

Kevin's Wilderness Journeys

KEVIN'S WALK ON THE WILDSIDE



ISSUE 12: JUNE 2005

Welcome to the 12th issue of 'Kevin's Walk on the Wildside,' an ezine with a focus on wilderness in Australia, but also areas throughout the world.

Well I have now failed to post two issues of the ezine until now. In effect you will probably be getting 3 issues all at once thanks to my forgetfulness to upload each issue on time. Sorry about that folks!

It's hard to know what to rattle on with for this issue, especially given by increasing frustration at having not been able to get away for some time. I'm really biting at the bit so to speak, desperately wanting to get away for a little while, but yet unsure when that might be able to happen. At this stage it's looking more and more like months, rather than weeks. Well, I guess I should be able to plan something worthwhile in that time.

Anyone actually been able to get away in Australia somewhere recently? Perhaps you'd like to share a little something of your experience with others? If so just send me an email with a description of your trip.

If you have any feedback on the site please let me know about it. All you have to do is send an email to me at the address below:

nrbcpastorkev@yahoo.com.au

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1. 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.

This will be where I begin to leave thoughts about upcoming trips, unless they happen suddenly like the last few that I have taken. What I will add to the Blog in days to come will be the actual journey journal entries that I wrote on my last trip - not they are particularly exciting or revealing. This only covers July 2-8, 2004 - or the period of my last trip. The two trips prior to that I had forgotten to write in my journal (only a new thing for me you see). Hopefully it will become more interesting with future trips.

Any of my readers have an online Blog or Journal that records their trips and experiences? If you have, send me an email and let me know. I'll add a link to it on the site, as well as have a look at it myself.

2. KEVIN'S WILDERNESS JOURNEYS:

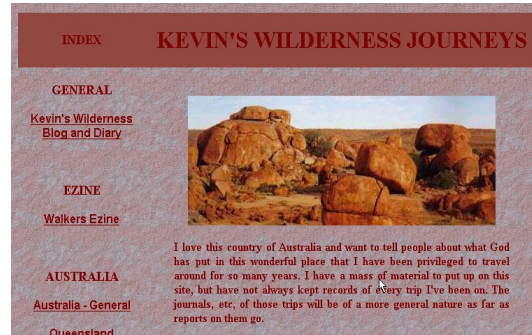
Web Site

I've been too busy to add any new content to the site in the last couple of months. I still have plans to add a lot more to the site and to make the photos more accessible. That will take a bit of time to complete unfortunately, but it is on the horizon.

The last two issues of the ezine are now on the site also, so that's a step in the right direction.

Visit the web site at:

<http://wilderness.esmartweb.com/index.html>



3. NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

The National Parks Association of NSW seeks to work with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) in protecting our natural environment and heritage in New South Wales. If you would like to join the NPA and/or find out more simply visit the web site below. The NPA also has an online store, which can be reached via the URL below.

For more information visit:

<http://www.npansw.org.au/web/index.htm>

4. Wilderness News

Australia: New South Wales - Nuclear Power Stations

NSW Premier Bob Carr has begun talking up the possibility of nuclear power plants to replace coal fired powered plants as a clean source of electricity. Though there are no plans for further nuclear power plants in NSW (apart from Lucas Heights), Premier Carr has sparked a major debate, including opposition from Greenpeace.

As we begin to ponder the increasing threat of the Greenhouse Effect and Climate Change, you have to wonder where the likes of Greenpeace expect modern society to realistically draw power from. Certainly we could build huge wind farms and destroy huge areas of the planet by clearing land to house the farms to meet our need, but this seems to me to be counter-productive. Solar energy at this stage seems only a remote possibility to meet the needs of modern life.

Is there really a problem with bringing up the subject of nuclear power as a point for discussion? Bob Carr has simply sought to bring the issue to the table for discussion and there seems to me to be no harm in that. As Premier Carr has suggested, perhaps there is more harm being done to the planet now by Coal-based Power Stations than will ever be done by cleaner Nuclear Power Stations?

Australia: Australian Alps World Heritage Listing?

The possibility of the Australian Alps being listed as a World Heritage site is gaining momentum, especially with the removal of grazing rights in the area by the Victorian State Government. If nothing else it will go a long way toward the long-term preservation of the Australian Alps.

