

The

BRISBANE BUSHWALKER

Jul-Sep 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

Mt Barney via Logans Ridge, Aug 2020

Photo: Mandy Glacken

CLUB OFFICIALS

Committee Members for 2019/2020

President Stephen Simpson
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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.

BLISTERS BUSTED on the TASSIE TRACKS

Shannon Bratton, Jul 2020

Training started well before for the planned six-week adventure with Chris (Hall) and Ray (Glancy) to embark on the Tasmania North to South, Penguin to Cradle. My pack fitness wasn't great as a pulled calf muscle limited the weight I carried for training walks. However, the week before our flights, I kitted-out with full pack only to end up with a BLISTER within an hour of walking! This was worse than the calf strain. That's when I discovered podiatrist Rebecca Ruston: <https://www.blisterprevention.com.au/>



The good old days- What not to do- Shannon puts a needle through Chris's blister

Matt, a podiatrist in the making (from K2 Valley store, who can perfectly fit your boots) had already recommended 'Engo' patches and I was on to them: <https://www.blisterprevention.com.au/collections/all>

Rebecca was amazing with her support and help. She responded immediately and often with many emails. I absorbed all the free information and tips on her websites before completing the Fix My Foot Blisters FAST course. The cost of this course is well worth the money and I recommend it to anyone who is ever had a blister or hot spot: <https://courses.blisterprevention.com.au/courses/fix-my-foot-blisters-fast>

There is so much to learn and so many myths about callouses, hot spots, blisters, blood blisters and how to treat them. There are endless opinions about powders, taping, socks, laces, boots and preventative measures among us. The tips and myth-busters on these sites are invaluable. Everything is explained from how blisters are formed and the various stages of them, to how to treat each type and the best products to use. Lots of free info on the Blister Prevention website.

The site contains a shop, which I have found prices comparable with my local chemist. Rebecca has invited our members to leave a note saying they are from the Brisbane Bushwalkers and she'll gauge interest over the coming months and consider a discount code for our club. Visit the [Blister Prevention Shop](#).

Rebecca Rushton, BSc(Pod), Podiatrist, Esperance Podiatry | BlisterPod is available to our members by email support@blisterpod.com or every Thursday 8am on [The Blister Hour on Facebook](#) for a quick question.

This may all sound like a sales push, but I just want to share a great resource I've come across that will benefit other bush walkers.

During our treks in Tasmania, (see Chris's trip report for the full story) I met quite a few hikers who were suffering from blisters. I was glad we carried an extensive first aid kit and was able to give support, advise and much appreciated relief to them while Ray - aka Doctor Tread was able to fix their boots and Chris - aka NavMan was able to show them the way.

The dreaded Port Davey Track was endured with six days of mud, sludge, rain and misery. Dry socks were out of the question and conditions took its toll ending up with completely macerated, soggy feet shrivelled like prunes. The seams on Ray's new socks rubbed the top of his toes raw creating blood blisters. Chris's heel pads wore out, wool padding inside Shannon's heels compressed to felt. The lessons we learnt were NOT to 'carry on' but to STOP and fix the problems (after all, we had all the knowledge and first aid supplies) as soon as they became apparent.

Before Tasmania, I put the small oval Engo patches on the insoles under my big toes where I was prone to hot spots. After 6 weeks hiking in those conditions and still wearing them 3 months later, I never got a hot spot or blister there. Unfortunately, I could not get the larger Engo heel patches in time to start this trek, so made do with other products to prevent blisters. (I've just ordered them and am waiting for delivery.)

Caring for your feet is the most significant thing you can do to enjoy bush walking as much as we do. Hope you get as much out of blister prevention research as I did. Be calm and Keep Walking.



