

"MAKING TRACKS WITH US"

BUNDABERG BUSHWALKING CLUB

NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER - 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 Ponderings Well, it has been a busy month! The biggest event was, of course, the 40th anniversary lunch. Even though I've only been involved with the club for 10 years, there were so many people to catch up with, and a few more I got to meet for the first time. Joy has written a proper coverage of the day, so I will just say a massive thank you to everyone who helped organise the event, and also to everyone who came. It was a lovely day.

We also held the AGM this month. Congratulations (or commiserations) to the re-appointed committee: President - Lucinda Doughty - Vice-President - Allison Webb - Treasurer - Mary Belia - Secretary - Paula Tovey. I know I say it a lot, but this club doesn't exist without the committee, so thank you for volunteering your time and expertise again.

As the weather starts to warm up, our walks schedule winds down, so I hope you all get the chance to make it out and about as much as you can before summer hits.

Happy walking, Lucinda

WALK REPORTS:

Saturday 7th September - 40th Reunion. The A.G.M. was first on the menu and the executive were re-elected for another term. Lucinda is doing a wonderful job as President and Paula Secretary, with Mary again the Treasurer. Unfortunately Allison was unable to be present but she had accepted another term of Vice President. Congratulations to all who have been returned to the executive positions, they are doing a terrific job keeping the Club walking every year.

The celebrations began for our 40 years of walking, camping, kayaking, socials and Combined Camps. After 42 people booked their meals they caught up with memorabilia from all the photo albums, paper clippings, photos coming up on the screen, and meeting past members.

Elinor read a telegram from Elaine Graham from Tasmania wishing us all happy walking in the future and inviting us to come stay with her anytime we have a chance to visit Tassie.

Pauline spoke about our trips and the camping and the fun times we had travelling to many destinations in Australia.

Ailsa spoke about the warm welcome she received when she first joined the Club and the friendships she has kept with members who keep her up to date with the walk itineraries. Richard Gear started the Club in 1984 with David Lawson who also talked about the fun times, the walking, the friendship and companionship we all share when we are away on long trips looking after each other as a family. Lucinda opened the Time Capsule and we heard loud 'oohs and aahs' when we saw the old compass, the walkie talkies with 2 biro's replacing the antenna? Gloria how did that happen?

Many old photos had us talking about the pancakes Barry made at the Combined Camps, and the mountain climbs we accomplished. Some items and photos dated back as far as 1984. There was an old hat and newspaper items, maps, DVD's of occasions like the 21st birthday celebrations. The first newsletter printed with one finger by Richard on a typewriter and much more kept appearing out of the long capsule.

As the occasion drew to a close the delicious Birthday cake with the Bushwalk Icon on it was cut and shared around. Everyone voted it a wonderful afternoon reminiscing and meeting old and new friends. The Club extends a special thank you to Allison who organised the photos and everything on the day. - JOY

Sunday 15th September – Tawah Creek -

6 people departed Bundaberg to rendezvous with 2 at the Woowoonga picnic area. The adventure started by being breathalysed at Dallarnil (we passed). After tuning in the GPS we headed up the creek. This was the first time I'd used the GPS to retrace a previous walk and I discovered it wasn't as straight forward as I expected. There were more 'divisions' in the creek than remembered so there was some pondering as to which fork to take and not much looked familiar though it was only 19 months since we'd been there last. Fortunately there was one other on the walk that had done it previously and we did concur that the creek was different. The main difference being the amount of fallen trees so there was lots of over/unders/around that slowed the pace. There was also more of an incline that surprised some (maybe being forgetful is beneficial when you go bushwalking). The right choices were made and the GPS did say we had about 80m to go when some decided enough was enough. 80m might not be far when you are walking along the esplanade but going up a creek scrambling up large boulders and beating your way through fallen trees is another matter. So whilst some sat and had another morning tea, a small cohort went exploring to get to 'the end'. The 'end' is

certainly not a waterfall so nothing spectacular. All agreed the walk was not what they were expecting (maybe it should have been renamed as a mystery walk) but a good time was had by all. We didn't find the carpet snake we did last time but another snake had left its skin behind. There was just the right amount of water in the creek to not make navigation too challenging and a number of good spots to have a rest. We returned to the picnic area for a late lunch before heading home. - Allison

Sunday 15th September - Mon Repos – easy.

