



FOOTNOTES

Club Newsletter of Bushwalkers of Southern Queensland Inc.

A Message from the President

Dear Members,

In the July Footnotes message, I lamented the fact that we were not successful in holding our Christmas party. Now, again because of the Covid lockdown, we have had to defer the AGM scheduled for next Sunday. Hopefully it will not be delayed too long.

With the end of our Club year, it is appropriate we reflect on the past year. I have been delighted with the way the Club has adapted to some new ways of doing things without throwing out all that is critical to the DNA of this esteemed club. We have several new leaders learning the ropes and existing leaders adding new and varied walks into the program. Unfortunately, Covid has reduced some of these because of lockdowns.

Club membership has increased 10% over the year with a number of potential members doing their trial walks before seeking membership. One area we must focus on, especially with new members, is training in all aspects of Club life from walk etiquette to risk mitigation to personal support packs to contact protocols. We have started to include such training at the Club monthly meetings, and we have scheduled a couple of longer training sessions on weekends. These will only be successful if new (and old) members come along and learn the ropes.

With the CovidSafe conditions under which we operate mandated by Government, it is essential that leaders keep the Outings Secretary, Neil Douglas, informed of any changes to their walk schedule and communicate attendees back to Neil withing 12 hours of the walk completion. Unless walkers have registered their intention to undertake the scheduled walk with the walk leader, they will not be accepted on the walk.

As mentioned in last month's Footnotes, Club social activities will only proceed if Club members nominate in advance to take responsibility for organising same. Three nomination forms (one for Club Tuesday night suppers, the second for Club Sunday afternoon tea, and the third for monthly Club dinners) will be placed on the nominations table at all Club meetings. They will be open for a six-month period in advance and members sign up to take responsibility for organising for one or more meetings/dinners in advance. The person signing up does not necessarily have to do all the work but would make arrangement for other members to assist as needed. There is no monetary expense in conducting these activities as all costs are covered by the Club. The only other significant social event in the year is the Christmas celebration and the Committee will collectively take responsibility for organising same.

Hopefully next week I can inform you of when the rescheduled AGM will take place. I hope you will still be able to come along. We will be presenting the 2020 Club Appreciation Certificates and the inaugural "Scrubby" Awards for meritorious service to the Club.

The Club Secretary, Graeme MacKenzie, has forwarded to all members the nominations for the committee. All positions have been filled except we have three nominations for two undefined committee positions. Please make sure you come along to the rescheduled AGM to vote for your chosen candidates.

I wish you a safe and stimulating lockdown and I hope to see you once it is lifted at the AGM.

Regards,

Ed Quinn

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Social Secretary Vacant

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Membership Officers [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Committee Member John Marshall 5498 6780
[REDACTED]

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Ordinary Membership \$35.00 p.a.

Current cover for financial members – Public Liability insurance under the BA group insurance scheme is \$20 million.

Executive committee meetings for 2021:

Last Tuesday of February, April, June, August, September, November.

Membership Register: Changed your contact details? Please advise Graham Englart at grahamenglart@hotmail.com, 0458 165 558

E-Comms: To register for regular email updates on the walks program or other club news, send an email request to bushwalksq@gmail.com. Please put E-Comms in the subject line. To be removed from the group, put "Opt Out" in the subject line.

CAMPING PERMITS: You need to make your own campsite bookings with the QPWS if camping in a Queensland national park on a club activity. First confer with your leader, then contact the following to book and pay by credit card:

1. Contact the QPWS on **13 74 68**
2. Or visit the website at: <https://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/activities/camping/bookings>
3. You can book online or check the website to find an office where over-counter bookings can be made.

IF A WALKING TRIP IS DELAYED

Occasionally trips are delayed due to unforeseen circumstances. Whom should the leader in the field contact back in Brisbane? If friends or relatives of walkers are concerned about the delayed return, whom might they contact in the club to inquire about what has happened? The contact should be with any member of the BOSQ Management Committee listed opposite. Move down the list until you find someone at home.

