

# **Redland Bushwalkers Inc.**

***2003-2013***



Redland Bushwalking Club became

**REDLAND BUSHWALKERS INC.**

No IA35164

***CONSTITUTION***

Adopted at General Meeting  
8<sup>th</sup> November 2006

***THE FIRST 10 YEARS***

***To all our past and present members***

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# ***FOREWORD***

## ***Kevin Fowler (First President)***

It was a pleasure to be associated with the beginnings of the Bushwalking Club. Initially, the foresight and efforts of Rob and Laurel Santry saw the club come into formation and after the first walk, interested members met at their home to discuss future plans.

It wasn't long before numbers grew to the point where meetings were transferred from homes to the Indigiscape Hall. The first General Meeting was held on the twelfth day of March 2003 and a very enthusiastic committee was elected.

A programme of day walks, through walks, and camps was put together for 2003 and the Redland Bushwalking Club was up and running and from what I hear is still a very successful organisation today.

Congratulations on your tenth birthday.

Kevin Fowler



# ***THE PRESIDENTS***

***Mats Andersson  
(President 2012-2013)***

I have been a member of our club since 2007, a time span that if the club was a prison would put me about halfway between the killers and the fine defaulters.

One thing about the hobby we are enjoying is that on every walk, you always learn something new. On my very first club walk at Torrington I learnt two things: How to navigate back to a point by using a compass bearing to a distant feature and that you can't over estimate the amount of gear you are able to cram into a Subaru. On my second walk, Mount Barney South East Ridge, I realised what a beginner I was when everybody, after lunch at the top, suddenly started digging into their packs and quickly donned gaiters and garden gloves. It took only fifteen minutes of scrub bashing for me to realise why (I am a slow learner, I know).

The club has enabled me to push my boundaries a long way past what I thought possible before I joined, never would I have seen myself tiptoeing along razorbacks or dangling over a cliff at the end of a rope. I am sure that this kind of experience is shared by a substantial number of members. People that were content with walking on track walks at Binna Burra in 2003 are now travelling to the most far flung places of the globe in search of exciting adventures, yet the same people can still be found in Lamington on a Sunday bushwalk.

Being President of the Redland Bushwalkers is a bit like sitting on a stool in front of a Pianola and pretending to be Arthur Rubinstein, you do not have to hit the keys but the music plays anyway. I have never before been involved with an association where so many different people are volunteering to organise outings and events for the benefit of others. Another thing I have noticed is that the type of activities are changing slightly throughout the years, while this might be seen as something negative by people with a particular special interest, to me it means that the club is still evolving.

The fact that in our short ten years we have organised the Pilgrimage twice is proof that there is a lot of energy and talent amongst our membership which bodes very well for the future.



***Bring on the next ten years!***

*Mats Andersson*

***Denise Kolcze***  
***(President 2009-2012)***

I was asked to write a few words as to why I liked being President. I was President for 3 years 2009-2012 and I loved it all.

The Redland Bushwalkers are a group of like-minded people who love the great outdoors and who come from all walks of life. The club consists of all different levels of walkers and that is what makes the calendar and the club so interesting.

There are not only walks but base camps which create an atmosphere of fun and laughter often around the open fire. The kids camps were always a highlight as you watched the faces of the children who really didn't know each other before the weekend but certainly did at the end of it. There were a few trying times thrown in there but they can only make you grow and be stronger. I was President for a couple of years and not even able to walk which was hard in a lot of ways but I am back into walking and was able to do the anniversary walk in December.

The committees that I have had were excellent and we always had a lot to talk about at the meetings sometimes wandering along a different path than RBW. The club is a team effort and everybody helped in their small way.

I quite enjoyed going to a few other clubs to hear about how they run their meetings and found out that our club's meetings are quite interesting and very social.

Thank you for the opportunity to be President for 3 years. I loved it.

Denise Kolcze



**Kevin Blain**  
**(President 2008-2009)**

I decided that I would like to get back into bushwalking after seeing an advertisement in the local paper at the end of 2002. I had done a lot of bushwalking in my younger years, mostly in the Northern Rivers Area of New South Wales. Having recently retired from a lifetime of Surveying in New South Wales and Queensland I was ready to take on a new challenge.

Redlands Bushwalking Club was subsequently formed and I have taken an active roll in the club, both as a Walk Leader and Committee Member. I helped steer the Club through incorporation in 2007 when it became known as Redland Bushwalkers Inc.

During the 2008-2009 club year, I took on the roll of President. During my term of office I encouraged the experienced walkers to lead more walks for beginners and hopefully develop new leaders. This was reasonably successful. However, with increasing membership, there is always a need for additional walk leaders. This would allow the club to provide a greater variety of walks.

I enjoy all forms of bushwalking, day walks, through walks and base camps. Kayaking and Mountain Bike riding are my further interests. I find that the club enables me to undertake all these activities. The camaraderie within the club is excellent with many members being willing to pass on their knowledge.

Congratulations to the club and the members on attaining the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I hope that the club continues to go from strength to strength.

Kevin Blain



***Ted Wassenberg***  
***(President 2005-2008)***

To be able to represent our members for a pastime that we all enjoy is both a privilege and a pleasure. I was elected president of our club in October 2005 and served to May 2008. During those years the committees that I chaired instigated a number of institutional reforms. This was done with the considerable input from fellow committee members - Kevin Blain for our Incorporation and Model Rules and Bob Hartley for our Risk Management Policy and Procedures and Hilary Martyn as secretary. These measures were implemented to safeguard our club and its members.

Safety and training have always been of prime interest to me when in the bush or at work. When I was a member of another club (BBW) back in the 70's I became their S&T officer. Not long after that I became member and then President of the Bush and Mountain Search and Rescue branch of what was then the Federation of Bushwalking clubs in Qld. I am still involved with that organization (now autonomous - called FMR). I and others have brought that knowledge and skills to our club and I continue to maintain my interests in training new and updating continuing members. Many of the current walk leaders of our club have benefited from the training weekends held during and since the formation of our club. People like Rob & Laurel Santry, Antti Keitenpaa, Kevin Blain and Steve Wynne all contributed their knowledge to improve the skills and social aspect of our club. There have been many others, too numerous to list, that continue to have input to improve the social and camaraderie aspects of our club and it is a pleasure to be associated with and have represented those people as their President.

