

72-77 List of Members



JUNE 1985

# JILALAN

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

Registered by Australia Post

Publication No. QBH 2328





JILALAN

The Club's address is PO Box 151, North Quay, Brisbane 4000 and the telephone contact number is listed in the white pages Telephone Directory under 'B'.

Monthly meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at the Catholic Centre, Edward Street, City, beginning at 7.30pm. To enter the Catholic Centre, use the rear entrance. This is reached by entering the grounds of St Stephen's Cathedral via Charlotte Street (entrance nearest Edward St). From Charlotte Street the door is near a white statue. If the door is locked, please ring the bell. Visitors are always welcome.

Members of the Committee are:-

CHAPLAIN

PRESIDENT	Cathy McHugh	(h)3794447	(w)2211977
VICE PRESIDENT	Geoff Egert	8484918	
OUTINGS SECRETARY	Mike Wood	3983018	8310128
GENERAL SECRETARY	Margaret Anderson	3982187	2263394
TREASURER	Geoff Dower	3712382	2295011
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Barney Tobin	2605065	
EDITOR	Justin Tobin	2605065	2605065
SAFETY & TRAINING OFFICER	Ken McCarron	3496046	339382
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Greg Endicott	3514092	339562
	Anne-Marie Schmitt	2052364	
	Peggy Rutter	3597517	
EQUIPMENT HIRE	Geoff Dower	3712382	2295011

EMERGENCY OFFICER: Where a trip is overdue, parents may telephone the Emergency Officer (as specified for each trip). please do not ring before 9.00pm at the earliest.

EQUIPMENT OF EVERY TRIP: On every trip run by the Club all walkers, both members and visitors, are expected to take the following minimum equipment:-

torch; first aid kit; parka or raincoat;  
and at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  litre of water.

ATTENTION!

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. It is repeated that all persons undertake all activities entirely at their own risk.



JILALANJune:

16	Social - Car Rally	
17	Monthly Meeting	
19	Safety & Training Night	
23	Social - Golf Day	
25	FMR - SES Regional and Search Organisation	
29/30	Mt Michael - Laidley Gap - Leader: Geoff Egert	TW

July:

6/7	FMR Weekend Training	
13		
14	Mt May - Leader - Pat Lawton	
15	Monthly Meeting	DW
20/21	Federation Clean-up	
24	Safety & Training	BC
26/28	Ramparts	

August:

2	Squash Night	
3/4	Red Rock Gorge	
10	Rural Youth Ball	ON
11	Safety & Training - Basic Rope & Cliff Skills	
14	Mt Barney Mass - 25th Anniversary	
19	Monthly Meeting	
24/25	Clunie to Lindsay	
27	FMR Police Communications	ON
28	Theatre Night - Raising the Titanic	

September:

7/8	Pilgrimage - Charlie Moreland Park	
	Leader: S/Coast Bushwalkers	
14/15	Mt Greville	BC
16	Monthly Meeting	DW
22	Pokies Trip	
28/29	Condamine Gorge	ON

October:

5	Bush Dance - Ipswich Catholic 20th Anniversary	
6	Flinders Peak	
13/15	Canoe Trip - Social	DW
19/20	Table Top	
21	Monthly Meeting	NW
26/27	Nth Coast Mountains - Leader: Cathy McHugh	BC

November:

9/10	Ravensbourne National Park	
17	Family BBQ	BC
18	Monthly Meeting	
22	Video Night	
23/24	Peters Creek	DW

December:

1	Bunya Mountains	
7/8	Christmas Party	BC
14/15	Nightcap National Park	
16	Monthly Meeting	TW
26	Boxing Day Walk	
28/29	Springbrook	DW

LEGEND: TW Throughwalk  
BC Basecamp

DW Daywalk  
ON Overnighter  
NW Nightwalk



JILALANPAST OUTINGS:

WARRUMBUNGLES NATIONAL PARK - Basecamp - 4/6 May  
Leader: Justin Tobin

Another long weekend and the chance for BCBC to visit another of the Nth New South Wales National Parks.

Eight o'clock Friday Night, the mini bus loaded to the hilt and Val's "Tiger" lined up at the starting blocks and rearing to go. 14 eager bushwalkers leaving Brisbane under cloudy skies to begin the epic journey to the "Bungles". With suitable rest stops at Warwick and Goondiwindi, we drove through the night to arrive at the park at 7.00am.

Driving into the Park good views of what could be expected over the next two days could be seen. Emus and kangaroos as well were seen. Saturday morning was spent catching up on our sleep. Lunch and then off to the Split Rock circuit - a huge granite boulder affording good views of the Park and the main walking area, Bluff Mountain and Mt Exmouth. Arriving back at the cars at 3.10, then off for a quick visit to Siding Springs Telescope. A hot shower (yes, we were weak weren't we) before going into town for Mass and tea.

