



# Ramble On

Newsletter of Redland Bushwalkers Incorporated

P.O. BOX 101 Cleveland 410

## June 2017

### Next Club Meeting

Wednesday, 12 July 2017

7:00pm for 7:30pm start

Indigiscapes Centre, Runnymede Rd, Capalaba

### President's Report

Well what a busy month we have been having both on and off the tracks. We have been getting good numbers on our walks, which is very encouraging to see – so keep it up everyone. This is no doubt the best time of year to be outdoors and getting fit with the temperatures and humidity much lower than during the summer months.

We have had a very positive response to our guest speakers at this month's club meeting, so please keep forwarding your suggestions for other topics you would like to see covered.

One issue that I know is of concern to all of us at present is the consultation process surrounding the Eastern Escarpment Conservation Area. Some of our members and potential new members were recently confronted by one of the landowners at the area in question at Mt Cotton during a club walk. This is an unwelcome and unnecessary development for all parties and we will continue to seek a reasonable consultation process where the views of all stakeholders are allowed to put forward without fear of repercussion. I know that many of our club members are working behind the scenes with the committee on this and I wish to thank you all for your continued efforts.

I have extended an invitation to Mayor Karen Williams to come and speak at one of our club meetings and I am pleased to announce that she has accepted and will be in attendance at our club meeting on 9 August, 2017. In addition to her role as Mayor of Redlands Council, Karen is also an interested party in this consultation process as a landowner. If you have any relevant questions you would like to ask Karen during the session, please forward them to Julie or myself before our July club meeting. It is unlikely that Karen will be able to provide any further details on the consultation process other than what is already publicly available, so we should also seek to understand the broader issues in the Redlands that may impact our club.

I would like to take this opportunity to announce that Peter Endacott has accepted the role of Vice President of the Redlands Bushwalking Club. We are very happy to have Peter on the committee and the look forward to filling the other couple of vacancies that we still have.

You may also recall that back in our May meeting, I mentioned that we were considering moving the club meetings from every second Wednesday to every second Thursday of the month. Due to the feedback that we received, there will be no change to the current scheduling of our club meetings, so business as usual.

We are also looking into the possibility of hiring a storage area for all of the club equipment, which at the moment resides in a few of our member's homes. Whilst being mindful that we are a non profit organisation and all outgoings must be carefully managed, this will simplify the process of making the club gear easily accessible to all of our members.

See you out on the track and hopefully at the next club meeting too.

Cheers  
Aaron



## Photo Competition 2017

I hope you have all been happily snapping photos for the photo competition and have lots of entries to put in.

**Reminder the Photo Competition CLOSES at our September meeting**

**You only have this month and next to purchase your backing card**

### Categories:

**Newbies** category - for anyone who hasn't entered our photo competition before. You can submit any **Club photo** taken over the last 12 months.

**Nature, People** and **Landscape** categories - for photos taken on any Club walk.

**Open category** submit any photo **not** taken on a Club walk.

### Rules of the Photo Competition:

- Must be a Club Member
- Photos need to be taken between 10 August 2016 and 13 September 2017 - Club Meeting.
- Entries on black card - packs of 2 for \$1
- Cost of entering the photo competition is \$1 per photo (maximum of 10 entries)

**You must be a Club member to enter the competition**

**SO KEEP SNAPPING THOSE GREAT PHOTOS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR ENTRY**



## Upcoming Outings

### Upcoming Outings for June-July 2017

Following are the outings for the coming month. Full details, including contact numbers for the Walk Leaders, are available on the Club Calendar on our website. **Geoff Arnell - Outings Officer.**

Sat 1 Jul	Walk needed		
Sun 02 Jul	Day Walk M T3 F3	Mount Cordeaux and Bare Rock	Joy Bell and Jillian Wilson
W/E 1-2 Jul	Through Walk L T6 F6	Point Pure	Mats Andersson
Sat 08 Jul	Day Walk	Wynnum North	Nicole and Geoff
Sun 09 Jul	Day Walk	Mount Joyce	Jillian Wilson
Wed 12 Jul		Club Meeting	
Sat 15 Jul	Day Walk S T3 F3	Mount Cotton Walk	Julie Cummings
Sun 16 Jul	Day Walk S T2-3 F2-3	Point Lookout Whale Watch	Geoff Arnell
Tue 18 Jul	Equipment Shopping	Paddy Pallin	Amanda Fichna
Sat 22 Jul	Walk needed		
Sun 23 Jul	Day Walk S T6 F6	Spicers Peak	Judy M-S & Beatrice B.
Sat 29 Jul	Walk needed		
Sun 30 Jul	Walk needed		
W/E 29-30 Jul	Base Camp	Mount Huntley and Hell Hole	Ted Wassenberg



## New Members

Welcome to: Tuija Orth

We hope you enjoy your membership with us and we look forward to meeting you on the track sometime.