Ted Wassenberg



# **OUR BEGINNINGS**

**Laurel Santry**  
**(President 2004-2005)**

## **IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS AN IDEA!**

Redland Bushwalking Club grew out of an idea one day to place an article in the local newspaper to see if anyone would like to go bushwalking. Rob and I had been keen bushwalkers from way back (starting as teenagers in the Brisbane Bushwalkers). I knew that Rob would like to get back to walking and we had tried to connect with a couple of other clubs up in the Brisbane area but really found it difficult to stay involved due to the distance to attend club meetings.

So an article went into the local newspaper (November 2002) and a very positive response resulted. The first gathering was held at our home and about 15 people attended. I had phoned Ted Wassenberg to come along (as we knew he lived in the area, had extensive knowledge of bushwalking, had been a friend of my brother who was another keen bushwalker) also to find out whether he could be involved in helping to get this (what I thought) group of like-minded people on the road to some bushwalking. At the meeting we discussed possible walks and our first walk was mooted at this meeting (Thylogale walk at Brisbane Forest Park – December 2002).

It became evident that this was a good idea so we followed up in the new year (2003) with another article in the newspaper and a consequent meeting at Indigiscapes Capalaba. This gathering was overwhelmingly attended by about 50 people. Then we knew it was a great idea!

When we realised that there was a definite need in the area for this type of activity we decided that we needed some more assistance in setting up a club so I called long term bushwalkers Ron Farmer and Alan Hobson (friends of my brothers also). These two people had been instrumental in a number of bushwalking initiatives (along with Ted and my brother) such as the Federation Mountain Rescue (FMR). They gave invaluable advice and assistance and attended one of the first meetings to answer questions about the possible formation of a club and what it would entail.

The rest is really history.....we just rolled on from there as the club gained momentum...numbers grew, the number and variety of activities grew, the enthusiasm grew....it's been a great journey and has had a considerable positive impact on many of our lives.

It is an example of how great things can eventuate from a small idea! LAUREL (and ROB)





# CLUB MILESTONES

## Club advertising (*Bayside Bulletin*)

**Bushwalking club**

THIS notice is to gauge the interest in forming a new club based in the Redlands with walks conducted primarily throughout south-east Queensland and Northern NSW regions. If you would like to be involved in the formation of this club and have a desire to meet people with a similar interest, phone Laurel or Rob on 3390 3793.

**8 October 2002**

**Bushwalking Club**

THE first walk for the Redlands Bushwalking Club has been scheduled for Saturday, December 14. The first walk will be a short two-hour easy walk in the morning through Brisbane Forest Park. If you are interested in joining this new bushwalking club and meeting people with a similar interest, come along on our first walk. For further details, phone Laurel or Rob on 3390 3793.

**10 December 2002**

**New bushwalking club**

ARE you interested in joining a bushwalking club? The first meeting to discuss the formation of a club that is based in the Redlands will be held on Wednesday night November 13 at 7.30pm at the Indigiscape Centre, 17 Kennymede Road, Capalaba (just off Redland Bay Road). If you would like to be involved in the formation of this club and have a desire to meet people with a similar interest please come to the meeting or phone Laurel or Rob on 3390 3793 for more details.

**12 November 2002**

**Bushwalking Club**

AN exciting walk plan for 2003 has been put together that will take in walks throughout south east Queensland. If you are interested in being involved and meeting people with a similar interest please attend the first meeting to be held at the Redland Indigiscape Centre at Capalaba starting at 7.30pm on Wednesday, February 12.

**4 February 2003**

**Bushwalking Club**

CALL for nominations and elections will be held at the next club meeting for the Redlands Bushwalking Club on Wednesday, March 12 at 7.30pm at the Redland Indigiscape Centre, Capalaba.

Nominations and election of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Safety and Training and Membership officers will be occurring at this meeting. All interested persons who wish to be involved and contribute to the formation and ongoing success of this club are welcome to nominate at the meeting.

The club has begun its 2003 walk schedule. If you are interested in joining this new bushwalking club please attend the meeting on March 12 (gold coin entry to cover hire of venue) or phone Laurel or Rob on 3390 3793.

**March 11 2003**

### General Meeting No. 1

Wednesday 12/3/03

Venue: Indigiscape Centre, Capalaba

### Committee Meeting No. 1

Wednesday 26/3/03

Venue: John Kolcze's  
10 Allamanda Place Ormiston

# Newsletter

## *Redland Bushwalking Club Newsletter*

became

*Ramble on*

### REDLANDS BUSHWALKING CLUB (RBWC) – NEWS LETTER

#### **Next Club Meeting**

Next meeting Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2003 at the Indigiscape Centre, Capalaba at 7.30pm. The warmer weather has arrived and it's time to enjoy the great outdoors- come along to the next club meeting and **GET INSPIRED**. A great range of walks is available between now and the end of 2003 so come along and hear about the walks and sign up for your next outing.

#### **Club Elections**

All positions have been filled as follows:

President:	Kevin Fowler
Secretary:	Laurel Santry
Treasurer:	Honest John Kolcze (backup Sue Reid)
Social Coordinator:	Hilary Martin
Outings Officer:	Franco Vendramini
Training/Safety Officer:	Ted Wassenberg (backup Rob Santry)
Membership Officer:	Annette Taylor
Communication/PR Officer:	Blade Johnstone
Helper to the Secretary	Denise Mitchell

#### **Reminder!!!**

Binna Burra - O'Reillys Walk 29/30 November 2003 - A deposit of \$50.00 is required at the next club meeting, see Narelle or Denise

#### **Logo Competition**

Thanks to all who submitted logo designs – there were some really excellent designs - congratulations to Franco Vendramini for his winning design featuring Mt Barney. We have now moved to the next step to get art work produced and then we can proceed with a Club identity for letterheads, posters, banners, shirts etc. If anyone has any contacts in the production of these items please let sec Laurel know.

#### **Suggested Venues for Future Walks**

At our last meeting we called for ideas on places to visit, these have been noted and the committee will be evaluating the suitability/feasibility and will report back to the Club members.

