

"MAKING TRACKS WITH US"

BUNDABERG BUSHWALKING CLUB

NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2024



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Club Executives

<i>President</i>	<i>Lucinda</i>	<i>(0421 011 181)</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Allison</i>	<i>(0448 846 084)</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Paula</i>	<i>(0490330542)</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>(0414 190 566)</i>

BUNDABERG BUSHWALKERS CLUB

PRESIDENT'S REPORT .

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Welcome to April! The mercury has dropped, marginally, so it was nice to get out a bit over Easter. I had a lovely Easter weekend with other club members at the Pomona camping trip, finally getting to climb Cooroora which had been on my list for years.

A reminder that the Combined Club Camp is fast approaching, on May 18 and 19. It will be hosted by the Gladstone club at Ubobo this year. If you haven't been, Ubobo is a great campground, and there are lots of interesting walks in the area so it is sure to be a great weekend. not to mention that it is always great to meet and catch up with members of the other clubs. If you are on the fence about coming, or want to know more, feel free to call me or Howard Parker (0438 722 301) to ask any questions. If you are coming, please let Howard know - as he is also a member of the Gladstone Club, he is helping to plan their walks schedule and knowing numbers will help them in their planning.

If you haven't already, now is a good time to do an audit of your first aid kit. Everyone should have one in their walking packs, and sometimes we have used up some of the contents and forgotten to replenish them. The start of the walking season is a good time to do a check. Remember, it is each walker's responsibility to carry their own first aid supplies on all walks, you don't want the time you discover you are missing something to be the time you need it. The club congratulates Moira on being elected to division 4 for North Burnett Regional council. I look forward to seeing you all out on the track.

Happy walking,
Lucinda

WALK REPORTS:

Sunday 10th March - Cordalba State Forest

The weather was forecast to be very showery and windy, and getting up in the morning, still dark, still yawning, the first shower came down, really heavy. Packed rain jacket and umbrella and decided on a shorter track to walk. At the Hilltop trailhead the sun was shining, blue sky with a few fluffy white clouds, it could not have been better weather for walking. Us 11 walkers went part of the barking owl trail, beehive and grass tree trail. The forest is lush and green in the moment, with the scents from flowering trees and lemon scented eucalypts clinging on in the moist air. Only a few birds could be heard, and besides a single mountain biker the only encounter was a long chain of hairy cluster caterpillars crawling across the trail to wherever, and spiders sitting in their golden webs across our path. Thankfully, Jeff walked in front and removed all webs, so nobody got tangled. The weather kept dry, but got cloudy and threatened to rain as we were having morning tea, and okay, there was a bit of wet air at some stage, but both umbrella and rain jacket got back to the car unused. Overall a beautiful morning walk, relaxing and good for the soul. - Angela

Sunday 17th March: Social - Smiths Crossing.

Another popular social morning was held at Smiths Crossing with 11 people attending. We soon had our chairs and tables and 'smoko' was ready for a cuppa coffee/tea and chatter. We walked along the river where the geese were swimming lazily around, and watched the fun the skiers were having on the water. Later 3 people enjoyed a refreshing swim and Paula took her kayak for a paddle. Thanks once again to Barry and Glynn for these socials where the easy and harder walkers can get together and talk about their popular walking spots and meet new members who come along for a relaxing morning. - JOY

Saturday 23rd March - Boat Mountain.

Fourteen people travelled from Bundaberg, Gayndah, Kilkivan, Maryborough, Burrum Heads and Biggenden to Boat Mountain Conservation Park, north of Murgon. A cloudy and cool day gave the group a relaxed and enjoyable walk to Boat Mt summit, 589 metres. The 3.6kms loop followed the ridge-line to the lookout and returned via the Silburn Vine Scrub loop. The highlight of the day was spotting four koalas, three adults and one juvenile. Following the hike, the group had lunch at Murgon RSL and then went on to the 55 Million Years display at Murgon Museum.