Before leaving on a BOSQ outing, walkers should tell a family member or friend where they are going and give them a copy of Footnotes or a copy of the phone numbers of the Committee members. Leaders should also carry a list of contact numbers with them on the walk.

In an emergency, life threatening or serious injury situation, or one that requires a search and rescue, contact the Police on 000 (or 112 on extended mobile network). If the party is overdue but otherwise safe, the leader should attempt to contact BOSQ committee members who can advise family members from club records.

Escalate if necessary, to put the bushwalkers' search and rescue group FMR on standby. Their contact list is on the website: <http://fmrqld.bwq.org.au/contact.html>.

If overdue more than 24 hours, the Police should be notified. More search and rescue information at: <http://fmrqld.bwq.org.au/overdue.html>

Insurance cover

Insurance for BOSQ members is arranged through the peak body of Australian bushwalking federations, Bushwalking Australia Inc (BA). There is coverage for both Public Liability and Personal Accident. Club members and visitors are insured while participating in all activities conducted by BOSQ, including survey trips, meetings, social events and travelling to and from club activities.

The policies can be viewed and downloaded at <http://bushwalkingaustralia.org/insurance>.

Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)

The club owns two PLBs. Walk leaders are encouraged to take one on their walks, especially off-track walks, extended trips or survey walks.

The holders of the PLBs are [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

There is no charge to club walk leaders who borrow these PLBs.

OSQ Inc. ... Walks Programme

Walk Gradings

Distance	Terrain	Fitness
S - 1 to 10 km	1 to 3 - Graded track or open terrain. No scrub	1 to 3 - Easy. Suitable for beginners
M - 10 to 15 km		
L - 15 to 20 km	4 to 7 - Off track. Minor scrub, rainforest, rock scrambling, creek rock-hopping	4 to 7 - Medium. Reasonable fitness required

Activity Type

Graded Track Walk GTW Day Walk DW
 Through-walk TW Base-Camp, self-sufficient BC
 Base-Camp, accommodated ACC Social SOC
 Safety & Training S&T Federation FED
 Federation Mountain Rescue FMR

Petrol Money Contribution

Current Suggested Rate when car-pooling is:
10c per km

Walks Program August - September 2021

TW W/END 21/22 August 2021 Moreton Island

Grade: M 4 4
 Leader: [REDACTED]
 Tel: [REDACTED]
 Meet: [REDACTED]

Ferry fare: \$57.20, payable individually. (Note non-refundable, therefore best to buy ticket on the day [allow time for this]. However, monitor the Moreton Island Adventures website and if walk-on places are booking out buy ticket on-line beforehand.)

Parking: Available at terminal \$30 for weekend. [Allow time to pay for parking ticket.]

Camping fee: \$6.75 per person (leader will arrange permit and collect payment)

Water: 3 litres (water should also be available at Big Sandhill and Rous Battery)

The Club used to do this walk fairly regularly but has not in recent years. The ferry departs at 8.30 and

arrives at Tangalooma Wrecks about 10 a.m. From there we'll walk south along the western beach to the foot of the Big Sandhill, where water should be available. Then we cross the island on an old vehicle track that skirts the sandhill (there may also be time to have a look at the sandhill). A short walk north along the eastern beach brings us to the campsite at the Rous Battery, an old WWII installation.

On Sunday we cross the island diagonally on the walking track to the Little Desert and thence back to Tangalooma for the 3.30 ferry, arriving home about 5 p.m.

(This outing will be able to take place only if COVID restrictions allow travel on the ferry.)

