

# CONNECTIONS

September 2010



NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service



Environment, Climate Change & Water

## WORLD HERITAGE UNIT UPDATE

### Greetings and welcome Spring!

We welcome Toni Clark to our team, working part-time with Lois Carson on administrative projects til end 2010. Also thanks to Bronwen Maxwell for her enthusiastic assistance with activities celebrating 10 years of world heritage listing for the Greater Blue Mountains.

The Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG) for the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWA) met at Yarramundi in August and discussed the proposal by the NSW Government to add a preamble to the Constitution of 1906 in acknowledging Aboriginal people, the next Australian World Heritage Indigenous Network meeting and the Living Country Culture Camp 2010.

The next ARG meeting is to be held Friday 3 and Saturday 4 December at Dunns Swamp (camp over) to celebrate 2010 and plan for 2011. Please contact Den Barber if you would like more information.

ARG recommendations were made to the GBMWA Advisory Committee meeting, also held at Yarramundi. The Advisory Committee reviewed a discussion paper for a NSW World Heritage SEPP (State Environmental Planning Policy) from the Dept of Planning, heard about the NSW National Parks State of the Parks survey and its use in preparing the Periodic Report to UNESCO and received feedback from the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held in late July.



Thanks to the Yellomundee Aboriginal Bushcare Group and the Hawkesbury staff for their hospitality during the site visit to Shaws Creek.

The Steering Group for the 2010 **Living Country Culture Camp** has been working hard in planning for this event. Expressions of interest are sought from Aboriginal people who would like to provide a cultural workshop or performance at the camp.



The official opening of the camp will take place from 12 noon on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of November with a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country. An open microphone will be made available to anyone wishing to share stories or experiences, particularly from 'The Gully' or Country of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

For further details or to register your interest in attending, please contact

Den Barber on 4784 7309 or e-mail to [dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au)



it's living Country!



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## UPDATE revision of Plans of Management for Blue Mountains, Wollemi and Kanangra-Boyd National Parks

Hello from the Planning team at NPWS Katoomba! Many of you are probably aware that we are working on the revision of the plans of management for Blue Mountains, Kanangra-Boyd and Wollemi National Parks.

These are legal documents that underpin day-to-day management of national parks and reserves in NSW. They guide park rangers and managers on how to deal with a range of issues including Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. New plans are needed because a great deal has changed since 2001, when the last plans came out.

**We would like to come and talk with you so you can have a say about how these reserves are managed into the future.** It is an opportunity to build stronger co-management partnerships with the Aboriginal community through the policies and management actions that are written into the plans.

We are just starting to write the first parts of the plans, so it is a really important time for input from Aboriginal people and groups that have a connection to this country.

Over the coming months we will be contacting as many of you as possible to see whether we can attend existing meetings with your organisations, or set up special meetings, to discuss the plans of management and how they can reflect your thoughts, feelings and values about this Country.

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Call for nominations & applications

The Australian and NSW Governments are seeking applicants for the community & scientific Advisory Committee for the **Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWAH)**.

The Committee's role is to advise on matters relating to the protection, conservation, presentation and management of the GBMWAH, including strategic policies in relation to Australia's obligations under the World Heritage Convention. The Advisory Committee plays a crucial role in the provision of scientific advice and achieving conservation outcomes by facilitating the development of cooperative, constructive and innovative relationships between the National Parks and Wildlife Service, (part of the NSW Dept of Environment, Climate Change and Water, DECCW); the Jenolan Caves Reserve Trust; the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts; and the community.

Members of the Committee shall be appointed in their own right and not as representatives of any particular organisation, institution, discipline, interest sector or Aboriginal language group. Appointments are honorary and are for a period of three years. Current members of the Advisory Committee are eligible to submit applications. The Committee meets quarterly in different locations around the GBMWAH. Appointees are entitled to reimbursement of travel expenses. Sitting fees are available for Indigenous members.

Nominations and applications are invited for the Advisory Committee positions and must address the selection criteria. Current members of the Advisory Committee are eligible to re-apply for appointment.

Application forms and information kits are available from: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/protectedareas/GreaterBlueMountainsWorldHeritageArea.htm>

and from NPWS offices at Mudgee, Oberon, Blackheath, Katoomba, Picton, Richmond, Gosford, and Bulga.

**Enquiries:** contact Jacqueline Reid on (02) 4784 7326

**All nominations and applications must be received by 5pm on Friday 15 October 2010, and should be posted to:**

World Heritage Executive Officer  
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service  
PO BOX 552, KATOOMBA NSW 2780  
or via email to: [jacqueline.reid@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jacqueline.reid@environment.nsw.gov.au)



### Yellomundee Aboriginal Bushcare Group

**Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people working on Country by removing weeds to help restore native vegetation**

Yellomundee Regional Park, Springwood Road Yarramundi, (turn left after Shaw's Creek bridge)

**Sundays 10.00am to 1.00pm, LUNCH PROVIDED.**

**2010 work days:** 10 October, 14 November (Fishing Comp), 12 December 2010 (Xmas party)

Please bring a coffee mug, a bottle of water and a fold up chair. Don't forget to wear comfortable closed in shoes, long sleeve shirts, pants and a hat.