Happy Feet



Chris pouring water out of boots



Terrain tests Shannon's boots



Ray showing the wet track conditions

Trip Report: Bartle Frere Traverse

(Mt. Bartle Frere & Nth QLD Expedition, July 2020)

Posted by Steven Ponsonby, August 2020

Team: Steven Ponsonby (Leader), Dwan Moore, Tania Withington & Stephan Bohnen

Early on Sunday morning on 12 July 2020 around 7 am, after being transported to the start of the track at Josephine Falls by Mark in the team minibus, 4 intrepid walkers set off at daybreak to conquer Bartle Frere and undertake the full traverse of the mountain range climbing up the Eastern face and descending the Western Route. It was a wet and cold start. We made our way up the range through some magnificent rainforest towards the campsite at Big Rock camp. After collecting enough water to cover us until we reached the Western Camp, we continued climbing up the ever increasing steep ridges towards Eastern Camp.

The intensity and perseverance of the leaches was incredible. I have seen a larger quantum of leaches in Tasmania, but never have I seen such perseverance. We all ended up with them all over us. They were small in size, but large in number and difficult to see. Some were even seen launching themselves out of the trees above us.

One intrepid member (Dwan) ended up with 2 leaches in his eye, which brings me to what did the first leech say to Dwan: "I'm keeping an eye on you" and what did the second leech say: "I'm eyeballing you".

We arrived in the rain and mist at Eastern Camp around 15:30 to find one very rat friendly emergency hut and one tent spot just larger enough for Tania and Dwan to pitch their one person tents on, although I note that Dwan was pitched very close to the edge. There is a camping pad, however it is made of corrugated aluminium and frankly didn't look very appealing to pitch a tent on. I managed to find a "flattish" piece of real estate about one hundred metres further along the track up the mountain.

After a communal tea in the hut, we all retired to our respective "palaces". A very long, wet and misty night followed with many an intelligent conversation had with myself.

We awoke in the morning to a whiteout and a bit of light drizzle and Dwan with a leech down his throat.



We headed off around 7 am to conquer the summit. Whilst the rain had stopped, the mountain was shrouded in mist, which really added to the mystery of the mountain. Upon entering the boulder field, the rain commenced again, making the traverse slow, slippery and hazardous. Leaving the boulder field, we re-entered the forest and proceeded up a ridge towards the summit. As we approached the final ridge, as if on cue, the rain stopped and as we looked back the mist started lifting and we were treated to absolutely incredible views of the surrounding mountain ranges, hills and even down into the valleys and farmland below. Our prayers to the weather gods had been answered.

As the mist rolled away, we could see the incredible granite boulders and forest around us. The scenery up there is breathtakingly spectacular. We stood on the summit of Qld as the blue skies kept rolling in. Despite what some people have reported, you do get some pretty amazing views from the summit of Bartle Frere.

After a brief morning tea break and photo stop, we commenced our decent down to Western Camp. Western Camp is a beautiful sheltered campsite with a good creek.

We continued our decent, climbing over North West Peak and then following the long fairly steep ridge down through some beautiful rain forest and rock formations. At one point, I discovered that I had been entertaining a leech up my nose, which to say the least was a bit

unpleasant. Leech dispatched, we continued our descent with a short side trip to Bobbin Bobbin Falls and then arriving at Junction Camp around 16:30.

I have to say that this was a fantastic walk through some absolutely magnificent terrain. Climbing Bartle Frere is something that I have always wanted to do, and I thank Dwan, Tania and Stephan for putting up with me and joining me on this little sojourn.



The rain stops and the cloud starts to lift



On top of Qld

Trip Report: Flowers in August in Cooloola

Brahminy Walkers Camp, Cooloola Great Walk

Posted by Greg Kuss, Aug 2020

Wildflowers were prolific on our Cooloola National Park through walk in August. The purple native Hardenbergia I have on my trellis at home. The white Star Jasmine look alike. The yellow Sturt desert Pea look alike. The pinks, the whites, the yellows. Oh beautiful. So beautiful. Flowers abounded in August. It kept the girls occupied for hours photographing with their camera phones.

We got out of Brisbane early Friday to beat the traffic, met at the Tewantin ferry, then crossed the Noosa river and checked into Noosa North Shore Retreat. After setting up tents we had a quick happy hour then up to the bar and bistro. We whooped it up at the bar that night as it had to get us through 2 hot dry days.

Once back at camp safely in our tents noisy campers and late arrivals kept us awake. When they finished, the Corellas in the gums above us kept us awake, and not long after they finished the kookaburras started. None of us got much sleep that night and I was up just after 4 having my morning coffee.

