

97/69



MONTHLY CIRCULAR

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF OUR LADY OF THE WAY

P.O. BOX 151, BRISBANE, NORTH QUAY, QLD.

4000

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BRISBANE CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB

Price 8¢

Page 1.

JUNE 1969.

Monthly General Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the Temperance Hall, Canberra Hotel (Edward St. entrance). Due to the June long-weekend, the next meeting will be held on TUESDAY, June 17th. at 7.30 p.m. Visitors welcome.

OFFICE BEARERS

CHAPLAIN	Rev. Fr. M. Keohane O.M.I.	6 4422
PRESIDENT	Paul Skehan	Ex. 308 -31 0201
VICE PRESIDENT	Michael Grigg	
GENERAL SECRETARY	Paul Wijngaarden	
OUTINGS SECRETARY	Larry Corkran	36 4326
TREASURER	Gavin Clancy	48 5391
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Kathleen Vingoe	48 6178
S & T OFFICER	John Walker	81 5009

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Leon Buchanan	49 1109	Bernice Caffery	66 9544
Laurie Kearney	-	Denise Thompson	-
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE -		Paul Wijngaarden	
HUT CURATOR -		Paul Tracey	
LIBRARIAN -		Margaret Boyle	
EMERGENCY OFFICERS -		Michael Laherty	97 6303
-		Vince Maume	4 4562
RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS EDITION -		Paul Wijngaarden	
CLUB 'PHONE NO.			97 6303

EDITORIAL.

by Bernice Caffery

The "agony" column of a daily newspaper recently contained this interesting snippet:- "I am in a dilemma. I've fallen in love with a handsome generous, good-natured man who wants to marry me etc. etc. - but there is one flaw, he climbs mountains"!! It's to be hoped that this flaw will be uppermost in the personalities of Club members both male and female, during the next few months.

The winter walking season is upon us. For the pushwalker winter is a time of panoramic views of a clarity unspoilt by the haze of summer. It is a time when we can enjoy walking to the fullest and it is to be hoped that the exciting programme of outings found elsewhere in this circular will raise the enthusiasm of members.

As to the admissible hazards connected with our sport - hazards which seem to worry the writer of the abovementioned letter - there is certainly no denying that they do exist, as they do with any other outdoor sport. However this does not mean that we should never accept any challenge; this would mean turning our backs on most of the best things in life. A few accidents on our mountains in the last few months should make us aware of the need for a responsible attitude towards our recreation. Let's accept the challenge, while at the same time being aware of our own limitations.

Our advice to the worried letter-writer:-
"If you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

GROUCH COLUMN: It is common courtesy and important to the Club that, when members nominate for functions, they should attend them; or if they find they are unable to attend, they should let the Social Secretary or Outings Secretary know this fact as early as possible. The Club cannot be expected to have to bear the losses that might arise from cancelled nominations of which no notice has been received.

CLUB CALENDAR:

MONDAY 23RD. JUNE Function for Fr. Aspinall.

WEEKEND 27/29TH. JUNE Base Camp/Throughwalk - Mt. Ballow.

SUNDAY 6TH. JULY Day Walk - Mount David

WEEKEND 11/13TH. JULY Base Camp/Throughwalk - O'Reilly's.

SATURDAY 19TH. JULY Social - Pirate Night.

WEEKEND 25/27TH. JULY Base Camp/Throughwalk - Panorama Point to Lizard Point.

SUNDAY 3RD. AUGUST Day Walk - Flinders Peak.

WEDNESDAY 13TH. AUGUST Overnight - Barney Mass.

WEEKEND 15/17TH. AUGUST Base Camp/Throughwalk - Running Crk.

SATURDAY 23RD. AUGUST Social - Roller Skating Night.

WEEKEND 30/31ST. AUGUST Base Camp/Throughwalk - Mt. Ernest, Campbells Folly.

SUNDAY 7TH. SEPTEMBER Daywalk - Mount Beerwah.

WEEKEND 12/14TH. SEPT. Base/Camp/Throughwalk - Barney Hut.

SATURDAY 20TH. SEPT. Social - Charleston Party.

WEEKEND 26/28TH. SEPT. Base Camp/Throughwalk - Mt. Warning.

SUNDAY 5TH. OCTOBER Daywalk - Mount Moon.

WEEKEND 10/12TH. OCT. Base Camp/Throughwalk - Laidley Crk.

