

The

BRISBANE BUSHWALKER

Jan-June 2020



BRISBANE BUSHWALKERS QUARTERLY NEWS

BRISBANE BUSHWALKERS CLUB INC (EST. 1948)

GPO BOX 1949, BRISBANE 4001

www.brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

MEETINGS

CLUB MEETING: The Brisbane Bushwalkers Club meets every 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at the Newmarket Memorial Hall, cnr Enoggera Rd. & Ashgrove Ave., Newmarket. Except for December when the only meeting is on the 2nd Wednesday. All welcome.

Start time: 7:30pm for new members (for an introductory talk).
8:00pm (or a bit earlier) for existing members.

COMMITTEE MEETING: Committee meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7.00pm at 228 Stafford Rd. Stafford. (cnr Gamelin Cres). All members are welcome to attend. (Check for December and January in case meetings are rescheduled.)

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Full Members:

\$40 per annum
Annual membership falls due 28th February.

Probationary Members:

\$20 per 6 month

FIRST AID CERTIFICATES

The Club organises regular Remote First Aid courses with certification. The club subsidises these courses by over 50%.

Details of these Activities are on the BBW Website.

EQUIPMENT HIRE

The following equipment is available **for club activities**.

The charge *between meetings* per item is:

Foam mat	\$2.00
Self inflating mat	\$5.00
Stove	\$5.00
Tent or Pack	\$10.00

Members can hire up to 4 items at one time for a maximum charge of \$10 per person.

All equipment may be booked for hire by emailing the Equipment Officer. Pre-booking will ensure availability.

PLB: The Club has several PLBs which Leaders may borrow, at no cost, for approved club activities only.

LIBRARY

Free loan to members:-

Books, Magazines, DVDs, CDs

Free loan to leaders:-

Maps and Rasters

Duration of loan:- 2 weeks for Maps, 4 weeks for all other items. If unable to return items on time please put them in the mail.

For Sale:-

Snake bandages: \$10.00
Car stickers and badges: 3.00
Club T shirts, jackets, vests

COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Larapinta Falls, March 2020
Photo: Rodney Stuart

CLUB OFFICIALS

Committee Members for 2019/2020

President Stephen Simpson
email: president@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Vice President Tom Vaughan
email: vicepresident@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Secretary Tom Cowlshaw 0427 226 006
email: secretary@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

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email: treasurer@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Outings Dan Cirsky
email: outings@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Safety & Training Nick Brooking
email: training@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Membership Dwan Moore
email: newmembers@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Librarian Margretha Gould (& Julie Brown)
email: library@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Equipment Steve Cockburn (& Jenny Howell)
email: equipment@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Photographic Barbara Ferries
email: photographic@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Social Libby Andersen
email: social@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Technology Officer Shaun Johnston
email: technology@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Abseil Coordinator *vacant*
email: abseiling@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Non-committee assistants

Members Registrar Anna Bransden 0432 248 945
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Editors Eugene Hedemann (& Jenny Zohn)
email: editor@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

Web Content Editor Peter Hunt
email: content@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

If you would like amendments made to pages on the website, discover that documents are missing or need updating, or have suggestions or questions about the website's content and structure, please forward your requests and concerns to the new Web Content Editor's email address, and Peter will address your query.

Contact Officers

0431 691 773 (Tom Cowlshaw) or
0423 095 580 (Stephen Simpson) or
0434 194 996 (Stephen Cockburn)

In an emergency, contact police on 000.

For a response from the club in urgent circumstances, these numbers may be used to reach a club contact officer.

These are VOICE ONLY numbers (ie. no SMS)

The Brisbane Bushwalkers Quarterly News is a selection of articles that have been posted on the Brisbane Bushwalkers web site over the past few months. This newsletter will be published quarterly - or thereabouts - depending on the number of articles that are posted.

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Compulsory items for Day Walks and Other Activities

These items are also referred to by the club as "Always Take" or "Page 3" items.

Back pack	Paper and pencil
Warm clothes (3 layers)	Whistle
Raincoat	Torch
Food (lunch, snacks, spare)	First aid kit
Hat & sunscreen	Matches or lighter
Footwear (closed-toe)	Change of clothes and shoes for driving home
Water (at least 2 or 3 litres)	Money for car pooling & drinks/snacks

Transport Costs

Passengers are asked to pay a contribution to the driver for their share of car expenses. Each passenger should expect to contribute 10-15 cents per km. Large cars and 4WDs cost more to run than small cars. If there are 3 or more passengers then 10c/km is a reasonable contribution. If you are unhappy with the contribution amount, you are free to take your own vehicle.

Activity Gradings

Distances	S	Short	Under 10 km per day
	M	Medium	10 to 15 km per day
	L	Long	15 to 20 km per day
	X	Extra Long	Over 20 km per day

Example – **SDW-3B**
Short Day Walk (**SDW**)
Graded track with obstacles (**3**)
Easy (**B**)

Activity Type

Abbreviations for some common activities are: **DW** (Day Walk), **BC** (Base Camp), **S&T** (Safety & Training), **TW** (Through Walk), **SOC** (Social).

For a full list of Activity Type abbreviations, refer to: "What We Do / Activity Types" on the BBW website.

