

# BRINDABELLA BUSHWALKING CLUB NEWSLETTER



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### **This 'n' That**

As mentioned in the previous report on the AGM, we have a new committee whose members are keen to keep your club running smoothly and I'm sure you'll give them your support. Their names and appointments are on the club's website.

The Membership Secretary has emailed you all with a gentle reminder that the bushwalking year begins on 1 October and that you can renew your membership from the website or by printing and posting a completed form to her.

We once again have a couple of great reports by members about some walking areas that might be of interest to you. Leigh's article is about Robinson Gorge, a place most of us won't have heard about before. After reading the item, you will perhaps feel inspired to pay it a visit when next driving to Queensland.

I'll leave you with this quote that sums up bushwalking:

***"Few people know how to take a walk. The qualifications are endurance, plain clothes, old shoes, an eye for nature, good humor, vast curiosity, good speech, good silence and nothing too much." — Ralph Waldo Emerson***

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and welcome your contributions for future editions.

Peter Dalton

# A Novel Slant on Pinpointing Your Location

Some people just cannot comprehend Latitude and Longitude or Grid References. Now a clever chap has come up with a simple universal solution.

He discovered that the entire surface of the earth could be divided into 10 metre squares and each square could be identified by three simple words; e.g. my location now is "events.fever.green".

Only 40,000 words were needed to achieve this.

It is so accurate that Mongolia has apparently adopted this method of addressing for its postal service. Rescues in Britain have been effected using the system and, who knows, it may become the world standard in the future. Right now, it's a bit of fun and only a small download to your phone.

The link below will take you to a BBC news story about the 'what3words App' that gives a full explanation.

[What3words App](#)



## Contributing Articles

Suitable articles are always welcomed and photos make them better, although it may not always be possible to use all the photos. We will include the photographer's name in the newsletter, unless they ask us not to bother. If it is not your photo, you must have the photographer's permission to use it. Send your articles to [president@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:president@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)

An article may be edited to correct spelling errors and to suit the newsletter's style by restructuring, cutting to fit, and even re-writing sections if the editor believes that will better appeal to readers.

The newsletters will also be placed on the Club's website.

## BBC Facebook Page

Our Facebook Manager is regularly posting photos, walk reports and information about upcoming activities. Please pay ia visit and see what our members are planning or have recently have been up to.

It is at: <https://www.facebook.com/BrindabellaBushwalkingClub/> You can set your Facebook page to receive notifications every time there is a new post.

# Robinson Gorge

## Expedition National Park, QLD

*[This article and the photos have been provided by Leigh Hermann]*



In late July, in the hope of warm weather, Maurice and I joined my brother's Brisbane based walking group for a trip to Robinson Gorge in Expedition National Park in Queensland, a region not well-known to southern walkers. My geologist brother led the group – he had previously visited the area when writing a layman's guide to Central Queensland for the QLD Geological Society.

The gorge of Robinson Creek is cut into the sandstones of the Expedition Range, east of Carnarvon Gorge. We stayed at the Starkvale Campground at the eastern entrance to the park, reaching it from NSW via Goondiwindi, Miles and Taroom. July was chosen so that walking in and beside the gorge would not be too hot, but the downside was that nights were cold with two mornings below freezing. Good planning, with extra sleeping bags and lots of wood for fires, made the nights bearable.

On the first day we walked the track out to the lookout on the edge of the palm-filled Robinson Gorge, and then descended through the cliff-line to the bottom. We then followed long grass, palm groves and boulders beside the creek, taking a side gorge to find plant fossils Warwick had found on his previous trip. They were from the early Triassic age.



*Robinson Gorge (continued)*

Next day we set off on another track to Shepherds Peak which is on a higher sandstone bluff above the Gorge giving great views all around. The extension of the track down the other side had been closed, so we forged a way down to the road through a dramatic cleft in the cliff-line. Following the road we got to the Cattle Dip which is where Robinson Gorge narrows at its southern end to a water filled slot, a stunning view down into it. Then it was cross country to the spectacular Starkvale Split, where Starkvale Creek has cut down an even narrower slit before entering the slot of the Cattle Dip.



On the third day we followed the bed of Starkvale Creek from the campsite. The cliffs on either side gradually rose, and the gorge narrowed until we were forced to walk on top of the edge of the gorge. Again, some spectacular views. We almost got to the Split before heading across to the road and back to camp.



Although the country above the gorges looks harsh, in detail the vegetation is interesting. Straight white lemon scented gums (*Corymbia citriodora*) were common, as were the distinctive Yellow Jackets on the harder sandstone ridges (*Corymbia watsoniana*). The rare Budgeroo, (*Lysiocarpus augustifolius*) whose woolly bark was used for burial cylinders was scattered around. A highlight of the trip was a sighting one evening by the campfire of a glider, probably a squirrel glider moving between trees. The first jump of about 5 metres was followed by a long glide of around 30 metres. Very exciting.

In summary, this area is an option for those seeking warmer winter weather and wishing to avoid the crowds at Carnarvon Gorge. The campground is basic (male and female toilets and a very limited supply of tank water) but well laid out. See <https://parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/expedition/> for more information.

# OLD RAILWAY TRACK NORTH EAST OF YASS

This article by Lyn Willson originally appeared on the BBC Facebook page

On Sunday 4 August John Clune led a walk with a difference following the former railway track north east of Yass. While walking through a long disused railway cutting the group came upon this interesting item: a post with dates (1876-1914) affixed by the early railway workers, plus an old Arnott's biscuit tin (see photo). 1876 was when the line was extended to Yass Junction and 1914 was when the line was duplicated and the section we walked was bypassed.



Photos by Greg Snape.

**And, as Billy Connolly once remarked:**

**"Never trust a man who, when left alone in a room with a tea cosy, doesn't try it on".**

With some difficulty the biscuit tin was opened to reveal inside a small notebook, an old bushwalking register, with the last entry being 2009. John had done this walk in 1997 and he found the record of this walk, from the days when the club was the Family Bushwalkers Inc. As well as his own name he found the name of longstanding club member Bob Galloway who led the walk on that occasion.

Following John's walk the group paid a visit to the Yass railway museum, which boasts the shortest platform in Australia, and inspected an early steam locomotive.



## Recent Photos



A Wednesday walk at Tidbinbilla early in August



This unusual plant was found growing on rocks in The Tinderry Mountains at about 1500 m AMSL. National Herbarium staff say it is likely to be ***Philotheca myoporoides* subsp. *myoporoides*** (a member of the Rutaceae)

Bushwalking Australia's August Magazine is here: [BWA August 2019](#)

BBC Website

[www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au](http://www.brindabellabushwalking.org.au)

*All newsletters are on the website.*

If you need the password to access the members' Area, please send a request by email to [webmaster@brindabellabushwalking.org.au](mailto:webmaster@brindabellabushwalking.org.au)