



*Softly falls the silent night
brightly shines the star above,
As gently comes the heavenly peace
sent with our Lord's special love.*

JILALAN

MONTHLY CIRCULAR OF THE BRISBANE
CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB INC.
UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF OUR LADY OF THE WAY

DEC 1996


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*New Year
7.0
Coffee Night*

**BRISBANE CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB INC.
PO BOX 151, BRISBANE ALBERT STREET, QLD 4002**

CONTACTS

	CHAPLAIN	Fr Edwin Nally	3857 2021 (H)	
	PRESIDENT	Paul McDonald	3205 1984 (H)	
	VICE PRESIDENT	Con Vink	3814 3545 (H)	
	TREASURER	Tony Young	3262 7067 (H)	12-2 p.m. only
	SECRETARY	Cathy Thistlethwaite	3374 2198 (H)	
	OUTINGS SECRETARY	Ed Thistlethwaite	3374 2198 (H)	
	MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	Jim O'Meara	3838 3356 (H)	
	TRAINING OFFICER	Bill Butler	3351 1588 (H)	
	SOCIAL SECRETARY	Majella Robertson	3359 8311 (H)	
	"JILALAN" EDITOR	Cecilia Doherty	3392 0290 (H)	
	ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE	Iain Renton		

For specific enquiries, contact the Committee member (from above) concerned. For outings or socials, contact the leader shown in the calendar or article. Visitors - for general enquiries contact Jim O'Meara.

JILALAN

Articles for "Jilalan" should be posted to Cecilia Doherty 2/32 Stanley Terrace, East Brisbane. **Please note there are different deadlines for submitting articles on paper and on disk as shown in the monthly calendar.** The Editor is currently using MS WORD 6.0 but can convert from most programs. Please submit a hard copy of the article just in case there are problems with your disk.

GENERAL MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month, at 7.30 p.m. (although they usually start about 15 minutes later). The location is the basement of the Catholic Centre (near St Stephen's Cathedral) with entry via Charlotte Street. The door is usually staffed up to about 8.00 p.m. If you arrive after this time, please ring the bell once and wait. Parking is NOT available on site and free parking can be difficult to find nearby. Parking is available close by at \$4.00. **VISITORS** are always welcome.

OUTINGS

- Always read the Jilalan article to check the departure point, date and time.
- Departure of walks is usually either from the rear of the Cathedral in Charlotte Street or at Sullivan & Nicolaides (134 Whitmore Street, Taringa - enter via the upper driveway and drive down to the upper level of the carpark). Check "Jilalan" or phone the leader to be certain.
- The Club will usually organise transport for each outing, but you must nominate in advance to the leader. Contacting someone else may lead to your nomination becoming "lost". Nominations should preferably be made by the Monday prior to the activity (Wednesday at the latest) so that transport etc. can be arranged. Note that nominations for some walks may close well in advance of this. Late nominations may not be accepted.
- Walkers are responsible for their transport to and from the departure point.
- Walks are rarely cancelled - if they are, all nominees will be notified. Should you change your mind and decide not to come to a club event, please notify the leader as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY OFFICER

If, within the hour prior to an outings' departure, you can't make it or you are running late, phone the number shown in the "Jilalan" for the Emergency Officer for that outing. If you have not returned from an outing by 9.00 p.m. your family may ring the Emergency Officer - but please don't panic.

EQUIPMENT HIRE

The Club has some tents and through-walk packs to hire to visitors and newer members. Borrowers are responsible for collecting and returning equipment, as well as making good any loss or damage over and above normal wear and tear. Hire rates - Packs \$10/weekend, Tents \$5.00 - Deposit of \$20 required.

PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

The Association requires that certain minimal basic equipment should be carried by all walkers on all trips. This should comprise the following - a first aid kit, a torch, a parka/raincoat, hat, shirt, 15+ (or suitable value), sun screen and at least 2 litres of water. Leaders may require that walkers carry other equipment. Advice of this will be given in "Jilalan" and/or by the leader.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

All members are most welcome to observe the next meeting of the Management Committee. The dates of the Committee meetings have also been listed in Jilalan. You are very welcome to attend the meeting but please contact the President beforehand. This means you can be advised of any change of date/venue. If you feel strongly about an issue, bring it along to the Committee Meeting and we'll put it on the agenda. The dates of future Committee meetings have also been listed in Jilalan.

WARNING

All persons, adult or child, member or visitor, undertake all activities of the Club at their own risk. The Club is not in a position to even state that all care will be taken.

CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS

NOV	18	Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	MTN
	24	Diana's Bath	Cecilia Doherty	3392 0290	D/W
	22-25	Kaputar (requires day off)	Con Vink	3814 3545	B/C
	29-1	Black Canyon - Lost World	Ann Tracey	3395 2559	T/W
	30	Dave's Creek	Cathy Thistlethwaite/ Pam Walters	3374 2198	D/W
DEC	2	Management Committee Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	MTN
	6-8	Christmas Party	Majella Robertson	3359 8311	SOC
	14	Currumbin Creek/Cougals	Sue Tobin	3366 3193	D/W
	16	Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	MTN
	22	Christmas Creek	Kerry Mulligan	3279 4490	D/W
	23	Jilalan Deadline (Paper Articles)			JIL
	26	Boxing Day - Kondalilla Fls- Mapleton Fls	Liz Little	3356 4874	D/W
	28	Mt Tamborine	Denise Robertson	3266 2521	D/W
	31	New Year's Eve Party & Auction	Majella Robertson	3359 8311	SOC
1997 JAN	5	Obi-Obi Li-Lo	Phil Murray	3841 0254	D/W
	6	Management Committee Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	MTN
	6	Jilalan Deadline (Computer Disk Articles)			JIL
	12	Northbrook Gorge	Cliff Harrison	3378 0264	D/W
	18-19	Retreat at Club Hut	Con Vink	3814 3545	B/C
	20	Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	MTN
	23	Jilalan Deadline (Paper Articles)			JIL
	25	Love Creek			D/W
	24-26	Mon Repos	Ed Thistlethwaite	3374 2198	B/C
	27	Barney Gorge			D/W
FEB	30	Jilalan Deadline (Computer Disk Articles)			JIL
	1-2	Macintyre Falls and Limestone Caves	Bill Butler	3351 1588	B/C
	3	Management Committee Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	MTN
	8-9	Social	Majella Robertson	3359 8311	D/W
	15-16	Christmas Creek, Point Lookout, Stretcher Track	Ken Fraser	3852 1607	T/W
	15	Westray's Grave, Larapinta Falls	Ann Tracey	3395 2559	D/W
	17	Annual General Meeting	Paul McDonald	3205 1984	MTN
	22-23	Connondales			B/C
	22-23	Connondales			T/W
	22	Tichi-Tamba Toddle			D/W
MAR/ APRIL	28-1	Easter - Swan Creek	Christine Harrison	3378 0264	B/C

