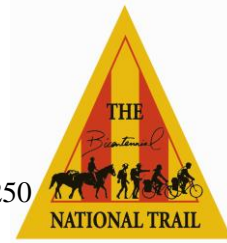


The Bicentennial National Trail
(4th Edition 2010) Guide Book Number 9 Trail Updates
June 2016

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The Bicentennial National Trail is "a living trail" and as such conditions and access details are continually changing. Some of the information in the 'update notes' may have been provided by trekkers and may not have been verified on the ground by the section coordinator or a BNT Board member. Update notes are only a guide and situations can change from day to day therefore, you must try to contact the section coordinator and not rely solely on the guidebook or the update notes. You travel at your own risk as travelling on the BNT is regarded as self-reliant trekking.

Note that these updates are to be used in conjunction with the guidebook identified above.

Could all trekkers please send any information on track changes to the BNT office so the update notes can be as current as possible. Your notes need to be clear and concise.

Please contact your local coordinator prior to trekking to advise of approximate travel dates and to obtain an update on local conditions.

Can you also notify the office or section coordinator of any problems you may encounter, thank you. Happy trekking.

A new print run of Book 9 Edition 4 was done in April 2010. The trail has some significant changes since the previous edition, so kindly purchase a new guidebook that covers the multitude of changes.

Map 1 Updated June 2016

Bridge over Hunter River at Aberdeen.

There is a new road bridge at Aberdeen and we now have the old bridge to use as a safe crossing point for the Hunter River to avoid fording the river. The old bridge is on your right as you are heading North. If you are going south it is on your left.

Access has been granted for all trekkers except for those pulling a cart of wagon with animals and the new road bridge will have to be used for these items.

A Combination lock has been added onto the chain in map 1 at 900 Castle Rock Rd and the temporary combination is 1988. Contact Nick Jacomas or the local Section Coordinator, Rosemary Munn for more details.

Map 1 Page 30 Updated March 2016

Hugh Keast has sold his property to his nephew . The updated contact details is Kim Keast 02 6547 9166.

Map 4 Updated May 2017 Page 38

Pre Trip Updates: Gate is locked at Phipps Cutting camp on river combination lock. Please call Section Coordinator Joe or Marlene to get combination no.

Please note that the Bylong road in map 4 is quite narrow in many places and extreme care should be taken with traffic.

Map 4 Goulburn River TSR campsite.

BNT marker on TSR when turning left through QLD gate. TSR not marked (only letter 'R' on post left of gate).

Warning that there is Quick Sand along the Goulburn River. "Even being warned, I still managed to get caught (along with my horse which was being led) in some quicksand at the TSR, thinking an area looked 'safe'. The only area 'safe' is where the cattle and 4WDs cross the river." Also the tiger pear that attaches itself to horses is very cruel.

North to South Phipps Cutting to Myrtle Grove

28.5 As you are coming up to this point, look over to your left you will see a hut at the bottom of the hill. There is a gateway over to it adjacent to the road that you are travelling on .

Map 5 Updated Nov 2013

Widden Stud Campsite. (Previously Myrtle Grove) Contact Widden Stud 02 6549 9999 in advance to camp at hut 1.2km to the north of Myrtle Grove house.

There is no camping near Myrtle Grove House. There is a Hut to be used which is 1.2 km towards Widden Valley Stud, on right travelling from south to north. If you use the hut please leave it better then you found it.

Map 5 Updated Feb 2014 Page 40

South to North Nullo Mountain to Myrtle Grove

Pre Trip Contact Russell Cooper in advance for access through the deer gate at Box Ridges, ph 02 6379 6222, and Widden Stud 02 6549 9999 in advance to camp at hut 1.2km to the north of Myrtle Grove house.

20.0 Go past Myrtle Grove house

21.2 Go through gate on right. Follow valley down 500m , look over to right there will be a hut.

Map 6 Updated Nov 2013

Change intermediate distance on map 6 on page 43. 0.9km after you turn off Middle Hill Track at the centre of the map becomes 1.6km.

"High Tweeters" on map 6 is now "Above the Clouds"

Map 7 Updated Jan 2012

Pages 44 & 46. Grassy Mountain Hut and tank has been rebuilt in December 2011 and available again for trekking.

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Map 7 Updated April 2016

Cudgegong to Grassy Mountain. North to South.

1.6 km **NPWS gate and combination lock** has changed code. **See NWPS Mudgee details below for access.**

Map 7 Grassy Mountain to Cudgegong. South to North.

