

**BLURB**

Greetings to all new and old (and very old) members of the club. The mini-heybob, if you are not already aware, comes out four times a year and is the main means of informing members of what is happening in the club. In each issue a trip list for the following months, as well as the contact number of the trip leader, is included. If you are new to the club please feel free to ring the trip leader, or any of the executive (listed below).

Only by participating in walks will you make the most of what UQBWC has to offer. Don't feel that you're too inexperienced, too young or too unfit to join in – after all, that was how all the older members started out. UQBWC is probably the best way there is for the beginner to start their bushwalking career.

Brendan O'Malley Editor

**THE JUNCTA**

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**RHUBARDITORIAL.**

Hello to both old and new members. Somewhere, hopefully, within this Mini-Heybob is hidden the a membership form, so pay up (only \$5). For our new members, Mini-Heybob will tell you about forthcoming trips; the availability of gear for hire, the location of the Club's Library, date of our annual dinners (hopefully, quarterly), reports of previous horror trips, and anything else interesting that is happening. We are always looking for articles – be they trip reports, conservation news, or anything else of interest. Leave them in our pigeon hole at Clubs and Societies, or bring them to a meeting.

Club Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month, usually in the Ryan Room (which is next to the Main Refec) , at 7.30 PM, if there is a change in venue a note will be left on the door. The first meeting is on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March – please bring a plate of nibblies.

Also, Brendan O'Malley is collating our Annual Heybob magazine for this our fortieth year. So feel free to contribute by sending Brendan any articles you may have, or leave them in our Club pigeon hole at Clubs and Societies.

This year's schedule of walks have been designed to provide a variety of walks in both grade and countryside. Our trip list caters for every sort of walker ,from novice to experienced. Members are free to propose trips for the list, and, even, nominate themselves to lead a trip! If you have a particular preference for a walk, nominate it at a Club meeting – you may find other people interested in doing it (or quite probably, people who can advise you about the area).

If you require any further information, you can always give me a call on 371 4865 (if I'm not at home, harass Don Roberts) or anybody else on the Executive List.

Susan Muir



**A FISTFUL OF MARS BARS!! (OR CANYONING IN NEW ENGLAND)**

We left under darkening skies to descend Australia's second highest waterfall: Wollomombi Falls (height 220 m).

Festooned with the essentials of canyoning – ropes, harnesses, jumars, wet suits and a rack of Mars bars – we made quick progress to the top of the falls, pausing only at the impressive gorge above Chandler's Falls. Our first rappel was off a small tree above Wollomombi's first drop. The sharply overhanging walls left us suspended 40 m above a cauldron of icy water. One by one we descended into the water. The cold struck quickly. A quick swim took us through the waterfall. The next stage was a solo downclimb of 15 metres. Peter then contrived a tape knot belay for the next section. This is an old technique much favoured amongst early climbers and still used in Eastern Europe. It simply involves tying a knot in part of the climbing tape, stuffing this into a crack and abseiling from that. The inevitable swim awaited. Another scramble led to a convenient piton. Once again, we went through the frigid water. Although wider than the canyons of the Blue Mountains, this section of the Gorge was still very impressive.

Only one more rapel – an easy descent over a scree slope – awaited us. After that we rockhopped and swam out of the canyon, into the gorge. Chandler's Falls fell into the gorge at this point, making a spectacular sight. The combined rockhop-swim out from there was probably the most sustained part of the trip. The water was predictably freezing. The setting sun lit the savage blades of rock above us, starkly outlining their unattainable heights. The air (and all of us) grew colder. Jumping, scrambling and swimming we reached the last obstacle – a turbulent water chute thundering between house-sized boulders.

Confronted by this, we decided to chance the unknown ridge above the chute rather than exit by the track further down the river. Except for a painful encounter with falling scree, we covered the first part of the ridge well. Progress was quite difficult, especially for me in my inadequate footwear. Like most New England canyons, the ridge was full of nettles and other delights: scratched and stung, we finally reached the top of the ridge. With the twilight fading, and tired after nine hours of canyoning, we made our way back to camp in darkness.