KEY - Types

D/W	Day Walk	1/2 DW	Half-day Walk
T/W	Through Walk	TRN	Training
O/N	Overnighter	FMR	Federation Mountain Rescue
B/C	Base Camp	SOC	Social

Key - Walk Gradings

The BCBC is now using the following Walk Grading system currently used by the Brisbane Bushwalking Club.

- Distance

Short	Under 10 klm per day
Medium	10-15 klm per day
Long	15-20 klm per day
EXtra Long	Over 20 klm per day
- Terrain

1-3	<u>Graded</u> or open terrain. No scrub.
4-7	<u>Bush</u> Minor scrub, rainforest, rock, creek, rock hopping, scrambling
8-10	<u>Bush</u> As Above + thick scrub, major rock scrambling using hands, technical
- Fitness

1-3	<u>Easy</u> . Suitable for beginners
4-7	<u>Medium</u> . Reasonable fitness required.
8-10	<u>Hard</u> . Strenuous, fit walkers only



COMING WALKS

Sunday 22 December 1996 CHRISTMAS CREEK (Day walk)

Leader: Kerry Mulligan (PH: 3279 4490)
Meeting Time: 7.30am.
Meeting Place: Charlotte St behind Cathedral
Emergency Officer: Bernadette Dolan (PH: 3899 1785)
Grade: Easy
Cost: \$12.00

To celebrate the coming festive season we will be walking in an appropriately named area. Christmas Creek was named by the surveyor Roberts when his party dropped into the creek on Christmas Day as he was establishing the precise boundary between New South Wales and Queensland. Christmas Creek was the area where Jim Westray met his demise as he attempted to get help for Proud and Binstead who were injured in the wreck of the Stinson; it is the creek where Bernard O'Reilly raced down, in failing light, facing exhaustion, to help the two survivors who had spent a week in the bush.

Nothing quite this strenuous for us - just a gentle stroll along the rainforested creek bank to visit the grave of Jim Westray. There will be plenty of chances for resting and some superb swimming holes to beat the summer heat. Please bring a plate of some yummy goodies for lunch as we will all share a meal together. Hope to see you there.

Kerry



26 December 1996 BOXING DAY KONDALILLA FALLS (DAY WALK)

Leader: Liz Little (PH: 3356 4874)
Time: 8.30 am
Meeting Place: Behind the Cathedral, Charlotte St
Cost: \$12.00
Emergency Off: Leisa Hodgkinson (PH: 3374 0514)

The Kondalilla Falls day walk takes you to the Sunshine Coast hinterland and involves two walks. The Kondalilla Falls Circuit is 4.6 km and begins with easy downhill walking through wet eucalypt forest and lush rainforest. Of course, the return walk is uphill. Emergent Bunya pines and dense stands of piccabeen palms can be seen en route. The Falls are formed where Skene Creek drops 80 m into a rainforest valley. They are best viewed from the bottom. "Kondalilla" is an Aboriginal word meaning rushing water. Half way back up, there should be an opportunity to swim in a plunge pool, so bring your swimming togs. The Kondalilla Falls picnic grounds have toilets, BBQs, tables, and shelter. The Woompoo Circuit at Mapleton Falls is 1.2 km of fairly flat walking. If the lookout is open, good views of the falls are available.

Sunday 28 December 1996 MT TAMBORINE - WITCHES FALLS (Day Walk)

Leader: Denise Robertson (PH: 3266 2521)
Meeting Place: Cathedral, Charlotte St
Meeting Time: 7:30am
Cost: \$12.00
Emergency Officer: Bernadette Dolan (PH: 3899 1785)
Grade: S 1 1

Looking for a relaxing, cool, pleasant way to spend a post-Christmas Sunday? Well here's your answer ...

We will be walking the Witches Falls circuit. This involves walking through some cool forest areas, some more open grassy areas (with some great views) and a short walk along the road. The walk itself is short and should only take about 2hrs.

As it will be hot we will finish the day with a picnic in the park. This is a lovely shady area so bring a blanket to spread out on, your picnic lunch and drinks and come and join us for a leisurely day. (There are shops nearby if you would rather buy your lunch).

Sunday 5 January 1997 OBI OBI LILO TRIP (First Walk of the year)

Leader: Phil Murray (PH: 3841 0254)
Meeting Time: 6.30 a.m.
Meeting Place: Charlotte Street behind the Cathedral
Emergency Officer: Bernadette Dolan (PH: 3899 1785)
Cost: \$12.00

This trip is the best rainforest trip that you can do. Just lie back on your air-bed and gently paddle 10 km down a beautiful rainforest creek.

The long pools are fringed by tall piccabeen palms and giant fig trees, with the occasional hoop pine towering up through the canopy. The bird life, like Forest Kingfishers, are amazing as they often whiz past you as you are gently gliding along.