Terrain Gradings 1 to 9

- 1 Path with smooth surface and low gradient
- 2 Well-formed path or graded track with some minor obstacles
- 3 Graded track, with obstacles such as rock or root intrusions, fallen debris, or creek crossings
- 4 Rough, unformed track or open terrain, with obstacles such as rock or root intrusions, fallen debris, or creek crossings
- 5 Rough or rocky terrain that may require use of hands, and/or creek rock hopping that requires small to moderate steps. Fallen debris possible
- 6 Steep, rough or rocky terrain requiring use of hands, and/or creek rock hopping requiring moderate to large steps or jumps. Fallen debris possible
- 7 Climb or descend steep rock, using hand or foot holds. May be some exposure. Good upper body strength required
- 8 Climb or descend near vertical rock with exposure, using widely spaced or small hand or foot holds. Climbing skills may be required. Good upper body strength required
- 9 Sustained climbing or descent of vertical or near vertical rock with exposure, using widely spaced or small hand or foot holds. Advanced climbing skills may be required. Good upper body strength required

Fitness & Endurance Gradings A to E (Note: Walking times do not include breaks.)

- A** Basic - Generally suitable for new bushwalkers. About four hours of walking and possibly minor hills. Slower pace with frequent breaks.
- B** Easy - About five hours of walking and about 300m of elevation gain/loss per day.
- C** Moderate - About six hours of walking and about 600m of elevation gain/loss per day. Agility required.
- D** Hard - Good fitness, endurance and agility required. About seven hours of walking and about 800m of elevation gain/loss per day.
- E** Very Hard - High fitness, endurance and agility required. About eight hours of walking and about 1000m of elevation gain/loss per day.
- F** Extreme - Very high fitness, endurance and agility required. About twelve hours of walking and greater than 1000m of elevation gain/loss per day.

Then

Meetings Suspended Indefinitely

Based on updated Government advice the Brisbane Bushwalkers Club Committee has agreed to cancel all meetings until further notice.

March 2020

Bushwalking and Novel coronavirus – Advice #3 – 24 March 2020

All Brisbane Bushwalkers Club Inc members,

The Management Committee has decided that all activities from today 24 March 2020 forthwith will be suspended. We have taken this decision based on Federal and State Government Regulations and advice.

The Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation is constantly changing so please carefully and regularly read and abide by these State and Federal Government advisory notices:

- *Novel coronavirus (2019-nCov), Qld Government*
- *Coronavirus (COVID-19), Australian Government*

The Management Committee will monitor the situation and I will advise on progress.

I will send a separate message to our leaders today.

Arrangements for return of equipment to be made through the Equipment Officer, please email equipment@brisbanebushwalkers.org.au

On behalf of the Brisbane Bushwalkers Club Inc. Management Committee

Stephen Simpson

President

Brisbane Bushwalkers Club Inc.

And now

President's Message - 6/7/2020

Well, what an unusual couple of months it has been for our Club. COVID19 certainly closed our functions down with no activities for several weeks, a slow transition back to walking again and getting back on track. The number of activities is certainly ramping up and we will encourage Leaders to keep adding more to the calendar. There are still quite a few necessary restrictions in place to ensure safe and effective management of the situation. Social Distancing, hygiene, attendance tracking and no car pooling will continue into the future until further advised by the Health Authorities. As Leaders and Members of our Club we all need to get back to filling the activities calendar and participating.

The Club Management Committee is working closely (not too close) together in the background to ensure we apply the restrictions where necessary, then a planned easing to reflect Health Authority requirements. I thank the volunteer Committee members for their keenness and diligence during this time by commencing online meetings and reviewing some of our practices. The structure of our general meetings in the Memorial Hall will change to encourage quality presentations, skill sharing and general Club business and a communique is being prepared. We intend to commence these meetings later in July or early August.

Extension of probationary periods for new members is in place. There is also a requirement for new members to attend a New Member Induction (NMI) as a first activity and this requires Leaders to step up and assist with these activities. A grading subcommittee has been formed to review certain walks where grading questions have been raised by Leaders. Training will be on the calendar soon as we liaise with the providers on dates and availability. Our Photographic Competition will be announced shortly with some rule changes and great prizes for each category, so join in and share your photos. There are also some special social events commencing in July to help you join the fun of gatherings, with social distancing and hygiene conditions in place. Please watch the calendar and attend if you can so we can recapture the social and camaraderie aspects we bush walkers enjoy.

It is with a sad heart that I advise of the passing of a long term Club member and Leader, Brian Moore. Our thoughts are with Julie and family at this time.

Thank you to all Members for being safe and patient during this testing period. The Club will continue to provide updates and encourage more activities for you to enjoy in the future. Before we know it, we will be celebrating our 75th year in 2023.

Stephen Simpson

President

Brisbane Bushwalkers Club Inc.

Safety & Training Report

Coronavirus affected Safety & Training in a few ways, some of them unexpected. As the restrictions started to take hold, club activities were modified and eventually cancelled. This stopped injuries occurring, but, rather like the hospital that runs perfectly without patients, it was a hollow achievement. We had to cancel First Aid Courses and Leader Training.