#### **New Membership Fees**

The new membership fee has been decided upon. Our treasurer (Honest John) advises that a membership fee of \$40 per person per year will be due on the 14 January 2004. This fee has been calculated based on yearly insurance fees and other organizational/administrative costs. All new member joining from now on and wishing to walk in 2003 (ie up to 31 December 2003) will be required to pay \$10.00 per person fee to cover insurance - if you are not insured - you cannot walk.

#### **Update on Safety**

3/10/03

Scanned document

# *Ramble On*

*Newsletter of the Redland Bushwalking Club*

Edition HC01 - February 2004

## **Contents**

Introduction to the new look newsletter  
Website & PO Box  
Calendar  
Reports



**Welcome!** To the inaugural edition of "Ramble On," our informative newsletter for members of the Redland Bushwalking Club. We are planning for this to be a monthly publication, on the week preceding club meetings. Refer to it for information regarding upcoming events, for both walkers and social participants; reports from walk leaders, updates to the calendar and club business generally.

## **Website**

The club now has an online presence. We have a listing with Our Brisbane ([www.ourbrisbane.com](http://www.ourbrisbane.com)) in the Active and Healthy Category, and our website is now up and running. Our web address is <http://au.geocities.com/redlandbushwalkingclub>. Type the address directly into the address bar. The club's new email address is [redlandbushwalkingclub@yahoo.com](mailto:redlandbushwalkingclub@yahoo.com)

The club's **post office box** is now active, please direct all written correspondence to:

The Secretary  
Redlands Bushwalking Club  
PO Box 342  
Capalaba Qld 4157

## **Calendar**

Our next club meeting is Wednesday 11 February at 7:30 pm at Indigiscapes. We shall be voting on the issue of children on club activities. To ensure your vote is counted, it is important to be present at this meeting and have your membership up to date, as only financial members are allowed to vote. Our guest speaker for the evening is a Massage Therapist who will demonstrate effective ways to warm up before walks.

On Sunday 15 February, Ted is leading a trip down Obi Obi Gorge in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland. A refreshing trip that will cool the day as you can expect to get wet. This activity is subject to vagrancies of the weather. Ted will explain all at the meeting.

For those interested in FMR (Federation Mountain Rescue), a training day in knots and belays being held at Glasshouse Mountains on Saturday 21 February. Contact Ted Wassenberg for more details. Our next activity is our Education Weekend base camp at Mt Barney. This weekend is open to all members, but is important for all leaders and prospective leaders to attend. The weekend entails learning

## **Club Logo**

A competition was held amongst club members to come up with our first logo. The winner was Franco Vendramini. The logo has changed several times from the original shown on the left to the newer club logo on the right.



2003



2006



2012

## **Name Change**

Redland Bushwalking Club changed name to Redland Bushwalkers Inc in November 2006.

## **Pilgrimages**

Our Club members have organised and co-ordinated two Pilgrimages. The first was held at Bigriggen in 2005 and the second at Canungra in 2012.

## **Photographic Competition**

Each year since 2005 a successful Photographic Competition has been held for interested members allowing others to see bushwalking through the eyes of another person.

## **Safety and Training Workshop**

As there were many new and inexperienced members joining our club, a number of safety and training exercises were held at Mt Barney lodge, Red Cliffs, Gueralla Falls and at Karingal. Training included notes on bush etiquette, hygiene, safety with fires, river rocks, dangerous trees and erecting tents and there were many sessions in navigation and map reading.

## **Song Book**

A very comprehensive collection of the words for over 300 songs was compiled by Steve Wynne and printed into songbooks for members to use at club camps.

## ***OUR FIRST OUTING***

### ***Brisbane Forest Park***

Inaugural walk: 14 December 2002. Thylogale track. Report provided by Rob and Laurel Santry – 22 people enjoyed this easy walk – very hot day with emphasis on getting to know each other.



## ***FIRST OF EACH TYPE OF ACTIVITY FOR THE CLUB***

(Extracts from various trip reports and newsletters)

***Day Walk:*** Daisy Hill State Forest, 23 February 2003. Leaders: Hilary Martyn & David Westover. This was the first walk for the year. The day before the walk it poured with rain all day, but Sunday was hot and humid. Nine people met outside the Koala Centre for an easy 1½ hour walk. There were no koalas or wallabies to be seen, though we did spot a large lace monitor lizard. We finished up with morning tea in the picnic area.

Participants: Hilary Martyn, David Westover, Brenda Hadie, Denise Mitchell, Marilyn Hatley, Franco Vendramini, Susan Sugden, Michael Charles, Christine MacDiarmid.

***Base Camp:*** Mount Warning, 17 –18 May 2003. Leader: John Kolcze. There were 18 members present who set off at 8 am for a two hour climb to the summit. John led from the rear and the party were soon spread out. A group photo was taken at the summit by a friendly French couple. Comments from the group were 'awesome, interesting, most enjoyable and excellent',





***Through walk:*** Davies Ridge & Steamers, 13-15 June 2003. Leader: Rob Santry. Rob collected four members on Friday evening and set off for Emu Ck via Aratula where they had dinner. Franco, John, Steve and Blade made up the rest of the party. Saturday morning they drove closer to the base of Davies ridge and ascended the ridge to the top of the main range. They then headed south to Steamer Saddle where they camped for the night. The next day was over Mt Steamer and then west towards the Steamers, taking in the views from the stern and then dropped down to Emu Ck and back to the cars.

***Cycling:*** Boondal Wetlands, 12 October 2003. Leader: Laurel Santry. 16 members took part in this activity. The ride took us on a journey by train from the Redlands to Central Station where we changed trains and then out to Boondall Wetlands. From the information centre we took a leisurely ride out to Nudgee Beach. A walk around the mangroves where Ted explained the workings of mangroves and then back to Nudgee Beach for lunch. With a little more pace we returned to Boondall and returned by train. This proved to be a successful and enjoyable activity. There have been many more rides since.



**Canoeing:** Tingalpa Ck, 2003. Organiser: Hilary Martyn. First there was an introduction day at Tingalpa Ck on the 8 November for those people needing a refresher or those new to the sport. This was held by the Wynnum Redlands canoe Club and 13 members attended. This was followed on the 23 November by a paddle from Thorneside to Capalaba in which 19 members participated. Several more canoeing trips have been successfully run within the club organised by Don Baxter or Kevin Blain.



**Social:** No specific lists of participants were kept but there was a social calendar. Two examples are:

Saturday 24 May 2003- Morning Social Walk .

