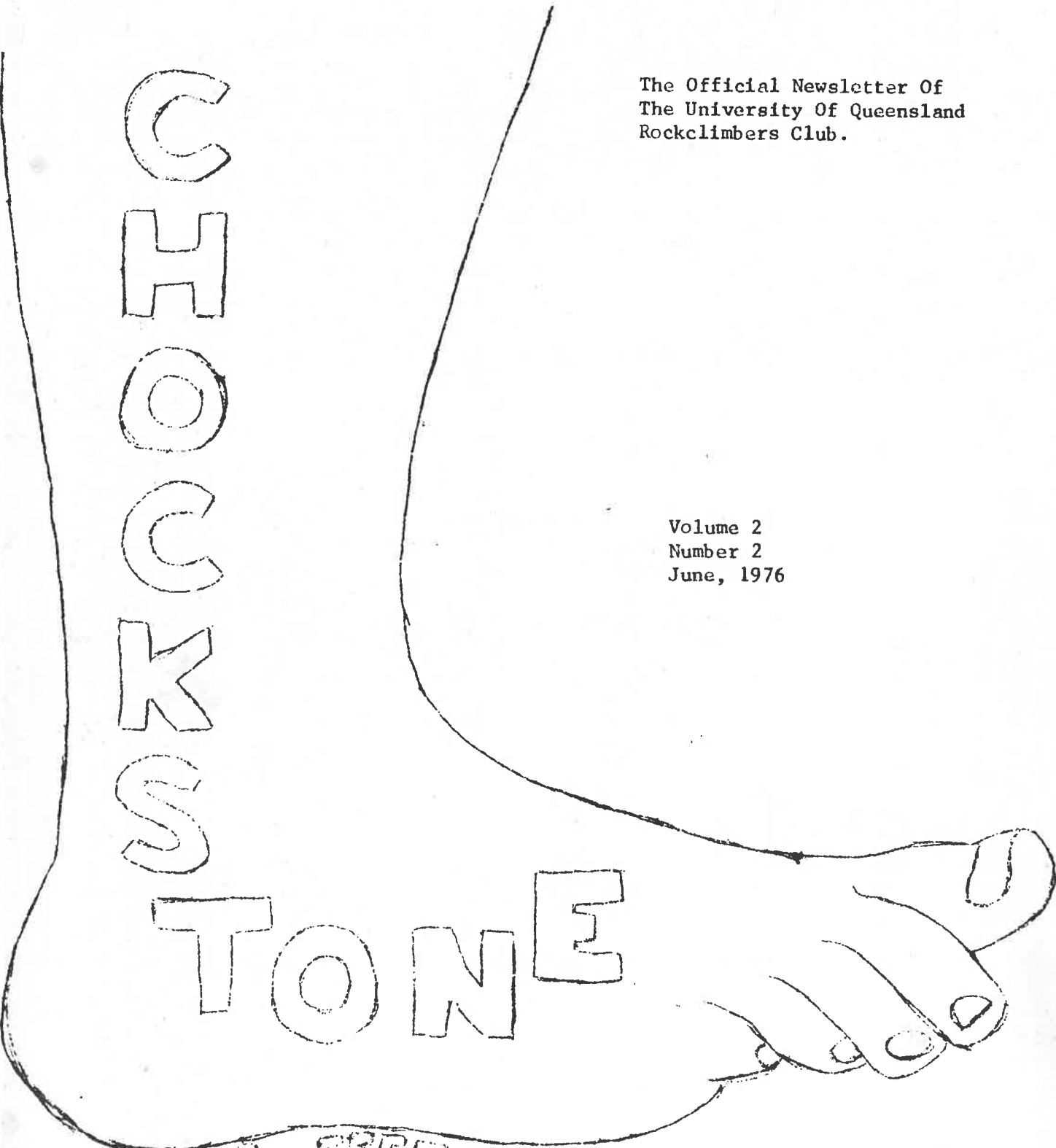


The Official Newsletter Of
The University Of Queensland
Rockclimbers Club.

