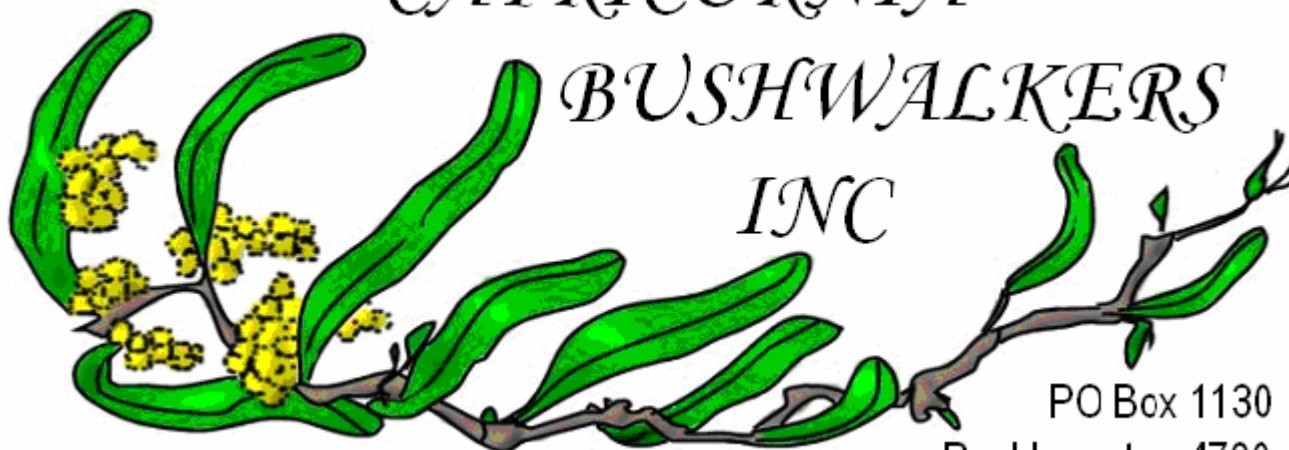


CAPRICORNIA

BUSHWALKERS

INC



PO Box 1130
Rockhampton 4700

No: 109

NEWSLETTER

July 2007

Weekend	7-8 July.....	Castle Tower/ Mt Stanley
Saturday.....	14 July.....	Fun & games night
Sunday	15 July.....	Canooka wattle
Sunday.....	22 July.....	Berserkers
Sunday	29 July.....	Mt Etna
Sunday	5 August.....	Mt Nicholson- Ellida route
Sunday.....	12 August.....	Mt Ganter
Sunday	19 August	Mt Hedlow
Sunday.....	26 August.....	AGM/general meeting
Weekend.....	1-2 Sept.....	Wilpeena races
Saturday.....	8 Sept.....	Mt Atherton
Sunday.....	16 Sept.....	New Zealand Gully
Week away.....	22-29 Sept.....	Dorrigo NSW
Saturday.....	7 Oct.....	Zamia Walk
Weekend.....	13-14 Oct.....	Mt Ramsay
Sunday.....	21 Oct.....	Cabbage Tree Hill
Sunday.....	28 Oct.....	Byfield area
Sunday.....	4 Nov.....	Belgamba

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Publicity Officer
Newsletter
Safety & Training

Fay McBryde 49223820
Bevan Titmarsh 49227482
Cheryl Gargan 49387375
Pauline Toop 49261131
June Dalliston 49226042
Helen Mackay 49971725
Viv Murphy 49280904

Committee Members

Social Committee

Glyn Gadsby, Alan
Rogers, Helen Mackay,
Cathy Pomare-Clarke
Ros Nielsen,
Dot Svendsen,
Maxine Maunder,
Sharyn Johnston

PROGRAM DETAILS

Closing date for nominations is normally at least 5 **days** prior to the walk. If you require transport it is doubly important to nominate well in advance. If travelling with someone else, it is courteous to pay your share of travel costs. Some walks may have a limit on numbers.

Please note that organisers for Socials need advance nominations as well!

