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# JILALAN

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

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**BRISBANE CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB INC.**  
**PO BOX 151, BRISBANE ALBERT STREET, Q LD 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)	

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

Articles for "Jilalan", post to Cecilia Doherty 2/32 Stanley Terrace, East Brisbane. Handwritten articles are okay if you have no access to a typewriter/computer but typed articles are preferred. Better still - if they are typed and saved on floppy disk then they are more easily placed in the magazine. Please note deadlines for submitting articles shown in the monthly calendar. The Editor is currently using MS WORD 6.0 but can convert from most programs. N.B. Please provide 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, being scheduled to commence at 7.30 p.m (although they usually start about 15 minutes later). The location is currently in 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 and wait for someone to let you in. 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

- (a) Always read the Jilalan article to check the departure point, date and time.
- (b) 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.
- (c) 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.
- (d) Walkers are responsible for their transport to and from the departure point.
- (e) 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. (SEE NEW BY-LAW IN COMMITTEE REPORT).

## 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.

## 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.

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# COMMITTEE REPORT

At the last Management Committee Meeting, a number of significant changes occurred.

## BY-LAWS

Firstly the By-Laws of the Association were changed.

By-Law 6 was amended to include all association activities, publications etc, not just meetings. The current by-law reads as follows:-

### BY-LAW 06. NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES

Any member wishing to announce or publicise any non-club activity at any meeting of the Association, or activity thereof, shall first obtain the approval of the Management Committee or its nominees.

Its replacement is:-

### BY-LAW 06. NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES

Any person wishing to announce publicise or report on any activity not previously approved by the Management Committee, at or in any meeting, activity or publication of the Association must first obtain the approval of the Management Committee or in the case of meetings, the chair person.

By-law 21 (a new By-law) was required as currently is is not unknown for members to not pay their Membership Fees (due on 1st Jan), be removed as members for non-payment (usually May-June), and then join the Association later in the year as new members (which they then are) for the reduced rates we offer as the year progresses. Without this by-law, there is nothing that the Management Committee (or the entire Association) can do about this, short of refusing to accept their membership.

### BY-LAW 21. NON PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP FEES

Suspension under Rule 10.02.02 shall apply for a period of 12 months. Should any member wish to reinstate their membership of the Association during that period, they must first pay all outstanding membership fees. After that period has elapsed, their membership will be considered terminated.

By-laws 22 - 24 (also new by-laws) are simply intended to make by-laws of already existing (Several years old) Management Committee decisions, so that all members might be aware of same.

**BY-LAW 22. NUMBER OF WALKERS**

The minimum number of walkers on any official Association walk shall be four.

**BY-LAW 23 COST OF PRIVATE TRANSPORT**

Any person not traveling on Association activities by the official transport shall be liable to pay to the Association the fee of \$3.00 plus a proportion of any shared fees (ie pre-outings, camping fees etc.) as determined by the Management Committee.

**BY-LAW 24 COST OF EQUIPMENT HIRE**

That the following shall be the cost of hire of Association equipment and shall be determined on a daily basis from the day taken from the Equipment Hire Officer, until its return.

ITEM	HIRE RATES		DEPOSIT	LATE RETURN FEE
	Per Day	Per Week		
Large Pack	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$5.00 per week
Tent	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$20.00	\$2.00 per week

The Committee requests that if any Members have any objections to the above By-laws, that they forward them in writing to Committee, so that Committee can examine them at its next meeting.

**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Once again, all members are invited to attend the next meeting of the Management Committee (this time to be held at Majella Robertson's place at 10/100 Leckie Rd, Kedron. However please contact the President beforehand if you wish to attend so that Majella is not confronted with a larger than expected attendance. It will be held on 7th of May, starting at 7.30pm. Please note that it is on a Tuesday, because of the public holiday on Monday. The dates of future Committee meetings have also been listed in Jilalan.

**JILALAN**

In order to make it easier for leaders, the closing dates for Jilalan articles have been listed in the Association Calendar. Note that there are different closing dates for written articles vs computer disk articles.

**OUTINGS MEETING**

A meeting of the Outings Committee, where the walks until December will be decided, will also be held at Majella's place on the 17th of April. All members are invited, but once again please contact the President beforehand if you wish to attend so that Majella is not confronted with a larger than expected attendance.