For more information visit:

www.onebigpark.com

5. NSW STATE FORESTS

We often hear much of travelling to National Parks for camping holidays or bushwalks, but have you considered visiting a NSW State Forest? There are many opportunities for bushwalking and camping in State Forests, as well as many other possible things to do in a NSW State Forest.

For more information on possible things to do visit:

<http://www.forest.nsw.gov.au/recreation/default.asp>

If you need a starting point visit the NSW State Forests web site at:

<http://www.forest.nsw.gov.au/>

6. OXFAM CHALLENGE

Each issue I have been highlighting upcoming Oxfam Challenges - currently Oxfam is organising another four challenges. Three involve cycling (China, Sri Lanka and Vietnam-Cambodia), while the fourth is a trek (Nepal).

For the latest information visit:

<http://www.oxfam.org.au/challenge/>

7. KEVIN' S WILDERNESS WALKERS MAIL GROUP:

Associated with Kevin' s Wilderness Journeys web site is the ' Kevin' s Wilderness Walk 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/**

8. AUSTRALIAN BUSH HERITAGE FUND:

The Australian Bush Heritage Fund is one of those organisations I intend to join but haven't yet done so -

perhaps writing this will be the prompt I need to do so. The 'Fund' seeks to save Australian bush for future generations. In effect it buys back important regions and saves them from development, clearing, etc. Already the 'Fund' has saved 1/4 of a million hectares.

Why not visit the site and have a look at the latest newsletter? There are another three reserves that have recently been acquired by the 'Fund' and there articles on each. There is also the promise of other properties soon to be acquired.

Perhaps you would like to join and/or donate to the Australian Bush Heritage Fund?

For more information visit:

<http://www1.bushheritage.asn.au/>

9. WORLD HERITAGE AREAS - ARGENTINA

Los Glaciares National Park

Argentina is a country of amazing natural diversity, with areas of frozen wonderland to tropical rainforest to blazing desert. Argentina is home to a number of important World Heritage Areas including the Los Glaciares National Park.

Located on the Chilean border in the Andes Mountains, Los Glaciares National Park rivals Antarctica with its icy white wonderland and glacial landforms. The area of Los Glaciares National Park is home to the huge Lake Argentino - at about 160km long. It is a land of rugged beauty and magnificent glaciers, with many of these glaciers flowing into glacial lakes that provide incredible vistas.

Of all the places that one could visit in the world, Argentina is the one place that truly captures my imagination. Of course there is also Antarctica, but I count this as largely Australian. Perhaps it is the many resemblances to Antarctica that seem to draw me to Los Glaciares National Park and the amazing region of Patagonia. One day I would truly love to see this wonderful wilderness area for myself.

For more information visit:

http://www.wcmc.org.uk/protected_areas/data/wh/glaciare.html

<http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0401/feature3/>

http://www.adventurephotographs.com/patagonia/los_glaciares/fitzroy/index.asp

<http://community.webshots.com/album/284197243ahvmoP>

<http://www.losglaciares.com/en/parque/>

<http://www.pbs.org/edens/patagonia/>

10. OTHER INTERESTING WEB SITES

Patagonia Expedition Race

Keeping with the Patagonian theme in this edition of the ezine, why not visit the Patagonia Expedition Race site - perhaps you would even like to enter?

For more information visit:

<http://www.patagoniaexpeditionrace.com/in/index.htm>

Survivor

OK, so most people hate reality shows - but Survivor is a show I'm into. Why? Well it's sort of wilderness in a way! Well, they visit some of the world's wild places - however, I'm not too sure as to how well they look after them.

Have a look at the menu for choosing a show at the top of the page to find the Survivor series you want to have a look at.

Go on, have a look at:

<http://www.cbs.com/primetime/survivor/>

The Amazing Race

While on reality shows, I also like The Amazing Race. Contestants get to see a huge amount of the world if they stay in the game and do a heap of things in some truly amazing places - again, not really wilderness but I still like to watch the show and see the world as it passes by so quickly.

Have a look at the menu for choosing a show at the top of the page to find the Amazing Race series you want to have a look at.

Visit the site at:

http://www.cbs.com/primetime/amazing_race/

The Australian Museum Online

Visit the site at:

<http://www.amonline.net.au/>

11. SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

If you would like to subscribe to 'Kevin's Walk on the Wild Side,' simply send an email to Kevin at **nrbcpastorkev@yahoo.com.au** 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.