

ACCESS FOR ALL Inc NEWSLETTER



ACCESS FOR ALL
HERITAGE, PARKS & ENVIRONMENT

WINTER 2006 EDITION NO. 6 : 7

Winter is upon us and rain this week has been a welcome sight for many of our members. The milder weather occasionally has kept the campers amongst us still keen to find an excuse to camp **out** in the bush.

Access For All will be having its Annual General meeting again at Nelligan in July. See the end of this newsletter for more details.

• MEMBERSHIPS

It is that time of year again for memberships to be renewed. A renewal notice is also at the end of this newsletter. Thank you to all who have been members over the years. Your support has been invaluable & our increasing numbers, the versatility of our members & our non-political stance make Access For All a strong & often successful negotiator with NPWS & other government agencies.

REMINDER - If you know of someone wanting to become a member they must be nominated by a member of Access For All before it can be passed by the committee.

• WEBSITE.

Access For All now has its own Website. The new address is at the end of the newsletter. This is particularly exciting for Jenette Hindmarsh & Joan Webb who has struggled with its development. Many thanks to Peter for his offer of assistance & immediate response to our dilemma! We will endeavour to keep you all informed with new information as soon as it comes to hand now the **website** has been revamped.

• FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Historical photo collection - photos of people, places and things from "the olden days" have been mounted and laminated with a professional touch by Helen Waddell and are available for purchase at the cost of :

1 only \$6, 2 for \$10, 3 for \$15, for postage & handling add \$2.

Orders can be placed by phoning Margot on 48464056.

A reminder of places to start with for your own historical research:

NSW Archives State Records, 143 O'Connell St. Kingswood (0296731788); National Archives of Australia, Queen Victoria Terrace. ACT; Lands Dept for maps; NSW Births Deaths & Marriages (births up to 1905, deaths & marriages to 1945).

Calendars- these continue to generate constant sales even though the year is half way through.

The photos are worth the cost even if you are a little slow in **catching** up with the year! Contact 48464056 if you are interested in purchasing one or more.

• HERITAGE

This area remains one of Access For All's main focuses. A tender will be placed with the ~~NSW~~ government for AFA to be a **consultant** regarding heritage issues. If successful AFA will be a consultant to government & NPWS decision makers. AFA will be able to provide valuable information on the heritage value of our **bridle trails/tracks** and the need to maintain access to important community heritage sites.

• NEWS FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

At the last committee meeting (28th May 2006) members of the committee expressed concern about a number of recent comments made to them from members and others. These comments relate to the alliance Access For All has with the NPWS, that is that it is becoming a little too "chummy" with the Parks. The committee would like to reassure its members that this alliance is certainly not "chummy", far from it! It is important that open communication is kept with the NPWS so AFA is able to maintain a spokesperson for its members so access to the Parks does not become more restricted than it already is. To do this it is important to keep a professional working relationship with the NPWS. Should any members feel strongly about the committee's dialogue with the Parks, regular minutes & tabled minutes of meetings with the Parks are available. Thank you to those that have brought their concerns to the committee. The committee encourages all its members that have ideas or complaints that they bring it to the notice of member of the committee so your thoughts can be **discussed** & acted upon within a timely manner. Like all organisations it is important for Access For All to have input from its members to maintain focus & direction which will benefit all, not just the committee.

A request from the committee that if landowners are having problems with wild dogs that they need to put incidents in writing to the NPWS and forward a copy to a member of a dog committee in your area, otherwise the incident never happened. Members report dog activity high but NPWS report little or no activity as none have been documented. Members of the Wild Dog committee in the Braidwood area have advised that a Braidwood South Coast Management plan has been developed but not yet been formally accepted by NPWS.

DOYOUKNOW?

(What "Compulsory Acquisition" is?)

With the National Parks Wilderness Act the government has the power to acquire land without consent of the owner...this does happen and members that have private land in the middle of National Parks have the threat of Compulsory Acquisition if and when the NPWS decide they would like it. This also happens when NPWS is pressured by extreme environmental groups to acquire further wilderness areas.

That "Old System Title" will be removed from new transfers of land purchases. This will affect the "Ripiring Zone" along river/creek beds (depending on the title)...AFA advise members to check with their solicitors...and request them to include it in their titles if need be.

• CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2005-2006

AFA has had a very busy year. Apart from our monthly meetings, we have attended a host of other events, to keep AFA out in the public arena.

We supported many of our members, who work in the timber industry, at a well organised day at Cobargo on the 6th August, 2005. From this day another day was organised on the 10th September so people interested down that way had the opportunity to learn more about what AFA is doing, particularly with heritage issues. From that day AFA has been able to assist others having issues with government departments in regard to access & keeping their heritage trials/tracks/huts etc.

AFA was also asked to attend a meeting at Durras on 4 January, 2006 in regard to the Batemans Marine Park. I represented AFA & explained how our group works, since then people involved and affected by this Park have formed a group to handle the Marine Park issue. I was asked again to attend a meeting on 24 January, at Batemans Bay Bowling & Recreation Club. Margot & I attended this meeting. On the same day we took the opportunity to meet separately with other individual groups and some Politicians.

It was a very full day, all the time pushing AFA and pointing out we are a non-political organisation, but that we must accept that almost all decisions ARE political one way or another! In the last 12 months we have had several extended meetings with Senior NPWS staff and I believe these meetings are worth the effort. It costs our members a day's wages and travelling costs and I thank them for their support. On several occasions it has been put to me that "AFA is getting too friendly with NPWS". I TOTALLY disagree with this view. The meetings cover a very wide range of issues with Parks management and at times discussion gets quite robust. We follow the AFA Aims and Objectives totally. Access for All finances has improved greatly over the last 12 months. The Calendar has contributed to this improved financial position. I would like to thank our Sponsors, the Committee members who put a great effort into the sales and people who purchased the Calendar.

AFA management committee has worked well together. Apart from financial issues, a great deal of time has been spent in trying to spread the workload over a few individual members. Almost all our members have heavy work commitments of their own to look after and it makes it very difficult to then spend a couple of hours in a vehicle to attend meetings. I cannot express enough my appreciation for the commitment of these members. If any member can put forward ideas on how we can spread this work load, I would be please to hear from you. Committee meetings are not restricted to only elect committee members – any member can come to meetings and contribute their ideas. Keeping members up to date with all issues is still the biggest task we have. I would like to thank all those members who have already renewed their Membership. Without a strong membership base it makes it very difficult for the management committee to put forward your ideas as one united group – there is strength in numbers. I would like to see members try to introduce a new member each this year. This will build a stronger position for your committee and help us all to achieve even more.

PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO COME TO THE AGM. Without your support AFA cannot survive.

I would like to thank the following members who have given me great support: - Deputy Chairs

(Garry Gowen, John Hindmarsh, Liz Innes), Secretaries (Garry Gowen ably assisted by Joan Webb and Russ Evans) Treasurer (Terry Hart ably assisted by Jenette Hindmarsh) Jenette is also extremely helpful in many other areas of committee management and to our publicity officer (Lesley Whale – her support in this area is a difficult role and is greatly appreciated). There are many more in the general membership whom I would like to thank, but if I start naming names I will come undone, so THANK YOU to those who have helped in any way. Please do your best to attend the AGM and give your support to the new Committee.

AGM
 Nelligan Hall @ 1030am, 29th July '06
 Lunch \$5.00 head. Guest speakers to be announced. Come & nominate your committee member.

• COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Access for All **Fax/Answering:**
0248464014

Chairman: Neil Waddell
 02 48464056
Secretary: Garry Gowen 0416268964
Treasurer: Terry Hart 0248422710
Asst. Treasurer & Membership Recorder:
 Jenette Hindmarsh 02 48471115

Postal Address -
 ACCESS FOR ALL INC.
 LOCKED BAG 10
 BRAIDWOOD NSW 2622

E-Mail Address -

Website - <http://www.accessforall.asn.au>



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Access for All Inc. ABN46 440 427 801
 Locked Bag 10
 BRAIDWOOD NSW 2622 Phone: 4846 4014
<http://www.accessforall.asn.au>

MEMBERSHIP:
 Membership Fees remained the same:- **GST Inc.**
 Pensioner - \$5 Single - \$10
 Family - \$20 Business - \$100

Please detach and return to above address with your membership renewal for 2006/07 Thank You.

Name: _____ Amount \$: _____
 Address: _____ Town: _____
 Postcode: _____ Receipt No: _____
 Phone No: _____ Fax _____ Email Address: _____

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