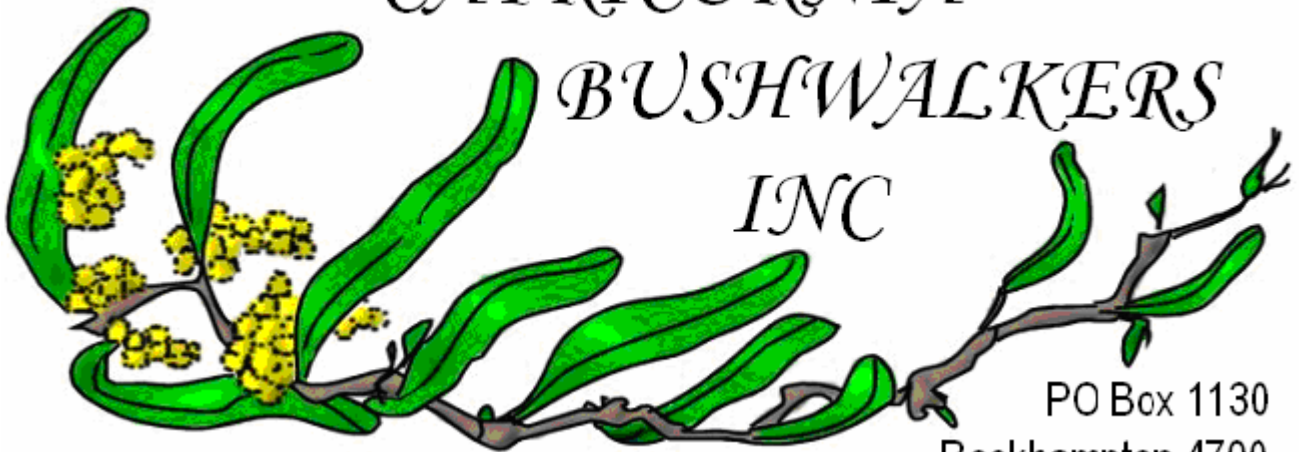


CAPRICORNIA

BUSHWALKERS

INC



PO Box 1130
Rockhampton 4700

No: 118

NEWSLETTER

April 2010

| Day | Dates | Nominate By | Location/Purpose | Ad |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------------|----|
| Sun | 11 April | | Hedlow Area | N |
| Sunday | 18 April | | Cawarral Discovery Tour | Y |
| Sat - Mon | 24 -26 April | 19 April | Boyne Valley | |
| Sat - Mon | 1 – 3 May | 26 April | Combined Clubs Campout | |
| Sun | 9 May | | Beach Walk | Y |
| Sun | 16 May | | Mount Barmoya | Y |
| Sun | 23 May | | Byfield | Y |
| Tue - Sun | 25 – 30 May | ASAP | Carnavon Great Walk | |
| Sat | 29 May | | Putt Putt Golf | |
| Sun | 6 June | | Berserkers | |
| Sat - Mon | 12–14June | 6 June | Robinson Gorge | |
| Sun | 20 June | | General Meeting | Y |
| Sat & Sun | 26-27 June | 21 June | Belgamba | |
| Sun | 4 July | | The Palms | |
| Sun | 11 July | | Hidden Creek | |
| Sun | 18 July | | Canooka | |
| Sun | 25 July | | Broadmount | |
| Sat & Sun | 31 - 1 Aug | | Isla Gorge | |
| Sun | 22 August | | Annual General Meeting | Y |
| September Trip | 18 – 25 Sept | 24 March | Lord Howe Island | |

Thank you to everyone who chooses to download the newsletter from the website as this method is environmentally friendly.