The trip is a visual and sensual pleasure, particularly when you just lay back and look up at the dark green rainforest, contrasted by the bright orange cliffs of the valley wall and the beautiful blue sky with little puffs of white cloud as you float leisurely along as the water gently dapples against you to keep you cool on a burning hot summer's day.

At the Narrows, which is a beautiful gorge with sheer rock walls rising up 200 feet from the long cool pool, there is a small waterfall dropping straight down into the water and you can paddle through the waterfall and have a refreshing shower. There are also numerous little caves under the cliffs to provide an interesting diversion.

Then there are the exhilarating rapids between each pool. Its like doing white water rafting on a small scale. Its more fun than

wet-n-wild. Its a must for thrill seekers. Some of the rapids go for 50 metres through a tunnel of overhanging branches, so keep your head down and enjoy the rush but don't come off.

This will be the long trip from Baroon Pocket Dam down to the bridge on the Mapleton-Kenilworth Road. It will take at least 7 hours including rest breaks.

This trip is a real adventure so come and enjoy. If you want to come you must have a lilo, that is a rubberised air bed. - no boogie boards, no surf mats, no plastic airbeds. If you have a spare lilo bring that too, just in case you have a puncture.

For a trip like this, bring lunch and lots of snack food, sun cream, waterproof bags and a hat or bike helmet. I always wear long trousers and long sleeves to stop from getting sunburnt but make sure they are snug fitting or they get saggy in the water. Also you must have footwear like sandshoes, joggers or divers' rubber booties. And if you are real keen, you could use those paddling gloves boogie boards riders use. Of course bring a complete change of clothes for the end of the trip.

Please note this trip is only feasible when the water is running so fingers crossed, we will have sufficient rain beforehand. If the water is not running, I will do another walk that day possibly something like Booloumba Gorge which is up near Kenilworth. Phil

18-19 January 1997 RETREAT AT CLUB HUT

Leader: Con Vink (ph: 3814 3545)
Cost: \$12.00
Emergency Off: Bernadette Dolan (PH: 3899 1785)

Further details will be available at the next meeting.

SOCIALS

Majella Robertson

NEW YEAR'S EVE



P P P P..PARTY AND AUCTION

New Year's Eve, that night-of-nights, the 'biggy' for 1996 is with us again. Come and join us and celebrate the end of one year and the dawning of a new one. To help make the night festive come along dressed in / looking like / carrying something / or whatever beginning with "P". Bring your own BBQ dinner, drinks and a chair. A plate of dessert to share would also be appreciated.

We will also have an auction at the same time. The Brisbane Catholic Social Club has kindly donated a variety of items including camping gear, glasses, a cricket set etc. So bring your money and grab yourself a bargain. (see right column for more details.)

P P P P..PARTY AND AUCTION DETAILS

VENUE:	Paul McDonald's place 17 Gloucester Crescent, Bray Park
TIME:	<i>Party:</i> anytime from 5pm onwards (we'll be going till after midnight) <i>Auction:</i> begins at 8pm
COST:	Whatever you want to bid at auction
CONTACT:	Majella (PH: 3359 8311) or Paul (PH: 3205 1984)

COFFEE NIGHT

Wednesday January 8th at 7:30pm
Phone Majella for details
(PH: 3359 8311)

Membership Officer's Report

It was a great pleasure to welcome visitors Gerard Anderson, Lesley Gowen, Ann Robson and Tony Gullick last month. Hope to see you all again soon. I would like to wish all members a Happy and Holy Christmas and may the New Year bring peace to all. Jim

PAST SOCIALS

Coffee Night -

A Celebration of Jonas' Birthday

A night to remember!! whether with fondness or otherwise, you'll have to ask Jonas. Mt Coot-tha presented us with a lovely, fine evening, clear starry skies, a gentle breeze and a cast of thousands to help us celebrate this milestone in Jonas' life.

Having been put on notice that this was our opportunity to repay him for all those times he had jumped out from behind trees and half scared-us-to-death, Jonas seemed to be a little apprehensive, nervous, agitated, panicky, paranoid. He had spent much of the previous Sunday (at Diana's Bath) trying to find out what was in store for him on Wednesday, but to no avail. Needless to say, by Wednesday evening he was just a little jumpy! Was there any need for him to be so jumpy do I hear you ask? W-e-e-e-ll ...

Many happy returns Jonas, hope you enjoyed the birthday cake and sparklers, the 20 voice-strong chorus singing happy birthday, the gorgeous little drop bear hanging in a tree and the *very tasty* cream pie!! Best wishes for a happy 50th.

Movie Night

This was a very pleasant evening, a Terry Silk special - two movies for the bargain basement price of \$4!! We arranged to meet at the Gaythorne Theatre at 6pm for dinner, followed by the movies at 7pm. Both movies were most enjoyable and many thanks to those who came along and joined me.

REACHING FORTH - FORTY YEARS

by Justin and Susan Tobin



Where did the Club walk in 1958? - the Club's first year. Well, except for the "suburban" walks which are now built out areas and no longer bush, basically they walked the same places we're walking now. Its interesting to read some of the outings and look at those numbers! No minimum impact bushwalking numbers here. They probably weren't needed as the pressure on our walking areas wasn't as high then as it is today. Still, imagine going on a day walk with 55 people!

Yes, the Club's first outing report from the 1st Annual Report is worth reading ...

Jan 24th/27th 1958 - O'Reilly's

Leader: Raoul Mellish Attendance: 32

Weather: First day wet, fine thereafter

First weekend outing of the Club. Trips were arranged to Wanunga, Moran's Falls, Castle Craig and Westcliffs. Members figured prominently in guest house entertainment.

Feb 16th 1958 Day Walk - Samford to Strathpine

Leader: Col McLellan Attendance: 55

Weather: Overcast but fine

A pleasant walk along the most picturesque section of the South Pine River. Ample time for swimming - afternoon cuppa at Scout's crossing most welcome.

