



# Making Tracks With Us

*Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Newsletter*  
January 2020

## *Contact Us*

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

### **President**

Darryl (0409 796 723)

### **Vice President**

Marty (0459 724 294)

### **Secretary**

Joy (4152 7281)

### **Treasurer**

Dee (0407 805 125)

## **From the Editor**

I'm sorry this is a little late getting into your inboxes. There are just so many activities planned this year that it took me quite a while to type them all up. Allison and I will get this on to Facebook in the coming weeks.

As there were a couple of walk leaders who couldn't be present at the planning meeting but sent through details of walks to lead, there may be some changes to activities if those leaders want to do other activities on those days when they see the full schedule. So, as always, please keep an eye on future newsletters for any changes, and always contact the walk leader.

For those interested in the remote first aid course, we are still awaiting the outcome of the grant application, and will let everyone know as soon as we can. We will likely book this in as a 3 day course (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). The first day is the standard first aid certificate, so if you already have that you can be exempted from that day. However, if you are interested in doing this, don't have your basic first aid and would not be able to attend on a Friday, you may want to try and get your first aid certificate done via another means now so you can still attend the weekend portion. If you have any questions about this please call me on 0421 011 181.

*Lucinda*

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# Walk Reports

## December 1, 2019 - Christmas Party

The Xmas party was held at the Young Aussie Hotel North Bundaberg. The tables were set with Xmas decorations and 30 people mingled and talked with members old and new. The choice of a baked ham and roast pork with roast vegetables was enjoyed by all with pastas and buns on the side. The desserts were very popular. Congratulations to the winners of the photo competition. There was a large assortment of photos to choose a winner from each category. Thank you to all who entered into the competition. Everyone enjoyed the party and are ready to start in the New Year with our walk planning day on 19th January - *Joy*

## November 17, 2019 - Baldwin Swamp

It was great to see 12 members meeting at Baldwin Swamp to walk through the park.

We came across fresh green patches of grassy areas along the way. We walked across the stepping stones where the by wash meets the salt and fresh water. The playground for the children is large and very well set up. We sat for awhile in the cool of the trees in the Chapel area where they hold weddings. We inspected the area where many years ago a group of Bushwalkers planted trees to help the environment. We took a look over the bird hide. The waterways were thick with weeds. They need a good drop of rain or flood - might do the trick.

Morning tea was in the shelter shed where Barry was waiting. Thanks to Crystal who led the way and Verlie for explaining areas of the swamplands, and trees. It was a nice way to enjoy the company for the last easy walk of the year. - *Joy*

## 6-13 November 2019 - Carnarvon Gorge Trip

“Are we there yet?”

The proverbial question bounced around Queensland as 10 intrepid Bundy Bushwalking Club adventurers travelled from Bundy to Carnarvon. Some went via Roma; some went via Moura; some went after work, and all met at Carnarvon on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Was it worth the drive? Definitely “yes!”

For a start, Google messed up with the trip time estimates. Instead of 9 – 13 hours, it was only 8. We could have skipped the not-so-clean, cold hot-water showers at Moura (hint, if you are stopping at Moura, use the men’s showers. Nonzia informs me the hot water lasts longer in there.)

And it was worth it even if just for the frequent emu sightings on the way there and back! “But what about the walking?” I hear you ask. Well, it was superb. Everyone walked a bit,

some more than others. Some crazies die-hards even got up at 2AM to get to Boolimba Bluff for sunrise. (Bradley and Sophia, Alison, Nonzia and Vic.) Not a bad effort for someone who “couldn’t” walk on the other days, Vic!

The more sleepy of us (Ann, Pippa and I) saw Boolimba Bluff later in the morning, and I must say, I would definitely recommend the 900 stairs and ladder steps to everyone. Just take it slow if it’s a bit huffy and puffy. But I think all Bundy Bushwalkers would manage it, at the right pace.

I think the Bluff, with its view of the Gorge and surrounding highlands, was the highlight of the walking.

The Gorge itself was awe-inspiring, with moss gardens, Indigenous art, ever-narrowing gorges, waterfalls and, of course, the famed King Fern. Even outside the Gorge, the walks and swimming holes were superb.