Meet at 8.00am outside Tanya's restaurant, Main Street, Wellington Point, and enjoy an easy walk to Wellington Point and back (approx. 5km). Indulge in coffee and cake at Tanya's after the walk.

Saturday 14 June 2003 – Fish and Chips In the park at Lota

Meet at 3.00pm in park opposite Bart's Fish and Chip Shop on the Esplanade at Lota (near Ernest St). Pre-order fish and chips for 4.00pm. Either enjoy a leisurely hour's walk along the Esplanade to Wynnum and back or play ball in the park. Then tuck into fish and chips. Those who can't get there till 4.00pm, can phone Bart's on 3396-2702 to pre-order their fish and chips.

Bring the kids and/or the grandparents, bring a ball or frisbee and don't forget a jumper as it can get quite chilly. We will try to grab an undercover picnic table but it might be wise to bring a chair or two. We'll display a RBC sign so you know where we are.

**Safety and Training:** Mt Barney Lodge, 28-29 February 2004. Leader: Ted Wassenberg. 17 members participated in this event. The day commenced with selecting suitable campsites. This was followed with notes on bush etiquette, hygiene, safety with fires, river rocks, dangerous trees and erecting tents. That was followed with demonstrations of different types of clothing, principles of layering, sleeping bags, matting, cooking appliances etc by Antti Keitenpaa. The next session covered ropes and knots, bush first aid, bush stretchers. Then there was a long session in navigation and map reading held by Kevin Blain. The Sunday was utilised putting map and compass into practise by setting small parties off on a circuit around Yellowpinch Hill.



**Abseiling:** Training commenced at Kangaroo Point nursery cliffs in 2004. Instructors: Ted Wassenberg, Steve Wynne. Participants: Sue Reid, Laurel Santry, Rob Santry, Antti Keitenpaa.



Many club members attended FMR training courses at Emu Gully and Red Cliffs near Helidon February 18, 2006.

A well attended course was held at Karingal in May 2007 using the abseil tower



Several canyoning trips have been made by club members into Back Ck Falls, Watson's Falls, Kinnanes's Falls, Burnett Ck, and canyons in the Blue Mountains.





**Night walk Mt Cotton:** Friday 18 June 2004. Leader: Steve Wynne. A Navigation exercise done at night in the friendly environment of Karingal Scout area below Mt Cotton. A total of 18 club members turned up, rugged up against the cold, laden with chairs and extra parkas. Team leaders were appointed (those with navigation experience) and everyone else joined a leader forming three groups (Bandits, Bright Sparks and Minties). The object was to find three waypoints and then end up at a hut for supper and hot drinks. Steve and Ted went off to man the checkpoints to ensure each team reached the correct waypoint. The Minties managed to get off the route and were later found and driven to checkpoint three. The Bandits were the first to get to the hut followed by the Bright Sparks. The Minties did manage to find the Hut from waypoint three.

**Christmas camps:** The initial Christmas camps were held at the Mt Warning caravan park, one was held near Imbil, and lately they were held at Spring Gulley near Canungra. They have always been a great and fun-filled event with singing, dancing, games and lots of food.



***Pilgrimages:*** Redland Bushwalkers have organised and managed two Pilgrimage events during the first 10 years. The first was at Bigriggen during 2005 and the second at Canungra showgrounds 2012. Both were hugely successful with over 100 people attending each event.



***Kid's Camp:*** It wasn't long into the club's 10 year journey that members realised they needed to encourage younger people to get involved in bushwalking. The club by this stage had taken off as an adult member club (rather than a family member club). A number of members had children and grandchildren so we decided to hold a children's camp at Peach Tree. At this camp the children joined in with camping in tents, outdoor games, ushwalking, campfire and had a "whale" of a time. Parents and grandparents also enjoyed the fun. So once a year (sometimes twice) a children's camp is held and is always enthusiastically attended. Some of the venues have included Peach Trees at Jimna, Spring Gully Stays and Karingal.





## **A SELECTION OF PERSONAL STORIES FROM THE PAST 10 YEARS**

*First impressions by Hilary Riley*

**Sunday 15th February, (2004)** I undertook my first ever authentic Bush Walk and it was at the **Obi Obi Gorge** 1½ hour drive north of Brisbane. The description I had before going was that it was about 14kms, mainly off track with a 200 metre swim across a water hole, following the course of the creek with 'Rock Hopping'. To the innocent pommy walker, 'off track' didn't sound too alarming. I had my vision ready; pushing my way through green reeds and long grass with the sun shining overhead. It took several shopping trips to prepare for this momentous day, new boots – only 4 days to break them in – or were they going to break me? After a day walking around our home in swimming costume and walking socks and boots – it's pretty hot this time of year! I decided to give them a real workout, so leaving home at 6am with a small backpack (another error) containing a bottle of water and mobile phone; I walked for nearly 3 hours covering over 10 kms before phoning husband, Steve to come and rescue me together with my blisters. I dutifully stretched my legs on the nearby picnic table while I waited for rescue. The blisters were a real worry, should I stay or should I go on Sunday?- what a dilemma! Then there were the other shopping trips: trousers, socks, gloves, head torch, lunch, snacks, plastic bags and last but not least a lilo on which my rucksack could sit while we swam across the waterhole. The cost of this walk was growing into mammoth proportions! I found a small toddlers boat in Big W, ideal I thought – a ring for my pack to fit in, easy to blow up – perfect – all except for the plastic steering wheel complete with horn. Would this group of walkers I hardly knew ever take me seriously? It took another 2 shopping trips before I decided that this really was the best option, so we took it home and did a trial run with the rucksack in the bottom of the boat, all seemed well. The day before I laid the range of equipment on our bedroom floor, all over our bedroom floor! It looked quite a lot, and that was without the 2 litres of water.

