

Ramble On

Newsletter of Redland Bushwalkers Incorporated

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February 2010

Next Club Meeting

- When: Wednesday 10th March
- Where: Indigiscapes Centre Runnymede Street Capalaba
- Time: 7:00 for a 7:30 start.
- What's on: Dudley Reid will present some photos from club member's visit to Warrumbungles
Ted Wassenberg will show some photos from early Tassie 1970's and also a trip to Sundown National Park Qld.

President's Report

Our last Club meeting saw us filling up Indigiscapes almost to capacity. It was wonderful to see so many people interested in going bushwalking - something we all love to do. A lot of this is due to Hilary M putting an article in the Community notices and people reading it.

The weather has put quite a few walks on hold but they hopefully will be put on at a later date when weather permits. I have had reports from a few people that the first aid course was worthwhile. Participants saying that some knowledge is much better than none. The first aid course maybe repeated towards the end of the year.

I hope that you are all taking photos on your walks so that you may enter them into the Photographic Competition. There are different categories to fit your photos, so keep clicking away.

Happy walking
Denise - President

Upcoming Activities

BIKE RIDES:

To all members interested in doing the **Ipswich Heritage Ride** on 28th March, whether it be the 100, 50, or 25 km ride, we can register as a team. Go into www.ipswich100.com.au then REGISTER, record your details and which ride you are doing and put in our promotional code which is " Redland Pedlers ".

You can contact Vivien Carlsson on 0409641627 or 32865041 to let me know if you are doing the ride or if you have any queries.

ALSO

I would like to lead a **social bicycle ride** on Sunday 11th April starting at the Cleveland Cemetery at 8.30am and riding through the Scribbly Gums bushland and the Greater Glider Area to Indigiscapes for coffee, and return. Length approx. 26km with a few hills, some gravel but mostly cement pathways with a short ride down Redland Bay Road (approx 1km) to Indigiscapes.

Date: 14 March 2010
Location Mt Cootha
Coordinator Kerrie Coulter Phone: 3822 7259



Meeting at the carpark just past the Hoop Pine Picnic Site (last toilet stop) on Sir Samuel Griffith Drive, Mt Cootha for 8.00am start. Walk will take approximately 4 – 4.5 hours, so bring morning tea and will have lunch back at picnic spot. From the carpark the walk takes us up hills and then when we get past Channel 9 it is very steep down the hill. What goes down must then go up again so this walk can be a challenge. There are steep areas both up and down so please bring poles and walking boots are a must (we don't want twisted ankles). Not a beginners walk unless fit.



Survey Coming up 14th March:

If you're interested in exploring the bush camping sites in the Brisbane Forest Park/D'Aguilar Ranges, come along on a survey walk on Sunday 14 March. Led by Tracy Ryan, the exact route will be revealed at the meeting on 10 March (in other words she hasn't quite worked out where she's going yet). The idea is to survey the area for a proposed through walk later in the year. It is envisaged that the entire walk will be along tracks, and about 20km. Thanks

Tracy



Other Activities include:

- March 20:** FMR Training Day Walk Beginner/Medium Contact Ted Wassenberg for details
March 20: Enogerra Creek Catchment: An easy walk starting from Walkabout Creek Centre around the water catchment area, lots of birdlife Co-ordinator: Denise Kolcze
March 21: Brisbane Bike Ride: enter online <http://www.bq.org.au/bike-week/>
Co-ordinator Wayne Porter
- March 28th:** Photography Workshop Beckwith St Park. Rob Santry

2ND – 6TH April 2010 EASTER CAMP – AMAMOOR STATE FOREST

As announced at the last meeting the location of the Easter Camp has been changed to Amamoor Creek Camp Grounds. This camp is the National Country Music Site, 30 kilometres south west of Gympie. It is approximately 2 hours drive from Redlands and is accessible by all vehicles which will enable all members to attend.

The camp site is controlled by Qld Parks and Wildlife Service and pre booking of sites is required on the Department website at www.qld.gov.au/camping or by phone booking at 131304.

Cost is \$5 per person per night and toilets and cold showers are provided.

Numerous walks are available through the adjoining forest. Walks will be arranged to suit the capabilities of members attending the camp. Bicycle riding is also allowed if anyone is interested.

