



Ramble On

Newsletter of Redland Bushwalkers Incorporated

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P.O. Box 101 Cleveland 4163

December 2012

Next Club Meeting

Wednesday 9th January, 2013 7:00pm for 7:30pm start
(N.B. No meeting in December)

Upcoming Activities



REDLAND BUSHWALKERS CELEBRATING 10 WONDERFUL YEARS

We are about to celebrate the history of our club, of which we are all NOW a part, so we invite you to join in the activities planned....see the Club website (homepage) for link to 10th Anniversary full program of events. Here are some of the ways you can join in on the celebrations.

CLUB FIRST WALK RE-ENACTMENT Brisbane Forest Park – Sunday December 9

We are launching our 10 year celebrations with a re-enactment of our first walk held at Brisbane Forest Park. The Thylogale walk incorporates two walks (Thylogale and Pitta Circuit) and is also known as the Jolly's Lookout to Boombana Walk:

- Approx. 9kms in length
- Grade 3 walk (quite an easy walk really!).
- Walk description - From Jolly's Lookout we walk along the Thylogale walking track for about 4kms. This track connects Jollys Lookout to Boombana as you walk through pockets of dry rainforest. From Boombana we walk the Pitta Circuit for approximately 1km exploring open eucalypt forest and then subtropical rainforest. We'll also see a 300 year old huge strangler fig. We then return along the Thylogale track for another 4km
- There will be a small celebration after the walk.
- Leader - Laurel Santry (contact Laurel mob 0438 080157 or email - laurelandrob.santry@gmail.com)

Pass the word around as we would love to see you all on this walk and celebrate the club's early history and the reason why we enjoy being part of this club.

AN ICONIC WALK TO KICK OFF 2013

Border track walk - 20 January 2013

This walk partly follows along the Qld/NSW border from O'Reilly's to Binna Burra or vice versa in the Lamington National Park.

- Approx 24 km on a graded track. The walking is easy but long and would have a duration of approximately 8 hours.
- Bring plenty of water together with the basic essentials in your normal day pack.
- Great range of vegetation and topography with the coolness of the rainforest, and in the high border region the enchanting Antarctic beeches are passed.
- Views from Mt Bithongabell, Booloomoola Lookout, Mt Merino and Joalah Lookout where northern NSW, The Tweed Range, The Gold Coast and the Shield Volcano, Mt Warning are to be seen.
- At least 2 groups are required, one group starting at Binna Burra, the other at O'Reillys. Car keys will be exchanged when the two groups pass on the track. Afterwards meet again at Canungra for some camaraderie and to reclaim vehicles.
- Leader – John Kolcze (contact John – mobile 0410 054 392 or email: dkolcze@bigpond.com)

Hoping to see you on our re-enactment of one of our classic walks which was well supported early in the Club's history.

COMMEMORATIVE E-BOOK

As part of our celebrations we are compiling an historical snapshot of our club's history in an E-book format. Ted Wassenberg is co-ordinating this project and would like to receive from current and past members any articles/blurbs/photos that might contribute to this Ebook. He is particularly interested in hearing from you about the impact the club has had on your life and any story you may have about your experiences while in the club. We believe there are many untapped wonderful snippets of history out there....we want to hear about them!

Contact Ted: email - twassenberg@optusnet.com.au or mob - 0428 753 297

GET TOGETHER WITH PAST AND CURRENT MEMBERS

Saturday 9 March 2013 from 5pm at Indigiscapes

Remember to put this date in your diary. More details nearer the time.



New Members

We had two new members join last month, they are: Gary Phillips & Lynda McKinley

Welcome to you both and we hope you enjoy your bushwalking experiences with Redlands Bushwalking club.



Activity Reports



Where: Trails and Tales Walk - Redlands

When: Saturday November 3, 2012

Leader: Kevin Blain

Report in a Nutshell: After our briefing, the excited participants set off with maps and activity sheets in hand, to discover the aforementioned places of interest that Kevin had selected for us.

It was a lot of fun trying to find these places on our own.

Around lunch time en route to Redland Bay, thanks to Leisa's local knowledge, we made a couple of discoveries of our own, that we would like to share with Kevin:

1. 'Brown Sugar' coffee shop at Victoria Pt., with its revolving cake stand a fleeting distraction for some.
2. Fig tree at the entry to Wilson's Lane on the southerly side of Vic Pt., where eight of us enjoyed a relaxing picnic lunch with our takeaway drinks.