Boat Mountain has been a location of fossil finds from 1930, with extensive research continuing from 1986. Professor Mike Archer is recorded at the Museum giving a very

comprehensive overview of the importance of the Murgon fossils found at Boat Mountain. The site is significant as the only site in Australia that records a diverse vertebrate fauna dating from the early Tertiary Period (55 million years ago), approximately ten million years after the extinction of the dinosaurs. An enjoyable and informative day was had by all. - Moira

Sunday 24th March – Burnett Downs River Walk.

We drove to Burnett Downs and parked near the boat ramp. There was a lot of activity across the river with tents and cars and people preparing for the boat races. Eleven of us were soon walking along the high grassy bank following the map Allison had for the trail. It was lined with trees one side and the clean and tidy neatly mown back yards of the homes on the other side. We followed a track which led us to another entrance to the walk and turned to walk another track towards the river. It was a very interesting 4klm walk. When we were back for our cuppa a local man named Tony arrived on his bike and told us about the history of the railway line, some of which we had walked along. He is very proactive in getting the rail trail happening, and we appreciated his interesting talk. The morning was very noisy with the boat races in progress and a helicopter above us. Thank you Allison for a very interesting morning. - JOY

29th March - 1st April - Crows Nest Camp

The campers arrived in dribs and drabs with Jill coming in early on the Thursday for her inaugural trip with the van. 5 more arrived by lunch Friday. Lucinda was a doubtful starter after succumbing to the office cold and fear of covid. After a day of resting at home and testing negative Lucinda came in on Saturday. Friday afternoon we explored the local trails along the creek to the falls and further along to the lookout & return via various rock pools. Howard tested out the water at one & at another climbed the cascades whereas the walkers followed the trail. Howard provided for us all that night with hot showers and a fire - both greatly appreciated. Saturday morning we departed for our tour/walk/tour/walk day starting with Perseverance Dam & onto Cressbrook dam. At Cressbrook we parked in the day use area where the local kangaroos were playing on the sand volleyball court. Jill stayed to relax in the shade & we headed off on a walk around the lake. Getting to the camp ground we had morning tea and continued to follow the trail around the lake in and out of various bays. Due to the heat we cut the walk short & returned to the cars in time to see a vintage Volkswagon club arrive. We were wandering down for a closer inspection when the vehicles all started departing so we provided the 'crowd' for the vintage car display. We ended up following the vehicles to Ravensbourne National Park where we did a short rainforest walk at the lookout before stopping at the day use area for lunch. A further circuit walk was planned but was shortened by a tree fall blocking the path. We had already chased off leeches so scrub bashing didn't appeal. Back to camp for a leisurely afternoon & some went into town for dinner.

Sunday had us pack up & head into Crows Nest where we did a short section of the creek walk near the Bullock rest area that gave some of the history of the area. We were hoping to quench the thirst with a Crows Nest soft drink but found the factory closed. A stroll around town and we departed for Cooyar and The Palms National Park. The flying foxes have taken up residence in one part so they provided a noisy backdrop. The short circuit walk had a very enticing vine hanging down and in a moment of childhood reminiscence & forgetting my age I decided climbing up for a 'swing' would be a great idea! Holding a phone in one hand did not help the plan so needless to say it didn't end as it was meant to & I was left swinging upside

down rather than sitting on the vine. The event did provide the opportunity for the photographers to capture a winning entry for at least 3 categories for the end of year photo comp. I did discover on this trip that Howard is into video productions and has the whole thing captured live and posted on line. I might add the second attempt was successful. At this point we parted ways with some extending their travels by heading to the Bunyas and the others to our various home locations.

Thank you to everyone for coming along and making it an enjoyable weekend. - Allison

Walk Report - Easter Camp

Only four of us headed off on Good Friday for four days camping at the Pomona Showgrounds. Allison had done her homework and borrowed the brochure of the Noosa Trail Network - which is now transitioning to being called the "Noosa Biosphere Trails". Friday afternoon all four of us did a short but steep walk from the Kin Kin Aboretum to Johnson's lookout, which was a lovely walk through green rolling hills and farms.

