



PO Box 12211, Brisbane, Qld 4003

ABN 29 85 66 15 93 1

Minutes of AGM 16th July 2013

7:10 meeting open

Present: Mark Gamble, Ruth Reeve, Dave Reeve, Ron Farmer, Ian Elliot, Nik Terentyev, Alex Stevens, Jeff Lockett, Lewis Templar, Graham Baxter, Joel Simpkins, Mike Olsen, Adam Gibson, Ryan King, Bjorn Lwngya, Rob Medicott, Zac Trenbath, Dan Roe, Lee Cujes, Ria Zoeller, Antoine Moussette, Proude Hawkins, Bernie Walsh, Graham Page, Diana Awabby

Apologies: Jan Pur, Glen Jones, Gary Abraham

Motion: To accept last meetings minutes, proposed: Mike Olsen, seconded: Mark Gamble

Correspondence:

Dave Reeve wrote to NPRSR to indicate the importance of Fredrick Peak (Townsville) to the climbing community and to ask whether there were plans pertinent to the State owned block on which it is situated to either a) elevate it to protected status, or b) dispose of it to private ownership. We received a reply from NPRSR which acknowledged they were aware that climbing activities were occurring there, and that currently, there were no plans to either elevate its status or to dispose of it.

Crag Reports:

Mark Gamble - Glasshouse/ Greville/Flinders/Maroon Rep

Flinders Peak:

Nothing of any event has happened at this crag during the last financial year & it remains closed to one & all.

Mt. Greville:

Nothing to report. Mountain remains open; no graffiti or vandalism has occurred following the exposure of this mountain on the TV program "The Great S.E." recently.

Mt. Maroon:

There was a short closure in March 2013 following a period of torrential rain, other than this; there are no issues on the mountain.

G.H. Mtns:

- Mt. Beerwah:

The hiker's route remains closed due to severe erosion problems on the shoulder which in turn poses high risk of rock fall on those ascending the traditional hiker's route. Parks Rangers do not, however, object to climbers accessing the climbing areas left & right of the hiker's route – "**Short Cool Ones**", "**Mosquito Wall**", and "**Thanks Giving Wall**". The other climbing areas on the north & south side remain un-affected by the closure. A trip up to the shoulder for a look at the problems arising there (with the QPWS RIC), is planned in the near future. Alternate routes to the summit are limited – the main one being the East Face Route which is a major undertaking.

- Mt. Ngungun:

The new track work is proving a success in the stabilisation of the mountain. Access to the lower climbing areas is being accommodated (see ACAQ trip report re this earlier this year). The new area "**Andromeda**" is proving to be popular amongst climbers with easily bolted mid-grade routes.

- Mt. Tibrogargan:

Some ongoing issues on this mountain, mostly due to its very heavy use by day trippers/hikers as well as climbers:

- a) ACAQ did an inspection of the very popular "**Slider Wall**" area last month (June 2013) with 3 of the local area rangers, the main purpose being the mitigation of erosion & toileting issues there. Some solutions were discussed. This is an ongoing issue that will need continued monitoring by both climbers and QPWS.
- b) Summit signs re rock throwing: these were installed by QPWS in May of this year with the aim of reducing the amount of rock throwing occurring from the summit down the east face. Several climbers have had close encounters with rock missiles in the past. It is hoped this will significantly reduce the amount of rock throwing, if not, stronger measures will be taken by QPWS.
- c) The hardy tree at the 3rd belay of "**Black Orpheus**" is again in need of some TLC. The stabilisation has helped greatly (pinning it to the rock), but the matting placed there by concerned climbers a few years ago has now deteriorated & is completely weathered away, exposing the tree's roots to climber's boots/packs etc., as well as losing any precious soil matter that might accumulate there. A solution to this is to place some open rubber matting around the base of the tree – covering its roots.

This has already been discussed with the RIC and will be implemented in the near future.

Steve Peckman - Mount French Rep

The last quarter at frog has seen the usual influx of southern climbers and semi-permanent's arrive and get to work on some of the crags classic routes. The toilet and septic system upgrade is well still planned to go ahead in the new financial year with works proposed to start in late September. General track care and weed days were conducted on the weekend of the 6/7/13 and approximately 15 people attended over the weekend with 30+ new steps being constructed, all of the star pickets being removed and replaced on the scree slope track and many damaged steps being repaired. Over the weekend several weed species were targeted and removed by volunteers but much more needs to be done. Further track and weed days are being pushed for by the volunteers that attended and a proposed date will be set in the coming weeks.

