

Brisbane Catholic Bushwalking Club

10/70



MONTHLY CIRCULAR

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF OUR LADY OF THE WAY

P.O. BOX 151, BRISBANE, NORTH QUAY, Q. 4000

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a periodical

BRISBANE CATHOLIC BUSHWALKING CLUB

Price 8¢

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JANUARY 1970

Monthly General Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month in the Temperance Hall, Canberra Hotel (Edward St. entrance). The next meeting will be held on Monday 19th January at 7.30p.m. Visitors welcome.

OFFICE BEARERS

CHAPLAIN	Rev. Fr. M. Keohane O.M.I.	6 4422
PRESIDENT	Paul Skehan Ex.314	31 0201
VICE PRESIDENT	Michael Grigg	
GENERAL SECRETARY	Paul Wijngaarden	7 3655
OUTINGS SECRETARY	Larry Corkran	36 4326
TREASURER	Gavin Clancy	48 5391
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Kathleen Vingoe	48 6178
S & T OFFICER	John Walker	81 5009

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Leon Buchanan	49 1109	Bernice Caffery	66 9544
Laurie Kearney	-	Denise Thompson	-
EQUIPMENT HIRE -		Larry Corkran	36 4326
EQUIPMENT PURCHASE -		Paul Wijngaarden	7 3655
EMERGENCY OFFICER -		Kevin Herlihy	39 2309

NOTE:- Where a party is overdue, the onus is on parents to telephone the Emergency Officer if they are concerned over their son/daughter's safety. Please do not ring before 9.0p.m. at the earliest.

EDITORIAL

by Paul Skehan

Much has been written and said about the responsibilities of the motorist.

Do passengers have any responsibilities?

A driver must at all times drive in such a manner as not to endanger the lives of others.

On all our trips when private transport is used there is also a duty to see that passengers are able to fulfil their religious obligations.

The driver must remember his religious and civil obligations when choosing a campsite departure time.

All passengers must ensure that they are ready to leave at the appointed time. If through the tardiness of passengers, the departure time is not adhered to, should the driver:-

- (a) Drive at his normal driving speed, with a possibility of missing Mass?
- (b) Drive faster than usual in an effort to attend Mass?

Unfortunately outlook (b) increases the risk of accident and thereby endangers the lives of others. Increased wear and tear on the vehicle also results and consequently causes the costs of maintenance to increase.

As passengers we must therefore meet our responsibilities by being punctual and in doing so greatly ease the burden on the driver.

or else - new form of
private transport.

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CLUB CALENDAR:

SATURDAY 17TH. JANUARY Social - Theatre Evening.

MONDAY 19TH. JANUARY General Meeting.

LONG WEEKEND 23/26 JAN. Base Camp/Throughwalk - Cataract River.

SUNDAY 1ST. FEBRUARY Daywalk - Northbrook Creek.

WEEKEND 13/15TH. FEB. Roving Base Camp - Nth. Coast Area.

MONDAY 16TH. FEBRUARY General Meeting.

SATURDAY 21ST. FEBRUARY Social - Bowling Night.

SUNDAY 1ST MARCH Day Walk - Mt. Misery

WEEKEND 4TH/8TH. MARCH Base Camp/Throughwalk - O'Reilly's.

The February Circular will have the Club programme up to the end of June. Leaders will be required for quite a number of walks of all types. Are you a leader?

NOTE:- Your attention is drawn to the cancellation of the Captain Cook Night on 17th. January. This is being replaced by a Theatre Evening. The Captain Cook Night will be held sometime in April. For further details see inside.

COMING EVENTS IN DETAIL:SATURDAY 17TH. JANUARY - SOCIAL - THEATRE EVENING:

Due to the lack of nominations it has been decided to cancel the Captain Cook House Party to have been held on the 17th. January, and transfer it to a date in April. In its place will be a Theatre Evening at the Wintergarden Theatre to see "RING OF BRIGHT WATER" starring Bill Travers and Virginia McKenna together with a feature film "COURAGEOUS CAPTAIN COOK" - so we get our Captain Cook night after all.