Walkers: Peter Scott, Jim Thompson and Don Roberts.

- Don Roberts

**HOW TO BECOME A TRUE BUSHIE**

**CRITERIA**

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| BOOTS        | Size 13 with 6" treads to climb those 170 degree slopes.   |
| SOCKS        | Thick and unwashed for at last ten years, so they are 'strong' enough to walk in when boots fall apart.          |
| LEGS         | Hairy and heavily scarred from lantana, lawyer vine and aggressive girls/boys.                                   |
| KNEES        | Have been worn out due to excessive levels of begging for food and replaced by artificial joint.                 |
| SHORTS       | Thread-bare due to sliding down razor-back ridges.   |
| SHIRT        | Bleached due to blood, sweat and tears and is usually ripped due to last encounter with Drop Bears.              |
| PACK         | Battered. Useful for carrying chocolate and scroggin and gallons of water.                                       |
| ARMS         | See 'Legs'. Compass and map have become moulded to left hand   |
| HEAD         | Very handy place to carry hat on. It is used for little else, except mouth into which food is shovelled.         |
| HAT          | Has dual purpose of keeping out scorching sun and holding all donated goodies unable to be eaten in one sitting. |
| HIS PRESENCE | Is easily noticed with a masochistic smile, especially if standing down wind of him.                             |

**BUSHWALKING GEAR HIRE**

The club has a range of gear for hire to any financial club members. The gear resides at my (Rob Stevens) place at 94 Highland Tee, St. Lucia. Ph. 371 1181 after 5 pm to check on gear availability.

When hiring equipment...

- Book gear by the WEDNESDAY BEFORE the trip, preferably.
- Pay for the gear when you pick it up. A receipt will be issued.
- Return the gear by the WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING the trip.
- Return the gear in the condition you hired it in (or better). For example:
  - DRY out all wet or damp gear.
  - Sleeping Bags are provided with inner sheets: these MUST be used, and then WASHED after use.
  - Check ALL pegs, poles, ropes, etc. are found before returning tents. New pegs WILL cost you \$1.50 each.
  - Camping Gaz stoves are provided with an extra Butane cylinder. Replace when necessary - if you don't, the next person hiring it will have to.
  - First Aid kits are available at no charge, providing all items used are replaced.

The following Gear Hire rates apply for 1990:

| Item                            | Price per Day/Night  | Price per Week |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Rucksacks</b>                |                      |                |
| 'Lowe' Weekend Packs..          | \$1.00               | \$5.00         |
| Day Packs.....                  | \$0.50               | \$2.50         |
| <b>Sleeping Bags</b>            |                      |                |
| 2-3 Season.....                 | \$1.00               | \$5.00         |
| 4 Season.....                   | \$2.00               | \$10.00        |
| <b>Sleeping Mats.....</b>       | <b>\$0.75</b>        | <b>\$4.00</b>  |
| <b>Stoves</b>                   |                      |                |
| Camping Gaz (Butane)..          | \$0.50               | \$----         |
| Trangia (Kerosene)....          | \$0.50               | \$----         |
| <b>Tents (with Groundsheet)</b> |                      |                |
| Outer Fly only.....             | \$0.50               | \$2.50         |
| Inner + Outer.....              | \$1.00               | \$5.00         |
| <b>Snow Tents</b>               |                      |                |
| Ultimate.....                   | \$1.50               | \$6.00         |
| Black Ice Meridian....          | \$2.00               | \$8.00         |
| Macpac Olympus.....             | \$----               | \$20.00        |
| <b>Rock Climbing Gear.....</b>  | <b>\$ Please ask</b> |                |

NOTE: Gear is provided for hire to let newer club members try out bushwalking before they are certain that bushwalking is really for them. If it is, then they should start to buy their own gear. More experienced, more financial club members should not have to hire any gear from the club.

### **GEAR FOR SOUTH-EAST QLD BUSHWALKS**

(With apologies to Bob Hey for plagiarism)

Remember all those times you've arrived at the starting point of a bushwalk on Friday night; howling wind, freezing cold, urinating down rain, pitch black etc., only to discover you've forgotten: (a) tent, (b) sleeping bag, (c) torch, (d) raincoat, (e) wool shirt, (f) teddy bear or (g) all of the above?