DW Sunday 22 August 2021 White Rock & Spring Mountain

Grade: M45
 Distance: 15 km
 Leader: [REDACTED]
 Contact: [REDACTED]
 Water: 2 Litres
 Meet: [REDACTED]

Drive to the end of School Road and turn right at the roundabout then left into White Rock Drive. Follow this through the housing estate and keep going on the gravel road to the parking area. Parking may be limited at the picnic area but there is plenty of space in the nearby horse float parking area. From the picnic area we will walk to the Bluff lookout and continue off-track along some footpads following Six Mile Creek before climbing over a large unnamed hill to emerge near the base of Pyros Peak. We then skirt around the base of Pyros Peak following an interesting but little used track. From here we follow Back Alley which climbs steadily up to Spring Mountain, with a short steep footpad leading to the summit. We will enjoy a break and spectacular 360° views at the top before returning via the Magical Mystery Tour trail and Narelle's Climb to meet the main White Rock walking track. After a lunch break at White Rock, we will return to the picnic area via the Ridge Track. The walk is up and down with some uneven sections and moderate climbs, so reasonable fitness and good footwear are required. Carry snacks for morning tea and lunch on the walk.

DW Thursday 26 August 2021 Toohey Forest Wildflowers

Grade: S 3 3
 Leader: [REDACTED]
 Contact: [REDACTED]
 Meet: [REDACTED]

As I live close by, I visit Toohey Forest every wildflower season. The last three years there have been very poor displays. With good rains this year, I am expecting a magnificent display.

Final route will be worked out in mid-August, but should not exceed 12 km.

**½DW Sat 28 August 2021
Mt. Springbrook and Read's Lookout**

Grade: S 4 4
Leader: [REDACTED]
Tel: [REDACTED]
Meet: [REDACTED]
Water: 1 litre

Gaiters or longs recommended

This is a short off-track walk along the border visiting a couple of old lookouts that I don't think the club has been to before.

First, we'll have a short car shuffle between the Goomoolahra carpark and the Best of All Lookout carpark. Then we'll walk up a public road before turning off onto a service road that leads to communication towers near the former Bilborough Lookout. From here we go cross-country along the border, sometimes on very old tracks, to the former Reads Lookout near the top of Springbrook Mountain itself. The lookout is now overgrown but the wooden platform and handrails are still there. Near here are large water tanks that used to supply water to the tulip farm down the hill. Continuing west along the border we'll try to find the remains of Dixie Lookout, beyond which it's about 500 m to Repeater Station Road a bit before the Best of All Lookout carpark.

We should finish by lunchtime, leaving time for an afternoon walk in the area for those interested.

**DW Sunday 29 August 2021
North Stradbroke Island**

Grade: M 4 4
Distance: 10 to 12 kilometres depending on route chosen.
Leader: [REDACTED]
Meet: [REDACTED]
Transport: [REDACTED] and bus from there. Senior concession evidence will be required. Depending on where the walk is taxis may be required at a shared cost. Return to Cleveland will be about 4.20pm.
Parking: No cost – park or street. There are also gated parks at a cost (may have to be booked).
Water: 2L minimum.

Personal Protection: Hat, sunscreen, adequate clothing, and footwear suitable for walking in loose sand. Binoculars could be useful as the whales will be further away!

The planned walk will be in Naree Budjong Djara National Park (Blue Lake) and will include one to a feature called Mount Vane, a newish track established between Parks and the local indigenous people. According to available information it takes about two hours to get to the top and allows (depending on weather) all-around views of the island and mainland from north of Brisbane to the Gold Coast. The walk will also take in a circuit overlooking the Eighteen Mile Swamp where, according to legend, a Spanish galleon is wrecked.

These details are what is planned however, in the current closure circumstances, anything is possible so a fallback position will be looked at closer to the time and advertised via email.