My lift was a 6.30am the next morning, so thinking all was ready I relaxed Saturday evening watched 'Pretty Woman' on the TV and slept soundly until the alarm squealed at 5.30am. After 3 changes of shirt, 2 changes of belt; I put the frozen water in my backpack. **HEAVY BACKPACK** – I ran to the scales – perhaps they would tell me it was lighter than it felt – 14.5lbs. Panic, panic, why hadn't I thought about the weight I would be carrying. The rucksack was turned out – Ok – so I won't take the spare shorts, Tshirt, I tore the towel in half and ran to the sewing machine to zig-zag up the edge – another 2 oz saved! We tipped suntan lotion into a plastic bag- more important weight saved! Well time to go, Judith and George (from St Albans (Hertfordshire) arrived to pick me up – together with 2 new friendly faces Bev and Christine. We were the first to arrive at the rendezvous – and toddled off for a pee – too much fluid or was it nerves? Time to put on my boots, band-aids and specially sewn gauze squares; it felt good, then I looked in my

bag again – Bev said she hadn't bothered with a towel – we'd dry off in the heat after the swim- out went the towel. Then out went the rubber beach shoes- much too heavy and I might look like a wimp! We drove in convoy to drop off a couple of cars at the end of the walk and then off to the beginning of our day's adventure. OK, I was ready – must be time for another pee!! Definitely nerves: What WAS I doing here?

We signed our names on a sheet to say we were walking – there was also a space to sign out at the end of the walk. A head count – 20 walkers, 11 ladies and 9 men including at least two couples. The leader "Ted" – tall, confident and fit led the way – 9.20am. This was great– downwards and across bridges of stones, enough room for two abreast and so a chat, time to catch up with gossip. We were at the top of a water fall – photo stop; Ted pointed to the hills in the distance and said we were going to the far knoll. I wasn't game enough to think he really meant the farthest peak – it was just too far for my imagination to cope with, I decided the 'knoll' must be the closer peak!!! Downwards we wiggled, stopping to admire a trap-door spider's house on the way, until we were at the bottom of the gorge, looking upwards at the waterfall we had recently been on top of. Short photo stop, then onwards for a few hundred yards when suddenly as the track crossed the creek, we turned off to walk in the creek bed and at this point I had my first experience of 'off track'. – From stone to stone, not much water – more mud. I was the first to slip – my pristine trousers featuring a large brown mud stain, and my thumb twisted the wrong way between rocks and under water; and a small dent in my pride. After a few hundred yards of this – Ted stopped the party , and said this is what its going to be like for the next 12kms, anyone who thinks it will be too much- say so now. Well who wants to be a whingeing, wimpy pom? Not me! How could this possibly go on for 12kms anyway? I took this opportunity to put on my new cycling gloves; this was relief as my thumb was getting quite sore. Ted told us the green stones were slippery – I found soon after that the red ones under water also feature this quality, as I picked myself up for the second time. I was pleased I had bought expensive waterproof boots, great to be able to paddle in the water and keep dry feet. As we crossed the growing creek for the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> time – I had my third fall – and found to my horror that water can enter waterproof boots from above – via the socks. At least it was just the one foot that was a bit squelchy – we'll stop soon I thought and I'll put on my dry spare socks! At last; a shout from behind and cries of 'are you Ok?' – thank goodness someone else had fallen – sorry Pam – but real relief that it could happen to others – I was beginning to think I was walking with a pack of sure footed goats. More cries followed – oh thank goodness. By now both my feet were squelching – I tried not to think about the possibility of leeches, no one else mentioned them either. Well, soldier on– wet feet don't seem too bad – at least we were in a warm climate and not in cold England. Yes I thought some aspects of wet feet in a hot climate are quite soothing, I wondered about the extra weight I was carrying in my shoes, shame this water wasn't drinkable.

We walked over stones, up banks, down banks, over broken tree trunks, over and under vines hanging about the forest ready to catch the unwary (mainly the innocent Pommy) round their feet or the neck. I assumed I was the only

one with wet feet, and stoically ploughed on! We walked for about 2 hours, it seemed forever. We stopped for a snack and a drink on a pleasant grassy bank, and I found I was not alone in having wet feet. It was only peaceful for a minute – someone had sat down on a nest of bull ants (biters) she was quickly sprayed with insect repellent and all bags were picked up and inspected. Ted brought out a topographical map to show us our route. Oh, so we had just done ¼ of the way!? I surveyed my body and mind - I'm not sure I'm up to this I thought - there was no way out, no short cuts home. As I chomped on half a banana and a handful of nuts and thought of my Steve's encouragement back at home when I had thought of pulling out. "You go" he said 'you'll feel so good when you've done it' – He seemed to have forgotten about the 'doing' bit in the middle?

I got to my lowest ebb a few minutes later as I we crossed the creek yet again, totally squelchy feet, not unpleasant – just added weight. I was hot, breathless and tired already and so far to go. How was I going to pump up my boat and swim? For while I was weighed down with wretchedness and to think I had just been worried about blisters!!! We had another break, another half a banana, more nuts, more water and a glucose jellybean from Narelle. A friend and I disappeared for a pee – very intimate this bush walking! I was able to capture the view as peed, a good photo opportunity. I don't know whether it was the banana or just the encouragement of everyone, probably a combination, but shortly after we got going again I found I was feeling more positive - I knew I would get to the end. Phew!! There were a few of demoralizing occasions where we had to turn back from our path and try a different route - this usually meant crossing the creek again and by this time it was getting deeper. We stood in the sun for what seemed ages at one point, Ted having trampled a virgin path for us along a bank through some kind of grass and had come to thick bush. We had to wait while he recied ahead, there was no shade and it was draining. There was a cry of go back - followed by 19 groans! Hoorah! we could go forward after all, the fact we had to fight vines and crawl under tree branches didn't matter – going forwards and not backwards was of major importance.

