



Making Tracks With Us

Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Newsletter
April 2022

Contact Us

info@bundabergbushwalkers.com

www.bundabergbushwalkers.com

Thanks to the office of Tom Smith MP for the printing of this newsletter

President

Marty (0459 724 294)

Vice President

Darryl (0409 796 723)

Secretary

Allison (0448 846 084)

Treasurer

Mary (0414 190 566)

President's Ponderings

We are now getting close to Combined Camp so that is the focus of the committee and active members over the next month. We will be doing recces for a lot of camp walks over Easter weekend. You are welcome to join us for the weekend or just for a day - details are in the walk details section below.

The First Aid session was a great success. Thank you to St John's, and thank you to all members who attended to improve their skills in this area. We always hope we don't need to use them, but it is good to have the information in case we do.

There are a lot of long weekends coming up so I hope everyone gets the chance to get out and enjoy the bush.

Happy walking,

Marty

Combined Camp Update

The invites for Combined Camp have been sent out and it is looking like it will be a terrific weekend.

We have already received the maximum number of registrations for Saturday's

full day walk to Heart Rock Mountain, so unfortunately that walk is now full. However, there will be plenty of other options at camp.

If Bundaberg club members would like to come out just for a day walk, the fee will be \$5 per day. The camp is only open to members, not visitors/guests.

There will also be a kayak on the Monday, so if you are interested please bring your kayak to the camp.

If you have any questions about the camp please call Lucinda on 0421 011 181.

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.

New members

Welcome to our new members:

- Lyn Jill
 - Lisa Daniel
-

Walk Reports

March 5, 2022 - First Aid Course

The 16 participants in the First Aid course very much appreciated the Informative talk from Chris who did a great job explaining how to care for anyone hurt while bush walking. We were shown how to use bandages, patches and ice patches and the new up to date information was very interesting. Many thanks to St John's Ambulance for the chance to learn the new procedures and a big thank you to Chris for her time to make the morning a very interesting one - *Joy*

March 6, 2022 - Mon Repos, Easy S1a

6 members and 2 visitors drove to Mon Repos for a walk along the beach. A strong wind was blowing in bubbles and foam and rolling them along the beach as the tide came in.

We walked up the ramp near the Turtle Centre to continue along the pathway. We dodged cyclists and scooters as they came speeding past. Not many gave warning signs they were coming our way. Since the rain the walk was very scenic with wildflowers scattered around through the trees and everything looking new and fresh.

It got hotter once we were out of the wind and a few drink stops along the way were very welcome. On the return journey we veered away from the rock wall and went back down to the welcome wind on the beach. The higher tide kept us in the softer sand at times. No matter the weather, the walking, talking and company is contagious and the heat is soon forgotten. We enjoyed our smoko under the shady trees before going home. Thank you to Verlie - *Joy*

March 6, 2022 - Melaleuca Circuit, Medium M2B

On Saturday evening the forecast drastically changed from 70 % 2-8 mm, showers in the afternoon to 95 % 14 – 40 mm, showers and heavy thunderstorm from later the morning. What to do, cancel or do the walk? Or? Shortening the walk and trying to finish before the rain and thunder.

All 5 of us walkers were happy with this modification of the walk, and with two 4WD available we drove directly to the NP camp ground at Burrum point instead of the trail head at walker point.

Instead of the whole 12 km walk, we did only 8.8 km, and saved walking the access track twice. At Burrum point the weather was still dry, already hot, and we were greeted by the Bundaberg 4WD club doing clean-up and rubbish removal from the beach. We happily started on our walk, a bit inland parallel to

the coast. What I remembered as a green tunnel was now very patchy shade from dead trees, either died in the bushfire or saltwater intrusion inland due to recent drought? Heartbreaking to see. With the lack of green also wildlife and birds were few, only one family of fairy wrens along the track.

After exactly one hour, the rain started, gentle at first. By this time we had already reached the junction with the access track. Getting wet was a relief, it was cooling us down and nobody opted to put on rain protection. But the track got slippery in places, the mossies came out, and the rain got heavier. We finished the walk in less than 2 hours total but very wet and decided to finish with coffee at Woodgate caravan park. Of course now the rain stopped and blue sky was showing between the clouds - *Angela*

March 20, 2022 - Pinnacles, Hard S4b

Despite the threat of rain, I made the decision to go ahead with the walk as planned. It was a beautiful cool day when we started up to the first Pinnacle but the steep rough terrain soon had everyone warmed up and breathing hard. Our only new walker Louise wasn't quite sure what to expect. But was handling the terrain and the pace well. The initial scrambling was easy, with only one part testing the limits of our abilities. A bit of a hand up and were through the worst of the climbing. Thanks Kurtis for the help.