**DW GTW Sat 4 September 2021
Shipstern Circuit**

Grade: L 3 4
Leader: [REDACTED]
Contact: [REDACTED]
Meet: [REDACTED]
Water: min 2L
Map: Track map of LNP

This iconic circuit walk is part of the graded track system on the Binna Burra side of Lamington NP. The walk has much to offer and travels through a variety of forest types and terrain, with stunning views from the Shipstern Range. At just under 20kms long it's in the full day walk category. We'll be travelling in a clockwise direction, starting at the saddle carpark at BB, descending to Nixon's Creek valley, 1 creek crossing involved, then gradually winding our way up to the Shipstern Range. This section is scribbly gum and heath forest and you'll always find something in bloom, and hopefully the orchids will be out as well. The latter part of the walk follows an undulating course along the ridges, again through varying forest types, to eventually connect with the Main Border track, and finally back to BB. Always remember to pack the essentials, as the weather in LNP can be quite different to the lowlands. Please nominate by Thursday 2 September.

**EXT 4/11 September 2021
Flinders Ranges**

Leader: [REDACTED]
Tel: [REDACTED]

This outing is now full. The outing will be able to take place only if the Queensland and South Australian borders are both open to each other at the time.

**DW Saturday 11 September 2021
Darlington Range Canungra**

Grade: M23

Leader:

Contact:

Meet:

This is an interesting walk starting in the town of Canungra. After parking the cars near the toilets, we will head up Appel Street near the hotel. The road is a bit steep, but you can always stop and admire the views of the township.

Once on top of this road we will then take the Darlington Range Road and follow it all the way to its end. The first part of also a bit steep. Along the way there are views looking down on the road to O'Reillys and also the road to Binna Burra.

There are some lovely rural scenes as we pass the various properties. The 2019 bushfires damaged a lot of the bush in this area, but it has now all come back to life.

We will retrace our steps the same way, but will enter Canungra via a different route, crossing over the tram tunnel (and then inspecting it) and then seeing some of the back blocks of the town. We finish the walk back at the toilets and the cars.

The total distance is about 11 kms. I'm sure you will find this walk interesting – see parts of the country you have not seen before – and it is not hard.

**Tuesday 14 September 2021
General Meeting at 7.30pm**

**Little Kings Hall, Cnr O'Keefe & Carl streets,
Buranda**

CovidSafe supper will be provided

**SOC – Wednesday 15 September 2021
Glider Circuit and IndigiScapes Centre Gardens &
trail walk**

Grade: SOC 11

Leader:

Contact:

Meet:

Water: 2L

The day starts with the 2.1 km Glider Circuit walk at the Greater Glider Conservation Area Kindred Street entrance, then drive 3km to the Redlands IndigiScapes Centre at 17 Runnymead Road, Capalaba.

The IndigiScapes Centre will be the major social event part of the outing. The centre is situated on 14.5 hectares of serene natural bushland on Redlands Coast.

On arrival, we will have morning tea at IndigiScapes Café. Bookings are essential at the café and, for a larger group such as ours, they have requested a booking at least 2 days in advance, so please nominate early so that I can phone and advise them of approximate numbers.

The centre offers a range of areas to explore:

- Botanical Gardens – Bush Tucker Garden, Formal Garden, Coastal Garden, Rainforest Garden, Wetland Garden, Wildflower Garden
- Over 3km of bush trails, Fairy Wren Walk – 10 min duration, Wildflower walk – 20 minutes return, Tallowwood View Trail – 20 minutes return – This walk leads to a 400 year old tallowwood tree. All trails are "easy grade".
- A Discovery Centre
- Gift shop - Environmental and locally made gifts
- Recycling area for a number of items not recyclable through the usual facilities – thongs, X-rays, toothbrushes, empty and cleaned toothpaste and beauty product tubes, art supplies, VHS cassettes/CDs.
- Native Nursery – Assortment of groundcovers, shrubs and trees. All plants are tube stock and only \$2.50 each.

****Advance notices****

**Mini-EXT 7/11 November 2021
NSW Central Coast**

Leader:

Tel:

This outing had to be postponed from March because of flooding in the Sydney and Newcastle areas. It will follow the same itinerary. Additional nominations welcome.