The instructions from State and Federal government were dynamic and, unsurprisingly, did not address all the specific challenges of a bushwalking club. We had to interpret them with care and instruct our leaders - who showed great patience and diligence. It's not over yet: interstate restrictions are a daily news subject and the restrictions on car pooling remain in place as the State Government is silent on the subject.

Walks and other activities are on-stream again. New Leader training is scheduled for October and we're negotiating for First Aid Training for August and beyond. I urge you to observe all the normal safety procedures and follow the Covid19 instructions. Stay safe, have fun, and I'll see you round the ridges.

Nick Brooking
Safety & Training Secretary

Equipment Report

The last 6 months have not involved very much activity for the Equipment Officers (due to Covid 19, needless to say). Since Club activities have resumed recently, we have been able to assist a few members with hire equipment, as well as enabling those who had previously hired equipment to return it.

Our selection of Tarp tents are starting to show signs of wear, and so we have recently purchased 3 new freestanding Big Agnes tents - 2 singles and a 3-man (suitable for 2 people), as well as 2 Lanshan tents (single and double) and a Dan Durston single tent. We also purchased 2 new Exped insulated sleeping mats.

We are considering purchasing 1 or 2 new through-walking backpacks in the near future.

The Equipment Officers, Steve Cockburn and Jenny Howell, are happy to be able to assist the newer walkers with this great opportunity to hire through-walking equipment for a total cost of \$10 when they are doing a Club walk.

Jenny Howell
Equipment Officer

A Tale of Equipment Officer Service

As club equipment officers, we want to encourage through-walking for new and experienced walkers by making available the inexpensive hire of good quality club gear. We try to go above and beyond to achieve this and thought of sharing with you a unique story of one example of how we try to do this and support your endeavors to get out there and safely experience the wilderness.

Earlier this year - when we could still do multiday walks - we hired some gear to a member doing the Overland Track in Tasmania. Along the way, this member ran into another group of BBW members who were also doing not only the Overland Track but also doing a series of other big multiday, wilderness walks in Tassie. The members got chatting and the second group shared with the first group that they just had done the Penguin to Cradle Trail prior to the Overland Track and they had blown out one of their own sleeping mats and were worried as they still had 3 weeks of hard walking ahead of them. The members discussed this dilemma and thought that there may be a possible solution if the first group could leave their good club sleeping mat at the end of the Overland track at the second group's planned accommodation at the Derwent Bridge Hotel. Agreeing that this could be a really nice solution, the second group decided to climb Mt Oakleigh and phone the BBW Equipment officers to see if this would be a possible club hire option. A long climb and a quick chat resulted in a rather unique BBW equipment booking and the deal was done.

Now if this was not enough, the next day somehow two more (non-club, poor quality or overused equipment) sleeping mats from the first group, defaulted, and the second group was again worried that their comfort was to be compromised for the weeks ahead. So again the second group climbed another mountain (Mt Ossa at 1617 m) and placed a call to the club equipment officers to discuss their unique and deflated problem. A plan was hatched where the Equipment officers would rush into K2 Base Camp equipment store in Brisbane and purchase two new and better quality, more robust sleeping mats on behalf of these worried BBW member, sleeping mat destroyers.

The plan was then agreed these new mats would then be quickly packed up and hurriedly be couriered to the Derwent Bridge Hotel (trusting in Aust Post - Brisbane to Mid remote Tasmania) in the hope that this equipment would reach this destination in the 4 days transition window time, ready for the second group to gain enhanced comfort for their remaining legs of their trans-Tassie walk. Well, you guessed it. The postal gods aligned and the parcel arrived in record time and the BBW second group arrived at Derwent Bridge to find their packages of 3 sleeping mats awaiting their pick up. Sounds like a passage from the Goldie Locks fairytale and so they slept happily ever after.

The moral of this story is that the BBW Equipment is there to use by members and we will assist you as much as possible to get out there safely and enjoy the wonders of Through-Walking.

Steve Cockburn
Equipment Officer

Social activity during & post CoVid-19

CoVid restrictions have been a necessary but difficult time for everyone. Like many BBW members, the removal of social interactions left me feeling isolated and stir-crazy, confined to my small unit, missing BBW walks and social outings and with few opportunities to engage with others, apart from the odd Zoom meeting and phone calls to family and friends. Regular walks with the club turned into training walks around my local streets or up at Mt Coot-tha, initially alone but then with a club friend. As the club's social co-ordinator, I was disappointed to have to cancel the May Social Weekend at The Outlook in Boonah.

The easing of restrictions and re-opening of club activities has been welcomed by us all and it is time to get social again! Dinners are appearing on the Club calendar, including those on offer as part of base camps in July, August, September, October & November. Check them out on the website and email leaders to enquire about attending.

The Pilgrimage is also coming up in August - this is a great opportunity to meet and walk with hikers from other Queensland clubs with a social get together usually offered on the Saturday night. Details are yet to be confirmed by the hosting club, but you can go ahead and nominate to be part of a great weekend away. The Grandparents Weekend at the Mt Glorious Barracks returns in July and November. And the Arts Bushwalking Base Camp in September provides a relaxing, creative experience to appreciate nature, practice yoga and socialise.