The group was getting quite split with Ted and his fit fleet forging ahead, I was in the end group – though never at the very back!! As with all outings like this, when the front party stops for the back ones to catch up – they get a breather and as soon as the back ones arrive, off they go again, so the back party never gets a rest, so the gap gets bigger. At one crossing poor George slipped and got his right arm trapped between rocks, it was pretty sore and was a lot sorer when he fell on it again. Eventually it was strapped up by Nurse Christine who had stayed towards the back to make sure he was OK. The hours went past in a haze of mud, slippery rocks, and tripping vines. Lunch.... On rocks by the running creek: off came my boots and socks – my band-aids had long disappeared from their designated spot on my heel – I fished them out of my wet socks. I thought of my spare gauze and plasters waiting in their special ziplock bag – forget it, my feet were so wet, white and shriveled; I had never seen them quite like that before. I let them bake in the sun for a few minutes hoping to improve the shriveled ness - keeping a careful eye on Ted, to see when he might start packing away his stove and other

luncheon items. I knew I wouldn't want to eat anything heavy (weight again!) so along with the bananas, apple and nuts I had packed cheese and biscuits. The biscuits were fine, the cheese was hot and sweaty – (another learning experience). Quick - Ted is packing up! - back into wet, hot socks and very wet boots, ready for the off. Good news we are 2/3 of the way along, bad news we are way behind schedule. It was all becoming a blur, and I decided to live for the moment, just in case it was my last. We reached a particularly hard spot to pass, the men at the end of the walk were truly wonderful. It was suggested that we slide across the rockface – Errol said don't worry I'll help you. I got so far and looked down – big mistake, at the same moment I realized that my right foot didn't have anywhere to go. I wondered if I could stay here all afternoon – very close to panic, I slid inelegantly back and took another route – through deep slippery water, but I had long ago come to the conclusion that getting wet in a controlled way was preferable to an unexpected ducking which might also include knocking into a rock. At last we reached the water hole. At this point I realized all the other ladies were already wearing their swimming attire – I had brought mine neatly in a ziplock – (as if it mattered if it got wet!) I dithered about – blowing up my boat – yes I had enough puff, and was pleased it was a small boat and not a lilo that I was inflating. What to do about the costume? - what had I expected bathing huts? Well behind another rock, they have their uses after all – off came my wet trousers and on came my swimming costume, pink underwear glowing beneath! Having left my rubber beach shoes behind to save weight – I now wondered how I would feel about coming into contact with the slimy mud that I knew to be around me under the water. Someone suggested swimming in boots, I compromised and left my socks on and packed away my boots. I tied a rope around my boat and backpack and launched into the water, which though brown was so refreshing and free from weed and grunge unlike the water we had been passing on the way along the route. My daily swim in Sydney held me in good stead, and I thoroughly enjoyed the swim, I really don't know where the energy came from. Up and over another rock for part two of the water hole – and we were greeted with the sight of a waterfall cascading down – beautiful. No time to stop though – out of the water and put back our wet clothes. It took longer to take the air out of the lilos and boats than it had to blow them up. I was proud of my boat and I tooted the horn – someone said – 'I nearly bought that model – but thought people would laugh!!!' They did laugh, but I'm sure it was with admiration!!!!

Only 45 minutes to go our leader said. A few more bends and we met a family swimming in a small water hole, encouraging their young children to jump into the water from a height. Having experience the submerged rocks and tree trunks, we had to hope they explained that not all water holes are safe for jumping. We then met another couple who had just walked down from the car park above. '500 metres' they said. 'Wow' we said. We reached a set of stairs, only to be told that the ranger had told us not to use them. Instead we had to follow the water again across more rocks until we reached the bottom of a dam. This was so very demoralizing, so near and so very far. We could see Ted and his super fit team climbing up the steps of the dam. To reach this point we had to go across the most torturous bit yet. Down a steep rock face, we were aided by Steve and Jillian and then into stagnant water

that was over waist height. What a way to end such a healthy day smelling of dirty pondlife! The stairs were in sections of 18 steps before a break and there must have been at least 12 sections!!!! Having reached the top of the dam the lake was quite a breathtaking sight. We walked gratefully across the top of the dam – I was wondering if there would be a gate at entrance, dams are not usually open to the public are they? Surely it would be opened for us. No – the final challenge was to climb the gate and under the barbed wire. Once again the guys were wonderful and Bob stayed until we were all over before he climbed over. We had long ago finished our water supplies, and Franco pointed out a tap that he knew to have drinking water. Wonderful to be on tarmac and equally wonderful to be able to say “I’ve done the Obi Obi Gorge!!” and thanks to 19 other encouraging walkers, what a team!!

NB We arrived home nearly 9pm and I was greeted by a husband who turned his nose up at me as I staggered in the door – I’d forgotten about the stagnant water – I did smell awful!!!!!!



Hilary Riley

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#### *Phil Mullins & Marilyn Hateley*

Marilyn Hateley and Phil Mullins were initial members of the Redlands Bushwalkers Club. Marilyn attended the first informal meeting at Laurel & Rob Santry’s home in Capalaba, and both Phil and Marilyn attended the first meeting held at Indigiscapes in Feb 2003.(not knowing each other at this time). I think from memory there were about 20-30 at this meeting and elected an official committee. What we especially liked about the club was the variety not only of hard/easy walks but the social activities provided e.g. movies, theatre nights, wine tours etc. And of course the base camps.

Marilyn’s first walk was at Jollys Lookout on Mt Nebo in December 2002 and Phil’s first walk was Twin Falls at Springbrook National Park in Feb 2003 led jointly by Marilyn and Steve Ratcliffe. We attended many walks and camps, but there were always favourites. Marilyn’s favourites included the Coomera Circuit at Binna Burra and of course Twin Falls, which she usually led. Some favourite base camps were Clarence Gorge, Charlie Moorlands, Girraween, and Carnarvon Gorge just to name a few. I think the first base camp was around Feb led by Franco at Elanda Point and we tried to do a few walks with the many, many mossies. A walk that stands out most for Phil was a social walk/camp up at Mapleton that Marilyn put on. We camped at Lilly Ponds and walked the Kondadilla Falls track. A new member attended this walk but was struggling to walk back up the track. Phil being tail noticed the trouble she was in and decided to help with carrying her pack, not realizing just how heavy it was. She was carrying 2 litre bottles of soft drink, 2 litres of water, lunch, change of clothing and goodness only knows what else. (We never did see this lady again) The Christmas camps were always great fun and I remember getting excited at the first one we had as I was to receive a certificate, until I



was given it by Hilary for mastering the Australian Language (ha ha funny since I am a kiwi) just as well I have a great sense of humour.