WEEKEND 18/19TH. OCT. Annual Retreat.

WEEKEND 24/26TH. OCT. Base Camp/Throughwalk - Obi Obi.

- and don't forget the Meetings on the third Monday of each month. It all adds up to a very full programme with something on almost every weekend.

Walkingwise there are ten weekend trips and seven daywalks planned for the months June to October. Some new ground will be broken and some of the old areas will be done in new ways. However, there are many more good areas and the Outings Sub-Committee would be happy to hear from members with suggestions.

COMING EVENTS IN DETAIL:

MEMBERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE- The next General Meeting will be held on TUESDAY June 17th. in the Temperance Hall, Canberra Hotel at 7.30p.m. This is due to the fact that Monday falls on part of the June longweekend

Feature for the evening will be slides of Salvator Rosa National Park, taken by Doug Anderson and Graham Chalmers last September.

MONDAY 23RD. JUNE - FUNCTION FOR FR. ASPINALL:

This Function is to say "thank you" to our former Chaplain Fr. Aspinall, for the help he has given members as Chaplain over the seven years that he has held this position.

Current members are asked to spread the word to any former members they know and invite them to the function. Venue will be the Hall at the back of Mater Christi Church, run by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate at junction of Morrison Street and Norman Parade, Eagle Junction. Time of commencement 8.0p.m.

WEEKEND 27/29TH. JUNE - BASE CAMP/THROUGHWALK - MT. BALLOON:

<u>Leaders-</u>	Larry Corkran (T.W.)	<u>Departure-</u>	Cnr. Roma &
	Doug Anderson (B.C.)		Turbot Sts. - 7.0p.m.
<u>Fare-</u>	£3-60	<u>Contact Officer-</u>	
<u>Nominations-</u>	Monday 23rd. June		Vince Maume- 4.4562.

June 1969

MONTHLY CIRCULAR

Page 5.

Mt. Ballow is not a single peak, but a group of about six peaks, some five miles west of Barney. The Base Camp will be on Burnett Creek near a good swimming pool and from here some of the nearer peaks will be climbed.

The Throughwalk will be long, with early starts & possibly a Friday night start. It will follow the ridges so water for the whole weekend will have to be carried. On the other hand the views are among the best along the Scenic rim and the walk might have to be shortened to make the most of them.

SUNDAY 6TH. JULY - DAY WALK - MOUNT DAVID

<u>Leader-</u>	Jan Weston	<u>Time-</u>	9.00a.m.
<u>Fare-</u>	£2-00	<u>Departure-</u>	Cnr. Roma & Turbot
<u>Nominations-</u>	Monday 30th. June	<u>Contact Officer-</u>	4.4562 Vince Maume

Mount David is another mystery mountain, marked on very few maps. It is however, nearly 2,000ft. high and commands good views of the Canungra Range up which the O'Reilly road winds. The patchwork farmlands through the valley, make a picturesque foreground.

The golden light of the afternoon sun could make for some good photographs too. Remember the competition is not all that far away..

WEEKEND 11/13TH. JULY - BASE CAMP/THROUGHWALK - O'REILLY'S:

<u>Leaders-</u>	Paul Tracey (T.W.)	-	Kath Vingoe (B.C.)
<u>Fare-</u>	£3-60	<u>Time-</u>	7.0p.m.
<u>Nominations-</u>	Monday 7th. July	<u>Departure-</u>	Roma & Turbot St.
	<u>Contact Officer-</u>	Vince Maume	4.4562.

A Base Camp at O'Reilly's needs no further elaboration. The walking tracks and the social life are both well known but the reason for going in winter is, of course, to do more walking.

The big news is that there will be a Binna Burra to O'Reilly's throughwalk visiting Fountain Falls and

June 1969

MONTHLY CIRCULAR

Page 6.

Pyramid Rock. The Throughwalkers will go to Binna Burra on the Friday night in the Queensland Scenic Tours Bus and will use the Club transport for the return. The fares for both parties will be the same.

SATURDAY 19TH. JULY - SOCIAL- PIRATE NIGHT:

This date is final for this poor pushed-about social. The last change was made to fit in with the walking programme but there are no more complications.

The pirate-ship sails from Kath Vingoe's home, 31 Blomfield Street, Moorooka, at 8.0p.m. and tickets are only 60 cents. You must therefore provide your own uniform.

