# Mini Heybob September 1993





UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND **BUSHWALKING CLUB** 

AGMphobia again prevailed and as a result a totally unopposed Junta has been installed, they are as follows,

PRESIDENT Kay-Louise Colthorpe 379	2869
SECRETARY Peter Zund 848	5148
TREASURER Eric Young 892	4093
OUTINGS OFFICER Kate Campbell 368	2746
CONSERVATION OFFICER Simon Hoyle 378	3445
SAFETY + TRAINING Rob Dancer 878	3674
LIBRARIAN Malcolm Haskins 371	0591
EQUIPMENT OFFICER Peter Allen 870	2820
CLIMBING GEAR OFFICER Vaughan Andrews 371	5156
HEYBOB CO-ORDINATOR Vaughan Andrews 371	5156

### **AGM ROUNDUP**

The AGM has passed for another year and has seen some significant changes in the executive lineup. Janice, Bernie, Anthony and Paul have all retired from the exec. due to their imminent graduations and are scattering across the map. We thank them for their efforts on behalf of the club and wish them well for the future. Incoming exec. members include Peter Zund as secretary, taking over from Kate Campbell who has become the Outings officer. Eric Young has become the Treasurer, Rob Dancer is now the Safety & Training officer and Simon Hoyle has taken over as Conservation officer from me - Louise Colthorpe, as I have become President. Peter Allen, Mal Haskins and Vaughan Andrews have maintained their positions, with Vaughan taking on the extra role of Heybob editor. Welcome to all the new exec. members, I hope this will be an enjoyable year.

The other major event at the AGM was the deciding of the SPRA issue. In a general vote it was decided that the club should remain with the Student Union Clubs & Societies and not become a SPRA affiliate.

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings and on walks. Please contact any of the exec. members if you want help, advice or have suggestions.

Louise Colthorpe.

## The Library Hasn't Changed It's Address

After the elections and has managed to have a new addition (Bushwalking in SEQ) already to the copious volumes of this extensive bushwalking library.

The process of map borrowing was changed last year to 50c per map. This was regardless of the number of maps borrowed, this has again changed to a maximum cost of \$2.00. so if you are going to borrow 5 maps it will only cost \$2.00. The 50c per map up till 4 maps is very important & must be adhered to. The maps have become self replacing and the only way were going to get new maps is to have everybody who borrows a map to pay.

The borrowing limit is 2 weeks and a prompt return would be appreciated. To borrow a book please write your name and the books in the 'Borrowing Book'.

The 22 volumes of the Heybob have been bound into two books which include a index at the end of each book. Also the Mt. Barney Guide, edition one and two and the First UQBWC publication 'Sandstone Gorges of Central Queensland' are also getting restored. A map and book list will be included in the next Mini-Heybob.

If you are planning a trip and the required map is not in the clubs 'huge' store please let me know and a map may be able to be purchased by the club. (Again this depends on people sticking to putting 50c into the map fund).

Malcolm Haskins 85 Jephson st., Toowong Telephone: 371 0591.

about the amount of extra paper would that SPRA about the amount of puture Execs. The opportunity of the paper work have been asked to attend when would have been asked to attend the mounting spath council meetings, would up the mounting proposal and look after the transition Club Activity over the past sear seems to have been seems to have with warm supplies the past seems to have with warm supplies the supplies the supplies of supplies the supplies of supplies the supplies of supplies the supplies of the two sources well attended and about continue to be a successful teature of the two lest been generally successful thank was and sopaining looks thee its hare is started as a supplies the supplies thank was and sopaining looks there is started and supplies the started and supplies the started and supplies the supplies seemed a viable sphion for UDBWC party the seemed affective but just was some out, at the AGM Lecouse the members present were grute happy with the members present the Club is being run - and rightly would partly because of serious questions raised so; and partly because of serious questions raised so; and partly because of serious of members who have been active and made it of seem the seem the seem of the seems Thanks matery is due is the URBWC Executive of sier previous & vivonths and to ile large rumber Thank you again to Kate Bernaclette, Peter Louise, Anxhany, Mal, Paul, Vaughan and Lowise, Anxhory, "assisting with the smooth. Woody Allen for assisting with the smooth. Trunking of the club and best wishes to the new exter. Towns. Burgaing Presidents Report James. pupment, report fas read at HEM J was nearum hired out.