Sunday morning up early for our main walk - the Grand High Tops circuit. Starting the walk at Camp Pitcham for the climb to the High Tops, stopping at Aspiring View for our first look at Belongary and the Breadknife. Climbing past the Breadknife and onto the High Tops. Views of Belongary Spire and back onto the breadknife. Smoko, then off to Bluff Mountain. After much huffing and puffing, the troops were rewarded with views unlimited. Warrumbungles rocky outcrops stretching out to the grazing lands of Western New South Wales. Flat as a tack for miles and miles.

Lunch at 1.00; the troops just settling down to vege and biscuits and then the rain came. Soggy biscuits again with billy tea. With Val, Greg and El Presidente and Eugene heading back to the cars, the rest headed for Mt Exmouth. The rain soon disappeared and we were soon dried out. A short stop at Cathedral Arch while we tried to imagine what it was, failing in the attempt.

Arriving back at the base of Mt Exmouth at 3.20 with one member looking at the sign post, doing his mental arithmetic and exclaiming, "You're mad, you won't be back until seven. I'm off". And off he went, leaving the rest of us to climb Exmouth alone. The track winding around the western side, views of the western plain, and the sheer face of Bluff Mountain all the way up. Arriving at the saddle between East and West Peak there was a rare sight - a koala sound asleep. Climbing East Peak for views unlimited, stretching across the Grand High Tops, highlighting the volcanic tors, out to the grazing lands and beyond. The beauty and magnificence the eyes took in words could not describe. Back at the base at 4.30, and reached Greg waiting with the mini bus at 5.00.

We had accomplished our main aim for the weekend - walked the Grand High Tops, marvelled at the Breadknife, conquered Bluff Mountain and Mt Exmouth. Saw the incredible beauty of volcanic tors in contrast to the lands beyond. Yes, it was worth the effort.

(Con't)



## Warrumbungles Con't :

A hot shower and tea before relaxing around the campfire before bed. An early start Monday morning, arriving back in Brisbane at about 6.00pm.

Thank you to all those who came and made it an enjoyable weekend.

Justin Tobin

BEAU BRUMMEL - Daywalk - 19 May  
Leader: Peggy Rutter

On Sunday, 19th May was the club trip to Beau Brummel - a mountain about 20km outside Laidley on the Little Liverpool Range. Fourteen interesting people were on the walk including some newer members and a visitor from New Zealand.

After saying hello to the farmer and being warned of the electric fences, we walked up onto his air-strip and followed its ridge up onto the range. From there we decided to make a quick dash for Beau Brummel to get a fire lit before the rain started - there were very black clouds all around us and we could hear some rumblings that were either Geoff Egert's belly or thunder.

It did rain a little and after we had our luncheon and huddled around the fire for a while, we went back down to the cars. Thanks to all those who came on the trip.

Peggy Rutter

MT HUNTLEY - See Page 11

COMING OUTINGS:

MT MICHAEL TO LAIDLEY GAP - Throughwalk

Date : 28/30 June 1985

Leader: Geoffrey Egert - Ph (H)8484918

Cost : \$10

Emergency Officer: David Mort - ph 351 6093

Meeting Time: 7.30pm at the back of the Cathedral

This walk commences from just near the Primary School at Junction View, which is 30km south of Gatton. Following an early breakfast, we will ascend Mt Michael and then Mt Halydon. Morning tea time should see us on the top of Mt Halydon with all the magnificent views that this entails. From there we proceed to Rocky Point with a break for lunch before reaching same. This section of the walk and beyond takes us along ridges and beside valleys untouched by man. Just beyond Rocky Point we will catch our first glimpse through Laidley Gap to Brisbane. At about 4.30pm we will pitch camp on a plateau just behind the main ridge.

On Sunday morning we will proceed along the main ridge and ascend Mt Lowe. From there we will proceed down into Laidley Gap between Mt Lowe and Mt Zahl. Walk out time is estimated to be about 4pm.

This walk, which has never been done by the Club before, covers some beautiful countryside. For the most part it is



JILALAN

Mt Michael to Laidley Gap Con't:

simply ridge walking. For the seasoned throughwalkers, this walk may be classified as an easy one. For new throughwalkers the classification is, at worst, medium to hard.

Geoffrey Egert

FEDERATION CLEAN-UP WEEKEND - Basecamp

Date : 19/21 July 1985

Leader : Russ Nelson - ph (H) 378 5200

Cost : \$9.00

Emergency Officer: Jan Nelson - (H) 378 5200

Location: Christmas Creek or O'Reilly's

What to Bring: Pick or mattock, shovel or spade - please label each with your name.

