



Ramble On

Newsletter of Redland Bushwalkers Incorporated

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P.O. Box 101 Cleveland 4163

April 2012

Next Club Meeting

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 11th April, 2012

Slide Presentation by Alison & Jillian

President's Report

My last report as President is about to be penned and how sad is that for me. I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as President. It has been an enjoyable position with the support of an excellent team.

Tracy was Vice President and also Newsletter up until December 2011. Tracy was always ready to chair a meeting when the need was there. Her newsletter skills were excellent and she always gave us a great reading.

Tracy also keeps all the archives which are vital parts of our history. Next year we celebrate 10 years of the Club. I would like to wish Tracy and Nigel all the best on their new journey in life of living in the city.

Sue, as Secretary handled the emails that came into the club and distributed them to all members. The minutes were well taken and ready for the next meeting. The correspondence that Sue collected was mostly newsletters from other clubs that are there for all members to peruse. They have some great ideas in there for different places to walk.

Narelle, as Treasurer is doing a great job in taking care of the clubs money.

Our fees have stayed the same for the last few years and we cannot see any reason to increase them but that will be for the new committee to decide.

Carmel as Membership has always had a welcome smile for all new members which put them at ease straight away. Carmel informs new people how the club runs and what is available. Carmel tries to keep an up to date data base of member's information. Carmel puts an advertisement in the Wynnum and Redlands paper and this has bought quite a few enquiries through the website. Great work Carmel.

Steve our Outings officer is very passionate about his position. He is always encouraging people to become leaders so that the calendar has variety for all club members. Recently Steve held an information hour for Leaders and there were 9 prospective leaders there and also Ted and Kevin to lend their expertise. Great work Steve.

Jennifer is our new Newsletter editor and is doing a wonderful job already. Thank you, Jen.

Ken was our Safety and Training Officer and was a great help in encouraging members to have a go. Members stood up and thanked him for their advancement in certain aspects of bush walking. Sadly Ken resigned from the committee and the Club.

Heather is our sustenance supplier and what Heather does makes a huge difference to our meetings. Some members come straight from work and welcome a cuppa and a bicky. Thanks Heather. Hopefully Heather may continue in the new year.

Hilary R is our website person and what a great job she does in keeping the information on the website current. The website is a user friendly one and all members are encouraged to use it.

Ted is the President of FMR and informs us of the training available through FMR.

Leaders – Thank you to you all because without you there would not be a Bushwalking Club. It is you leaders who make it possible for members to do the things that are a little challenging to them or even just leisure activities.

The Club has a variety of activities and they always need somebody to organize (lead) them. Abseiling, bushwalking – social, easy, medium, hard, off track, base camps, through walks, kids camps, kayaking, bus trips, movie nights, Christmas camps, photo competitions, slide shows, guest speakers, first aid courses, cpr, pilgrimages, reciprocal memberships

Members – thank you to you for taking part in the club activities.

The club is a team and with everybody pulling together we will continue to have the success that we have had.

Thank you to you all for allowing me to be the President of such a great club.

Denise Kolcze

Upcoming Activities

BUSHWALKERS PILGRIMAGE 2012

A chance to walk & meet with other clubs.

Hosted by REDLANDS BUSHWALKING CLUB

AT

CANUNGRA SHOWGROUNDS

(Showgrounds Road Canungra)

ON

7th – 9th SEPTEMBER 2012

Early Bird until 31/7/2012 - \$36

After 31/7/2012 - \$42

We are also offering a Tasty Spit Roast Dinner on
Saturday night for \$18.50 (BYO drinks)

The cost for the weekend includes:

Camping, Hot Showers, Friday Night Soup, Tea, Coffee & Nibbles all weekend, Bushwalks from Hard to Easy, Bush band "Stone the Crows", and Sunday Morning 'Sausage Sizzle'.