Hire of equipment has fallen this year compared to previous years and \$329-50 was paid. No magor purchases are planned for the future the be have bought 200 m of 11 mm Static Rope, 6 figure 8's, and 6 karabiners and acquired of 3 new harnesses. Vaughan now minds the abselling climbing year making it more accessible and more well managed fossible improvements to club year may include more new helmets, new harnesses, and a slide projector for Club meetings in future.

The first executive meeting was held on the 8th of September. The pasting on of information and experiences from previous office bearers was the main purpose. Issues discussed included,

- # The need for some form of Public Liability Insurance as highlighted by the Federation of Bushwalking Clubs and a definition of a club trip.
- # The need for a club diary for trip planning purposes and as a record of club activities and history.
- # A club trip has been defined as 'one that is open to all club members, subject to certain skills as may be deemed by the trip leader and notice of the trip is to be placed in the club newsletter/diary prior to it being undertaken.
- # The need to appoint a delegate for Federation meetings.
- # Reaffirmation of the self-funding nature of our gear and maps.
- # A slide projector and screen was deemed necessary for the club and Vaughan has elected to look into the matter.
- # Training days for navigation, rogaining and rope work will again be a feature for 1994.
- # Club trip procedures will be enforced, as it's necessary for insurance cover and personal safety of members.
- # 'Bushpeople's Visitor Guide to Fraser Island, Cooloola and Moreton Island' will be acquired for the library.

Have we not consider an issue that's important to you? Please contact the appropriate executive member and let us know what you think. This executive wishes to continue the good work done by the previous executive with no major changes planned.

### Day Trip to Mt Beerwah

### Geoff Seawright

When we set off for the day trip to Mt Beerwah. little did we realise we would be walking back in our underwear. Documented below is the series of events which led to this bizarre change in costume.

The mood for the day was set early in the piece with a sing-along to ABBA Gold while we drove North. In fact, it turned out that Simon in particular not only looked like Frieda but sang like her. When the cassette finished we moved on to examining the complex lyrics. Not a lot of people know this but Bennie gave up his job as a neuro-surgeon to play keyboards for ABBA and Anna had a promising career in air traffic control analysis before lead singing for the Scandinavian quartet left her no time for her true passion.

After this rousing start we were feeling dangerous and the Glasshouses knew it (pictured). After a car shuffle (and the obligatory soft-shoe shuffle to Mama Mia) we crashed our way through the bush to the

Eastern side of Beerwah. The grade from here is 1, the same as the more popular Hiker's Trail. Half way up the 556 metre ascent of the tallest Glasshouse, we found a cave as big as Cave 2 on Tibrogargan where we discussed the complete lack of Aboriginal art, the unusual lyrics of Waterloo and the desperation of Ashlea who was attempting an "alpine style" ascent of Beerwah by bring only two dry breadrolls. We felt it would have demeaned her bold objective if we were to offer her any of our food.

A few hours of bush-bashing revealed a rock structure similar to the Organ Pipes on the North side. Mind you, these were not to be confused with the actual Organ Pipes. We decided to name this wonderful collection of rocky spires. We called them the Organ Pipes.

From here we elbowed and kneed our way over slightly harder slabs (singing *Rock Me*) to emerge on the top but alas we were not alone. Three Italian

climbers had stolen our fame by only minutes...as had a group of school children from Downlands (in fact the same group I had deliberately given wrong instructions to at the bottom), two six year olds with their pet ferret Nigel and a bus load of pensioners. Ashlea accidentally are half of her supply of food thinking this was the lunch stop however the real heartbreak was yet to occur.

We were not stopping at the top. We were going on. To greater heights. We were going...down. Down to Shell Rock - the pillar stone of the entire mountain and one of the finest collections of complete lack of Aboriginal art in South East Queensland. Actually we had to rope up because a few of the pensioners had made snide remarks about our wearing harnesses on such an easy ascent. Once in the rock structure Ashlea dropped the remaining half of her lunch down the mountain - something like a sacrifice I guess. Again, none of us offered our food as this would have been insulting.