Past President: Mary Howard 49387467
Vice President: Cindi Birch 49344120

Secretary: Cheryl Gargan49387375
Treasurer: Deborah Mylrea49354029
Publicity Officer: Margo Martin 49337156
Safety & Training: Stephen Kerr 49361748
Newsletter: Darryl capbushwalkers@gmail.com

Committee Members

Bevan Titmarsh
Dave Larkin
Pauline Toop
Fay McBryde
Dot Svendsen
Ros Nielsen
Maxine Maunder
Michelle Soppa

Social Committee

From the Editor:

- The Capricornia Bushwalkers Inc. newsletter has again kindly been printed free of charge by the office of Kirsten Livermore MP - Capricornia. We are grateful for this service and hope her patronage will continue.
- The **Website:** <http://www.cqbushwalkers.110mb.com> has information for beginners, a walks calendar, walk photos, information and forms for leaders, previous walks, club rules, **all the newsletters**, risk waver form, membership form, incident (accident) form, and other relevant information. Follow the links.
- If you are a new member, or have recently changed your email address and want to be kept informed of changes to the walk schedule, email the editor at capbushwalkers@gmail.com. I recommend you sign up for a yahoo, hotmail, or gmail free email address. These are portable through any service provider anywhere in the world, & usually offer greater capacity than that of your service provider.
- Every member participating in club activities must submit a completed, signed and witnessed **Risk Waiver** form to the Treasurer. **Under new guidelines**, we may need to complete one every year.
- Please send **walk reports** for the next newsletter to capbushwalkers@gmail.com, as an attachment. If you do not have email access, please post them to **The Editor, Capricornia Bushwalkers INC, PO Box 1130, Rockhampton 4700**, or contact the editor directly. If possible, use Microsoft Word to write the articles and improve the appearance by using **Insert** to include pictures **From File**. Compress the size of the pictures by: **Right click** on a picture in article; choose **Format Picture**; click on the **Compress** button; Select **All Pictures in Document**; and change Resolution to **Print**. Click on **OK, OK**. This makes the file smaller to Email.
- **Cut off date for articles is usually two weeks after General Meeting.**
- **Leaders' Reports** should go to the PO Box for our Records Officer.
- Remember that we have **thankyou cards** available for walk leaders to use as they feel appropriate- access to land or appreciation for other assistance. Contact the Secretary if you need one for your walk.
- **Photos:** Follow the instructions and Email your photos directly to the sharing site linked to the Gmail address above. Contact me by E-mail if you want information on how to do it.
- **Organise walks** by going to the club's website and either download "**Walk Details**" form or obtain one from the Secretary, complete, and either email it to the Editor or take it to the next General Meeting for approval. **E-mail** is the preferred option.

WALK LEGEND

TYPE OF WALK

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| 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 |
| B/C Base Camp | N/F No Facilities-no water, showers, or toilets | TRN Training |
| | | SOC Social |

WALK GRADING

| Fitness Level | Distance | Terrain (Select 2 or 3) |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| E Easy. Suitable for beginners | A Less than 5 km | 1 Trail/Graded Track |
| M Moderate. Reasonable fitness required | B 5 to 10 km | 2 Off-track/Cross-country |
| H Hard. Fit walkers only | C 10 to 15 km | 3 Not pre-walked |
| | L 15 to 20 km | 4 Minor scrub |
| Alt/s is the approximate chance in height to walk | X Over 20 km | 5 Medium or Heavy Vegetation |
| | | 6 Creeks/Rock Hopping |
| | | 7 Steep Scrambles |

PROGRAM DETAILS

Closing date for nominations is normally at least **5 days** prior to the walk or social event. If you require transport it is important to nominate well in advance. If travelling with someone else, it is courteous to pay your share of travel costs (**10 cents/km**). Some walks may have a limit on numbers and preference is given to members. Organisers for social events need advance nominations as well!

NOTE: Distances shown are only approximate return totals.

Date: 11 April
Type: N/F SOC E A 1
Description: Come along and enjoy a relaxing day of fishing (pretending to fish)/ canoeing/ bird watching/ cycling/ climbing Mount Hedlow/ walking or just relaxing beside the creek. Bring your supplies for a BBQ lunch.
Approx drive dist (km): 42

Date: 18 April
Type: E C 1 4
Description: Discovery walk beginning and ending in Cawarral. Easy walking along tracks of including a section of the `rail trail` and through bush areas of interest.
Approx drive dist (km): 40

Date: 24 - 26 April
Type: B/C 4WD N/F DW H/W
E H A B 2 4 7
Description: We leave Saturday morning and drive to Bulburin National Park where we camp for two nights. Bring a good torch for an afternoon/night walk. On Sunday, we use a car shuffle to follow the Boyne River and gorge to look at the abandoned Mt Jacob mine and machinery. About 7 hours walk. We pack up early on Monday to drive to the abandoned township of Glassford for an easy walk to see what is left of the township, mines, furnaces, etc, and Chinese Gardens. 4WD is needed for this part of the trip. Please make your own arrangements to pay camping fees to National Parks.
Approx drive dist (km): 420