Arriving at Mon Repos carpark (4) people began the walk to Bargara. We walked over the bridge that crossed over the salty marshes. The Wattle trees are in flower and birds were chirping and calling. We were on the lookout to dodge many bicycles along the way. There was new infrastructure not only at Bargara but at Mon Repos also, and the boardwalk to the beach is closed. On our return trip we enjoyed 'smoko' under the shady trees near the carpark and Willie and Mary went home. Wendy and I crossed the road and walked to the Kanaka Wall where we could make our way to the beach. Looking through the fenced off area we could see many new cabins being built in the Caravan Park area. We were so sorry to miss Elaine Kerr who rang to say she was in the wrong carpark at the Turtle Reserve. - JOY

Saturday 21st September – Social – Sharon Gorge:

We drove to the reserve where 13 people met and welcomed some past members of the Club Carol and Alf and a 2nd Carol and Allan who were visitors. The walk to the water was enjoyed by everybody. It was another lovely morning and the aroma of sausages and burnt onions filled the air when Glynn started the cooking. Murray and Dawn once again had two more bird albums for us to admire the beautiful birds and animals photographed on their many trips across Australia. We were sorry the usual members Richard, Dianne, and Pauline were not able to join us on the day. Thank you again to Barry and Glynn for another enjoyable social morning. - JOY-

Sunday 22nd September - Gorge Walk Mt. Walsh: We ended up with only three walkers for this walk, and the walk was as hard as I remember. The gorge had less water flowing this time though, and it always astounds me how different everything looks with such a small change. I didn't remember our beautiful lunch spot at all from my last visit. The climb up from the creek to Coongarra Cave was hot and steep, so we all unanimously agreed to take the "easier" walk back to the car along the road, rather than around Coongarra Rock. All up, we walked 10.7 km in 6.5 hours, and were glad to make it back to the car. Thanks Paula and Graham for your company, and especially to Graham for driving - *Lucinda*

9th - 16th September - Carnarvon Gorge Great Walk -

Three intrepid walkers took on the six day Carnarvon Gorge Great Walk. On day one we enjoyed all the side gorges and watched the Lifeflight chopper rescue a lady from crossing 13. There are 17 up to Big Bend. While camping there a currajong took Marlene's chocolate off the table.

Next day we climbed up onto the escarpment where we enjoyed marvellous views, both of the gorge behind us and the mountains in front of us, lizards and baby grass trees growing in clumps with their soft spikes intertwined were quite a sight. We were later joined in camp

(after dark) by nine young Germans. They returned Jenny's dropped seat/pillow. We shivered while they slept in mesh tents. At our third camp we arrived via a suspension bridge to be met by a lovely lady offering us hot coffee - with real milk -at her camper trailer. Very welcome. Day four is the biggest day but it is through fields of wild flowers and thru the mahogany forest (with grass almost over your head) so it was equal parts lovely and scary. Day 5 we cheated and followed an old road. Not having to watch where you are stepping allowed more time to check out the rain cockatoos, wallabies and the different trees. We enjoyed a fire contained in a drum and commiserated about the fact that it was our last night on the trail. Day six was the climb off the escarpment, along the ridge with views across the endless plain before enjoying lunch then climbing down the ladders off Bulimba Bluff back to the Visitors Centre. Picked up our vehicles and adjourned to Rollenston where we enjoyed a pub BBQ with the locals. - Glenda

Expressions of interest in ticking off the Cooloola Great Walk next.
Contact Glenda on 0418730229

September 27/28 Auburn River N/P & Mundubbera Blueberry Festival.

Nine bushwalkers completed two walks at Auburn River NP on Friday 27 September. This very interesting National Park is 40 minutes drive south of Mundubbera, and the day was picked to coincide with the Mundubbera Blueberry Festival.

Led by Moira, the first 2kms hike involved a lot of rock hopping. The rocky escarpment was very impressive. Following a set of "dinosaur" footprints we made our way to the "dinosaur eggs". These two almost-round rocks have been formed by rolling around in a rocky hole. On the way back we found a vine with yellow flowers that smelled just like bananas.