And now the climb out. The serious stuff. It was grade 9 so we prussiked out, it was so serious. Little did any of us know it but this was to be the last time we would see each other with all of our clothes on. Larissa got straight into the spirit of things and ripped a hole in her shorts - not because she was slipping



down on her bottom - no. she is too professional for that. Not to be upstaged. Ashlea, feeling a bit disgruntled after her Alpine Style lunch idea was so tragically aborted, ripped a hole in her shorts (again almost definitely not from sliding on her bottom), and, not known for mucking around. Joy just completely ripped her tights off. A little later, Simon ripped his. Strangely enough, it was only the women who ripped their shorts (oh, and Simon). Could this be a role-playing sex thing (oh, except for Simon)? And maybe all of this is a clue to why Rick insisted on walking at the back.

We descended via the Hiker's Trail and Colin decided the only way down the smooth slab at the bottom was to run down it. I believe he is still running.

This brought us back to the car where we kicked off with *Ring Ring* for an equally rousing trip home.

# TRAINING DAY II (or RETURN OF THE TRAINING DAY)

On the exhibition holiday the unheard of number of 30 people turned up for the abseiling and climbing day at Kangaroo Point. As quite a few of these people were unknown to me I suspect that some were merely bystanders who decided to join in. Such is the popularity of training days, that I've already been asked by the Ekka organisers not to hold another of these events next year, for fear that most of Brisbane will turn up, instead of going to the Ekka.

Things progressed well until it was time to GO OVER THE EDGE, when suddenly, the 20 metre high cliff took on a new dimension of scariness. There were cries of "No, I really don't want to do this!", but with some gentle persuasion, and the odd bit of threatening, all managed to make the step into the unknown. After conquering descending, most also attempted ascending, and some hidden climbing talent was revealed. The fact that the event went all day is testimony to the enthusiasm of the participants. Many thanks to Janice, Simon and everyone else who lent a hand.

# **Sundowns Hidden Treasures**

During the End of Semester break six UQBWC'ers spent sometime exploring Sundown National Park. Most of us having never been to the park we knew not what to expect. Previous visits to Sundown had left a impression of hilly, mundane open Cypress pine country. Some of our party got ready to be bored senseless, while most of us were very keen to find out what makes Sundown so special.

After a long drive and some scary encounters with creatures that hop, we made it safely to the Broadwater camping area on the Severn River in the South-Western end of the park. Being 'Brass Monkey Month' the temperatures were surprisingly mild, we had no frost or even snow as can occur here. Signs of the 'Big Dry' were quite evident next morning as we crossed the boulder strewn Severn River. Waterholes in the Severn which usually are full were totally dry, it indicated to us that water would be scarce on the trip.

Opposite the Broadwater Camping area McAllister creek enters the Severn River. Our plan was to travel up McAllister Creek to where it nears Mt. Donaldson. The creek a major tributary of the Severn is initially very large, strewn with boulders up to one meter in diameter and sand islands with Cypress Pine. But as the creek wends it way up the valley, steep sides develop and the creek takes on a dark, mysterious atmosphere. A lot of smooth rock covers the creek bed from side to side and in the strongly shaded parts of the creek a form of vine scrub consisting of Ooline (Cadellia pertastylis) tree are present. The Ooline tree is endemic to this part of the country.

After two hours we are abruptly stopped by Split Rock falls, a spectacular three meter wide chasm ending in a 15m fall. We were all in awe at the magnitude of these falls. We quickly traversed these falls and moved on hurriedly to the next set of falls, Double Falls. These were even more spectacular and excitement grew. Further upstream the creek had a similarity to Stanley Chasm in the Western MacDonald Ranges of Central Australia. Ten meter high vertical red cliffs lined both sides of the creek, with a bed of lush green vege. Many pleasant camp sites from here on enticed us to stop. We camped at the junction of a creek coming off Mt. Donaldson, which was to be our accent route the following day. Unbeknown to us, we were in a plague of Bush Flea's and by the end of the next day we were all covered in bites in areas where clothing fitted tightly. Wedge Tail Eagles watch over us that night as some of us slept, while others tried to come to terms with those who say they don't snore!

Our ascent of Mt. Donaldson was quick arriving at the top about 10.30am. As we gained height the scrubby undergrowth gave way to a open woodland of White Box, Orange gum and Ironbarks giving a alpine flavour. Views of the park were magnificent, especially Blue Gorge in the distance and resulted in a number of trip proposals. We descended via Mt. Donaldson creek and made quick progress to the next feature, Donaldson Gorge. Before us lay a drop of more than 70m and a very wild looking gorge. We descended a scree slope on the western edge where skiing ability would help.