Date: 1 – 3 May Day Weekend
Type: Variety
Description: **Combined Clubs Campout** provides an opportunity for members of bushwalking clubs, affiliated with BWQ, to participate in walks they would not normally have access to, and to promote friendships within the bushwalking community. This year it is our club's turn to organise the event. All members are encouraged to camp, participate in walks, social activities, provide snacks, items for a raffle, and offer assistance in any way they can. We need to know by Tuesday the numbers for the meal. More information on walks should be available on the Website around the middle of April.

Date: 9 May
Type: D/W, T/W, B, E, 2, 4, 6
Description: The ever-popular walk from Cooe Bay across to the Causeway via the Bluff at Kemp Beach, provides an opportunity to view the beautiful Capricorn Coastline from several vantagepoints. It is also intended to explore a Conservation area at Rosslyn Bay along the way and a climb up to the top of Double Heads for the more energetic amongst us.
Approx drive dist (km): 100

Date: 16 May **Location:** Mount Barmoya
Type: D/W M B 2 4 7 **Alt/s:** 400m **Contact:** Dave 4939 4916 or 0407 131089
Description: Cross the coast range to Adelaide Park valley then climb Mt. Barmoya (344 m). Great coastal views from smoko stop. Return same route for a late lunch and swim (heated pool). Walk is across private land.
Approx drive dist (km): 90

Date: 23 May **Location:** Byfield
Type: D/W H&M C 2 4 6 7 **Alt/s:** 550 m **Contact:** Darryl 4926 1160
Description: Early start for a walk up one of the tributaries of Stoney Creek to a ridge that offers excellent views of the Stoney Creek valley, Byfield Range, and partial views of the Shannon Creek Plateau. We return by the same route, and this makes it possible to split the group and leave some to enjoy one of the pleasant spots along the creek.
Approx drive dist (km): 150

Date: 25-30 May **Location:** Carnavon Great Walk
Type: T/W M/H X 1 6 7 **Alt/s:** 900m **Contact:** Cheryl 4938 7375
Description: There is one place available for a fit, energetic, experienced person who enjoys long distance walks. This is a newly listed Great Walk – July 2009 – which starts from the Carnavon Gorge Information Centre and includes a 6 day circuit encompassing the Mount Moffatt area and the Consuela Range.
Approx drive dist (km): 800km return

Date: 29 May **Location:** Put Put Golf
Type: SOC **Alt/s:** **Contact:** Maxine 4928 3212
Description: Mini Golf and BBQ tea held at the Driving Range, Parkhurst. Cost is \$10.00 per person and includes the BBQ. Starts at 3pm. No BYO drinks please. Drinks must be purchased from club house. Fun time for all. No experience needed.
Approx drive dist (km): 10

Date: 6 June **Location:** Berserker Wander.
Type: D/W, M,B,2,5. **Alt/s:** 435m **Contact:** Carol 0400195405
Description: Starting from the Norman Road end of the Berserkers, this walk will encompass Mt Chapple and surrounding hills. An area burnt particularly badly by the 2009 fires, it will be interesting to observe the level of regeneration to date.

Date: 12 – 14 June **Location:** Robinson Gorge (Expedition National Park)
Type: B/C N/F 4WD 1 2 3 5 6 7 **Alt/s:** 100m **Contact:** Merridy 0418 114512 or 49262035
Description: Robinson Gorge National Park winds between sheer sandstone cliffs from a broad shallow basin in the north to a narrow gorge towards the southern end. Patches of dry rainforest scrub grow in the narrow side gorges and wildflowers flourish along the cliff tops. Robinson Gorge is 128 km or two hours northwest of Taroom along a road with about 100km of gravel. The plan is to set up camp at Starkvale campground, access only by 4WD vehicle. Several short walking tracks are provided in Robinson Gorge section from the campground (4km and 6km return) as well as Shepherds Peak circuit (9.7 km). Shepherds Peak Circuit requires a high level of fitness based on Australian track standard classifications. Starkvale campground has 8 grassed sites in the campground, pit toilets, and a rainwater tank. Fires are permitted. It is recommended to bring 7 litres of your own drinking water. Registration is \$5.00pp and can be done at Starkvale campground prior to entry.
Approx drive dist (km): 650