**GENERAL MEETINGS**

In order to try to make General Meetings run smoother (and hopefully speed proceedings), Committee has requested the President to ask that all items of General Business be submitted in writing, prior to the start of the meeting. Such an item might be :- "Costs for the coming walk to Moreton Island are too high".

Paul

**1996 BCBC CALENDAR OF CLUB EVENTS**  
**MARK YOUR DIARY NOW!**

<b>MAR</b>	24	Mt Greville	Con Vink	3814 3545	D/W
	30	Buchanan's Fort	Barry Ellerington	3886 3451	D/W
<b>APR</b>	1	Management Committee Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	
	4-8	Emu Creek	Bill Butler (Co-Ord)	3351 1588	B/C
	8	Mt Maroon	Pat Lawton	3366 1956	D/W
	14	Piper Commanche/Green Falls	Cliff Harrison	3378 0264	D/W
	<b>15</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	
	17	Outings Meeting (Jul - Dec)			
	20	Intermediate Rope Day	Bill Butler	351-1588	FM R
	21	Navigation BFP (YHA)	Antti Keitanpaa YHA	3390-1496	FM R
	23	Jilalan Deadline (Paper Articles)			
	25	Bike Tracks Walk (Anzac Day)	Majella Robertson	3359 8311	D/W
	25-28	Fraser Island	Matthew Palmer		T/W
	26-28	Edward's Gap to Mt Castle	Christine Harrison	3378 0264	T/W
	28	Flinder's Peak			D/W
<b>MAY</b>	3-6	Kaputar Plateau	Con Vink	3814 3545	B/C
	5	Coomera Circuit	Chris Mc Caffrey	3349 5730	D/W
	7	Management Committee Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	
	8	Ten Pin Bowling	Majella Robertson	3359 8311	SOC
	9	Jilalan Deadline (Computer Disk Articles)			
	12	Running Creek	Bill Butler	3351 1588	D/W
	17	Federation Bushdance	Majella Robertson	3359 8311	SOC
	18-19	Training Weekend (Hell-hole Gorge)			FM R
	19	Aracaria Circuit	Patricia Broughton		D/W
	<b>20</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	
	25-26	Moreton Island	Ed Nally	3857 2021	B/C
	25-26	Moreton Island	June Greenaway		T/W
	27	Jilalan Deadline (Paper Articles)			
<b>JUN</b>	2	Monseratt Lookout			D/W
	3	Management Committee Meeting	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	
	5	Jilalan Deadline (Computer Disk Articles)			
	8-10	Sundown	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	B/C
	8-10	Sundown	Ken Fraser		T/W
	10	Mt Maroon	Trevor Kelly	3357 5046	D/W
	14-16	Watson's Creek	Ken Fraser	3852 1607	T/W
	16	Watson's Creek Falls			D/W
	<b>17</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	Paul Mc Donald	3205 1984	
	21-23	Black Canyon	Barry Ellerington	3886 3451	T/W
	21-23	Green Mountains (O'Reilly's)			B/C
	22	Green Mountains (O'Reilly's)	Bernadette Dolan	3899 1785	D/W
	23	Green Mountains (O'Reilly's)	Geoff Egert	3356 2163	D/W
	24	Jilalan Deadline (Paper Articles)			

**FUTURE EVENTS**

<b>AUG</b>	<b>3</b>	Dinner O'Reilly's	<b>SOC</b>
	<b>4</b>	Post Dinner Walk	<b>D/W</b>
<b>SEP</b>	<b>13-15</b>	Pilgrimage	<b>B/C</b>
	<b>28</b>	Progressive Dinner	<b>SOC</b>

**KEY**

<b>D/W</b>	<b>Day Walk</b>
<b>T/W</b>	<b>Through Walk</b>
<b>O/N</b>	<b>Overnight</b>
<b>B/C</b>	<b>Base Camp</b>
<b>1/2DW</b>	<b>Half-day Walk</b>
<b>S/T</b>	<b>Safety &amp; Training</b>
<b>FMR</b>	<b>Federation Mountain Rescue</b>
<b>Soc</b>	<b>Social</b>