A number of smaller waterfalls followed with fallen goats warning us of the precarious nature of our traverses. By 3pm we were in familiar territory of the Severn River again, where we bid farewell to four of our party who return to Brisbane. Peter and I continued on up the Severn River toward Blue Gorge.

A small cairn marks the entey of Blue Gorge creek into the Severn. The ferocity of water coming down the gorge is evident by the piles of debris where the creek joins the Severn River. This creek is narrow and strewn with boulders upto 10m across. It gains height quickly (340m in 21/2km) with numerous waterfalls some of which need short rockclimbs and others by-passed by long traverses. Recently fallen rock lie scattered in the creek bed, signalling the ever present danger due to goats high above.

While in the gorge small rocks were sporadically raining down into the gorge and we picked our moments when to travel through the chasms. Higher up numerous chockstones make the walk very energetic. This is not the place to be after rain. Fallen goats did not help the eerie feeling of the place. You are able to walk the gorge in about 21/2 hours unaided when it's dry, but a head for heights and a pack hauling rope would be advantageous. After the last scramble up a scree slope you can exit the gorge here and head for the park fence. From here the gorge continues in a dark chasm full of trees and boulders to it's headwaters near the park fence. We opted to exit the gorge at this point and bash our way through thick vege reminiscent of the slopes of Hinchenbrook. After a back massage courtesy of the rocky track following the park fence we headed the next day for the headwaters of Ooline creek. A quick decent of Ooline creek including Ooline Gorge in four hours saw us back at our cars.

Peter was under the illusion that we had completed our visit to Sundown, but a drive around to the Eastern end of the park with a softening up period at the Wallangarra Pub saw us ready for another walk. After securing the car we started out for Mt. Loffty, Red Rock Gorge, Carpenter's Gully mine and back. The clouds became evermore threatening but rain held off until we finish this two day walk. Apart from thieves which have a fetish for car tools near the old Sundown Homestead the six day trip was most enjoyable.

Peter Zund 15 / 8 / 93

# **HEYBOB ARTICLES**

Contributions are now being sought for the production of a new Heybob magazine, hopefully to be published in early '94. But what is this Heybob magazine, new members may ask. Some history is required. In 1959 UQBWC published its first club magazine, and in 1990, Heybob number 22 was produced. Each of these twenty-two publications is like a snap-shot of the club at that time, telling of the thoughts and actions of previous, and some current members. Articles of note include the history of the Barney hut, the placement of the quartz crystal on the Thumb (Hinchinbrook Is), the legend of the Barney bunyip and the first ascent of the East face of Barney. If you're thinking the club has a preoccupation with Mt Barney, you're right!

Trip reports are the predominant articles of course, but also there have been sketches, poems, quotes, recipes and other historical and informative articles. Everywhere from South-east Queensland to Antarctica has been covered, and running through all these trips is the common thread which is the essence of bushwalking. This in turn depended on whose eyes it was seen through. To the freshers and fresherettes it was the horrors of lantana, gympie, leeches, rain and burnt porridge, but to those who survived this and kept coming, it was, and is, something else.

The Heybob is also a forum for discussion of important issues. The earliest editorial expresses concern at the apparent decline of bushwalking. Thankfully this has not been the case. For those who wish to know more, Heybobs 9 and 20 contain indexes of all preceding magazines, and are to be found in the club library. So now is your chance to go down in history by submitting an article which will be recorded for posterity. To ease the burden of compiling the magazine, it is asked that if possible, you submit you article on disk in one of the following formats -: Dos text, Wordperfect, Word, Wordstar. Start writing now!!

### - CATHEDRAL ROCK NATIONAL PARK -

Located 66km east of Armidale on the Armidale Dorrigo road, Cathedral Rock National Park (6530ha) provides a good half day walk which can easily be combined with a visit to Ebor Falls 12.5km to the east.

Comprised of granite 230 million years ago, the two prominent features of the park are Woolpack Rocks to the north and Cathedral Rock to the south. Overlooking these granite tors is the basaltic capped Round Mountain (1583m) on the western boundary of the park.