For more info and booking see our website: <http://pilgrimage2012.weebly.com/index.html>

Contacts: Hilary Riley 0415 526 910 & Betty Murray 0408 129 241

Email: Pilgrimage2012@hotmail.com



Steve (Outings Officer) has been going over the calendar for the next four months and there are quite a few gaps in the calendar for average walks. So if there is anyone in the club who would like to put on these walks it would be great. Maybe you may have some ideas on walks that you would like to do if so please let me know.

The more leaders we have the more walks we can do. You can always buddy up with someone and lead a walk together. The leaders we have now are more than willing to offer advice.

Where: Kids Camp – Bigriggen, (Mt Barney)

When: 28-29 April, 2012

Leaders: Denise Kolcze or Denise Mitchell

Come and have a lovely weekend out at Bigriggen with the grandkids, neighbours kids or anyone else you might think would enjoy the experience of camping and getting out in the bush and having some fun.

You can either bring your own tents or if you prefer there are 4 bunkrooms available that sleep 4 people. Camping is \$8 per adult per night and children under 15yrs are free. The bunkrooms are \$50 per night for 4 people.

Bookings for both camping and the bunkrooms must be made individually so go to the Bigriggen website and book your space. If you want a bunkroom you will need to book quickly as there are only 4 available.

Please contact either Denise to confirm you are coming.

Activity Reports



Where: West Canungra Creek Circuit via Stairway Falls

When: 4th March, 2012

Leader: Denise Mitchell

Walkers on this trip got more than they bargained for ... with over 20 creek crossings, spectacular thundering waterfalls, many half drenched bodies and the odd leach into the mix. With SE Queensland having received its fair share of rain recently the creeks were up making it a perfect time to visit the area.

Fourteen of us left O'Reilly's for Blue Pool, a drop of 400 metres. The track to Stairway Falls crosses the creek 6 times walking through sub-tropical rainforest including Giant Stinging Trees (also known as Gympie Gympie) and Hoop Pines. We lunched watching the falls which was quite a sight and a few of us had a dip. Retracing our steps to Blue Pool, we then took the West Canungra Creek track.



On reaching Bunyip Falls our intention was to take the Box Forest track back to Binna Burra, but there was a sign saying it was closed which meant extra creek crossings as we made our way via Picnic Rock. This part of the track was outstanding as most of the waterfalls are on this section - most opted to wade into the water as a safer option as rock-hopping was a bit dicey. It was all a bit of a team effort with fellow walkers assisting wherever they could, couldn't have done without 'Mark the Man' though! He came up to the mark, braced himself against a rock to get the team over more difficult areas of the creek.

Several Lamington blue spiny crayfish were seen on the way back along with huge brush box and ancient Antarctic beech. Time did not permit to take time out to see the much photographed Elabana Falls too many other things on the go and all were anxious to make the cars by dark! Everyone had to agree (maybe not at the time for some), it had been a huge but extremely satisfying day.

Look out for Denise's next expedition!!
Thanks to Mark for the photo's



Where: Canoeing weekend Lake McDonald

When: 9-11th March, 2012

Leaders: Sue & Dudley Reid

The amount of rain we have had meant getting in to our original destination at Harry's Hut was always going to be in question, unfortunately more rain in the area meant that the road was totally closed, so we went past "Plan B" to Plan "C". This was Camp Cooroora, a Scout camp on the shores of Lake MacDonal, a dam on the Cooroy – Tewanin Road.



Half of us arrived on Friday afternoon and set up camp (or caravan) in time to have a late afternoon paddle into one arm of the lake and return in time for happy hour. Others arrived later – one with pizza and one having had to get directions from the police on breathalyzer duty. Another came via a detour caused by believing his SAT. NAV!

Saturday morning we couldn't have asked for a better day, slightly cloudy and with little or no wind. The group of 7 kayaks paddled to the furthest arm of the dam, about 4 – 5 km, passing through a bird sanctuary and stopping at a waterside park for morning tea.