The two main committee-led social activities for 2020 include the Mt Barney base camp in August, held at the Bigriggen campground. A variety of different level walks will be organised and will appear on the website later in July. Once Stage 3 Easing Of Restrictions for CoVid is announced by the government, I hope to confirm booking of the Bigriggen Hall with an organised dinner on the Saturday evening where attendees are asked to make a food contribution. We may also have a fun activity on the night. Details will be added to the activity page soon and attendees will be emailed with all the information.

The other major social activity is the BBW Xmas Party in December, once again at Spring Gully Stays campground beside Canungra Creek in Sarabah, at the base of the Green Mountains (O'Reillys). Nominations are not open at this stage, but I will be putting details up soon and opening nominations. Last year was a lot of fun, with a dip in the creek after our walk and a band to entertain us after a magnificent dinner catered by the wonderful David Sydes, Anne Kemp, and their band of helpers.

A big thank you to all the BBW volunteers, including our leaders who continue to put up walks and activities. Without your dedicated efforts, this wonderful bushwalking club would not exist.

Libby Andersen

Social Co-Ordinator

Date	Activity	Notes
July 17-19	Mt Glorious Barracks (Grandparent's weekend)	(20) 8 adults + children – contact Ray & Dawn Glancy
July 24	Nepalese Dinner night at the Himalayan, New Farm	Full (12) with only 1 reserve – contact Bernie Ryan
August 7-9	Mt Barney Base Camp	(50) 32 accepted so far
August 21-23	The Pilgrimage	(50) 16 accepted – ON HOLD waiting on advice from hosts, Toowoomba Bushwalking Club
November 13-15	Mt Glorious Barracks (Grandparent's weekend)	Full (25) 13 adults + children – contact Ray & Dawn Glancy
December 11-13	BBW Christmas Party	(80) Information to come



BRISBANE BUSHWALKERS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2020

Closing Date – 23th September 2020

Presentation Ceremony – 14th October 2020 - Club Meeting

I am pleased to announce we have a number of exciting prizes for the 2020 Photo Completion.

- Park Trek Walking Holidays donated 1 place on a Tree Capes and Tasman Peninsula Hike
- Auswalk donated \$500 voucher
- Tek Tours donated \$500.00 voucher
- Tasmanian Walking Company, K2 and Bunnings have also made donations

We are looking for more donations of vouchers or goods so, if you wish to donate or can approach a company please contact Barbara Ferries 0487299612.

Categories

Smartphone Camera	Photos taken on a smartphone. Post processing allowed, but only using the phone software
Point & Shoot Camera	Photos taken using a point & shoot camera, mirrorless or other dedicated camera. Minimal post processing allowed (cropping, sharpening, brightness / contrast, colour balance etc.)
Artistic	Photos taken using any device. Extensive post processing allowed. Turn your photo into a work of art

Sub – Categories

Scenery & Landscape	Photographs in any natural scene which may be a seascape, mountain vista, bush scene or scene you deem to be landscape
Wildlife & Plants	Photographs may include any native wildlife, including any macro of fungi, flora or abstract you deem to be macro along the way
Action Adventure	Photographs may be bushwalking, abseiling, kayaking, cycling, and base camping
Capture of Natural Light	Photographs can include outdoor scenery with natural light
Overseas Hiking	Hiking, camping or glamping overseas. Includes non-club activities

Conditions

To enter you must be an active club member.

Photos you submit must be taken from any of the Brisbane Bushwalkers Club's sanctioned activities, excluding the overseas hiking, since the previous year's presentation of Oct. 23, 2019.

Winners selected for each sub category will be as follows: **Smartphone Camera:** 1st Prize, 2nd Prize and Highly Commended; **Point & Shoot Camera:** 1st Prize, 2nd Prize and Highly Commended; **Artistic:** 1st Prize, 2nd Prize and Highly Commended. Grand Champions will be selected for each sub-category winners. Note: photos submitted in the overseas hiking category from

walks not sanctioned by the club will be excluded from the Grand Champion prize.

Permission is granted for Brisbane Bushwalkers Club Inc. to reproduce entry photographs online, in print and via projector/screen display with the express purpose of presenting and publishing competition results.

Permission is granted for images to be shared with sponsors for publishing on their websites if requested. Photos will reference the competition and photographer.

Notice will be send out for the date of submission and instructions thereto. Any questions may be addressed to Barbara Ferries photographic@brisbanebushwalkers.org.

How to enter

1. A maximum of 10 entries per financial member must be submitted to the Photographic Officer by the 23th September 2020
Dropbox: send shared link to **DROP BOX to be announced.**
2. Please submit files as JPEGs. All entries must be named in the following format without spaces
- MainCategory_SubCategory_NameSurname_ImageTitle_EntryNumber.jpg
- e.g. SmartPhone_Scenery_JohnSmith_ChristmasinJuly_01.jpg
- e.g. PointShoot_Action_JohnSmith_MtCootha_01.jpg
- e.g. Artistic_Overseas_JohnSmith_Light_02.jpg
3. Please submit an electronic file with brief description of where you were and what you want your photo to convey should you win.
4. Image pixilation should not be more than 1920 pixels on the longest dimension with images being approximately 1 to 3 megabytes in size.

Barbara Ferries
Photographic Officer

Vale Brian Moore

It was sad, but not unexpected, to learn of Brian's passing on 1st July. He had been afflicted with Pulmonary Fibrosis and endured a prolonged decline.