16.8 km **NPWS gate and combination lock** has changed code. **See NWPS Mudgee details below for access.**

Maps 7 and 8 Updated April 2016

Page 46 **North to South – Grassy Mountain to Glen Alice and Glen Davis**

Pre trip: For access to the private property at 1.1km & 5.6km N-S the NPWS Mudgee Office will now have responsibility for ALL gate locks and combination and there are three locked gates in this locality.

ONLY BNT members will be given access and BNT Trekkers MUST submit a BNT Trekker Registration Form which will be submitted to

info@nationaltrail.com.au. The BNT will forward Trekker Form onto NPWS Mudgee at npws.mudgee@environment.nsw.gov.au.

At least a week's notice is required. Once the registration is lodged the BNT Trekkers to contact Mudgee NPWS office on 02 6370 9000 to confirm the access has been acknowledged.

For safety reasons do not approach the ruins of the "Nile" homestead and trekkers must, at all times stay on the designated trail.

There is also a combination lock on the gate which is approximately 7 km to the north of Grassy Mountain on map 7. **See NWPS above for access.**

0.0 kms Grassy Mountain Campsite. Head south on track down the mountain.

1.1 **NPWS gate and combination lock. See NWPS above for access.**

3.6 At the bottom of the hill, the track heads south through a gate into Brookside. Don't go through the gate, but turn right and follow the fence first west and then northwards on a sometimes indistinct farm track. Continue north-west beside Umbiella Creek for about 400m, veer right on the track past a fenced flat then through a gateway and a ford across the gully. Then north-west towards the ruins of The Nile homestead. For safety reasons do not approach the ruins of this homestead and trekkers must, at all times stay on the designated trail.

5.1 Head south-west from homestead; ford the Umbiella Creek.

5.6 **NPWS gate and combination lock. See NWPS above for access.** Turn left down the valley towards Glen Alice along the Upper Nile Rd.

16.6 Glen Alice. Camp next to the hall or behind the church. At the intersection, head SE across the bridge towards Glen Davis.

24.6 Road to Capertee on right; continue straight on to Glen Davis a further 6kms.

30.6 Glen Davis Camping Area. Camp.

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In cases of emergency eg; bushfire, it is your responsibility to notify local authorities as to your whereabouts.

Some State Forests in NSW have now been opened to hunting (shooting) and additional safety precautions need to be taken when you are in NSW state forests.

TSR permits are required when camping on all TSR's in NSW. A bulk permit is obtainable through the BNT office.



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Map 8 page 46. South to North – Glen Davis to Glen Alice and Grassy Mountain

Pre trip: For access to the private property at 25km & 29.5km the NPWS Mudgee Office will now have responsibility for ALL gate locks and combination.

ONLY BNT members will be given access and BNT Trekkers MUST submit a BNT Trekker Registration Form which will be submitted to info@nationaltrail.com.au. The BNT will forward Trekker Form onto NPWS Mudgee at npws.mudgee@environment.nsw.gov.au. At least a week's notice is required. Once the registration is lodged the BNT Trekkers to contact Mudgee NPWS office on 02 6370 9000 to confirm the access has been acknowledged.

For safety reasons do not approach the ruins of the "Nile" homestead and trekkers must, at all times stay on the designated trail.

- 0.0 kms From camping area backtrack to Capertee turn off.
- 6.0 At Capertee turn off, go straight on to Glen Alice.
- 14.0 Turn right at Upper Nile Rd at Glen Alice. Camp next to the hall or on the creek behind the church.
- 25.0 **NPWS gate and combination lock. See NWPS above for access.** Turn right through a gate into The Nile, just after the ramp into Tayar Creek. Following the track, ford Umbrella Creek and pass the old house on your left. For safety reasons do not approach the ruins of this homestead and trekkers must, at all times stay on the designated trail.
- 25.5 Veer right at house and head south on the track to a gate and a gully crossing. Keep on the track along the flat. The track veers left (eastwards) at the end of the paddock.
- 27.0 Take the track as it heads north up the hill. (Don't go through the gate on your right.)
- 29.5 **NPWS gate and combination lock. See NWPS above for access.**
- 30.6 Grassy Mountain is obviously named. BNT Campsite with hut and water with an excellent lookout over the valley behind it. Camp. Contact Lawrence Agnew at 02 6379 7393 to camp at Grassy Mountain.

There is also a combination lock on the gate which is approximately 7 km to the north of Grassy Mountain on map 7. **See NWPS above for access.**

Map 8 Updated Aug 2011

Page 47. "Oskas Cottage" is gone.

If you want access to Community Centre facilities at Glen Davis contact Jan Parks on 02 6379 7243 or Laraine Simpson on 02 6379 7203.