## Bushwalkers Pilgrimage

The Bushwalkers Pilgrimage is the annual gathering of S.E.Q. Bushwalking Clubs and an event not to be missed.

This year it is being held at the Killarney Showgrounds and is hosted by YHA Bushies.

Their members have been planning this event since the 2016 Pilgrimage. Their club members have been surveying walks in the area and promise us some new and exciting ones. There will be walks of all levels including a Heritage walk through the streets of Killarney.

The early bird registration attachment is on our website calendar. The early bird cost is \$50 and includes:

*2 nights unpowered camping (powered sites available) hot showers and loos*  
*Friday night supper*  
*Walks on Saturday*  
*Dinner Saturday night put on by the Killarney Rodeo society.*  
*Bush Dance with the band Ridgee Didge.*  
*Sunday morning activities Yoga, bike rides and a talk by FMR re Mountain Safety.*  
*Also entry to the RSL War memorial display and the Heritage centre.*



We usually camp together as a club and we will put out a sheet nearer to the event so that you can organise car sharing.

Also those who prefer not to camp the Sundown Motel back fence joins the Showgrounds and anyone who wants to stay there can just pop through the back fence. So get your mates together make a booking remember to mention the Pilgrimage.

Think of it as a big base camp.



## Activity Reports

**Where:** Alexandra Hills Walk (The Hidden Tracks of Suburbia)

**When:** Sunday, 4 June 2017

**Leader:** Joan Arnell



Our two hour walk took us through four suburbs. Starting from the Alex Hotel car park, we headed along the pathway off the end of McDonald Street, crossed Hilliards Creek, and came out in Cleveland near the cemetery.

We then walked along Delancey Street past the Community Gardens, which are looking very healthy with lots of veges, fruit trees, etc. We next entered Ormiston, and went through a short bush pathway into the College Estate, and then past Ormiston College. We followed the path along Hilliards Creek, crossed the foot-bridge, and entered Wellington Point. The next point of interest

was a small 'tributary' to Hilliards Creek, which has four mystery dams built across it. They are well-built and have obviously been there a long time. We have been unable to find out what their original purpose was.

By this time several people had commented that they had no idea where we were. It was a matter of Trust Us! Our last leg was through the Squirrel Glider Reserve, which is very pretty, and looks like a small area of rain-forest, with ferns, water-lilies, etc. This brought us into the Home Straight, and we could smell the roast dinner cooking at the hotel.



Thanks everyone for helping make the walk a success. On the walk were 13 members – Geoff, Heather, Hilary, David, Jene, John, Lancing, Marnie, Michael, Nemyra, and Susan. Also welcome to 11 new people – Bernie, Dawn, Denise, Geoff, John, Kathy, Katrina, Kim, Linda, Mary, Toni. Joining us for lunch were Robyn and Margaret - plus Kim, Linda and Mary's husbands. (Thanks to Kim and Linda for the lovely photos they sent us.)



**Where:** Lake Manchester

**When:** 27 May 2017

**Leader:** Leisa Harris with Geoff Arnell

After introductions all round on a brisk Saturday morning, the Lake Manchester walk set off at about 08:00am. With Leisa leading another eleven bushwalkers.

After passing the Dam wall and a fairly steep incline and decline we were rewarded with a magical view of Lake Manchester and the surrounding forest bathed in early morning fog and mist.

The Lake Manchester walk is a series of fairly long steep inclines with flats and declines allowing you to recover. It is pretty safe, being all on fire trails. The only real problem is the ball bearing like lumps of baked hard earth and clay on the declines, ready and able to take your feet from under you.

We were unfortunate enough just have one fall, although I myself came close a couple of times with some fancy footwork I didn't know I had saving the day. Our morning break was taken at the log cabin by the lake. From here the group split into two, with one group opting to go the full circuit of the lake and the other returning to the car park.



The walk continued much the same with some nice views of the lake but mainly tracking through the bush with steep inclines and declines.

Lunch was taken about two thirds through the walk at a designated camping area. The area is a nice green flat area but has no facilities in case anybody is considering an overnight. Most of the walk we were accompanied by the call of the Crested Bellbird, I was convinced I was about to spot a herd of Swiss cattle.