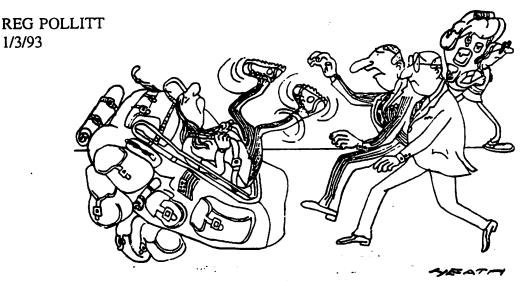
If you have two vehicles, one group could start from the Native Dog Creek Rest Area on the Ebor-Guyra road while the other group could start from the Barokee Rest Area 8km on the road leading to Round Mountain and exchange keys along the track. In addition to the walking track, a wander up Sandy Creek in the north of the park leads to more granite tors.

Since it rains a great deal in this part of the world, the walk is a perfect place to appreciate in conditions which make canyoning in the nearby gorges to the west hazardous. Rainy, misty conditions are a real delight, particularly amongst the rocky outcrops. In addition to these features, there are heaths, swamps, patches of alpine grasses, and forests. The dominant trees are broad and wattle-leaved pepermints, and mountain gums, with messmates *E. obliqua*, manna, and blackbutts *E. pilularis* in the valleys.

In summer, the area is vibrant with many wildflowers, such as yellow eye, alpine fan flower, and the colourful Christmas bells *Blandfordia grandiflora*. From the track you can collect sweet water which flows through sphagnum mossed covered areas. The micro-flora of these swamps is delightful.

Glossy black cockatoos *Calyptorhynchus lathami* feed on the seed-capsules of the casuarinas while thornbills, and robins are commonly seen. In the evening grey kangaroos bound through the forest, while swamp wallabies *Wallabia bicolour* pop their heads up as they feed on bracken fern.

Spot lighting in the park is rewarding, with the greater glider *Petauroides volans* which has the remarkable facility of being able to glide up to 100m with direction changes as great as 90 degrees. Brushtailed possums can also be seen. The campsite at Barokee is the best place from which to enjoy what the park has to offer.



"Apparently they die if they're not put the right way up."

# - COOMBADJHA CREEK, WASHPOOL NATIONAL PARK -

Located 70km from Glen Innes and 90km from Grafton on the Gwydir Highway, Coombadjha Creek at the southern end of the Washpool National Park is a good introduction to the area. Fortunately Washpool (27,715ha) was saved from logging, and is the largest undisturbed warm temperate rainforest in New South Wales.

Centred within this area, is the Viper Scrub and the Willowie Scrub to the north, both areas are undisturbed rainforest. Coachwood Ceratopetalum apetalum is the predominate species.

These are lovely trees, up to 35m tall with trunks up to 1m in diameter. Their striking smooth grey bark with brown horizontal lines is scented owing to the oil coumarin. The pale pink timber was greatly sought after, so we are fortunate that the Willowie Scrub (3000ha) is the largest preserved coachwood forest in the world.

Along Coombadjha Creek, are coachwoods which have regenerated from epicormic shoots. These are the shoots that lie dormant beneath the bank and surround the older dead trees, so that in some cases there are as many as five generations coppicing off from the original tree.

Other species in the Washpool area include jackwood, sassafras, beefwood *Grevillea stricta R.Br.*, and featherwoods. Among the more interesting of the trees are the huge, and I mean huge, *Banksia integrifolias*. They are so large that you don't realise what they are until you look high and see their pale yellow flowers. Being the most common of the coastal banksias, and found in stunted forms in mountainous areas it is remarkable that they have grown to mega proportions. Truly a testament to the unique nature of this area.

King ferns *Todea barbara* grow prolifically along the banks with the straw, prickly, and rough tree ferns being represented. Many epiphytic plants hang from the trees, further enhancing the wonderful experience of walking in this area.

From the Granite Lookout, you can appreciate the extent of the Park, as you gaze out to the north over Washpool Creek. Scattered among the bluish mountains in November/December are brightly coloured flame trees *Brachychiton acerifolium*. The march flies however, at this time of year are ferocious, so you may prefer to combine this trip with a winter Gibraltar Range National Park trip which is just to the south of Washpool.