**EXT 27 November/4 December 2021
Grampians**

Leader:

Tel:

This outing is confirmed. Nominations and expressions of interest open

The trip will start from Melbourne airport. We will hire cars and then drive to the Grampians, staying in the caravan park at Halls Gap (a range of cabins is available). There will be walks each day in the national park and adjacent areas, with the daily choice being

determined partly by the weather. A list of available walks was in the May newsletter.

TRIP REPORTS

DW Sunday 11 July 2021 Neglected Mountain

I was relieved that we were not in lock down, the rain had stopped, and I had sufficient numbers for this walk to go ahead. Christmas Creek and surrounding area have received unusual, good rain for this time of year which was a blessing because the long grass gave us something to hold onto as we tackled the huge up. Brenda and Heather were wonderful finding the best way to reach the peak. As we headed off after morning tea we were delighted with trees covered in lichens and very tall Xanthorrhoea (grass Tree) which no doubt could be hundreds of years old .You can imagine how shocked we were then to come upon heavy machinery which had uprooted trees even to the point of one area looking like a massive manmade land slide .Everyone navigated down the large boulders easily. Once I had a good footpad my legs started to take off and luckily Heather called out as I was heading off to the Stretcher track. Close to the gate where we exited is a lemon tree abundant with fruit. I am grateful for Heather, Brenda, Karen, Sandra, Gail and Spiro making the day very enjoyable.

Kerry

DW Saturday 17 July 2021 Lower Portals and Barney Creek Ridges

It was obvious from start of our walk on the Lower Portals track that the area had received significantly more unseasonal rain than walkers had in our locations. The Portals track is very eroded and rough and was a little damp and slippery. The Rocky Creek crossing alerted us as to what awaited at Barney Creek. Rocky Creek is normally a dry, rocky creek bed. It was flowing though could be crossed quite easily without getting wet feet. The normal crossing at Barney Creek was like a cascade with fast flowing water coursing over the rocks and boulders. A safer crossing some metres upstream was safely negotiated though it involved wading through thigh deep water in places and was faced a little apprehensively by some walkers. The Lower Portals provided a morning tea stop before we began the climb up to the ridges above the Creek. The views, on what was a sparkling clear day, were superb and we were rewarded for the steepish climb by a privileged view of Barney Waterfall with flowing water which is a rare sight indeed. The proposed walk was to take in four rocky knolls on a ridge to then overlook Barney Creek and across to the Waterfall. After safely navigating 2 knolls, the consensus was to have lunch in a sheltered spot and curtail the walk at that point for safety reasons in view of the very strong winds in the exposed areas and from anticipated time needed to return to our vehicles. The return crossing of Barney Creek was very much

easier as we all knew what to expect. As we crossed the Creek there was a loud crashing noise from downstream and you could almost feel the earth shake from, what must have been, a large tree fall in the very strong winds. The return walk was completed more swiftly than the outbound and we returned to the vehicles by 3pm. All enjoyed the walk and are keen to do it, in full, in the future. My thanks to Pat L & Jonas B who joined us for the walk to Barney Creek only, Heather B, Lyn H, Clive Da S, Nela M, Karen B, Sandra O, Kay Mcl and to Gary M for "tail ending".

Lynne

½ DW Sun 18 July 2021 BVRT Lowood - Fernvale

It was a fine sunny day when twenty people set off on the 8.5km trek from Lowood to Fernvale along the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail. A few of the trekkers enjoyed a short visit to the Fernvale Markets before setting off.

The occasional cold winds during the walk caused some hoodies and warm tops to be brought out but made for clear skies and views over to the distant ranges. A short way into the walk, we stopped for morning tea at a seated sheltered area with views over the Brisbane River and surrounds.

Throughout the walk we were passed by a number of bike riders consisting mainly of families enjoying the outdoors. It was great to see so many very young riders taking to the trail. Along the way, we also encountered the expected cattle and horses in properties adjacent to the track.

