



# Making Tracks With Us

*Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Newsletter*  
**February 2021**

## Contact Us

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

Thanks to the office of Tom Smith 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)

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## President's Ponderings

Welcome to 2021! Let's hope this year is kinder to our walks schedule than last year.

The planning meeting on Sunday was a great success, thank you to all who attended. The first half of this year has lots on offer.

We have had a lot of interest from potential new members over the break, so please have a look at the "tips for new members" below. Always a good reminder for existing members too.

At the monthly meeting we also reviewed our Covid plan, and agreed that no changes were necessary. Paper walk attendance sheets are still allowed (despite some concerns that we would have to move to QR codes, which has thankfully been overruled). Leaders will still not be organising carpooling, however members are able to do so if they wish. Please be aware of this as a walk requires a 4WD and you do not have one.

We are also looking at doing a bulk order of some PLBs for members that wish to purchase one. However, most places seem to be in short supply! We are confirming prices and availability and will let everyone know in due course.

Although the weather is still hot, there are a few summer-suitable activities on the agenda already, so I hope everyone finds something to enjoy.

Happy walking,

*Marty*

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## Reminder for Leaders

Just a reminder to please forward your walk sheets to Mary, the treasurer, following each walk. As well as needing this for accounting and insurance purposes, it is a requirement for Covid purposes as well.

You can hand the sheets in at a meeting, take a photo or scan email to Mary, or contact Mary to arrange delivery another way.

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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.
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## Covid-19 Plan

- Leaders will include Covid safety information in their pre-walk briefing
- If a participant is unwell or is showing flu-like symptoms, they cannot participate in the activity
- Club radios will not be used on walks
- During the activity participants are required to maintain 1.5m distance
- No carpooling will be organised by the club, however if you wish to arrange your own you can do so.
- The leader will complete the paperwork (sign-in sheet) for each walk and ensure a copy is kept.
- Maximum group size of 20 people.
- No contact while on the activity.
- Participants are not to share equipment, waterbottles, food etc.
- Participants should maintain good hygiene at all times, including regularly washing/sanitising their hands.
- With kayaking, if participants assist each other getting their kayaks in or out of the water, they should wash their hands before and after doing so.
- Please ensure that any photos you post are appropriate given the current conditions.

The rules are additional rules for club purposes. They do not replace any laws or guidelines set by the government or Queensland Health, so members and participants are reminded that they still need to be aware of their individual obligations at all times.

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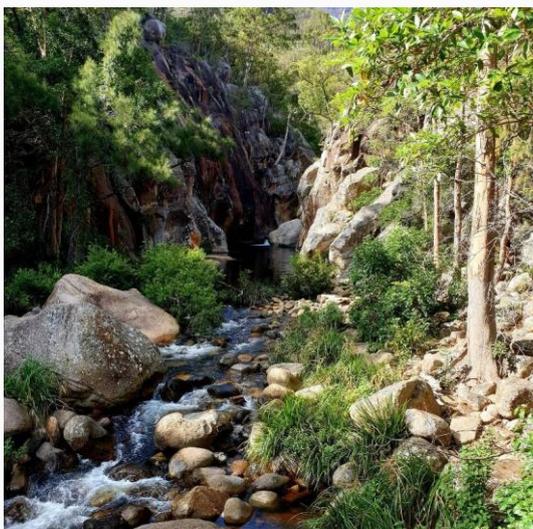
## Walk Reports

As we haven't had any walks since the last newsletter in November, there are no walk reports this newsletter. Stay tuned for a few more next month!

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# Photos

There haven't been any club walks, but some club members have still kept active over the break! So I thought I'd share some of their photos.



Top - View from the top of Mt Maroon

Middle left - Mt Maroon

Middle right & bottom left - Mt Barney lower portals

Bottom Right - Mt Walsh

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# Future Walks & Outings

## **February 7, 2021 - Riverview - Easy S1a**

Approximately 2km each way 94km return), first through the park, then atop the dune in the mangrove wetland along the Elliot River. Formed track. Small loop, but mostly the same way back. Be aware: sandflies and mozzies. Meet at the Riverview boat ramp at 7.30am. Contact Angela (0447 226 854) by text only.