Sign up at the next meeting if you wish to attend.

Kevin Blain

Activity Reports

WALK: The Return to Obi Obi Sunday 7 Feb 2010

Six years after Ted's notorious traverse of the Obi Obi, we (being Hilary and Tracy egged on by others) decided to lead a new version. Our version was to be a gentle rock hop and float down Obi Obi Creek, pausing frequently to admire the lush vegetation, vertiginous cliffs, astounding rock formations and all round lovely creek environment. A bit of morning tea in a sheltered spot either in or out of the creek, depending how hot it was, a bit of lunch a bit further down, possibly even eaten while floating down the creek: that was the plan.



And indeed that is what our day out would have been, but for the heavy rain that fell during the night before and virtually all Sunday. The Baroon Pocket dam people had assured us no water would be released during the day, and we were in the creek anyway, so what did it matter if a little extra water entered the creek from the catchment areas on either side. If the water levels rose, so much the better for floating.



So off set 11 intrepids (Tracy, Hilary, Judy, Laurel, Nigel, Ted, Mats, Russell M, Mike Vose, Graham Cox and Michael Santry (nb: marvelous ratio of m to f!)) The short ten minute walk to the creek confirmed the water was deeper and faster moving (moving? – it was roaring!) than on our

January survey, and our first creek crossing to the track on the other side involved wading in waist-deep water rather than a little rock hop. Some of the party conceded defeat and just stayed in the water while others navigated the path to our real creek entry point.

And then the fun really began. Between us, we had floating packs, oodles of noodles and a life jacket, so nobody was going to have too much trouble staying afloat. All we had to do was get over this first little waterfall . . . whoosh! well that was – er – interesting, and I survived just fine . . . Now it's just a float for the rest of it . . . oh, looks like another little rapid . . . oooo, it's a bit bigger than the last one but I can see Mats up ahead and he's still breathing, so . . . aaaaaahhh! Goodness! I did it! That's a bit of a relief! I'll just recover myself for a minute . . . erk! Well didn't that one take me by surprise! I didn't actually mean to go sideways . . . and here's another one! . . . wheeee! I'm getting the hang of this, just make sure I go through feet first and with my legs reasonably together and I'll be fine.



And indeed we all were, although not without collecting a smattering of bruises along the way through numerous small (and not really dangerous!) rapids and rocky bits. We also had a few incidents, including a slightly hairy pile-up during which Hilary nobbled Nigel's noodle, Laurel's disappeared altogether, Tracy's end fell off, two poles disappeared and Judy ended up in a fetching pair of fringed shorts when her old trusties literally tore apart.

Progress was constant if slow, despite the swift current, and the addition of so much cold water from the side creeks and the continuous rain soon lowered our body temperatures and a few blue lips were spotted. After two and a half hours in the water we climbed onto the bank and picked our way through the scrub until we reached the obvious Great Walk track. As we stopped here for our first snack of the day, we ourselves became the snack for a bevy of excited leeches. We then turned for home, walking along an uphill track that had become a creek itself. Laurel said she felt like a salmon, fighting her way upstream; Mike said he felt like a scotch & dry.

The first look out on our return walk looked down onto one of the gorges we had "floated" through and we could immediately see an increase in the water's strength. By the time we reached the second lookout next to the waterfall, the base of which we

had passed less than three hours earlier, the water was shooting over the falls with such ferocity that no one could have passed through without getting pummelled.

By about 1pm we were back at the cars and out of the continuous heavy rain. We changed into warm, dry clothing and sped off to Maleny for coffee. Here we counted our leech bites (Ted's winning so far with 10). Mike said he had thoroughly enjoyed his first rock hopping experience (!) and Graham, this being his first walk with the club, described it as a great experience even if it was topped off by bloodsucking leeches.

Thank you to everyone for contributing to make this a safe, fun day with a difference: none of us will forget it in a hurry.

Leaders and Writers

Hilary R and Tracy

PS Final winner of the leech contest was Mats with 16.



Editor note: Sorry it is in such a small font to fit it all in. I couldn't leave anything out it was such a wonderful story.