We then continued exploring up 6 Mile Creek, which flows into the dam, there was a lot of evidence of the huge amount of water that had travelled through the area in the recent downpours. We did not progress very far before debris in the water blocked our passage, so we returned to camp. After lunch some paddled across the lake to the nearby Botanic Gardens. Then it was happy hour(s) again.

On Sunday morning we paddled into another arm of the lake. The birdlife was plentiful with sea eagles, magpie,



geese, pelicans, red crested jacana, ducks and water hen. Disappointingly for some it was pack-up time and back to work, for others it was another day of rest and relaxation with a wonderful sunset to finish the day.

Thanks to all for sharing an enjoyable weekend, and special thanks to Don for organising and transporting the canoes and kayaks. Congratulations to Denise on her return to club activities after her hip operation.

Sue and Dudley

Photos by: Leah, Sue, Kevin & Yvonne



Where: Rat-a-Tat Hut Through Walk

When: 10th -11th March 2012

Leaders: Hilary Riley & Betty Murray

Eight hardy walkers hooted along the border track at a cracking pace until the camel-back users realised that others carrying water bottles hadn't been able to take a drink led us to a quick slurp break with instruction to 'squeak' After enjoying the fabulous views & morning tea at Echo Point we walked 200m to the start of our off track section.

Here we donned protective armor (gaiters, gloves etc.) in expectation of an overgrown footpad that Hilary had forewarned us about because of the recent rain. Much to our delight a party had taken this route the day before and the pad was more visible than expected.

We toodled up and down the various Mt 'Ws' with lunch along the way until we reached the metal Rat-a-Tat sign guiding us down to our special dell to set up our tents for the night.



Our two men Wayne & Brett after cruising along at the rear chuckling at the fact that the girls could navigate, stay on our feet, solve the problems of the world and not take a breather; chose to stay at camp while the girls set off to explore 'numerous falls' as shown on the map.



Early nibbles and variety of cooked dinners were consumed while we waited for night to fall so we could admire the glow worms on the bank at our camp.

On Sunday morning Karla volunteered to use a map and GPS for the first time and enthusiastically guided us out of the off track section.

Two of the party were new to through walks and showed their fitness and tenacity by completing the two day walk still with smiles on their faces. Once we were off the Albert River Circuit section our thoughts turned to a hot shower and nice cup of coffee.

Thanks to the great company and fit walkers it was an enjoyable weekend for us as leaders.



Where: Bike Ride Gateway Bridge

When: 17th March, 2012

Leaders: Narelle Belnave

Our Club bike ride on the 17th March, 2012 was attended by Leah Stephens, Narelle Balnave, John Kolcze and Peter Houghton. (I invited Peter on the ride as he NEVER gets lost and always carries a bike pump)!! We met at Murrarie train station and duly set off towards the Gateway Bridge and once over the bridge stopped for an early coffee break at the new



Northside CityCat Terminal. The ride beside the Brisbane River was very enjoyable and on reaching the Story Bridge we crossed over and rode along the pathway to Southbank where we caught a CityCat back along the river to Bulimba/Oxford Street and half an hour later we all safely arrived back at the Murrarie Train Station - We covered at least 40kms and I must say that I enjoyed everyone's company.....Let's do it all again in the near future!!



Where: Toohey Forest Walk.

When: Sunday 18th March

Leader: Brian & Cheryle

7 bushwalkers Noela, Marnie, Linda, Maritta, Sandy, Cheryle and Brian met at the carpark. As we had a lot of rain the previous evening a decision was made to explore the tracks through to the university Campus. We traversed the Toohey ridge, Baileyana, Mimosa, Pultena tracks to the ring road and returned via the Wilcox and Nathan track. We appreciated the small running creeks and different terrain higher on the ridge. We arrived back at the picnic ground for morning tea after 2 hours, a pleasant morning had by all and so close to home.