**The BCBC is trialling the following Walk Grading system currently used by the  
Brisbane Bushwalking Club.**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 1. Distance | Short                      Under 10 klm per day<br>Medium                    10-15 klm per day<br>Long                        15-20 klm per day<br>EXtra Long                Over 20 klm per day                        |
| 2. Terrain  | 1-3 <u>Graded or open terrain.</u> No scrub.<br>4-7 <u>Bush</u> Minor scrub, rainforest, rock, creek, rock hopping, scrambling<br>8-10 <u>Bush</u> As Above + thick scrub, major rock scrambling using hands, technical |
| 3. Fitness  | 1-3 <u>Easy.</u> Suitable for beginners<br>4-7 <u>Medium.</u> Reasonable fitness required.<br>8-10 <u>Hard.</u> Strenuous, fit walkers only   |
| 4. Activity | Base Camp, Day Walk, Through Walk, Social Activity, Safety & Training, Federation Mountain Rescue, Miscellaneous.   |

**COMING WALKS**

**FMR - Intermediate Ropes Day -  
Mt May - BCBC**

**Contact:** Bill Butler (ph: 3351 1588)  
**Date:** Saturday 20 April  
**Time:** 8.30 a.m.  
**Meet at:** Mt May Water Reserve Picnic Area  
 in Waterfall Road off Newmans Road  
**Cost:** \$3.00

The day will be spent brushing up on abseiling techniques - anchors and knot tying. We will also be using mechanical rope ascending devices, as well as going over our normal rope prussiking methods. This should be an enjoyable learning day and at 4.00 p.m. we will have a BYO barbeque which should be a good chance to get to know members from other clubs.

**FMR - Navigation Team Event -  
Mt May - YHA**

**Contact:** Antti Keitanpaa from YHA Club  
 (ph: 3390-1496)  
**Date:** Sunday 21 April  
**Time:** 8.30 a.m.  
**Meet at:** Mt May - Water Reserve Picnic Area  
 in Waterfall Road off Newmans Road  
**Cost:** \$3.00  
**Map:** Mt Maroon 1 to 25,000

Bring your compass and come along and have some fun. We will climb the twin peaks of Mt May for lunch. On the way up and down two teams will be expected to find navigation markers and points will be allocated for efficiency as well as a chance to brush up on your map

reading skills. It should be a good event so phone Antti from YHA if you can make it.

## **COOMERA FALLS CIRCUIT**

### **(Day walk)**

**Leader:** Chris McCaffrey  
**Date:** Sunday 5th May  
**Meeting Time:** 7.00 a.m.  
**Meeting Place:** Charlotte Street, City (behind the Cathedral)  
**Emergency Officer:** TBA  
**Cost:** \$12.00

The Coomera Falls Circuit takes in the Coomera River in the Binna Burra region of the Lamington National Park. The track winds back and forth along and across the Coomera River for 3.7km, passing several waterfalls. Most of these are small and the track gives us a good view

of the falls. The most spectacular of the waterfalls in this area is Yarrabilgong Falls - also the Coomera Falls (64m high) are to the left at the head of the aptly named Coomera Crevice. Both of these falls drop into a steep and rock-strewn Coomera Gorge. We will follow the track that will take us to the upper reaches of the Coomera Crevice. We will pass two more waterfalls. These are the Gwonggorbulli Falls and the Gwongorenda Falls. The track will take us through interesting rainforest and vegetation. The trip distance is approximately 17.55 kms along a graded track system. A good walk for visitors and new members. We will stop at the Danish Tea House at Beechmont before returning to Brisbane. Lose no time in nominating !!

## **MT. KAPUTAR PLATEAU** **(BASE CAMP)**

**Leader** : Con Vink (TEL 3814 3545)  
**Date** : Friday 3rd - Monday 6th May  
**Time:** : 6:30 pm  
**Meet at** : Sullivan & Nicolaides carpark, Taringa  
**Emerg. Off** : Anthony Dolan (TEL 3899 1785)  
**Cost** : \$50.00 + camping fees approx \$15

Mt Kaputar National Park is located 53 km east of Narrabri in NSW. It is 650 km from Brisbane - 8 hours driving plus rest stops. It is a park of great scenic beauty (remnant volcanoes, Snow Gums, lava flows etc), and 80% of the park has been declared Wilderness Area. A lot of improvements have been made by the NPWS in the last few years.

