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Barb Cornell	50257325	

### **Membership Fees**

**\$30 per Person**

**Subs due 1<sup>st</sup> July**

# *Sunraysia Bushwalkers*

## *February 2016*

PO Box 1827  
MILDURA 3502  
Ph: 03 50257325

Website:  
[www.sunbushwalk.net.au](http://www.sunbushwalk.net.au)



*Affiliated with:*



## *In this issue:*

- ❖ Christmas Tree
- ❖ Christmas Break-up
- ❖ Calendar



**To view the complete calendar please follow the link:**

<http://www.sunbushwalk.net.au/calendarofactivities.html>

## *Our Christmas tree efforts at the Deakin Centre using recycled items*

Every year at the Deakin Centre there is a display of Christmas trees made by the various Clubs in Mildura. This year the trees were to be made from recycling items. I was most impressed with the resulting effort put in by Roger, Barb, Neil, Alison, Meryl & Karl.

The base was a drum Roger uses as a rubbish bin in his shed, the centre pole was an old steering column out of a Magna car, the body of the trees consisted of old venetian blind slats poc riveted to a couple of rings of 19mm black plastic pipe.

The venetian slats were then covered with A4 and A5 prints, on recycled paper, of some of the many trips the Club members have taken. Alison cleverly plaited leaves from a red capped mallee gum that had dropped a branch and draped them around the 'tree'. Under the tree was placed few old walking boots.

The top of the 'tree' was adorned with our mascot, a stuffed kangaroo wearing a black pack with his own blue 'sleeping mat'.



*Before & After*



## ***Christmas 2015***

Attendees were Alison, Neil, Verna, Karl, Meryl, Michael Job, Sandra, Noel, Russell & Barb

Location was a sandbar locally known as Bondi sandbar on the NWS side of the Murray a few klms past the Botanical Gardens. A decision initially had to be made as to where we would set up. We didn't

actually find the proposed sand bar that was supposed to be there so a lippia covered area that had decent shade and was fairly level was chosen.



What a great start to the Christmas break-up, ice creams! We were truly spoilt as Neil & Alison had brought with them a selection for everyone's pleasure and enjoyment particularly considering the heat of the day - if I recall 40 was the actual forecast! What intrepid souls we are, proving that we at least were not getting soft.



Karl, Meryl, Noel, Michael & Neil all took a dip after having to tread carefully in soft grey oozy mud to get to a fallen tree trunk that extended out into the river, walk out along said tree trunk and then carefully enter the water. Of course the soft grey oozy mud was the last obstacle before leaving the water which one then had to clean off! There's nothing like having to clean off soft river mud - it does have a tendency to smear everywhere.

After the swim whilst sitting chatting a loud cracking was heard and down came a large branch a little way from where we were sitting. It made us all reconnoitre just where our vehicles were parked. The next bit of excitement was Verna getting bitten by a bull ant. She managed to ensuing discomfort with great fortitude.

Michael had brought his newly adopted Labrador down for a run and of course as all good dogs do he found some nice smelly stuff to roll in and then a very pungent tortoise shell which he proudly carried back for our supposed pleasure.



It is absolutely amazing how Santa once again found our picnic spot. As we had all been extremely good during the year he rewarded us with a small sweet from his large bag.



Though I think, Santa himself also managed a reward for his kindness by the looks of it!

We stayed enjoying everyone's company until the sun was low in the sky and then very much replete set off back to our various dwellings.

*Report by Barb*

***PLEASE NOTE:***

***Items for the newsletter to be emailed to the Editor the Saturday before the meeting.  
Formatting in portrait and Word Doc.  
No 'READ ONLY' stuff.***





## CALENDAR

**2016**

2016		
February 3rd	Meeting	
February 6th	Renaissance Lunch Formally known as 'Progressive'	Contact Neil & Allison Hammerton 50235559
February 21st	Canoe Trip- Pysche Pumps	Contact Roger 0488121648
March 2nd	Meeting	
March 5th	River Walk - Mildura	Contact Roger 0488121648
April 6th	Meeting	
April 10th	Merbein Common	Contact Verna 50223480
April 21st	Aust. Inland Botanic Gardens Riverine Section	Contact Noel 50257455
May 4th	Meeting	
May 6th - 8th	Pink Lakes - Mt Crozier Circuit	Contact Karl 50227676
May 7th	Mopoke Hut- Day Walk	Contact Noel 257455
June 1st	Meeting	
June 5th	Lake Cullulleraine	Contact Peter 50221898
June 18th - 26th	Jatbula Trail - Nitmiluk Nat. Park Northern Territory	Contact Bill 0408231984

**Next Meeting**  
**Wednesday 3rd February at 8.00 pm**  
**at Drysdale's**  
**2164 Fifteenth Street,**  
**Irymple**