While we had lunch at the third Pinnacle, we were entertained by the more adventurous of us crawling through a gap under the massive rocks. Thanks again Kurtis for starting it. By the time we got to the saddle, it was decided to go down through the scrub to meet up with the main track rather than climb to the top of Mt Walsh. It was a bit overgrown and there were a few slips and falls coming down. The main track was badly washed out, so it was a slower than usual descent to the carpark. We had more snacks and a chat at the picnic table before calling it a day. Thanks everyone for a great day. And thanks Bell and Kurtis for your help along the way - *Marty*

March 20, 2022 - Brooweena Rail Trail

The programmed walk exploring Tawah Ck was altered due to excess water in the creek. Nine people signed up for an alternative recce following the old rail line east of Biggenden. Peter had produced numerous maps for consideration and suggested a short cut that would take 1km off the walk starting at the Brooweena end.

The first view of the suggested entry point involved a steep scramble up the railway embankment at the end of a bridge. It wasn't a very inviting entry point as the two skeletons swinging from the bridge were also a bit off putting. We decided the neighbours may not be keen on a group of bushwalkers

approaching from this angle. Upon a review of the maps it was agreed we'd drive east to Aramara and check access from there and walk back towards Brooweena. Morning tea was held in the picnic area at Aramara before finding a much easier access point.

Amazingly the rail corridor looked like it was well maintained and recently slashed so we could either walk along the line or along the fence line in some shade. The proposed route one way was about 6km. Not knowing what was ahead and keeping in mind we had to turn around to go back to the cars we trekked on. After an hour walking the group discussed options. It was agreed that Gloria and Pippa would return to the cars and drive around to Brooweena. The others would walk through to Brooweena and Gloria would take the drivers back to collect the cars. A grand plan! State forest was on the right and scrub on the left. The line crossed many creeks but unless you walked the downs and ups along the fence it was flat going. We had crossed one bridge and were approaching the long bridge near Brooweena (the one with the skeletons) when Lenzie took a tumble. Since a heart attack didn't stop Lenzie then a fall certainly wasn't, so after an assessment we resumed walking. We arrived at the bridge before Gloria but no one wanted an early exit so we crossed the bridge (fortunately without adding to the skeleton tally) and arrived at Brooweena 'station'. The drivers returned in air conditioned comfort to get the cars and rendezvoused back with the walkers in the park for lunch. An enjoyable outing exploring a new area - *Allison*

April 3, 2022 - Mt Perry Summit Walk, Hard S2b

At 7 am 9 keen walkers met at North state school, with one more to meet in Gin Gin and 4 more at the trail head at 8 am. Just: it was 9 am when we all finally met, where did that hour go?, it was puzzling me the whole day.

The weather was fine, a bit hot and no wind at first, but cloudy, so we started with the first km access track, the very steep bit to get done before it got any hotter. After that, walking in the shade of the trees was cool and pleasant, the path meandering up along the ridgeline, going up all the time but not too steep. Close to the summit, the path ended and the last few hundred meters were very steep access track again. In between the 2 access tracks the trail has been laid out lovingly and easy to follow. Mostly not too steeply sloped but there are a few short steep sections. Walking is mostly on natural surfaces, at rocky passages flattened rocks have been used to provide 'pavement' or 'steps.' I had planned for a break at top of a cliff about 20 m off the track, with stunning views into Mt Perry valley, but there were request for the break earlier, so we sat happily on rocks available at the side of the track and munched our smoko. The trail passes through different vegetation communities, my favourites is

along a ridge with hoop pine and vine forest and the final vegetation community of open forest of big old eucalypts. There are identifying signs on trees, giving us the opportunity to learn more tree names. There were also fungi growing after the rain, the best was an "orange netted stinkhorn" beautiful colours, but the smell. And Paula found an orchid for us, beautiful, not expected, normally you find them in spring.

