



Ramble On

Newsletter of Redland Bushwalkers Incorporated

website: <http://www.redlandbushwalkers.org.au>

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PO Box 101 Cleveland 4163

August 2011

Next Club Meeting

Wednesday 14 September 2011

7:00 for 7:30 start

Indigiscapes Centre Runnymede Rd Capalaba

President's report

Another month has passed and Redland Bushwalkers are doing some great walks.

A lot of members have been overseas doing some excellent walks that we look forward to hearing about on their return.

It is also good to see some of our members joining other walking clubs on their walks. This will be good for our club as they might find some different walks. Variety and challenges are what we all love.

The people who have had health issues I wish you a speedy recovery.

Federation Mountain Rescue has a new name FMR Inc. and also has a lot of new interested people which is excellent.

The Kids camp was a wonderful family event , enjoyed by all.

We can all look forward to the Christmas party next.

The photographic competition results will be at the next meeting and we need as many members as possible there to do the members' vote.

Have a wonderful September and take care.

Happy walking

Denise - President

Members' tips

1. Did you know that as members of Redland Bushwalkers, we have reciprocal rights with other bushwalking clubs? This means you can sign up for their walks and everything! Several members already take advantage of this, and it's looked on very favourably because it means they come back to our club with knowledge of other walks that we could then think about adding to our walks calendar. And you get to meet new people and experience walking with a different club. Win-win all round! Most clubs have websites, so have a scout around them if you are interested.

2. Unless you don't mind being bowled over by runners, us walkers have been advised to avoid the border track at Lamington on the weekend of 22-23 October as there is a big running race on: the Lamington Classic. On the other hand, if you can't beat them . . .



Upcoming Activities

Click here for our complete calendar: www.redlandbushwalkers.org.au. Keep an eye out for the signup sheets at the club meeting, or contact the leaders if you have any questions or can't make it to the meeting.

Here's a summary of upcoming activities for August.

Sat-Sun 3-4 Sept: Lower to Upper Portals through walk, Mt Barney. Contact Ted, 3286 2817.

Sun 4 Sept: Mt Tibrogargan base and Mt Ngungun climb. Contact Dudley Reid, 3822 1802.

Sat-Sun 10-11 Sept: South Bald Rock beginners' through walk. Contact Mats, 0438985090.

Sun 11 Sept: Ships Stern circuit, Binna burra. Contact Denise Mitchell 3286 1266 or Narelle McFadden 3286 5880.

Sun 18 Sept: Apple Tree picnic area to Springbrook walk. Contact Jillian Wilson, 3824 5966.

Sun 18 Sept: Mt Cordeau and Bare Rock walk. Contact Hilary Martyn, 3821 7801.

Sun 25 Sept: Love Creek, Brisbane Forest Park. Contact Mats, 0438984090.

Sun 25 Sept: Sunshine Coast Hinterland great walk. Contact Kerrie Coulter, 3822 7259.

FMR training weekend

FMR Inc runs excellent training programs for bushwalkers and other outdoor enthusiasts. They are run by highly experienced people and are perfect for ANYBODY who is interested in knowing more about various aspects of their chosen activity of bushwalking.

The next training weekend is on **10-11 September** at Mt Barney and will provide opportunities to practice navigation, radio procedures and search methods. This event is open to **all** bushwalkers, experienced or not.

For more information, click here: <http://fmrqld.bwg.org.au/cms-assets/documents/30654-573030.srsept11.pdf> or here: <http://fmrqld.bwg.org.au/>



Pilgrimage report

The Pilgrimage is an annual bushwalking and social event attracting members of affiliated clubs from throughout the south-east corner of the state and further afield. This year it was held at Kenilworth showground, which is just up the highway from home. Sunshine Coast and Glasshouse Mountains clubs hosted it this year.

Walkers began arriving on the Friday and wasted no time setting up camps, some in very elaborate caravans and trailers, others in lightweight single tents. As usual there were proper kitchen facilities with free tea and coffee, hot water and bikkies all weekend, and as usual everybody really appreciated it.

The host clubs had organized a range of walks (about 18 all up) for the Saturday, and Friday evening was also sign-up time, with some of the walks filling up very quickly. Most people were in bed reasonably early that evening, going to sleep to the sound of rain sprinkling down. It was more pleasant background noise than threatening downpours at that stage: the latter came later! But even showers can have a big impact, and by early Saturday morning our hosts had sensibly rearranged the walks, with some of the ones involving slippery bits taken off the calendar. And it was just as well, because as the day went on the rain got heavier and heavier, although we did have a brief interlude in the middle of the day when we could actually take off our rain gear for an hour or so.

