

Cockscomb Chronicle

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<http://veteranretreat.tripod.com>

HISTORY

Cockscomb, a dream that came true...

Cockscomb Veteran Retreat came about from an idea that was developed some four years ago, between a number of the Vietnam Veterans in the Central Queensland area. The Veterans came up with a plan to develop an area somewhere in the bush as a reasonably isolated camp/retreat. A place where fellow veterans could go to relax and interact with other veterans. It was promoted as an idea amongst interested parties. After some discussions within our own ranks and with Bruce, he offered us the use of a section of land on some 60 acres he has, in an area known as Cawarral. An old gold mining and farming community, approx 20 klms from Rockhampton; half way between Rocky and the Capricorn coast. This was considered to be an ideal location and the gracious offer was accepted.



One of the first gatherings at Cockscomb

Since then the Cockscomb concept has followed a path to the present day status. Developed by Veterans for Veterans, Cockscomb is becoming a recreational

All that was on site at the beginning was a Railway Camp Wagon.

Since then an awning has been added and more recently a extension of the awning out over the table.

PAINTING

The Camp Wagon was scrapped down and painted in heritage colours with help from Graham Swadling and Taubmans Paint.



WATER

Water being scarce, Rose Swadling and Bruce Acutt with help from Adrian Brown of Beta Poly Tanks installed a 15900litre tank on site.



AMENITIES

With water on site more Veterans started to come to Cockscomb. Ideas for development ran wild. However, with a little guidance a septic toilet and washroom was installed. This area has since been upgraded and now has two toilets, hot showers, a laundry and clothes line. Ray Stanley one of the Veterans has become well known for his ability to recycle and convert. Rays heating system

**Do you have nails, screws, building supplies, timber, bricks etc, we can use anything.
Give Allan a call on 07 4934 4941**

provides 24 hour hot-water, without Gas or Electricity.



BUSH KITCHEN

Cooking was a chore and over an open fire some meals had that slight taint of charcoal. So the heads got together and the bush kitchen was built. With a professionally laid BBQ and the assistance of Heath Jensen a bricklayer Ph 07 4933 2457 This now provides an area where all cooking can be done in any weather conditions



KOPPERS CABIN

Most Veterans can sleep on a barb wire fence, but our partners demanded better conditions. So the first of the Koppers Cabins was built. Dale Howland a Reg. builder Ph 07 4935 4025

Capable of sleeping 8 with bunks, the Koppers Cabin looks so good that a second cabin is to be erected during 2002. The Cockscornb Veterans couldn't have done it with the help of CSR Readymix Concrete, Hyne & Sons Timber and Koppers Logs. Now with a 12 Volt lighting system, visitors can plug into the car battery and enjoy a light at night.

For more information on Cockscornb phone
Bruce 07 4927 9070 **Allan 07 4934 4941**



PERGOLA

After a lot of thought, the first water tank was emptied and moved down beside the kitchen. This area was destined to become an outdoor eating / entertainment area. The Pergola is a work of art, with Rays Patiented peak support and poles from Stan Smith of Dale & Meyers Holdings Pty Ltd, a sheet of second hand lattice and a bar area, the Pergola will be operational for the 2001 Christmas Party.

THE BAR



**Merry
Christmas &
Happy New
Year, relax and
drive carefully,
we want the
good work to
continue in
2002.**

To make it memorable the Bar has been named after Beer 33 a well known refresher of sorts drunk by many Veterans while in Vietnam



NEW YEAR PROJECTS

are to build the second Koppers Cabin, complete the paving and start the walking tracks.

If you would like to help come down to a working bee on Tuesdays at 0930