Meeting Time: 7.15pm 19 July at rear of the Cathedral

You have a choice of locations - either O'Reilly's or Christmas Creek. Both are south-west of Beaudesert. At O'Reilly's we will be cleaning up the old Foresters camp, while at Christmas Creek we will be involved in track maintenance on the Westray's Grave track.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service will be supplying some tools and bags for rubbish. Park Rangers will be in attendance including ex-BCBC member Tony Kelly.

MT MAY - Daywalk

Date : 14 July 1985

Leader : Pat Lawton (H) 38 1956 (W) 221 2761

Emergency Officer: Jan Nelson - (H) 378 5200

Cost : \$8.00

Location: South-west of Brisbane in the Barney, Ballow and Maroon area.

Meeting Time: 7.45am Sunday

Meeting Place: Charlotte St outside back of Cathedral

Mt May is situated south of Boonah and is connected to the northern end of Mt Ballow by a spur running across the cleared ridge on which is the road to Graces Hut. If you have ever walked into Graces Hut you will have noticed the mountain to the left - well this is Mt May. It has two rocky peaks, the lower being 2,600ft while the other is 100ft higher at 2,700ft. We will be climbing up a ridge to the top of the lower peak first. The route up is a little steep in parts, however it's not too bad. The view from the top of this peak is really good, however the views 100ft higher up are even better, so we will push on to the summit of the other peak for lunch. Unfortunately to have lunch we have to drop down into the saddle, connecting the two peaks, and then climb the extra 100ft to the top. This involves a bit of easy rock scrambling and it is amazing how quickly the top is reached.

View of Mt Barney from the top is magnificent. However that is not all you will see - Mt Maroon, Mt Ballow, Maroon Dam are just a few of the other mountains etc to be seen. There is no water on the top so full water bottles must be carried.

(Con't)



Mt May Con't:

The route down will be via a different route. At the base of the mountain there is an excellent campsite and this is on a water reserve. "Waterfall Gully" is an interesting little rocky gorge adjacent to the campsite and this will be explored before we return home. In the summer it is a really good swimming hole and a good way to cool down after the trip - however, in July I don't imagine the pool will attract too many people.

The walk is a medium walk - carry water - first class views from the top - good leader - suitable for all kinds of bushwalkers.

### THINKING CATHOLIC:

"I WAS HUNGRY AND YE FED ME"

Condensed from Your Life  
Bruce Barton

One of the wisest men I know says the sentence in the Bible which can do most for the spirit of man in these days in this saying of Jesus: "I have compassion on the multitude".

Here, he points out, the spirit of Christianity is epitomized in six words. The multitude, you remember, had followed Him for three days into the wilderness. They were tired and hungry. The disciples wanted to send them away.

But Jesus was of another mind. He looked into their homely, tired faces. He thought of their burdens, their long patience, their amazing loyalty, their insistent faith - with so little to feed upon - that somehow tomorrow would be all right. He was of them, and they were of Him. And He had compassion.

Compassion sits in unexpected places. Your son comes to you, heavy with adolescent disappointments; an employee enters your office with a problem seemingly insoluble to him. What does compassion do? Does it brush them aside with a hasty "I'm busy now" or a casual "I'm sure things will turn out all right"? On His way to Jerusalem and the Crucifixion, Jesus was not too busy to be stopped by a blind man. And He healed him.

Many of us are afraid that an expenditure of compassion will drain away our energy, deplete us for our own tasks. But the dynamics of compassion defy the ordinary laws of energy. We discover that, as with Antaeus in the ancient myth, our strength is doubled by compassionate acts.

Compassion is not the same thing as pity; pity is of a lower order, too likely to regard its object as weak and inferior. Compassion is never patronizing-or condescending; rather, it implies an outgoing of sympathy that shares another's burden by hoisting it onto our own shoulders, and halves another's pain by taking it into our own hearts.

A great teacher whom I knew used to say to her students: "Trust in God and do something." It is the doing that gives compassion its peculiarly resplendent quality. Jesus not only had pity on the multitude, but fed them! Today, as never before we must tend the small wicks of personal compassion glowing in our hearts, else the light of 2000 years may be extinguished.



June 1985

JILALANSOCIALS:

## PAST SOCIAL - BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

On Friday, 24th May, about 30 children assembled at 78 Richmond St, Kedron for a Back-to-School barbeque. The boys and girls looked very clean and tidy in their correct school uniforms and were a credit to their parents. They showed very good manners in eating their hamburgers and salad - that is except for some very bold children who demanded dessert before all their main course had been eaten!