Most people walked, and three Redlanders trotted along behind Russell as he raced up to the Kenilworth Bluff where we enjoyed a stunning view of the whiteout. It was actually very atmospheric, with dripping vegetation and mist all around us. Luckily it wasn't cold and it was perfectly possible to walk in just a shirt and shorts despite being dripping wet.

Most walkers were back at camp by mid afternoon, just in time for the rain to really pelt down. By about 5pm parts of the camping area were awash; that night a few people had to abandon their soggy tents and sleep in their cars as a result.

All that didn't stop the traditional bush dance with a very good band that went on till nearly midnight.

Sunday is usually about club president meetings and other events, but all outside activities were cancelled because of the wet ground. Ironically, after the early mist cleared, the sun was blazing.

So after another great weekend meeting new people and catching up with others not seen since the previous pilgrimage, everybody headed off home to dry out their wet things.

Many thanks to Hilary Riley for organizing our Club's attendance; it made it much easier for everybody to have a group booking rather than lots of individual ones. And thanks to Sue and Dudley and Peter and Mary Jane for providing shelter to the soggy Redlanders who only had tents: we really appreciated it.

Activity reports

Where: Page's Pinnacle, Numinbah Valley

When: 7 August

Leader: Mats Andersson



Mighty Mats slays monster!

By Malcolm Thomson

Redlands Bushwalker reporter

On his third attempt the intrepid Mats (Oleander) has managed to conquer Page's Pinnacle.

Strongly supported by a top-grade team of sherpas, namely Alison, Betty, Jillian, Laurel, Malcolm, Marika, Pedro, Rebecca and Teresa, he finally overcame inclement weather to conquer this hill. Once again there was a threat of precipitation from the Bureau but this time persistence won through.

Page's Pinnacle is a 400m high ridge of trachyte found off to the left of the Numinbah road to Springbrook and Murwillumbah. The aborigines know it as "Kundohikulli", meaning "rock like a boat".

From the start point it is a 6km, four (4) hour round trip following a road down, across a creek, and up a longish hill to a foot pad off to

the left. The team was quick to notice footprints left by recent participants in the “Kokoda Challenge” competition and the sharp eyed Teresa identified Reebok, Nike, Puma, Asics, Inav and Saucony among them. On the way it was noticed that the Hovea sp. shrubs were beginning their purple pea spring flowering as were some yellow paper daisies (Xerochrysum sp.)

Now I don't know for sure why he chose to do it but at what turned out to be a premature point (a “random dot”, maybe?— refer Judy) Mats decided to lead the team away from the perfectly neat and tidy road and into the long, tick infested grass. He claims that it was a short cut but after a ten minute interlude everyone ended up back at the starting point! Teresa, I believe, was so put out by the whole experience she tore a large dead tree from the ground and threw it at Malcolm. Portuguese natives are noted for their short fuses and it was suggested that Pedro take her in hand.



Having located the correct turn-off, the team gently descended past a huge blackbutt that looked for all the world like either an “Ent” (Lord of the Rings) or a “Whomping Willow” (Harry Potter) – you can't miss it.

Nor can you miss the first razorback that just pops up out of nowhere. With care, prayer and encouraging words like “don't look down” everyone crossed this and the subsequent sharp knife edges, down a small cliff and, with a final scramble, up to the peak itself. All of the steep bits look harder than they really are and some of them can be bypassed if the grip of fear is too much. This rock is firm and very grippy providing it is not wet and there are heaps of

excellent finger and toe holds.

From the top there are great views of Beechmont village, Tamborine mountain and the Hinze (Advancetown) dam to the north, Egg and Turtle rocks and Ship Stern (with Lamington behind) to the south west, Springbrook plateau to the south and the Gold Coast to the east. The dam has been increased in recent years and is now a quite respectable puddle. Some of the clumps of Dendrobium “kingianum” orchids had started their spring flowering.

Following a snack it was just a matter of reversing the whole thing back to the cars to either do another walk up at Springbrook or just bolt to a coffee shop in Nerang. Your reporter chose the latter and hurried home to mow the lawn and tend the vegie garden.