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ROCKCROSSTONE

IT'S FEET WEEK

All correspondence to be addressed to:

University of Queensland Rockclimbers Club,
C/- Sports Association,
P.O. Box 87,
University,
ST. LUCIA. 4067

EDITORIAL

After a year of existence, the club seems to be running smoothly. With things more stable now, the club should possibly be thinking of extending its activities. How about some social functions or at least some extended trips to far-away places?

As indicated by the cover, this edition of *Rockstone* emphasises the foot's role in rockclimbing. It also gets to the bottom of some very chalky situations.

Hope you enjoy some good cryptic reading,
C.B.G.

Committee Members,

President- Fred From	3708959
Secretary - Craig Glasby	487983
Treasurer - Rick Webb	3978676
Equip/Outings Officer - Gus Fergus	3712561

Mt. Cook, The East Face

The summit of Cook 12,300ft, a slightly angled slab of ice, the highest point in New Zealand, the dominant peak in the Southern Alps. We were there at midday in the bright sun it was an incredible position. After a memorable route which started 12½ hours before when we left Plateau Hut and walked energetically across the Grand Plateau doubting our stamina and swearing at the not yet solid crust on the snow.

Peter after four years of attempts was going to climb Cook and I with my 5 weeks experience was going to do a moderate climb. I was too humbled by anticipation to be scared.

When we arrived at the bottom of the face we rested briefly and could see a guide and his client a few hundred feet up Zurbriggen's Ridge. We moved up onto the face and started climbing together. At the schuunuls we belayed but on the acres of white ice we moved together going first in turn, zig zaging under the ice cliffs toward the black, moon lit rock buttress in the centre of the face.

We crossed the avalanche runnels thankful that it was night and they were still, moved past the first piece of rock and started to belay at the second. We thought the buttress was only about 50 metres away and decided it would be best to arrive sorted out. (What's more it was getting quite steep). It took us two rope lengths to get to the rock and another to find a place to get our crampons off.

The rock, - terrible!- it was a pile of rubble, not more than 55° on the average but some steep sections. Some one had told us that the rock was just a scramble, and that you could solo up it. Sure it was easy.. easy to pull off.

Before long we were back onto mixed ground. It took us approximately two hours to reach the bottom of the rock from the hut, almost a mile distant and over 2000ft below but we were climbing an incredible snow arete (Annapurna South Face type) only 700ft higher, when the sun rose. Here I took our only photos while on the face both were failures.

Across on the ridge we could see Bob and Kim, with the client and his guide, below our level at the start of the rock band. I felt pleased with our progress and still thought we might make the summit by 9 o'clock, but a look across to the east ridge at our height was very sobering.

There was no wind. The sun was glaring. I almost passed out on belay but finally Peter yelled he was safe. I stripped of my foamback balaclava and pullovers.

Pitch after pitch of varied climbing followed till finally we arrived at the top of a long ice gully only to find the roar of falling rocks blocked us off from the usual route to the summit Ice Cap. Those rocks were really moving. Their sound was not the buzz of a rock trundled off a craig, but the roar of an express train.

We snuck up the side of the gully. A rock splintered the ice just next to Peter as he came up to my belay under a rock wall. Peter was able to lead the way and climb out of the rock fall danger area. I was very careful as I seconded this pitch - Peter had commented on the looseness of the rocks. I gave a slight tug to balance myself on a boulder I would have sworn was safe. Next thing I knew I was hanging at the end of the rope. After I scrambled back onto the rock I looked down to see the boulder still arcing down the face. My leg had only been bumped 'lightly' so I continued up the pitch with a revitalized fear of mixed ground.

We were getting high and when on belay I could look across at the summit of Tasman and pick out our route on the East face of Linden felt, I thought; "What a tiny peak we climbed yesterday," but soon realized this was wrong—Cook is huge.