Brian Moore joined BBW in April 1981. Club records show he was an active member who contributed to the workings of the Club and served on the Club Committee for many years. From 1988 he was: Social Secretary, Outings Secretary (2 years), Treasurer, Vice-President (2 years) as well as many years as BBW's Federation Rep.

I joined BBW in 1996 and had the enjoyment of going on quite a few walks with Brian (and Julie). He was keen to share his bushwalking experience with others so that the "classic" walks would be kept on the Club program by the next generation of members. One walk that I did with Brian was Mt Cordeaux to Mt Castle (along the eastern escarpment of the Main Range). It was unusual in that our first attempt was a failure – we packed up our tents in the cloud on Saturday morning after a night in the rain. The 2nd attempt was foiled by a massive storm that flooded parts of Ipswich Road. The 3rd attempt was a success and - thanks to Brian's persistence - I have memories of a magnificent walk in that part of the country.

Brian and Julie (nee Abbott) married at Moreton Island in what was (I believe) a very BBW experience. There is a poem written about the event in the Nov/Dec 1994 edition of the BBW magazine. There was a wedding ceremony, lots of walking in the hot sun, dancing, celebrations - and possibly a goat that attempted to eat the groom's shirt. This was before I had joined BBW, but I was invited to Moreton Island for their 20th Wedding Anniversary celebration in Nov 2014. Along with lots of other BBW friends, it was a memorable weekend of camaraderie.

And, how could I not mention his humorous side. One picture that captures this was taken at the "Melbourne Cup Lunch" of 2010. The BBW Melbourne Cup Lunch is a unique event that combines a bushwalk with an excuse to dress-up in a completely incongruous location. So, at the top of Mt Warning, everyone dresses for lunch and takes food and wine from their packs to celebrate the absurdity of it all. We won't forget you, Brian.

Eugene Hedemann



Brian (4th from left) did not always dress like this

Trip Report: Larapinta Falls and Swim

(Leader: Sven Nilsson - Day Walk MDW-6C, Mar 2020)

Posted by Rodney Stuart, Mar 2020

This trip to Larapinta falls via Westray's grave is a fun walk, though strenuous if it's been raining, about 5-6 hours return of walking, rock-hopping and a small amount of easy scrambling. There are several nice cascades along the creek and the falls at the end are simply breathtaking, about 50 metres high, though from the base, they look like a hundred. The falls are surrounded by a huge green amphitheatre, the walls covered in ferns and lilies. There is a good waterhole, where you can swim under the cascade.

We met at a carpark in Carindale. From there you just follow Mt Lindesay highway south thru Beaudesert towards Rathdowney. At Laravale you turn left onto Christmas Creek Road and basically follow it to the very end at a closed gate, just after a concrete causeway. There's parking under the trees for about 10 cars. The end of the road becomes narrow and unsealed so a high clearance car is preferable though not essential. The drive took about 1h 20 min

The walk starts at the carpark. Go thru the gate (closing it behind you as its private property). Follow the path to the creek, cross it near the fallen tree then keep the creek mostly on your left to Westray's grave, about 1.5 hours. You'll cross a couple of small tributaries and maybe rock hop the creek sometimes. We had a break at the gravesite.

From there, the path heads towards the falls, following the creek. A couple of hundred meters from the grave is a small metal sign on a tree marking the start of the route to the Stinson wreck. But don't follow that; just continue on, following the creek. You'll spend a lot of time rock hopping the creek or on either side of it. The banks were muddy and steep but sometime preferable to climbing large boulders the size of cars. There's no right or wrong, just trust your judgement. On our trip, there had been a lot of rain so water levels were high and we got quite wet and took a lot of tumbles off slippery rocks. Sometimes it was just easier to wade thru rather than risk a slip. Levels were rarely more than knee deep. We had lunch at the falls, and a nice swim. It took about 1h 45 minutes.

My cheap BigW hiking shoes parted with the sole on one shoe, on the way to the falls. I guess the glue dissolved, though they were about 2 years old and the soles worn flat. A repair with duct tape and string enabled them to last to the falls and back to the car. Though they were slippery on the rocks. First time in over 10 years of bushwalking I've needed the duct tape.

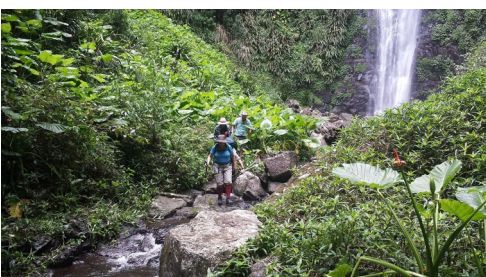
Some nature highlights of the trip were a 1 metre carpet python sunning itself on a rock, a large freshwater crayfish on the path and many Gympie-Gympie Stinging Trees. No leaches this trip though I've heard they're common.

The return trip to the cars in the afternoon was hot and humid, but downhill so quicker, about 2h 15 minutes. With lower water levels it would be faster.

Then it was coffee and ice creams at Maccas Beaudesert ; not very atmospheric but some of the party weren't keen on the cafes in town.



