



University of Queensland Bushwalking Club

Affiliated with the University of Queensland Union

ANNUAL REPORT 1956.

It is with pleasure that I present the sixth annual report of the club. The year has again been a successful one with increased membership and activity.

The committee for the year was:-

President:	David Dunstan
Secretary:	Byron Holdaway
Treasurer:	Nell Cole
Outings Officer :	John Comino
Equipment Officer:	Alan Timmins
Librarian:	Erica Steedman

With a club membership at one hundred and thirty, an increase of thirty percent on last year, the attendance at meetings has been good. There were six general meetings of the club plus a special meeting, being a welcome to freshers at which no business was transacted. The freshers meeting was a great success this year and many new members were recruited as a result of it. At the meetings we have had interesting talks by club members concerning their trips to Central Australia and New Zealand and also of a trip round the Scenic Rim. A lecture in First Aid was given by Nell Cole in the hope of preparing members for cases of emergency. Also an unexpected visit by Bill Peasced, a noted English rock-climber proved of interest. Sound films were shown on highland themes of India.

A barbecue that was to be held on the South Pine River finished up under a shelter at Jelly's Lookout, a horribly wet affair. A social, which seems to be an annual affair now was held in the "Great Hall" of the University at George Street, and was extremely successful despite a loss of a few pounds due to excess catering.

The outings for the year with the corresponding attendances were:

Moreton Is.	33	Wilson's Peak	15
Mt. Nebo (day walk)	38	Albert River	38
Mt. Edwards	15	Cunningham's Gap	19
Edinburgh Castle	15	Numinbah Valley	15
2 visits to the Glass House Mountains	32 and 22 resp.		
Tweed Ranges	7		

Many of these trips have been greatly facilitated by the use of the "Ayre's Rock Bus" and we thank the owners very much for the use of it at such reasonable rates.

One disappointing feature of the trips this year is the lack of enthusiasm for through-walking. This is the only way that a walker can really appreciate his surroundings and through-walking should therefore constitute a majority of the trips in a good bushwalking club. Perhaps a contributing factor to this lack of enthusiasm was the use of the "Ayre's Rock Bus", since the temptation was too great to just sit and be driven. Nevertheless the club seems to be building up a solid core of keener members who are organising their own private outings as well as attending club outings and this is very much to be desired. I hope that in future we will see more trips of the calibre of the Scenic Rim trip done by Byron Holdaway and Alan Timmins during the year.

This year there has been considerable interest in rock-climbing as is shown by two well attended trips to the Glasshouses. The main difficulty has been that the number interested has been too great for the few experienced instructors that we have.

1956 has seen little progress on the Mt. Barney Hut but I hope that this does not mean a falling off in enthusiasm. The club has not organised a hut building trip this year, so let us hope that in 1957 the work will be attacked with greater vigour. The walls that are now standing have been well strengthened by cementing and provide a solid foundation for future construction.

Also this year the club has acquired several articles of new equipment for hire namely :- 3 Down sleeping bags,
1 Framed rucksack
so that in all we now have : 4 rucksacks (3 with frames and
1 without) and 5 sleeping bags, a 2 man tent and a 6 man tent.

The club has sold all the dried potatoes and hobnails that were bought in 1954. Now that an agent for Paddy Pallin is established in Brisbane we feel members can probably deal direct if they require more of these.

We were pleased to note during the year that John Stephenson an Honorary Life Member of the Club has become a prominent geologist in the Antarctic Expedition leaving later this year.

Finally I should like to thank all those who helped to make this a successful year for the club, especially Nell Cole for typing the letters and notices etc.

I wish the incoming committee a happy and successful office for the forthcoming year.

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