On Saturday we waited until the showers had cleared, and then three of us climbed Mt Cooroora. Although it only took us about an hour and fifteen minutes to reach the top, the path was STEEP, and my legs were burning. There are chains installed to help you over the worst bits. The view from the top was definitely worth the climb though! The others went for a walk around the botanic gardens on Saturday afternoon, while I enjoyed a rest in my camper. By all accounts the botanic gardens was a lovely walk.

On Saturday night, three of us went to the Mondo Rocks the Icehouse show, a tribute to Mondo Rock and Icehouse, at the Pomona Theatre. This is a beautiful historic theatre and a great venue for a show like that.

Sunday saw three of us walk the Trails from Pomona (at the base of Mt Cooroora) through to Cooran - about 8km. We started off in light rain, which was actually quite refreshing, but it soon cleared. This was a really nice walk on clear paths, through a variety of landscapes - nice views through the trees of Cooroora, open eucalypt, rainforest and rural residential. Some friendly walkers gave us the tip of using the afternoon to drive up to Mothar Mountain rockpools, which were absolutely beautiful. Only Paula jumped in for a swim, but the rest of regretting not bringing our togs so we could join in as the water was crystal clear and a perfect temperature. Something for next time!

Thanks Allison for organising the weekend, it was great. - *Lucinda*

FUTURE WALKS AND OUTINGS:

Sunday April 7th - Fraser Coast Explore (3 in 1) Easy S1A : Depart Thabeban State School 7.30am. Drive to Booral locality to the Pir'ri Reserve on the River Heads Rd. A 3.4km loop trail through a variety of vegetation including remnant rainforest and eucalyptus forest. On completion of this walk, drive to River Heads for a 1.9km loop trail offering waterfront views. Picnic lunch & then drive to Vernon State Forest near Toogoom and we can take our pick of some of the Toogoom Mountain Bike Trails depending on how we are feeling. Wear protective clothing, suitable footwear, bring a sense of adventure, food & water, insect repellent, personal first aid. For more information & to register contact Allison on (0448 846 084)

Sunday April 14th: - Innes Park Social. Leave Thabeban School at 9am for a social and walk. Please text or phone Barry (0403 736 420).

Sunday 14th April: - Mt Woocoo, Hard S3C. This is a half day walk in St Mary's state forest. It will be under 5km, mainly off track rough terrain. Mt Woocoo is 246m ASL, there are views of farming country and ranges from the top, there is an impressive outcrop we will explore near the top. Meet at Woocoo Hall 8.30am **Contact Richard (0414345782.)** This is a moderate walk, although short it is mainly off track through rough terrain.

Sunday April 21st : - Barolin Nature Reserve: Easy S1A. Meet at Thabeban School to leave at 8am to explore the flora, fauna and birdlife at the Nature Reserve. Please phone Verlie on (41528885)

Sunday April 21st : – Billy Canyon. Hard S4D This hard walk will leave from Beiers Park at 8am in Biggenden. Leave Coles Kensington Carpark at 7am. Please advise Howard (0438 722 301)

Monday May 6th : – Mount Perry. Hard S2C. This walk is a marked trail. It starts with some steep walking in open land, then we climb through some forest before reaching the top of Mount Perry for some lovely views. Meet at North Bundaberg State School at 7am. Please phone Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

Tuesday May 7th : - Monthly Meeting. Meet at the Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building. The meeting starts at **6PM.** Park on Maryborough St and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building. **All Club Members and visitors welcome.**

May 18th-19th : - Combined Camp. Join the Gladstone District Bushwalkers for the 2024 Combined Club Camp in the beautiful Boyne Valley. The camp is 'back to basics' fully self-catered and accommodation options are available at the Ubobo Discovery Centre which has dorm style and cabin options plus camping and caravan sites with excellent facilities. There is even a B&B in Ubobo - both of the links to book accommodation are below. The Program will run from Friday afternoon to Sunday morning, with Saturday being our main activity day. The program will be available in late April. Please go to the below websites to secure your accommodation. <https://boynevalley.org.au/> - Discovery Centre
Ubobo <https://kpowall.wixsite.com/follywoodguesthouse>-- Gladstone District Bushwalkers

Saturday May 25th : - Mt Walsh N/P. - Black Rock circuit. Hard Walk. S4D. Leave Coles Kensington Carpark at 7 to meet at 8am in Biggenden. Please register with Moira (0458 365 051)

Sunday May 26th : - Innes Park to Coral Cove. and Return - Easy S1A. This walk totals 4klm with all tarmac walkway. Meet corner Coolanblue Ave and Innes Park Rd at 8am. Please text Angela (0447226854) to register your interest.