Peter finished his pitch and as I reached him he indicated a steep mixed gully as the way forward. I could see no better way so climbed the gully hand jamming between the rock and ice using the pick of my axe in the shallow ice while using my feet on both ice and rock. At the top of the gully was a ledge below a rock wall, over eight feet high, split by two ice patches like hanging glaciers, about 6 feet up. After about ten minutes of trying to mantle shelf onto my Chouinard curved picks I gave up and was about to retreat when I noticed that I could crawl around the corner toward the rock fall. This revealed a chimney about 9ft high which would be about 14 at Frog Buttress. In mitts and crampons, with a pack and rope drag, at 12,000ft, I climbed it. It was very hard, especially considering a 50 metre run out. Peter avoided this by some superb climbing, mantle shelving onto his picks in soft ice. His complaints about my slowness on this pitch vanished as he got to my belay. Two more pitches took us to the ice cap and two more to the summit.

We arrived on the summit just as Kim and Bob did and joined Andrew and his client in lunch. After the usual rest and photo's we started to descend.

I couldn't help thinking that you spend almost all of the day just 50m from your partner while climbing in the mountains. Hardly ideal for communication.

Due to Bob and Kim's fatigue we went down the Linda Glacier rather than reversing Zurbriggen's Ridge. We were twice very nearly stopped by slots. The four of us arrived at the Plateau at 7 p.m. only to find it at its most punishing. A few steps then break through was the rule. And pulling my feet out of the holes scraped my shins even through my super Gaiters. The hut had filled and lost its charm during the day (I say nothing of nagging women). I felt very wide awake till the minute I went to sleep but then there was no waking me for the jelly.

FRED (FEET) FROM

CORRECTIONS - CHOCKSTONE VOL 1., NO. 2.

CLIMBING AREAS

Anyone (fool) who attempts to follow my directions to THE MUSHROOM - TEVIOT BROOK will get lost for sure. This is not particularly serious, however as the cliff isn't worth visiting anyway. For the record, the correct turnoff from Boonah-Rathdowney Rd. is the third bitumen road on the right after leaving Boonah, sign posted Carney's Creek. From there follow the bitumen for about 20km until you cross a large concrete causeway then turn right onto a dirt road and follow your nose. The climb mentioned should be AURORA and Kahert should be Robert.

PRACTICE AREAS

An interesting new boulderin area has been found by yours truly at the Gap. The granite boulders are up to 20ft high and at least as good as Tarragindi (which isn't saying much). If you're mad enough to want to go there drive out of Brisbane along Waterworks Rd. and turn right into Settlement road at the Gap. Follow it past a gravel pit on the left and park in front of the house half way up the hill on the right. Cross the road from here and climb the ridge - the boulders are near the top

on the southern side.

MURPHY'S CREEK

The directions given by Derrick Brake are not really too bad as far as the campsite. It should be noted, however, that the road beyond the gravel pit is on private property - an alternative, but very rough public road turns sharp right at the Y-junction mentioned and rejoins the road beyond the gate. We had a Holden in as far as the campsite via the council road four weeks ago with no major difficulties. Beyond the campsite, Brakes directions are pathetically ridiculous. To find the real Goanne Point (yes it does exist) follow the tract across n creek crossings, (n greater than 7 and less than 20 lost count) to where it crosses a branch creek and begins to climb out of the valley. At this point climb the ridge on the left to the cliffs. (i.e. the one on the northern side stupid). No responsibility will be taken by the author if these directions also prove to be incorrect as no party not including "THE FEET" has ever found the cliff.

ODIN CLIMBED AGAIN - Brian led, not Kevin.

Ed. - Every Tom, Dick and Harry and his dog is climbing Odin therefore the following rule should be implemented - any climb over 18 that has more than five ascents on it should automatically be downgraded 3 grades - I hereby pronounce the God of War 17.