March 16th 1958 Day Walk - Brookfield to Kenmore via Mt Elphinstone

Leader: Vince Maume Attendance: 38

Weather: Overcast but fine

Interesting walk - views from Mt Elphinstone quite extensive and surprisingly clear - enjoyable afternoon swim in Moggill Creek.

March 29th/30th 1958 Weekend - Mt Greville

Leader: Col McLellan Attendance: 35

Weather: Overcast but fine.

First "camping-out" for the Club as a whole - members acquitted themselves well in climbing Greville - good swimming in Reynold's Creek -camp site most suitable.

April 25th/27th 1958. Weekend - Lost World

Leader: Raoul Mellish Attendance: 39

Weather: Showery

Camped near guest house - Bernard O'Reilly led trip to caves on Razor Back - also led Saturday trip to Westray's grave and gave useful hints on bushcraft. Sunday programme consisted of climb up Lost World Spur.

May 25th 1958. Day Walk - Glasshouse Mountains

Leader: Raoul Mellish Attendance: 48

Weather: Fine and hot.

A circum-navigation of most of the Glasshouses featuring a climb of the Tunbadadlas - Unusually hot weather for May.

June 14th/16th 1958 Weekend - Palen Creek

Leader: Vince Maume Attendance: 55

Weather: Fine (windy at times)

Ideal camp site on Back Creek - ascended Mt Gillies on Saturday (visibility perfect) Exploration of Stonehenge on Sunday. Monday spent in traversing Back Creek area.

July 13th 1958 Day Walk - Kholo Crossing

Leader: Merv Galvin Attendance: 64

Weather: Perfect

Clear views of border mountains and Great Dividing Range - followed Brisbane River downstream to College's Crossing for bus trip back to Ipswich.

July 26th/27th 1958 Weekend Tamborine

Leader: Col McLellan Attendance: 50

Weather: Fine

Arranged to suit Saturday morning workers. Camped at Cedar Creek reserve - walks included Cedar Creek and Curtis Falls, Witches Falls National Park

August 17th 1958 Day Walk - Ashgrove to Mt Coot-tha

Leader: Vince Arthur Attendance: 46

Weather: Fine

Walked from Ashgrove terminus and approached the Summit from western side. Excellent views in all directions - continued round to lookout area and then on to Toowong Tramline.

August 22nd/24th 1958 Through walk - O'Reilly's to Canungra

Leader: Col McLellan Attendance: 5

Weather: perfect

Followed graded track to junction of the Canungra Creeks - continued down creek for the remainder of journey - varied trip included open forest, rainforest and waterfall country.

August 29th/31st 1958 Weekend - Numinbah Valley

Leader: Ernie Lythall Attendance: 52

Weather: Fine

Camp site on Nerang River at Lyon's Crossing - trips arranged up Turtle Rock and Egg Rock - Natural Arch visited on Sunday

September 14th 1958 Day Walk - Petrie to Gordon's Crossing

Leader: Brendan McCarthy - Attendance: 37

Weather: Fine

Spell. at Young's Crossing on the way - leisurely time at Gordon's Crossing - a few braved the cold water - road walk back to Strathpine Station.

September 26th/28th 1958 - Weekend - Mt Maroon

Leader: John Power Attendance: 30

Weather: Stormy early then fine

Campsite at lagoon. Mt Maroon climbed on Saturday, caught in storm when descending -fine for rest of weekend. Interesting walk on Sunday to swimming hole on the Logan River.

October 17th/19th 1958 Weekend - Mt Beerwah.

Leader: Raoul Mellish Attendance: 20

Weather: Fine

Camped near Tibrogargan - strenuous day on Saturday in climb of Mt Beerwah. Sunday consisted of swimming for

some, ascent of N'gun N'gun or Tibberowuccum for others.

November 2nd 1958 Day Walk - Brookfield - Ferny Grove

Leader: Jock Murdoch Attendance: 41

Weather: Fine

From Brookfield bus terminus past Gold Creek Reservoir - followed timber roads, crossed Mt Nebo Road and down into valley through farming country to Ferny Grove.

November 21st/23rd 1958 - Weekend - Binna Burra

Leader: Bernie Maume Attendance: 59

Weather: Showery

Camp site near Lodge - trips arranged to Ship's Stern and Coomera Falls - members adjourned to Lodge at night for entertainment.

January 23rd/26th 1959 Weekend - O'Reilly's

Leader: Vince Maume Attendance: 48

Weather: unsettled. Condition of road forced stay at Canungra - Hired local hall for accommodation and kept dry-trips arranged around Canungra and up to Tamborine - plenty of swimming in creek.

February 22nd 1959 Day Walk - Strathpine - Bald Hills

Leader: Pat Goodwin Attendance: 27

Weather: Showery

Train as far as Strathpine; walk to Scout's Crossing for swimming and games, and then on to Bald Hills via the South Pine River

February 28th/March 1st 1959 Weekend - Coolool

Leader: Raoul Mellish Attendance: 41

Weather: Fine

Camped at beach reserve. Ascent of Mt Coolool on Saturday; good views of Coast and Maroochy River country. Sunday spent on beach.

PAST WALKS

BUTLER'S RIDGE TO NUMINBAH GAP 8-10 November 1996 by Christine Harrison

Leaving Brisbane at 6.30 p.m. on Friday, we met at Nerang before continuing south over the border of NSW, through the sleepy town of Tyalgum to our night's camp on a farmer's property. It had rained heavily and we pitched tents and flies upon the wet thick green "paddy free" paddock near the front gate and across from Middle Arm Creek by 10 p.m. Clear skies and stars shone brightly all night long and so at 5 a.m. as we rose and had breakfast, the day promised cool, mild weather for our ascent of Butler's Ridge.