## **February 21, 2021 - Baldwin Swamp - Easy S1a**

A walk through the beautiful Baldwin Swamp park. Some is formed tracks, some is dirt or grass tracks. Meet at the Shelter Shed at Que Hee Street at 8am. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

## **February 20-21, 2021 - Camping Weekend, Kroombit Tops**

Spend the weekend at the incredible Kroombit Tops (west of Gladstone). Visit Beautiful Betsy (the bomber plane that crashed during WW2) and some short walks. 4WD required to visit the bomber and to do the circuit drive. 2WD suitable just to get to the campgrounds or to the lookout. There are no toilets or showers at the campgrounds, so you need to be self-sufficient. You will also need to arrange your own National Park camping permits. Contact Richard Gear (0429 888 552) to register or for further information.

## **February 27, 2021 - Moonlight Elliot Heads (Bill Murray scenic walk) - Easy S1a**

2.8km each way, concreted path along the ocean. Same way back. Nice in the morning, or at full moon seeing the moon mirroring in the sea. Meet at Elliot Heads kiosk at 6pm. Bring a headlamp or torch. Also bring any food/nibbles you may wish to enjoy. Contact Angela (0447 226 854) by text only.

## **February 28, 2021 - Burrum River Kayak**

Paddle from Buxton to Pacific Haven, approximately 15 - 20 km return. Bring morning tea to enjoy on the paddle Meet at Buxton boat ramp. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) for times and to register.

## **March 2, 2021 - 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.

### **March 7, 2021 - Kaliwa Hut - Easy/Med M1b**

Approximately 10km return along forestry roads. There is an option to drive closer to the hut to make is a shorter walk. Meet at North Bundaberg State School at 7.30am. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) for times and to register.

### **March 14, 2021 - Kayak - Baffle Creek**

Paddle along Baffle Creek. Meet at North State School at 7.30am. Contact Mary (0414 190 566) to register.

### **March 14, 2021 - Stoney Creek, Mt Walsh - Very Hard, M4d**

A hard walk starting from the Mt Walsh car park, heading out to Stoney Creek, then up to Razorback and Bluff Mt and return. Approximately 8 hours, 10 - 11km. Bring AT LEAST 3 litres of water, morning and afternoon tea and lunch. Due to the difficulty, this walk is for members who have already done some hard walks with the club. Meet at 7am at Biggenden. Contact Marty (0459 724 294) to register.

### **March 20, 2021 (Saturday) - Mt Walsh, Mt Walsh National Park – Hard S3c**

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. Leave from Brothers Club car park at 7.00am. Contact Bell (0447 826 149) to register.

### **March 21, 2021 - Coonarr Beach - Easy S1a**

Approximately 2.5km one way (5km return), just along the beach. No track, compacted or loose sand to walk on. Same way back. Beautiful in the morning or evening. Meet at Thabeban State School at 7am. Contact Angela (0447 226 854) by text only.

### **April 2 - 5, 2021 - Easter Camp at 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 Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register. If you are interested in joining us just for a day walk, you are welcome, but please contact Lucinda BEFORE Good Friday (as there is no phone reception at Gaeta) to discuss so that we can try to plan a walk to suit. Cost is \$5 per person per night (donation to the Gaeta Rural Fire Brigade).

### **April 4, 2021 - Easter Sunday easy walk - Moore Park, Easy s1a**

Details to be confirmed. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **April 6, 2021 - 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.

### **April 17, 2021 - Kayak - Elliott River**

Enjoy a lovely paddle on the Elliot River. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) for times and to register. You are welcome to stay after the paddle for a BBQ/lunch at Elliott Heads, and if you would like to join us only for the BBQ not the paddle you are also welcome!

### **April 18, 2021 - Utopia Falls - Hard s3c**

The beautiful walk will start at Utopia Falls at walk upstream to a waterfall, and return the same way. Depending on the flow of the creek and the vegetation, this walk will involve a lot of rock hopping and walking through/around the scrub. There are a couple of tricky sections where you need to walk along small rock ledges. Approximately 7km return, 5 - 6 hours. Bring morning tea and lunch. Contact Bell (0447 826 149) to register.

### **April 18, 2021 - Cordalba State Forrest Hoo Koo e Koo trail - M2b**

A circuit of approximately 11 - 12 km using the mountain bike tracks in the Cordalba state forest for walking. Be aware of mountain bikers to share the track with. Meet at Thabeban State School at 7am. Contact Angela (0447 226 854) by text only.