There was some consternation (mainly on my part) about the Takarakka Bush Resort toilets. Although beautiful, classy and clean, they were miles from my tent. So was the “kitchen”. But we managed to get around that with a little wheedling, whining, and sleight of hand with the disabled toilet key. (No disabled persons were inconvenienced in the process.)

I think the best thing about the trip, however, was the company. Everyone was happy, ready for a challenge, and smiling most of the time. Bradley even managed a laugh as he leapt from The Rock Pool with a grass snake trying to disentangle from his board shorts! I think Sophia was laughing the hardest!

Did I mention the wildlife? Takarakka itself is proud to be the habitat of a myriad of wild creatures: platypus, fish, eels, echidna, grey kangaroos, pretty face wallabies and cheeky birds that steal vegan food as well as sausages from the bbq. Much to the consternation of the Takarakka management, a colony of fruit bats have also moved in recently. Although I am sure they have their bad points, which Pippa can attest to, I found them an inspiration, as they alter their behaviour and roosting habits to adjust to the impact of last year’s fires. They are survivors, and I loved watching their movements each morning and night.

So, thank you to everyone who came on the trip. Alison and Richael (spell-check refuses to help with that one, sorry), Jill, Sophia and Bradley, Ann, Nonzia, Vic and Pippa. It was fun. I’d do it again!

***A big “thank you” to Vic and Ann for the photos and art (below). Vic has more art pieces if you are interested.***

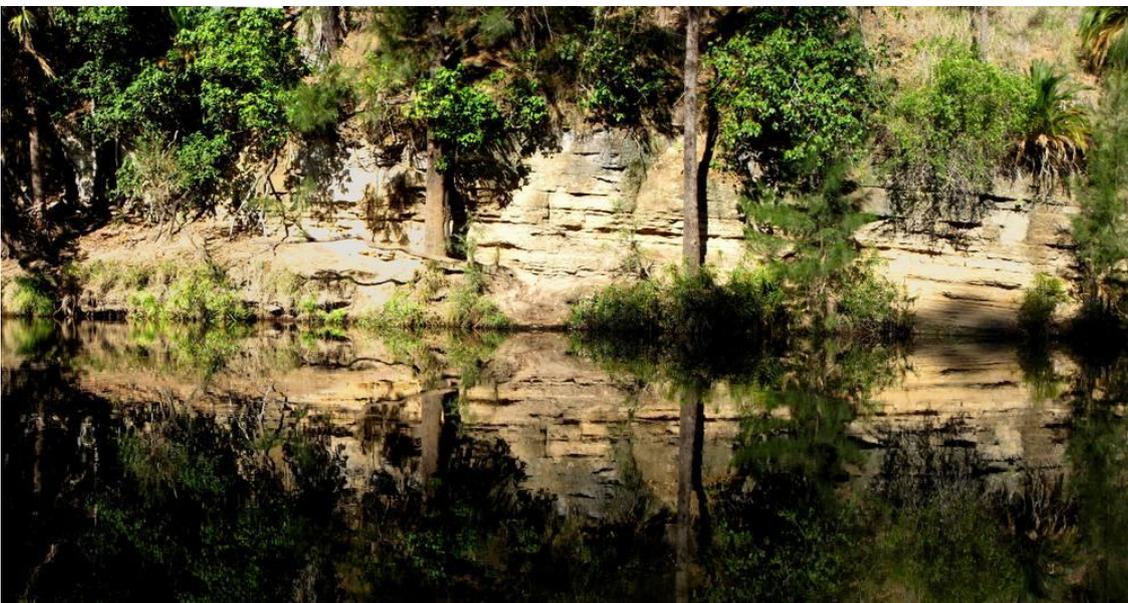


TL - having fun on the walk

TR - emus

BL - ready to start the excellent Boolimba Bluff walk

BR - sunrise at the Bluff



Swimming hole at Takarraka Resort



BL - View from the Bluff - well worth the walk!