We did witness a bit of a drama during the walk with a male mountain biker losing his partner somehow on the circuit and proceeding to frantically cycle the circuit looking for her. Leisa generously gave up her whistle and some sound advice. The safe reunion back at the car park along with the police was witnessed by our first group of walkers.

The walk terminated with delicious slices and cups of tea and with a hopeful Kookaburra patiently waiting to clean up any crumbs.

For me the Lake Manchester walk is a safe, great training walk plenty of ascents and descents to test you, mainly bush but with a few treats along the way.

Many thanks to Leisa for leading and Geoff for being an able second assisting any stragglers.





**Where:** Coomera Circuit Dave's Creek Circuit  
**When:** 1 May 2017  
**Leader:** Aaron Elsmore

Fingers were crossed that The Coomera Circuit would be reopened after the tail end of Cyclone Debbie had reached Lamington NP – but no such luck. So Plan B came into play and we ventured to the Dave's Creek Circuit – same starting place at Binna Burra but sticking to the Eastern Side which seemed to have missed most of the damage.

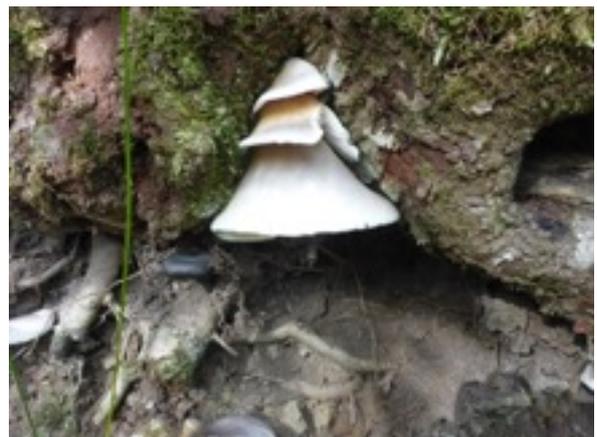
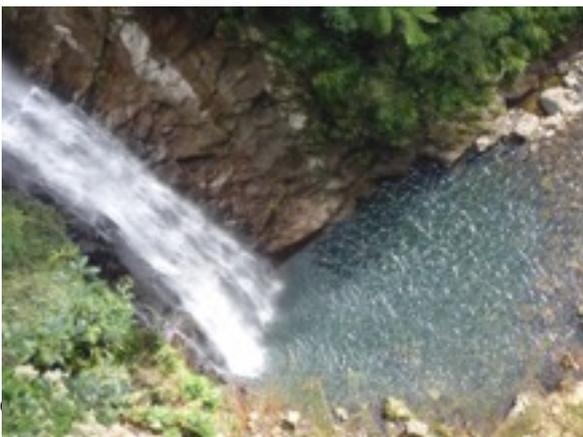
Overcast skies gradually gave way to patches of blue as we trekked along the border track and veered off at the start of Ship Stern soon followed by the start on Davis Creek Circuit. We headed off on the circuit in an anticlockwise direction. By this time a few of the other track users had caught up to us and went jogging on by, leaving me to ponder how their lower joints must be after a couple of hours of punishment on these rough tracks – but then again I had a few decades on most of them.



First break was in the shade at Yargorui Cave with a noticeable sharp drop in temperature having most of us reaching for warmth in addition to snacks. Back out on the main track though there was plenty of sunshine, making for some nice pics (not to be confused the ones that I took).

Another short break was had at Numinbah lookout before we headed back towards Surprise Rock, where some of the group were indeed surprised when a couple of familiar faces from GCBW were already perched on top enjoying the warm sun. After a bit of a chat a quick scramble back down we found another spot of shade for some lunch and a photo shoot:

Back along the track we went making good time and as we were in the neighbourhood the decision was made to have a look along the Coomera circuit, where we had found out that the track was open up to the lookout.



Some fungi growing along the edge of the Coomera circuit, where significant track damage was evident.

A pleasant day was had by all and thanks to Ted for driving. On the walk were Alison, Betty, Jene, Richard, Ted and myself.