(Actually I am trying to forget those occasions).



Remember the thrill of taking out one's camera for that never to be forgotten view of that glorious, cloud filled sunrise to find (oh joy, oh joy) you've forgotten the film.

Remember when you've come to take your pill in the morning and guess what – it's at home in the drawer – WHAT FUN!!

Isn't it nice having steak and eggs cooked in an enamel cup – at least the frypan and billy will be nice and clean when you get home (in contrast to their usual state). BUT (drum roll please) these and other euphoric, deliriously (or should I say orgasmic) moments can from now on become vague but warmly pleasant memories because the new ultimate bushwalking list is here!

But first a warning from our sponsors; no list can be all things to all people (unlike Bob Hawke); there will always be additions or subtractions you can make. This list is intended to cover most needs for relatively short trips in S.E. Qld or Northern N.S.W. but not to Tasmania or other places with horrible weather. Not all items will be necessary for any one trip. Some items are repeated under different categories. Question marks are also thrown in to indicate items which probably aren't essential and a matter of choice.



## EQUIPMENT

Good quality equipment is moderately expensive, usually possible to survive without much by begging, but it is stealing or borrowing some or hiring it from the club until you are sure you are committed to bushwalking and need some of your own.

The club has a range of equipment for hire at cheap rates (and all for a good cause – Alan Bartram's slush fund) including packs, tents, stoves, and sleeping bags. To enquire about these, ring the equipment officer.

Some advice on equipment for overnight walks:

1. Tents are not essential in Queensland. A fly and a ground sheet will frequently suffice, but in any case there is generally heaps of tent space. Can be hired from the club.
2. Sleeping Bags: a down sleeping bag is expensive but a great investment if you are serious about walking. Can be hired from the club. A cheaper range of down sleeping bags would be suitable for most Queensland conditions – the more expensive ones would be too hot (unless you are an Englishman from Kent).
3. Packs: There are a wide range of packs varying in price, size and degree of sophistication. Internal frame packs in vogue at the moment are very comfortable. The club has several packs for hire.
4. Footwear: The most important thing is that your shoes are well worn in and won't give you blisters. A bushwalker's most vulnerable part is her/his feet. Boots are not essential for most Queensland walking, and sandshoes will suffice. However some of the best value boots around are Chinese work boots available from such salubrious establishments as K-mart for about \$25. Make sure they have solid rubber (not synthetic) soles. Allow for at least 1 thick e.g. woolen and 1 thin pair of socks inside the boots.
5. Clothes: For Queensland weather, shorts are usually most comfortable, particularly in wet weather as legs dry out easier than jeans. Warm clothing (jumper and trousers) are generally necessary to change into at night, as it can get very cool in the mountains even in summer.
6. Waterproof Gear: Some form of raincoat is necessary for all trips (unless you enjoy getting wet). A plastic raincoat is suitable until you decide to go in for quality and buy Gore-Tex (mention this to Don Roberts and just be amazed at his reaction).
7. Water carrier: Often essential in S.E. Queensland, and always useful. Ask the trip leader what the water availability will be like. Don't rush out and buy an expensive aerodynamic non-rust titanium alloy water bottle, a plastic cordial bottle or wine cask bladder will do (and it is more fun emptying the wine bladder).

And of course the most important thing on a walk is ... Food/Custard.

Food is an area of great interest to a large number of people, including bushwalkers. Generally on short walks it does not have to be worried about greatly, except for the custard and chocolate. No bushwalk is complete without custard and chocolate (for further details of food preparation see Custard Throughwalk).

There are four general aims (and one specific aim) in preparing food.

1. Keep it light ie. no tins where possible.
2. Make sure it will keep.
3. Food should be high in energy and easy to prepare.
4. Bring lots of extra goodies for those people with only a fork!



"Relax, Worthington . . . As the warm, moist air from the jungle enters the cave, the cool, denser air inside forces it to rise —resulting in turbulence that sounds not unlike heavy breathing."