GUS FERGUS

FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF ROCKCLIMBING

Initial impressions are printed indelibly in ones mind after an outing with this mob. Most remarkably, they dismiss descriptions of their absolute, unquestioning irrevocable insanity with the sheepish grin or wry smile whilst their eyes all dart fuetively towards the next rocky conquest.

A "rockie" is easily described. He tends to be neither an intellectual giant nor an academic adversary. In fact, his close postural resemblance to a Cretin Mongol is truly remarkable. In an assessment of this person one should not be foiled by his lean "hungry dog" look - quivering nostrils, salivating tongue - its really a "bushie" characteristic used to make you think that he's not an animal. With careful observation you should zero in on his schizoid twitching of fingers and toes - yes, this is precisely what you're looking for.

And what of the assult? the true "rockie" is an accomplished 'grot'. He arrives at the base of a cliff with, draped over his srawling shoulder, coils of 'bits of old rope' - scavanged from children's playgrounds, treehouses, cow sheds and the like. Dangling from his waist - poised in a threatening position over his groin - are instruments of torture, commonly called 'krabs'. (He uses them for holding on to rocks with). Sacrifice offerings are supervised by the "belayer" who is allowed to hold the 'bits of old rope', but is not allowed to pick his nose or scratch his arse unless a fall is imminent. Ascents begin with simple cries - similar to those of childbirth. Lubrication thus completed, the climber struggles forward into a crack. Upon reaching the vital position he is likely to be seen searching for two converging surfaces. The idea being placement of his nuts - which he calls "hexentrics". (Failure to place nuts correctly causes

loads of frustations). He then slides his 'bits of rope' into a proper defense position.

And what a crux? Truly, an orgasmic experience. Cries of 'where will I put my hands' attract replies such as 'put 'em in yer pockets!'. Further words of delerium like 'yer miserable mongrel dog' are not generally appreciated.

And what of rockclimbing? It provides a unique opportunity to experience fear at the gut level!

ERWIN GROENVELD.

SOUTH BALD ROCK

A ten foot roof crack on handjams - little grystals rip you apart; fist jams - overhang - a small hold, the crack goes on forever - no rests, 50 feet to go, mind blowing - smooth - offwidth, two small holds to stand on, impossible - 25 - terrifying - must be the hardest line in Australia, From wouldn't try - he couldn't stop babbling. Beside it a fierce crack - overhanging hands or fists - hand traverses, other side - Enimney - a series of roofs, protection? finger layback the final roof - when will they be climbed.

South Bald Rock is near Giraween National Park on the property of Mr. Kye Nielson. The approach road is on the property of Mr. McMeniman (phone Wollangarra 843142). Both require notification. Approach via Wollangarra and take the Mt. Norman Road - across the overbridge, left then right when the road turns left again McMeniman's house is in front of you. He runs a BP depot and will give you directions. Kye Nielson lives in a little stone house with a sod roof behind the ranch style stone gates further along the road. Beware of his shotgun. Don't go if you can't climb 20, remember your tubes and practise your off - widening.

The obvious curving hand crack was climbed by Fred. He wants to call it the Potato Muncher if it's a first ascent - it must surely be 19.

GUS WERGUS

A MATHEMATICAL MODEL FOR LEAD CLIMBING ENJOYMENT

This paper attempts to rationalize the grading system.

Consider L to be a measure of leading capacity, where L = f (climber(experience stupidity, belayer, number of one arm pullups he can do)

Assign yourself an L rating from 1-20 (the average climber is about 12)

Introduce the variables

S - distance to the last protection

D - " " " deck.

T - time of day

G - grading of climb

$$\text{let } P = L - (D^2 / 4) + (12 \cos D + \frac{1}{2}) + (1 - \frac{6}{T}) + (\frac{\ln G}{2})$$

where P is an efficiency factor, a measure of how well the climber will climb the particular route.

s and d are in metres.
if t is p.m. add 6 hours.