Date Weekend 7-8 July **Location** Castle Tower/Mt Stanley
Type BC,M+, O/N, N/F, B, 2 **Contact** Alan Rogers 49224935

A couple of peaks to be climbed in the Awonga Dam area. Recent fires should have cleared the area of undergrowth to make it fairly easy walking on rough granite.

Date: 14 July **Location:** 6.00pm 184 Stamford St. Rockhampton
Type: Soc **Contact:** Maxine 49283212/Sharon 0408267530
Description: Fun and Games! Bring a bag of old clothes which will be donated to charity at end of evening. Soup and buns will be served. Bring a hot meal or desert to share.

Date Sunday 15 July **Location** Canoona
Type H/W, E, A, 1 **Contact** Pauline Toop 49261131

A gentle walk surrounded by wattle which will, hopefully, be flowering.

Date: 22July **Location:** Berserkers
Type: H/W, M,A,2 Alt 370m **Contact:** Glyn Gadsby 49275972
Description: New half day Berserker walk. Views of Thozet Creek and Rockhampton. Please ring early to nominate, if possible.

Date: 29 July **Location:** Mt Etna
Type: D/W,M,A,7 Alt. 100m **Contact:** Pauline Toop 49261131
Description: A caving trip in Mt Etna Caves. Some rope work.

Date: 05 August **Location:** Mt Nicholson – Ellida Route
Type: D/W, M,B,2 Alt 450m **Contact:** Alan Rogers 49224935
Description: An interesting walk up and onto the ridges with the option to climb the extra 40m up Mt Nicholson.

Date: 12 August **Location:** Mt Ganter
Type: D/W, H,B,2,3,7 Alt 592m **Contact:** Darryl Wright 49261160
Description: A walk for those looking for a challenge.

Date: 19 August **Location:** Mt Hedlow
Type: H/W, M,A,2 **Contact:** Cathy Pomare-Clarke 49362534
Description: Some wonderful views of the Lake Mary district from the top of Mt Hedlow.

Date: 26 August **Location:** Environment Centre
Time: 11.00am **Contact:** Fay McBryde 49223820
Description: AGM/General Meeting
Bring lunch to have between the AGM and a short General Meeting to be held afterwards in order to finalise the walks program for the year and to plan the Christmas function and the Australia Day weekend.

Membership Fees were due on 1 January 2007

2 You must be a member to be insured.

Date: 1 September **Location:** Wilpeena Races
Type: O/N, SOC **Contact:** Sharyn Johnston 0408267530
Description: Come along to enjoy a fun weekend at this country race day.

Date: 8 Sept. (*Saturday*) **Location:** Mt Atherton
Type: D/W,4WD,M, B, 5 Alt 450m **Contact:** Bevan Titmarsh 49227482
Description: A combined walk with the Gladstone Bushwalking Club. Call early to nominate for this walk for ease of organisation.

Date: 16 Sept **Location:** New Zealand Gully
Type: D/W, M+,B,2 alt 630m **Contact:** Alan Rogers 49224935
Description: Another interesting walk in the Berserker Ranges.

Date: 22 – 29 September
Trip to Dorrigo and surrounding National Parks. **Contact:** Fay McBryde 49223820

Date: 7 October **Location:** Zamia Walk, Mt Archer
Type: D/W,T/W,M,C,1 **Contact:** Cheryl Gargan 49387375
Description: A pleasant but longish hike down the graded track from the top of Mt Archer down to German Street.

Date: 13/14 Oct **Location:** Mt Ramsay (Baralaba)
Type: H/W, 4WD, O/N,M,B,2,7 **Contact:** Graeme Dredge 49282942
Description: A chance to visit a place we haven't been to for a long time.

Date: 21 Oct **Location:** Cabbage Tree Hill
Type: D/W,M,B,5,7 **Contact:** Cathy Pomare-Clarke 49362534
Description: A walk through pleasant eucalypt and Cabbage Tree forests. Some steep sections.