#### 5. BRING CUSTARD.

There is available a wide range of dried foods – chicken supreme, beef chow mein, surprise peas. Alliance dried meals are considerably more palatable, but correspondingly more expensive. Dried meals are useful for very long walks or when you are excessively tired.

However, with a little inventiveness, and a few decadent friends, bushwalks can be turned into gourmet events. Fresh vegetables (e.g., carrots, zucchinis, tomatoes) can be carried for several days. A weekend trip will usually involve two breakfasts, two lunches and one dinner. Trips longer than three or four days require careful planning regarding amounts and weight of food (must make sure you have enough custard for the whole trip). This article should not be considered a guide for an extended trip.

Some basic menu ideas are mentioned below, but if you don't like custard, you are in deep trouble.

#### **Breakfast:**

Porridge or muesli  
Powdered milk  
Sugar  
Tea or coffee or milo  
Fruit

#### **Lunch:**

Bread or biscuits  
Margarine  
Cheese  
Salami

Sardines

Tomatoes

Various spreads – jam, vegemite etc.

**Dinner:**

Dried soup

Pasta

Pizza on pitta bread

Vegetable curry

Omlette and/or bacon

Steak or sausages - if carried frozen

Lentil curry

Rice pudding

Boiled fruit and CUSTARD

**Munchies:**

Chocolate, sweets, nuts and dried (together known as scroggin)

Sweet biscuits

Muesli bars

**SLEEPING GEAR**

Sleeping Bag  
Inner sheet  
Groundsheet  
Sleeping Mat  
Li-lo (river trips?)

**FOOT WEAR**

Boots  
Sandshoes  
Gaiters  
Ankles bandages/elastoplast  
Thongs

**CLOTHING**

Spare clothes (leave in car?)  
Wool shirt/Jumper  
Balaclava/beanie  
Shirts  
Shorts  
Spare underclothes  
Sacks  
Hat  
Towel/tags  
Handkerchiefs  
Raincoat/jacket  
Overtrou  
Scunge gloves  
Garbage bags (to store)

**OTHER GEAR (OPTIONAL)**

Map/Map case  
Compass  
Pack hauling rope  
Torch and batteries  
First Aid kit  
Daypack  
Repair kitt  
Waterbottle/wine cask  
Book/cards (for Budawangs especially)  
Change for phone

**COOKING GEAR**

Frypan or wok  
Billy and lid  
Plate/Bowl Cup  
Knife, fork, spoon  
Matches in waterproof container (e.g., film)  
Cigarette lighter  
Stove (full!)  
Sig bottle/primer  
Candles  
Scourer/Chux

**TENT GEAR**

Tent  
Fly  
Poles  
Pegs, spare guyropes  
Chux (for wiping floors)  
Groundsheet

**TOILET GEAR**

Biodegradable soap  
Toothbrush and paste  
Toilet paper !  
Sunburn cream?  
Insect repellent (Rid)  
Medications etc.

**STILL MORE GEAR**

Camera, lens, film  
Binoculars  
Field Guides  
Handlens  
Money  
Housekey  
Pen and paper  
Plastic bags  
FOOD (including last minute items in frig)

### TRIP LIST

To new members - UQBWC starts off every year with some easy and interesting trips. This is designed to ease people into bush-walking, as well as toughen up older members who have turned into television cricket slobs over the summer. So if you want a taste of what bushwalking is like, get in early and do the first two trips this year.

As well as regular trips, the club also holds meetings on the first Wednesday of each month in either the Ryan room or the Botany tearoom. Matters of general interest to the club are usually discussed, and afterwards our photographically-minded members show some slides while the rest munch on chocolate biscuits – not a bad way to spend an evening, so make sure you come along.

NB I have given all the listed trips a rough grading. This is only a rough guide, so please contact the trip leader if you have any queries.

The more observant reader may notice that some weekends have no trips scheduled – this is therefore a great opportunity for you to lead your own trip! Don't be deterred if you don't have much walking experience – all a trip leader really has to do is be a contact for interested people and arrange permits (and maps from the library). Just ask anyone on the executive for help – they will also be glad to give you ideas for places to walk if you are stumped.