Because of the distance to travel there, we will be stopping at a caravan park in Boggabilla for Friday night, and continuing our journey the next morning. We should arrive at Dawson's Springs in the park, by 11 am. The

camp site has hard ground but excellent facilities (hot showers, flush toilets, electric lights and power points in an amenities block). After setting up camp, we will have lunch, then walk up the spectacular Yulludunida Crater (5km, medium), before returning to camp for a hot shower and early dinner, then off to Narrabri for Mass.

On Sunday morning we will walk the Kaputar Plateau circuit (6km, medium) with two lookouts and a cave to explore. A car shuffle will be necessary. After lunch there will be a choice of a track walk covering Lindsay Rock Tops and Bundabulla Circuit (5km, easy) or a track walk to Lindesay Rocks connecting off track to Lindsay Rock Tops (6 km, difficult, with a cliff climb). On Monday morning we will walk up The Governor lookout (2km, easy) before returning to Brisbane by 5pm. For those who are interested, I will be taking a 2 hour detour to another part of the park for a look at Sawn Rocks, a spectacular organ-piped cliff face.

To minimise camping fees, I will be bringing my 10ft x 12ft tent, so anyone who doesn't have a tent need not miss this base camp. The last time the club went to Kaputar was Easter 1981, so it might be another 15 years till the next time. I will need to know about two weeks beforehand if you are coming, to allow booking of the camp sites at Boggabilla.

## **FRASER ISLAND** **(Throughwalk)**

**Leader:** Matthew Palmer (ph 3279 4490)  
**Date:** Thursday April 25th to Sunday 28th  
**Meeting Time:** TBA but very early  
**Meeting Place:** TBA  
**Grade:** Medium to Hard  
**Emerg Off:** TBA  
**Cost:** Approx. \$50.00 to \$60.00 - the cost is yet to be formalised.

Please note Friday 26 April is a normal working day. You will need to take a sickie or annual leave.

This is a classic four day throughwalk exploring the beauty of the world's largest sand Island. I have given the walk a medium rating but there is an exploratory element which may make the walk difficult. Also walking on sand for four days is very hard on your feet so be prepared. The itinerary has not been formalised as yet but roughly I hope to walk for two days exploring some of the less frequently visited Northern Lakes and Eli Creek. From there we will pick up a taxi and go down to the Southern Lakes and Walk along some of the walking tracks and roads finally coming out at Ungowra on the Sunday. Numbers will be limited to twelve. I have already had a few nominations.

This walk does cost a lot of money but it is by far the cheapest way of visiting Fraser Island. The cost is made

up of petrol money, camping permits, barge fees and taxi hire.

We will be able to pick up water every day on our walk so bring 2L plus a wine canvas in case we don't camp near water.

More details at the meeting.

## Membership Officer's Report

At the last meeting we were able to welcome Don Keating, Ian Miles, Jan Ellerington and Geoff Wright as visitors.

This month, we are pleased to welcome new member Kristina Harej.

## Reminder

Membership fees are now OVERDUE!

# SOCIALS

Majella Robertson



COFFEE NIGHT

Wednesday May 1st, 7:30pm  
Details at the meeting  
or contact Majella  
(☎ 3359 8311)

## TEN-PIN BOWLING NIGHT

Date: Wednesday, May 8th  
Time: 7:30pm  
Where: Kedron Bowl  
278 Gympie Road, Kedron  
Cost: \$5:00 per game  
\$1:00 shoe hire

Come and join us for a night of fun, laughter and skittles. We will meet at the Kedron Bowl at 7:30pm and enjoy a game or two, then end the evening with a cup of coffee at the coffee shop across the road. You'll remember the coffee shop - Cafe Majella, on Gympie Rd at Kedron. I'll need to know numbers to book so please let me know if you are coming, either at the meeting or give me a call. (☎ 33598311)



## ANZAC DAY BIKE TRACK RIDE THURSDAY 25 APRIL 1996

Time: 8:30am  
Meeting Place: Main Gate of the City Botanical Gardens

Come and join me for a walk with a difference - a cycle in fact! We will meet outside the main gate of the City Botanical Gardens and following the bike path along the river, will make our way to the University of Queensland where we will have morning tea near the lakes. After a leisurely break, we will cross over to the other side of the river. Fear not - no walking (or cycling) on water is envisaged! Rather, we will catch the ferry across and do the return trip on the opposite side of the river. Our intended destination is South Bank for a well-earned cup of coffee or an icecream.