Tuesday June 4th : - Monthly Meeting. Meet at the Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building. The meeting starts at **6PM.** Park on Maryborough St and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building. **All Club Members and visitors welcome.**

Sunday 16th June : - Mt Woowonga & Mt Goonanenan – Hard S2C Leave Coles Kensington Carpark 7am. Please register with Mary (041 419 0566)

Sunday June 16th – Pine Crk. This medium walk to be advised.

Saturday June 22nd : - Walk Planning Meeting - Meet at the Chapel at the Botanical Gardens near the cafe at 10am. Bring a chair and ideas for walks you would like to explore or offer to lead a walk. If you have a walk in mind but unable to attend please phone Lucinda (0421 011 181).

DATE CLAIMER: - Saturday 7th September - A.G.M. & 40th Birthday Celebrations. -

June 25th - 28th June : Isla Gorge. Howard has a variety of walks for this camping trip. Phone Howard (0438 722 301)

Expressions of interest in completing the Carnarvon Gorge Great Walk. - 87KIm six day circuit. Start/end point accessible by 2WD on sealed road. - Two possible dates: **July after the school holidays (6.3 deg - 20.9 deg)** or before the **September school holidays (longer days, cold at night but great days for walking. Need to be fit enough to carry sufficient water for each day. (app 15kg pack).** If interested please contact Glenda on 0418730229

September 18th - 21st Tasmanian 3 capes track in Tasmania. *If you are interested in knowing more about this trip you can find it on www.taswalkingco.com.au/three-capes-lodge-walk/signature/ Please contact Howard for more information. (0438 722 301)******

For those who are interested in improving their navigational skills and gain confidence using a map and compass, this information is from the Capricornia Bushwalking Club

Would you like to develop your skills in reading maps and country, navigating using a map and compass, building your confidence to walk off track, or simply to be able to identify where you are at any given time while out in the bush? One of our members has been in touch with Caro Ryan, a keen bushwalker and SES NSW Search and Rescue Manager in the Blue Mountains National Park.

Caro teaches traditional map and compass navigation and is available to come to Rockhampton to lead a two day course with our club in July! (Usually, you would need to travel to the Blue Mountains to attend a course with Caro).

The course would be held on a Saturday and Sunday. The first day would be theory based, with the second day a full day of putting skills into practice on a local property, under Caro's supervision. This is a great opportunity to develop your confidence and skills, learning from someone who is passionate about bushwalking and safety. Some more details can be found on this link

<https://lotsafreshair.com/navigation-course-blue-mountains/>

The course is self funded, and although firm costs are still being negotiated, the full cost is approximately \$550 per person for the weekend. We need to get an idea of who may be interested fairly quickly. We can have between 8 and 12 people attend, membership of a BWQ affiliated club is essential.

If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, please text or email Janine Kenealy on 0418 372 465 / janinekenealy@gmail.com

2024 Annual Photo Competition Rules

The annual photo competition will take place at the Christmas BBQ Breakfast.

Photos must be taken during the current year and on club walks or outings.

Categories: Landscape, Wildlife, Macro and People (one or more persons) Flora and Funny.

This year we have chosen 'Stripes' of any colour.

One 6 x 4 photo per person per category. Cash prizes for winners in each category.

