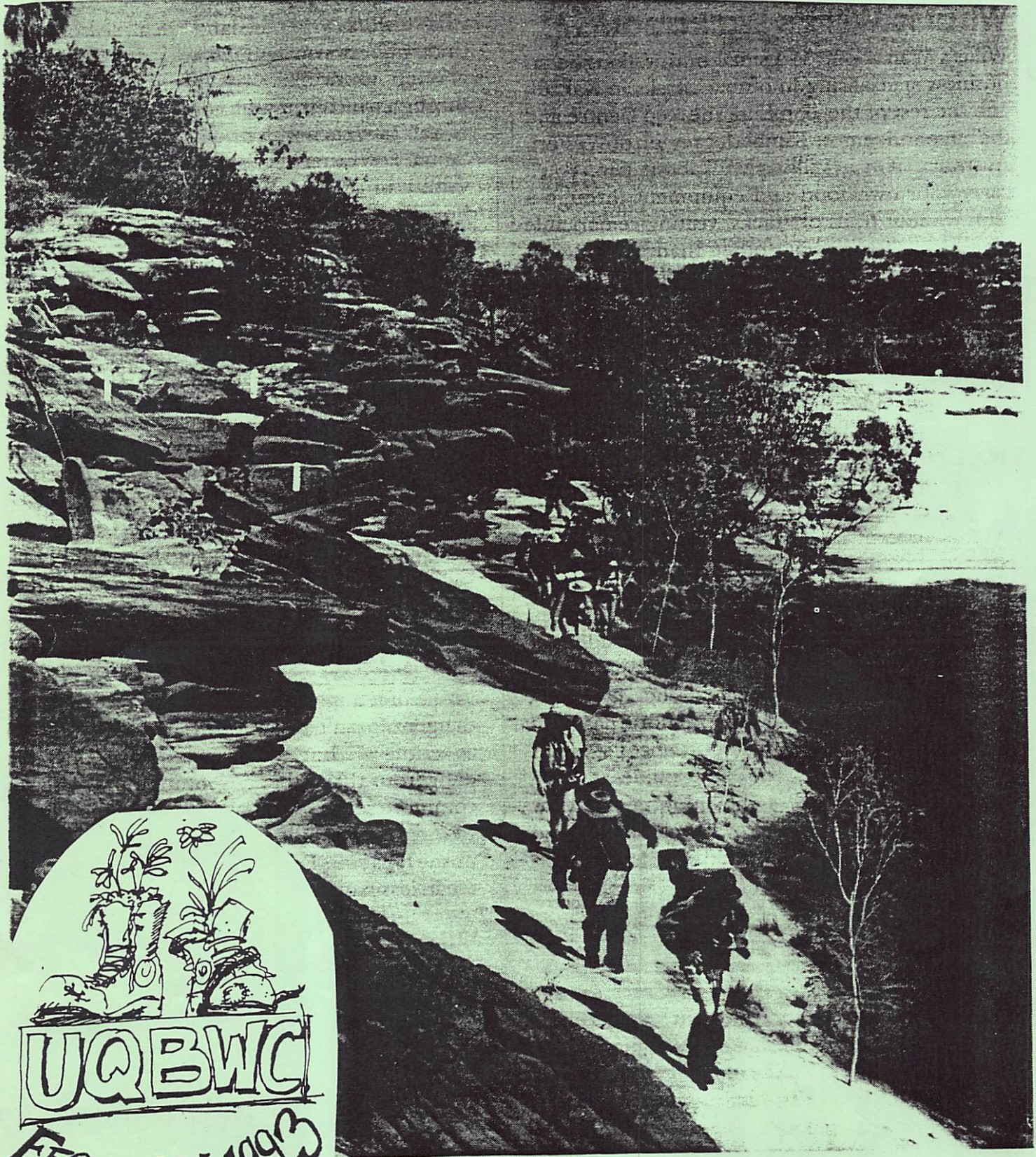



MINI HEYBOB




UQBWC
FEBRUARY 1993

CLUB EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT:	Janice Porter.....371 0591
TREASURER:	Bernadette Lodge.....371 0591
SECRETARY:	Kate Campbell.....369 6430
OUTINGS OFFICER:	Anthony Smith.....300 3488
CONSERVATION OFFICER:	Kay-Louise Colthorpe.....349 4311
SAFETY & TRAINING:	Paul Hill.....379 5710
LIBRARIAN:	Malcolm Haskins.....371 0591
EQUIPMENT OFFICER:	Peter Allen.....870 2820

Welcome to the first issue of the Uni of Queensland Bushwalking Club Newsletter — the "Mini Heybob", for 1991. This year for the first time we have put out another publication. This introductory booklet contains all sorts of information about the club, including our policy on Safety which is essential reading for all. The booklet is something for members new and old to keep and refer to.

