

# CONNECTIONS

September 2009

GREATER  
BLUE

CO-MANAGEMENT projects



NSW National Parks  
and Wildlife Service



Department of  
Environment, Climate Change and Water NSW



*it's living Country!*

## Culture Camp JENOLAN 2009

Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd November 2009

Following the success of the Living Country Culture Camp held last year at Ganguddy (Dunns Swamp), the six Aboriginal Language groups of the GBMWA are hosting this year's camp at the **Jenolan Caves Cottages Site** (formerly known as the Binda Cabins).

This relaxed family event will run from Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009. This is to be a celebration of Aboriginal Co-management within the GBMWA and an opportunity to bring people together to connect with Country and to share stories and culture.

For more details, contact Den Barber, Aboriginal Co-Management Officer on 02 4784 7309 or e-mail [dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Or go to: [www.livingcountry.com.au](http://www.livingcountry.com.au)

## Living Country culture celebration



jenolan caves  
explore marvel stay

Jenolan Caves are hosting the **Living Country Cultural Celebration** from **Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> November to Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> November** inclusive. This will involve Aboriginal Cultural Practitioners, Aboriginal community members and organisations showcasing various aspects of Aboriginal culture for visitors and guests to Jenolan Caves throughout the entire week.

An anticipated large component of these visitors will be Primary and Secondary School students from around NSW. A number of Public and Private schools have indicated an interest in attending as a means of addressing Aboriginal cultural studies as part of their respective curriculum.

Aboriginal people, artists, educators and organisations are invited to submit an expression of interest for participating in this event.

Enquiries should be directed to Jenolan Caves by contacting **Domino Houlbrook-Cove** on 02 6359 3983 or via email to [domino.cove@jenolancaves.org.au](mailto:domino.cove@jenolancaves.org.au)

## SPECIALVISITORSTO THE BLUE MOUNTAINS



Members of the Dhimurru Land Management group with Blue Mountains  
Regional Staff

NPWS Blue Mountains Region played host to some special visitors in June. Community leaders, Rangers and teachers from NE Arnhem Land in the NT and the Batchelor Institute, were here as part of a whirlwind visit of NSW National Parks. The group is undertaking a sea and land 'ranger' training course. For many of them it was their first time here and in these types of mountain and coastal environments. English was a second or third language for some of them but they all coped fine! They are involved in protecting and managing one of the first Indigenous Protected Areas, and were very enthusiastic about learning every aspect of NPWS park management, right down to placement of bollards. Thanks to Glenn Meade for his involvement.

### An invitation to all Darug

to attend the next

Darug Peoples Advisory Committee  
(DPAC)

Meeting

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Parramatta Park Event Centre  
Parramatta Park

Cnr Macquarie & Pitt Streets,  
Parramatta

For more information and to register  
your interest in attending, please contact:

**Den Barber**

02) 4784-7309 or 0439 493 116

[dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
by Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2009

## CO-MANAGEMENT SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM



As advertised in the April 2009 edition of **Connections**, the NSW Government has allocated funding over four years for developing co-management programs between the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) and the Darug and Gundungurra Aboriginal Communities to act cooperatively as partners in the management of parks.

The Small Grants Program successfully delivered funds of over \$188,000 to a range of projects including:

- ✚ Cultural heritage recording ;
- ✚ Language programs;
- ✚ Culture Camps; and
- ✚ Community gardens.

For more information about the Small Grants Program for 2009-10, please contact Margaret Wishart, Strategic Programs Coordinator by telephone on 02 9895 7578.

## NEWS FROM THE ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP

The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG) met in the Megalong Valley at Green Gully on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

This meeting preceded that of the GBMWA Advisory Committee which was focussed on Cultural Heritage matters as the major theme.

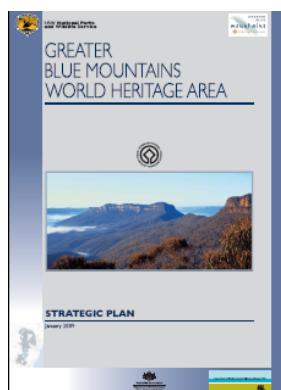
The ARG would like to thank Wayne Cooper from Oberon Council who gave an informative presentation on The Tablelands Way.

Other matters discussed included:

- The November 2009 Living Country Culture Camp;
- Aboriginal World Heritage Indigenous Network representation;
- The Mt Tomah exhibition centre;
- Tourism funding proposal; and
- Park fee exemption for Traditional Custodians access to Country.

The next GBMWH ARG meeting will be held on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

## OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE GBMWA STRATEGIC PLAN



The Commonwealth Minister for the Environment Peter Garrett and NSW Environment Minister Carmel Tebbutt visited the Blue Mountains on Friday 5 June to launch the Strategic Plan for the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Thanks to Aunty Val Aurisch and David King for their Welcome to Country.



David King and Aunty Val Aurich with Ministers Garrett and Tebbutt and Blue Mountains City Mayor, Adam Searle at the launch. Pic by Michael Small

Copies of the GBMWA Strategic Plan are available from the office, details below or from <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/parks/StrategicPlanNPWS.pdf>

**If you would like more information about these articles, funding opportunities or other projects that the World Heritage Unit is working on, we welcome your inquiry or feedback.**

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Lois Carson, Admin Assistant (part time only) Ph: 4784 7327 or [lois.carson@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lois.carson@environment.nsw.gov.au)

Visit our office at National Parks and Wildlife, 39 Whitton Street (cnr Camp St), Katoomba

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or email to [gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au)

*We respectfully acknowledge the Darkinjung, Darug, Dharawal, Gundungurra, Wanaruah and Wiradjuri, language groups as the traditional custodians of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.*