A blown street lamp flashed incessantly all night long above our tents. At dawn Cathy stood under the light singing Rhinestone Cowboy by Glen Campbell.

We set off up the Cooloola Great Walk trail at 7am. 40km in 2 days. 20km per day. 20km a day keeps the doctor away eh? First through the "Arthur Harold Nature Reserve". Out onto the beach then meandering up the trail following closely behind the beach. Great beach vistas were had with crystal clear blue waters. From the top of Mt Seawah we had great views all the way to Noosa, over Lake Cootharaba, the blue oceans, down to Noosa River, and Cooroy and Pomona mountains.

Ride the king's highway. Weird scenes inside the goldmine. Ride the highway West baby.

Ride the snake. Ride the snake. To the lake. To the lake.

The ancient lake baby. The snake is long. Seven miles. Ride the snake.

He's old. And his skin is cold. The west is the best.

The weather was perfect. Blue skies. Blue oceans. Afternoon winds. Down to 10°C both nights. Wouldn't have wanted to be any hotter in the afternoons. The last hour into Brahminy camp site became a bit of a drag. As we were tired. It was exposed and a little hot and windy. But we all made it and had 16 hours in camp, 11 hours in our tents, and I had 9 hours sleep.



The Highway West



Mt Seawah

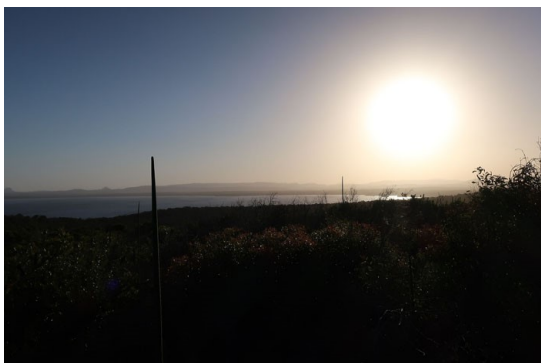
We watched the sunset over Lake Cootharaba.

The quarter moon illuminated the evening sky, and the evening star came alight. Golden sunset over the whole hinterland vista and Lake Cootharaba. Then the myriad of stars lit up the night sky.

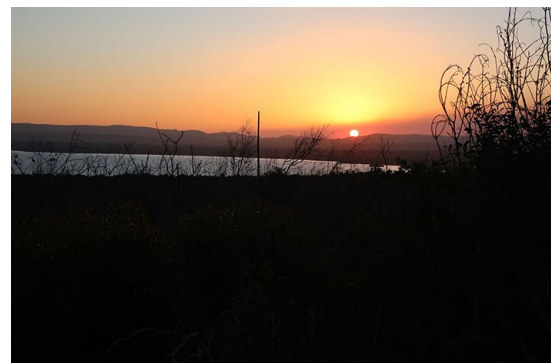
During the night we heard the distant sound of the ocean waves crashing interspersed with the wind rustling the leaves. Brahminy kites "peered" high in the quarter moon lit sky. Looking over the 6 sleepy campers dreaming their city dreams and murmuring in their sleep. I dreamt someone fell on top of my tent and would not get off. I called out in my sleep "Get off! Get off! Get off me!" Rita in the tent beside me heard me and said "Greg, Greg, wake up Greg, you are having a dream!" Yes, the Brahminy eye high in the quarter moon lit sky saw all that night. The Brahminy eye high in the sky saw every quarter moon lit ripple stirred by the midnight breeze on Lake Cootharaba.

Sunday morning we rose at 5am in the dark, had a quick breakfast, packed up our tents and set off at 6:20am. We broke up the 20km hike into 6 units. Every 45 minutes we rested for 15 minutes and were back at the cars by 12. We missed the "Arthur Harold Nature Reserve" track exit off the beach as it wasn't sign posted and took the last 2 km by road instead.

We changed, crossed the ferry and had a late afternoon lunch at Noosa Yacht and Rowing club bistro overlooking the Noosa River, where I had booked. Perfect views from our window seat. Dishes were 12-hour slow cooked lamb, beetroot cured salmon salad, and calamari. The vibrant live act with their jazz influenced tunes really made for a great finish to the adventure as we toasted yet another successful trek. The 5 girls and I. I made it home to Brisbane's south western suburbs by quarter to 5.



