVIN' S WILDERNESS WALKERS MAIL GROUP:

Associated with Kevin' s Wilderness Journeys web site is the ' Kevin' s Wilderness Walkers Mail Group.' The mail group currently only has a few members and very little in the way of activity. One of the members (other than myself) has posted some photos in the photo album of her visits to the Colo and Wollemi wilderness area west of Sydney. Hopefully as more people join the group there will be an increase in activity.

Why join the mail group? A good question. The group gives an opportunity for those who love wilderness and the bush, especially in Australia, to share their experiences and perhaps pass on information about destinations, track conditions, etc, to other group members. By doing so there is an opportunity to assist others who are planning trips to the same area, etc. When you think about it, the opportunities for the sharing of information are limitless.

Visit the group at: **http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Kevins_wildwalkers/**

6. THE COLONG FOUNDATION FOR WILDERNESS:

The Colong Foundation for Wilderness is all about saving Australia's wilderness areas from further destruction. This very useful web site can be found at:

<http://www.colongwilderness.org.au/>

A number of current conservation and wilderness issues are highlighted by the site including the further preservation of Wollemi wilderness areas. Currently areas around Newnes and the Wollangambe River are threatened by a sand mining operation.

You can also assist the foundation by becoming a member and subscribing to the bi-monthly newsletter. I haven't joined yet, but in the near future I will be.

7. CSIRO PUBLISHING

Whenever your planning a trip it's not a bad idea to do a little planning. If your my mother you take rheems of notes about every conceivable destination you might want to go to (or not for that matter). For me, I do a heap of background reading and attempt to realistically plan each day to take in the best places to visit (though I do plan to do too much on most occasions). No matter how much planning you do you need good literature for your research. One place to look in Australia is the CSIRO Publishing web site.

The CSIRO Publishing web site gives you a choice of a wide range of books covering all manner of Australiana including books on wildlife, native plants, rivers, etc. If nothing else take a look and be amazed at the brilliant books you didn't know existed. If I had a heap of money I think I'd spend a small fortune here. Visit the site at:

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/>



ABOVE: Gap Creek Falls - Watagans National Park

8. SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

If you would like to subscribe to 'Kevin's Walk on the Wild Side,' simply send an email to Kevin at KevinHere@emaildownunder.com and let me know. If you want to unsubscribe, simply send me an email and let me know. Members of the mail group automatically get a copy of the ezine as part of the group.