Some other naughty children were playing with matches and set John Daly's rubbish heap alight - his mother would like them to come and play more often! All the girls and boys had a good time - especially those who slept over and helped clean up (thanks). A thank you must also go to those who brought along salads and desserts. The night was also a financial success as we expect a profit of about \$80 from the night.

Miss Rutter

STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS! STOP PRESS!

## COMING SOCIAL - CAR RALLY - 16 June 1985

It's on again folks - the yearly chance for you to pit your brains on the BCBC navigation course. The meeting place is at Toombul shopping centre on Sunday 16 June at 8.30am. Please do not be late. The cost is a moderate \$5.00 per person, which includes a BBQ lunch.

Please ring me if you wish to go. If you have no car but wish to come, please let me know on 2605065.

Note: This rally is before the meeting, not after.

Barney

## COMING SOCIAL - GOLF DAY - 23 June 1985

The Club is holding a golf day at Mt Tamborine on Sunday 23 June. Hit off time is 9.15am. The cost is \$7.00. This covers green fees and prizes. Clubs are available for hire at a cost of \$4.00 per set.

For more details and transport enquiries, see me at the meeting.

Barney

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION

With thanks to all who will be at the rally

which is to be held at the Toombul shopping centre



THANK YOU

Our many thanks go to Steve from Torre for his display and talk on bushwalking equipment at the last meeting. Steve is from

Torre Mountain Craft  
600 Sherwood Road  
Sherwood  
(near the corner of Oxley Rd)

I think everyone who was there will agree that it was very interesting and most educational. Once again, thank you.

PHONE NOS

Please amend the following phone numbers in the membership list:

Sue Hicks	398 1139 (H)
Cathy Daly	delete work number

Could anyone who has changed their

- (a) address
- (b) home phone no
- (c) work phone no

advise the Editor within the next fortnight.

\*\*\*\*\*

WORDS FROM A SAVAGE?

In 1854, the "Great White Chief" in Washington made an offer for a large area of Indian land and promised a 'reservation' for the Indian people.

Chief Seattle's reply, published here in full, has been described as the most beautiful and profound statement on the environment ever made. - - -

How can you buy or sell the sky, the warmth of the land?  
The idea is strange to us.

If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?

Every part of this earth is sacred to my people.

Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every clearing and humming insect is holy in the memory and experience of my people. The sap which courses through the trees carries the memories of the red man.

The white man's dead forget the country of their birth when they go to walk among the stars. Our dead never forget this beautiful earth, for it is the mother of the red man.

We are part of the earth and it is part of us.

The perfumed flowers are our sisters; the deer, the horse, the great eagle, these are our brothers.

(Con't)



The rocky crests, the juices in the meadows, the body heat of the pony - all belong to the same family.

So, when the Great Chief in Washington sends word that he wishes to buy our land, he asks much of us. The Great Chief sends words he will reserve a place so that we can live comfortably to ourselves.

He will be our father and we will be his children. So we will consider your offer to buy our land.

But it will not be easy. For this land is sacred to us.

This shining water that moves in the streams and the rivers is not just water but the blood of our ancestors.

If we must sell you land, you must remember that it is sacred, and you must teach your children that it is sacred and that each ghostly reflection in the clear water of the lakes tells of events and memories in the life of my people.

The water's murmur is the voice of my father's father.

The rivers are our brothers, they quench our thirst. The rivers carry our canoes, and feed our children. If we sell you our land, you must remember, and teach your children, that the rivers are our brothers, and yours, and you must henceforth give the rivers the kindness you would give any brother.

We know that the white man does not understand our ways. One portion of land is the same to him as the next, for he is a stranger who comes in the night and takes from the land whatever he needs.

The earth is not his brother, but his enemy, and when he has conquered it, he moves on.

He leaves his father's grave behind, and he does not care. He kidnaps the earth from his children, and he does not care.

His father's grave, and his children's birthright, are forgotten. He treats his mother, the earth, and his brother, the sky, as things to be bought, plundered, sold like sheep or bright beads.

His appetite will devour the earth and leave behind only a desert.

I do not know. Our ways are different from your ways.

The sight of your cities pains the eyes of the red man. But perhaps it is because the red man is a savage and does not understand.

There is no quiet place in the white man's cities. No place to hear the unfurling of leaves in spring or the rustle of an insect's wings.

But perhaps it is because I am a savage and do not understand.

The Indian prefers the soft sound the wind makes darting over the face of a pond, and the smell of the wind itself, cleaned by a midday rain, or scented with the pinion pine.

The air is precious to the red man, for all things share the same breath - the beast, the tree, the man, they all share the same breath.

The white man does not seem to notice the air he breathes. Like a man dying for many days, he is numb to the stench.