After attending many walks together Phil & Marilyn got together on a date at Cleveland Lighthouse. It was funny really as Marilyn thought Phil was a bit of a bore and drank too much,(and she told him so as she was always known to tell it how it was). Well he ain't too boring and as it turns out Marilyn drinks more than him. After two knockbacks of marriage proposals Phil wasn't game to ask again, so one time after walking up Mt Maroon (and getting Phil at a weak moment) Marilyn proposed and they then got married in Sept 2008 at their first dating place the Cleveland Lighthouse which was attended by some of the Redlands Bushwalkers and officiated by Denise Kolcze and videoed by John Kolcze.. Marilyn & Phil moved out of the Cleveland area in June 2010 and are now living in Paradise at Woodgate Beach. We do both miss the friendships we made and fun times we had in the club



Marilyn & Phil Mullins

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#### *Dudley and Sue Reid*

Dudley and I have thoroughly enjoyed our time with the Bushwalking Club. I decided to seek out different situations to develop fitness and social interaction while Dudley was working each weekend. The advertisement I read in the local paper seemed to fill the criteria. I immediately felt welcomed at the meetings and then began my 10 year association with the club. I was having so much fun that Dudley decided he should come along too. After we gained some experience with the club's help, we decided that it was our turn to participate as Leaders and explore our wonderful bushlands. We have attended a number of Base Camps, Pilgrimages and the Xmas Camps all giving us a wonderful experience and great fellowship with other members.

My fitness has been a bit up and down but my most challenging walk was Mt Maroon, to stand on top and see for 180deg. was amazing, but it was only with the encouragement and support of our leader and fellow walkers that I was able to achieve it. It is great that we are there to help each other extend ourselves and step outside our comfort zone.

Thank you to all the members who make up our Club. You have certainly made my time with the Club most enjoyable and hope we can continue in the same way.



Sue & Dudley Reid

*Denise Mitchell*

Well, where did those 10 years go? From the small beginning of our first walk at Brisbane Forest Park doing the easy Thylogale Track (just recently re-enacted with 23 lovely walkers) to over the years moving up to somewhat more challenging ventures. Those were the days when ignorance was bliss and we signed up for anything and everything and believed Ted when he said that, yet it is just a short swim through the gorge (no wider than this hall). Ha Ha “We now know”.

But what a 10 years it has been. Meeting so many lovely people and friendships formed. Getting to see places that I didn’t know existed and would never have had the opportunity to experience if I hadn’t have been part of the Redland Bushwalkers.

What memories to have. The first time doing Love Creek Falls at Brisbane Forest! What fun to see the surprised expressions on the faces of strangers when after a very long hot day of rock hopping, scrambling, stumbling and beating around the bush, a bunch of very bedraggled looking bushwalkers pop their heads up over the top of Greens Falls and scramble over the top. Walking back to the car hearing the comments of people coming the other way on the boardwalk “goodness I hope I don’t look like that when I finish this walk”. If they only knew what we had just been through that day but oh how satisfying and yes we all went back for more.

Of course, then there was the “being one with nature tree hugging moment” on Logan’s Ridge of Mt Barney. Or maybe the memory has just gone a bit dim over the years and it was more a “hanging on for dear life moment”.

Those of you who have been around awhile will remember the great base camps we have had at Clarence Gorge, Mt Barney, Canungra and numerous other places. It’s a really good time to get to know your fellow walkers and just have lots of fun. For those newcomers who have just recently joined the club don’t miss out on these. You won’t regret it.

In another 10 years let’s hope we will all be celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the club and still happily walking albeit maybe a bit slower. Thanks to everyone for all the good times.

Denise Mitchell

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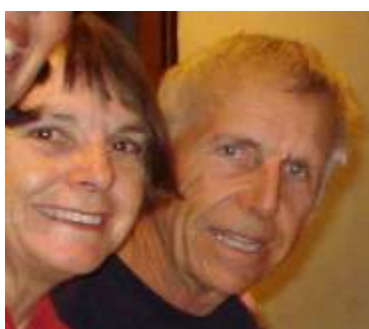
### *Brian and Cheryle Leggett*

Brian and I attended our first club meeting in August 2005 after reading an ad in the local Herald. Our first walk was on September 18th 2005 to Mt Matheson led by Judith Chapman. In 7 years as members of the club we have participated in 56 walks, of which Brian has led 18.

Our most memorable experiences through the club has to be The Simpson Desert Trip and Fraser Island with Rob Santry in 2007 and 2009.

We consider ourselves "B" grade walkers but find there are many opportunities as well as safety education to be learnt from the Redland Bushwalkers.

Cheryle and Brian Leggett



At Poepel corner



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### *Tracy Ryan*

"Write something about a memorable experience with the club," said Ted. "Hmmm," said I. "Well my most memorable experience would have to be my first through-walk with the club: the infamous, never since repeated, Mt Barney Death March in October 2006 "

Ted loves Mt Barney, I believe it's his favourite place in south east Queensland for walking, and little wonder. It offers everything, including some of the more challenging walks around the area. So he decided it was a really good idea to do a through-walk up Barney Gorge, overnight at Rum Jungle, and down Rocky Creek the next morning. And for some reason a small group of us (me, Judy, Alison, Denise M and Russell C) agreed, and signed up. Being a bit of a novice, I turned up at the start of the walk with a borrowed pack that didn't fit me and a seriously heavy tent (about 3.5kg). The others turned up much better equipped, and very kindly offered to let me share a hoochy rather than drag my tent all the way up and back. So back into the car went my tent and off up the track went us six walkers. Gorgeous day, crisp, light breeze, sun shining, easy walking up a gently rising slope through eucalyptus bushland, birds singing, crickets chirping.

Mt Barney is indeed a great place. Gorges, creeks, huge rock slaps, mossy bits, open bits, wet bits, dry bits: it's got it all. Rain-foresty bits full of staghorns and orchids, etc etc etc. And we were lucky enough to have two days of it, plus an overnight camp at Rum Jungle in between. So why was this particular walk called the Death March? This is why:



Day 1: basically it was up. Even the downs went up. Up and up we went, up past pools, up past rocks covered in staghorns and even up gorges with orchids in full flower. So up, up and up we went, followed by a bit more up. Then up again for another 57km or so, until we eventually emerged at the lower campsite of Rum Jungle. We did have a really good night; Ted introduced me to the delights of salmon dip and crackers at the end of a walk, and following that Judy introduced me to the heaven of hot chocolate with real West Indian rum.

So all was good for Day 2, except that when I woke up my thighs didn't seem



to work any more. Not a problem, I thought, we're so close to the troposphere up here on Mt Barney that there really is only one way to go today, and that's down. At that stage of my walking career I still naively believed that down was way easier than up, so off I set with not too many worries. But I also didn't realise that some places are actually named after their dominant features, and Rocky Creek is

one of them, particularly the Rocky part. So basically we spent the day in a creek bed full of rocks of all sizes AND a huge number of fallen trees, all of which required climbing over or ducking under. Some sections we even had to use ropes to get down.