Date: 28 Oct **Location:** Capricorn Coast Views, Byfield
Type: TBA **Contact:** Dave Larkin 49394916
Description: Phone the leader for details closer to the date.

Date: 4 Nov **Location:** Belgamba
Type: D/W,M,B,2,4 **Contact:** Ian Herbert 49381818
Description: A walk around the Belgamba nature reserve.

WALK LEGEND

D/W	Day Walk	T/W	Through Walk or Car Shuttle required			O/N	Overnighter
H/W	Half-day Walk	4WD	Access by 4WD only	X/T	Extended Trip	TRN	Training
B/C	Base Camp	N/F	No Facilities – no water, showers or toilets			SOC	Social

WALK GRADING

Fitness		Distance		Terrain	
E	Easy, suitable for beginners	A	Less than 5 km	1	Trail/Graded Track
M	Moderate, good fitness required	B	5 to 10 km	2	Off-track/Cross-Country
H	Hard, very fit walkers only	C	10 to 15 km	3	Not pre-walked
		L	15 to 20 km	4	Minor scrub
		X	Over 20 km (same day)	5	Medium or Heavy Vegetation
Total Uphill Sections				6	Creeks / Rock Hopping
ALT	in metres			7	Steep Scrambles

From the editor:

- ☺ This newsletter again has kindly been printed free of charge by the office of Kirsten Livermore MP - Capricornia. We are grateful for this service and hope it will continue.
- ☺ Why not save a bit of paper and some postage and get your newsletter sooner than the rest by having it emailed to you. Thank you to the 13 people who have already indicated email is their preferred method of getting the newsletter. It makes things so much easier with my working in Moura and Kirsten's office (printing) being in Rocky and not being open at weekends. So please consider whether your newsletter can be emailed to you too. Email me at h.mackay@optusnet.com and I can add you to the list.
- ☺ Please send **trip** reports or anything else you may have that would be interesting for the next newsletter to me as an attachment at the same address. If you don't have email access, please send trip reports to me **C/ State School, Moura 4718** rather than the club's PO Box, so I can put them in the next newsletter.
- ☺ Not to be confused with **leaders'** reports which should go to the PO Box for our Records Officer?
- ☺ Cut off date for contributions to newsletters is **one** week after each planning meeting.
- ☺ Don't forget, we have thankyou cards available for walk leaders to use as they feel appropriate-access to land or whatever. Give me a call if you need one for your walk.
- ☺ At the last meeting, some members asked for access to contact details for all members. After some discussion of privacy issues, it was decided that a list of members and their phone numbers (**NOT addresses**) would be sent out to all members with the next newsletter. (This list will **not** be attached to the copy which is uploaded to our website.) If you do **not** wish to have your details on such a list, please let the secretary (ph 49261131) know ASAP. If she hasn't heard from you by the next meeting (26 August) we will assume you are happy to have your details made available to other members.

DORRIGO 2007 UPDATE

Final plans for the Capricornia Bushwalkers September trip away to Dorrigo, NSW (22-29 September) are well underway with a confirmed booking of the Dangar Falls Lodge. Participants have chosen to find their own way to Dorrigo so there was no need to pursue group transport. Several members have opted to brave the elements and will be making use of the camping facilities at the Lodge.

At this stage, there is a one spare bed available at a cost of \$90pp for the week. If there is anyone out there who would like to lodge a late interest in joining the trip, please contact Cheryl at zilziebeach@bigpond.com or Pauline on 49261131.

As Dorrigo is central to several National Parks including Bellinger River, Guy Fawkes, Cathedral Rock and New England as well as Dorrigo, it should prove to be a full and wonderful week of bushwalking in some beautiful, green countryside.

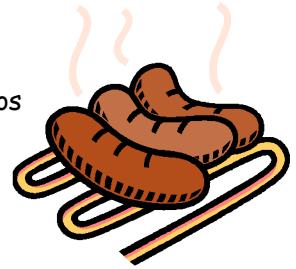
Midweek Wanders.