Thank you Kevin & Yvonne on behalf of all participants. Congratulations on such a great effort preparing the activities, maps, planning the barbeque etc. for us. We not only enjoyed the trails, discovering for ourselves the points of historic interest (thanks for taking our phone calls!), but also your additional info session, including the extra maps and the relic of the 150 year old survey post you brought along. After our day out exploring, we thoroughly enjoyed the barbeque in pleasant surroundings, shared with pleasant company, as the sun set in the west.

Lessons Learnt:

Locating power pole numbers can be tricky.

Read and reread your activity sheet and maps, and if you think you're going the wrong way, you very well could be.

Serendipity side tracks can be a lot of fun (during the daylight hours anyway); however if you are heading towards smoke, turn back.

Always bring your water bottle, even on a short walk.

After what we discovered in our local area, we realized that we need to get out more!

Thanks and Cheers.

Lynn Endacott

DETAILS OF TRAILS AND TALES WALKS

WALK 1 - Old Tramway at Bligh Street, Wellington Point.

This was constructed in approximately 1860 by South Sea Island workers engaged in the sugar growing enterprise. It was briefly used to transport sugar and timber to barges for sea transport.

The magnetic bearing of the tramway is 343°.

WALK 2 - Empire Point – Off Eckersley Street, Ormiston.

This walk leads to a migratory bird roosting site. Empire Point was previously used as a loading site for the coral dredging in the adjacent bay. This dredging was undertaken from 1960 to 1990. Initially the coral was trucked away from the site. In later years it was taken by barge up the Brisbane River for processing at the Darra Cement Works. In the 1960's the Dredging Company was contemplating the construction of the cement works at Ormiston. Major objection was raised to this proposal and it was prevented eventually by Council gazetted a Town Plan that established Ormiston as residential area. The cement processing plant was then constructed at Darra.

The man made feature located on a magnetic bearing of 77° was a telecommunication tower on the sand hill, east of Dunwich, Stradbroke Island. The feature located at a magnetic bearing of 96° was the old Cleveland Point Lighthouse.

WALK 3A - Site of old Cleveland Rifle Range, Weippin Street, Cleveland.

Rifle ranges were established and used during the First and Second World Wars by local Volunteer Defence Corps. Many of the local community were precluded from Army enlistment due to farming being a protected occupation necessary for production of food. The community members undertook local defence and used the rifle range for training purposes. Some of the old shooting mounds and the target butts can still be found on the site.

WALK 3B –Aboriginal Bora Ring and Canoe Trees. Weippen Street, Cleveland.

This site is situated on the southern side of Weippen Street, behind the existing medical buildings. The Bora ring is now protected by a fence and the canoe trees are located about 50 metres west of the Bora Ring.

WALK 4 – Old Stone Hut – West of Serpentine Creek Road, Redland Bay.

The remains of this hut can be found about 2 ½ km. west of the Historic Cemetery on Serpentine Creek Road about 300metres south of Scenic Road. All that remains of this hut is the corner buttresses and foundations. I first came across this hut in 1980. It then had full stone walls and a partly collapsed galvanised iron roof and was unoccupied. Unfortunately it has since been vandalised. It is believed that the hut was built around 1920 – 30 by a Russian itinerant worker. Unfortunately this information cannot be verified, so I guess the full story will never be known.

The Historic Cemetery was used in the late 1800's. Several early residents of the district were buried there. Two of whom were:-Heinrich Dittman born 6-10-1823, died 16-11-1899 and Frederike Dittman born 20-6-1829, died 4-10-1905.

The true bearing of Serpentine Creek Road, looking towards Scenic road is 10° true.

WALK 5 - Original Tingalpa Creek Crossing – Old Cleveland Road. Capalaba.

This site is located on the creek about 400 metres north of the current bridge on Old Cleveland Road. Several signs outlining the significance of the site have been erected and the site is well worth inspection.

The first bridge was built on this site in 1874. Prior to this time the creek was forded across the rock bar during low tides. A pathway leads south from this site to Killarney Street (approx.1.1km.)