We had a good view from the top to the goldmine, but it was a bit hazy which limited the visibility and dulled the colours. We went down the same way, and some of us decided to have an ice cream or a cold drink at the Mt Perry general store, sitting together on the lawn opposite in the shade, and even getting the opportunity to watch a flock of red-tailed black cockatoos in the trees - *Angela*

April 3, 2022 - Norval Park Beach, easy s1a

Five members set off at 7.30am from North State School in 2 vehicles aiming for an early start. With the school holidays having just begun, the small camp ground at Norval Park was pretty full. Lots of kids were running around enjoying themselves and frolicking in the ocean although it didn't look overly inviting. The tide was almost fully in when we set out so there was not a lot of beach ; the sea was somewhere between calm and rough. We headed north for just over two kilometres with everyone paddling in bare feet and having fun getting splashed by some of the larger waves. Rounding the entrance into the mouth of Littabella Creek there was scant room to get around the mangroves, but the view looking back along the wide creek estuary towards the Double Sloping Hummock in the distance was definitely worthy of a photo. The water here at high tide was calm and clear and would have been great for a swim but of course no-one had a towel. Back at the picnic ground we enjoyed a leisurely morning tea and chat before taking a further short walk along the road for a better view of the salt flats which currently hold a lot of water.

Unfortunately the only water bird to be seen was a solitary egret.

Presumably the migratory shore birds have already departed back to Siberia.

On the drive home we took a short detour to the end of Pop's Lane to observe the picturesque Littabella-Mullet Creek and for me to lament the difficulty of trying to launch kayaks down the steep and slippery bank even at high tide

- *Mary*



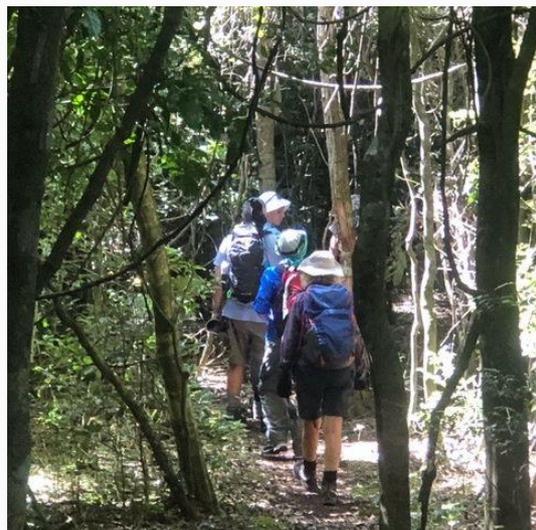
Top left - the Mount Perry Summit group

Top right - Norval Park

Bottom left and right - Brooweena Rail trail



Top - Brooweena Railway walk
Bottom left and right - Mt Perry Summit walk



Some photos of the Mount Perry climb

Future Walks & Outings

April 15 - 18, Easter Camp at Biggenden

Camp/stay at Biggenden and do a variety of walks in Mt Walsh NP. Much of this will be doing recces and getting ready for Combined Camp. Book your own accommodation - campsites available at the caravan park, there is also an excellent motel or you can drive out for the day only.

If you want to joining for a day walk, we are planning on the following walks - this is a rough plan only, and walks are subject to change especially with the weather. If you would like to join, please call the leader for the relevant walk for details of departure times etc. These walks are all recce's for Combined Camp so may involved some track maintenance and marking.

Friday:

Coulston Lakes - Medium - Allison - 0448 846 084

Secret Garden/Cave - Hard - Darryl - 0409 796 723

Smiths Creek - easy - Gloria 0417 431 458 - please bring secateurs

Saturday:

Coongarra Waterfall to Coongarra Rock - hard - Lucinda 0421 011 181

Eel Creek - Hard - Mary 0414 190 566

Sunday - Tahwah Creek, Easy - Allison 0448 846 084

April 17, 2022 - Woodgate, Easy S1a

An easy walk at Woodgate. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register. Meet at Thabeban State School at 8am.

April 29 - May 2, 2022 - Combined Camp, Biggenden

It is Bundaberg's turn to host the Combined Camp this year (where Gladstone and Capricornia clubs join us for the weekend). We will stay at the Showgrounds at Biggenden. Further details will be released in coming months.

May 10, 2022 - Monthly Meeting - NOTE CHANGED DATE

We have moved this meeting back one week so it isn't the day after Combined Camp. Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 6.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

May 8, 2022 - Kayak, Lake Monduran

Must have life jacket. Bring your own kayak, morning tea and lunch.

Approximately 16km but option for a shorter distance. Meet at North Bundaberg State School at 7.30am or 8am at Gin Gin. Contact Mary (0414 190 566) to register.