NB: If you wish to go on any trip you must contact the leader by Wednesday before the trip leaves at latest. THIS is necessary because the leader must organize walking permits.

### **FEBRUARY**

25<sup>th</sup> – (Sunday) Lower Portals. The Lower Portals are a spectacular rocky gorge at the foothills of Mt Barney. A graded (i.e., well- made) track leads to the portals from the carpark. After a short dip here, a 30 minute walk up the creek takes you to the day's destination – a terrific rock pool, complete with waterslide and diving platform. The rest of the day will be spent swimming and developing skin cancers at the pool. This is one of the easiest and most pleasant introductory walks you can do – so come along and join in the fun. Leader: Susan Muir. Ph 3714865. Grade: Easy.

### **MARCH**

3/4<sup>th</sup> – (weekend trip) Rattatat Hut. This is another easy introductory trip, this time in beautiful Lamington National Park. The walk into the hut is on graded tracks and will only take part of a morning. Most of the week-end is therefore free for you to do what you wish – either laze around at the camp-site or go walking around the rainforest and creeks in the area. This is possibly the best way to experience Queensland's most beautiful rainforest over a week-end if you are a beginner. Leader: Brendan O'Malley. Ph 3780-238 Grade: Easy.

11<sup>th</sup> – (sunday) Mt Greville. Greville is another good walk for new members. The mountain is quite small, so it will introduce you to some climbing but will not leave you gasping for air (and help). Most of the walk is not on marked tracks, but the terrain is not difficult and so will give you an idea of what our harder walks are like without trying you too much. The main attractions of the mountain are its beautiful palm-clad gorges – the best I have seen in Queensland. Leader: Leslie Tillack. Ph 2862684. Grade: Easy.

17/18<sup>th</sup> – (week-end) East Canungra Creek. Donald will lead you along the entire East Canungra Creek. This is the first hard trip of the year and involves plenty of hopping over slippery creek rocks and some

pushing through scratchy scrub. The rewards for your efforts are dozens of waterfalls and a week-end in one of the prettiest rainforest creeks in Lamington National Park.

## **MARCH**

25<sup>th</sup> – (Sunday) Springbrook Pinnacle. Sue will be leading this trip. The pinnacle is situated in rainforest in the Gold Coast hinterland. Ask Sue for details. Leader: Susan Muir. Ph 3714865. Grade: Easy.

31<sup>st</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> – (week-end) Nothing is planned for this week-end so this is your chance to become a trip leader. Feel free to ring anyone on the executive for suggestions/help.

## **APRIL**

7/8<sup>th</sup> – Again, nothing is planned. You get another chance at becoming trip leader.

13-16<sup>th</sup> – (Easter long week-end) No less than three trips are planned for this week-end!

Main Range. This walk will cover most of what is called the “Main Range” – a string of mountain peaks stretching in an arc south of Cunningham's Gap, two hours west of Brisbane. The walk offers magnificent views and traverses both open woodland ridges and peaks and sub-tropical rainforest. Please contact the leader one to two weeks beforehand, since there is a limit of 8 people. Remember that you must carry four to six liters of water, plus food for 4 days, so your pack will be heavy. Leader: Alan Bartram. Ph 3780238. Grade; Difficult.

Northern NSW. This trip will involve some abseiling, as well as an extended float down one of the area's rivers on airbeds. The rivers in Nthn NSW are generally wide and placid and flow through huge gorges. This should be relaxing way to spend Easter. Leader: Don Roberts. Ph 3714865. Grade: Easy (apart from the abseil). N.B. If you cannot abseil you must speak to Donald, who may arrange some practice abseils for you.

Barrington Tops. This is a beautiful National Park near Newcastle, in NSW. Ask Leslie for details. Leader: Leslie Tillack. Ph 2862684.

22<sup>nd</sup> – (Sunday) The Cougals. The Cougals are two impressive closely spaced peaks in the Gold Coast hinterland. Last year the club ran a very successful trip to this area. Views from both peaks are spectacular and there is even the chance of stealing avocados from the farm at the base of the mountains. Leader: Don Roberts. Ph 3714865. Grade: Easy.