Dave Larkin is keen to hear from fellow club members who might be interested in midweek walks. Dave has volunteered to look at organising a midweek activity perhaps on a monthly basis if there are people out there who would like to join him. This idea might suit those amongst us who are retirees, shift workers or simply having a day off. Dave can be contacted on 49394916.

WALK REPORTS

Auction and Sausage Sizzle - 24 March, 2007

It was a great night for a great cause and a very big **"Thank You"** must go to Ros Neilsen for organising the event. A special 'thankyou' must also go to members and their families who came along to support the evening and to those businesses and individuals who contributed items for the auction and prizes for the raffle.



Someone else who deserves a special mention was our auctioneer for the night, Bevan Titmarsh. Bevan kept the evening moving along with both humour and the ability to convince people to bid for just about anything. His offsider, Paul Graves, ably assisted him although Paul's attempt at modelling a red handbag was a bit of a worry.

Lindie and Carl from Svendsen's Beach together with Dot and Ron Hyslop donated first prize in the raffle, a three-night package for two to Svendsen's Beach. This wonderful and much sought after prize was won by Debbie Halfpenny. A floor rug donated by Trend Interiors for second prize was won by the Woodbury Tennis Club and finally, a \$50 lunch voucher kindly donated by Fern's Hideaway was won by Graeme and Maxine.

Congratulations to Margaret and Paul Graves and Helen Mackay, the three club members who entered and successfully completed the 428km Children for Cancer Bike Ride. Thanks to the success of the Auction and sausage sizzles organised by Ros, the Club was able to boost their fundraising activity to the tune of \$1242. Well done, everybody.

Cheryl Gargan

"THANK YOU" from Margaret and Paul Graves.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the members involved in fund raising for the Bike Ride for Children's Cancer Institute of Australia. A special BIG thankyou must go to Ros Neilsen who organised everything including 2 sausage sizzles, the Auction and raffle all of which raised a total of \$1200. Ros was an inspiration.



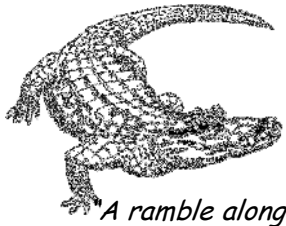
The ride was a success and over \$40 000 was raised by 58 riders from Brisbane and Rockhampton. Next year, the organisers will be looking for a bigger team from Rocky!

☺ **Thanks also from Helen. I don't believe Ros will ever want to see another sausage!**

Once the muscles recovered, it didn't take long to forget just how strong the head wind was as we headed east across the downs or those hills that just seemed to make the word undulating take on new meaning. The camaraderie among the cyclists at the end of each day was incredible as were friendships made to last or at least renew at next year's ride.

Thanks for the support.





UP CROCODILE CREEK (Bouldercombe Falls)

Sunday 15th April 2007



"A ramble along the creek..." it said in the Newsletter. Sounds like a doddle, doesn't it? I'd like to say that it was, but a couple of people might lynch me if I do! Actually, the walk was graded as "Moderate" which I think was a pretty fair estimate. It certainly wasn't "difficult", but not a doddle either.

We met at 7.30 am opposite the spire in Gladstone Road, with intros all round for the "newbie" (namely, me). There were nine of us in all.

The walk began somewhere "back of Bouldy" with a short track walk, followed by lots of rock-hopping up the creek (which sadly, but luckily for us, was dry). Maxine was cast as Leader, but did a magnificent flick-pass of this role to Glyn, who is very familiar with the territory and could probably have led us blind-folded. The standing joke of the day became "300 metres", as in "Glyn, how far to the top of this ridge?", "Oh, about 300 metres." "How far to the waterfall?" "300 metres". "Glyn, how far is this big pool?" "About 300 metres." You get my drift.

After stopping for a couple of rest-breaks and smoko, we circled back down what I presume was a tributary of the main creek (yes, it really IS called Crocodile Creek!) and began rock-hopping back towards our designated lunch site. When I say "rock-hopping", I mean climbing high rock walls, scrambling over huge boulders and sliding down steep rock faces on our backsides (yes, intentionally. It was the only way down).