From a small park at this point it is possible to observe the spillway of Leslie Harrison Dam. This dam was completed about 1968. Redland Shire was then able to provide reticulated water for the residents. Reliance of tank water for water supply was necessary prior to this date. The Shire population at that stage was less than 10,000 people and is now approximately 130,000.

Location of Observation Photographs

- A - Walk 2 - Mangrove Tree, beside pathway leading to Empire Point Bird Roost.
- B - Walk 4 - Daihatsu Motor Vehicle – Beside pathway near gully leading to stone hut.
- C - Walk 5 - Footings of bridge at original creek crossing, Tingalpa Creek.
- D - Walk 1 - Tramway site looking north from Bligh Street.
- E - Walk 2 - Strangler Fig Tree beside pathway leading to bird roost.
- F - Walk 3A - Remnants of shooting mounds at rifle range.

Some of this information has been obtained by me during my working career in the district. There are many interesting facets of Redlands history and it is well worth investigating.

Club member Tracy Ryan has written a considerable amount about the Redland History during her role as Historian for Redland City Council. This information can be obtained from Council Library or by internet search.

Kevin Blain



Where: Beginners abseil training Kangaroo Point .

When: 11 Nov 2012

Leader: Ted Wassenberg

Despite the heavy rain the previous day and the threatening sky on Sunday morning I decided that abseil training would go ahead, as the forecast was for a good day. I set off before six am to ensure we would get a spot on the cliffs before the commercial operators arrived. I had claimed three bollards by putting our ropes on them and set up the first abseil station to check on the wetness of the rock. This one proved to be dry. Betty and Hilary arrived soon after and proceeded to set up the other two abseil stations. When Judy arrived she was tasked with checking all three stations.

Everyone who had nominated arrived before 0730 and we proceeded with the safety briefing and formal part of the day. Judy took Gerry and Sue aside and began supervising their abseils, while Hilary, Betty and Trevor began putting the beginners in harnesses and running through the rudiments of abseiling off ropes hanging from a tree branch. Once these drills were perfected it was time to put our students over the 9m drop with top belays. This was managed by Betty and Hilary while I had the overall supervision. Meanwhile Judy was managing her team to practice abseiling past a knot. Once everyone had performed two abseils on top belays it was time to advance them to self belays. This meant going back to the ropes on the tree.



Our students were great, and picked up the techniques easily, Sue and Gerry managed to abseil past the knots and everyone else completed three abseils with a self belay.



Then came a session on tying knots and learning how they were to be used. This is always an amusing part of the training for the instructors. A short written test on the day's activities then followed and it tells me what knowledge had been absorbed. It also gives me an indication of how well I managed to get the message across. In all we had a successful day, the rain held off and everyone managed to get some abseils.

Thanks to Hilary, Betty, Judy and Trevor for your help and well done the newbies.



Where: Python Rock and Moran's Falls

When: Christmas Camp Walk

Leader: Heather Hamilton

One man and seven of us "not so fit" girls did this 8 km walk on Saturday. Beautiful weather, no wind or rain and in the bush it wasn't too hot. Great views from the "rock" and noticeable were all the Illawarra flame trees in their brilliant red flowers. Everyone enjoyed the walk through some really beautiful bush, lots of birds and even a red bellied black snake curled up in the grass at the top of Moran's falls. We were back in camp in time for lunch and prepare for the evening.



Where: Christmas Camp -Spring Gully Stays

When: 23-25 Nov, 2012

Organiser: Steve Tolcher

The annual Christmas gathering is always a great weekend.

A couple of nights of being lulled to sleep by Canungra Creek rippling past makes for a good start.

Some arrived on Friday, setting up and then relaxing for a meal and a chat.

Steve, Narelle and others were unpacking the food supplies. Steve had put in a big effort organising this. Well done Steve.

Betty, Hilary and Heather organized some good walks.



All were popular. I was on Hilary's walk. It was especially interesting as most of us hadn't been that way before. We drove through farmlands along Illinbah Road. It was exceptionally pretty countryside. We drove on along an easement, actually in the paddocks, parked the cars and then proceeded to climb to Cooginbano lookout. We scrambled up the steep hillside navigating (Hilary and Judy) amongst the clinging lantana and up along the ridge. A fire had been through recently so most of the undergrowth was gone. We had good views back down the Coomera Valley. We then walked on to Bimboolba lookout for a superb view up the Illinbah valley.