This will be a pleasant, relaxed day, finishing around about lunch time. Hope you can come and join me.

MBS

Will the club's closet seminarian please raise his hand?

Which person changed out of a plastic bag and scared the strangers away.

Anyone finding a white sock and blue sockguard downstream at Christmas Creek please return it to Majella urgently.

Which female club member made sure she travelled with three eligible men in her vehicle on a recent outing.

If you are looking for someone to vet prospective house tenants, see Gabriel.

Anyone for some flavoursome rust with their eggs?

## Previous Socials

### MT COOT-THA BREAKFAST B.B.Q. (Sunday, March 31st) by Majella Robertson

What better way to spend a Sunday morning than breakfasting with friends in the beautiful surrounds of Mt Coot-tha. On Sunday, March 31st, about 15 of us did just that. We met at 7am (well some did, others of us turned up a bit later! and others, later still!!) and amid much laughter, cajoling and story telling, we breakfasted on Hot Cross Buns, scrambled eggs and sausages, Camembert Cheese, sticky bun and yet more sticky bun.

Having a previous commitment, I had to leave about 10:30 but I hear some 'breakfasted' on until early afternoon!

It was a great morning, beautiful weather, great company and great tasting food. Many thanks to those who came and I look forward to seeing even more of you at the next social event.

## General

**Congratulations to Jim O'Meara** for taking out the illustrious Bushwalker of the Year Award recently! Jim has provided a spirited contribution to the Club and lends his charm, good humour and wit to every walk he participates in.



**Qld Rogaining Association is holding a ROGAINE near Maryborough on 4-5 May (long weekend).**

### "WHAT IS ROGAINING?"

Rogaining is the sport of long distance, cross country navigation in which teams of 2-4 people try to locate as many checkpoints as possible in a given time period. The event is usually held over 24 hours. It is a team activity for people of all ages and fitness levels. Peter Zund from the Association is organising the weekend and you can contact him directly in Bundaberg on 071 53 7834 (wk) or 071 52 1237 (home).

### Club 40th Anniversary

Just a reminder to think about some ideas for the Club's anniversary. You may want to discuss this with someone. Presently the Sub-Committee consists of the following members:

Pat Lawton (3366 1956);  
John Brunott (3209 9598)  
Cathy Thistlethwaite (3374 2198)  
Paul McDonald (3205 1984)  
Greg Endicott (3351 4092)  
June Greenaway (3358 5295)  
Justin Tobin (3366 3193)  
John Carter (3290 3621)

## TRAVEL

If you are planning a trip to South America, Nepal, India, Japan or Southern Africa, it might be worth checking out Journeys Worldwide's regular Wednesday evening video and talk. Journeys Worldwide (Travel Agency) is on 2nd floor, 222 Adelaide Street, Brisbane.

Sessions are held from 5.30 p.m. sharp to 6.30 p.m. and they are FREE with absolutely no obligation. I recently caught a great discussion on South America. The speaker is experienced, very knowledgeable and open to questions. You should let them know you're coming - phone 3221-4788.

Cecilia Doherty

## Desperate for news!



I hope you all had a great Easter break! Many thanks to Ian Renton for illustration opposite. Readers, please send me your stories, jokes, poems and laughs for this page. Please contribute!

Cecilia

## PREVIOUS WALKS

### **Mt Greville 24 March 1996 by Con Vink**

Nineteen walkers arrived on time at the Cathedral, so we piled into 5 cars and headed off to Aratula for a morning cuppa. On the way we picked up Matthew and Kerry to bring our numbers to 21. As we were finishing off our cups of coffee at BP Aratula, a heavy shower sent us diving for cover in the cars, which was our cue to head off to Mt Greville. (The shower stopped before we had gone halfway, but an occasional light shower pestered us from time to time the rest of the morning.)

After about 11 km of bitumen and 6km of gravel (greville ?) road, we arrived at the Mt Greville car park. On with our gear, introductions all round, and we started on the ascent at a leisurely pace by 9:45 am. In short time we arrived at the point where the ridge track came close to the Waterfall Gorge waterfall, so about half the group scrambled down a steep slope to the top of the falls for a look. Unfortunately, there was no water running over the falls, but a nice flow over the cascade just upstream of it, which disappeared into the ground at a rock pool.

