



# Bundaberg Bushwalking Club

Newsletter NOVEMBER 2023

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[www.bundabergbushwalkers.com](http://www.bundabergbushwalkers.com)

Committee	
<b>President</b> Lucinda ( <a href="tel:0421011181">0421 011 181</a> )	<b>Secretary</b> Paula ( <a href="tel:0490330542">0490330542</a> )
<b>Vice President</b> Allison ( <a href="tel:0448846084">0448 846 084</a> )	<b>Treasurer</b> Mary ( <a href="tel:0414190566">0414 190 566</a> )

## President's Ponderings

I seem to hear "I can't believe it's November already" at least once a day at the moment. 2023 has certainly flown by, which means it's time to talk about our Christmas party. The details are below in the newsletter, but I want to encourage all members to attend if you can. The club social events are really lovely times, and if you only go on one type of walk this is a great opportunity to meet some of the other club members. While we are talking about the Christmas party - don't forget about the photo competition! Or do, so that I have a better chance of winning. But in all seriousness, I recommend you start printing photos now as the week before the party always seems to be busy! The photo competition is always fun - it's great to see everyone else's activities during the year. We have also set the date for the planning meeting in January - again, details are below so mark your calendars! We will send out a reminder closer to the date, but the walks calendar always looks the best the more input we have into it. Also, start thinking about any

walks/camps/activities you would like to lead - it's the best way to get something on the calendar that you want to do. This week's meeting was the last monthly meeting until February, so if I don't see you at the Christmas party, I wish everyone a wonderful Christmas and New Year (I can't believe I'm saying this already!). This will also be the last regular newsletter until February.

Thank you all for a wonderful year, and in particular to the committee members, volunteers and walk leaders who have put the effort in this year to make it such a success. I look forward to seeing you all in 2024. Happy walking,

Lucinda

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## Membership Fees Due

Your membership for the 2023 - 2024 year are now due. To join/renew your membership please:

- Fill in the membership form by clicking the link [here](#) or contacting Lucinda to arrange for a paper copy.
- Pay your 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, or by EFT BSB064-403, account no 00915879 quoting your surname as reference.

Any questions please call Lucinda ([0421 011 181](tel:0421011181)).

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## Tips for New Members/Guests

Welcome! We are glad to have you.

- Most importantly, if you are interested in joining an activity, PLEASE call the leader. They are the best person to answer any questions, explain what you need to do/bring.
- You cannot register for a walk by responding on 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 Covid, National Parks numbers, or the preference of the leader.
- For hard walks, don't be fooled by the distance. A 10km walk 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.

As part of the Qld Government's Koala Protection Strategy and mapping, it is requested that all bushwalkers download the QWildlife app to record sightings. This app will add data to the Qld Koala map and enhance the Koala Protection Areas to further advise future planning.

<https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/wildlife/animals/living-with/koalas/report-sightings>

Originally this app was introduced to report crocodile sightings but koalas have been added to it.

The Scenic Rim Regional Council is actively collecting koala scat for DNA analysis to determine particular groups of koalas.

The app is downloadable from both:- the Apple Store

<https://apps.apple.com/au/app/qwildlife/id1500668021> - the Google Play Store

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=gov.qld.dnrme.QWildlife>

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## Walk Reports

### Cave Walk Sept 24th

Despite the recent hot weather Sunday started out mild and cool, which was good as the first part of the walk took us up the to the top of the Ridge and seemed to go on forever. Once at the top we worked our way through some Lantana that luckily had been flattened by cattle looking for the lush grass that grows on top of the ridgeline in places. We left the fire trail and bush bashed for a while until we came to a clearing and sat on the big flat rocks amongst the tussock grass for some smoko. After a short break we made our way out to the bluff that overlooks the creek. After some photos we walked back along the spur until we could start the descent down to the Rockpools. Along the way we explored some of the

caves in the cliff face. After a final challenging scramble down, we stopped for lunch at the Rock pools. As the weather was starting to warm up we decided to skip the climb up to the Dingo cave and made our way back to the cars via the creek. After a beautiful day in the bush, what better way to finish than with a refreshing drink at the Pub in Biggenden. Thanks to the new walkers that joined us. It was truly an international affair with walkers from all over. Marty