Cootharaba Sundown



Cootharaba Sunset

Trip Report: Eagles time and rock climb

(Mount Barney skyline - Eagles Ridge, Sep 2020)

Posted by Andrew Christie, Sep 2020

Pre-Trip (part)

There's ample time for a grand finale taking in Toms Tum, Isolated Peak, Eagle slabs, the nostrils of Leaning Peak, North Peak, and hopefully also the East Peak of magnificent Mt Barney. Followed by a soothing swim at Yellowpinch pool.

This is the direct route over Toms Tum, so there are a few rock climbs, up and down. Not made easier by the 2020 fires which may have destroyed some of the hand holds. All the usual creeks are far below us, all your water must be carried across the tops.

We start before dawn from the Lower Portals carpark and stride swiftly along the plodders track to Barney Creek. From there we turn our heads south, and climb to the famous skyline for breakfast, where the rollercoaster begins. Our lunchboxes will thereafter remain closed until after the unequalled Eagle slabs.

From nearly-there-North we may head down nonchalant-North Ridge, or, if the legs are willing, go the final saddle to enticing-East and down lascivious-Logans. Which would be the full flying Eagle. Seedy -South-East is merely a wild weather option.

Then directly back to Yellowpinch, not Portals, thus avoiding the long and far from fascinating trundle across eucalypt wilderness at the base of the mountain.

Post-Trip Report

We took just under 7hrs to reach East Peak from Lower Portals carpark ie. 6am to 1pm.

Including morning tea on Isolated Peak, a 100m diversion to view Leaning Peak, lunch on North Peak.

Then about 2hrs to descend Logans ridge after another break on East.

The rock climb up the central Tom Tum, from the central gully, can be viewed from the preceding knoll.

If too intimidating, go south around the base. After the usual 30m backtrack along the east side ridge.

The preceding knoll, ridge down, central gully and steep climb up Tom Tum are visible side-on in the details photo.

This part of the walk might be considered a "sustained rock climb" requiring "advanced skills" and therefore grade 9.

Also, there is no real way for the leader to physically assist, and no obvious way to climb down, as there is on Logans for example.



There was an interesting 5kg lump of basalt on top of Isolated Peak, perfectly egg shaped. Not the Barney granite. Looks river-worn, but how?



Eagles Skyline route



The Backsides of TomsTum and Isolated Peak



The Nostrils of Leaning Peak

Brisbane Bushwalkers Club - Committee Reports 2020

President - Stephen Simpson

2020 has certainly been a different year for the Club and we continue to see a welcome easing of COVID restrictions for our Club's activities. There are still some walk locations closed to activities in Queensland and interstate where borders are open. Our Leaders and Outings Secretary are monitoring the situation to ensure we comply.

Our Club meetings commence again on the 14th October with the Photographic Competition and Results night, then the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 26th October. COVID safe conditions will apply at the meeting hall and numbers are limited so you need to nominate to attend.

At the AGM, all Committee positions become vacant and although we have some incumbents keen to continue, there will still be vacancies. Please consider giving back to the Club with your volunteering in one of the roles.

I will complete my 2 year term as President in October and will have a break from the Committee work. It's been a great experience working with other volunteer Committee members to keep the Club running and delivering for our members. I thank all of the team for their hard work in sometimes trying conditions.

2021 will be another interesting year and the Club's continuance depends on your involvement and abiding by our Rules and Regulations to transition past Covid19 towards our 75th anniversary.

Outings - Dan Cirsky

This year has been extremely unusual for all club members including Leaders and committee. Some hard decisions had to be made due to the COVID pandemic.

I wish to thank you all and all leaders who still lead walks with many restrictions that included:

- No Carpooling or car shuffling. Many hikes had to be changed for them to work.
- Covid restriction had to be added to all activities which affected the numbers.
- During the shut down all activities had to be cancelled.
- Leaders leading interstate and north Qld had lot of challenges, that wouldn't normally occur.