During the night there will be a lucky door number, treasure hunt, singing, dancing and other traditional pirate pastimes. Warning- All those not in costume will be forced to walk the plank!

A D V E R T I S M E N T:

TO SELL: One used two-man, terylene 'A' type tent in good condition.

One Paddy Pallen "Kosi" Sleeping Bag. Also in good condition.

Please see Gavan Clancy.

HOLIDAYS COMING UP SOON? Thought of leaving them run on until January for a good trip to Tasmania? It would be ideal if two car-loads from the Club could go.

See Larry Corkran for all details.

ARMIDALE TO DORRIGO:

Part 2

By Larry Corkran.

To the true bushwalker, a visit to the bottom of the falls is a must. From the picnic shed, walk about 100 yards towards the falls and move over the edge of the Gorge into the scrub and down to a long shelf. Keep going straight down the steep slope till you find a track going down to the right. Follow the track (steep and loose in parts) down to some rocks. Below the rocks the track becomes vague in the scrub but reappears directly below. Move down the left hand side of the spur.

When possible, move out onto the scree slopes on the left for quick descent. When the scree slope goes over small cliffs, cut back onto the spur. When small cliffs are met on the spur, move down into the gully on the right. The gully is steep with some screes but move mostly in the gully, leaving it only around obstacles.

This gully ends in a cliff. Descend on right hand side and traverse across the bottom of the cliff to another gully. Rope is recommended here. Stay in the gully until it opens out, then follow the slopes to the river. Rock-hop upstream to the base of the falls.

The next attraction not to be missed is the hydroelectric scheme on Oakey Creek. Four miles past Wollomombi village take the turn off to Kempsey and after three miles there is a sign-posted turn-off to the Power Station.

The dam is at the head of the gorge and the water is piped down the side of the gorge (which goes down in a series of falls) to the Power Station half a mile away and 900 feet below.

There is a track beside the water pipes, or alternatively most of the ridges provide a route to

the bottom. A cable railway provides access to the generating unit but there are no regular times. A possible throughwalk would be down the Gorge till the river meets the Chandlers, then climb up to the Long Point road. The Chandlers could be treated similarly and the length of river covered would depend on available time.

Eighteen miles towards Grafton from the Kempsey turn-off is the signposted turn to the New England National Park. The 56,000 acre park takes in the escarpment of the branch of the Great Divide that goes down to the sea near Kempsey and forms the division between the Clarence and Macleay River systems. The highest point is Point Lookout, 5250ft. which is reached by nine miles of road from the main road. There are picnic facilities on top and from here radiates a system of graded tracks.

The road is good gravel and the last steep pinch to Point Lookout is bitumen. There is no camping inside the Park boundary but there are good camp-sites on the Styx River lower down. The Trout Hatchery on the Serpentine River (tributary of the Styx) near the road crossing is open for inspection during certain hours.

The view from Point Lookout must surely be one of the best in the country. To the North is the main escarpment, very like the Ramparts, and to the East and South, ridge after ridge rolls away to the coast. At night the lights of towns all the way to the coast can be seen. An added attraction in the day-time is the vapour trails of airliners on the Brisbane - Sydney route.

For the early risers, Point Lookout is noted for beautiful sunrises. It is also often clouded over during the afternoon so it is best to plan for a morning visit.

There is a small graded track system around Point Lookout and a map on the wall of the lunch shelter.

Note that the times given here are for tourists rather than bushwalkers. Some of the tracks are in a poor state of repair. There are many miles of fire-trails in the Park which could be very useful for getting to know the area.

There is tremendous scope for serious walking. Apart from the obvious points of interest below Point Lookout, one could spend days following the range to the South East, or following the escarpment around towards Dorrigo, or going through the south west part of the park to the Kempsey road. It is a good days walk along the escarpment to Darkie's Point and then north west to Ebor. Be wary of snakes during summer months.

Before leaving for Ebor, the local residents recommend the Round Mountain for a good view of the New England countryside. It is about four miles as the crow flies, north west of the Point Lookout turn-off and is on the crest of the Range like Point Lookout, but is only another "dome mountain." Property roads from near the New England National Park turn-off should go close to the mountain.

Ebor is on the Eastern slope of the range. The rainfall is higher here so the river is more permanent. There are two large and photogenic falls here and the area has been made into a tourist area and camping ground. The turn-off is about a quarter of a mile on the Armidale side of the township of Ebor.