Walk Gradings

Max Kilometres per day	Terrain	Fitness
S. up to 10 kilometres	1. Graded track	a. Unfit beginners
M. 10-15 kilometres	2. Tracks, steeper sections, open terrain	b. Fit beginners
L. 15-20 kilometres	3. Off track, minor scrub, creek/rock hopping, minimal navigation	c. Fitness and/or agility required
X. Over 20 kilometres	4. Scrambling, thick rainforest, hard navigation 5. Technical rock ability, abseil	d. Good fitness and agility a must e. Strenuous. Experienced, very fit walkers only

Current Fees: (Membership fees due July 1 each year)

(1) **Membership fees – \$20 per adult**

\$10 if under 18 (for one or more children from the same family)

Please do not send cash through the mail. You can pay your membership fees at the Monthly meeting, or by **EFT BSB 064-403**, Account Number **00915879** quoting your surname as the reference.

(2) **Walk fees – \$5.00 per visitor. Free for Members.**

(3) **Postal Address - P.O. Box 696 Bundaberg. Qld. 4670**

General:

Visitors attending a walk are temporary members for the walk, upon signing the acknowledgement of risk and obligations until the walk outing is completed. We recommend a minimum of one walk be completed before you apply for membership. Membership application is mandatory before participation in the third walk.

Tips for Members/Guests:

- Most importantly, if you are interested in joining in an activity PLEASE call the Leader. They are best person to answer any questions, explain what you need to do/bring.
- You cannot register for a walk by responding to Facebook or by emailing the Club. You need to communicate this with the leader directly.
- Please read the walk description and difficulty rating carefully.
- Our website has a copy of the Member's Handbook on it – please have a read of this. Please take the pack requirements seriously, especially for medium and hard off track walks.
- All activities have some limitations on numbers – either due to National Park numbers or the preference of the leader.
- For hard walks, don't be fooled by the distance. A 10 klm can take 2 hours or 8 hours depending on difficulty. The walk description and the Leader will give you information on what to expect. Most of our medium and hard walks are off track, this is very different walking to

formed tracks or National Parks tracks. The Leader will give you details, if in doubt, start with an easier walk.

- All persons take part in outings on the understanding that they do so entirely at their own risk. They agree that the responsibility, which they take for their own safety, is the same that they would apply if they were on their own organised outing.

Car Pooling Arrangements:

On day walks, car loads are generally arranged at the nominated departure point with passengers contributing to petrol costs etc. Suggested basic contributions for passengers are:-

**10-20kms \$5/person, 20-50kms \$8/person, 50-100kms \$10/person
100-200kms \$15/person, 200-250kms \$20/person, 250-300kms \$25/person**

Newsletters are available from Bundaberg Library.

It would be appreciated if any contributions to the newsletter (*and they are always welcome*) could be received by the editor several days before the meeting.

Email address for newsletter items is: joyham@westnet.com.au

The club email address is info@bundabergbushwalkers.com

Contact Code A few reminders for all walkers

- Please contact walk leaders **a least one week before a walk**. If you leave it till Thursday or Friday night you may be disappointed to find that the walk has been cancelled, due to apparent lack of interest. Also dates, details etc can & do change. Leaders give their time to organise walks and need to know if they are committed to lead a walk.
- Arrive at the meeting point 10 minutes before the set time. Our times are departure times and we try to be punctual. Late walkers can be left behind!
- Read the walk description and note the rating. If you are unsure of your abilities, please discuss this with the leader before nominating. Neither you nor other walkers will have a good day if your fitness is not of a suitable standard.
- Do you have a health problem that may affect your performance on a walk? It is important that you inform the leader of this and discuss the matter.
- If you have commitments after a walk please discuss this with the leader before commencing a walk. Leaders cannot guarantee the time of return, due to weather, terrain & the expertise of walkers.

Walk Recce Costs

Just a reminder to anyone carrying out recce's for walks. Funds are available to cover expenses (fuel etc.). Please submit a claim (mileage travelled) to the treasurer.

First Aid In an attempt to encourage more members to become First Aid proficient, the Club will pay a 50% fee subsidy to those members who attend and complete a recognised First Aid or CPR course.

From now on, only members will be emailed a copy of the newsletter. If you aren't a member you will be able to access the newsletter via the website at <https://bundabergbushwalkers.com/bundabergbushwalkin>

The newsletter is also available at the Bundaberg Library.