If the term in brackets is above 4.5 the average climber should not attempt the route, 6.3 is impossible. A P factor if around 8-10 should be aimed at for the climber to attain maximum enjoyment out of the climb.

PETER PATTISON

A GRIPE

No Queenslanders use chalk at all, but in Victoria its use is quite common. Surely when they visit Q they could leave it behind. No chance, go look at 'Child in Time', 'Black Light', 'Corner of Eden' and more of our classic climber. Chris Peisker has needlessly splashed chalk on them and not even while leading. We could laugh at this habit did it not leave longlasting marks on the rock. Henry Barber's chalk stayed on 'Erg' for 6(six)(VI) months (half a year).

I feel that people in the U.Q.R.C.C. should protest by not mentioning chalked ascents(ignoring them), by commenting to the offenders that we don't want chalk here and refusing to climb with such people who own chalk.

Queenslanders have never used bolts on their free climbs and avoid using pitons very strongly. The introduction and use of these has come from other states. Lets keep our crags enjoyable and beautiful and challenging. If you want to be 'free' or different or chalky don't make others suffer. We are rockclimbers not gymnasts or cricketer's. Lets hope common sense prevails.

FRED FROM

A LETTER FROM SQUEAK.

5.11.75

Dear Sir,

It erks me to burden your publication with such drivel as this letter contains but I have heard so much of it over the following topic that I feel that some light needs to be shed on the subject.

During 1974 two technical new routes were pieced together by Mr. Hattick and myself at Kangaroo Point - an area which I personally have great respect for.

Recently, I have heard rumours concerning the routes in question. The following is fact:-

1. As the first ascent parties - we did not grade the routes and still have not done so.
2. The routes were characterised by no names other than those of the 1st ascent party - which is common practice overseas.

The above two facts are not a matter of chance but of careful deliberation. My only suggestion to the people (I won't call them climbers) who have attempted to alter the two facts mentioned earlier - especially the latter is that they stop fondling their genitalia and climb some of the rock that they publicise themselves as having climbed, and in particular the two routes in question.

I thank you for your valuable space.

Yours etc.

Staszewski.

CLUB TRIP REPORT - 1-5-76

The grand total of five people made the club's first visit to the Binna Burra Cliffs. Not much climbing was done as the people concerned were too buggered after the walk in - a legacy of going the wrong way. Opinions as to the quality of the rock varied proportionately with the fitness of those that survived the walk in. The most unfit climber's comments went like this - rotten rock, no protection, in the sun, no access and bloody miserable place to spend a day. I, being fit and unbiased, am able to give a more objective picture. The scope for face climbing seemed to be quite extensive. The rock is good and solid, though tends towards Whitenbah Wafer rubbish in some places. It is vaguely columnated but more weathered without the cracks like at Frog Buttress. Some good crack lines do exist however (Red Crack and one marked C.C.)?? The cracks tend to be more to the northern and southern ends of the cliff with a large section of predominantly face climbing in the middle. Protection at the cliff will tend to be a problem and will require a lot of thought (something that climber's used to Frog Buttress are incapable of). The cliff is a bit shorter than the length at F.B. but tends to be higher.

Directions in: Drive to Nerang and take the turnoff to Beechmont, at Beechmont turn left towards Binna Burra and drive several miles. As the road starts to climb again there is a sign saying one lane traffic only. The next bend right after this (100 yds) is Windy Point - park on the left side of the road. There is a vague foottrack running directly downhill from here - follow it to the right of the circular concrete structure (100 yds). Now at the end of a dirt road head down the escarpment veering to the left all the time to avoid the cliff. The cliff should be obvious on the right.

The above is on extremely limited experience of the area and therefore should be treated accordingly. A climb I would recommend is marked C.C. at the southern end - 150ft crack line about grade 15/16.