Where: Mt Castle, Main Range

When: 30-31 July

Leader: Ted Wassenberg



We were supposed to leave Friday night to camp at Goomburra before setting off for Mt Castle. However, having to leave work later than expected and faulty tail lights on one red 4WD mean that we were delayed. Some frantic phone calls later it was decided to leave early Saturday morning. During the night the pixies managed to right the problem and we set off in the two 4WDs. We needed these vehicles to ford the creek below the ridge leading up to Sylvester's Lookout. Here we commenced the walk.

The trail was relatively well defined and we stopped for morning tea at the bluff above Laidley Falls with superb views of the ridge leading

up to majestic cliffs of Mt Castle. Here we were in tick country, as we were all brushing off the largest ticks I have seen for a while. After morning tea we descended the small cliffs beside the falls and then traversed the ledge (veranda), dodging the waterfall, to the eastern end and the hole in the wall, where we all took lots of photos of each



other sitting in the window. The giant spear lilies were coming out with their crimson blooms. We crossed Boar's Head and had lunch on the narrow ridge just before the narrow razorback ridge where one person later gave us a scare by tripping.



A sidle on the western side of the cliffs of Mt Castle soon saw us clear to reach the summit, where we camped for the night. The

campsite enabled us to view a magnificent sunset and sunrise. The dawn light on the ramparts of the main range is a great way to start the day. After breakfast we returned the way we had come and we were back at Goomburra for lunch. Thanks to Teresa, Pedro, Hilary, Betty, Judy and Alison for making a great team to walk with.

Ted Wassenberg



Where: Mt Warning traverse

When: 4 August

Leader: FMR trip (Phil Box)

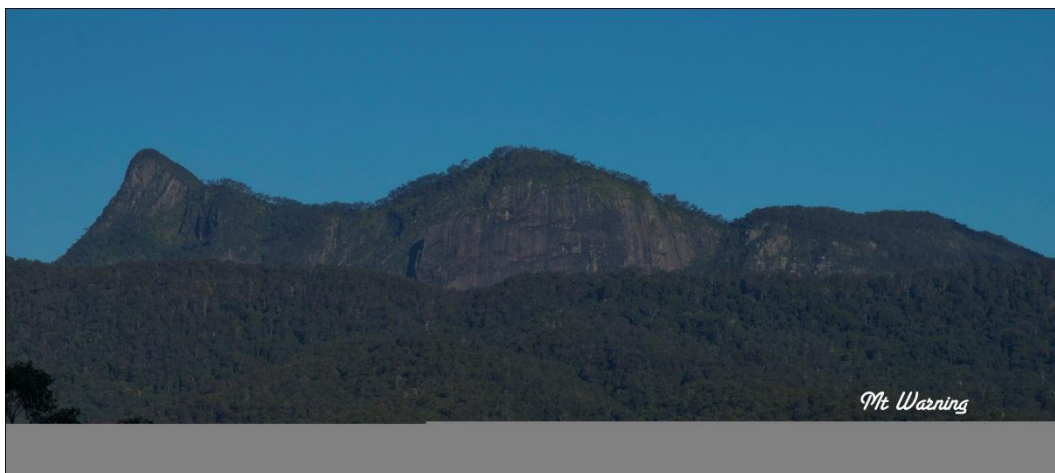
Our first attempt to do this traverse was washed out due to heavy rain. We had stopped for dinner at Tyalgum and were camped high up on Tyalgum ridge when the rain bucketed down and we decided to try again on another day.

That day came on the 4th August. This time we shared a cabin at Mt Warning caravan park while Frank and Barb were ensconced in a mountain retreat. Next morning we departed at 0530 and left Phil's 4WD at Mt Warning carpark, where a search for a lost walker was about to commence. We offered our help but were

declined by local SES. The car shuffle to Tyalgum Ridge took 30 min. Here we met with Frank and Barb and Steve. The rangers had dropped off a key for us to get to the Tyalgum ridge carpark.