We still had a lot of activities and currently with maximum of 10 people all were full.

I have enjoyed working with the committee and Leaders this year, but my handyman work has increased heaps this year after a lean year last year with knee injury.

I wish to thank Nick and Steve that helped me when I was not able to approve activities. I especially wish to thank Nick for taking over the Gradients committee and have come up with great results. This is still evolving, but it's the best guide we have for all members to understand the terrain that they are likely to walk in.

I will not be staying in the committee because of work commitments and a 3-month travelling next year.

Activities

WALK TYPE 2SEP-7OCT 2020	NO. GOING AHEAD	NO. CANCELLED	NO. ON HOLD	REMARKS
BASE CAMPS	1	3		
CYCLE	1	0		
DAY WALKS	40	14		
EASY THROUGH WALKS	0	0		
KAYAK	0	0		
(NMI) INDUCTION TRG	4	0		
NIGHT CYCLE	0	0		
NIGHT WALKS	24	4		ALL TRG WALKS WERE AT NIGHT
ROGAINE	0	0		
SAFETY & TRAINING	1	0		
SURVEY WALKS	5	1		
THROUGH WALKS	4	1		
TRG WALKS	24	4		ALL TRG WALKS WERE AT NIGHT-(SAME AS NIGHT WALKS)
TOTALS	104	27	0	

New Members - Dwan Moore

This term of office commenced with the completion of the Members Handbook (Schedule 05) update and publication with the assistance of the Content Manager.

Induction Training for New Members (Schedule 01) was also extensively updated and through feedback from Leaders a program for training newer leaders in conducting New Member Inductions was developed. With the assistance of the Safety and Training Officer, Nick Brooking and facilitator Linda Campbell, three sessions were conducted with overall positive feedback from participants.

A new schedule, Schedule #19 Prospective Members Introduction, was developed to standardise the welcome talk given to new members when they sign up at club meetings.

Unfortunately, with the abrupt impact of the COVID -19 lockdown and subsequent suspension of club meetings our intake of new members ceased for over five months.

It also became apparent that the suspension of walk activities would prevent probationary members from completing the required number of walks to be eligible to become ordinary members so the committee decided to extend, at no additional cost, all current probationary memberships to the end of November 2020.

During the suspension period the committee reviewed our meeting format and in line with the new structure we saw an opportunity to introduce online membership applications. Potential new members can now join by submitting their application via email and paying direct deposit or attending the 4th BBW meeting each month to sign up and pay in person. Because online new members do not receive the "Welcome talk" it was decided to re-introduce the requirement that new members attend a New Member Induction as their first walk. This new system came into effect at the end of July resulting in 11 online and 9 meeting applications for August and 10 online and 8 meeting applications for September. Out of the 38 new members so far, 35 have attended or have nominated for a NMI walk. Overall, our monthly new member intake is still considerably lower than pre COVID but hopefully as restrictions ease numbers will increase.

This is my final term as New Members Officer and I thank the committee and in particular the Content Manager, Nick brooking, for all their support and assistance during my tenure.

Safety & Training - Nick Brooking

In the period Nov 2019 to 10 Oct 2020 there have been 4 incidents where medical attention has been necessary. None have been life threatening. There were no reports of property damage. Our attention since March 2020 has been focused on compliance with the dynamic Covid19 instructions from State and Federal Governments.

During this period we have conducted the following training:

- Leader Training in Nov/Dec 2019 resulting in nine new leaders.
- Leader Training in Oct 2020 with up to seven new leaders
- 3 x New Member Induction 'Train the Trainer' for Leaders resulting in over 30 leaders instructed in conducting NMI's.
- 3 x 2 day Certified First Aid Training at Nudgee Beach resulting in 35 qualified members.
- 1 x Certified CPR Refresher at Nudgee Beach resulting in 6 qualified members.

Training has been given by leaders to develop Thru-walking and rock hopping skills. No navigation training was conducted this year.

All Training materials are up to date.

I will be standing down after two years as Safety & training Secretary. I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their help and support, particularly during the initial shock and change surrounding Covid19.

