



# HIKE LOG – 13/Sept/2009

## Scouts take Egil to Eagle Rock

Hike organised by Daniel, log and pictures by Egil.

09:00 – Departed from the Wattamolla car park heading south up hill. Weather is hot under cloudless sky with refreshing breeze. Initially the track is wide, like a service road, but after we pass some water tanks it narrows. After 15 mins the track descends heading towards Curracurrang Cove.



09:30 – Stopped for a snack on a rock ledge to the north of Curracurrang Cove with great views south-east over the cove and to the cliffs further south. The water is clear and can see long seaweed moving in the swell and there are lobster pot markers buoys along the underwater rock ledge around the cove. A walking party heading north advised they had seen snakes on the track.



09:45 – Continued south and then the track swung west along the Curracurrang Gully.



09:55 – Crossed the Curracurrang Creek where the track is at sea level. Track now climbs uphill on the southern side of the creek gully.



10:05 – Crossed a metal bridge over a dry creek bed.



10:15 – Steep climb up hill and take a break on a rock ledge due to tired walker. Estimate we are just over half way. It was interesting to see several walking groups go by carrying nothing, not even a water bottle.



10:35 – Tired walker has revived and we move on, still climbing up hill. Try singing '100 beer bottles on the wall' but stop at 95 as we need breath for walking up hill. Some of the path here is on a raised metal grate.

10:45 – Reach summit where track levels off for some distance and the sea shore cliffs have a spot height of 79m. Pause for a lookout over the ocean. Moving on the track is gentle down hill.



10:57 – Cross the Curracurrong Creek that has lots of pools in a wide flat rock bed but only a small trickle of running water that feels ice cold. We heard a very deep sounding frog call that suggested a big frog and although we hunted we couldn't find it in the pool where the sound came from. Followed the creek south towards the Eagle Rock lookout.



11:10 – Arrived at the Eagle Rock lookout where a group of around 30 people was gathered. Explored the rocks and saw a small striped skink. The Curracurrong Creek has carved some holes and small caves just before it plunges over a 50m cliff into the ocean. Climbed onto eagle Rock for photos.

11:30 – Found a great spot for lunch in the cool shade of a cliff ledge with great views over the ocean and coastline. Had a long relaxing break.



12:30 – Started back the way we had come. Crossing the Curracurrong Creek again we saw a snake or eel dart under a ledge in a rock pool.

12:54 – Stopped for a break in the shade beside a metal bridge just south of the Curracurrong Gully.



13:10 – Crossed the Curracurrong Creek again at sea level. Water sure looks inviting on the hot day.



13:24 – Another break in a clearing just north of the Curracurrang Cove.

13:50 – Arrived back at the Wattamolla car park, changed into swimmers and enjoyed a swim. At first the water felt ice cold but after we cooled down it was pleasant in the water. Found we still had lots of energy for games. There were fish swimming around us in the lagoon, slippery rocks to climb, sand to throw, balls to catch, and wrestling matches. Enjoyed an ice cream, washed the sand off, changed into dry clothes and packed up.

15:50 – Departed Wattamolla, heading home.