The walk commenced at 0715h up through dense rainforest along a ridge that is part of the rim of the cauldron around Mt Warning. Down to a creek, where we had morning tea, and up the slopes leading to the north wall of Mt Warning. Through forests of wait-a-while to the boulder strewn slopes at the foot of the wall. The route followed up a steep gully cutting through the cliff wall. We traversed to the west at the top of the range searching for a viewpoint but vegetation was too dense. We retraced our steps and had lunch at the top of the gully. From here the route to the east along the top of the mountain was through dense scrub, fallen timber and barbed vines that slowed our progress and where our patience and sense of humour were tested. Phil led us straight up the western side of the main peak of Mt Warning. Small cliffs interspersed with waist high stunted and stiff bushes were the route we took. Metres to our left was the huge north face of the summit peak.

We emerged at the fence around the summit at about 1500h tired but jubilant that we had made the traverse. We still had to get down and reverse the car shuffle. The descent was along the normal route,



down the chain and along the main track to the carpark. It was dark by the time we returned to our cars on Tyalgum Ridge and we soon separated to head our various ways home. This was an FMR trip organised by Phil Box. Members for this trip were Phil, Paul, Steve (FMR), Judy, Barbara, Frank and Ted (Redlands)

Where: Kids camp, Spring Gully, Canungra
Leader: Denise and John Kolcze



On the last weekend in July, we had a kids camp at our favourite spot, Spring Gully Canungra. Thanks to everyone involved, it was once again a great and thoroughly enjoyable weekend. The kids played games (my favourite being the screaming race at which one little boy really excelled) and bushwalked, played in the creek, roasted marshmallows, and generally had a ball. We also celebrated Mia's birthday there to top it all off.

The next morning they spotted a very cold, slow and sluggish carpet snake, possibly looking for somewhere quieter to snooze. Lots of helpers with lots of ideas and advice prepared previously untried vegetable kebabs. The great cooks, fun and lots of conversations made for a really enjoyable evening. While the ladies were preparing the food the gentlemen took all the kids for a lovely adventure walk. There were 13 adults and 12 children making for a wonderful weekend.



My thanks to all who came and made it a great weekend. I am already being asked by my grandkids when the next one is. Thanks to Denise and John for organising this.

Linda Bielmeier

Where: Mt Mee
When: 7 August
Leaders: Dudley & Sue Reid

This walk is just under two hours' drive (100km) from the Redlands via the Gateway Bridge and then travelling from Dayborough up the Mt Mee range to the National Park turnoff. Car pooling was definitely the way to go. Cyclists and motor bike riders were also out and about the range on this beautiful sunny winter's day.

Sixteen walkers met at the Gantry Carpark in the Mt Mee National Park at 8am. There were several new members walking for the first time with the club and the walk did not disappoint with the fantastic array of wildflowers on display.

The walk was 13 km long in a circuit with an undulating path through bushland and climb to the top of the ridge to a lookout. This was about half way and took a couple of hours. Here the group stopped for morning tea at the first of a string of lookouts with views of Somerset and Wivenhoe Dams and their backwaters.



Rosemary McCormack

There were numerous native flowers out in bloom including masses of purple pea flowers of the Hovea shrubs over head height and close to the ground was the purple Native Sarsaparilla vine or *Hardenbergia violacea*. The Hoveas were even more spectacular on the second half of the circuit where there were acres of them creating a purple haze in the distance. Also the first half of the walk crossed a large area of recently burnt out landscape with much of the understory destroyed.

Other prolific shrubs were the *Banksia spinulosa* or Golden Candlesticks, the white flowers of the *Hakea florulenta* and masses of yellow pea flowers.



Bits and pieces

Lend a helping hand at Lamington

If any members have some time on their hands, they might be interested in helping with track maintenance in Lamington National Park (hardly work when it's in such a nice part of SEQ). BWQ has sent out the following email asking for interested people:

"I have consulted with QPWS at Lamington and have arranged for a mid week work day on **Wednesday 14th September**. This will be suitable for any volunteer who has not yet had the site induction. We can do this first up on the day before we start work. Anyone interested, please meet 8 am at Binna Burra Information Centre, lower carpark at Binna Burra. Enquiries to myself as below.

For previously inducted volunteers, there may be opportunities for us to work at other times, please let me know if interested.

Volunteers need to be self equipped with daypack, lunch & snacks, small first aid kit, water, wet weather gear, fully enclosed sturdy footwear, hat, long work trousers or jeans, gaiters recommended. Hand tools supplied by QPWS."

If anyone is interested, BWQ's email is: president@[bushwalkingqueensland.org.au](mailto:president@bushwalkingqueensland.org.au)



Committee contact details:

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