This pleasant walk takes in the sights of two fantastic Blue Mountains valleys. The walk down from Springwood Station uses Magdala Gully to pass a number of waterfalls before visiting Perch Ponds. The walk then follows Glenbrook Creek valley up to Faulconbridge Station for the return home. A quiet walk with a sense of remoteness. If you want to make this an overnight walk you can camp at Perch Ponds where there is a simple bushcamp, a good introduction to overnight walking.
Springwood
Springwood, along the Great Western Highway, is the second largest town in the Blue Mountains. Springwood also takes the title for the oldest railway station in the Blue Mountains. There are a variety of shops in Springwood, with quite a few cafes, bakeries and two historic hotels. Springwood was named by Governor Macquarie, when his wife and he stopped for water from a deep glen spring, in 1815. It seems aptly named, with many springs and creeks leading away from the ridge at Springwood, including Sassafras Gully, Magdala Creek and Glenbrook Creek. [More info.]

Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area
Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area is a quiet and shady terraced garden at the head of the Magdala Gully. Fairy Dell is situated just south of Springwood in the Lower Blue Mountains. The picnic area has numerous tables, parking and a grassy area for the kids to play. The Fairy Dell Reserve Picnic area is also the starting point for a number of walks down to Magdala Creek, Picnic Point and nearby Lawson Lookout.

Picnic Point
Picnic Point, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is a quiet, grassy clearing tucked behind the houses above Magdala Creek. The area has a gazebo, picnic table and water tank (water needs to be treated). The clearing has a track leading down to many popular walks, with Lawson's Lookout and Fairy Dell Reserves nearby.

Lawsons Lookout
Lawsons Lookout, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is an unfenced rockshelf overlooking the wonderful Magdala Creek valley. The lookout is most easily accessed from Raymond Rd.

Magdala Falls
Magdala Falls is a disappointing set of falls. The view from the steep hillside doesn't show any of the falls, but instead lets you hear the water cascade into the pool below. A red-stained rock above the pool can be seen through the dense foliage of the trees.

Before You walk
Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk.

Before setting off on your walk check
1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Central Tablelands District](#))
2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
3) Park Alerts ([Blue Mountains National Park](#))
4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK
The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

**T**ake adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.

**R**egister your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.

**E**mergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).

**K**eep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps
The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include:

1:25 000 Map Series:90304S SPRINGWOOD
1:100 000 Map Series:9030 PENRITH

Grade
This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.

Grade 4/6
Hard track

Length
11.5 km One way

Time
5 hrs

Quality of track
Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)

Signs
Minimal directional signs (4/6)

Experience Required
No experience required (1/6)

Weather
Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

Infrastructure
Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)

Before You walk

Think before you TREK

Topo Maps

Grade

Middle phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully correct, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.

Mobile phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully correct, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.
You can get back to Faulconbridge Station (gps: -33.6966, 150.5349) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available. Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at http://wild.ltsf

0 | Springwood Station
Springwood, along the Great Western Highway, is the second largest town in the Blue Mountains. Springwood also takes the title for the oldest railway station in the Blue Mountains. There are a variety of shops in Springwood, with quite a few cafes, bakeries and two historic hotels. Springwood was named by Governor Macquarie, when his wife and he stopped for water from a deep glen spring, in 1815. It seems aptly named, with many springs and creeks leading away from the ridge at Springwood, including Sassafras Gully, Magdala Creek and Glenbrook Creek. More info.

0 | Springwood Station
(Spring 270 m 5 mins) From Springwood Station, the walk crosses the road at the pedestrian crossing and turns left. The walk continues past the shop front for about 150 metres before turning right at a quadrangle, which leads the walk downhill through a car park. The walk passes through the car park and crosses Macquarie Rd, to the 'Fairy Dell' sign.

0.27 | Int. Springwood Ave and Fairy Dell Reserve
(150 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the 'Fairy Dell', 49 Springwood Ave sign, the walk heads downhill into the reserve (along the smaller road), past the signs. The walk winds down past the units (on the left) to the bottom of the road. The walk continues on the left side of the cul-de-sac, to a grassy area with picnic tables.

0.41 | Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area
Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area is a quiet and shady terraced garden at the head of the Magdala Gully. Fairy Dell is situated just south of Springwood in the Lower Blue Mountains. The picnic area has numerous tables, parking and a grassy area for the kids to play. The Fairy Dell Reserve Picnic area is also accessible from Raymond Rd. The lookout overlooks the wonderful Magdala Creek valley. The lookout is most easily accessed from Raymond Rd.

0.94 | Int. Lawsons Lookout
Lawson's Lookout, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is an unfenced rockshelf overlooking the wonderful Magdala Creek valley. The lookout is most easily accessed from Raymond Rd.

0.94 | Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk
(3.2 km 1 hr 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Lawsons Lookout' sign, up the hill. The track heads up to a rocky outcrop, where the track turns back on itself and steps through some bushes to the rock face of the lookout. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

1.48 | Magdala Falls
Magdala Falls is a disappointing set of falls. The view from the steep hillside doesn't show any of the falls, but instead lets you hear the water cascade into the pool below. A red-stained rock above the pool can be seen through the dense foliage of the trees.

2.18 | Int. Magdala Ck and Magdala Falls trks
(300 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk keeps the creek on the left as it heads down the gully. The walk winds down the hill, passing a few rock overhangs as it heads to a 'Martins Lookout' sign.