A few walks have been planned for the next three weekends — so whether you're a novice or not, come along. A more extensive list of trips for March and April will be drawn up at the next meeting so make sure you are there! We will post out the new trip list, hopefully with a membership list so you can contact people you met at meetings or are organising walks with.

Old members — please remind everyone to resubscribe.

the joining fee has increased to \$7 for students and \$10 for others. We have had to increase the fee as photocopying and posting the Mini-Heybob is expensive and there will be more issues this year.

See you on March 3 at the first meeting, Clubs and Societies Rm 7pm. Janice + Kate



O'Week Activities

B.B.Q.

WHEN Saturday 20th at 5.00pm

WHERE at the Architecture/Music Pit Picnic Area by the Uni Lake.

WHAT For members and non-members alike, come and meet other walkers and find out what has been going on over the holidays. There will be hamburgers and soft drinks for a miniscule fee. B.Y.O drinks.

DAY WALK to the Lower Portals

WHEN Sunday, February 21st.

FOR Socializing, swimming and great views of Mt. Barney and Leaning Peak. This will be a leisurely walk with opportunities to explore further up rocky Barney Creek for the more energetic.

BRING Togs, hat, sunscreen, water, picnic lunch.

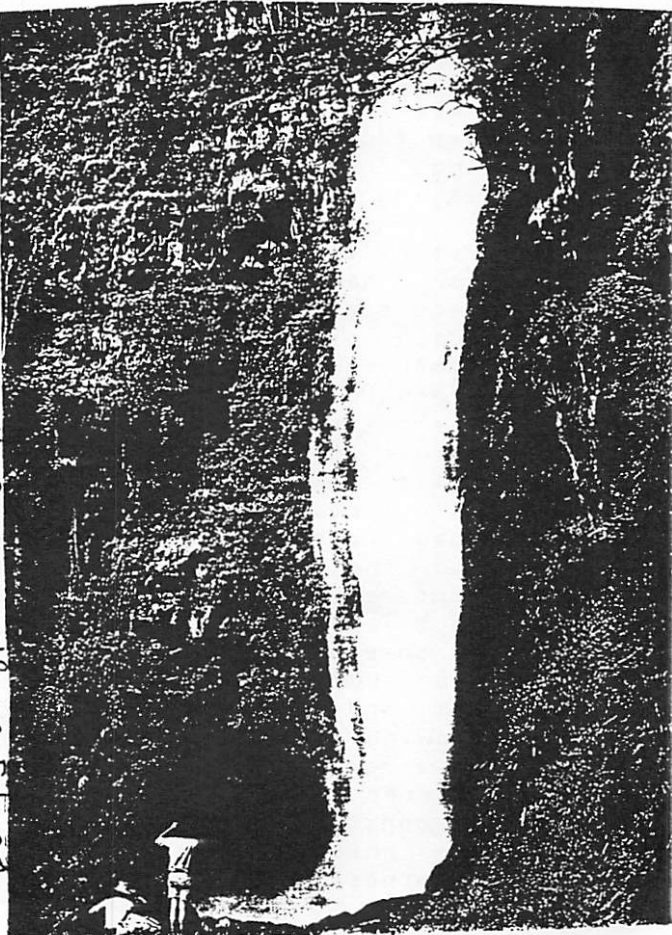
MEET 7.45am at the Hitching Post.

CONTACT Kate Campbell on 369 6430 if you are coming.



^ Janice, Peter and Ashley overlooking Lake Judd and Mt. Sarah Jane Tasmania. See the two articles on pages 5 and 6.

^ Running ck falls, see it for yourself on Feb. 28.



CAVING IN BUNGNONIA

Malcolm Haskins, Jerome Jamnicky, Rohan Hamden, Jason McCloud

Bungonia Recreation Reserve lies 40 km east of Goulburn, NSW and is set up with hot showers, toilets that flush and a kitchen with free stoves and hot water. This convenience is subsidised by a \$3/p/n fee. The caving area and camping ground are very close to one another, so it's just a matter of waking up in the morning and choosing you're cave. The idea for the trip was brought about by finding a fantastic book all about the cave in the Club Library (hint!). This book describes all the caves in the area, equipment required and interesting features. The nature of the caves being very vertical requires a bit of technical knowledge of Single Rope Techniques (again a good book that can be found in the library, or talk to any of us).

