

REMINDERS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW DUE

***PLEASE COMPETE
ATTACHED FORM &
FORWARD TO:***

ACCESS FOR ALL

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BRAIDWOOD NSW 2622



Future dates for AFA meetings:

29th August – Braidwood Servicemen's Club
11.00am

31st Oct – ?Xmas meeting. Venue & Time
to be confirmed

30th January 2010 – Venue & time to be
confirmed

29th May 2010 – AGM Venue & time to be
confirmed

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Access for All Fax/Answering 02 48428002

Chairman: Garry Gowen 0416268964

Secretary: Joan Webb 48428047

Treasurer: Terry Hart 48422710

Asst. Treas. & M/ship recorder:

Jeanette Hindmarsh 48471115

Other 2009-2010 elected committee
include -

Vice Chairmans:

Brian Clarke, Peter Kneen & Liz Innes

Publicity Officer: Peter Smith

Website Officer: Peter Kneen

AFA Address:

ACCESS FOR ALL INC.

LOCKED BAG 10

BRAIDWOOD NSW 2622

Website :

<http://www.accessforall.asn>

Last updated April 23rd 2009

ACCESS FOR ALL NEWSLETTER



WINTER EDITION

Volume 9.15

ACCESS FOR ALL INC

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FROM THE COMMITTEE

On 30th May 2009 AFA held its AGM. Thank you to Brian & Marlyn Clarke again for the use of their home/shed. The committee was grateful for the reasonable number of coastal members who came. Thank you to those who made the effort. Thank you also to our guest speaker for the day, Andy Short. Andy is a geoscientist & somehow managed to fit in the evolution of Australia's landscape, concentrating on NSW & the east coast, over the last 3.5 billion years into a very interesting half an hour! Those in attendance asked Andy many questions and we all hope Andy will be available for AFA in the future.

AGM - The outcome of the committee elections were not surprising with many of the office bearers re-elected unopposed. Peter Smith was the returning officer during election of office bearers. Some changes of note were:

- The acting-chair put forward a motion that Publicity Officer & Website Officer be separated. This was carried. Thank you to all of the remaining committee for accepting their nominations. See the end of this newsletter for elected positions for 2009-2010.
- Membership Renewal for the coming year. Membership fees remain the same for 2009-2010. **Family \$20.00, Single \$10, Pensioner \$5 and Corporations \$100.** MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW DUE.....Members who have paid their membership after December 2008 will be registered for the 2009-2010 financial year as members. A Membership Renewal form is included with this newsletter please complete with up to date details & forward with your payment. Thank you for renewing your membership, costs associated with AFA is covered because of your renewal.

What Else should you Know?

Hot off the Press!!!!!! In 2006 AFA embarked on a large project to document historic bridle tracks which provided public access for our pioneering families over the Great Dividing Range & throughout the South East Escarpment. After a successful application for a grant from the Heritage Commission it was decided that to achieve the best result in documenting these historic tracks, to the best of our ability, was to concentrate on one at a time, eventually linking them all together. This would further enhance their heritage value as historic landmarks that should be kept for generations to come.

Now with exciting anticipation we are preparing for the launch of our first official documented track! Congratulations to Terry Hart & Peter Smith (AFA members). The Dueda River track will be launched in July through radio, various outlets & venues. It will also be for sale from AFA at the cost of \$20.00.

It is hoped that proceeds from this booklet will assist in a series of books that will recognize & assist in preserving the social history, bridle tracks and farming background of our pioneers who provided transportation access links over the South East Coast Escarpment for Monaro, Braidwood and the Southern Tablelands.

Looking for an excuse to stay indoors during these cold icy windy days and needing to expand your selection of favorites on the internet? Log onto www.environment.nsw.gov.au/parkmanagement. This NSW government Dept of Environment & Climate Change website, under the nature conservation link, you can access all the NPWS plans whether they are a proposal, in draft or finalized. It also provides data like:

From July 2008 to 21st May 2009 there has been an extra 7,508 hectares added as new parks and reserves

to NSW NPWS. Add to this the recent additions to existing parks of 33,927 hectares and it adds up to 6.8 million hectares or 8.3% in National Parks **plus** 345,100 hectares of marine parks or 34% of NSW marine waters that the NPWS is suppose to be managing.

It is no wonder the NSW government has indicated that the NSW National Parks Establishment Plan 2008 will contribute to the State Plan to increase revenue by increasing business investment in rural & regional NSW through increasing visitors to parks and reserves under the banner of tourism. Costs have to be recouped somehow.

The recent O'Neil report (April 2008), commissioned by the NSW State government as a review of tourism in NSW, provides some interesting reading which will no doubt cause some interesting times over the coming months/years. One of the recommendations is the "proactive opening of State assets to provide a tourism product (make national parks, forest, lands available to people who are willing to pay to sustain & enhance the assets, instead of focusing on protecting the assets from the people). The report goes on to mention "the access to these assets should be such as to encourage visits by a wide cross-section of the community, irrespective of age and general physical condition, subject to the need for access to be funded on a user-pays basis".

Here come the fireworks! "However the following inhibitors need to be overcome: A removal of restrictions on guided tours in Wilderness areas under the philosophy that where individuals are allowed to visit, commercial operators should be allowed to provide guided tours. This will require a fundamental shift in philosophy (and perhaps in legislation) to recognize that national parks ought to exist for the enjoyment of NSW residents, of all ages and visitors to NSW – rather than a philosophy that they are primarily to be protected from the community that pays for them"!!! Can't wait to hear what the Colong Foundation has to say about that!!!