On rejoining the ridge track, we made our way up the slope to the next feature, the Waterfall Gorge lookout. This is a narrow rocky spur projecting out over the gorge, providing superb views up and down the gorge. We could not see the top of the mountain, which was obscured by cloud, but stayed a while admiring the view and taking photos. We then continued up the ridge over a small but slippery rock face to a little clearing where we took a short morning tea break. Matthew demonstrated his skill in "bush slalom" to the applause of those who saw it. Most of the group removed their rain gear - there was actually more chance of getting damp from the wet scrub than from the rain. The best thing was that the rain had kept us cool on the ascent.

We then set out again, past a small open rocky area where we had good views towards Mt Alford and Mt Moon, and then across a large rocky area where the route was indicated by rock cairns. When we reached the clearing at the head of Palm Gorge, Ian, Fr Ed and Elizabeth elected to stop for a snooze whilst the rest attacked the last steep section to the top, arriving at 12:55 pm. The cloud had by now cleared from the top, but the main range peaks were still obscured. We settled down for lunch just above the cliffs. Highlight of the feed was Liz's banana cake with slathers of Jim's butter.

At 1:40 we headed down again to wake up the three sleeping beauties (?) and proceeded down Palm Gorge. The pace was slow, as care was needed on mossy and loose rocks, and we were able to spend some leisurely moments enjoying a chat and the pleasant surroundings. We arrived at the lantana at the entrance to the gorge to

find that the National Parks people had recently cleared the track through - they must have known we were coming. We returned to our cars by about 4:45 pm and headed to Shell Aratula for a cuppa to round off a pleasant day, before heading home.

Many thanks to those who came for making my first walk as leader a very enjoyable one, especially to the drivers - Jim, Chris, Trish and Elizabeth, and to Ed and Barry for helping me on the pre-outing.

### **Springbrook Outing 25 February 1996 by Ed Nally**

This was a visit to the very beautiful area that is some 30 km inland from Nerang on the Gold Coast.

Strong winds in recent months had brought down quite a number of trees in the area, a number of them falling across the established tracks and making them quite difficult for people to use. It was originally intended to do the Warrie Circuit, but because there were four or five major difficulties with fallen trees and half a dozen minor ones, it was decided to do the Purlingbrook Falls Circuit instead. There was plenty of water going over the falls but because the weather was not really hot, only two walkers went swimming at the water holes. The walk behind the Purlingbrook Falls was, as ever, delightful.

A visit was made to the "Best of All" lookouts in the afternoon. The view to the south and east was magnificent. Twenty-four walkers participated.

### **Ballenjui Falls 4 February 1996 by Ed Nally**

This walk set something of a record in recent times for the number of "takers". Thirty people started the walk about 9.45 a.m. from the Binna Burra kiosk and parking area. Some were newcomers, some were very experienced walkers.

It was intended as an easy walk - about 13 or 14 km out and back. A feature of the walk was that it was hoped that walkers would be in place to observe and possibly meet up with a group who had gone to the top of the falls and were going to abseil in three stages to the bottom of the falls. This was achieved in that the party at the falls were able to see the first abseil which started about 1.00 p.m., but they were unable to wait until the abseillers made all three abseils.

The pool at the bottom of the Falls was not very large but because the weather was quite hot, quite a number enjoyed cooling off under the Falls. The return to Binna Burra was made in good time with the cars setting off for Brisbane about 3.30 p.m.

## Nightcap Ranges Base Camp 15-17 March 1996 by Christine Harrison

We left Brisbane Friday night later than scheduled and arrived at Midginbil Hill Campsite at 10 p.m., after a snack at KFC Murwillimbah. We were fortunate to have relatively dry ground after a wet last four weeks rain, although a few rocks were hit when driving the tent pegs home. On Saturday we were up at 6.15 a.m. and away by 7.20 a.m. (NSW time 7.20 a.m. and 8.20 a.m.) As mentioned in the magazine, it was steep incline for 1.5 hours which included a few drinks and revival breath stops. Leeches were everywhere.