Date: 20 June **Location:** Environment Centre
Type: General Meeting **Contact:** Cindi 4934 4120
Description: Come along and have your say on club issues and events. Planning for the next walks calendar will be finalised so your proposals and leadership will be welcome

Date: Sat nite 26 June (base camp)
Sunday 27 June (day walk)
Type: B/C (optional) N/F **Alt/s:**
D/W M B 2 5 6 7+ **Location:** Belgamba base camp and/or
Plumtree Falls day walk
Contact: Ian 4938 1818

Description: Base Camp - Come Sat arvo for short track walk, a campfire Sat night (make up for last Xmas camp when we had a total fire ban.), and possible moonlight track walk.
Day Walk - Thru open forest across the Belgamba plateau to get into Plumtree Ck below the falls via vine-scrub gully. A very steep scramble up to Mt Plumtree for great views, then back around to the top of the falls.

Approx drive dist (km): 90

Date: Sunday 4 July (1/2 day walk) **Location:** The Palms
Type: H/W M B 2 5 6 7 **Alt/s:** 50m **Contact:** Deborah 49354029

Description: Start 8am. A walk up a small steep hill early which has good views across the mangroves of Coorooman Creek to Keppel Sands, Zilzie and Emu Park. Steep scramble down then walk along bank of creek and across tidal flats. Opportunity to walk through a small rainforest after crossing Palm Creek. All welcome to eat lunch and chat on verandah with rural views.

Approx drive dist (km): 66

Date: 11 July **Location:** Hidden Creek - Upper Stoney Ck
Type: D/W M A 2 4 **Alt/s:** 300 m **Contact:** Beth 4936 4953

Description: A pretty walk up a mossy gorge and a palm studded dry creek bed, towards a peak at the top of the range. Yes, there's a creek but there's no rock-hopping.

Approx drive dist (km): 200

Date: 18 July **Location:** The Pointers, Canoona
Type: D/W - M A 2 4 **Alt/s:** 250 m **Contact:** Pauline 4926 1131

Description: Hopefully the wattle will be blooming but it is a pleasant and interesting walk, through serpentine country, even with no wattle in flower.
A gentle circuit up a hill, along the ridges from little peak to little peak, then down the creek, and along the road to the starting point. About 5 hrs.

Approx drive dist (km): 108

Date: 25 July **Location:** Broadmount
Type: D/W M to H C 2 4 6 **Alt/s:** 400 m **Contact:** Ros 4928 7406

Description: A walk to Mt Kilner and Broadmount near Thompson's Point. Great views of the Fitzroy River mouth and coast.

Approx drive dist (km): 56

Date: 31 July & 1 August **Location:** Isla Gorge
Type: B/C M B 2 **Alt/s:** 300m **Contact:** Pauline 4926 1131

Description: Drive out Friday afternoon or evening for an 8:00 am start. Two single day walks from the QPWS drive in camp site at the top of the gorge. We walk down into the gorge, along creek beds, and up the hill to aboriginal artwork, coloured sandstone cliffs and alcoves, and through sandstone tunnels and archways. Camping fees payable to National Parks by self registration at the campsite.

Approx drive dist (km): 500

Date: 22 August **Location:** Environment Centre
Type: Annual General Meeting **Contact:** Mary 4938 7467

Description: Come along and offer your services for one of the positions. Tea and biscuits provided.

Date: September 18 - 25 **Location:** Lord Howe Island
Type: X/T B/C 1 3 7 **Alt/s:** **Contact:** Cheryl 4938 7375

Description: Closed. Good article May 1997 found on the Website.

WALK REPORTS

Introduction to Geocaching – 22 Nov



What's at S23degrees 09.816minutes East150degrees 47.532minutes? This happens to be the location of the parking area at Double Heads, Rosslyn Bay and our meeting point for our intro to "Geocaching".

After a short enthusiastic talk from our "Master-cacher" Dave Larkin, and a quick look at the website www.geocaching.com we were handed an extremely comprehensive set of guidelines and a map of 14 caches hidden especially for the day along with their code names. Eg Step Down and Stare, King of the Castle, Don't Crack Up all of which give

additional clues as the whereabouts of the caches. Next step was to ensure those present knew how to enter the given co-ordinates into their GPS. Once done we were off to find the treasure. (The cache contains a log where you enter your name.)

