



Ramble On

Newsletter of Redland Bushwalkers Incorporated

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P.O. Box 101 Cleveland 4163

September 2013

Next Club Meeting

Wednesday 11th September, 2013

7:00pm for 7:30pm start

Indigiscapes Centre, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba
Guest Speaker - photographer Julie Geldhard*

Presidents Report



Vice President Report

It is hard to believe that we are into September already and aren't the days beautiful, perfect for walking or abseiling or canoeing or camping and taking photos to remember the event. All of the activities are run in our very own club. BUT to keep these activities going we need people willing to organise them, what we call leaders. Maybe we need to change the name to something else so that you don't have to feel frightened to take on the role of organiser/planner/gatherer/leader/co-leader.

I heard that there was a very successful canoe trip that Don and Mike organised. Well done, as you can see you can do something together so that the task doesn't seem so hard. Please have a serious think about this as it cannot be the same people who contribute all the time. Some of the leaders have been in the club since it began and it would be great to see some of the newer members step up and gather some people together for a walk of their choice.

Photographic Competition: Every year we have a lovely night of viewing club member's photos. Here is your opportunity to display some of the photos that you have taken. At the club meeting the committee will be selling the cards for the photo to be mounted on for \$10 for 10 or \$1 each if you only have a few to enter.

Sue Kemp and John Kolcze have taken the role on this year so please support them by taking part. We are all looking forward to seeing your shots.

Mounting cards bought at the September Club meeting, photos to be handed in to Sue or John at the October Club meeting for displaying and announcing winners at the November Club meeting.

10th Anniversary Christmas Camp is being planned by Hilary M, Hilary R, Laurel and Betty and will be held at Mt Warning where the very first RBW Christmas Camp was held. The Christmas Camp is always a fun weekend of walks plus catching up with other members. I'm sure that the ladies will be filling you with all the details it at each meeting.

Please consider helping out your club.
Happy walking - Denise Kolcze





New Members

Welcome to Shirley de Krom & Anne Thomson hope you both enjoy your membership with us and we look forward to meeting you on the track sometime.



Photographic Competition:

Where has the year gone? We hope you've been happily snapping away and compiling a nice collection of photos for the photographic competition in the following categories....

1. LANDSCAPE
2. NATURE
3. PEOPLE
4. ADVENTURE
5. 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Entries for the competition **close** at the club meeting in October 2013.

We will aim to display photos and present prizes at the club meeting in November 2013.

Basic guidelines are similar to previous year's competitions and can be viewed on the website.

As in previous years, the competition is open to any club member and photographic ability is not important. Your equipment need not be hi tech or expensive - the emphasis is on enjoying the bushwalk/activity, having fun and capturing the moment.

We're looking forward to seeing your collection of photos - so what are you waiting for, get out there and enjoy!!

Contact John K 3286 5471 or jkolcze@bigpond.com



***Guest Speaker, September meeting**

Well-known local photographer Julie Geldhard will be the guest speaker at the September meeting. Julie runs regular workshops in photography and has been a photographer and videographer for some 15 years. Julie has a great passion for photography and will share with us her tips and tricks about getting the best out of our photographs with advice on composition and camera settings.





♪ **JINGLE** ♪.....**JINGLE** ♪.....**JINGLE** ♪
It's
♪**CHRISTMAS CAMP**♪
♪**TIME AGAIN!**♪
FRIDAY 22 TO SUNDAY 24
NOVEMBER 2013



**Fun, laughter, walking, storytelling, singing,
a bit more walking, dancing, eating
and more walking.**

**To celebrate our 10th Anniversary year we are going back to our first club
Christmas camp venue:**

**Mt Warning Rainforest Park
153 Mount Warning Road
Mount Warning
Gold coast Hinterland**

<http://www.mtwarningrainforestpark.com/>

See how easy it is!.....