The sight and scent of magnificent wattle blossoms became more prevalent the closer we got to Fernvale.

Finally, we arrived at a large, shaded picnic table in Fernvale for our lunch. A long line-up at the Fernvale Bakery over the road from the park at first appeared a little daunting for some, but moved through the bakery quite quickly and efficiently, resulting in some tasty rewards for those who decided to join it. Others brought their own tasty treats. It was a pleasant end to a lovely day.

Thanks to Sandra E, Judy W, Jackie & David E, Daphne S, Rachael W, Lyn H, Clive D S, Graeme & Roslyn Mac, Linda S, Julia O, Danny Amy & Matthew C, Janet & William, Kay Mc and Di E for coming along.

Graham



DW Wed 21 July 2021 Enoggera and Ithaca Creeks

It was a clear, dry winter's day with accompanying chilly, south westerly winds when eleven walkers set out on a lovely journey, following the creek wherever they could get access. The gentle flow of water was in stark contrast to the flooding that occurred in March. All foot bridges were now passable.

We travelled through many green spaces including the Bank St Reserve where there was once, thriving Chinese market gardens. We looked for the elusive koalas but only sighted one of their favorites, *Eucalyptus microcorys*, commonly known as a Tallowwood tree, a stringy bark. This particular tree is also home to an active native bee colony.

After passing under Ashgrove Ave, we followed Enoggera Creek along the perimeter of the Newmarket Caravan Park which has been open since 1957. The Park is a popular place particularly at Ekka time and for

interstate visitors due to its close proximity to the Brisbane CBD, hospitals, Suncorp Stadium, Ekka Showgrounds and Southbank. Sadly, the owner is closing up due to health issues.

A leisurely morning tea was enjoyed in the al fresco setting at Little Italy Cafe in Red Hill which overlooks the Community Sports Club's bowling green. There is also a very interesting history board to read with good photos, particularly the historical photo of a bushwalking group at Ithaca Creek in 1880.

A stone's throw away is the Bronco's HQs, showcasing a \$27 million training, administration and community facility which opened in March 2018. We were able to view the 116m long (between dead ball lines) and 68m wide full sized training field. We had a photo shoot taken in nearby Ithaca Creek with some walkers positioning themselves at the same location as in the historical photo (Desley's inspiration and camera skills).

From here the trail winds its way along the banks of the creek passing a major construction site. As we rounded the corner of the underpass, we encountered the enchanting Civosity Park. This beautiful spot under a sprawling poinciana tree is owned by sculptor David Engwicht. David has personally created this space for the enjoyment of the public, on his own land. Further along the path is a street library that is inside a fridge sculpture he has also created. David is also author of the book *Street Reclaiming*. This visit was one of the highlights of the walk.

We caught up with Ithaca Creek again at Bardon. Ithaca Creek arises in the Taylor Range at the Mt Coot-tha forest with two streams, one arising at J C Slaughter Falls, the other and stronger source being Simpson Falls, the western branch. We reached the point where we were to leave the creek and enter the forest. At this point, Alan told us of his happy youthful days when his dad would bring him down to this spot for a swim, fish and explore. He commented how weedy it is now.

The forest trail brought us out at more open green space and then it was all downhill. We observed the construction of a new bridge being built at St John's Wood. The new bridge will replace the existing timber bridge, constructed in 1931 and flooding every 2-5 years, with a new elevated concrete bridge. We had now rejoined with Enoggera Creek and followed it back to our starting point.

Some walkers enjoyed a relaxed lunch in the local park and the opportunity to rest our weary feet. Positive feedback confirmed that everyone enjoyed the walk, discovering new places, learning history, reminiscing for some, drinking good coffee and the company of like-minded walkers. Hats off to Alan though; I hope I can still walk 13+km when I'm an octogenarian.