But if we sell you our land, you must remember that the air is precious to us, that the air shares its spirit with all the life it supports. The wind that gave our grandfather his first breath also receives his last sigh.

(Con't)



JILALAN

And if we sell you our land, you must keep it apart and sacred, as a place where even the white man can go to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow's flowers.

So we will consider your offer to buy land. If we decide to accept, I will make one condition: The white man must treat the beasts of this land as his brothers.

I am a savage and I do not understand any other way.

I have seen a thousand rotting buffaloes on the prairie, left by the white man who shot them from a passing train.

I am a savage and I do not understand how the smoking iron horse can be more important than the buffalo that we kill only to stay alive.

What is man without the beasts? If all the beasts were gone, man would die from a great loneliness of spirit.

For whatever happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected.

You must teach your children that the ground beneath their feet is the ashes of your grandfathers. So that they will respect the land, tell your children that the earth is rich with the lives of our kin.

Teach your children what we have taught our children, that the earth is our mother.

Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. If man spit upon the ground they spit upon themselves.

This we know: The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth. This we know.

All things are connected like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected.

Whatever befalls the earth befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life: he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web he does to himself.

Even the white man, whose God walks and talks with him as friend to friend, cannot be exempt from the common destiny.

We may be brothers after all.

We shall see.

\* \* \* \* \*

TREASURER'S REPORT:

There are currently 39 financial members in the Club.

Present balances of the Club's accounts are as follows:-

Westpac A/c	\$590.31
SGIO A/c	\$1061.55

One final reminder to those who are yet to renew their annual subscription - no monthly magazine will be forwarded to you until you do become financial. So please pay your subs as soon as possible.

Geoff Dower



JILALANPAST OUTINGS CON'T:

MT HUNTLEY - Overnighter - 1/2 June 1985  
Leader: Geoff Dower

12 walkers turned up at the Cathedral grounds on the Saturday night, but as one of the intending walkers was unfortunate enough to have his gear stolen, only 11 people actually went on this outing.

The drive to our campsite beside Swan Creek, some 45km east of Warwick in the western foothills of the Great Divide, was relatively uneventful. Under a relatively starry sky, most of us set up camp and were in bed soon after midnight.

A heavily overcast sky greeted us the next morning as we had a quick breakfast, packed up and were off walking by 8 o'clock. We kept up a steady pace as we followed a forestry track up the valley for a while and then veered to our right up a slope which was steep in parts. This led us to the top of a main ridge jutting south-west from Mt Huntley. As we approached the rocky outcrops and cliffs at the base of the final climb to the top, the weather started to deteriorate with wind, rain and low cloud. However, this did not deter the troops as we scrambled up the cliff section which proved a little tricky in the damp conditions. A further half hour walk saw us all reach the top by about 10.30am.

The poor weather conditions and the less than spectacular views persuaded us to start the descent after a 5 minute break. We followed the same track down the ridge and enjoyed our morning tea/early lunch break in a sheltered, dry spot under a cliff overhang.

We made it back to the cars by 1.00pm and after a few hairy moments driving along the black soil road, we arrived back at Warwick to enjoy a welcome hot cuppa. Everybody made it back to Brisbane no later than 5pm.

Despite the wet weather, the people seemed to enjoy themselves on this relatively easy walk. Thanks to Bruno, Anne, Val, Graham, Julie, Anne-Marie, Steve, Karyn, Barney and Ken for coming along.

Geoff Dower

PAST FMR TRAINING:

SPRINGBROOK - 11 May 1985

This training night was held on a cold damp Saturday night on the Gold Coast hinterland. The situation was a girl had fallen down a cliff onto a ledge which was about 20M from the bottom of the face.

As soon as the members of BCBC arrived at the site we were put into a team to go looking for the missing assessing party. As we were just about to leave, the assessing team made contact by radio and our group was incorporated into the larger rescue party.

As it was a big rescue party, it was decided that there should be two groups, one to do the actual rescue and a group to practise night abseiling. (Con't)



## FMR TRAINING CON'T

The rescue was carried out by lowering the stretcher in a horizontal position with two jockeys. The job of the two jockeys was to get the stretcher down through the trees and load the injured girl. After this was achieved with the help of a third person on the ledge, it was lowered to the base of the cliff. Then the people down the bottom of the cliff carried the injured party back to base via the track system.

While this was going on a small group of people were abseiling down a 20ft broken, slippery rock face in complete darkness. It is said to be hard to take that first step in a normal abseil, wait till you try it where you can't see your next step; it's even more exciting.

This FMR exercise was commented by all who attended to be the most realistic training day to be held. It was very educational and enjoyable and I would like to thank all who came along.