**For \$12 per person (paid to RBC Christmas Camp Treasurer Betty Murray by 13 November 2013)
you will receive.....**

- Fresh salads to go with your BYO meat for Saturday night
- Christmas pudding dessert
- Sunday morning pancakes

Everything else you bring yourself....*don't forget happy hour food on Saturday!*

Accommodation

- Book your own CABIN direct with the Park. Check the website, (<http://www.mtwarningrainforestpark.com/>) and book online as early as possible (payment to venue management). Note - If only wanting one night phone park.
- Reserve your own UNPOWERED CAMPSITES. Cost \$12.50 per person per night; payment due on arrival to Mt Warning.

##We need to know numbers so please, fill in the accommodation sheet at a club meeting or contact Hilary Martyn (email: westovermartyn@bigpond.com; phone: 3821 7801)

**Stay tuned for the list of walks!.....
A good range of walks will be available –
More information to come.**

Want more info..... see Laurel Santry, Hilary Martyn or Hilary Riley at the club meetings.



WALK GRADINGS:

Distance		Terrain		Fitness	
S	Short Under 10k, per day	1-3	Graded track or open terrain, no scrub	1-3	Easy. Suitable for beginners
M	Medium 10-15k, per day	4-5	Off track, bush, minor scrub, rainforest, rock hopping, minor scrambling	4-5	Medium, reasonable fitness required
L	Long 15-20km per day	6-7	As above + thick scrub. Major rock scrambling using hands.	6-7	As above + agility required
X	Extra Long 20km+ per day	8-9	As above + rope and technical ability required	8-9	Hard strenuous, fit walkers only

AB	Abseiling	DW	Day Walk	TW	Through Walk
BC	Base Camp	SOC	Social	XT	Extended Trip
R	Bike Ride	TR	Training		

EXAMPLE:

The Albert River Circuit at O'Reilly's is 22km long all on graded track, it would be graded as: **DW X 3 5**

Activity Reports



Where: The Great Mt Cotton thru-walk

When: 3rd August

Leader: Malcolm

On Saturday the 3rd August 10 of us set off from the Gibson's property for a through walk to walk around the ridges of Mt Cotton and hopefully return safely back to our cars the following morning.

It was with much trepidation that I set forth as it has been at least 3 decades since I have had to carry everything on my back. It was also Heather, Anne and Geoff's first times on a through walk with the club. I did feel safe and not really too concerned as Carmel, Hilary, Leah, Mike, David and Malcolm were all experienced 'through' walkers.

The first part of the walk was certainly a challenge walking through a bit of mud and a viney trail that had been slashed through to make a sort of path, and trying not to fall backwards and getting used to balance the backpack as we made what I thought was a very steep ascent.



At this point I was thinking, "Why am I doing this to myself?"

However, the terrain soon changed and before we knew it we came across some lovely red cows who were most interested in seeing a group of 10 intrepid explorers trying to dodge their cow poo and not to fall into the big crevasse in the field!

We then stopped for a lovely lunch at the West Mt Cotton Nursery, which was 'very civilised' for a through walk apparently. There was a delicious quiche and salad made by Mike, and coffees and drinks made by Narelle. Not to mention a friendly dog, awesome views, a greedy peacock, water refilling station and best of all a port-a-loo!

After lunch was the lovely walk up the Mongrel hill, which I quite enjoyed (I must have masochistic tendencies), one foot after another. Good cardio 'workout', and fantastic views from the top!



We then started walking through fences, over fences, under fences, around fences, sometimes with packs on and sometimes with packs off. Good for limbo practice! All in all, I found the walk was quite varied in vegetation which made it interesting I think.

Suddenly we came across a very angry farmer who was most upset to see us walking on part of his property. He was threatening to call the police and wanted us all to go back to where we came from. After much negotiation by Malcolm and some of our party, the situation was deescalated and diffused and the farmer allowed us to continue on our merry way, as he took off on his tractor with one of his dogs sitting in front of him. So if ever Malcolm is

applying for a job as a hostage negotiator I will happily provide a reference for him. Apparently one of the fences we went over was supposed to be an electric fence too!!

About 4pm we arrived at our camp ground which once again was very upmarket for a through walk as we could use the toilet in the laundry of the lovely people that lived there, Colin and Robyn who Malcolm has known since 2005 (a long story apparently).