### Waterfall Creek - 8 October 2023

Only four walkers, including myself, registered for this walk which is the smallest group I have led in years. Two members from Bundy, one visitor from Maryborough and one from Murgon met at Biggenden and headed out to Waterfall Creek. The bush is so dry at the moment, so it wasn't a surprise that the creek was not running. There was still water in the rockpools but it was stagnant and not very inviting. However, the dry creek did make our walk much easier and we made it to the "waterfall" (which was dry) in about 2 hours. The boulders were still there though so we

still got a bit of a workout! Even dry the gorge is beautiful, so we enjoyed smoko there in the shade as it was too early for lunch before heading back.

Thanks to everyone for joining me for a lovely day out - Lucinda

### **Cave walk sept 24th SEPTEMBER**

Sunday started out mild and cool, which was good as the first part of the walk took us up the to the top of the Ridge and seemed to go on forever. Once at the top we worked our way through some Lantana that luckily had been flattened by cattle looking for the lush grass that grows on top of the ridgeline in places. We left the fire trail and bush bashed for a while until we came to a clearing and sat on the big flat rocks amongst the tussock grass for some smoko. After a short break we made our way out to the bluff that overlooks the creek. After some photos we walked back along the spur until we could start the descent down to the Rockpools. Along the way we explored some of the caves in the cliff face. After a final challenging scramble down, we stopped for lunch at the Rock pools. As the weather was starting to warm up we decided to skip the climb up to the Dingo cave and made our way back to the cars via the creek. After a beautiful day in the bush, what better way to finish than with a refreshing drink at the Pub in Biggenden. Thanks to the new walkers that joined us. It was truly an international affair with walkers from all over. **Marty**

**This was a walk to commemorate the original climb by Henry Walsh as part of the 200 year celebration of white settlement in the Biggenden area.** Once again the weather was kind to us and although not cool there was a light breeze that gave us some relief on the way up to the Rockface. Some of the less experienced walkers struggled with the steep Shaley surface. The climb up the Rock face and the Chimney went well with plenty of helping hands and advice on foot and hand holds, we were soon at the top. We then walked across to the Bluff and performed our ceremonial waving of the red petticoat. Howard was a little disappointed that it wouldn't fit him and has asked that Moira provide him with a larger size when he does the walk again in 200 years time. We enjoyed a lengthy break on top, then started back down the mountain. Once again the more difficult sections were uneventful. But the steep descent over the loose ground took a long time as the footing was treacherous in places with a few minor slips and falls. We all made it back safely in time to invade the Pub for a well earned meal and beverage. Congratulations to those less experienced walkers, their individual achievements were amazing. Thank you Tracey and Howard for your help without you it wouldn't have gone so smoothly. And thanks Moira for organising a great weekend. **Marty**

### **November 5<sup>th</sup> - Banksia Trail Walk – Woodgate:**

As we drove to Woodgate we could see the devastation from the fires along the roadway. Hopefully some good rain will bring back the greenery. We met 2 more people at the Park making 10 people doing the 4.8 km circuit walk. The swamps were very dry but we found wildflowers and Banksias along the way and it was good to see the birdlife among the trees. After the walk we drove to the coffee shop at the van park and indulged in coffee and cake etc. before we left for home. 3 people stayed for a swim, avoiding the coral spawn which was coming in sections of the beach. It was a very welcome refreshing dip in the ocean. Many thanks to Angela for an enjoyable time at Woodgate. JOY

### **WALK PLANNING MEETING: - 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Everyone welcome to the Walk Planning Meeting for the first 6 months of the Year on **20<sup>th</sup> January 2024. at 10am.** Meet at the Botanical Gardens at the Chapel near the cafe 1928. If you have a walk you would like to do or know of any new walks that we would enjoy exploring come along and let us know about it. We also do kayaking and some social activities during the year. If you are unable to come on the day, but have a walk in mind give Lucinda a call and she will bring it to the meeting. Bring a chair and morning tea or the cafe across the road will be open for tea/coffee etc.

### **Monthly Meeting - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024:**

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 welcome.