Where: Lota

When: Saturday 17th March 2012

Leader: Libby Westacott

Libby, Marnie, Jennifer, Maritta and Cheryle enjoyed the local scenery whilst walking for 1 1/2 hours through Lota and up onto Manly ridge, back along the waterfront to Lota ending up at the local coffee shop for a chat.



Where: Scramble and caving with abseil at Campbell's Folly
When: 18 March 2012
Leader: Ted Wassenberg

Cambell's Folly lies between Mt Ernest and Mt Lindsay. From the highway it appears as a solid line of rock with numerous caves while on the south and western sides it can be approached by a number of ridges. So it was that eight of us set off on a misty overcast and cool morning for a traverse of Campbell's Folly by the SW ridge. If you know the way there is a rough and vague trail to follow through the various small cliffs to the top. Here we had great views of the Palen Creek valley and across to Mt Lindsay. However, with the strong gusting wind and the low cloud ceiling obscuring most of Mt Lindsay, we did not stay long. Morning tea was in the lee of a rocky outcrop and not long after that we came to the cave that marked the way to the cave into which we were going to abseil. A bit of circuitous bush bashing soon had us at the entrance.



I set up the abseil and safety lines and using a 70m rope doubled up dropped the bag containing the rest of the rope into the cave. Judy was the first to descend and by 2-way radio confirmed that the rope had not tangled and reached the bottom of the crevasse at the other end of the cave. The other members of the group soon followed and I came down last. We had a minor problem retrieving the rope that was resolved by Trevor and Norman (QBW members) who scrambled up an adjacent gully back to the top of the cave and freed the rope. Lunch was taken just below the bottom of the crevasse.

The descent from here involved scrambling down gullies and rock slabs to emerge onto the fields below and a farm road back to the cars. Afternoon tea was held back at Rathdowney shop where we relived the experience over drinks and said fond farewell to each other. Thanks to Judy, Hilary, Teresa, Jillian, Pedro, Norman and Trevor for a memorable day.



Thanks also to the owners of the two properties we traversed, Pam Lindsay, Kim and Clive.



Where: East Barney Falls
When: 25th March 2012
Leader: Ted Wassenberg

What a wonderful experience we had. Some of us were going to camp at Barney lodge the Saturday night, but unforeseen circumstances saw us all arriving at Yellow Pinch ford at 08:00 am on the Sunday morning. What a glorious day, clear skies, little cloud over east Peak and mild temperatures. In good spirits we set off at 08:10 am along a forestry road leading up towards Logan's Ridge. On the way, a small bearded lizard ran up Judy's gaiter, perhaps mistaking her for a tree. Several hypothetical diplomas on farm gate technology were handed out while passing such complicated structures.



Soon after leaving the National Park gate we veered off the road and followed the ridge towards the base of east peak. The going became steeper and those of us (Pedro, Hilary and I) carrying 50-70 m lengths of rope soon felt the difference. After crossing several steep gullies, we arrived at the head of the first of seven waterfalls. This one was the most complex as it had several steps and twists. Water was running more than when I was there several weeks previously, but not enough to stop us. We needed all of the 60m to get us down to the bottom. Judy went first, to untangle the ropes. There was a temptation on most abseils to avoid the water, but it was safest to go where the water ran to avoid the slippery sections and prevent people falling.



Judy and Pedro set up the next abseil, while others were still coming down the first.

This was a short 8m vertical drop into a small pool. With everyone down these abseils, we followed the creek for about 300m to the next series of falls. We passed a brown snake just before the next falls (45m). This time Betty went down first to sort out the ropes, while Judy diligently did some gardening removing some potentially dangerous rocks from the abseil path. Hilary was the first to go down the next waterfall (40m) so she could set up the following abseil, only 30m downstream, which had a sheer 27m-drop into a pool. With everyone safely down these falls, we set off down twisting and picturesque gullies and gorges until the next waterfall (15m). The final waterfall about 100m further downstream has a giant fig tree on one side and its roots provided

the anchor for the last abseil.