We went onwards through the Roseleaf Raspberry (*Rubus Rosifolus*) (strawberry like fruit), Bush Lawyers (*Rubus Moorei*), (raspberry like fruit), and of course Lantana. Well, if you were not wearing total cover of legs and arms, boy what a day! We inspected the Kunghur Flying Fox which transported logs from the top of the range for the mill 1760 m below. It was in operation from 1949 to 1955. No sitting on soaked logs - leeches! Still following parts of the old logging track, then a route to a knoll next to the sphinx where lunch was eaten under a small scrub whilst, Jim & Ann walked across the tree-covered razor back ridge to the base (cliff line) of the sphinx - more leeches here too - I think they followed.

Return trip was retracing our morning steps, whilst indulging in more wildfoods including the walking stick palm (*Linospadix monostachya*) berries and unidentified white sweet berry which was not the lilypilly. It took just as long to go down the steep ridge as it did to go up. We returned to the camp for hot showers at 5.00 p.m. which was appreciated so we could clean up from leeches feasting on our blood and to wash bloodstained clothes. We had Happy Hour - that magic time sitting around enjoying various meals and goodies, underneath the starlight heavens above, while discussing many topics including Jim's story of St Patrick. Sometimes there was just peace, contentment and enjoyment of "being away from it all".

On Sunday - a two hour walk at 7.30 a.m. around the 400 acre property, approx 5 km, with the highlight of the Lone Fig Tree lookout to Mt Warning, Brummies, the Sisters, Tweed Pinnacle, Mt Doughboy and the Sphinx Rock where we were yesterday. Tents were dry after a heavy overnight dew when we returned. We had water to quench our thirst as the day was becoming very humid and hot. We left Midginbill and travelled north east to Kingscliffe Beach. Terry and Gabriel went surfing way out as it was low tide, whilst others visited a street side

cafe or simply had lunch and read the Sunday newspaper in the shade. We arrived back in Brisbane safely by 2.00 p.m. Apparently just after we left the beach, a Japanese man drowned. May he rest in peace. Many thanks for your spontaneous happy company, Gabriel, Majella, Cathy & Ed, Jim, Richard, Patricia, Anne, Louise, Terry and Kay. Hope to see you all soon on another adventure.

## Lobster Creek/Booloomba Creek by Greg Endicott

After an adventurous start, we arrived late at the darkened camping ground, only to find it packed with campers. Like moths, we were drawn to the only light - to discover late night party goers. We were up and gone in the morning before most campers. Then the party found and started up *Lobsterless* Creek. This proved easier than expected - perhaps because it was the first time in 5 weeks I had a map. We negotiated the hard pull of falls mostly via the bush to one side, but once or twice close to the rock. Jon Brunott did an excellent job navigating and he and Trevor did good trail blazing. The water was low - considering the rain we've had, which made it faster.

Some spots I recognised. Lunch was had in a cool shady spot. The weather was overcast, with patches of blue sky and sun. Trevor even had time to boil the billy. We then *insulted* the map, decided if the creek went east, south east then south. We knew where we were. And we were. So it was up and out of the Creek, up, up, up, the ridge to the top. We round the old timber track and came to the road at the MFA ???! mozez and Stagnant Pond. Not being whimpy throughwalkers, I did not let them go around via the road, so led them down the other side of the ridge, back into rainforest across the dry creek bed, and up up up the other side -back to the road. This was to be our camp site but since it was only 3 p.m., (we are not whimpy throughwalkers), I kept them walking ... down the road, past the graded track and not whimpy throughwalkers - I walked them in a circle for an hour, to a camp site next to the creek (still not whimpy throughwalkers) - to bed by 7.30 p.m. - true throughwalking style. We were up early Sunday and off walking by 7 a.m. down to the breadknife. We had a good bit of time exploring, running over the slabs and climbing the breadknife. Then off along the ridge above the creek. John Brunott did the navigating again, bringing us down to the creek at exactly the right spot to dodge the gorge. And we raced down the creek - I did not recognise anything at all in this creek. The water was down. The rocks dry, rockhopping non existent. We met German tourists who left camp 1.5 hours previously. So it was stop for lunch at 11.00 a.m.

Then down again to the camp finding a graded track, arriving at the camp at 1 p.m. Captain Logan rides again! Thanks to Ann Tracey, Trevor Kelly, John Brunott, Patricia Broughton, Geoff Wright and Richard Kolarski.

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