We arrived on Monday night and decided to check out Grill Cave - basically a tourist cave. It doesn't require ropes and has a number of ladders. One particular problem with the caves is that there is a high incidence of foul air - CO2 levels of 5%. Even 3.5% will cause severe headaches and in extreme cases, if the warning signs are ignored - unconsciousness and finally asphyxiation. Foul air is easily detected by the use of a match or lighter - if a flame cannot be sustained, it's time to leave!

The next day, we did Drum Cave - the first pitch is a 48m abseil straight down into the dark with the bats! Over the next week, we did: Acoustic Pot, Blowfly, The Extension, B4-5, Argyle Hole (in which we managed to get down to the first sump - a crystal clear water hole with little calcite rafts). The Extension involves a number of squeezes and flatteners - 150m of 45cm high roofs is a long stomach crawl!

The Reserve area does not only include caves. There's great walks, enormous gorges, deep canyons and wide rivers. If anybody is interested in going caving during the holidays, contact any of us or Janice. Go caving and really see 'Down Under'.

CAVING IN TASMANIA

by Janice Porter

In December 92/January 93, I spent 2 months in Tasmania including several walks in the South West, East Coast and Central Highlands. It was fortunate that an ex-Sydney Uni student who joined UQBWC last year, Robert Dancer had put me in contact with the organiser of the biannual ASF Caving Conference to be held in Launceston in early January. The lady hinted that the 3-day Australian Speleological Federation conference itself, called TasTrog 93, might be a tad boring for a casual caver such as myself. There were 107 delegates from many caving clubs throughout Australia and even a few from Queensland. However she recommended me to go to the Cavers Dinner and the final day's activity - Speleo Sports, then to stay around to go caving in the Mole Creek area.

As soon as I arrived at the Conference Centre with my UQBWC helmet, Petzel Zoom, borrowed overalls and gumboots, I was welcomed to join a team for the Speleo Sports as each 4 person team needed a female member. Teams were already going through the rigours of the obstacle course of slippery drain pipes, roped walls, tyre tunnels, mud grovelling under nets and full immersion in a murky swimming pool. This took some teams of geriatric armchair cavers 45 minutes to complete. Our time of 10:26 mins was the fastest recorded but we only came 3rd due to a higher number of penalty points mainly accrued by knocking into hanging tentpegs called Stalactites while crawling through tunnels (environmentally destructive caving!).

Tasmania has some of Australia's deepest and longest cave systems, the main areas being Junee-Florentine near Mt Field NP, Ida Bay south of Hobart, and the main limestone area in northern Tas, Mole Creek. Many of the conference delegates were caving at Mole Ck for a week after the conference, so I joined them at the Sassafras Ck Campground and enjoyed 6 days of caving in some of the wettest caves in Australia. Names like Wet Cave, Rathole, Maze Puzzle, Diamond, Koh-i-Noor, Marakoopa (a tourist cave), Prohibition Pot, and Kubla Khan all now bring back memories of creeks and waterfalls flowing underground inside cold damp limestone holes some with incredible cave decoration. Kubla Khan, the gem of the Tassie caves, was completely covered in flowstones, stalactites, huge stalagmites, shields, shawls, aragonite crystals and helictites and the whole spectrum of "pretties"; and its priceless beauty in my mind adds to the richness of Australia's wilderness value.

Bushwalking Gear Hire.

The club has a range of gear for hire to club members only. Non members must join the club (\$5.00 and proof of identity) if they want to hire equipment.

Gear hire is primarily for those members who either are unsure they want to take up bushwalking, or who can't yet afford their own gear. It is not a substitute for having your own gear in the long run.

The gear provided is expensive to replace and is hired out at a minimal cost. Therefore it is requested that you the hirer take every precaution and care to return the hired gear in the exact same state as when first hired. You will have to sign a declaration to this effect and provide a \$10.00 deposit. Any damage to equipment will be repaired from the deposit and if gear is irretrievably damaged or lost, it will have to be replaced at cost by you.

Priority will be given to people hiring gear for club trips, over private trips.

The gear resides on campus in my room
AXON BUILDING. Dpt of Electrical Engineering.
Rm .502 Peter Allen. phone 365 4138

note:

- (i) I will be available for hire / return of gear between 9.30 am and 5.30 pm Monday to Friday.
- (ii) If a campus visit during work hours is inconvenient then please phone and I can arrange to have the gear at my place, at a suitable time.
41 Ruskin St., Indooroopilly. (ph 870 2520)
- (iii) During Semester holidays I may be bushwalking so please anticipate this and book gear as early as possible.