Nominations close with the Social Secretary on Thursday 15th. January. Price of admission- \$1.90.

PEOPLE FAILING TO TURN UP AFTER NOMINATING WILL BE CHARGED FULL PRICE OR FED TO THE LIONS.

MONDAY 19TH. JANUARY - GENERAL MEETING:

Come to West Australia on Monday night! The Club's best photographers have co-operated to bring you this exclusive programme on the sights of West Australia in the wildflower season.

Remember to nominate for the long weekend trip at the meeting.

LONG WEEKEND 23/26TH. JANUARY - BASE CAMP AND THROUGH-WALK - CATARACT RIVER:

Leaders- John Sanders (B.C.) Paul Wijngaarden (I.W.)
Nominations- Monday 19th. January (Meeting Night).
Time- 7.00p.m. Fare- \$5.00.
Departs- North Quay (behind Supreme Courts).
Emergency Officer- (39.2309) Kevin Herlihy.

Cataract River is near Boonoo-Boonoo and is reached through Tenterfield on the New England Highway. The leaders are claiming this will be a first class trip with something for everyone. Note that the fare is only \$5.00 for more than 450 miles, so make sure that you don't miss this one.

The base camp will be beside Cataract River, about fourteen miles from Tenterfield. The walking will include beautiful river banks, swimming pools and old mine tunnels.

The throughwalkers will be following Boorook Creek and Cataract River so will have no water problems.

Monday's walking will depend on Mass arrangements; if Mass is celebrated at the basecamp, the whole party will visit Wellington Rocks (superb views and strange rock formations) but if Mass is attended in Wallangarra the party will move to Wyberba National Park.

You can nominate for this bargain trip before or at the Meeting.

SUNDAY 1ST. FEBRUARY - DAYWALK - NORTHBROOK CREEK:

<u>Leader-</u>	Thea Sanders	<u>Time-</u>	9.00a.m.
<u>Nominations-</u>	Tuesday 27th. Jan.	<u>Fare-</u>	\$2.00.
<u>Departs-</u>	North Quay (behind Supreme Courts).		
<u>Emergency Officer-</u>	(39.2309) Kevin Herlihy.		

Note that this walk has been postponed from 11th. January and that Mount Misery has been cancelled in the hope that more people will be able to come on this rewarding summer walk. Don't forget your swimming togs, cameras, songbooks etc.

As mentioned last month, this area is not often visited but if you are a real bushwalker you will find it delightful.

WEEKEND 13/15TH. FEBRUARY - ROVING BASE CAMP - NORTH COAST:

Leader- Pat Lawton Time- 7.00p.m.
Nominations- Monday 9th. Feb. Fare- \$4.00
Departs- North Quay (behind Supreme Courts).
Emergency Officer- (39.2309) Kevin Herlihy.

"Oh, come once more a-roving with this fair maid" say the words of the song. What could be more pleasant in the hot summer months than a trip of this nature. The idea is to camp on the Friday night in the Pomona area and after climbing Mount Cooroora on the Saturday morning, move on to Mount Cooroy (near Cooroy) and Mount Ninderry (near Yandina). All of these mountains afford extensive views of the lovely North Coast hinterland and of the Coast itself.

Saturday night's camp will be at Yaroomba Beach, Coolum and it is hoped to climb either Mount Coolum or to visit Noosa National Park on Sunday morning leaving plenty of time afterwards for swimming at Coolum.

LOST PROPERTY:

The Outings Secretary is in possession of a large amount of Lost Property ranging from Corderoy Trousers, raincoats, sandshoes to such items as hand cream, skirt hangers, hats and towels.

If you are missing any property large or small, don't bother contacting the Police or the City Council, just see Larry who I'm sure will be able to help you.

TASMANIA'S UNTAMED HEART: (Part 2)

by Michael A. Keohane, O.M.I.