The first falls are a wide two-stage drop, and with a good flow of water are possibly the prettiest in New England. The obvious route to the pool at the bottom is a few hundred yards downstream.

The second falls, quarter of a mile downstream are a classic sheer drop nestling in a wooded gorge. The cliffs around it are old lava flows which show remarkable columnar jointing. The goat track below the view points, leads down to the river and it is a rock-hop

to the base of the falls. Be prepared to be drenched by spray and for rocks thrown from the top!

The Gorge below has never been explored but joins the Marengo eventually. There is supposed to be an old coal mine somewhere below the second falls. Note also that petrol can be obtained at Ebor township.

Six miles past Ebor the road divides - both branches can take you to Dorrig. The south road is all bitumen but views are restricted although the farming country through here is very beautiful. There are occasional views of peaks on the escarpment, which would probably be worth walking to, and even rarer views of the next range to the south. The whole side of this range is scarred by a criss-cross network of timber roads with earth banks that show out brown against the green. These roads can be seen from Point Lookout but are not as striking from there. The pattern is quite interesting but the indiscriminate building has disfigured the scenery badly.

The turn-off to Marengo is signposted, but there is no town at Hernani. The road is good gravel and ends at a ford with Marengo Station homestead on the far bank. A huge sign over the gate shows the name. Much of the walk to the falls is on the neighbouring property but check at Marengo all the same. The creek is fed by springs and is in a good rainfall area, so rarely runs dry.

The top of the falls is less than a half hour's walk from the road in a WNW direction. Stay on the highest ground but keep the creek in sight on the right. You will come out on a most impressive Gorge.

The falls can be best viewed from the southern end of the gorge above a huge scree slope. Care! Views can also be obtained from some of the rocky outcrops on the ridge opposite the falls.

In either case the full length of the falls cannot be seen. The main falls are an almost sheer drop of 800ft. and above this is another drop of about 200ft. into a huge rocky cleft hanging above the main gorge. It is worth walking down to the top of the first falls.

The paddocks above the falls would make very good campsites (the rabbits seem to find them attractive) and the Gorge is really worth exploring. Best way down is via the large ridge opposite the falls but it is steep in parts. Do not attempt to descend near the falls. This is one of the most impressive Gorges in New England and the falls one of the highest in Australia, but it is little known and unspoilt. It should be possible to follow the river back to Ebor but this would be a very long through-walk.

Leave the Grafton road at Tyringham and turn towards Dorriggo. Both roads can be quite rough at times. The last point of interest on this trip is the little-known Silent Pool, a large deep pool fed by underground supply only. It is fed by an underground river and after rain when the water pressure is greatest, a water-spout appears in the pool at regular intervals of about a quarter of an hour.

Soon after crossing the Nymboida River (north branch) there is a sign-posted turn-off to the right to the Harness Cask property. Follow this road for a couple of miles to a rickety bridge. From here walk three or four miles upstream to the pool. This pool is a good lunch spot.

The farms around Dorriggo provide some beautiful scenery to end the trip. They look like something from a picture book with their neat paddocks and houses and their rows of trees, mainly poplars and pines. The township itself, blends into this scene of classic farm country and is worthy to be the centre of such a picturesque district.

The author suspects that it would be quicker to go from Armidale to Dorrigo via Brisbane than to go this way and stop at all the points of interest. When you consider the areas not covered by this article you will realize just how much the New England area has to offer.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - ADULT:

A weekly discussion group meets for the purpose of deepening its appreciation of the Teaching of the Church.

It is following the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World of Vatican II.

More people will be welcomed. No standards of education or qualifications are required. However to participate fully, those interested are expected to prepare for the discussion by reading and thought, taking up to an hour.

Further and fuller details may be obtained from Paul Skehan, Mike Laherty, "Bunny" Fienberg, Christine Graham, or Denise Thompson.

CLUB NEWS AND VIEWS:

Federation has ordered the special rescue stretcher, the most expensive single item to comprise the Rescue Equipment. Mal Graydon, B.B.W. President, has taken on the task of Federation S. & T. Officer, involving initial organization of an effectively trained S. & R. unit comprising members from the various affiliated Clubs.

Congratulations to Madonna Stratford on her election as Federation President. Other election appointees were-

Vice President & Hut's & Track's Officer-	Edsel Ward (N.P.A.)
Secretary-	Doreen Shelton (Binna Burra BWC)
Treasurer-	Alan Becker (Y.H.A.)