Brenda



Then (1880).....



.....And Now (2021)



**DW 24 July 2021
Base of Gap Creek Falls**

In the end eight people including myself went on this walk, which was perhaps somewhat remarkable after so many changes to the venue. It was originally going to be to Laheys Tabletop, but damage to the road meant that it couldn't be accessed. Then it was going to be Bohgaban Falls, but that had to be called off when there was rain at just the wrong time. Plan C was the base of Gap Creek Falls at Cunninghams Gap.

We had all arrived at the crest carpark at the Gap by 7.50, but it was already over-full. Fortunately, one car departed, allowing the last of us to get a space. A chilly

wind was blowing, so we wasted no time getting started. We walked up to Fassifern Lookout, where it was calmer and sunnier, to talk about the walk ahead. There were interesting views of the extensive fog below, which still showed few signs of lifting.

Then we set off on the recently re-cleared graded track to the falls. On the first section of the track there were obvious signs of the strong winds the Main Range had experienced a week previously – lots of twigs and branches of various sizes on the track, and also some larger saplings weakened by the 2019 fires which had been bowled over across it. Otherwise, the 5 km walk to the top of the falls was uneventful. At first there was much weed growth beside the track, but as we approached the falls the original grassy understorey became more evident.

We had morning tea on the slabs at the top of the falls. The creek was flowing very well with crystal clear water, and the views out to the east were also beautifully clear. After that we backtracked a little to the descent ridge to the bottom of the falls. It's narrow and steep, but easily negotiable with a little care. At first it's grassy, but as we descended scunge became more evident. Fortunately, the ridge appeared to get a bit of use by bushwalkers, as there was a faint foot pad most of the way down the crest. It took only about 20 minutes to reach the creek at the bottom.

From the exit point onto the creek, it's not far to the base of the falls, but travel along the creek seemed to be harder than when I'd last visited the area a few year ago. Not only was the level of the creek higher, but recent floods seemed to have brought down more fallen timber and scattered rocks into awkward places. At one point we had a slightly slippery scramble up a steep bank to avoid a small, sheer cascade. However, we all negotiated to the base of the falls unscathed. It was a fantastic place to be – the almost sheer falls cascading into a deep pool with a gravelly bed that would have been ideal in (much) warmer weather. There was a big, gradually sloping slab nearby to relax on. The QTopo maps show the height of the falls as about 70 m.

After having taken in the beauty of the place we headed back downstream. It was still reasonably early, so we decided to try to head downstream further to the small but sheer gorge where the creek flows out into private property. After a short distance we came to another cascade dropping into a pool, and the start of a cattle track on the left bank. Neil G made a good job of following the cattle track downstream through trampled weed growth until we hit the creek a little upstream from where the water race begins. This provided easy and almost exhilarating walking down to the mouth of the gorge.

After duly admiring this feature we headed back up the creek and then up the access ridge to the top of the falls for a well-earned lunch. Then it was just a 350 m uphill slog back to the lookout and then down to the cars on the main track. We hadn't seen anybody after leaving the lookout, but just in the last 5 minutes before the cars we passed dozens of day trippers. It was still windy at

the gap, so we wasted no time heading off. Most of us stopped at Aratula for refreshments.

Those who went with me were Anthea B, Will T, Heather B, Jonas B, Pat L, Neil G and Karen B.

Neil



DW Thursday 29 July 2021 Oak Creek Lookout, Mapleton Forest

We all met by 8.30am at the Lily Ponds Carpark as planned, and three drivers kindly agreed to take their vehicles with any remaining walkers, to travel to the last carpark - a short journey, but partly rough road.