With the dawning of the day, I was up and away on a track that led me right into the heart of the Pelion country. This area derived its name from Mount Pelion West, a mountain which dominates the whole landscape. Around its base I walked for hours never losing sight of it. Here in this vast amphitheatre encircled by forests, I felt insignificant and puny as before me lay a series of lofty peaks, Pelion East, Achilles, Thetis and Ossa, classically named in 1855 by George Frankland, Surveyor General. I consider it regrettable that the euphemistic aboriginal names were not preserved; names like Leeawula, (Sleeping Place Mountain), the aboriginal name for Lake St. Clair. I spent that night in the Old Pelion Hut.

Very few signs of wild life were visible. This was understandable because most of Tasmania's native animals were nocturnal in habits. Yet in these isolated highlands dwell the two outdated marsupial animals, namely the Tasmanian Devil and its compatriot the Tasmanian Tiger or marsupial wolf, which is considered to be the world's rarest living mammal and on the verge of extinction. It is harmless and has no connection with the tiger, but derives its name from the transverse stripes across its back. I did see a strange animal or what appeared to be a dog at dusk near Lake Rodway, but it did not fit the description of the tiger.

Whilst traversing the Cuvier Valley near Lake Petrarch, an opportunity to study the echidna presented itself. This animal is one of the rare wonders of the world - with the platypus it is the most primitive of furred animals. The echidna and the platypus are egg laying mammals, the sole surviving members of the monotremes. The echidna lays eggs, yet suckles its young. It has no teats like other marsupials but exudes milk through pores. Another strange characteristic of the

echidna is that it grows a pouch only when required to carry its young - the pouch closes up when this function has been accomplished. I watched, fascinated, as it fed itself on ants and their eggs. It inserted its tongue which is covered with a sticky substance, into the ants nest and withdrew it with ants big and small adhering to it and fed on them. Once it became aware of my presence and sensed danger it rolled itself into the earth with its powerful digging claws with a rapidity that seemed almost to approach a disappearing trick.

For the next night, one has a choice of two huts, the old and the new (to me at any rate). The old is much preferable. I moved on to Kia-Ora where the new hut is situated near the creek of that name. In the background dominating the scenery was Mount Ossa, Tasmania's highest mountain. A little over a mile from here is Du Cane Hut, very delapidated but providing ample shelter. It has the disadvantage, especially if its raining, of being some distance from drinking water. If staying at Du Cane, special care has to be taken of one's pack. A notorious possum popularly known as "Black Pete" is sure to make a surreptitious raid on one's depleted food pack, especially in the early hours of the morning. Next stop was Windy Ridge where the hut has been renovated recently. It is now bright and comfortable, providing protection and shelter from the strong winds that rush down through the gap in the mountains. If time permits one can deviate from here to Pine Valley. The hut here is in the last stages of deterioration but is ideally situated deep in the Du Cane Range and is the jumping off place for those climbing the many mountains in the Range, especially Mt. Acropolis and the Labyrinth, noted for its little valley and pretty lakes.

Narcissus, one of the most comfortable huts in the park, rests serenely on the fringe of Lake St. Clair. Arrangements can be made with the ranger at Cynthia Bay to meet the party here with a motor launch - a suggestion no true hiker would agree to. The other

alternatives are to go around the lake, where a useful intermediate stop could be made at Echo point hut, or to walk over Byron Gap through Cuvier Valley. The Cuvier Valley track is usually very wet except during very dry weather. I have travelled both tracks and under favourable conditions prefer the Cuvier track.

"What", someone asked me, "is to be gained by such a journey, especially as a 'loner'?" To me it is not only a challenge but an adventure and as each day unfolded itself, new wonders and beauties revealed themselves in the silence of the valleys, in the solitude of the hills and in the serrated summits and mountain peaks silouetted against the westering sun or shining in glowing gold on lake or tarn. The music of running waters, the susurrus of the wind through the pines and the crunch of the heather underfoot, taught me something of the primeval world where God can operate without interference by wilful man and taught me that I too was part, though part only, of this marvellous creation. The effort involved is the price to be paid for the peace and the pleasure that await those who venture into the Untamed Heart of Tasmania.

Definition of a Catalyst: A kitten with a tilt.