4.47 | Optional sidetrip to Behind Martins Falls
(30 m 1 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads to the left of the 'Martins Falls' sign (towards the falls). The walk skirts around the edge of the valley, coming under the rock overhang of the falls, and then arriving behind the falls. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

4.47 | Martins Falls
Martins Falls are at a rock overhang on Magdala Creek, near Springwood, almost 400m upstream from the Glenbrook Creek junction. The waterfall falls off a rock platform, over the overhang into a large pond. There is a faint track leading behind the falls, giving a different perspective of the pond and falls - extra care is required. This is a lovely area to enjoy the cool temperatures on warmer days, and is more spectacular after recent rain.
9.74 | Optional sidetrip to Clarinda Falls
(30 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Clarinda Falls' sign towards the log fallen on the rock. The track tends left around the hillside, coming to Clarinda Falls. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

9.74 | Clarinda Falls
Clarinda Falls is a charming waterfall on Sassafras Creek. The water cascades over a near-vertical wall, into a sandy pool below. The falls are signposted from the main track and provide a nice cool detour, especially on warmer days. The falls are named for the first wife of Sir Henry Parkes, 'Father of Australian Federation'.

9.74 | Int. Victory Trk and Clarinda Falls
(1.3 km 38 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Faulconbridge Station' sign up the hill. The walk steeply climbs up the hill and passes a smaller track (on the right, which leads to the top of the falls), and then crosses the creek and leads under a few rock overhangs. The walk comes up the hill beside No. 10 Sir Henrys Pde (marked with a 'Victory Track' sign).

11.06 | Victory Track
The Victory Track is more formally know as the 'Sir Henry Parkes Victory Track' and is called the 'Victoria Track' in many guide books. The track starts near Sir Henry Parkes' grave in Faulconbridge and leads to Sassafrass Gully Creek. Sir Henry Parks (1815-1896) was a politician and journalist, born in England. He is considered to be the 'Father of Federation' for Australia, although he died of natural causes 5 years before Australia's federation. Parkes was the premier of New South Wales five times. The town Parkes was named in his honour. Parkes would sometime write under the pseudonym 'Faulconbridge' (his mothers maiden name) for the Sydney Morning Herald and other papers and Faulconbridge (the township) was named after his mother when Parkes purchased 600 acres in 1877. More info.

11.06 | No. 10 Sir Henrys Pde
(410 m 8 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads towards the power pole (if you come to a rail line, you have taken the wrong road). The walk continues along the road, keeping the rail line above on the right for some time to where the road turns left. The walk then continues along the management trail, with Faulconbridge Station in sight. Soon, the walk arrives at the entry to train station.

11.47 | Faulconbridge
Faulconbridge, in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales, was named after the maiden name of Sir Henry Parkes' mother. Faulconbridge sits on the Great Western Highway and is surrounded by valleys of lush bushland. This picturesque town was a home, and final resting place, for Sir Henry Parkes; heralded as the 'Father of Federation'. Faulconbridge was originally explored by non-indigenous Australians in 1813, by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson who were searching for a route over the Blue Mountains.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>km</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>Up/Dwn</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start</td>
<td>Springwood Station</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>270 m</td>
<td>From Springwood Station, the walk crosses the road at the pedestrian crossing and turns left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>Int. Springwood Ave and Fairy Dell Reserve</td>
<td>-11</td>
<td>5 mins</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the 'Fairy Dell, 49 Springwood Ave' sign, the walk heads downhill into the reserve (along the smaller road), past the signs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>390 m</td>
<td>Veer left: From the picnic area, the walk follows the 'Sassafras Gully' sign down the stairs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>Int. Fairy Dell and Picnic Point Tracks</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>160 m</td>
<td>Optional sidetrip to Picnic Point. Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the bridge, following the 'Picnic Point' signs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>Int. Fairy Dell and Picnic Point Tracks</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>140 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the intersection at the bridge, the walk heads in the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' arrow, keeping the creek on the right of the track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>410 m</td>
<td>Optional sidetrip to Lawsons Lookout. Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Lawsons Lookout' signs, up the hill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>3.2 km</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' sign, keeping the creek on the right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>Int. Magdala Ck and Magdala Falls trks</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>300 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk keeps the creek on the left as it heads down the gully.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.47</td>
<td>Int. Martins Falls and Magdala Ck trks</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30 m</td>
<td>Optional sidetrip to Behind Martins Falls. Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads to the left of the 'Martins Falls' sign (towards the falls).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.47</td>
<td>Int. Martins Falls and Magdala Ck trks</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>380 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the 'Martins Falls' intersection, the track heads up a small hill, then downhill with the creek on the left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>Perch Ponds camping area</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>3.4 km</td>
<td>Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Sassafras Gully Rd' sign, keeping the creek on the left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.23</td>
<td>Victory Trk pool</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>880 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, keeping the creek on the right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.11</td>
<td>Victory Trk camping area</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>630 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the clearing, the walk crosses the creek junction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.74</td>
<td>Int. Victory Trk and Clarinda Falls</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30 m</td>
<td>Optional sidetrip to Clarinda Falls. Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Clarinda Falls' sign towards the log fallen on the rock.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.74</td>
<td>Int. Victory Trk and Clarinda Falls</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>1.3 km</td>
<td>Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Faulconbridge Station' sign up the hill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.06</td>
<td>No. 10 Sir Henrys Pde</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>410 m</td>
<td>Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads towards the power pole (if you come to a rail line, you have taken the wrong road).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>