So the morning was spent searching for the 14 caches – which also served the purpose of the participants visiting some great geological and botanical features spread over the entire Double Heads area – topped off by climbing to the highest point to find the final cache. The weather was superb and the view was fantastic.



Thanks Dave for a great outing.

NB (1) The website states that there are 946,392 active registered caches throughout the world, and that in the last 7 days prior to me writing this, there had been 603,570 registered "finds", by some 81,984 "lookers".

NB(2) Dave has 15 registered caches in the Yeppoon area.

NB(3) Dave has almost 1100 "finds" to his credit and hopes to have 2000 by the end of the years.

NB(4) Dave is nuts! Ron Hyslop

SEPTEMBER 12-19 – CARNARVON GORGE TRIP

In The early hours of 12th September 2009, a convoy of vehicles left Rocky bound for the imposing Carnarvon Gorge south of Rolleston.

We arrived at the Takarakka Bush Resort, sorted our camp fees and pitched our tents among the macrozamia, then headed up to the Visitor Area where most of the trails begin. On this first day we

explored the leafy Moss Garden, the Amphitheatre and Ward's Canyon, where a tiny surviving pocket of rainforest flourishes.

On the second day, we set out early for a big day of walking, beginning along the Mickeys Creek walk. Four adventurous souls led by "General" George Reeman then proceeded to tackle a challenging climb up the escarpment to Hellhole Shelf. It turned out to be a narrow razor-back ridge covered with boulders and light scrub. I believe part of this walk is called Suicide Stroll or something similar. After losing my footing and taking a long slide down the side, I found that it nearly lived up to its name. Loose rocks and steep drops are not a good combination. Luckily no harm was done on this occasion.



The following day found us tackling the long walk up the main gorge to Big Bend, a paradise of fine sand and crystal waters. This trail crosses the beautiful Carnarvon Creek many times, via boulders and stepping stones. The creek, fed by water absorbed into the sandstone, is always running and clear even in a dry season.

After a nap on the sand at Big Bend we ventured into Boowinda Gorge, trudging a kilometre or so over rocks to the start of the Carnarvon Great Walk. A few of us

scrambled up the steep ascent which marks the beginning of this walk, to ensure that we will survive this climb with full packs when the time comes. It will, I think, be quite challenging with a heavy pack.

On the way back we took in the sights of Cathedral Cave, and the Art Gallery where ancient rock paintings are protected by board walks and surveillance cameras.



Boolimba Bluff marks the end section of the Carnarvon Great Walk, so next day we strolled up there to have a look. From the Bluff we had breathtaking views across the Gorge towards the Ranch and Hellhole Shelf.

We sighted the Devil's Signpost and tried to find the Ogre's Thumb, but I don't think the latter was positively identified.

A welcome rest day followed, allowing us to potter around camp and take in some of the smaller trails close to the Visitor Area. The cold refreshing depths of the Rock Pool proved a popular spot with the swimmers.

On the last day some of us tackled a steep track through changing vegetation which took us up to the Devil's Signpost. We were able to negotiate our way around the base of this magnificent icon, but were not allowed to climb it as the rocks are unstable.

In spite of not actually seeing any of the platypuses which live in the creek and the place being very dry and dusty, the entire week was a most enjoyable experience. We saw plenty of other wildlife, including wallabies, echidnas, snakes, goannas, and birds. In fact the camp site was full of Apostle Birds who came to visit us every day.

Many thanks go to Cheryl for organising the trip. We had a great time. *Mary Howard*

Great Keppel Island (GKI)

0700. Waiting for lift to Rosslyn Bay. Packed and ready to go - first 'camp out' trip for many years - have I got everything??

0730. Pauline, Glyn and Beth are here. We are on our way!

0900. Arrive at 'Freedom Fast Ferries' terminus. Finally, ready to go !! To meet us are Cheryl, Cindy, Deborah, Mary and Fay. Already on the Island are Dot, Kathy and Ron.