We had a very pleasant evening, watching the sunset, had a great fire going, and the company of 3 dogs who never tired with playing catch with sticks. Leah shared her marshmallows around for us to toast in the fire, which was very yummy. I was fascinated to hear all the travel stories, especially all of Carmel's travels over the last 3 years. Did you know she has even been to the Antarctica?

However, there were still dangers to encounter that night, as poor Carmel was lucky to wake up alive the next morning as a kangaroo jumped on her tent onto her head while she was in a deep sleep!! Fortunately she still has her eyes, ears and nose intact.

The following morning was a short walk down to where our cars were parked and I felt a sense of accomplishment that we all managed the walk which was full of interesting terrain, vegetation, wildlife, birds, animals, angry farmers, fence crossings and best of all good company.

By Sylvia Harnell



Where: along rabbit proof fence to the Lions Road somewhere behind Rathdowney. AKA Collins Gap (nearly) to Richmond Gap via Long Creek falls.

Date: 10-12 August 2013

Leader: Mats Andersson.

Followers: Tracy, Betty, Hilary, Ted, David, Judy, Tove

As is obvious from her attempt to name this walk, this team member never really had a clear idea of where she was. However, she really enjoyed it because:

- The weather was absolutely perfect. So perfect that Betty, the self-proclaimed cold frog, nearly melted both nights in her brand new, -11 rated, sleeping bag. Betty: the forecast said minimum 10 degrees, not minus 10!

- The walk was easy going, except for the second day that did involve a fair amount of tripping and sliding as we searched for the elusive Long Creek falls. Betty described the aftermath of her slow collapse into the creek “like walking in a wet nappy”, and Judy totally failed her audition on a log for Cirque du Soleil. And we did find the falls: how hard could it be, all we had to do was follow the creek!



Where are we?

So what did we do? Day 1 involved a significant car shuffle, courtesy of Betty, David, Mats and Ted. We then took off, beginning with a heart starter up a fire trail to the rabbit proof fence that is also the border of NSW and Queensland. This was followed by quite a few undulations until we reached the finger lime farm and much discussion about what you can do with the little blighters: sprinkled on fish or smoked salmon seemed to be the favoured suggestion. After lying in the sun for a while, we all woke up, took a right and headed down to the wonderful accommodation Mats had organised for us that meant we didn't have to carry tents, sleeping mats and food for dinner for two nights. Not only that, the accommodation was in a beautiful spot with particularly spectacular sunsets over Mts Maroon, Barney, et al.



Day 2 was the giant explore to find Long Creek falls, which involved crossing the creek about a million times even though we were walking in a pretty straight line; if Long Creek was straight, it would probably lap the globe twice. Some of us had been to the area some months ago with Norm Robinson, so we knew it was well worth the explore as it's a very pretty creek with not too much scunge. The falls are real falls: if you fell you'd be dead. And it only took us five hours to cover the 4km.

The second night was a night of high drama. After a beautiful sunset followed by a very good dinner, we all hopped into our sleeping bags. All was quiet until Tove (Mats' daughter) thought she was about to be eaten alive by a giant megafauna-sized rodent in the middle of the night. Apparently she teleported herself off the floor onto an incredibly narrow shelf from whence she refused to budge until her dad had dealt with said rodent. As her plaintive cries of distress were all in Swedish, her cabin-mates could only imagine what she was saying, but they apparently got the gist. According to Tove, the poor little critter was the size of an elephant.



Day 3 was, for me, the highlight. We packed up and headed off to the left, passing yesterday's falls fairly quickly (and highlighting how the time taken to cover distance entirely depends on the terrain). Some of the party went in search of Lever's cedar, which is apparently the biggest red cedar left. The story goes that Lever was a timbergetter who decided that an area now called Lever's Plateau was too special to be logged so he was instrumental in getting it protected. The cedar lives on the plateau named after him.