Gary Abraham – North Queensland Rep

Access to climbing areas is currently ok within the region.

The three main areas of activity around Townsville are Mt. Stuart, Frederick Peak and Harvey's Marbles. Some of the other crag's that attract climbers are Castle Hill, Magnetic Island, Palleranda, Bowen Beaches, Kissing Point & The Citadel.

Mt Stuart;

This large crag has some of the best climbing to be had in the region and is only a short drive from the city. Council require climbers have a permit. Access to the climbing areas is via Council controlled land but only a small area of the climbing to be had on Mt. Stuart is on this land i.e. parts of "The Playground", the most user friendly area at Mt. Stuart.

The majority and more adventurous climbing is located on areas controlled by the Defence Force.

This crag has had access problems in the past.

Harvey's Marbles; (Bouldering)

This area is on pastoral lease and there are no access problems. As long as climbers respect the local ethics and the landholder's wishes things will stay this way. Superb bouldering is on offer here.

Frederick Peak;

This area has been getting a lot of attention from climbers lately and offers top class climbing for the more experienced and adventurous.

The crag is located on vacant State Land, access is via. freehold land and a utility easement.

A Code of Conduct has been developed by climbers in consultation with the landholder, currently access is permitted through the property.

This unique wilderness environment provides an excellent opportunity for a whole-of-landscape approach to outdoor recreation planning by the land managers. The area is highly valued and the local climbing community would be very pleased to have secure access to this crag.

Indicative planning for the area is - Open Space and Recreation

Castle Hill;

Council control this area which has some good climbing, permits are required. A big attraction with this crag is that it's smack in the middle of the city. The main problem here is the very high volume pedestrian traffic on the "Goat Track" which passes directly below the main cliff faces. The rock here is coarse granite and is a bit chossy in places. Access to climbing areas is from the lookout car park or lower car park via. the "Goat Track".

Kissing Point;

Currently no climbing is permitted as the area is located within a construction site. Management of the land is in transition from the Defence Force. I will approach the Local Council and encourage the better utilisation of this small crag. The climbing here is good for beginners and is in such a great spot to showcase our sport and encourage participation, it's potentially a sort of a mini Kangaroo Point. Climbing here would add to the many other outdoor recreation activities available on "The Strand" which have support from Council.

The Citadel;

An area about 130K North of Townsville the crag is just inside the Lumholtz NP, little activity has gone on here of late but it has got excellent potential, if there are access problems in other local climbing spots this crag would get a lot more attention.

Magnetic Island, Palleranda & Bowen Beaches; (Bouldering)

These areas are located on public beaches and there are no access issues.

Presidents report: [here](#)

Treasurers report: [here](#)

Summary -

Income for year: \$4175.75

Expenditure for year: \$1121.48

Closing Balance: \$9,043.43

Election of executive:

No nominations for the executive positions were received before the meeting and no nominations were received from the floor of the meeting so the current executive was re-elected unopposed. They are -

President - David Reeve

Secretary - Glen Jones

Treasurer - Ruth Reeve

Election of crag representatives:

No nominations were received before the meeting, and none were raised from the floor. Current crag representatives indicated they were happy to continue in their positions.

Agenda Items:

No formal agenda items were received prior to the meeting.

General Business:

Proude Hawkins raised the issue of safety, and the accident rate at the KP Cliffs. The number of totally inexperienced climbers now using the cliffs is a cause for concern. Whilst it is clear that experienced climbers are managing to intercept a lot of the hazardous behaviour, it was felt that further action was desirable. Dave Reeve asked whether the meeting considered safety education a valid concern of the ACAQ, given that its fundamental focus was on access. The overwhelming feeling of the meeting was that it was a concern because any negative consequences of a high accident rate at KP would reflect back on the umbrella organisation. It was informally agreed that the executive should further concern itself with climber education, but the top priority should remain access.

Lewis Templar indicated he had the time and resources to embark on the production of a film featuring SEQ climbing. He made a general call for suggestions and volunteers. The general response of the meeting was enthusiastic and it was felt that such a venture would be a valuable means of promoting the sport.

8:35pm meeting closed