Map 9 Updated March 2013

Page 48 North to South

27.0km app. One of the National Park access gates does not have a combination lock. Contact Tony Caporale on Phone 02 6379 7328 to arrange access.

Map 9 Page 48 South to North

3.6 One of the National Park access gates does not have a combination lock. Contact Tony Caporale on Phone 02 6379 7328 to arrange access.

Map 10 Updated June 2016

Page 50 Baal Bone Gap to Wallerawang

Pre Trip - Route through Charles and Joan Applin's no longer used due to dangerous section on the Castlereagh Highway.

North to South - New route starts at 19.1 kms on the guidebook map directions.

- 19.1 km Do not turn right but go straight ahead on Wolgan road until it meets the Castlereagh Highway at Lidsdale.
- 20.9 Cross the Castlereagh Highway **with extreme care** and continue along Main St towards the Wallerawang township.
- 23.0 At Wallerawang township, turn right into Doggett Lane.
- 23.2 Turn right into Blackberry Lane.
- 23.4 New BNT campsite on left. Grid Reference: GDA 56H 0227200 / 6299750. Refer to map on next page for additional details.

South to North -

- 0.0 km From campsite return to Wallerawang Main Street.
- 0.4 Turn left onto Main Street.
- 2.5 Cross the Castlereagh Highway **with extreme care** and continue along Wolgan Road for 8.7km where you return to the guidebook trail notes on Page 52 at 14.1km. Note the total distance for the day will be around 3km shorter than the guidebook notes.

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In cases of emergency eg; bushfire, it is your responsibility to notify local authorities as to your whereabouts.

Some State Forests in NSW have now been opened to hunting (shooting) and additional safety precautions need to be taken when you are in NSW state forests.

TSR permits are required when camping on all TSR's in NSW. A bulk permit is obtainable through the BNT office.



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Map 11 Updated June 2016
Page 54 Wallerawang to Rydal

North to South -

- 0.0 km From campsite return to Wallerawang Main Street.
- 0.4 Turn right onto Main Street and follow on the wide verge on the left hand side of the road.
- 0.9 Turn left across the railway bridge then right at the other side into Tweedie St which soon becomes Commens Street and continue with guidebook map directions at 1.6. Note the trail to Rydal will be approximately 1km shorter with this new route.

Page 54 Rydal to Wallerawang
South to North -

New route starts at 10.5 kms on the guidebook map directions.

- 10.5 km Turn left across the railway bridge and then right into Main Street
- 11.0 At Wallerawang township, turn left into Doggett Lane.
- 11.2 Turn right into Blackberry Lane.
- 11.4 New BNT campsite on left. Grid Reference: GDA 56H 0227200 / 6299750. Refer to map on next page for additional details.

Page 50-53 Wallerawang Campsite map and details.

There is a new campsite at Wallerawang. Please contact Mal Keeley 0428 551 818 or Denise Keeley on 0429 034 942 for additional details.

The old campsite at Wallerawang Lake is no longer supported and a new campsite is now located in Blackberry Lane which is just off Main Street. The campsite is directly behind the Commercial Hotel. The gate is located adjacent to the number 2 on the photo on the next page.



BNT Campsite
Grid Reference:
GDA 56H 0227200 / 6299750

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Page 50-53 Wallerawang Campsite map and details.



Pumping Station

Water for Horse Trough
 Contact:

BNT Campsite Gate
 Grid Reference:
 GDA 56H 0227200 / 6299750

Rear of Commercial Hotel

Blackberry Lane

Access via Doggett Lane

Drinking Water on inside of fence
 at Oval near Daintree Lane
 (opposite Wallerawang Self
 Storage)
 Grid Reference:
 GDA 56H 0227040 / 6299555

Public Toilets at Daintree Lane
 Grid Reference:
 GDA 56H 0227130 / 6299555

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Map 12 Updated June 2016

Page 56 North to South. Refer to map below.

13.6 Trail goes back to original route leaving the main road at Bonna Vista via Norman Lee Rd which is straight ahead where the main road veers left. This section had been closed for some years due to a boggy creek crossing. It now has a small raised narrow bridge that you can use to cross. Horses can be lead across the bridge. **If your animals are not good on narrow bridges, please follow the main road around this section. Currently the trail is very overgrown at the bridge and the main road is the best option.**

14.0 Take the left fork (right goes to All Flats forest area) and continue past the brick house at 14.8km

15.0 Access the fenced laneway and follow it south to access the new BNT access bridge. Take care and dismount to cross the bridge. The bridge is still fine, however if you are approaching from the north, the growth of trees and bushes is such that you could have trouble finding the bridge and end up in the mud so it is important to keep at near as possible to the fence on your right hand side (west) and then you will find the bridge easily. The track through there is a bit rough but quite accessible. Once across the bridge it is quite easy to see where you are going.