After morning tea, we headed off up the first of a series of spectacular razorbacks. The views to Qld on the left and NSW on the right got more and more spectacular, and also highlighted the difference between the two states: once we left the national park boundary, Qld was farmland right up to the border, while NSW remained park. The fence followed the absolute tops of each ridge, which must have been a major feat of maintenance back in the day. We arrived at Richmond Gap about 3pm, giving us plenty of time to head to Rathdowney which must have the worst coffee in SE Qld, and thence to Beaudesert, and then home.

If this walk comes on the calendar again, do it: it's not difficult and is well worth it.
Report: Tracy



Where: RBW Photographic Day Walk Mt Tinbeerwah and Buderim Falls
When: 25-8-2013
Leader: John Kolcze

After a morning rendezvous in Cooroy, 8 of us made our way to Mt Tinbeerwah with the sheer cliffs on the approach beckoning. The party was increased as we had a Sunshine Coast local join us.



This walk had the pleasure of Julie, who is a professional photographer, to pass on her expertise. After discussing the functions of each camera we started up the graded track on a beautiful cloudy day, ideal for walking and photography.

The wild hibiscus was the first attraction which was quite prolific in the area. At the lookout, the 360degree views of Noosa, North Shore beaches, Lakes Cooroibah,

Cootharaba and Macdonald were stunning.

After group photos and morning tea we returned to the cars to venture onto the northern end of Buderim Forest Park for a picnic lunch. This is the start of a pleasant track partially on boardwalk through rainforest with a few creek crossings for more great photo opportunities. We reached the scenic Serenity Falls where we were shown how to get shots with slow shutter speeds to give the water the lovely flow effect. The area is very picturesque with a walking track circuit which passes over Serenity Falls and Bridge. Who would have thought such an interesting walk would be just a kilometer below Buderim shops.



Thanks to Julie who enthused our photographers on showed us what our cameras are capable of, also when Bushwalkers should always keep that 3rd eye out for an interesting shot.

Let's hope to see a lot more photographs entered into the photo comp for 2013. Please enter.



Where: Mt Mitchell
When: Sat 24th August
Leader: Betty & Hilary

As Mt Mitchell had recently re-opened after the destruction of ex Tropical Cyclone Oswald, Hilary and I decided to check out the track. We added it to the Club calendar with only two days' notice and had the pleasure of being joined by Malcolm, his wife Anne and Geraldine.



We started our steady plod to the top and after about 20 mins we saw the first signs of the destruction. The avalanche had swept down the ridge taking out huge trees and scouring the earth down to the rock face. The amount of destruction was a shock considering the size of the catchment area of the mountain. There were several more signs of havoc as we climbed to the top

National Parks have done an excellent job creating bench tracks across the destruction and making the mountain once again safe to walk.

The incredible views from the top of Mt Mitchell hadn't changed and we enjoyed a leisurely morning tea whilst sitting amongst the grass trees, in the sunshine.

It seemed a short hop back to the cars where we crossed the highway and started on the Rainforest Circuit. Our destination was Fassifern Lookout where we enjoyed another leisurely stop, this time lunch. After lunch we completed the Rainforest Circuit and headed to Aratula for "you guessed it" a leisurely coffee. - by Betty Murray



Where: Brisbane River Paddle
When: Sunday 25th August
Leaders: Don Baxter

The Brisbane River Paddle from Fernvale to Burton's Crossing was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The weather was close to perfect. Dave the bus driver towed ten singles and seven doubles on the trailer, so quite a large group with a nice mix of old salts, fair to middlings and novices.



There was plenty of action and much laughter on the river which was filmed by Dave Rae (the river paparazzi). Dave did not capture all of the spills (thank goodness), nor the excitement when two scared bovines ran across the river in front of the leading kayaks. Not many dry bottles by the end of the day I suspect, but... by George, what a good time was had by all!

Thanks to Don, Mike, Kevin, Lota Club members and to everyone who helped each other throughout the day. Also a big thanks to Dave who has posted the footage on YouTube for all to enjoy:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wt322kcQZuQ> (If you can't open this it may be easier to copy and paste into your search engine.)



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.