May 15, 2022 - Takilberan Rock, Very hard m4d

A hard, steep walk through open scrub and lantana, followed by a scramble up the rock. Your effort is rewarded by spectacular views over the Gin Gin/Mt Perry area. May even be able to have a quick swim in the Devil's Pools on the way back! As this is a 2.5 hour drive from Bundaberg to the beginning of the walk, some walkers may camp there the night before. As we haven't been able to do this walk in about 4 years, the track will likely be overgrown so there is no guarantee we will make it to the top. 4WD is required. If doing a day walk, meet at North State School at 7am. Contact Lucinda on 0421 011 181 to register.

May 15, 2022 - Takilberan Creek, Med s3b

A walk up the creek near Takilberan Rock. This is a walk of about 5-6 km in total, some along tracks and some along the creek. This walk will require 4WD to access, and is a 2 - 2.5 hour drive from Bundaberg. Depart North State School at 7am or 7.30am at Gin Gin. Contact Mary (0414 190 566) to register.

May 22, 2022 - Kayak

Details TBA. Contact Mary (0414 190 566) to register.

May 29, 2022 - Mt Walsh - Hard s4

This hard walk will leave from the Mt Walsh picnic area. Mt Walsh is 703 metres above sea level and a reasonable level of fitness is required for this walk.

Excellent views from the top. Requirements - 3 litres of water, food, hat, sunscreen and a personal first-aid kit. Meet at Lions Park, Biggenden at 8am. Contact Bell (0447 826 149) to register.

May 29, 2022 - Boolboonda Tunnel - Easy s1a

A walk through the tunnel (near Mt Perry) and along a bit of the Bicentennial National Trail. Meet at North Bundaberg State School at 8am. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

June 7, 2022 - Monthly Meeting

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 6.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

June 12, 2022 - Gorge Walk, Mt Walsh NP - Hard m4d

An off track walk down creek beds and through a gorge in MT Walsh National Park. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Marty on 0459 724 294 to register.

June 12, 2022 - Red Rock Trail, Agnes Water - Medium S3b

We will drive to Agnes Water to do some of the short walks in the area. The Red Rock trail requires a reasonable level of fitness as you will encounter steep inclines, boardwalks, sand and stepping stones. Depending on time, we will also look at some other walks in the area. Bring morning tea and lunch. Contact Allison (0448 846 084) to register. Leave from North State School at 7.30am.

June 19, 2022 - Planning Meeting

This meeting will be to plan the walk calendar for the second half of 2021. If you cannot make the meeting, we are still happy to receive ideas beforehand, especially if you are interested in leading the walk. Meet at the bush chapel area (next to Cafe 1928) at the Botanic Gardens at 10am. We will have lunch and a catch-up after the meeting. BYO chair, food and ideas!

June 26, 2022 - Easy Walk

Details TBA. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

July 5, 2022 - Monthly Meeting

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 6.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

August trip - 15th - Sandstone belt - Mary

August 19 - 21, 2022 - Pilgrimage

Bushwalking Queensland's Annual Pilgrimage will be held this August after 2 years off due to Covid issues. We have received the following from the hosts, Toowoomba Bushwalkers Club.

Dates: 19th to 21st August 2022

Venue: Crows Nest Showgrounds - powered and unpowered camping options

Activities: A range of Bushwalks primarily in the Crows Nest and Ravensbourne National Parks organised by Ian Savage .

- Cycling
- Kayaking

- Saturday night Bushdance with Band O' Coots Bush Band
- Sunday activities to be confirmed.

Our current best estimate of maximum overall cost to attend is \$45.

We will be working on finalising details of the program and issuing invitations in coming weeks. In the meantime we trust that this information should be sufficient information for your club to make a date claimer on your calendar. Please be aware that we will be complying with any health advice rules applying at the time.

We are really looking forward to hosting this event and the opportunity for bushwalkers to get together after such a long wait.

October 21 - 23, Cania Gorge

Members often ask about a weekend camp at Cania, however we struggle to find someone happy to lead/organise the trip.

Our friends in the Gladstone Bushwalkers Club are going to Cania in October (moved from April), and as a fellow BWQ affiliated club they are happy for any of our members to join them. We will have more details in our next newsletter, including the Gladstone leader to contact.



2022 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) along with a photo of any subject featuring the yearly colour which this year is PURPLE.

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 send 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 pay a 50% fee subsidy to those members who attend and complete a recognised First Aid or CPR course.

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