We arrive at GKI and are met by Lindie Svendsen our host for the Australia Day weekend. Lindie met us at the Ferry and took our big packs, which she transported by boat to our accommodation. We began our walk along Fisherman's Beach and Putney Beach. At the end of Putney Beach we took a shortcut across the headland to Leeke's Beach. At the end of Leeke's Beach we hit Blackall Creek. Thankfully, we were met by Lindie again. Lindie's presence in the boat

(minus our luggage) meant that we did not have to swim across the creek. We piled into the boat and travelled the last few kilometres, past Second Beach and Svendsen's Beach, to Lindie and Carl's eco-resort on the north end of Svenden's Beach.

After settling into our accommodation Lindie suggested an evening walk to the Lighthouse on Bald Rock Point. It was some 12 kilometres (kms) return. At 6 pm we met for the walk. We all started the walk eagerly, but some of us chose to return before the Lighthouse. Even those that opted for the shorter option were rewarded by a magnificent view over Wreck Beach and the moon's reflections through cloud, onto the water. For the five that chose to persevere to the Lighthouse, it was a late but rewarding excursion. The track was good, the moonlight assisted our 'torch power', and the shadows of the stunted eucalyptus species added another dimension to the experience.

Next morning, we chose to explore the area where Blackall Creek enters the ocean. We had single and double kayaks, Lindie's boat and 'legs' for transport. By our chosen 'transport' we all arrived at the Creek for swimming, snorkelling and beach sitting. Though it was not ideal conditions for snorkelling, most of us had a look at the new coral colony at the mouth of the Creek. Years of reduced run-off meant

that coral and fish species were colonising the area. We returned to our accommodation and most of us had an afternoon swim and explored nearby Butterfish Bay and Little Peninsula.

Monday, a walk was planned toward Big Peninsula. Again, some of the group chose a shorter and more direct option to Wreck Beach. The rest of us found our way to the cairn above Big Peninsula. After a photo-shot we headed to the end of Big Peninsula. It was a perfect day for walking, as it remained overcast and the breeze brisk,



due to Cyclone Olga blowing further north. We then made our way to Wreck Beach where we met up with the rest of the group.

Tuesday, was time to pack up and head for the Ferry. Lindy transported our big packs again, which left us free to explore the track past Leeke's Homestead. We arrived at Fisherman's Beach in plenty of time to read newspapers and eat ice-cream prior to the Ferry's departure to the mainland.

Our hosts – Lindie and Carl Svenden – I thank for sharing their knowledge of the island and their support and assistance. *Carol Campbell*

BAD BADGER AND 80% HUMIDITY



Ten set forth and ten exclamations are attached. See if you can link the comment with the name.

"My boots are still at the front door where I ripped them off before I staggered through"!

"I've got to continue...I'm going on the Kokoda Trail soon".

"I feel sick".

"It wasn't the walk or the Mountains fault; just that we did not factor in the humidity".



"I'll go back with you".

"I'm tough... I've done this before, though not for a while".

"Only .7 km to go" (and still smiling.)

"It's hard".

"I'll be tail end Charlie" (but setting the pace out the front).

"Bloody hard".

Clue: We had, Mary, Alan, Pauline, Gay, Kerry, Athol, Shannon, Carol, Jenny and Trisha

OVERALL:

A very rewarding walk. We drove up through New Zealand Gully off the Emu Park Road. 4 wheel drive was necessary to get through the many flowing creeks. We arrived at the end of the road to begin the walk up Mt Badger. The terrain was steep and slippery.

From Mt Badger we headed north-west over a series of peaks. We had magnificent views east and west. Towards the east was the ocean and the off-shore islands, and toward the west we saw the familiar outlines of Mt Sleipner and Mt Archer. We also had views of the flooded Fitzroy River and Rockhampton.



A walk through a heavily forested area of magnificent old eucalypt stags was a special treat. From there it was a change of direction back toward the cars and New Zealand Gully. Unfortunately the spur home was heavily vegetated, steep, covered in loose rocks and horizontal logs. It was also longer than anticipated and the mozzies were starting to stir.

It was an early start and a late return. BUT, we have all recovered and are looking forward to our next adventure. As the walk was the first official club walk for 2010, we all agreed that it was the BEST WALK OF THE YEAR !!

AND, whether the humidity was a factor – I will let you decide!!

Carol Campbell