BR - Happy hour



Left - .Bats in the sky

Right - Vic's wonderful artwork



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## Future Walks & Outings

*Our insurance requires that walkers must be financial members of the club, unless you are a visitor (up to two walks before you need to join as a member). Please study the backpack requirements on our website before participating in a walk.*

### **February 2, 2020 – Banksia Walk - Easy S1a**

This is an easy walk of about 6km at Woodgate, followed by lunch at Walker's Point. We may stop on the drive to check out the bush regrowth since the fires. BYO morning tea and lunch, and swimmers if you would like a swim. Contact Allison on 0448 846 084 to register. Meet at 7.30am at Thabeban School.

### **February 4, 2020 – Monthly Meeting**

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 7.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

### **February 9, 2020 – Moonlight Walk, Moore Park Beach**

A walk during the full moon along Moore Park Beach. We will start at the surf club and walk south as far as we can and back (probably about an hour). Either BYO dinner or you can buy in from the shop, then sit and watch the moon rise. Contact Allison on 0448 846 084 to register. Meet at North State School at 4pm.

### **February 9, 2020 – Kayak - Smith's Crossing**

Paddle up or downstream from Smith's Crossing, for about 3 – 4 hours total paddle. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

### **February 16, 2020 - Littabella NP - Easy S1a**

An easy walk along forestry tracks (out and back the same road). Meet at North State School at 7.30am. Contact Peter (0447 134 211) to register.

### **February 23, 2020 - Bucca Kayak - tentative**

Kayak at Bucca. BYO Kayak and lunch You can also camp the night before at the Bucca Hall. Contact Chris Officer to register.

### **March 3, 2020 – Monthly Meeting**

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 7.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

### **March 7, 2020 – Drive/walk, Moolboolaman**

For those that don't like a long walk but still like a bit of adventure, Richard is leading a drive/walk. This one will travel towards Mt Perry, then travel back along Duckpond Road towards the highway. This will be on dirt roads, but you do not require 4WD. Call Richard (0429 888 552) to register. Meet at North State School at 8am.

### **March 8, 2020 - Leader's Discussion**

ALL members welcome. This is a discussion about how to lead a walk and tips to make it easier. This discussion is a great idea for all leader, anyone considering leading a walk and even members who are not interested in leading but just want to understand how to help a leader. Please don't be scared, just by attending doesn't mean you will be pushed into leading a walk! Contact Darryl if you have any questions. Venue to be confirmed, 10am.

### **March 15 2020 - Cordalba - Easy S1a**

Easy walk along the mountain bike trails. Walk will be 6 - 11 km depending on the weather on the day. Contact Angela by text only (0447 226 854) to register. Meet at Thabeban State School at 7am.

### **March 29, 2020 - Beyond the Waterfall - Hard S3c**

This is a strenuous walk off-track in Mt Walsh NP with steep sections. Hopefully the few waterholes there will have some water in them. It is about a 2hr drive each way and will require 4WD so car sharing may be necessary. As there is very little space to park a car, numbers will be limited to 16 for this walk. Leave from Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Darryl (0409 796 723) to register.

### **March 29, 2020 - Coongarra Rock Pools - Med - S2b**

Approximately 8km walk from the Coongarra Rock car park (Mt Walsh NP) to the Rock Pool and back to the car park. The walk is on obvious tracks (mainly forestry 4wd tracks), but does have some steeper sections. 4wd/high clearance vehicles required, so please let the leader know if you require a lift or you are willing to take others. Contact Marty (0459 724 294) to register. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am.

### **March 29, 2020 - Coonarr Beach - Easy S1a**

At easy but beautiful walk along the beach at Coonarr. Meet at Thabeban State School at 8am (this may change depending on tide times). Contact Ian (0418 648 312) to register.

### **March 29, 2020 – Burrum River Kayak - Mb**

Paddle from Walkers Point, near Woodgate, up to Pacific Haven Boat Ramp for morning

tea. Return. This paddle is dependent on tides, starting 2 hours before high tide. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

#### **April 4 - 5, Overnight Camp, Mt Walsh - Hard S4d**

Walk to the top of Mt Walsh using the National Park track, camp overnight at the top and return to the car the following morning. Walkers must have all of their own camping equipment. Call Marty (0459 724 294) to register.