While Glyn's daughter Brianna leaped gracefully from rock to rock like a gazelle, the rest of us struggled a little more sedately with our footholds, knocking bits of skin off here and there as we went. There were no serious accidents, but we did have a couple of falls, and one boot wedged firmly into a rock crevice. The wearer had to be extricated from the boot while hanging halfway up a rock face, and then the boot had to be un-wedged from the rock!

Some of the more challenging descents were met with groans of "Oh gosh, how do we get down here?" However we made good use of vines, tree roots and prayers, and somehow made it unscathed to the bottom.

After lunch some people opted to walk up out of the creek bed, and follow a track along the bank. I, instead, challenged the "gazelle" to racing the others by going up the creek bed. Have you ever felt like a broken down mule trying to keep up with Phar Lap in the Melbourne Cup, only over rocks, boulders and tree roots? She set an astounding pace, but we won! We beat them by, oh, a couple of yards!

Drinks afterwards at the Bouldy Pub provided a very pleasant wind-down to an incredible day. It was my first walk with the Club, and I had so much fun I can't wait to go again. Oh, and I'm really glad I wore strong pants, as some of those "slippery slides" really tested the stuff they were made of! (Not to mention the stuff WE were made of).

I can now truly say that for my first walk with Capricornia Bushwalkers, they led me up Crocodile Creek! Thanks to all, but especially to Maxine and Glyn for leading us safely there and back.

Mary Howard

ON LIMESTONE PEAKS AND DEEP, DARK CAVES.

10 March 2007

Following somebody into a black, cavernous hole in the earth is not high on the list of things I like to do with my spare time but follow I did. As did 8 other hardy souls who had chosen the hottest day of the year (38°C) to traverse the limestone ridges between Johannsen's Cave and the Camoo parklands. It was only the confidence and competence of our walk leader, Pauline that enabled me to enjoy the moment and not spend too much time thinking about the fact that the only things separating us from the total deafening blackness was a few C class batteries.

However, I get ahead of myself. Our leader made two wise decisions that morning. One was to start the day early and the second was to do the walk first and reward ourselves with the coolness of the cave in the hotter part of the day. So after a quick glance at Johannsen's cave, we set off towards Limestone Peak. As we were expecting much heavier vegetation after the recent rains, it was a pleasant surprise to find the going relatively easy albeit somewhat warm. Sandy, our resident horticulturalist, was frequently asked to identify a specific plant. Unfortunately, the whole area is overgrown with foreign weeds as we discovered as we battled our way through the lantana. Cathy played the role of 'tail-end Charlie' and her ability to find an easier footing option for those of us who were not so agile was very much appreciated.

As we approached the Peak, we found a shady outcrop and settled down for a smoko and the chance to enjoy the view over to Mt Etna and surrounds. During the climb, I found that most of my concentration was directed at where my feet were placed and not at the beauty of the surrounding bush. Much envy was felt for those members of the group who seemed to have the agility of mountain goats. Glynn also took the opportunity of the break to hang his shirt and singlet out to dry

Resisting the temptation to simply stay put for the day, we pressed on to Cammoo with the more ardent cavers amongst us, identifying several more cave entrances on the way. I was not volunteering to put my head down a hole to find a miniscule tag. The track down to Cammoo was a relief after the battle with the lantana and the determination of the resident green ants. It was here that the decision was made to halt for lunch under a very shady tree as the heat of the day took its toll and reduced the group to a state of torpor, listening to the silence of the bush as we regathered our energy for the next stage of the day - venturing back to explore Johannsen's Cave with our intrepid leader.

Following an introductory talk from Pauline on the safety issues involved in entering a cave system, we donned our torches, did a final head count and set off. I must confess to a mild form of claustrophobia so it was with some trepidation that I followed Pauline and the group into the cave mouth and it didn't take too long before we had moved away from any natural light but this is Pauline's backyard from her years as a caver and her very confidence reassured me. Everyone else seemed at ease and enjoyed learning about the local residents of the cave - the Latin names slipping off Pauline and Steve's tongues with consummate ease.