DAYWALK – BAYVIEW CONSERVATION PARK

Sunday 14th February, 2010.

This walk was hastily arranged following cancellation of other walks due to excessive wet weather and flooding. Bayside Conservation Park is an area of relative untouched bushland located at the southern end of Redland City, between Serpentine Creek Road and German Church Road. The land has been progressively acquired by Redland City Council and the State Government as an area worthy of conservation.

Seventeen intrepid walkers braved the hot weather and mosquitos to attend this walk on Valentine Day. The walk commenced from Serpentine Creek Road – Rocky Passage Road intersection and headed northwest through the Conservation Park. The walk followed some old vehicle tracks and motor bike tracks. Vehicles and motorbikes have now been excluded from the park and Council is progressively rehabilitating the tracks as walking tracks. A total distance of 13 kilometres was walked and everyone was pleased to get back to the cars as the temperature had risen considerably during the morning.

The walk location covers a good example of coastal wallum country ranging from Tea-tree swamps to steep hilly country. A good range of wildflowers and birds are situated in the park. The best viewing time is probably in late winter and spring.

An interesting feature in the park is the remains of an old stone hut. There in now only four corners of the hut left. I first came across this hut in 1979. At that stage the full hut was still standing and it had a galvanised iron roof. It was unoccupied and I have never been able to determine who built this hut or for what purpose. The property, at that time, was owned by persons from Malaysia.

Rosemary McCormack has been able to provide a possible scenario for the existence of the hut. Her Information Is printed below. Thank you Rosemary.

The park is excellent training walk area close to home. I have a map showing the location of all tracks for anyone interested.

Kevin Blain - Walk Leader

OLD STONE HUT – BAYVIEW CONSERVATION PARK

Who built the Stone Hut?

Last Sunday, Kevin Blain led a walk in the Serpentine Creek Conservation area where the remnants of a stone hut are situated. Kevin had found this hut about 30 years ago when it had a roof and was generally more intact. With the aid of Kevin's GPS, a couple of old maps and the sharp eyes of Russell, the remnants were located after negotiating clouds of mosquitos and an hour or so walk into the area from the Rocky Passage Road end.



A friend from another walking group related to me that she had heard that the hut was built by Jack the Russian who was an itinerant worker who travelled around pushing a wheelbarrow containing all his possessions. He had arrived in the Redlands at some time in the 1920s or 30s and worked at fruit-picking in the orchards around Redland Bay and built himself a stone hut in the bushland near Serpentine Ck. He stayed for an indefinite period and then moved on again. She and a friend knew that it was somewhere in that general area but no-one they asked could tell them exactly where it was. In the early 1990s they spent a few days searching the tracks until one day they came across it and were really thrilled to find it. They have been walking there ever since, although it has deteriorated a lot since they first found it.

One of our longstanding members, Marnie also remembers hearing about him and how he carried bricks and supplies in his wheelbarrow from Cleveland to the hut site in Redland Bay. When she was on a trip to Western Australia she came across a monument to Russian Jack Jugarie at Port Hedland and also a second monument at Hall's Creek complete with wheelbarrow.

The monuments commemorated a feat of endurance performed by Jack when he had pushed a mate with a broken leg through the bush some 30 km in a wheelbarrow to get help. The story continued that Jack had got into a few fights in the pub, been thrown in jail, escaped and made his way to Queensland.



Information on Russian Jack Jugarie is available on the web at <http://outbackvoices.com/stories-galore/russian-jack> The story puts the distance he pushed his mate on one occasion up to 320km! He is recorded as having lived from 1864 to 1904. Could this be the same man who built the stone hut?