15.7 Leave fenced laneway and turn left through gateway and continue on road past Norman Lee house.

16.4 Gate and Grid go straight on.

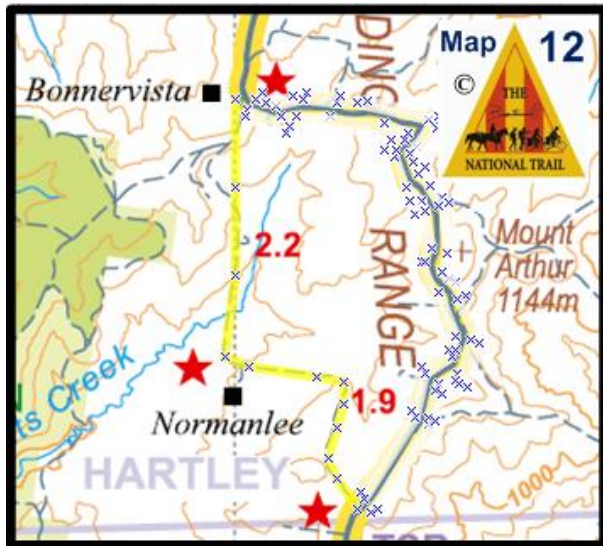
17.6 Turn right onto main road.

19.4 Straight on to camp at the recreation ground or left to Halfway House Hotel Motel.

20.0 Turn right along lane way directly after wind turbines.

20.7 Turn right down Wicketty War Rd.

21.8 Turn left into Recreation Ground. Camp.



Map 12 Updated June 2016

Page 56 South to North. Refer to map above.

4.2km Trail goes back to original route leaving the main road and turning left at Norman Lee Rd. See note below.

5.4 Gate and Grid go straight on.

6.1 Go past the Norman Lee house and through the gate. Turn right to access the fenced laneway and follow it north to access the new BNT access bridge. Take care and dismount to cross the bridge.

7.8 Straight on at road on left to All Flats forest area.

8.3 Turn left onto main road towards Rydal. Follow the road using every opportunity to take side tracks to get off the bitumen.

12.0 Left into a treed laneway. Follow lane way.

13.2 Straight ahead at Cheetham Flats Rd.

15.1 Left onto main road again.

20.0 Straight on. Gravel road on right.

21.2 Turn right after Rydal Hotel.

21.8 Rydal Showground. Camp.

Refer to notes above regarding route through Norman Lee Rd and narrow bridge. **If your animals are not good on narrow bridges, please follow the main road around this section. Currently the trail is very overgrown at the bridge and the main road is the best option.**

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Map 14 Updated June 2016

Boggy Creek to Forest Lodge

Page 62 North to South - Contact Section Coordinators Martin and Hazel McCort

7.0 km - Contact Section Coordinators Martin and Hazel McCort re this section of the trail as many people get lost here. They are only too happy to assist you with the latest directions to avoid getting lost and avoiding the dangerous section between 8.2 and 10.9km. A new safer route is also being negotiated to avoid the dangerous and busy road Jenolan Caves Road section from 16.6 to 19.2km.

Pages 62 & 63 South to North - Contact Section Coordinators Martin and Hazel McCort

A new safer route is also being negotiated to avoid the dangerous and busy road Jenolan Caves Road section from 0.0 to 2.6km.

8.1 km - Contact Section Coordinators Martin and Hazel McCort re this section of the trail as many people get lost here. They are only too happy to assist you with the latest directions to avoid getting lost and avoiding the dangerous section between 8.1 and 10.8km

Book 9 Section Coordinators: Updated Feb 2017 Page 66

Please see the latest BNT newsletter for latest contact details

Rosemary Munn

Edition 3 Guidebook 9, Maps 1-2 Aberdeen to Sandy Hollow

Marlene & Joe O'Brien

Edition 3 Guidebook 9, Maps 3-6 Sandy Hollow to Cudgegong River

Mal & Denise Keeley

Edition 3 Guidebook 9, Maps 7-12 Cudgegong River to Hampton Mals Mob: 0428 551 818 mal.keeley@bigpond.com

Martin and Hazel McCort and Genevieve Long

Edition 3 Guidebook 9, Maps 13-14 Hampton to Jenolan Caves

Martin and Hazel McCort

Genevieve Long



Please send in stories of your experiences for "Tracks" magazine. Remember it is "your trail" and other people are inspired by your trek. Please support the BNT by retaining your membership.



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