We were joined by four Binna Burra bushwalkers to do their pre-outing. A little after 6 a.m. with "millions" of flies hitching a ride on our backpacks and the general saluting, we climbed for 3.5 to 4 hours up the ridges, saddles and several cliff lines which need careful negotiations due to their slippery green and wet mossy rocks. My biggest thanks to Joanne Mann and Di Thornwaite (BB) with extra help in aiding Cliff with rope techniques and throughpack hoisting. Some would not have gone any further without their assistance. However, even though it is a rewarding climb with varying vegetation along the ridge, it was certainly an achievement (with heavy throughpacks) just reaching the top.

Here we said our goodbyes - Joanne, Di and Marion went on to Point Lookout before returning back down Butler's Ridge and Neil Douglas continued on quickly to O'Reilly's. Once our team had rested we continued along the McPherson Range track, stopping at several lookouts to see the long and unbelievable ridge we had climbed, Mt Warning, Tweed Valley and what we were yet to walk.

Lunch was gladly taken upon reaching the top of Mt Throakban (whose to Widgee Mt - no-one!!) Oh well, after hanging out the shirts to dry, because all the vegetation was so wet, it was back on and an easy pace to complete the day at Rat-a-tat Hut at an early 2.45 p.m. What a wonderful setting, clean, quiet, plenty of water, magnificent rainforest surroundings. The sun peeped through as if by magic by Cliff? So tents and clothes were dried, then came dinner at 5 p.m., or was it earlier? Some wanted to bed down at 6.30 p.m. (No Patricia was not with us) however, a little after 7 p.m. nice and dark, we experienced a wonderous sight. Millions and millions (truly!) of glowworms shone around us from the embankment whilst fireflies hovered their flashing lights above and near us. And so it was all night. I know, because at 4 p.m. there was an almighty large rock which came tumbling down the side creek and Anne called out "It's not the hut, is it?" I flashed my torch to see all was safe and nobody was harmed. In fact, Matthew surprisingly slept through it all.

Another 6 a.m. start continuing on to Echo Point by 7.45 a.m. and joining the main track system of Lamington National Park. Morning tea at Boolamoola Lookout at Bithongabel and lunch at a favourite spot - Biby Lookout at an early 11.45 a.m. The party was starting to tire as it began to get warmer toward Wagawn - thankfully there was plenty of cool refreshing water along the way. Interestingly, half way down off Wagawn instead of going a more direct route we contoured left then right along a very old blazed route to Bushranger's Cave. From here, along the border fence to Numinbah we saw a land mullet skink, much birdlife and then Russell Code. Poor Russell's day walk was cancelled due to no walkers, but he made the trip to just help us out with our transport - to pick up cars at the start of the walk. Russell, thank you for your support. A daywalk or base camp to back up a throughwalk is very much appreciated.

From here 3.30 p.m./4 p.m. - back to hot Brisbane. Ann Tracey, Matthew Palmer, Geoff Wright, Ed Thistlethwaite, Cliff Harrison and myself were lucky to have excellent cool weather before the summer heat, to

complete a new experience in many ways: enjoying Butler's Ridge which was at long last undertaken since the original intended date - July 1994. See you soon.

Christine

PERMITS

Christine Harrison

It has been noted that many people (maybe not bushwalkers) are not obtaining private property permission before camping or walking through owners' paddocks. Some are blatantly walking within 20 metres of the mystified owners giving them a look of "what are you looking at me for!" Some are taking rainforest orchids, epiphytes, palms, grasses etc. Others are growing illegal plants. Consideration is due to the owners - they get the fines if caught - it is their livelihood and families who suffer.

Farmers have lived in these areas up to 50 years ... yes they began destruction by ripping trees out for the cows and sheep, however, now it is recognised to re-plant trees, and look after nature.

Respect landowners and ask their permission. A very simple and cordial approach is the right way.

If permits from a National Park are for six people, then that's it, six only - no extra persons are allowed.

Keep within these easy guidelines, thereby giving bushwalkers a good reputation and happy medium to all concerned.



DIANA'S BATH

(Day Walk)

Sunday 24 November 1996

by Cecilia Doherty

The rain came down at 5 a.m. on the morning of my first walk as leader and an image of 19 of us huddling and shivering at a picturesque waterhole threatened to become a reality. However, it stayed reasonably fine all day.

We left on time, re-grouped briefly at Gailies and collected another passenger en route. Then, it was off to the Fernvale Markets where the usual trash and treasure awaited, but with the added interest of ducks, chicks, guinea pigs and even puppies for sale, along with lots of plants and the usual assortment of cakes and fruit and veges. It made for a different start to a bushwalking day as we trailed past the stalls, checking out the variety, with some grabbing a bite to eat before we left. Then we were away, the plan being to arrive at Diana's Bath for a late morning tea, a swim and lunch. The Splityard Creek Dam scenic drive offered some fine views of the Dam and it was pleasant viewing a few lonely pelicans gliding

along effortlessly amid the immense sprawl of water in the dam.

This was the first time the Club had had complete 4 wheel drive representation on a day walk. With a Jeep Cherokee, and three Subarus, there were no problems with the gravel road. Very soon, we were setting off on a long awaited walk down to Reedy Creek to commence our short track walk to the Bath. Since the pre-outing a few weeks before, the water level in the creek had dropped considerably allowing us to merely step over the tiny creek. We stretched our legs for only a few minutes and we had arrived, ready to drop down gently to Diana's Bath. Next to the large Bath is an array of irregular tiny pools which looked quite beautiful set into the pale rock as we descended the slope.