The group also visited the Whitenbah Wafers on the way home but the walk in limited the climbing done - one climb - Monti Carlo - 16 and surprisingly good rock.

CRAIG GLASBY.

CLUB TRIP REPORT - 12.5.76

This was the second beginners trip this year and was a surprising success. The venue was Frog Buttress and three carloads arrived to find a tent city (Sydney Rockclimbers move in style and in great numbers). It was a sign of things to come - queing for climbs?? During the day all the old faithfuls were climbed ie. anything under 15. Generally it was a great day's climbing and we hope to see the new people again.

CRAIG GLASBY

A THANK YOU

On behalf of the club I would like to thank Rick Brake for the tremendous amount of work he put into getting the silk screening under way.

CRAIG GLASBY.

NOTICE ON NOTICES

In future, notices will be posted on the large notice board outside the refec.

MEETINGS IN SECOND SEMESTER

Every second Wednesday - where? see notice board the day before.

- Wed. 21st July - General Meeting
 - Wed 14th August - " "
 - Wed 1st Sept. - " "
 - Wed 15th Sept. - " "
 - Wed 29th Sept. - " "
 - Wed 13th Oct. - Annual General Meeting
 - Wed 27th Oct. - General Meeting
- Recess until the Wednesday of the first week back in 1977.

ABSEILING DAY

On Sunday afternoon, of the 25th July, there will be a general training day at Kangaroo Point. Emphasis will be on acquiring correct techniques in abseiling and living to tell the tale. Anyone wanting to try abseiling for the first time or do some top-roped climbing are asked to deposit themselves at the bottom of the cliff or contact the Outings Officer.

A RUMOUR

Local rockclimbing gossip has it that a certain 'large' (no suitable adjectives in Roget's Thesaurus) climber with egotistical tendencies has decided to change his middle name by deed poll. His new middle name will be feet (if he spells it correctly) which is rumoured will give him the initials F.F.F. (Flamin' Feet Fairy or WAS it Fairy Feet F..m)???

CHOCKSTONE COLUMN CRYPTIC COMMENT

Curious things have been happening with frightening regularity on Black Light (F.B.) lately.

CHOCKSTONE ARTICLES

The editor would welcome interesting, humorous or perverted articles from anyone or thing. Gripes, advertisements, poems, mathematical problems and rubbish accepted. Cryptic comments column needs cryptic comments. Climbers other than club members are also invited to make use of this news letter to help spread rockclimbing propaganda.

ED.

NEW MEMBERS

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Jacki Stephens | 33 Nagle St., UPPER MT. GRAVATT | PH, 3695382 |
| Virginia Tron | 153 Brisbane St. BULIMBA | PH. - |
| Con Byrnes | Cromwell College | PH. 701151 |
| Fred From | 44 McCaull St. TARINGA | PH. 3708959 |

NEW ASCENTS

At F.B. :

Faki (14) 90' starts off 'Witches Cauldren' ledge at the right hand end. The route; twin handjamb cracks to next ledge, across to corner, handjamb to the top.

Integrated Injection Logic (16) 70' starts off Faki ledge go straight the small roof.

Termination (20) start beside Intergrated Injection Logic a face climb.

Worthless (18) between Theory and Saber Sucker. As the name suggests, seconded Kevin Pearl.

At 'Roo Pt.':

Froth (20) to the right of the gate. The roof provides the interest. Top-roped.

At 'South Bald Rock':

Potato Peeler (18) 70' obvious curving crack. Low down close to swamp close to huge balancing boulders. Dead tree at start.

All above climbs put up by Fred From - without chalk and without boots.

At F.B.:

Decption (14) to the left of Century. Cheating if you use the tree. Led by Craig Gl by sec. Gus Fergus.

NEWS FLASH

The aid in "Shocking Blue" has been eliminated by Fred From.

No man can climb out beyond the limitations of his own character.

Viscount Morley of Blackburn