Back at the camp many of us took a refreshing dip in Canungra Creek. A delightful pass time except for the hungry eel feasting on my feet and having a passing nibble at a few others!

Some people preferred sitting and sipping drinks in the shade on the banks watching this entertainment.

We all gathered round to fill the walks calendar for the next 6 months. Plenty of good ones coming up!

The games were then approached with enthusiasm. There were some very funny antics. The relay saw pairs tearing up and down sticking very closely together to hold their balloon between back and chest. It was hilarious and there was only one crash landing. Malcolm swears he pulled a muscle as Leisa drove him on faster and faster. Marika was right "out there" and Ali was ever so speedy.



In musical clothes, was that Linda Lovelace wearing a red cami? Tracy discovered new curves and there were some very "unvogue" outfits!

We are an energetic bunch and after a sumptuous bar-b-que with delicious salads and even better desserts we were up on the "floor" to dance off the excess.

The young ones retired to their bunks while we oldies danced the night away. Last one 'Nutbushing' was Narelle! Such a lively lady!

On Sunday after a leisurely breakfast we packed up for the journey home. A fun and relaxing weekend was had by all.



Where: Lost World Traverse

When: Friday 26 – Sunday 28 October.

Leader: Judy Moody-Stuart

It seems the very suggestion of doing the Lost World traverse brings on extreme weather conditions and this time there was the expectation of high temperatures (or was it rain?). So, with our number down from the original eight to four, Karla, Ted, Shane and Judy met at O'Reilly's camp ground on Friday night.



We set off on the Border Track about 6.30 on Saturday morning and were at Echo Point enjoying a somewhat hazy view by 8.30. At the Echo Point camp site we left the graded track and headed up towards Mt Worendo. The footpad was relatively clear and I was quietly hoping that I was going to recognise the point at which to turn off towards the Mt Worendo summit. I was so pleased to get this right that I then had a slight navigational misjudgement which was fixed when Ted suggested we back track a few metres and walk the other side of the rocks on the summit of Mt Worendo.

The route from Mt Worendo towards the Lost World Saddle was not always distinct with tape in some sections but where there was not, we kept to a compass bearing. We were pleased to get to the saddle by 12.15 where we had lunch before tackling the steep walk down to the Albert River to collect enough water to keep us going until Sunday afternoon. The water looked enticing and we all had a refreshing swim although by the time we had staggered back up to the saddle, using various improvised methods to carry our extra water bottles, I felt I could have done with another swim.

From the saddle we immediately started the steep climb up the razorback ridge towards Mt Razorback, stopping briefly to enjoy the views down towards the south branch of the Albert River with many flashes of red flame trees amongst the green, and across to Mt Widgee and Buchanan's Fort. Perhaps these view stops were just excuses to have much needed rests? We reached the summit cairn of Mt Razorback by 3.30 and all agreed not to push on any further so made this our camp for the night. The wind howled high in the trees all night but thankfully decided not to drop anything on us.



We woke to a very cool morning and headed off across the Lost World Plateau through the rainforest, at times having to push our way through vines and fallen trees before emerging at the Lost World Waterfall campsite. This is a lovely small campsite with water close by and views out to Castle Crag and Pat's Bluff but it was just too far for us to reach the previous afternoon. Our next obstacle was finding the right place to drop off the plateau to contour round to descend the western razorback. I hoped I would remember the spot from our last expedition in 2009 but ... Shane and Ted found a suitable but different route.

Once on the razorback it was down and more down until we reached the crossing of the North Branch of the Albert River from where it was a hot climb up the Commando Track and back to Luke's Farm and our waiting car. Thank you to Karla, Shane and Ted for joining me on what I think is a great walk. I think we were all deserved the refreshments at O'Reilly's café.



Something Different

Birds heard by Malcolm from 04.00 hrs on Sunday 25th Nov. 2012 at Spring Gully Stays (Christmas Camp). Double click or Ctrl + click onto the “http;//” link appearing under each bird for details and even a recording of their call. The Bronze-wing pigeon has no call recording.

