

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND BUSHWALKING CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 1960

It is with pleasure that I present the ^{eleventh} tenth annual report of the Club.

The Committee elected last September for 1959-60 was as follows:-

President	...	Peter Reimann
Secretary	...	Bill Bolton
Treasurer	...	Keith Scott
Outings Officer	...	Arthur Rosser (resigned January 1960)
	...	Ken Warner (elected March 1960)
Equipment Officer	...	John Carter
Librarian	...	Judy Bryan

Of the Club membership of ~~one~~ hundred, the proportion of active members was high, totalling seventy-four.

This year there was a substantial increase in the number of Club outings held, both concurrently and separately. Thus, the sixteen Club outings included eleven throughwalks, ten basecamps, a day-walk and a climbing afternoon. The first intention in increasing the number of trips was to reduce the numbers participating in each trip. While large trips are often more successful from the social viewpoint, the tendency is inevitably towards chaos, and this does not augur well for bushwalks of high standard. The second intention of more trips was to give a wider choice, and offer more scope for satisfying the wide variety of tastes and abilities which members of this Club possess. Hence, trips were designed to range from very difficult to very easy, and encompass as many fields as possible.

A significant feature this year was the popularity of throughwalking. Where basecamps and throughwalks were held concurrently, the basecamps were always very poorly attended. As a result, the above intention in reducing the numbers on trips was not always successful, and often throughwalks were too well patronised for comfort. While the popularity of throughwalking is salutary from the point of view of enterprise, the Club should not become too biased in its outlook, and this must not be allowed to permeate the Committee.

Trips included a climbing weekend to the Glasshouse mountains which proved to be very popular and successful. A new feature was a Navigational trip in the upper Barney Ck. area. The party was split into small groups, each under the guidance of an older member. All the inexperienced members took turns at navigating and leading. It is suggested that this type of trip be made an annual event. At the present moment there are very few people in the Club with enough experience and self-confidence to lead a trip successfully. It is to be hoped that the Navigation trip will provide valuable training in this direction, thereby helping to alleviate this shortage. The outcome of a trip rests heavily upon the shoulders of the leader, and his responsibility to the party is great.

Private trips of high calibre and of an exploratory nature are to be encouraged. Initiative among members this year was not lacking. May I congratulate especially Ron Cox for pioneering the fields of Climbing and walking in snow on a successful winter trip to the DuCane range in Tasmania. I must also congratulate the leaders and participants of trips to Hinchinbrook Island, the Carnarvons, Coulston lakes and the Many Peaks area, as well as many smaller trips to local areas for weekends.

Building on the Mt. Barney hut was dormant except for a cement carrying trip. On the completion of a modified chimney and the installation of a door__ an essential counterpart to the chimney__ the hut will be, to all intents and purposes, complete.

The Club's equipment hiring and buying service was again much used. A slightly used rucksack and one hundred feet of rope were purchased as additional items for hiring purposes. It is to be hoped that members will treat this rope with the respect it deserves, and that it will be replaced as soon as is deemed necessary.

Following the success of the first Club magazine, another has been completed. I would like to thank all who contributed to their preparation, particularly Keith Scott for the first and Judy Bryan for the second.

Meetings included an informal Freshers' welcome, a talk on food and equipment, and illustrated talks on Europe and New Zealand. The highlight of one meeting was a showing of films on the Antarctic, New Guinea and Rock Climbing. On another occasion a Kodachrome Competition was held following the success of previous competitions.

Finally I must offer my sincere thanks to all the Committee for their valuable assistance and enthusiasm, particularly Bill Belton and Ken Warner who have devoted much time and energy to the running of the Club. Also, I would like to thank the leaders of trips and the many Club members who have helped make the year a success.

May I offer my congratulations to the new Committee, and wish it and the Club every success for the forthcoming year.

P.M. Reimann

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