Ken McCarron  
S & T Officer

COMING FMR TRAINING:

TRAINING WEEKEND - 6/7 July 1985  
LOCATION: Mt May

This training weekend is designed to cater for all levels of experience from novice to veteran. The activities commence at 8.00am Saturday with training in rope techniques. After lunch there will be a Westpac Helicopter Demonstration, followed by sessions on communications and a first aid lecture. The training in rope techniques will then be continued.

On Sunday morning Group A will undertake a stretcher and rope techniques exercise, while Group B will concentrate on Search and Base Procedures and a radio exercise.

See Ken McCarron for further details.

COMING SAFETY & TRAINING: - 19 June 1985

An abseiling night will be held at Kangaroo Point commencing at 7.00pm. Come along straight after work for a BBQ at the top of the cliffs at 6.00pm. Could be useful on the FMR training weekend. Also, it's good fun. Nominate to me at the next meeting.

Ken McCarron  
S & T Officer



JILALANSUMMARY OF GENERAL BUSINESS FROM MAY GENERAL MEETING:

- Video night to be held at Ken McCarron's on Thursday 23 May.
- Mark Daly is planning to hold another Planetarium Night in June.
- Nomination fee of \$2.00 to be reintroduced on future walks.
- Any changed phone numbers or addresses to be given to Justin Tobin.

Margaret Anderson

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES: (from last month's magazine)

1. Neither, 8 and 8 are still 16.
2. The two sons go first. One brings back the boat and Dad rows over. The other son returns for his brother.
3. None. Cain slew Abel.

-----

Mark Twain on returning to America was asked at Customs if he had anything to declare. "No officer, only clothes in here", he said. On further inspection the Customs Officer pulled out a bottle of Bourbon Whiskey. "What's this then" he said. "I thought you said only clothes".

"I know", Mark Twain replied. "That's my nightcap."

-----



MARCH 1985

NATIONAL PARKS ARE NOT ONLY FOR TOURISM.

When National Parks were first preserved it was because the area was beautiful. There was sentimentality but not much study was done for the conservation ideal. However, there was perhaps an intuitive belief that many of these areas are worth preserving, particularly by botanists and zoologists who regard these places as reference areas. Setting aside National Parks "For the enjoyment of the people" was first thought sufficient to cover such diverse activities ranging from tourism to scientific research. The word "Park" which indicated a kind of playground, might not have been the best term to use. The term "Wilderness area" has been used to describe a higher status of conservation. Access to these areas would be limited, preference being given to those doing specialized research.

A few years ago, an officer of the Forestry Department, before the National Parks and Wildlife Service was formed, gave six major objectives of National Parks:-

1. To set aside and provide protection for a representative cross-section of our natural resources.
2. To ensure the availability of undisturbed areas for scientific research.
3. To provide for human enjoyment and participation by permitting certain non-destructive forms of recreation.
4. To ensure the retention of areas of historic significance.
5. To provide educational material and facilities to ensure a more purposeful understanding of the natural environment.
6. To integrate these objectives so that no particular one militates against the continued existence of the others.

Whilst other Authorities might vary these objectives, the list still seems quite suitable for our purpose. The importance of undisturbed areas for scientific research was stressed. Examples were given of research work that is directly applicable to Park management. Also stressed was the provision of interpretive and educational facilities. The establishment of visitor centres with museums and guided walks would be the major goal in any Park service.

So keeping these objectives in mind, we see that National Parks are not only for tourism. Even the bushwalkers have some impact on the natural environment, but it is hoped that such activity is the least damaging; the parties are usually small and each person carries his or her house on their back. One Club newsletter stated that our objective "To promote bushwalking" is not always compatible with another stated objective "To foster conservation and that the conservation objective shall prevail". So with reluctance we have to impose restrictions on our own actions towards the preservation of National Parks. Similarly Cavers concede that even too much activity on their part would disturb the bats, and that bat populations are of great importance and interest. In National Park management, certain areas like camping grounds have been closed for periods to allow regeneration. "The worst pollution is people" it has been said.

In general - Conservation is more important than recreation and tourism.

National Parks should be as undeveloped as practicable.

Roads should be restricted to the peripheral areas.

Park management must err on the side of caution and conservation. It seems, therefore, unfortunate that National Parks are placed within a Tourist Portfolio.



National Parks, in preserving a representative cross-section of our natural resources and undisturbed areas for scientific research as pools of generic material, are of great importance for those who want to think of tomorrow. To make this more complete we need to add representatives not yet included. Western Queensland, for example, should have preserved areas containing mulga, gidgee and grasslands to mention only a few.

In National Parks, as virgin areas, we have preserved potentially useful generic material, most of this not yet studied. For example in Lamington National Park there are different varieties of Macadamia nuts, such that botanists argue whether they are different varieties or different species. One specimen near Tallebudgera Creek has exceptionally large leaves. There is great advantage in variety so they should not be allowed to go out of existence.