Equipment - Steve Cockburn (and Jenny Howell)

This year, Jenny Howell and I have worked cooperatively to manage the Equipment for Club members. I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to Jenny for her invaluable contribution in this role. We have equally shared the responsibilities and tasks in this role which include:

- Meeting attendance
- Equipment bookings, distribution and returns
- Gear stocktakes and updates
- Gear repairs
- Gear purchases

Our goal over the past year has been to increase the access of gear to club members undertaking through walks by reducing the gear hire tariffs and by having good quality gear available to members for them to borrow and try out prior to buying their own equipment. To this end we have continued with the reduced cost of the hire tariff to \$10 for a full set up of tent, pack, stove and sleeping mat. This has been an important move to assist new and experienced members into more through walking.

During the COVID times we have had to exercise a considerable amount of flexibility in gear loans and returns due to meeting reductions / restrictions and this has proven to be useful with great cooperation and communication between members and the equipment officers.

This year we have also purchased several rolls of the scarce and valuable Tyvec material which is used as tent footprints and other bushwalking uses. I want to especially acknowledge the considerable support of Ray Glancy who has volunteered to source and deliver this valuable product. This is available at the club meetings in single (\$5), double (\$10) or triple tent sizes (\$15) for purchase at bargain prices.

This year we also have provided free access to “bushwalking tape” to active leaders for use on club walks. This is a significant investment by the club in safety for all members and I want to acknowledge Lou and Marion Darveniza who have led the “safe use of tape” workshops at leader weekends.

This coming year Jenny Howell will step down from her role and I will take on the support role to a new incoming key Equipment Officer.

I have really enjoyed undertaking this role in the club and we hope we have been able to contribute to members’ access to gear and therefore their access to the great activity of Through Walking.

Social - Libby Andersen

This was my 2nd year on the BBW committee as social co-ordinator. The year has included many social events including dinners and movie nights (thanks Bernie & Karen Ryan & Shaun Johnston), K2 gear nights (thanks Steve Cockburn), Leader Weekends at Mt Glorious (thanks Marion & Lou Darveniza) and many base camps and through-walks, including the regular Rimfall trips and Grandparent’s Weekends put on by Ray & Dawn Glancy. All these activities include a social component which helps to develop great friendships amongst our BBW members. Thank you to all our wonderful members who volunteer their time and effort to run these.

Thanks also to those who until recently contributed to the twice monthly club meetings, including the committee members and team of supper helpers who helped me out when I needed it (thanks Anne Kemp, David Sydes, Barbara Ferries and Sharon Cribb).

The big social events for the year included the 2019 Christmas Party, Mt Coot-tha Social Picnic and Mt Barney Social Weekend.

2019 Christmas Party – this year the weekend was held at the Spring Gully Stays campground in Sarabah at the base of the Green Mountains (O’Reillys). A wonderful time was had by 80 members attending a magnificent seafood dinner prepared by our resident chefs, David Sydes & Anne Kemp, and their team of helpers, followed by a night of dancing under the stars to covers band, Still Rockin’. We were lucky to be hiking in the only National Park still open for walks due to the bushfires. Thanks to all the chefs, helpers, walk leaders and the band for making this an unforgettable event.

The Mt Coot-tha Social Picnic on 18th July 2020 was held at the end of the COVID lockdown stage to bring club members together once again. Just under 50 attendees went on a range of walks in the area followed by a carefully controlled sausage sizzle at Grey Gum Picnic area. Thanks to Dwan Moore for helping with this and to all the leaders who ran walks.

The Mt Barney Social Weekend was held on 7th-9th August 2020 at Bigriggen campground in the Scenic Rim. I hired the Hall over both nights to help with rain and provide cover for a Bushwalking Trivia Team Challenge run by Dwan Moore. This was a fun night with Marion & Lou Darveniza’s team taking out the 2020 Cup. A great range of walks were run over two days in the Mt Barney area. Thanks to Dwan Moore for helping with the organisation & trivia event and all the great leaders for putting on walks.

Unfortunately, the **Winter Solstice 2020** to be held in May was cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

Planning is now going full steam ahead for the **2020 Christmas Party** to be held once again at Spring Gully Stays.