Aaron



**Where:** Bally Mountain, Pages Pinnacle!

**When:** 21 May 2017

**Leader:** Mats Andersson

**Nimble footwork.** Eleven people, nine Ballyrinns and two Bearded Blokes met up at the end of Bonognin Road for a day of Ballyhoo up Bally Mountain. The walk started well enough, but after 200 meters we came to a sign. It said: '*PARK CLOSED DUE TO FERAL ANIMAL CONTROL, FIREARMS WILL BE USED*'. I have ignored many warnings before, but the thought of being brought down in a hail of bullets while being mistaken for a feral pig is not an appealing one, so we returned to the cars. The question about what else to do was never raised, as three people more or less simultaneously said: Pages Pinnacle! So, it was an easy decision, the much harder one was, "How do we get there?" After a bit of a palaver we decided to drive up the hill from Mudgeeraba, turn right down to the start at the edge of Hinze Dam.

So we set off zig zagging through the back blocks of Mudgeeraba only to be confronted by a roadblock at the bottom of the hill, Ex-cyclone Debbie had stopped our progress. We now had to drive back through Mudgeeraba over to Nerang and Advancetown to our destination. My reputation as a navigator took a bit of a battering as I led a convoy of cars in and out of a few cul-de-sacs of the Gold Coast hinterland. Pages Pinnacle finally loomed over us as we saddled up for the steep walk up the fire trail to the start of the ridge; there were quite a few walkers around, all training for the Kokoda Challenge. We soon got to the first razorback and a couple of people decided that this was not really the walk they had signed up for and chose to stay at the base and mind the backpacks. The rest of us shuffled along the ridge in a variety of styles, none very Ballyrinalike, but we all made it across. Pages Pinnacle has a few challenges on the way, but the views across the lake from the top are superb. After another shuffle, we were back at the base just in time for lunch. The day was rounded off with a visit to the very nice coffee shop on top of Hinze Dam.

Ballyrinns: Carmel, Leisa, Jillian, Alison, Deb, Julie, Amanda, Judy, Beatrice

Bearded Blokes: Jacob, Mats



**Where:** Venmans Sausage Sizzle

**When:** Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Sunday morning 25<sup>th</sup> June saw approx. 30 eager walkers gathered in the Venmans Carpark. First job was for a photo in front of the club banner (thanks to Rob Santry for taking the photo and getting everyone in position). Thanks to Geoff for transporting and erecting the club banner.



Due to the large number of walkers, we split into 2 groups. Geoff took the first group and Carmel and Leisa took the second group. We all met at the Quarry for a small snack and a break.

Pete Harris remained in the picnic area to cook up the sausages, onions and heat up the water so all the walkers could enjoy a sausage sizzle on the return. It was fantastic weather and a good chance to catch up with old and many "new" friends! Thanks to all who came along and to the new walkers who participated.



## Important Information

### WALK GRADINGS:

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

<b>AB</b>	Abseiling	<b>DW</b>	Day Walk	<b>TW</b>	Through Walk
<b>BC</b>	Base Camp	<b>SOC</b>	Social	<b>XT</b>	Extended Trip
<b>R</b>	Bike Ride	<b>TR</b>	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**



## 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.



## **RBI Walk Leaders Guidelines**

**Just Before the Walk Starts:**

- Arrange cars and passengers before the walk starts. Make sure everyone knows what is happening and can put changes of clothing etc into the appropriate cars.
- Check that people have sufficient water and appropriate clothing for the trip.
- Make absolutely sure you know how many people are on the walk, count people and check against names on the list. Call out names and tick the boxes. This sounds trivial, but mistakes have occurred.
- Make sure all members of the party are fully aware of what is planned. The leader using a map could show the planned route.
- Explain the significance of the route (e.g. "We go up this steep hill shown here.") to any inexperienced walkers.
- Make sure everyone meets each other. Normal tradition is to stand in a circle and introduce yourself in turn. This is a good chance to count heads and make sure everyone is ready to go.
- Nominate a 'tail-end-Charlie' to be at the rear of the group. This is even more important on walks off-track where there may be thick vegetation with poor visibility. Explain the role of 't.e. Charlie' to keep stragglers with the group and note if anyone needs to duck off for a moment.
- Explain any rules you would like group to adhere to e.g.: toilet stops, keep person behind you in sight, people in the lead to stop every 15-30 minutes for tail to catch up, and stop at any track junctions to regroup, Do not separate the party.
- Do not start until everyone is ready to leave, and check soon after leaving that everyone is there. It is a good idea to call for a stop soon after the start of the day's walking (about 5-10 mins) to provide an opportunity to adjust shoelaces, remove pullovers, adjust packs.
- At the end of the walk, before leaving the carpark, have everyone sign off on the walk nomination sheet to ensure everyone is accounted for.
- Return completed trip sheets to the outings officer.
- And last but not least; Enjoy your walk ....

Ted Wassenberg