Cane farmers clear land to grow sugar cane. Such land they often call "Useless rainforest", yet depend on wild sugar canes from primitive areas for fresh generic material. Monocultures, such as canefields, become the habitat for pests and diseases which must be countered by new varieties.

"Booforum" Journal points out that today thirty plants provide 95 per cent of global nutritional requirements, whilst only eight of these form the basis of 75 per cent of mankind's diet. These crops are also increasingly and dangerously uniform, genetically speaking, as a result of consciously engineered narrowing of the genetic base variety.

India, for example, is heading toward dependency on ten rice varieties where there were 30,000 strains fifty years ago. At least 83 per cent of the crop varieties grown in U.S.A. in 1900 can no longer be found. This means that if any one of the major food crops is stricken by a blight, it will wipe out a calamitously large percentage of the world's food. The greater the diversity the less chance that this will happen. We see here the disadvantage of growing the same plant on a vast scale. These are really large engineering projects with machines for ploughing, fertilizing, planting, harvesting and spraying against pests.

The reactions to these disadvantages are the alternative life styles and organic gardening, growing diverse crops and attempts to create pocket cultures and also to get out of the "rat race".

In this type of activity it is easier to rotate crops and stop growing certain crops for at least a couple of years. This confounds the pests and diseases. "Never put all your eggs in one basket"!

Growing a small crop for the first time on new ground in an isolated area we often have surprising success in quality and quantity due to lack of various pests. This has been called beginner's luck! Next season in attempting to repeat the process you are annoyed because the usual pests have caught up.

However, to feed the nation, most of us cannot afford to give up the mass method of producing food for ourselves and indeed for others.

Hence, virgin areas in the form of National Parks and pockets of primitive culture are of great value. The latter grow less as they become civilized or modernized and the former might grow less if some politicians had their way!

\*\*\*\*\*



## NATIONAL WOODCHIP CAMPAIGN

The Australian Conservation Foundation says that unless an urgent national awareness campaign is initiated, renewals of woodchip export licences could pass unchallenged in this country.

Already four million tonnes of woodchips are leaving our shores annually. As a result our forests are rapidly diminishing.

Decisions will soon be made which will affect the long-term future of Australia's forests. The Commonwealth Government is reviewing the export licences. It's actions will determine the conditions of our forests well into the next century.

The Tasmanian woodchip licences are being reviewed right now. An environmental impact statement is being prepared and the Commonwealth Government will decide what licence conditions to impose, if any, by July 1985. There is fear for the cool temperate rainforest, the world's tallest hardwood stands and the State's last unlogged catchment of dry sclerophyll forest.

Woodchip projects in other States in successive years come up for review after Tasmania. First the Eden scheme in south east N.S.W. Next the program is Western Australia's karri and marri forests, and possibly in far eastern Victoria, which includes the famed Errinundra Plateau.

Conservationists agree unanimously that the decision on the Tasmanian woodchip licences will set a precedent for the other States. Therefore, it was decided that a national campaign should be launched to convince the Commonwealth Government of the need for conditions on the Tasmanian licences.

We must bring pressure to bear on Canberra by lobbying and letters etc.

Now allow us to make a few comments in support of this. A Queensland Forestry pamphlet says - "Contrary to the impression of coastal dwellers (and many people overseas too) our Australian continent is poorly provided with forested areas capable of producing useful timber. Of the whole territory, little more than five per cent is forested, compared with thirtyfive per cent in the more fortunate countries of the United States and Canada".

Of the areas carrying useful timber forests, over ninety percent consist of hardwood (Eucalyptus species), a little over three percent of rainforests or coastal brushwood, about two and a half percent of native Cypress pine (Callitris) forests, and less than one percent of pine plantations, including both native and exotic species.

In Queensland the timber position justifies every effort to make the best use of existing forests and to develop new plantations and silviculturally treated areas to meet future needs. At present the quantity of timber produced in the State does not meet the full demands of industry. The balance required is imported from overseas, mainly soft wood needed for plywood manufacture.

It seems ridiculous that a country which imports timber should export woodchips.

Paper is made usually from pine such as Pinus radiata, the Monterey pine, and it is essential to grow such timber if we want paper.

The wood grabbers have their eyes on woodland of apparently useless timber. But, such woodland is necessary habitat for bees, birds and other wild life. Such woodland must not be squandered for immediate gain.

Deserts seem to occur naturally in the tropics on the west and interior of the Continent. But most of these places were lush and productive in historic times and have been made deserts by over grazing and removal of trees. Thus we have the saying "Where a civilization has passed, a desert remains".