#### **April 7, 2020 – Monthly Meeting**

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 7.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

#### **April 10 - 13, 2020 - Easter Camp - Gaeta**

We will camp at Gaeta reserve. The campground has unpowered sites, a BBQ, tank water, a BBQ shelter with table, toilets but no showers. We will do a variety of walks over the weekend, depending on the interests of those in attendance. Please contact Darryl (0409 796 723) to register. If you are interested in joining us just for a day walk, you are welcome, but please contact Darryl BEFORE Good Friday (as there is no phone reception at Gaeta) to discuss so that we can try to plan a walk to suit.

#### **April 18, 2020 - Social Event - TBA**

#### **April 19, 2020 - Smith's Crossing Kayak - Ma/b**

Paddle up or downstream from Smith's Crossing, for about 3 – 4 hours total paddle. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

#### **April 26, 2020 - Dairy Creek Falls - Hard M4d**

This walk starts on private property and we will walk up Dairy Creek (near Mt Perry) to reach some small waterfalls and return the same way to the cars. (These are the smaller waterfalls on Dairy Creek, not the big ones on Hogsback Creek.) Whether there is any water in the creek and falls will depend on rain.

For this walk, if we have enough interest, we will trial 2 groups. One for the traditional "hard" walkers, and one for those that feel they are fit enough to manage the walk, but think they are a little slower so don't want the pressure of keeping up with the faster walkers. The second group may not reach the falls, but will have a great walk up the creek.

As this is a 1.5 hr drive each way, and a long, off-track

Meet at North State School a 7am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

#### **April 26, 2020 - Bingera NP - Easy S1a**

An easy walk along forestry 4WD tracks. Depart Coles Kensington at 8am. Contact Margot (4153 5595) to register.

#### **May 1 - 4, 2020 – Combined Camp**

The Gladstone club is hosting this year's combined camp, which will be at Pike's Crossing Camp, Akuna (near Benaraby). The combined camp is only open to members. Further details will be distributed in the coming months, but this is always a fantastic weekend so we encourage all members to attend if you can.

#### **May 5, 2020 – Monthly Meeting**

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 7.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

#### **May 10, 2020 – Mt Walsh to Stripecy Boulder - Hard S4d**

Start by climbing Mt Walsh up the usual route, then instead of coming back the same way, we will descend off-track on the East side down to Stripey Boulder and then return to the car park. This walk is a very steep walk involving rock scrambling. Depart Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Marty (0459 724 294) to register.

### **May 10, 2020 – Easy Walk - TBC**

Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **May 16, 2020 - Kayak - Baffle Creek - Lc**

Baffle Creek mouth paddle. Starting at Flat Rock, near Rules Beach, paddle downstream with the outgoing tide to the mouth of the Baffle. Disembark to explore the 4wd track at the headland and have lunch. Return paddle via the other side of the islands, stopping for a break on a grassy bank on one of the islands. Tide will be variable on the way back. This day paddle can be put on a Saturday or Sunday, but needs to start 2 hours before low tide. Paddlers must be confident to paddle on ocean tides, and wear life jacket. Paddle will take about 4 hours on the water, with a couple of shore breaks, making it a 6 hour trip, not counting travel. Not a trip for beginners.

There will be an option to camp the night before and after, at Deepwater National Park, Wreck Rock Camp Ground, to facilitate an early start, if needed. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

### **May 17, 2020 – Overnight Walk, Deepwater NP**

This camp / walk is intended as a practice walk for those doing the Hinchinbrook Island through walk in June 2020. Anyone can come for the Deepwater walk, even if they are not doing the Hinchinbrook walk.

