

## FROM THE COMMITTEE

On 29th May 2010 AFA held its AGM. Yet again Brian & Marliyn Clarke offered their home as our venue, thank you. Also a big thank you to those who brought nibbles to go with our sausages. Attendance for the AGM was encouraging, thirty of us voted in Access For All's committee for 2010-2011. Chairman, Gary Gowen thanked all members of AFA for continuing their memberships. He also acknowledged those who had made the effort to attend the AGM stating this encourages the committee to continue in their present roles. He commented that by keeping our membership base growing & consistent we remain a significant group when it comes to liaising with NPWS or other government representatives. He stated that AFA will continue with its present commitment to push maintenance of other bridle tracks throughout the South East Escarpment with the NPWS. Garry also mentioned the noticeable increase in AFA's profile since the publication "The Duea River Track" and hoped that, with AFA member's assistance, Peter Smith will continue with the research and editing of future publications of connecting tracks throughout the South East region.

A couple of new faces were nominated & carried onto the committee, we have two new deputy Chairmen...welcome to Anthony Atkinson & Reg Webb. Both Reg & Anthony have been members of AFA for some years, both have a passionate love of Australia's bush & believe access to it belongs to all of us. Reg, a keen horse rider, participates as an AFA representative in the clearing of significant historical bridle tracks within the NPWS. Reg's family are all "grown up" but continue to camp & ride horses in the bush. Anthony is an "older" motorbike rider and his teenage family enjoys camping either with bikes or horses. The committee looks forward to their involvement at executive level in AFA.

Thanks also to our guest speaker Andy Short. Andy, a geoscientist, spoke on climate change & again in the space of one hour, somehow managed to show us all

what has been happening over the last 10 million years! He answered questions & sorted myths from fact. Well done Andy .....you reassured us that, yes, crocodiles are heading south, that Lake George (ACT) has no mystic about its formation (even though we don't think Cath believes him!) and that we will all have enough time to adjust to climate change over the next 10 million years!

### **AGM INFORMATION:**

- See the end of this newsletter for elected positions for 2010-2011. Thank you to all of the remaining committee for accepting their nominations.
- The date for next years AGM will be 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011. Venue has not been decided upon. The AGM has been moved to accommodate the information required by the Dept of Fair Trading each year. .
- 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.....** Membership Renewal forms are included with this newsletter, please complete with up to date details & forward with your payment. Thank you for renewing your membership as costs associated with AFA are covered because of your renewal.

### **What Else should you Know?**

There is only a limited number of "The Duea River Track" available. This publication will not be reprinted at this stage. If you have been unable to access this informative document contact a committee person who will forward you a copy on receipt of payment (\$22.00).

AFA is requesting information, from all members, on the Corn Trail and the Shoebridge track for our next publication. Members who have information that maybe useful could you please contact a committee member who will put you in contact with Peter Smith.

Some 12 months ago in the winter edition of our AFA newsletter it was mentioned that NPWS will be looking for more of the tourism dollars. This month the Keneally Government passed a Bill in NSW Parliament's Upper House to allow more commercial tourist developments. Now in control of 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, the NSW State Government is wanting to increase sustainable tourism & visitation by 20% by 2016. This Bill, passed on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010, will allow operators into wildness to operate guided wilderness tours (for walking or canoeing groups of course!). AFA wonders who will be carrying the chainsaws to keep their tracks clear & safe for their paying customers! Lets hope that there are sensible decisions made when it comes to controlling who, what & how many they allow into our unique National Parks. By the way when thinking about money remember the Australian Federal Government provides \$2.00 for every \$1.00 invested by conservation organisations to add new property to the National Reserve System. That is your tax dollars presently being committed to a Reserve System which includes 9000 protected areas covering more than 11% of the country; the Australian Government has committed \$180 million of our money to building the National Reserve System. Remember that all of us pay tax dollars which entitles us to have a say as to what happens within our Parks, however this has not stopped previous governments when they decided to make Wilderness Areas accessible to walkers & canoeing only. You can access further information about this Bill on the Dept. of Environment, Climate Change & Water website <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/parks/tourism.htm>

## Future dates for AFA meetings:

31<sup>st</sup> July 2010 – Braidwood Servicemen's Club 11.00am

29<sup>th</sup> August 2010 – THIS MEETING TO BE CONFIRMED AT JULY MEETING

31<sup>st</sup> October 2010 – Venue & time to be confirmed **?Early Xmas meeting in Bendethra**

30<sup>th</sup> January 2010 – Venue & time to be confirmed

29<sup>th</sup> May 2010 – Venue & time to be confirmed

31<sup>st</sup> July 2010 – **AGM** Venue & time to be confirmed

### **REMINDERS**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS NOW DUE**

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

**ACCESS FOR ALL**

**LOCKED BAG 10**

**BRAIDWOOD NSW 2622**



Congratulations to the elected committee, may you stay strong & committed to AFA's ongoing battle with NPWS, extreme green groups & governments in the prevention of our recreational areas becoming overcrowded, lobbying to protect our heritage & prevent further Wilderness Areas & Nature Reserves which are available for access only for bushwalkers & canoeist.

### **AFA 2010 – 2011 COMMITTEE**

Chairman : Garry Gowen 0416268964

Secretary: Joan Webb 48428047

Treasurer: Terry Hart 48422710

Asst. Treas. & M/ship recorder: Jeanette Hindmarsh 4847115

Vice Chairmen: Brian Clarke, Anthony Atkinson and Reg Webb

Publicity Officer: Peter Smith

Website Officer: Peter Kneen

## ***ACCESS FOR ALL NEWSLETTER***



## WINTER EDITION

## Volume 10.19

ACCESS FOR ALL INC

Locked Bag 10  
BRAIDWOOD NSW 2622  
Phone/fax (02)48428002

E-mail: [jinden@bluemaxx.com](mailto:jinden@bluemaxx.com)  
Website: <http://www.accessforall.asn.au>