Let us support the A.C.F. in it's campaign against the wood chip industry.

\*\*\*\*\*



## MON REPOS TURTLE ROOKERY

The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland might seek Supreme Court action over moves for a subdivision of land behind the Mon Repos turtle rookery near Bundaberg.

It has condemned State Government pressure on the Woongarra Shire Council to change its stance on Mon Repos. This was in response to a statement by the National Parks Minister supporting a fresh move by developers to have the land subdivided, with 4.37 ha being given to the Government for an environmental park. It seems highly improper for the Minister responsible for Wildlife to be advocating a subdivision behind the rookery on the morning that the Woongarra Shire Council committee was meeting to consider the matter. The Council is already considering a town plan calling on the Government to resume the rookery hinterland for environmental purposes which could act as a buffer area for the beach rookery. Young turtle hatchlings can be disoriented by artificial lighting and also interfered with by household pets.

Planning is the proper method and not necessarily in favour of those who want to make a fast buck. Our planning must leave room for wild life.

\*\*\*\*\*

## BEACH CONSERVATION

The "Beach Conservation" Newsletter N<sup>o</sup> 58 says -

"One point which has become clear during these investigations is that beaches cannot be studied in isolation from other parts of the coast, and that any comprehensive plan for coastal management has to be based on an understanding of the relevant factors affecting the whole littoral system, including tidal estuaries and reaches of rivers as well as inlets and deltas. The Beach Protection Authority must now provide a greater input to town planning schemes.

The Gold Coast is famous for its sandy beaches and a climate suited to their year-round use. However, the beach at Kirra has all but gone as a result of erosion. In its place, a rock wall has been built to stop further recession of the shoreline into roads, houses and shops.

The extension of the Tweed River training walls in 1962 has been identified as the principal cause of the erosion problems being experienced along the Southern Gold Coast beaches."

It was pointed out in this supplement some time ago that the use of groynes is merely robbing Peter to pay Paul. Indeed groynes should be made illegal because other places are prevented from obtaining their usual amount of sand. This sand, called "Rivers of sand" continuously flows northwards along the east coast forming reversed Js at the headlands.

The coastline has been changing for thousands of years. Our most beautiful beaches are the result of erosion. Our use of the beaches and building too close to the sea increase the rate of erosion by many times and topple the point of equilibrium. The Beach Protection Authority exists to provide protection to real estate foolishly placed too near the sea. No road or building should be placed closer than 400 metres from the shore line. This leaves a buffer zone of sand dunes which are in equilibrium with the sea. This equilibrium, of course, is dynamic. Usually during storms, sand is torn off the beaches but later builds up again. Wind shapes the sand dunes. This is one example of the rhythm of Nature.

However, we still must cope with numerous people who want access to the beach. This is best done by means of footpaths. Dune vegetation is delicately balanced ecology. By overuse this vegetation is destroyed.

By building well away from the beach, we could let Nature take its course, still have our beautiful beaches and save the enormous expense of sea-walls and groynes.

\*\*\*\*\*



### BAT CAVE

Mr. Ian Herbert, the Capricorn Conservation Council president, said that the fauna officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service were prevented carrying out their duties to inspect Bat Cave, the home of 200,000 insect-eating bats at Mt. Etna, 30 km north of Rockhampton.

He said that more than eighty percent of Australia's bent-wing bats used the cleft as a maternity cave each year. Limestone mining was threatening the survival of the cleft and its bat colony.

Mr. Herbert was told it was inappropriate for wildlife officers to be involved in any action beyond the boundaries of Limestone Park. This is despite the legal responsibility of fauna officers to enter any place at any time where wild life was threatened, he said.

\*\*\*\*\*

### AMATEURS

Many of us in the Bushwalking Clubs, National Parks Association and Field Naturalists are amateur explorers, amateur botanists, amateur zoologists and so on. This has great value in forming liaison between the ordinary public, who might not know anything, and the professionals who certainly know something. The same could be said about amateur radio persons or "Hams" and there are many other examples. Such liaison is very important in a democracy.

Further, such amateurs have the advantage of being critical of the Government without fear or favour. Many conservative bodies often comprise amateurs who can often look further ahead than many politicians. Hence the reason why the Commonwealth Government gives grants to such bodies. Since National Parks were started, various Ministers had to be brought up-to-date for the reasons for National Parks. So we see the value of amateurs in our society.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*  
\*\*  
\*\*



the first of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to  
obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the second of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the third of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the fourth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the fifth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the sixth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the seventh of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the eighth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the ninth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the tenth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the eleventh of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the twelfth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.

the thirteenth of these is the fact that the  
only person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document is the  
person who has been able to obtain a copy of the document.