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## **Future Walks & Outings**

### **Sunday, November 19 2023 - Coonar Beach - easy s2a**

An afternoon walk along the beach. Meet at Coonar Beach at 4.30 pm. Contact Angela ([0447 226 854](tel:0447226854)) by text only to register.

### **Saturday, November 25, 2023 - Evening Bike Ride, Cordalba**

An afternoon/early evening ride at the Cordalba Mountain bike trail (mountain bike not required). Contact Marty ([0459 724 294](tel:0459724294)) to register.

### **Sunday, November 26, 2023 - Colliery Circuit**

This walk is near Torbanlea. 6.5 km, allow 2.5 hours walking. We will walk 1km of the Mary2Bay rail trail then depart the trail and explore the relics of a few coal mines and learn the history of the area. Bring a day pack. Depart Thabeban State School at 7am. Contact Marlene ([0424 711 098](tel:0424711098)).

### **Saturday, December 2, 2023 - End of Year Party - Baldwin Swamp Shelter Shed and Morning walk**

Everyone is welcome to the end of the year breakfast party at 9am at the Shelter Shed. Enjoy an early morning walk around Baldwin Swamp before breakfast with Angela. Leaving the shed at **8am** and back in time to enjoy a bacon and eggs breakfast. Contact Angela ([0447 226 854](tel:0447226854)) by text only to register.

**Reminder:** Bring a chair, cutlery, cup, plate, Orange juice supplied. We need numbers by **24th November to JOY [0447564942](tel:0447564942)**.

**Walk Planning Meeting - January 20th 2024.**

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 bring them along or phone Lucinda to let her know. ([0421 011 181](tel:0421011181)).

**MONTHLY MEETING: 6TH FEBRUARY 2024:**

Meet at Bundaberg state High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 6PM. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

As this is the final newsletter for 2023 we would like to wish you all the season's greetings and wish you happy walking in 2024.

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## Photo Competition



### **2023 Annual Photo Competition Rules**

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

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

We usually have an extra category of a photo featuring a colour, but we have decided to change it up a bit this year. Instead of a colour, the extra category will be photos featuring "SPOTS" - interpret that how you will!

There is an additional category of Free Choice, where photo entries may be a photo of any subject taken in any year, on club activities or not.

One 6x4 photo per person per category. \$10 prize and bragging rights for the winner of each category.

# General Information

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

- Membership fees - Adult - \$20 per adult
- Membership fees - Child (under 18) - \$10 (for one or more children from the same family)
- Walk Fees - free for members, \$5 per visitor

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 your third walk.

Please do not sent cash through the mail. You can pay your membership fees at the monthly meeting, or by EFT BSB064-403, account no 00915879 quoting your surname as reference. A receipt will be emailed to you by the Treasurer.

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.

Those intending to participate on outings are asked to contact the nominated walk leader prior to the walk. This particularly applies to newcomers to club outings. Comfortable walking shoes/boots and suitable clothing should be worn on all outings. A suitable day pack should also be carried (see our website for suggested pack contents).

On day walks, car loads are generally arranged at the nominated departure point with passengers contributing to fuel costs. Suggested basic contributions for passengers are: **10-20 kms \$5/person, 20-50km \$8/person, 50/100km \$10/person 100-200km \$15/person, 200-250km \$20/person, 250-300km \$25/person**

## **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** - to encourage more members to become First Aid proficient, the Club will pa a 50% fee subsidy to those members who attend and complete a recognised First Aid or CPR course.

**Acknowledgement of Risk** - by participating in a club activity, all participants understand that:

- They have advised the Trip Leader if they am taking any medication or have any physical or other limitation that might affect their participation in the activity. They will make every effort to remain with the rest of the party and accept reasonable instructions of the Leader.
- They are aware that the activity may expose them to risks that could lead to injury, death or loss or damage to my property.
- To minimise these risks, they have endeavoured to ensure that this activity is within their capabilities and that they are carrying food, water and equipment appropriate for the activity.
- The Trip Leader reserves the right to refuse any person from participating if that person is deemed to be inappropriately equipped.

### **Walk Gradings**

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

### **Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Inc**

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