25<sup>th</sup> – (Anzac day) Mystery daywalk. I will be leading a trip somewhere in south-east Queensland. At the moment, I have in mind a gorgeous rainforest creek very near Brisbane. But who knows where I may lead you – it is a mystery, so come along and find out more. Leader: Brendan O'Malley. Ph 3780238. Grade: Easy.

29<sup>th</sup> – (Sunday) Cunningham's Gap to Spicer's Peak. Alan will be leading this trip, which covers part of the main range. Excellent views, rainforest and eucalypt forest await the intrepid wakers. Leader: Alan Bartram. Ph 3780238. Grade: Easy.

## **MAY**

5-7<sup>th</sup> – (Labour Day week-end) Mt Ballow. Mal will be leading this trip to Mt Ballow, a major peak near mount Barney. Several peaks in the area will be climbed. Good views and some of the best rain- forest in

southern Queensland are the attractions of this trip. Leader: Malcolm Roberts. Ph 3005260. Grade: moderate to difficult.

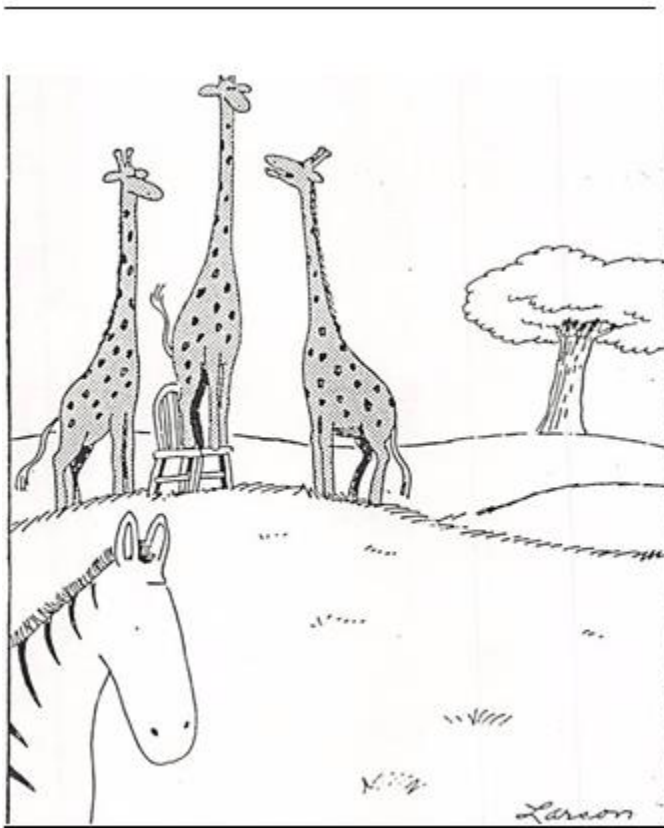
12/13 and 19/20 – Nothing has been planned for these weekends. However, Brendan O'Malley may be interested in leading a trip to southern Moreton island and Elliot Duff may lead a trip (an easy one, on graded tracks) in Lamington National Park. Ph Brendan on 3780238 and Elliot care of St Leo's college.

27<sup>th</sup> – Last trip before exams and swatvac start! Rob Stevens will lead a trip up Logan's ridge on Mt Barney, southern QLD's premier climbing mountain. Views will be breath-taking. Leader: Rob Stevens. Ph 3711181. Grade: Difficult.

### **AFTER EXAM EXTAVAGANZA!**

In the June holidays there is no excuse to be slack. Major walks are planned, including Carnarvon Gorge, the famous sandstone gorge country in western Queensland. Ring Elliot Duff at St Leo's college or ask at the Mining and Metallurgy department.

Brendan O'Malley is interested to hear from anyone who would like to do some hard walking in northern Queensland, for instance Eungella National Park near MacKay or possibly even Daintree N.P. north of Cairns. Ring 3780238 at least five weeks before June 20.



"No lions anywhere? ... Let me have the chair."