From here it was 16kms return walk and an ideal day for walking weather wise. With only a few mild ups and downs and not too rocky underfoot, we were able to keep a brisk pace. It was very noticeable how the wildflowers had flourished compared to the earlier recce, and much time was spent in admiring and photo taking. I don't know all the names, but they had certainly responded to recent rain and warmth. We walked through excellent forest with often swathes of yellow *Pultenaea* on our left, whilst on the right *Grasstrees* were merrily bursting after their side being rudely burnt earlier. Making a stand was abundant *Hardenbergia* covering the ground, tho often in hot pursuit was a very attractive striking red and black, pea type vine, making its presence known at the side of the track. A delicate white orchid? rose up starkly against a charcoal blackend stump, sweet pink rosettes with surrounding bright leaves poked through, making a bouquet amongst the leaf litter and lavender iris? was also a contender.

We got to the Lookout in time for an early lunch. On arrival, an impressive view on the left looking towards Kenilworth and Kenilworth Bluff is seen. Then a short walk further, reveals the view northwards of the Mary Valley with all the peaks to identify, and suggesting a future weekend of walks. Unfortunately, the view was a little bit hazy and not as clear as when we did the recce, due to burn-offs I guess. As Brenda had recently met an Indigenous person from that area, she was able to recount to us before lunch, the Dreamtime story for that country of the Gubbi Gubbi/Kabi Kabi language group. The story describes how the landforms, eg Mt Ninderry, Mt Coolum and the Maroochy River, got their names.

After a leisurely lunch, we set off with determination as we had a cafe to get to for arvo tea! It was pleasant to see the gum trees from this direction, avenue of trees branched off and a patch of rainforest was observed. A keen eye also spotted the skeleton of a snake that had somehow come to grief. All that was left was a curled spine with its dried out skin at the side. Was it run over by a bike? Our walk is also a designated bike trail, not that we saw even one, maybe because it was a weekday.

Our cafe, The Barn at Flaxton, did not disappoint, as we all tucked into the scones, jam & cream, and cakes.

My thanks to the eight who joined me on another enjoyable day of walking. They being: Neil D, Tony P, Amy & Danny C, B Weeks, B Keough, G McKenzie & S Walsh (visitor CBWC).

Kay

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OTHER REPORTS

New Orchid Found in Lamington National Park

A new orchid belonging to the greenhoods group has been found in Lamington National Park. An expert says it could take between six months and a couple of years to formally name the orchid. Orchid enthusiast Joanne Lau hopes it will be given an Indigenous name.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-07-28/new-orchid-species-discovered-in-gold-coast-hinterland/100322870>

Expressions of Interest are requested from: experienced bushwalkers, leaders, and members with teaching experience.

To- assist in teaching a basic, bushwalking session for new club members or current members who need a refresher.

Topic – “BOSQ procedures and introductory bushwalking topics with a focus on safety”

When- Sunday, 12th September 2021.

Time- 8am to 230pm (6 hrs) or 8am to 12 MD (4hrs)

Venue- Little Kings, Buranda (where meetings take place)

The programme will include topics such as-

- BOSQ guidelines
- Walk Grading System- BOSQ system, Australian Walking Track System.
- Basic Navigation- definitions, map collections, grid systems, magnetic /true north, map reading, compass basics etc.
- Protection in the environment(weather, lightening, storms, bushfires, temperature, sun, darkness)
- Water/ Electrolytes, Fitness and Food (hydration principles, energy needs, strength/aerobic/ stretch.)
- Equipment for all types of walks
- Clothing and footwear.
- First Aid Kits and how to use contents. Bites and Stings, Critical Injuries.
- Hygiene on the track. (Washing, toileting etc....)
- Survival kits and how to use contents.
- Emergencies-Separation from group, environmental emergencies, injuries, evacuation, PLB, phone numbers

Thank you to management committee members who have offered their assistance.

Reply if interested in assisting in some of the topics and further information to –

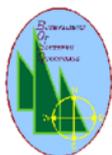
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Rainbow over Poona Lake, Cooloola
Taken 22 June 2021 by Neil D.



Bushwalkers of Southern Queensland
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