From here it was a rock-hop down, down in a normally dry creek bed, as the water runs below the gravel. Today there were pools everywhere and slimy. The creek terminates at the Logan River, this too was running deeper than normal and as we had to ford it three times, we were all going to get wet. For me it was waist deep in places. Everyone seemed to enjoy the crossings, as there was a lot of laughter, despite some nearly falling in completely due to slippery rocks. A final push through deep grass had us onto the road over Yellow Pinch and back at the cars just after 5:00 pm.

We stopped at McDonald's in Beaudesert for a cuppa and refreshments and to discuss the day's events. Jillian and Alison were particularly pleased with the new descender's they had bought and Pedro and Teresa may revise the way they use theirs.

It was a long and particularly enjoyable trip, thanks all for making it a safe one as well.



Where: Daves Creek
When: 25th March 2012
Leader: Sue Donnelly

On Sunday 25th April, nine Redland bush walkers enjoyed perfect autumn weather on the Dave's Creek circuit. It is a delightful walk due to the fascinating variety of terrain that it passes through.

We started out from Binna Burra in the rainforest along the Border track. Before we had even passed through the entrance archway we were fortunate to be able to watch a small whiptail or pretty face wallaby eating some native fruit. The track had a few muddy sections but we didn't see any leeches. Hooray! As we descended to Dave's creek, Steve's sharp eyes spotted a trapdoor spider in the bank. They are so well camouflaged.



We passed out of the rainforest and into more open heathland with some great clear views over the Numimbah Valley. The cave was too wet to sit for morning tea so Steve led us through a short "bush bash" where we could sit at the top of a rock face and lookout across the forest.

Later we had a brief rest/photo opportunity on a convenient log then it was up to Surprise Rock for lunch where we were able to coax John up to greater heights to enjoy the "birds-eye" view. Well done John!

We also came across two land mullets (big black skinks) and a whiptail snake sleeping in the sun.

A lovely day out organized by Steve and led by Sue.



Where: Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens Photo-Shoot and Summit Walk

When: 25th March 2012

Leader: Wayne, Mike & Kerrie

Nine enthusiastic photographers met at the Botanical Gardens at 9am and spent the next 2½ hours avidly photographing everything in sight. What a fantastic venue it is for recording our local fauna and flora at its best. The weather was

perfect, not too sunny and not too hot! We had birds galore, lizards big and small, and even the odd snake made its presence. The gardens were lush, with every shade of green interspersed with bright flowers of many colours and hues. The "macro" setting on all our cameras got a real hiding. Yes, one or two of us came to realize what that little flower setting on our camera is for!



Coffee and cake around 11.30 and then we left Wayne and Deb to more photography while Kerrie led us to her "Mystery" 12km walk around the north and south sides of Mt Coot-tha. The bush was lush and sheltering. Great to see a lot of mountain bikes on the bike trails too. Not too many other walkers, but we did meet a young lady carrying her full pack and training to do Larapinta Trail on her own. (The light weight

plastic trowel she had is a good idea)!

We arrived back at our cars around 4pm and adjourned to the summit cafe for another well-earned coffee and cake! The view of Brisbane and beyond (and the food) was great.



Interesting Information



Why I like Tramping in New Zealand By David Rae



Arthurs Pass

1. The scenery is all inspiring.
2. You can still hitch hike from trail heads and get a lift in a reasonable time.
3. You can meet a total stranger in a hut and they are willing to give you their car keys to their 2 year old Corolla so you can bring the car back to the start of a walk.
4. DOC does a marvelous job of maintaining back country huts and tracks.
5. The people you meet in backcountry huts are generally always friendly.
6. There is such a large variety of walks which go from hut to hut.
7. Back country huts are quaint to stay in.



8. Whenever you need a drink there is always a clean mountain stream next to you.
9. Public transport is available to most trail heads.