Good old Duct tape



Larapinta Falls pool



Trip Report: The Power of Water - Warrie Circuit 15-02-2020

Posted by Marion Archbald, Feb 2020

"Warrie" means "rushing waters" in Aboriginal Language. Well it sure lived up to its name today! We soon discovered the water falls were bigger and more powerful than usual and walking past them included a good amount of spray. Crossing creeks was also trickier. The concrete bridge-track below Goomoolahra Falls was 5cm under water, like a spill way.

Ngarri-Dhum Falls usually is a lovely spot for morning tea. Well not today! You round the corner carefully, forewarned by the roaring sound, and the spray and breeze hit you simultaneously. You are instantly landed in a storm! The usual "track", which was actually never much more than a series of rocks to step over, was kind of partly disappeared under rushing water. All the rocks were, of course, thoroughly wet and not much of their surface is actually horizontal. Trying to ignore the mixture of wind and water hitting your face, you're searching for the easiest way across. This waterfall on the left is not just beautiful and relaxing. No it's beautiful and fierce, a force to be reckoned with! That's on your left and you have no desire to get closer to it. On your right is the wind, laden with the spray. Straight ahead is supposed to be the track! Who called this a grade 3 walk? It isn't today! I'm hard pushed to find something akin to a grade 5, for the walkers behind me to follow. They actually have to find most of it themselves, for this is no place to linger, stop or wait for anyone. You just have to keep going till you get out of the wind and spray. Only then can you turn back. They are coping remarkably well. Luckily I have only 7 walkers and they are all reasonably experienced.

When we re-gather on a comparatively spray free spot - a mere sprinkle rain - their faces are excited! They are excited and triumphant, having faced both danger and fear. Yes you can slip, get wet, hurt yourself - anywhere and everywhere on that stretch of so called "track". But we all made it! It's an adventure! It did make it into a one way track. Nobody felt like doing it again. So we move on to the next encounters with the "Rushing Waters". Today, at several spots, even roaring waters!

On the next creek to cross (coming from Ngarri-Dhum), I carefully make my way on the rocks beside the creek, stepping on the last safe rock. Is this really the best crossing spot? I look around for the fourth time. Well I suppose it is. Balancing carefully, I swing my pack off and around to remove my folded walking poles from the side. The jump to the next rock is too big, I'm going to have to put my right foot into the swift flowing water and I want my poles to balance and help me get onto that next rock. Okay then, one wet foot, but safely across.

At the next morning tea spot I had in mind, Mundora Creek crossing (coming from Goomoolahra Falls and Ngarri Dhum), all the rocks we sat on last time, are either under water or soaked with spray. Usually you just walk across - even last time when we walked in continuous rain. Well not today! Two of my walkers found a high rock for morning tea. Several others decided to cross the creek higher up, not liking the drop down - into roaring water - right next to the "normal" crossing. That does seem safer, but it also has deeper water and an awkward scramble on the other bank to get back to the track. As I stood deliberating, another walker came up and crossed right in front of me. He just stepped on that rock 4 inches under water, then into water more than a foot deep with strong current and just kept going across. Seeing it done always gives me courage. So off I went - yes, both feet totally wet, but getting across.

On the other side three lady walkers were sitting on a large rock, removing their boots, draining the water, wringing out socks, leaving bare feet. I joined them and got out morning tea. A gentleman joined us too. They asked if this was the last major crossing. "I think so", I replied "it usually is, but today no guarantee on anything." So they put their dry socks on and had morning tea as well. We could clearly see the other two sitting on the rock back on the opposite site, just a few metres (6 or 8) away. First the lady went across with both her walking poles - she had lent one of them to her husband on previous crossings. He got two poles out of his pack and walked further up the creek like the others had done, but he took his boots off. Everyone else was now ready to go, but I clearly realized we couldn't leave until he was with us. So we waited. He put his boots back on and scrambled over rocks and vines. He apologized for holding us up, but I gave him a high-five for making it across safely!

The Meeting of the waters is next. Here the roaring Little Nerang Creek East, full of white water meets Mundora Creek. There were other walkers having something to eat. Admittedly, high up on the rocks above the roaring creeks, it was dry and sunny. Definitely the best spot for a break on this 17 km circuit today. The pebble beach where I had often sat to eat, was under water and there certainly was no easy way to cross Mundora Creek here. The amount of water was impressive. No wonder Little Nerang Dam is overflowing. Then there were only 7km left, but all of them up, because the meeting of the waters is the lowest point.

Gooroolba Falls was impressive and the water hole where we had planned to swim originally was rather wild and white with the falls hitting it. There was another creek to cross - Boy-uil Creek coming from Twin Falls and Rainbow Falls - on its way to join Little Nerang Creek. I watched two other walkers straddling a big tree fallen across the creek that had already lost its bark. They were making their way across slowly - sitting - with a leg either side of the log. The usual crossing was no good. No surprise today. Looking and assessing possible routes, I soon realized that was indeed the safest (and definitely the driest) way across. So that's what we did.

The idea of a possible early lunch at Poolahyah Falls was soon dismissed when we came closer. The Falls were spectacular, but anywhere you could stand to look at it, you got wet - so no sitting down eating. Up at Blackfellow Falls, we decided on the shortest way back past Twin Falls. The water spilled over the usual concrete track and we decided to walk behind the falls. We got splashed, but they were spectacular - roaring with the volume of water coming down.