When hiring equipment...

- * **BOOK** equipment as early as possible for your trip
- * **HIRE** gear after Wednesday before your trip
- * **PAY** for the gear when you pick it up. Receive a receipt
- * **RETURN** gear before the Wednesday after your trip
- * **MENTION** any damage to gear

HIRING RATES:

<u>Item</u>	<u>day rate</u>	<u>week rate</u>
Rucksacks...		
'Lowe' weekend pack	\$1.00	\$5.00
day pack	\$0.50	\$2.50
Sleeping bags and liner...		
2-3 Season	\$1.00	\$5.00
4 Season	\$2.00	\$10.00
Sleeping mats and sack...		
foam	\$0.50	\$2.00
Stoves and fuel...		
Camping Gaz (Butane)	\$2.50	n/a
Trangia (Meth Spirit)	\$1.50	n/a
Tents with groundsheet...		
2 or 3 person fly	\$0.50	\$2.50
3 person Trailmaster	\$1.00	\$5.00
2 person Ultimate	\$1.50	\$6.00
2 person Hallmark	\$2.00	\$10.00
2 person Meridian	\$2.00	\$10.00
2 person Olympus	n/a	\$20.00

ROCK CLIMBING GEAR. Please ask as a group charge will apply.

A once only \$10.00 deposit will apply to above gear. That is if you hire a weekend pack, a sleeping bag and mat total cost will be \$2.50 with a \$10.00 deposit

→ \$10 / rope / WE
\$1 / harness

This is my bit of a trip to Tassie that was a compendium of peoples and ideas. It started as a hazy blur with Janice planning some sort of walking over the whole break between 2nd and 1st semesters. Tassie has been a desire of mine for a long time so I eagerly joined the group of Janice, Rohan, Paul and Ashlea. The first mention of the Arthur Range region came from Paul and having no knowledge of the region I assumed it would be an ok walk. I wasn't concerned were I walked in Tassie it would all be a new experience.

To keep this short our excitement peaked when we were actually on the bus to the Mt. Anne circuit. We had enough food for 15 days and boundless energy (chocolate).

The Lake Peddar region with Mt. Anne and the whole of the Arthur's Range range visible is an incredible experience. To only be able to spend 15 days here is a travesty. I already knew I would have to be returning here endlessly before we started walking. The first few days on Mt. Anne, Mt. Eliza were special and everything was perfect. I only gloss over them because Janice has already captured the magic on paper.

It was, however the Western Arthur traverse that we were here for.

The rain added to the awe of this place as we collected and organised our food drop at the start of the track to WA. The walk out to Junction Creek was hell. Rain is fine, mud is fine walking across flat terrain is fine, walking on a flat boardwalk is fine, carrying over 30kg is fine but I wanted to climb mountains and we didn't get to on this first ordinary day. Starting our marathon traverse of the WA with everything wet could not even dampen our enthusiasm and it is in such times that friendships are forged.

The next day we were finally climbing up onto the WA and the rain and heavy packs and the muddy Port Davies track stimulated our senses as we reached the base of Morain A and in little over an hour we were up there on Mt. Hesperus looking down at the Huon Plain and Lake Peddar and the uniquely wild area of Wilderness called SW Tasmania.

To quote from Byron....

'I live not in myself, but I become

Portion of that around me; and to me

High mountains are a feeling.'

Every day since we arrived in this region, countless times during the day we would say to each other, '...it just gets better and better....'. At times we would just sit in these high places and drink deeply the view. Mind you Ashlea always claimed the best rocks as her own. Another quote from the 66 Heybob shows this is common to bushwalkers. It reads..

'Seated side by side, our backs to the rock face, the bones of the earth seemed to make a cradle for us. The cold became more intense. In our hearts we held all the sky, as darkness fell around us.

The moments which lie at the bases of happiness and friendship are simple and unspectacular; they seem so natural that they do not stand out at the time.'

quoted from "Between Heaven and Earth" Gaston Rebuffet.

To mention that this region is rugged is not necessary. To describe its beauty is not necessary. There was seeded in me a hope that this region remains as a legacy so I can take my children to it to instill a sense of wilderness in them just as it remains in me. I hope that just before the Arthritis locks my joints, or small arteries close; my body I can traverse this region again and be finally sated with its beauty.