LAST MONTH'S TRIPS:

For December it was quite an active month. It commenced with the Boolcumba Creek base camp led by Angelino (Laurie Kearney). For a multitude of reasons only 13 out of 26 finally turned up - a bit rough on the Outings Secretary in trying to arrange suitable transport.

The weather being hot and sultry and the pools in the creek being deep, crystal clear and inviting, the stage was set for an easy base camp. It lived up to the forecast although some of the party undoubtedly did their fair share of walking.

Felix (Larry Corkran) and Ivan (Paul Wijngaarden) for reasons that were not quite clear, could not entice any others to go on the throughwalk. They set off with the very ambitious plan of going up Lobster Creek and down Boolcumba Creek. It looked good on the map - at first glance! It didn't take them very long to discover that the junction of Lobster Creek/Boolcumba Creek was well camouflaged with thick undergrowth; the water flow a mere trickle, and the banks upstream well protected with lantana. Thus they proceeded up Boolcumba Creek.

Highlight of the creek was a narrow gorge in which there are some half dozen or so waterfalls in a very picturesque setting.

The eastern/southern side of the creek at this stage provides an easy (?) way out up steep but clean grassy slopes to the top of the ridge running North/South along the top of which runs a fairly reasonable road which was followed north back to camp near the foot of Mount Allan which is reached from the Maleny/Kenilworth Road.

On the weekend following the Christmas party, a large number of photographers and would be speleos made their way to the Texas Caves to spend a brief but pleasant time crawling through dust etc. to admire the

beauties of the underground. An interesting time was had but at the same time brought the subject matter of the editorial to a head.

Then following the Christmas break, the Club's extended outing to the Carnarvon Ranges. Thirty-three finally set off after several last minute unadvised cancellations had been allowed for. Departure was 8.0p.m. Tuesday and after driving all night, breakfast at Injune, the park was reached midday Wednesday to be found at its worst for many years due to the aftermath of bad fires through virtually the whole of the park. Recent heavy rains which flooded the gorges caused heavy erosion damage, and seriously silted up the creek.

Six of the party moved to the Cathedral Cave camp, visiting some of the side gorges on route, on the afternoon of arrival and had a peaceful New Year's eve before exploring Wongalinda Arch next day as well as other side gorges. They were joined by most of the remainder of the party on Thursday who had given a rather less sedate farewell to 1969 at the camping area.

On Friday those at Cathedral Cave set out for Battleship Spur vainly hoping that a dust storm that had covered the area the previous afternoon would lift in time. Alas! No view! What were more or less two parties at the outset eventually disintegrated into five parties. As a result some people on Battleship Spur misinterpreted directions and ended up unintentionally on Consuelo Tableland on the other side of Carnarvon Creek, thereby incurring displeasure from certain quarters. Another party explored north of Battleship Spur and were rewarded with quick access to drinking water, swimming holes and spectacular gorges. The main party had a protracted return to base. - An eventful Friday ended on just that note somewhat later.

Spurred on by the Outings Secretary, Bushwalker's Standard time almost became Eastern Standard time so far as departure times were concerned, when on Saturday the

party travelled to Roma. After attending 7.0a.m. Mass a leisurely return was made to Brisbane.

Special appreciation is due to Michael Laherty who drove most of the time; Mr. Brooks, the Bus Proprietor who accompanied us and drove part of the journey; and to Larry Corkran for the thankless task of organising the trip so successfully.

CLUB NEWS AND VIEWS:

Report on December General Meeting: In contrast with previous years, the December Meeting was very well attended and members were suitably entertained with an excellent slide showing by Bernice Caffery and Pat Lawton on their New Zealand trip two years ago. As an inspiration and tourist (bushwalking) promotion exercise it certainly excelled.

On the business side, reports were heard on the enjoyable but degenerate Booloumba Creek Base Camp; the enjoyable but poorly attended Booloumba Creek throughwalk - a worthwhile trip - and the Texas Caves expedition following the Christmas party.

The Club now has more than 114 financial members - almost up with the 1968/69 figure.

One member ^{almost} caused a stir when discussion arose on how to relieve the Club of some of its liquid (financial) resources.