REG POLLITT 1/3/93

# Trip List for September to November

18/19th Sept. South Bald Rock in Girraween NP. A easy through walk, contact Dave Boston on 846 5383 for further details.

18th Sept. to 2 October Janice Porter is considering a exploration of either the Blue Mountains area or Mt. Kaputar if she is not going skiing. Contact her on 371 0591 for further details.

25th Sept. to 3rd of October, A exciting 3 day through walk along Rocky (Timbarra) River including Rocky Gorge is planned. Also a 2 day round trip to Washpool Creek along with a 3 day visit to New England NP. These areas of Northern NSW are very speci with the Washpool Wilderness area being the largest remaining stand of intake rainforest left in NSW. Rocky river drains the area west of the Gibraltar Range, it is particularly rugged, and the New England NP is very beautiful with it's subalpine vegetation. Overall grade is a medium 3. Contact Peter Zund on 848 5148.

2/3 Oct. A Mystery trip lead by Simon Hoyle, contact him for further details on 378 3445.

6th Oct. Club Meeting as usual in Clubs and Soc. Room in the Union Building at 7pm.

8/9/10 Oct. A trip to the Central part of Fraser Island will be lead by Colin Canfield, leaving Friday, numbers are limited and it's necessary to contact Colin two weeks before so that arrangements can be made. Ph. 846 5383.

Oct. 10th A trip to upper Ballavijui Falls near Binna Burra contact Anthony Smith on 279 2869

11 Oct. Club Dinner in some Vietamise restaurant in West End, contact Kate Campbell on 368 2746.

16/17 Oct. Headwaters of Running Creek, Lamington NP. Through walk in rainforest! Nice slabby creek beds and a lot of rockhopping involved. Grade 4-5. Ring Brendan O'Malley for further details on 378 0238.

16/17 Oct. Girraween base camp with interesting walks, possibly on Saturday we will visit Castle Rock, Mt. Norman, Aztec Temple and go via the river to Dr. Roberts Waterhole. On Sunday we will climb both Pyramids and Running Rock. We will leave friday night. Grade is easy, most of the walks will be on graded tracks. Contact Rob Dancer on 878 3674.

23/24 Oct. A trip to Cooloola NP, easy track walks Contact Louise Colthorpe or Anthony Smith, both on 379 2869.

30th Oct. A trip to Running Creek falls in the South Western part of Lamington NP. contact Janice Porter on 371 0591. Grade Easy but long day walk. Well worth a visit to these very beautiful 100m falls. Plenty of swimming opportunities.

3rd Nov. SWOTVAC Club Meeting at 7pm in the Clubs and Socs. room. So if your bored with study, come along there may be some slides to see and a lot of talk about where people are going in the Christmas holidays.

6/7 Nov. A trip to Fountain Falls near O'Reilly's, this a very easy track walk through very nice rainforests. Plenty of opportunities to take pictures of Fungi, Ferns, and Waterfalls, include some cold dips into inviting icy cold pools. Contact Rob Dancer on 878 3674 early as numbers are limited to 6.

27/28 Nov. The annual Noosa River Gourmet Canoe Trip is on again this year. Leaving from Elanda Point, Contact Janice Porter on 371 0591.

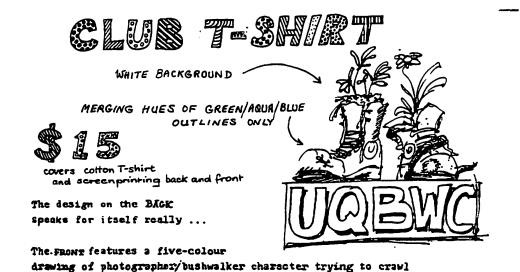
Nov. ? A trip to Bouloomba Creek is planned by Reg Pollitt. A very nice area with the where you will certainly get wet. Contact Reg to finalise a date on 371 7087.



JANICE PORTER 85 JEPHSON STREET TOOWONG QLD 4066

# IF UNDELIVERABLE, PLEASE RETURN TO:

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND BUSHWALKING CLUB, C/- CLUBS AND SOCIETIES, UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND STUDENT UNION, ST LUCIA 4072.



40 T-shirts only have been screenprinted, so hurry in and get one from Janice Porter Mr will be at 0-day, the BBQ or on a walk.

through thick tree-y vag. tation.