Federation has authorised the commencement of planning and costing for proposed improvements to the Barney Saddle Hut.

Honorary Membership has been granted to Fr. Aspinall who recently resigned as Chaplain of the Club.

Cloth Club badges are again on sale. Cost per badge is \$1-80.

John Walker was elected S. & T. Officer at the May General Meeting to fill the vacancy on Committee.

Paul Skehan has agreed to act as Publicity Officer.

Brief trip reports covering Club and Private outings will be welcomed for publication in the circular. Such contributions should be handed to Paul Skehan or sent to the Club P.O. Box by the first monday of the month to be in time for that months Circular.

Subject to further discussion on merits or otherwise of the proposal to purchase a new magazine type projector for the Club, it has been decided to make do with the existing projector for the time being.

Club's thanks go to Keith Condon and Larry Corkran for their excellent work in completing the comprehensive photo album covering the construction and opening of the Club Hut "Yalburru". This album is in the library for all to see.

In future members who do not use the Club transport on a trip must organize their own transport and costs. The only Club charge will be 50¢ towards the organization of the trip they are using. There will be no fares charged and no reimbursement of drivers. Drivers and passengers can make their own arrangements.

Congratulations to Paul Elliot on being declared an Ordinary Member of the Club.

REMINDER- This is the last edition of the circular going to members who were financial during 1968/69. Unless your subscription has been, or is renewed before the publication of the July Circular, you will not receive a copy through the post. If you have not already done so, PLEASE RENEW. Single membership \$2-00 - Married Couples \$2-50.

BUSHWALKERS CASEBOOK:

Recent Christmas Creek trip known as the "Culture trip" because of the general high tone of conversation. This trip was also noted for the name changes that took place. Whose looks most resemble a "Hyacinth"? Pat Lawton of course lived up to her name by falling in the river. Ringo, a local dog accompanied the throughwalkers for the whole weekend. He is now up for honorary membership.

Denis Laherty now a Captain in the Army.

Congratulations to John Graham and Kathy Graham (nee Brady) on their recent wedding. The Club's best wishes to you both.

Congratulations are also in order for Keith Condon and Marjorie Connors who were married on the 7th. June. They will live in Toowoomba as Keith has been transferred to that city.

Club member Rita Dwyer to marry Barry Stanfield on 14th. June. They will be living in Southport.

Engagement congratulations go this time to Terry Boyle and Rhonda West.

Goodbye and good wishes to Anne Davis, who has been transferred to Adelaide branch of her employer J.L. Leutenegger Pty. Ltd.

The Club's new Chaplain Fr. Keohane did not take long in getting his walking boots out. Climbed Coochin Hills for the sunset after the Club Mass and luncheon on May 18th. And a beaut sunset it was too, whether seen from Coochin Hills, or Bribie Island where another group went for a post-luncheon party.

Congratulations to Peter & Margaret Murphy on the birth of their first born - a son Patrick Michael on 28th. May.

Therese M. was disappointed to find out she was not going to see the "Ice Skating Zebra" on the Theatre night.

Bunny, whose name is spelled as in "rabbit" - not "Bunie" has tried "Ultra Brite" toothpaste but without success.

Lost: One pair of brand new boots, left somewhere in the Cathedral grounds after Christmas Creek trip.

Leon Buchanan to play part of Cromwell in current Villanova production "Man for All Seasons".

The following poem by Australian poetess Judith Wright was written after she visited Westray's Grave. We feel it may be of interest to those members who attended the Christmas Creek trip and also visited the grave.

THE LOST MAN

To reach the pool you must go through the rain-forest -
Through the bewildering midsummer of darkness
Lit with ancient fern,
laced with poison and thorn.
You must go by the way he went - the way of the bleeding
hands and feet, the blood on the stones like flowers,
under the hooded flowers
that fall on the stones like blood.

To reach the pool you must go by the black valley
among the columns made of silence,
under the hanging clouds
of leaves and voiceless birds.
To go by the way he went to the voice of the water,
where the priest stinging-tree waits with his whips and
fevers under the hooded flowers
that fall from the trees like blood.

You must forget the song of the gold bird dancing
over tossed light; you must remember nothing
except the drag of darkness
that draws your weakness under.
To go by the way he went you must find beneath you
that last and faceless pool, and fall. And falling
find between breath and death
the sun by which you live.

JUDITH WRIGHT.