### **April 21 - 22, 2021 - Mid week trip to Gympie Rattler**

Travel to Gympie and take a trip on the Gympie Rattler on Wednesday. On Thursday visit the markets at Maryborough. We will look at staying at Gympie. Contact Mary Buchmann (4157 8159/0497 759 688) to register.

### **May 1-3, 2021 - Combined Camp**

We are waiting to hear from the Gladstone club whether Combined Camp is going ahead this year. We will forward details of the camp to all members once received.

### **May 2, 2021 - Mon Repos to Burnett Heads - Easy/Med m1b**

This scenic walk will be on the formed (mainly concrete) track along the waterfront. Meet at Mon Repos at 8am. Contact Ann (0418 793 848) to register.

### **May 4 - 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.

### **May 16, 2021 - Giant's Staircase (Mt Walsh NP) - Very Hard M4e**

This is one of the hardest walks on our calendar. We start by rock hopping (and if the vegetation is thick, bush bashing) along the creek. The creek then starts to ascend, and we have some steep "stairs" to climb, before ascending to the top of the ridge. We will then walk across the saddle to the "Devil's Playground", an interesting rock formation, before heading back down a ridge to rejoin the creek and return to the cars. We will likely return to Bundaberg close to/after dark. This is a very strenuous walk and is usually very popular, so this walk will ONLY be open to members (no visitors) who have done at least one hard walk with the club beforehand. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **May 16, 2021 - Cordalba State Forest - easy S1a**

At easy walk on forestry tracks. Meet at Coles Kensington at 8am. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **May 30, 2021 - Coongarra Waterfall to Coongarra Rock - Hard s3d**

We start this walk at the waterfall and walk one-way through to Coongarra Rockpools and Coongarra Rock. Most of this walk is relatively flat along the creek, with some rock hopping. However there are some sections that are quite steep. It will take approximately 6 hours, although only about 8km. Bring morning tea, lunch and at least 3 litres of water. Meet at Coles Kensington at 8am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **May 30, 2021 - Nielsen Park to Mon Repos - easy s1a**

A lovely scenic walk along formed paths. Meet at 8am at Quay Street Parklands. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **June 1, 2021 - 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 13, 2021 - Coongarra Rockpools from Coulston Lakes - Medium s3b**

Approximately 45 minute walk each way mainly along the creek to the lovely Coongarra Rockpools. If this walk is after rain, it will involve some creek crossings. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Crystal (0422 171 704) to register.

### **June 13, 2021 - Coongarra Rock - Hard s4d**

We will start at the car park at the base of the rock, walk down along the creek and climb to the top. Coongarra Rock has fantastic 360 degree views from the top. The walk is only about 3 hours return, but this does include some steep rock scrambling and chimney section. Appropriate shoes are essential. Meet at Coles Kensington at 8am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **June - Mt Bartle Frere, Babinda Boulders - Expressions of Interest**

Michelle is looking at doing a trip to NQ to do Mt Bartle Frere and other walks in the area. Mt Bartle Frere, the highest mountain in Queensland, is an overnight walk. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to discuss if you are interested.

### **June 20, 2021 - Planning Meeting**

Details to come.

### **June 27, 2021 - Coongarra Rock to Coongarra Cave - Hard m4d**

Details to be finalised closer to the date, but we will likely climb Coongarra Rock then walk down the other side, climbing back up to Coongarra Cave, a huge cave facing west. We will then return to the cars. 4wd/high clearance required to access this area of Mt Walsh NP. Contact Marty (0459 724 294) to register. Meet at Coles Kensington at 7am, or Lions Park Biggenden at 8am.

### **June 27, 2021 - Stripey Boulder (Mt Walsh NP) - Medium s3b**

This is a 3.7km walk in Mt Walsh NP. We start at the car park with the hard walkers, but veer off before it gets too steep to see the striped boulder. This is an off track walk. Meet at Kensington Coles at 7am. Contact Allison (0448 846 084) to register.

### **June 27, 2021 - Easy Walk TBA**

Details to come.

### **July 6, 2021 - 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.

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### **2021 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 the yearly colour (to be decided). We are also adding a new category this year of "Flora".

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.

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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>5.</b> Technical rock ability, abseil	<b>d.</b> Good fitness and agility a must <b>e.</b> Strenuous. Experienced, very fit walkers only