Following John Tweddell's resignation from the Social Sub-Committee for health reasons, Committee in terms of Section 12 (iii) of the Constitution, has appointed Joseph Fry to take his place.

Congratulations to the following who have satisfied the requirements for Ordinary Membership. - Brian McMahon, Lyn Moynihan and Dermott O'Moore.

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Despite numerous statements on Club policy relating to tins and rubbish - viz. Burn, Bash and Carry out - a number of people are persisting in blatantly disregarding this policy. The evidence produced at "the trial of the untidy bushwalkers" was testimony of this.

A tightening attitude on the part of some walkers may convince some members that they should carry more adequate supplies of water themselves. After all, water is an essential head safeguard and an element in enjoyable bushwalking.

The Carnarvon's proved to be a place where it was not at all difficult to separate or become separated from a party. When the members involved know where they are and where they are going, this is undesirable and to be discouraged. However, where the people involved do not know where they are, nor where they are going, they should not attempt to proceed without first notifying the leader.

CONCERT PRACTICE - CONCERT PRACTICE = CONCERT PRACTICE

For all those interested, Concert Rehearsal will be held at the Mater Christi Hall on Tuesday 20th. January at 7.30p.m. Mater Christi Hall is at Eagle Junction, the venue of our recent Christmas Party.

NOTICES

During the absence of Outings Secretary, Larry Corkran, on holidays, Paul Skehan will be relieving as Outings Secretary for the following trips - Northbrook Creek, Daywalk 1st. February; North Coast Mountains, Base Camp 13/15th. February. As Paul can only be reached on the telephone at work at 31.0201, ext. 314, nominations and cancellations must be advised as soon as possible.

As John Walker together with Larry Corkran will be absent in Tasmania, Paul Wijngaarden will be the relieving S. & T. Officer and Federation delegate.

SAFETY AND TRAINING:

Would anyone who has given John Walker his or her name in connection with the Federation Search and Rescue Group, please re-contact him to ensure that the list of names is complete and that the addresses and telephone numbers are correct. Also anyone who has not put their names down but who would be willing to assist if needed in any future operations.

As Paul Wijngaarden will be acting for John while he is absent please contact Paul as soon as possible.

BUSHWALKER'S CASEBOOK:

Congratulations and best wishes to Pat Ebert who recently announced his engagement.

Congratulations to all our successful students on their examination results.

Tasmanian expeditions departing soon.

Texas Caves trip won't be forgotten in a hurry, Tony Crowley and Chris Sweeney will remember it very well for the breakdown of their vehicles on the return journey.

Fifteen present and former members and Father John (Power) took day off to visit and inspect Club Hut "Yalburru". Swimming at Lower Portals and lazing in the sun was the order for the day. Mass was celebrated in the late afternoon with the Hut and Barney as a background. In the evening most people attended an enjoyable barbecue at the big pool.

It seems that the location of travel breaks now have to satisfy an extra condition - a pool table.

Kath Vingoe sat on a mouse and squashed it to death in the old Forestry Hut near O'Reilly's.

While driving in Paul Tracey's car and being entertained by his tape recorder, some members were amused to hear "we're on our way to heaven" issue forth.

Paul W. thinks that if he left his overseas trip until his long service leave, he would by that time definitely have to pay much more in fares. He seems to be in a hurry to come back as he only intends staying two or three months. There was also mention of someone called June.

The R.O.S. (Royal Order of the Spoon was ceremoniously bestowed on Larry Corkran at Cathedral Cave after Friday's attack on Battleship Spur.

The culmination of a number of events led to Larry Corkran, Paul Skehan, Mike Laherty and Paul Wijngaarden being dubbed "the big four."

Inadvertently dropping packs into gorges became a sport at the Carnarvons - one day pack was not able to be recovered.

Quotable Quotes-

Ivan Not that I don't like other people - but -

Cyril Arn't we lucky that Good Friday can't fall on a Saturday.

Pat L. If I found a skeleton I think I could have some fun with that!

Persons interested in a mixed doubles table tennis tournament to be held approximately mid February should let Paul Wijngaarden know. Scunge-bashers 'B' still in top four in 'D' grade fixtures competition.