The plan is to drive to Red Rock (Agnes Waters) and walk down the beach past Middle Rock to Wreck Rock. Camp in Middle Rock Camp Site overnight. Walk back to Red Rock the next day, either along the beach, or along the 4WD track behind the beach. Drive home. There will be an option to camp at Workman's Beach in Agnes Waters on the Friday night, to allow an early start on Saturday morning. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

### **May 24, 2020 – Giant's Staircase - Very Hard S4e**

This is probably the hardest walk that our club does. It is a full day walk at the back of Mt Walsh NP. We will walk along the creek, which involves over an hour of rock hopping and scrambling through the scrub. Then there is a steep climb and scramble up the "staircase" with some great views up high. We will then cross the saddle and climb even further up a steep incline to the "Giant's Playground", before descending back to the creek and returning to the cars. Last year we had a LOT of interest in this walk, so the walk this year is only for club members and as we will limit numbers, preference will be given to walkers who have already completed a hard walk with the club. This is for fit walkers only, as the walk is about 6 hours, and because of the 1.5 hour drive each way, we will get back to Bundaberg after dark. You must bring at least 3 litres of water. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **May 24, 2020 – Dingo Track - Medium S2b**

This off track walk in Goodnight Scrub starts along the road, then veers off down a hill and along a valley before returning to the road. Approx 8km. There is an option for a swim at Booyal Crossing after the walk. Meet at North State School at 7am. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

### **May 31, 2020 – Planning Meeting**

Join us for the planning meeting to plan the walks schedule for the first half of the year. All members are welcome. Please bring any ideas you have for walks or activities, and if you can't make it, feel free to let another member know your ideas. Particularly if you are happy to lead a walk. BYO food and ideas.

### **June 2, 2020 – Monthly Meeting**

Meet at Bundaberg State High School (F Block) beside the Administration Building at 7.00pm. Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

### **June 7, 2020 – Easy Walk -TBC**

Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **June 7, 2020 – Hard Walk -TBC**

### **June 21, 2020 – Boolbunda Rock - Hard S4d**

This is a hard walk near Mt Perry. We start by walking along a creek, then climb steeply through open scrub. We then drop down into the saddle before a really steep climb to the first lookout. A nice walk along the ridge before we reach the rocky scree, which we then scramble over (with very steep sides) to reach the top of the rock where there are fantastic 360 degree views. We return the same way to the cars. This is a very steep, off-track walk of about 5 hours so this is for fit walkers only. Due to the drive, we will get back to Bundaberg after dark. Meet at North State School at 7am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **June 21, 2020 – Boolboonda Tunnel to the Cattle Yards - Easy M1a**

A walk along the dirt road from the tunnel through to the cattle yards. Meet at North State School at 7am. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **June or July 2020 - Thorsborne Trail, Hinchinbrook Is**

There are now 6 people confirmed for this trip, which is the maximum allowed for a booking by National Parks. However, if anyone would like to join in the rest of the trip around the Wet Tropics (details to be finalised), please contact Mary on 0414 190 566 or Michelle on 0428 957 326.

### **September 21, 2020 – Maryborough Open House**

Details to come. Open House program is where houses and public buildings are open to the public for the day, so this would be a day trip to Maryborough to look at the beautiful old buildings.

### **October 3 - 5, 2020 - Gympie Rattler**

A tentative plan to spend the long weekend in Gympie to camp, do some walks, and go on the Gympie Rattler. Details to come.

### **2021 - New Zealand Trip**

Mary and Michelle are planning a trip to the Abel Tasman National Park (northern coast of the south island) to walk and kaya, most likely in February/March 2021.

Plans will probably include The Abel Tasman Coast Track: Travel 60km along the coast of the Abel Tasman National Park to see most of those pristine golden sand beaches. The 3-5 days Great Walk track has a number of huts and campsites as accommodation along the way (as well as a couple of luxury lodges).

Also: kayaking in the Tonga Island Marine Reserve. Get more intimate with the Abel Tasman coastline and have some close encounters with the wildlife. You have plenty of options when it comes to kayaking in Abel Tasman, including self-guided multi-day hires, guided day tours, and even a mix of kayaking and hiking in day tours. Please contact Mary or Michelle to discuss if you are interested in joining.

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### **2020 Annual Photo Competition Rules**

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

Categories: Landscape, Wildlife, Macro, Funny and People (on or more persons) along with a photo of any subject featuring a particular colour (to be decided at our next meeting).

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 for the winner of each category.

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## **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 pa a 50% fee subsidy to those members who attend and complete a recognised First Aid or CPR course.

### 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