We had lunch at a picnic table at Tallanbana, before going to the cafe for a coffee or drink. We certainly had a very adventurous and memorable walk! Today, I would mark this walk as 5C !

Trip Report: Corona On Coolum

Mt Ninderry and Mt Coolum Day-Walk, 30/5/20, Leader: Greg Kuss

Posted by Greg Kuss, May 2020

Would it go ahead or wouldn't it? Would it go ahead or wouldn't it? Would it go ahead or wouldn't it? The Ninderry Coolum walk. Had it on before the Corona Virus Crisis with 18 names. Word came through we were allowed to go and, on the day, ended up with 8 people. Could we car pool or couldn't we? Could we car pool or couldn't we? Four square meter rule! Unless you had a Ford 350, you couldn't take more than one person from another household. I ended up travelling with Irina. Tunnels at 5:30am. An hour and 15 later we were at Ninderry.

The night before I checked people's walk histories. I had Maureen Chandler who had done 10 through walks and base camps with me, totalling 30 nights on camp with me. Graham White had done 5 through walks with me, totalling 20 nights camping with me. Some big names on this day trip!

The group had assembled at Ninderry picnic area. All except Ken and Mary. An older couple resembling Ken and Mary pulled up. Maureen greeted them, "Hello Ken and Mary, welcome!" "Hello, Ken and Mary." KEN! AND MARY! The couple walked past, it wasn't Ken and Mary.

8.8k day walk. 2 small peaks in the Yandina Coolum area. 1.5 hour up and down with a smoko break on top of each one. Dogs were on the agenda on Ninderry, every local brought their wolf dog up with them. Views to Coolum from the eastern viewing platform (of what was to come). Views to the Blackall Range from the western viewing platform (reminiscing about Sunshine hinterland great walks).

20-minute drive later we were at Coolum. Family fun day out for all! The grand highway! Social distancing? Never seen so many pre-schoolers on Coolum! Tried to ignore them!

Graham White, a great story teller, told the tale of when he was a horticulture lecturer at Grovely Tafe, one of his fellow educators climbed Coolum and took a heart attack. They found him with a burnt-out cigarette between his fingers on the peak. When they shook him he fell over stone cold.

The views. The lunch. We were totally fulfilled. Staring into the abyss till we could stare no more. To the ocean panorama. Homeward bound. Several drivers independently decided to have a take away coffee from Stella Rosa Coolum. They sipped their coffee demurely viewing the ocean front from Coolum park, ending a great morning.

Great run back in Irina's Honda with cruise control set to 110. I was sipping a cold pure blonde after a hot shower by 3.



One down (Ninderry) one to go (Coolum)
- by Ken Staib



The Climb



Ninderry West



Pretty girls social distancing (by Greg Kuss)



Ninderry East

Trip Report: King Of The Mountain

Mt Cooroora and Mt Tinbeerwah Day-Walk, 27/6/20, Leader: Greg Kuss

Posted by Greg Kuss, June 2020

Cooroora, Tinbeerwah, Noosaville Café. Saturday out. Surveyed in March and put on the BBW calendar before Corona. Went ahead as planned. The whole day was timed, departing Brisbane 6:30, climb the 2 peaks, travel and a table booked at a Noosaville cafe for 12:30, back in Brisbane by 4:00. The first peak Cooroora in Tuchekei N.P 439m allowing 2 hours. The second Tinbeerwah in Tewantin N.P 265m allowing half an hour.

Two weeks before the trip, Lucy and Andy rang me. "Is the walk still on; we are keen!" Yes Lucy and Andy the walk is definitely still on. Even though 2 emails (with too much information) were sent to the group in the 2 weeks leading up to the walk. Ryan rang me the night before wondering where the meeting place was.

It was a world record, no drop outs the week before the walk. Yeehoo! On the morning of the walk, when we were all grouped at the Cooroora Park car park. No Staz! No answer on Staz phone! No show! Particularly disconcerting as I had a nominee on reserve contact me definitively wanting to go, who I turned down, and I had a table of 10 booked at the Noosaville Café, and they were only allowed a total of 20 patrons by law.

Off we go up the mountain. The walk proper. A couple hundred meters later. Where was Lucy? No, she wasn't tying her shoe lace, she was just slow. Just slow. At the start of the actual climb, she was not up to the walk, less than half the way up, and had to wait with Andy in that spot till our return.

I had done this mountain a few times years ago, but it was a lot harder than I remember. Lots of rock and chain. Rock and chain. Definitely the clubs recommended 5B grading, I would say 5C. Sweating and puffing. Only thing in my favour was I got caught in a group of some northern Sunshine Coast girls in Lorna Jane walking tights and sports bras on the way up the rock and chain bit. Once at the top, 2 teens arrived checking their sports watches. "35 minutes they exclaimed!" Graham White, our oldest walker at 70, and fittest, did it in 45 minutes. The up and back record for the King of the Mountain race is 22mins 43s. At the end of the day my fitbit said 9k and 128 floors.

At the top with Graham White. We all cooled off looking at 360o views. On the way back down we picked up Lucy and Andy, and even with our setbacks, made it back to the cars in the allowable 2 hours for this section of the adventure.

