

Exercise is Good for You

On the track along the river that links the two larger areas at each end of the Wild River Park are a series of exercise stops.

Borrowed from the Irish Heart Foundation, these are to commemorate the founder of Herberton, John Newell. He was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1852 and lived to 82 years of age.

He was never averse to activity, so there could be some truth in the value of exercise.

Perhaps you would like to pursue longevity by starting your own exercise program

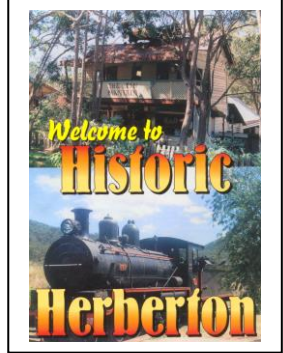
Wild by Name and by Nature

The Wild also lives up to its name in another way. As a mountain stream originating in an area subject to torrential downpours, the river can indeed become *wild* when in full spate ☐



Wild River Pool

WILD RIVER PARK HERBERTON



A Quiet Retreat

The township of Herberton stands on the headwaters of the Wild River, a tributary of the Herbert which reaches the coast at Ingham.

The Wild was named by James Venture Mulligan on the 4th June 1875. It was at this time that Mulligan found evidence of tin ore in the area, but an entry in his journal questions the value of the find '*in this wild place*' (Pike, in *Wild River Times*, June 1975).

Much has changed in the intervening years. Herberton has become a quiet village in the hills after being a somewhat turbulent mining town in the past.

And close to the centre of town, the Wild River Park, which follows the banks of its namesake river, is a peaceful spot for relaxation, birdwatching, walking and picnicking ☐



Walking Trail

Founding of Herberton

Mulligan's tin find – it was some four kilometres upstream of the Wild River Park at Moomin – was re-investigated by John Atherton and party in 1879, but it was not until the 19th April 1880 that the real importance of the mineralisation in the area was understood.

It was on that day that John Newell and his party discovered the lode tin deposit in the Great Northern Gully.

Local folklore tells of the smelting of a sample in a hollow tree stump, and once the nature of the ore was confirmed, of an epic overnight ride to Thornborough to register the claim.

Great Northern Gully runs into the Wild River Park and is now bridged by the railway. *Woodstock* stands near where the tree stump used to be ☐



Wild River



Wild River Bottlebrush



Footbridge over the Wild River



Prospectors Gully Rail Bridge

Picnic in the Park
A highlight of special events such as Foundation Day is often a picnic in the Park ☐



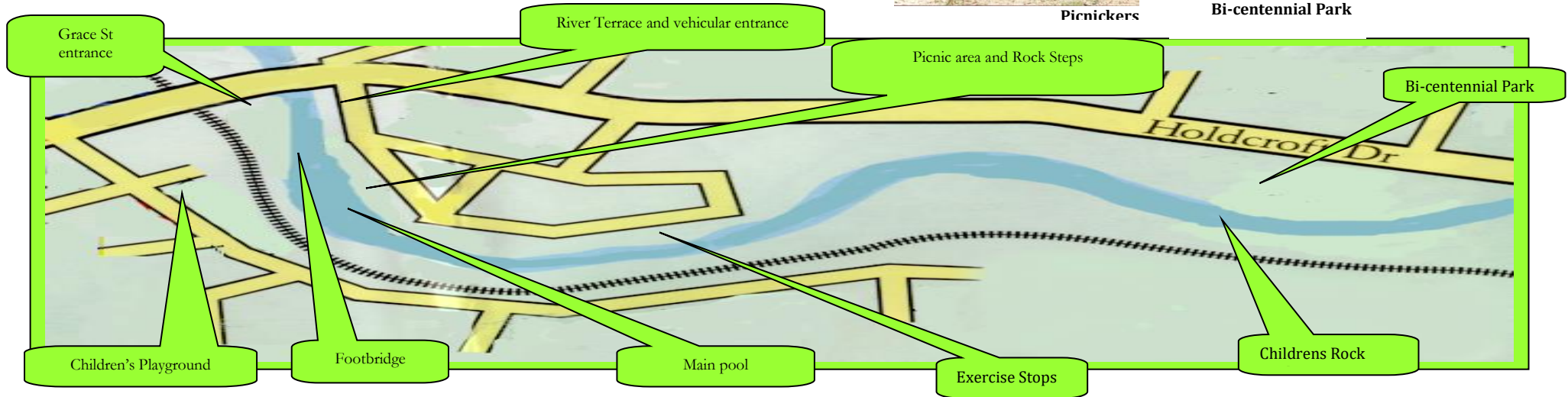
Picnickers



BBQ Area, Lions Park



Bi-centennial Park



Some Birds in the Park

Scaly breasted lorikeet -	<i>Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus</i>
Rainbow lorikeet -	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>
Grey Fantail -	<i>Rhipidura fuliginosa</i>
Scarlet Honeyeater -	<i>Myzometa sanguinolenta</i>
King Parrot -	<i>Alisterus scapularis</i>
Lewin's Honeyeater -	<i>Meliphaga lewinii</i>
Double Barred Finch -	<i>Poephila bichenorii</i>
Red Browed Finch -	<i>Aegintha temporalis</i>
Striated Pardalote -	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>
Pale-headed Rosella -	<i>Platyercus adseitus</i>
Pacific Black Duck -	<i>Anas superciliosa</i>
Little Egret -	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Nankeen Night Heron -	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>
White Naped Honeyeater -	<i>Meliphreptus lunatus</i>
White-faced Heron -	<i>Ardea norrebollandiae</i>

Tin Panning

The sands in the river at the Wild River Park can still be successfully panned for alluvial tin. Here, a local geologist instructs visitors on technique and recognition of specimens ☐



Demonstrating Tin Panning

Some of the Many Trees and Shrubs:

Herberton Peppermint Gum -	<i>Eucalyptus exserta</i>
Bushmans Clothespeg -	<i>Grevillea glauca</i>
Irvinebank Wattle -	<i>Acacia leptoloba</i>
Lemon Scented Gum -	<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>
Burdekin Plum -	<i>Pleogynium timorensis</i>
Rock Fig -	<i>Ficus platypoda</i>
Weeping Paper Bark -	<i>Melaleuca leucodendron</i>
Mt Morgan Silver Wattle -	<i>Acacia podalyriifolia</i>
Watsonville Bloodwood -	<i>Corymbia erythrophloia</i>
Lemon Scented Tea Tree -	<i>Leptospermum petersonii</i>
Pumpkin Gum -	<i>Eucalyptus pachycalyx</i>
Bats Wing Coral Tree -	<i>Erythrina vespertilio</i>
Native Gardenia -	<i>Gardenia ochreatea</i>
Weeping Bottlebrush (Wild River Bottlebrush) -	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>