We moved into a shady area with plenty of logs to sit on and the food was shared around. While Justin and Susan stretched out on a blanket with the Sunday paper and were also the first in the water, Matthew prepared his hammock and Paul proved himself to be indispensable with the coffee making. We all enjoyed fantastic brewed coffee, a vast array of food and lots of fun and laughter and then it was "hit the water" time (most of the fellows did this literally!). Did anyone hear the creak of a rope breaking .. shhh .. that was last time! There was much cheering and gasping as Jonas, Bill, Paul, Matthew, Justin and Iain perfected their diving/jumping style on the tarzan rope. By the time Jonas' and Iain's jumping styles had climbed to the 9.99 mark, a crowd of onlookers had gathered at the other end of the pool to see our Club members trying to break their necks!

When everyone was full from lunch and had enjoyed enough swimming, we packed up and left the Bath returning to the cars about 1.45 p.m. Just as we had begun to warm up on the track the short walk was again over. Matthew and Kerry busily collected cow pats (Jonas took home his very own "pat") and we all took note of the real Diana's Bath (tub) over on the left as we drove out. Then, it was up to Somerset Dam for a surprise visit to the Ranger's office, on to Esk for a cold drink, a look in the local dress and craft shops and then a 20 kms drive to Cormorant Bay at Wivenhoe Dam. We enjoyed a quick look at the Dam and said our farewells at 4 p.m. for the drive back to Brisbane.

Thank you to all who made the day enjoyable - Paul McDonald, Colleen Brown, Iain Renton, Chris McCaffrey, Majella Robertson, Bernard Ivers, Tony Gallick, Pat Vaughan, Richard Kolarski, Patricia Broughton, Jonas Bernotas, Bill Butler, Greg Endicott, Stephen Endicott, Justin and Sue Tobin, Matthew Palmer and Kerry Mulligan. We can hardly wait for that "coudung bleu cuisine" at the Palmers.

P.S. Hugs and kisses to Jonas from Vilte on your birthday.

Cecilia



MT KAPUTAR BASE CAMP

22 - 25 November 1996

by Con Vink

Six members nominated for this camp, which worked out well with three per car and six per campsite at Mt Kaputar (the maximum allowed per site). We had originally planned to leave our cars at Sullivan & Nicolaides' carpark in Taringa from Friday night to Monday night, but unfortunately S&N only extend this privilege for weekends and not the extra Monday. So instead Jim left his car at Ed & Kathy's place, I picked up Barry from S&N, and Tony left his car at my place. We arranged to meet at the Burmah service station at the Cunningham Highway / Ipswich Road junction, from where we left at 6:15 pm.

After a burger stop at the Caltex roadhouse at Warwick (highly recommended) we arrived at the Elanbe Caravan Park at Boggabilla at about 10:30 Qld time (11:30 pm NSW-time). The sites had been pre-paid, so we soon found a camping spot. We set up my larger tent for four persons, and Barry and Jim used their small tents. The camping site was well grassed but traffic noise from the highway was a problem for some. (Note : petrol available here 2c/litre cheaper than Goondiwindi).

After a quick breakfast we were on our way again by 8:00 am and arrived in Narrabri about 10:45. From just north of Moree we could see the Kaputar plateau on the horizon, and the closer we got to Narrabri the bigger it loomed. We could also see rain developing to the south too, and at Narrabri it was cold and windy as the storm front approached. From Narrabri to Mt Kaputar is 54km of bitumen and dirt road. The road was wet in places but we didn't get any real rain until just after we arrived at Dawson's Spring camping spot and set up our tents. We stood under the tent canopies as it pelted down - rain and sleet. It was freezing, so we decided to go for a walk to warm up. We did the short (1.4km) Dawson's Spring circuit which was bitumen surfaced or boardwalk for the full length. Then we continued up the road for 1km to the Bundabulla Circuit track. This 3km circuit passes through remarkably varied vegetation but we did not take the branch tracks to the lookouts because of the wet conditions (slippery rocks and nothing to see anyway). We returned to the camp via the road and lit a campfire to warm up. We had brought dry wood with us, so this wasn't difficult. It was interesting to watch the small hailstones bouncing off Ed's iron pot as we stood around the fire. We had planned to drive back to Narrabri for

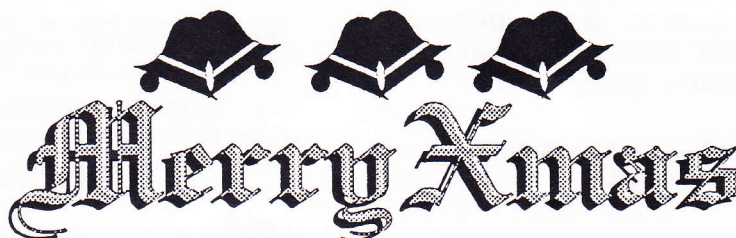
mass that evening but the weather conditions ruled that out. After dinner we all hit the sleeping bags early.

It continued raining through the night, but in the morning it was sunny and clear. The slush puddles had soaked into the clay so it was not muddy to walk. After breakfast and hot showers we drove down to Green Camp (14.5 km from Dawson's Spring) for the Yulludunida Crater walk. This was an excellent walk. We all got up onto the crater wall, but when we reached the top of Mt Yulludunida (the east peak), cloud set in and we couldn't see anything. However, as we were descending the clouds blew away so some of us returned to the top for the fantastic views. We then returned to the saddle and up the west peak, then back down and returning to the cars by noon. We drove back to the camp for lunch then set out for the afternoon's walk - Kaputar Plateau. This was a 3-lookout track from the main road along a fire trail to Bark Hut camping area. This was mostly downhill, so we arranged a car shuffle to save us the hard slog uphill back to our starting point. We got to Ranger's lookout and could see rain building up again to the southeast, and by the time we reached Laird's lookout a light drizzle had begun. We reached the junction with the return track, and four of us set off to find Euglah Cave in a small rocky tor nearby. Barry found a cave opening on the northern face, and Jim and I found another one high up on the southern side, but we didn't feel like exploring further in the wet. We returned to our cars and back to camp. It had stopped raining by then, but of course the towels we had hung up to dry were saturated again. We lit the fire again and all contributed to a fantastic stew cooked up in Ed's iron pot. The recipe is a closely guarded secret (ie never to be repeated) but key ingredients were whole potatoes, curried rice and prawns, and Janet's home-made stew.