However because our trip to Tassie was such a success a further return trip is being organised for January 94. Four or more weeks of kayaking the Franklin/Gordon system, walking the unwalked regions of Cradle Mt region, climbing and caving with perhaps a complete traverse of the Western and Eastern Arthurs and Mt. Federation and a climb onto the Candlestick in the Mt. Houy/Mt. Pillar region. If you are interested start your planning and preparation. You will need to be super fit, full of energy and experienced but the trip won't cost much and it returns much more than you have paid for. See me for sketchy details.

MT ANNE CIRCUIT, SOUTH WEST TASMANIA

Walkers : Ashlea Troth, Paul Hill, Peter Allen, Rohan Hamden, Janice Porter

The Wilderness Transport bus from Hobart dropped us at the start of the Mt Anne Circuit track at 2 pm. National Parks have recently constructed a staircase as far as the High Camp Hut on Mt Eliza, so after 2 hours we were bunking down in the cosy stone hut under the eaves.

The vegetation is low subalpine and heathland, so the views of Lake Peddar, Mt Solitary, and the Western Arthurs to the south are a highlight of the 3 day trip, and became better the higher we climbed.

Paul and Ashlea cooked dinner while I wrote my diary sitting on the corrugated iron roof of the most sensible toilet in the world - it faces the window and the view ! The sun eventually set at 8:30 with daylight saving time, and we witnessed the green cap seen only under such clear skies as we had.

We left by 8:00am because Rohan was so energetic, and reached the trig beacon on Mt Eliza after an hour's steep climb. From Mt Eliza to Mt Anne and Mt Lot is a plateau with superlative views of the South West - including Federation Peak and Precipitous Bluff. We found a few large patches of snow remaining from 3 days ago and played in it for an hour sliding down the 15m slope in our waterproof pants. Pete and I nearly came to grief at the bottom of a steep double-toboggan run because we slid onto the rocky slope, but it was great fun. Cont. next page

Mt Anne also had snow patches under the shade of the cliffs, and we reached the red dolerite summit for lunch. It is a sporty rock climb near the top and many attempts to reach the summit by other walkers have failed due to Tassie's fickle weather. However today the butter was melting in the sun!

The Circuit route continues across the plateau with many shallow miniature lakes (tarns) and tough alpine grasses, toward Mt Lot. The footpad over rough steep country is exposed with wonderful views back at Mt Anne and down to Lake Judd and the Lonely Tarns below Mt Lot and Lot's Wife (another cliffy crag that I'll climb one day). It was 9pm by the time we set up camp among the Lonely Tarns - after an epic day climbing 3 mountains. To complete the Circuit the next day, we walked past Mt Sarah Jane and descended through the thick scrub to the buttongrass plains. The flat muddy track improves as it sidles around Schnell's Ridge above the plains, and is duckboarded for the last few kilometres near Red Tape Creek and the road.

This was an excellent 2-3 day walk with great variety and views in lucky weather. Suggested as a good warm up before the Western or Eastern Arthur Ranges Traverses. Tasmap 1:25000 Anne.

Janice

NAVIGATION WEEKEND AT PADDY'S PLAIN



The navigation weekend on the 28th and 29th of November which was organised by Rob Dancer was a great success. Twelve of us camped at 'Skull Camp' and took part in a series of exercises in navigation in Paddy's gully and to the north of Paddy's Peak. Apart from club regulars Kay-Louise, Anthony, Janice, Paul, Ashlea, Ian, Rob, Lynne and myself; two of Paul's friends, Justin and Phil, and ex-club member Alex, joined us for the weekend.



The exercises were rigorous. As the first day progressed our map, compass and observation skills were honed in preparation for a mini-Rogaine on Sunday. Mintee and Mars Bar points were won, and lost by some impulsive gamblers.

On Sunday Janice and partner Phil stormed ahead, as did Ashlea and partner Paul. Meanwhile Alex and Lynne lost their only map. Justin, Ian and I, somewhat off track, stumbled into them. We joined forces and tried, but failed dismally, to make a comeback. It was a fantastic weekend, as a result of it we are all much more confident navigators. Rob did a wonderful job, the weekend was really well organised and enjoyed by all. It is great that someone of his expertise is willing to help others improve their skills. Thanks Rob!

Kate



Trip List 20 February- 6 March

- 20 February: 0-Week barbecue at the Architecture/Music Pit Picnic Area. More details on page three.
- 21 February: Day walk to Lower Portals. For more details have a look on page three.
- 28 February: Two day walks are planned for this Sunday, one to Running Creek Falls and one to Love Creek Falls.

Love Creek Falls is a spectacular waterfall in the Brisbane Forest Park. The trip will approach the falls

* Ask leader about Grades according to our new grading system which appears in



IF UNDELIVERABLE, PLEASE RETURN TO:

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