Stories collated by Rosemary McCormack

WALK: Tibrogargan Circuit

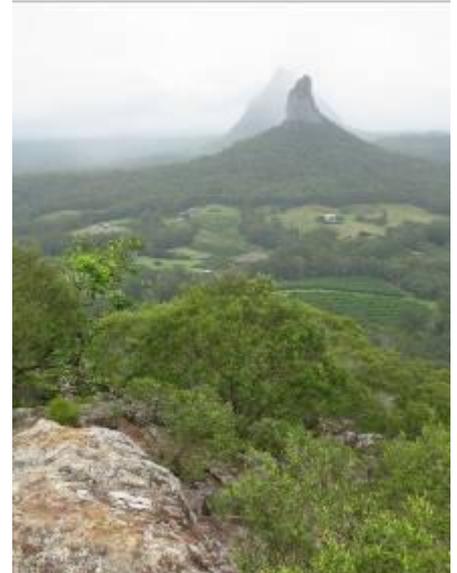
Co-ordinators: Brian & Cheryl Leggett



On Sunday 21st February ten bushwalkers met at Matthew Flinders Park in preparation for the Tibrogargan Circuit.. The weather was pleasant with clouds looming, we enjoyed views of the misty mountains and fed many of the hungry mosquitoes. After this pleasant walk we enjoyed morning tea back at the park. The showers continued and we were hoping to be able to complete the Mt Ngungun walk. Luck was on our side as the rain stopped. All managed to reach

the top and enjoy 360 degrees views of this beautiful area. As we arrived back at the cars we experienced some more heavy rain and decided to meet at the Lions Park for lunch. The new Tourist Information centre is open so we enjoyed a browse before heading home and decided against a visit to the beach.

Cheryle Leggett



First Aid Course – Victoria Point Saturday 27th Feb 2010



Alison Short, Phil, John K, Marnie, Rosemary McCormack, Kerry, Carmel, Leah, Heathers' Beh and Hamilton and us (Tracy and Hilary R) took part in a first aid day subsidised by our club and organised by Hilary Martyn. With an 8.30 start and a 4.30 finish, it was a long but information packed day. Although there were an additional 3 non bushwalking ring ins, presenter John Bradbury was mindful that bushwalking was the reason for our attendance.

Apart from a plethora of first aid material, we also discussed the use of our club EPIRB, and the occasions when it should be used. This information was particularly useful and we will put something in Ramble On in the not too distant future.

Whilst talking about ticks, leeches, spiders and snakes, together with tales of getting geographically challenged and spending unplanned nights on the Lamington Plateau and Mt Barney, John, an avid bushwalker in his younger years, endeared himself to us.

We are hopeful John and his wife, Jane, might join us in the bush, and failing that, we hope John will come and speak at a club meeting.

Leader John Bradbury

Written by Hilary and Tracy



CLUB INFORMATION

Personal Safety & Insurance

- 1) As club members you are insured on all club activities, it is your responsibility to ensure that you consider you have sufficient protection. Should any member wish to read the insurance policy it is available from the secretary and should you consider that you require addition insurance that is your personal choice.
- 2) Should an incident occur the procedure is
- 3) A You should have two (2) incident forms in your first aid kit and a pencil. One stays with the party and the other goes with the two people who go for help.
B The injured person or his/her representative (usually the leader) passes this form on to the safety officer (Errol Perry at this stage) he then will fax this to the insurance company **IF REQUESTED TO DO SO**. Please note it will not be sent unless it is requested to be sent. We are required to send it in within 24 hours of the incident.
- 4) The club has purchased an Eperp (an emergency beacon) if you are going on any walk that **MAY** not have phone coverage please consider taking it for the groups protection. The use of this device is to be only used when you have **A LIFE THREATENING SITUATION** (EG heart attack – totally block by fire – extreme illness) no one can say exactly when it should be used. COMMON SENSE RULES. Tracy Ryan holds this device at her home should any person wish to take it on their walk.
- 5) At a recent weekend walk at Mt Warning I saw a chap 35 to 40 fit as a mally bull seriously injure himself with a fall on a easy track section. If he had of used **TWO sticks** that fall would probably not have occurred. Walk safe look where you are going, sticks will save you over and over on your walks.

Have fun get out there and keep fit
Errol



OUR CLUB WEBSITE

Our club Website has all the information you would want to know about our club rules, committee, and forms to use. Information is presented on walk gradings, safety and what to carry in your pack. Hopefully you all use this information to enjoy your bushwalking adventures.

We are going to commence transferring our information to a new website which will be easier for the administrator to use. Is there any member out there who would like to assist with this task. A good working knowledge of computers and the internet is a suggested requirement. There will be people to assist and guide this process. Please send an email to suz_reid@hotmail.com to express your interest in this project and we can have further discussions.