Next morning before breakfast we walked up to the top of Mt Kaputar for terrific 360 degree views. We could see Narrabri and other towns clearly, and the Warrumbungles stood out sharply on the horizon. After breakfast we packed up and drove off to the start of our last walk up The Governor. This is a small mountain with excellent views to the south, west and north. The walk was short (only 2km) and easy, as ladders had been provided for the few steep sections. After our return we drove to Narrabri for lunch and then set off for Brisbane. It was extremely hot on the return drive, and we made frequent stops to rest and change drivers. We were all home by about 8:30 pm.

Many thanks to those who shared in a great weekend.

Cheers, Con.



Random Ramblings

①Rs7▶N♯ⓂD▲●7:◀◻

Thank you to all contributors
Compiled by Geoff Wright

1. On the recent *Con's Plain* walk, we found a tree that had been struck by lightning. The bark had been split from top to bottom of the trunk in a narrow, straight groove. The discussion focussed on what distance one could pitch a tent away from the tree to be safe from the lightning arcing from tree to tent. One "bright spark" said "Oh, that's easy. Just ask an "ARC ANGEL". I suppose one could also explore ARCHIVAL material! Or may be ARCHIMEDES could shed some light on the matter; that would be ENLIGHTENING!
2. At an energy replacement stop, one of the boys took out a tin of fish.
G "What sort of fish is that?"
Ed.T. "Herring"
G. "Oh, an auditory enhancer - a sort of HERRING AID!"
3. New definition of a steep climb -
"GERIATRIC ACCELERATOR"
4. Ed.T. was telling us about his travels in Nepal "... and we had these three yaks ..." Somebody buts in "Oh, did they talk much? You know what its like here, yak, yak, yak"
5. Don't ask me how this came about but it went something like this -

"I see blue"
"I see red"
"Icy cold"
(Yes, they're getting worse)



The following piece by Geoff Wright

We all love the bush, don't we? I mean, that's why we go there - to realise our own interdependence with nature perhaps. Maybe its asking too much for many people to visualise themselves as a tree or running water in a beautiful creek, but in essence, that is what we are - simply a part of nature - "no man is an island ..." etc. ... down to the smallest molecule. I think it was Dr David Suzuki who quoted a North American Indian saying that, "If we spit upon the ground we spit upon ourselves!"

In our busy, busy world of ever increasing speed and pressure it is so easy to take that artificial world into the bush and to tramp the tracks and bash through the bush almost as though it were an enemy; something to be

conquered. We don't "conquer" nature. People who climb Mt Everest don't conquer Mt Everest - they have simply got to the top on that particular day. The mountain isn't conquered or in any way diminished. It remains the same - apart from the junk left behind by the climbers.

And as far as possible shouldn't we leave the bush as we found it? Everyone knows that if there is a track one generally keeps to it, that one doesn't cut corners or zig zag etc. but it seems that not everyone realises that twigs shouldn't be broken. And if we have a choice between walking on a soft place or rocks, do we walk on the rock so as to minimise the impact to the area? And how many people consciously practice - or have even heard of "Minimal Impact Bushwalking." Do you consciously "tread softly" and minimise the disturbance to the bush? And does this include speaking softly or even observing periods of silence?

For many people the "silence" or quietness in the bush - for the bush is seldom silent - may be threatening or frightening. Have you ever listened and found out just how quiet the bush can be - how the sounds vary from one area to another or with the time of day or after rain or with cloud or sunshine, or the time of year etc. And is a bushwalk just something to do to meet people, get a bit of exercise away from the city, have a good solid gossip for a few hours whilst you follow the heels of the body in front of you?

Have you ever asked yourself during or after a walk just what you have seen. Have you really seen anything or just looked at things? Did you pat a tree, or better still give a tree a loving hug whilst giving thanks for being alive and in such a wonderful place? And did you think of friends or family, or people suffering great hardship in this and other countries whilst you gave the tree that hug or pat? Is it possible that the tree and you, and your loved (and even not so loved) ones - are all part of the same entity?

Do we see the bush as something to cherish, enjoy, protect and pass on to future generations, just as it has been passed on to us? Or is it just something to use for a few brief hours every now and then and discard when we have no further use for it. People of great foresight have created our National Parks and heritage areas etc. Are we also people of great foresight?

Q: If you stretch an eel what does it become?

A: Eelongated

Q: If you cross a sort of dove with a sort of frog, what do you get?

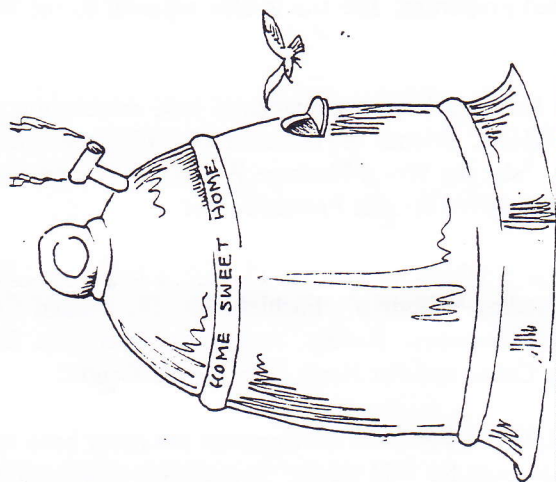
A: Pidgeon-toed

FROGS: Fascinating little beauties, or slippery, jumping, hard to see slimy beasts? Did you know that some frogs lay eggs in trees, some frogs eat their own young; some carry their offspring in their hip pockets; some don't need water for their eggs; some can even frighten snakes.