### More info?

Vickii Lett or Keirilee James NPWS 4588 2400 or  
Merana Aboriginal Community Association on 45885144

# Blue Mountains Fire Stick Project

As advised in our June 2010 edition of Connections, representatives of the Darug and Gundungurra people attended the Bizant Fire Management Workshop conducted by Traditional Knowledge Revival Pathways (TKRP).

Upon returning from Bizant, the participants in this workshop were keen to see the application of this knowledge and traditional fire management practice on Country within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. A steering group comprised of Aboriginal community workshop participants including representatives of NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service and NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) was formed and met to discuss a way forward.

The name Blue Mountains Fire Stick Project (BMFSP) was adopted by the group and discussions were held about the purpose of the project and future aspirations identified with regard to Traditional Fire management practices on Country. An invitation was made to a TKRP representative to visit the Blue Mountains for an assessment of areas within Blue Mountains National Park. A walk and talk on Country, involving BMFSP members and other representatives of DECCW and NSW RFS, was conducted on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2010 with Victor Steffensen of TKRP.

Some interesting exchange of observations, comments, discussion and views were raised throughout the day in a respectful and collaborative way. It is in this spirit that the BMFSP group hope will prevail in moving forward in partnership with Aboriginal communities, National Parks and Wildlife Service, NSW RFS, TKRP and other individuals, groups and shareholders.

If you are interested in this project or the work of TKRP, please contact:

**Oliver Costello**

Cadet Project Officer

Aboriginal Co-Management Unit

Protected Areas Policy and Programs Branch

Parks and Wildlife Group

**Ph: 0422 223 478**

**Email: [oliver.costello@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:oliver.costello@environment.nsw.gov.au)**




Above: Victor Steffensen from TKRP (on left) provides his insights into Traditional Fire Management when visiting Blue Mountains National Park

*Make a wish for world heritage in the Greater Blue Mountains*




10 years ago, on the 29th of November, the Greater Blue Mountains Area was given the gift of World Heritage status from the UNESCO community, listing our place as one of outstanding value to the world.

Name..... Age.....

'Make a Wish for World Heritage' is one of a number of activities happening to celebrate this auspicious event. You are invited to make a wish of what you would like for the future of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWHA). All these wishes will be recorded and on the listing day - the 29th November - will be placed into the ceremonial campfire and symbolically released.



Press "reply" and write your wishes send it back to us and we will include it in our wishes!



NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service



3<sup>rd</sup> National Indigenous Land and Sea  
Management Conference  
Leading Sustainable Traditions  
2 to 5 November 2010, Broken Hill  
Go to:

<http://www.caringforcountry.com/public/?p=1>

**Where in the World Heritage Area is this?**



**Photo taken from a lookout along the  
Katoomba Falls Track, looking over the  
Three Sisters and Mun-mi-ee (Mt Solitary)**

## **CONNECTIONS CAMPFIRE**

### **Co-Management Profile**

**Hawkesbury Area Manager, Blue Mountains Region  
of NSW NPWS, Department of Environment,  
Climate Change and Water**



**Who are you?** Paul Godfrey

**Where are you from?** Grew up in Sydney and now live in the Lower Mountains. Also worked in Kakadu in the Top End and in western NSW.

**Got family?** One wife, 2 sons, 4 step children and 7 step grand children.

**What do you do?** I am the Area Manager at Richmond responsible for managing the Hawkesbury team caring for the eastern section of Blue Mountains Region.

**What's important to you?** Sustainability and a fair go.

**What's your favourite part about working in the GBMWhA?** The lovely bush in our parks that still isn't impacted by weeds.

**Favourite location?** The Colo Gorge in Wollemi National Park.

**Favourite past time?** Time with family.

**Favourite food?** Just about anything.

**Favourite sport?** Tennis and I still play (but not very well).

**Favourite movie?** Top Gear (but that's not a movie)

**Favourite music?** Any rock and roll.

**Favourite book?** Catch 22

**Anything else you'd like to share?** Happy to talk with anyone about the area I manage so give me a call at our Richmond Office on 4588 5247.

**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.**

Jacqueline Reid, Executive Officer Ph: 4784 7326 Mob: 0414 456 765 or [jacqueline.reid@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jacqueline.reid@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
Den Barber, Aboriginal Co-Management Ph: 4784 7309 Mob: 0439 493 116 or [dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:dennis.barber@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
Lois Carson, Admin Assistant (Tues & Wed) Ph: 4784 7327 or [lois.carson@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lois.carson@environment.nsw.gov.au)  
Toni Clark, Admin Assistant (Mon, Tues) Ph: 4784 7327 or [toni.clark@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:toni.clark@environment.nsw.gov.au)

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

**World Heritage NSW DEC**

**Reply Paid 552**

**KATOOMBA NSW 2780**

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.*