Bronze-winged pigeon

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Phaps-chalcoptera>

Channel-billed cuckoo

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Scythrops-novaehollandiae>

Common Crow

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Corvus-orru>

Dollar bird

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Eurystomus-orientalis>

Eastern spinebill

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Acanthorhynchus-tenuirostris>

Forest kingfisher

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Todiramphus-macleayi>

Galah

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Eolophus-roseicapillus>

Grey butcher bird

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Cracticus-torquatus>

Grey shrike-thrush

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Colluricincla-harmonica>

King parrot

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Alisterus-scapularis>

Koel

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Eudynamys-orientalis>

Laughing Kookaburra

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Dacelo-novaeguineae>

Lewin's honeyeater

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Meliphaga-lewinii>

Magpie

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Cracticus-tibicen>

Olive-backed Oriel



Bronze-winged pigeon



Galah



Pee-wee

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Grallina-cyanoleuca>

Pheasant coucal

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Centropus-phasianinus>

Pied Currawong

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Strepera-graculina>

Rainbow lorikeet

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Trichoglossus-haematodus>

Silver eye

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Zosterops-lateralis>

Spangled drongo

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Dicrurus-bracteatus>

Sulfur-crested cockatoo

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Cacatua-galerita>

Willie wagtail

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/species/Rhipidura-leucophrys>

... and two others that I could not identify.

Now you know why it was noisy!

Did you also hear the silver crested snoring birds in some of the tents?

Malcolm



Pheasant coucal



Spangled drongo



Important Information

Guidelines for Club ethics:

- When nominating for a walk, members and visitors have an obligation to write legibly on the nomination form.
- Please contact walk leaders at least early in the week before a walk. If you leave it till Thursday or Friday night you may be disappointed to find that the walk has been cancelled, due to apparent lack of interest. Also dates, details etc. can & do change. Leaders give their time to organise walks and need to know if they are committed to lead a walk. The leader may assign you to a car for the trip.
- Read the walk description and note the rating. If you are unsure of your abilities, please discuss this with the leader before nominating. Neither you nor other walkers will have a good day if your fitness is not of a suitable standard.
- The leader of a walk has the final say on whether a person can come on a walk. Members and newcomers should be aware of this and accept it.

- Do you have a health problem that may affect your performance on a walk? It is important that you inform the leader of this and discuss the matter.
- If you have commitments after a walk please discuss this with the leader before commencing a walk. Leaders cannot guarantee the time of return, due to weather, terrain & the expertise of walkers.
- Arrive at the agreed meeting point before the set time. We try to be punctual. Late walkers can be left behind!
- It is a normal practise to share the costs of transport to and from a walk. This may vary between car owners and may be as simple as sharing the cost of the fuel among the passengers or a fixed amount for example: (10-20kms \$5/person, 20-50kms \$8/person, 50-100kms \$10/person 100-200kms \$15/person, 200-250kms \$20/person, 250-300kms \$25/person) Discuss this with your driver.
- Please have a change of clothes and shoes available in the car for the return journey as a courtesy to your companions and the car owner.

DAY WALK CHECKLIST:

Please ensure you have the following items so you are prepared for any eventuality whilst on a day walk.

ABSOLUTE ESSENTIALS:

- Boots (must be fully enclosed – no sandals. Boots are preferable although joggers are suitable for most social walks).
- Gaiters or long pants (unless otherwise specified).
- Daypack of sufficient capacity to carry all your needs.
- Water – Minimum of 2 litres – (bladder or two separate containers).
- Torch/headlamp with spare batteries. (Lithium batteries are lighter and last longer than alkaline batteries).
- Raincoat or Poncho.
- First-aid kit
- Whistle
- Lunch and snacks.

RECOMMENDED:

- Light fleece or Thermal top.
- Pack liner and pack cover. (protects pack contents in case of rain)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Rubbish bag (we take out what we take in; also for wet muddy gear).
- Map and compass (ideally the leader is not the only one with these items).
- Toilet paper and trowel.
- Spare change of clothes in a bag to be left in the car for the return journey – be considerate of fellow passengers and those who provide the transport.

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

- Camera or binoculars.
- Walking poles.
- Gardening gloves or similar for off track walks.

IMPORTANT:

1. Trip leaders can choose to leave you behind if you are not properly equipped.
2. Keep to walks within the bounds of the walk grading as shown on the walk calendar.