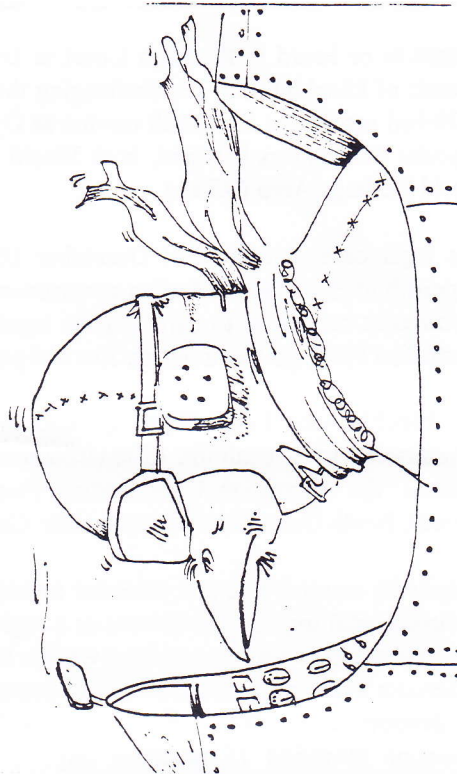
Geoff

MORE MYSTERY BIRDS!

(Thank you to Geoff Wright)



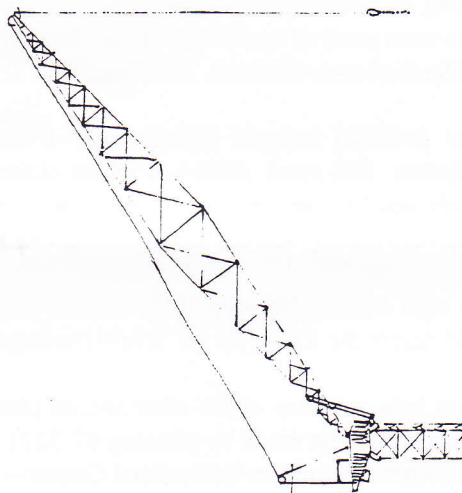
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5



4



7

CAN YOU GUESS THE BIRD'S NAME ??????"

Answers to last month

- 1 Butcher Bird
- 2 Masked Owl
- 3 Whip Bird
- 4 Cat Bird

Hinchinbrook - World Heritage Under Threat

Carol, Steve and Jeff - Hinchinbrook Legal Fighting Fund Promotion Group

A case to be heard in the High Court in December could decide the future for World Heritage Areas in Australia. Friends of Hinchinbrook are challenging the Federal Government's consent for developer Keith Williams to build a 1500-bed resort and 250-berth marina at Oyster Point in North Queensland. The site bounds Hinchinbrook Channel opposite Hinchinbrook Island, both World Heritage listed properties. The site is also adjacent to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area (WHA).

The legal case, due to start December 16, will be a benchmark in environmental law, establishing legally the responsibilities of the Australian government to protect WHAs. Friends of Hinchinbrook will allege in court that the government has failed to carry out its legal obligations under the World Heritage Properties Conservation Act, the Australian Heritage Commission Act and possibly the Endangered Species Protection Act.

The Hinchinbrook Legal Fighting Fund was launched in Brisbane on August 25 with a target of \$50,000. It is administered by a coalition of environment groups, including Friends of Hinchinbrook, Queensland Conservation Council, the Australian Conservation Foundation, The Wilderness Society, Australian Rainforest Conservation Society, North Queensland Conservation Council and the Cairns and Far North Environment Centre.

Despite its massive size and potential impacts on WHAs, the Oyster Point development has never been subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment or a regional plan to account for WH values. In a number of scientific reports on the project and in numerous letters written by scientists to the Environment Ministers - almost 200 scientists in letters to Senator Faulkner and about 130 to Senator Hill - scientists have expressed concern about the potential impact of the development on WH values. In the Valentine Report, 1994, commissioned by Senator John Faulkner, Dr Peter Valentine identified 15 potential impacts on WH values. The World Conservation Union recently passed Et resolution expressing concern about the "serious and specific threats" of the development.

There are two major categories of potential impact on WH values: those arising from construction and maintenance of the resort and marina eg vegetation clearing, channel dredging, excavation of acid sulphate soils and those from the effects of greatly expanded tourism and boating. There is particular concern about the effects of increased boating on critically endangered dugongs. Over the past eight years, dugong numbers have decreased 50-80 percent in the most parts of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and one of the largest remaining dugong populations feeds in the Hinchinbrook Channel. The Channel is also home to three species of turtle, all listed as endangered.

Other potential impacts include loss of seagrass beds in the channel, destruction of the Stoney Creek estuary ecosystem, fish stock depletion in the channel, disturbance of rookeries in the Brook and Family group of coral islands nearby, incremental destruction of fringing coral reefs in these islands, marine pollution, destruction of wilderness quality and the area's natural beauty and increased visitation pressures on Hinchinbrook Island.

The legal case challenging Hill's consent is not just about saving one region from an inappropriate development. It could decide the future for all World Heritage areas in Australia.

Please help save one of the most special places in the world by donating to the Hinchinbrook Legal Fighting Fund. Donations can be made by phoning 07 3221 0188 with credit card details or by sending a cheque (payable to QCC Hinchinbrook Fund) to Queensland Conservation Council, PO Box 12046, Elizabeth St, Brisbane, 4002.

Carol, Steve and Jeff of the Hinchinbrook Legal Fighting Fund Promotion Group thank the Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club for the warm welcome to your club meeting and generous donations to the Legal Fighting Fund. To help save World Heritage Areas, please donate to the Hinchinbrook Legal Fighting Fund.

The Editor of "Jilalan" wishes all readers and their families a safe happy and holy Christmas. Thank you to all who have contributed to the magazine this year. Best Wishes for a happy and prosperous 1997.



*Wishing You a
Blessed Christmas*



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