

16 March 2014

Hello to everyone who has been receiving the emails that for many years have provided information about the monthly Clamberers walks, in and around Steels Creek, and further afield too.

Recent messages in *'The Jolly Thing'* and elsewhere have advised that the Clamberers walks coordinators of recent years (Robyn and I) will not be available during 2014, and have asked if there was someone who might take over the role.

Both Robyn and I have greatly enjoyed the Clamberers walks that we have participated in. We thank all those who over the years have made the walks happen - those who planned and researched the locations and the routes, and those who have shown the way on the day. We have enjoyed the company and camaraderie that existed amongst participants. We valued the knowledge and wisdom that participants brought to the walks – about the birds and animals, the plants, the weather, the history, the environment in general, and about the many other topics that arose along the way. We watched those of advancing years passing on their knowledge and experience, and younger walkers, even children, learning new insights and skills. We felt that the walks helped people, consciously or otherwise, to keep more in touch with the Earth and its ancient wisdoms and truths, in an age when such connection is so easily lost in urban living.

So it is with some sadness that we advise that there have been no offers to take on the coordination role, and therefore the walks as we have known them will not be running for the foreseeable future.

But maybe there is a way that we can still benefit from the Clamberers Walks experience in a different way. I am sure that some amongst our number will continue on their own walks from time to time. Maybe they will be local walks; maybe they will be major expeditions to far flung corners of our planet. *Maybe these walks could still be shared!*

We have in past years experienced people's travels through the *"Traveller's Tales"* series of illustrated talks at the Community Centre. Why not revive this idea, so people could share the experiences of their walks, illustrated with photographs or video? Alternatively, why not ***write an account of your***

walking adventures for publication in “The Jolly Thing”? The Editor has previously offered editorial guidance and assistance for people contributing articles, and I’m sure the same offer would be available for walking adventures too!

In these ways, and maybe others ways too, we could all potentially share in at least some of the ongoing Clamberers’ Walks. *Your tales may even inspire others to take that extra step towards experiencing adventure and discovery – surely a worthwhile outcomes in any community!*

Who will take the first step!?

David and Robyn Allan