Following smoko, we then walked the 3.2kms track to the Lookout. While the walk was considered "medium", one participant said the walk leader was a "lying hound", but remained smiling and appeared to have survived the day!

The Traditional Owners of Auburn River National Park are the Djaku-nde and Jangerie Jangerie people. Both groups have historical connections to land where prominent local pastoral stations were established. - Moira

FUTURE WALKS AND OUTINGS -

Sunday 6th October - Rules Beach. Medium 1b- Meet at North S.S. to leave at 7.30. From Rules Beach carpark we walk along the beach to the mouth of Baffle Creek. Return through the Conservation Park along bush tracks. 7Klm return. Afterwards take a short drive to Flatrock Picnic area (with toilets and covered tables) for lunch. To register please Phone Mary (414 190 566)

Sunday 13th October - Cordalba S/F Medium2B. - 10-12klm. Leave Thabeban School 7am. Contact Angela, text only (0447 226 854)

Saturday 19th October - walk/tourist drive. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am: Drive to Coalston Lakes craters, to Chowie Bridge and Paradise Dam. We will complete the crater lake walk 4.4km return (medium walk - short but sharp) To register phone Allison (0448 846 084)

Sunday 20th October - Hummock – easy. 3Klm on grass, paths. Board walk. Meet at 4.30pm at the Heathwood Park BBQ area on Bowden St. To register contact Angela, text only (0447 226 854).

Sunday 27th October - Social Innes Park: For the popular social mornings and walk, bring chair and lunch. Please phone Barry (0403 736 420).

Sunday 3rd November – Coonar Beach – easy. 5.5.klm along the sand. Meet at Coonar Beach 4.00pm. Contact Angela, text only (0447 226 854).

Tuesday 12th November - Change of Meeting date: Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) Building at 6.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

Saturday 16th November – Elliott Heads. - Full moon walk at Elliott Heads 6klm on concrete walkway. Bring torch. Meet at Elliott Heads Kiosk at 5.00pm. Contact Angela by text only. (0447 226 854).

16 November Moonlight at Coalstoun Lakes NP: medium. Phone Moira (0458 365 051)

30th November Christmas Break up Party. Meet at the BaldwinSwamp shelter Shed at 9am for a BBQ. Bring chair, & plate, a cup for tea/coffee. If you wish please bring something to share on the day. The badges for the 40th reunion will be on sale for new and past members. We are re-sealing the Time Capsule and if you have anything you would like to place inside the capsule please bring it along. Don't forget the photo competition. - **Please**

RSVP before 23rd November to Allison (0448 846 084).

2024 Annual Photo Competition Rules **Categories:** Landscape, Wildlife, Macro and People (one or more persons) - Flora and Funny. **'Stripes'** of any colour. - **Open Category:** - Any subject - Anywhere - One 6 x 4 photo per person per category. Cash prizes for winners in each category.

Australia Day Weekend: 25th - 26th January 2025: If anyone has any ideas for an Australia Day weekend camp please contact Allison before the meeting on November 12th. **(0448 846 084).**

WALK PLANNING MEETING: - 1ST FEBRUARY 2025 Meet at the Chapel area at the Bundaberg Botanical Gardens at 10am. Bring a chair and something to eat unless you wish to order at the cafe 1928. Bring along any walks or ideas of places you would like to explore or kayak. Please think about leading walks, it is very easy to lead a walk and an enjoyable experience to be with people who love bushwalking. We hope to see you all there to start our 2025 walk calendar.

Date Claimer: Combined Camp - 17th and 18th May 2025. Destination to be confirmed.

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

REMINDER – MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE JULY 1ST. IMPORTANT NOTICE :

New Bank Account - - Auswide

BSB - 645 646 - Account number - 107 969 998 Use your surname as a reference.

Membership Fees Due for 2024 - 2025 membership fee (\$20 for adults, \$10 for children) by EFT at a monthly meeting, by posting a cheque c/- PO Box 696, Bundaberg QLD 4670.

Any questions please call Lucinda (0421 011 181).

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 645 646** Account Number **107969998** 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**

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.

2024 Annual Photo Competition Rules

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.

Open Category – Any subject - Anywhere

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

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 www.bundabergbushwalkers.com

The newsletter is also available at the Bundaberg Library.