From our vantage point from the darkness within the cave, we could make out many entrances, which at the same time provided a reassuring thought regarding other options for exiting the cave - if needed. After further exploring the cave for specific geological features such as false floors, stalagmites and stalactites, we somewhat reluctantly left the coolness of this inner sanctum.

We finished off what was both a very enjoyable yet challenging day with a very cold drink at the Caves Pub.

Cheryl Gargan

COMBINED CLUBS - MT WALSH

It was advertised as a *back to basics* weekend as Maryborough, the host club, struggled with finding leaders for enough walks to satisfy all abilities and interests. But *basic* would hardly describe any aspect of the weekend. A donkey (of the 44 gal drum kind) to boil water for the bush showers made sure no one was left unclean. Suppers prepared by Maryborough club made sure no one went to bed hungry while Sunday night's trivia quiz made sure we all learnt at least one new fact- however trivial it may have been.

Gladstone and Bundaberg clubs stepped in to help with leading walks and there was a selection available each day to cater for everyone- from bird watching to climbing nearby peaks. Who would have expected, in the drought ravaged country we were in, to be able to cool off in the rock pools on the way back from two walks in the waterfall area. A real treat! As was Monday's walk to the Secret Garden with its cool, shady places and variety of plant life clinging precariously to anything and everything amongst the huge boulders. Sworn to secrecy by Gloria as to the route, we were indeed quite surprised to find such a place and I doubt that even a trail of breadcrumbs would find the place again.

The combined camp is always a good chance to compare notes on what the various clubs have been doing as well as catch up with friends from previous such camps. It was suggested the clubs get together more often with their walks and, to this end, Gladstone, Bundaberg and Capricornia are planning to do more combined walks in the near future.

Thanks to Maryborough Club for such a great weekend. Thanks also to those from other clubs who did a great job leading various walks.

Helen Mackay

FIELD TRIP - BERSERKER MOUNTAINS

22 April 2007

Tip-toe through the cycads,
and the zamias,
and the xanthorrhoeas,
tip-toe through the Berserkers, with me.

I'm sure you all relate to the feeling of euphoria that results from a day in the Berserkers. Trip led by Glyn from Reckoned Road, up to Mt Birk beck and across to the saddle up Pileum Drive. Lovely walk.

Thanks Glyn.

Present: Fay, Cheryl, Mary, Pauline, and Glyn.

Other walks in the offering.

Mt Bartle Frere.

Darryl Wright has invited anyone who might be interested in joining him and wife, Chris in an ascent of Queensland's highest mountain, Mt Bartle Frere around the 11 September. He is hoping to camp at the top near the Old Miners Hut. There is a well-defined track to the top (7.4km) and it normally takes 9 hours. The walk grading is D/W or O/N HC1. Elevation 1622m. Darryl can be contacted for further details on 49261160.

The Larapinta Trail (Central Australia)

Serious thought is being given to a trip to the Centre to complete part or all of the 230km long Larapinta Trail in 2008 (probably sometime between July/September). You can register a level of interest by contacting Graeme Dredge on 49282942.

CAPRICORNIA BUSHWALKERS INC
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Membership will be provisional, until approved at the next General Meeting of the Capricornia Bushwalkers Inc.

- New member
- Renewal

(Please Print..... neatly)

NAME(S):

POSTAL ADDRESS:

Number of members included in this application form:

In which format would you prefer to receive your newsletter?

- Email
- Snail mail (post)

E-mail address:

Phone: (Home) (Work)

Mobile:

Sign..... Date:

FEES – (12 month membership until Dec 2007, or part thereof)

either	Single	\$25.00
or	Family	\$35.00
or	Student/Pensioner	\$15.00

\$

(Compulsory insurance is included in above.)

NOTE: Membership fees are due on 1 January each year.

Please forward to:



The Treasurer
Capricornia Bushwalkers Inc
PO Box 1130
ROCKHAMPTON Q 4700

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Our e-mail:
Our postal address:

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