By the time we left the creek bed about 322km from our overnight campsite, I was not the only one barely able to put one foot in front of the other. So to egg ourselves on, we pictured the WW2 POWs in southeast Asia being forced at bayonet-point to march for days, no shoes, no decent food, often very sick. Compared with them, we were just being a pack of wimps! We finally staggered back to the cars literally 20 minutes before dark, and that's how it became known as the Mt Barney Death March.



## **OUR COMMITTEES OVER 10 YEARS**

### **2003 Yr 1**

(Jan 2003 – Sept 2003)

<i>President</i>	Kevin Fowler
<i>Secretary</i>	Laurel Santry
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Kolcze
<i>Membership</i>	Annette Taylor
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Ted Wassenberg (Rob Santry)
<i>Outings</i>	Franco Vendramini
<i>Social secretary</i>	Hilary Martyn
<i>Contact</i>	Kevin Blain, Mark Keehn, Rob Santry

### **2004**

(Sept 2003- Oct 2004)

<i>President</i>	Kevin Fowler
<i>Secretary</i>	Laurel Santry (Denise Mitchell)
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Kolcze
<i>Membership</i>	Annette Taylor
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Ted Wassenberg (Rob Santry)
<i>Outings</i>	Franco Vendramini
<i>Social secretary</i>	Hilary Martyn & Denise Mitchell
<i>Communications</i>	Blade Johnston, Stephen Wynne

### **2005**

(Oct 2004 – Oct 2005)

<i>President</i>	Laurel Santry
<i>Vice President</i>	Kevin Fowler
<i>Secretary</i>	Hilary Martyn (Judith Chapman)
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Kolcze (Sue Reid)
<i>Membership</i>	Annette Taylor
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Ted Wassenberg (Rob Santry, Antti Keitenpaa)
<i>Outings</i>	Franco Vendramini (Kevin Blain)
<i>Social secretary</i>	Marilyn Hateley
<i>Communications</i>	Stephen Wynne
<i>Data base</i>	Denise Mitchell

## **2006**

(Oct 2005 – Oct 2006)

<i>President</i>	Ted Wassenberg
<i>Vice President</i>	Laurel Santry
<i>Secretary</i>	Hilary Martyn (Judith Chapman)
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Kolcze (Sue Reid)
<i>Membership</i>	Annette Taylor
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Anti Keitenpaa
<i>Outings</i>	Rob Santry
<i>Social secretary</i>	Marilyn Hateley
<i>Data base</i>	Alison Short
<i>Public Relations</i>	Stephen Wynne
<i>Equipment</i>	Kevin Blain

## **2007**

(Oct 2006 – March 2008)

<i>President</i>	Ted Wassenberg
<i>Vice President</i>	Bob Hartley
<i>Secretary</i>	Denise Kolcze
<i>Treasurer</i>	John Kolcze
<i>Membership</i>	Annette Taylor
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Antti Keitenpaa
<i>Outings</i>	Rob Santry
<i>Social secretary</i>	Hilary Riley
<i>Data base</i>	Alison Short
<i>Public Relations</i>	Stephen Wynne
<i>Equipment</i>	Kevin Blain

## **2008**

(March 2008– March 2009)

<i>President</i>	Kevin Blain
<i>Vice President</i>	Denise Kolcze
<i>Secretary</i>	Tracy Ryan
<i>Treasurer</i>	Wayne Porter
<i>Membership</i>	Denise Mitchell
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Ted Wassenberg
<i>Outings</i>	Errol Perry
<i>Social secretary</i>	Betty Murray
<i>Data base</i>	Judy Moody-Stuart
<i>Public Relations</i>	Russell McKenzie
<i>Equipment</i>	Kevin Blain

## **2009**

(March 2009– March 2010)

<i>President</i>	Denise Kolcze
<i>Vice President</i>	Errol Perry
<i>Secretary</i>	Tracy Ryan
<i>Treasurer</i>	Wayne Porter
<i>Membership</i>	Hilary Martyn
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Errol Perry
<i>Outings</i>	Phillip Fryer
<i>Social secretary</i>	Heather Beh
<i>Data base</i>	Judy Moody-Stuart
<i>Public Relations</i>	Sue Reid
<i>Equipment</i>	Kevin Blain

## **2010**

(March 2010– March 2011)

<i>President</i>	Denise Kolcze
<i>Vice President</i>	Tracy Ryan
<i>Secretary</i>	Sue Reid (Mats Anderson)
<i>Treasurer</i>	Wayne Porter
<i>Membership</i>	Carmel Cash
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Errol Perry
<i>Outings</i>	Phillip Fryer
<i>Social secretary</i>	Kerrie Coulter
<i>Public Relations</i>	Russell McKenzie

## **2011**

(March 2011– March 2012)

<i>President</i>	Denise Kolcze
<i>Vice President</i>	Tracy Ryan
<i>Secretary</i>	Sue Reid
<i>Treasurer</i>	Narelle McFadden
<i>Membership</i>	Carmel Cash
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Ken Walters
<i>Outings</i>	Steve Tolcher
<i>Social secretary</i>	Kerrie Coulter
<i>Newsletter</i>	Tracy Ryan
<i>Equipment</i>	Denise Mitchell

**2012**  
(March 2012– March 2013)

<i>President</i>	Mats Anderson
<i>Vice President</i>	Denise Kolcze
<i>Secretary</i>	Malcolm Thompson
<i>Treasurer</i>	Narelle McFadden
<i>Membership</i>	Sandy Stephens
<i>Safety &amp; Training</i>	Ted Wassenberg
<i>Outings</i>	Steve Tolcher (Phil Fryer)
<i>Social secretary</i>	
<i>Newsletter</i>	Jennifer Ivers
<i>Equipment</i>	Denise Mitchell



## The People and what we do





















## CONGRATULATIONS REDLAND BUSHWALKERS

Edited by Ted Wassenberg

Peer reviewed by Hilary Martyn & Laurel Santry & Denise Kolcze

Photos by John Kolcze & Ted & anonymous others

With thanks to all contributors