We convoyed down the road to Tinbeerwah. A paved 10-minute track to the fire tower. (Just for Lucy). Fantastic views of Cooroora, Lake Cootharaba and future August Cooloola Great walks some of us are on. Plus the view to our Noosa River lunch spot.

After our change of clothes at Tinbeerwah. A well-dressed lady was walking towards us gesturing in Thomas Street. It was Lucy who had the perfect car park on the corner the first day of the school holidays. (Just for Lucy). The original Noosa Yacht and Rowing club venue overlooking the river wasn't opening till stage 3. So I had to make an alternative booking at Flux share plate café.

Flux share plate café we sat at 12:25. (Just for Lucy). Hayshed W.A. Chardonnay was the flavour of the day, going down well all round. Loved it. Boutique on tap beers. Plates were Wild mushroom and duck Fettucine, Tempura snapper soft shell tacos, and Pulled pork sliders.

Bit of a slower drive back on this one with Graham White driving. And I had a headache from the cardio/ elevation gain. So was only drinking cold pure blondes after a hot shower at my place by 5.

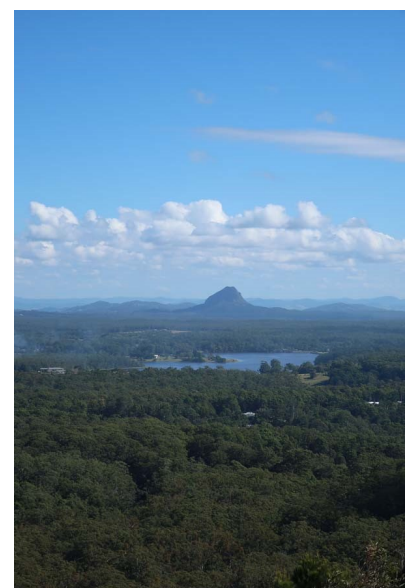
In 2002 when I first joined the club, Ha Do a Vietnamese research scientist and I made friends and regularly did Mt Barney. On a discussion about me doing a private walk of Cooroora he related the "King of the Mountain" race, and he was dubbed King of Barney. Today I truly was KING OF THE MOUNTAIN.



Graham to the top. (by Greg Kuss)



Our Noosa River lunch spot (by Greg Kuss)



View of Cooroora (by Greg Kuss)

Trip Report: Running Creek North Branch, aka Stretcher Track

Posted by Chris Hall, July 2020

Pre-Trip

This is a great creek walk, coupled with higher elevation walking in the Southern Lamington Palteau, pristine forest and world heritage environment. Survey walks have been made over the past 5 years to finally identify the best access, camp site and water sources for such a walk in the upper catchment of the North Branch (NB) of Running Creek. April and August are the cooler and best times for doing the steep ascent to the plateau and Stretcher Track but not too cold to enjoy the waters of NB Running Creek.

From Christmas Creek Rd carpark we will be ascending the Stinson Track and walking along the Stretcher Track to our bush base camp. Day 2 will be with day packs heading downhill to the catchment feeder streams of NB Running Creek. We will rock hop down this impressive creek to the top of Running Creek Falls to enjoy a view of the falls as they tumble down to where hikers see them below on Rimfall trips. Day 3 will include options for exploring the area near camp, or you can relax and explore other creeks near the camp. Day 4 we will return to the cars the same way or complete the Stretcher Track and circuit back to Gap Creek Rd

We will be walking on tracks and also off track in an environment where experience in rock hopping, tree falls and steep ascent with a through pack is a must. This is NOT for first time through walkers but keep it on your radar as we will repeat this walk in coming years. Distances and ascents each day:

Day 1 - 9.4km and 830m ascent with through packs

Day 2 - 15km and 560m ascent with day packs

Day 3 - three day walk options are available (all surveys):

1. Dead Possum Gully circuit - 5km and 220m ascent;
2. Lamington Falls via Waterfall Ck - 7.4km and 435m ascent;
3. Lamington Lookout - 1.6km and 88m ascent.

Day 4 - 10km and 193m ascent/832m descent

Post-Trip Report

We've changed the name of this walk to the Stretcher Track because rain on night 2 and day 3, deemed that we could not do the Running Creek branch walk to the falls. So we exited a day earlier. We also did an emergency camp at Point Lookout on day 1 when we realised that we were not going to reach the Crows Nest camp and get water (unfortunately the daylight hours were very short at this time of year). So here are our stats below for your information.

Day 1 to Point Lookout - 8AM to 2:25PM - 7.3km with 785m ascent;

Day 2 to Crows Nest - 8:35AM to 11:15AM - 3.8km with 55m ascent (245m descent);

Day 2 Explore to Waterfall Creek - 12:55PM to 2:10PM - 1.3km with 100m up and down;

Day 2 Water collection - 2:25PM to 3PM - .75km with 35m up and down;

Day 3 to Gap Creek Rd - 8:45AM to 3:35AM - 10km and 205m ascent and 845m descent.

We managed to clear a bit more of the Stretcher Track during the walk but it is still recommended for highly experienced walkers only. The water source was a little reduced this time but still enough for our large group. we had 7 tents across the 10 people and managed to find space at both Point Lookout and the Crows Nest sites.

GPX Trace (from BBW web page): Running Creek North Branch - Catchment and Falls - Lamington NP

Note: Experience in bush navigation necessary in this area.

