



Making Tracks With Us

Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Newsletter

June 2019

Contact Us

info@bundabergbushwalkers.com

www.bundabergbushwalkers.com

Thanks to David Batt MP for the printing of this newsletter

President

Darryl (0409 796 723)

Vice President

Mary (0414 190 566)

Secretary

Joy (4152 7281)

Treasurer

Dee (0407 805 125)

President's Ponderings

Rae & I attended a very successful and absolutely fun-packed Combined Club Camp held by the Capricornia Club at Kooyalee. The walks showcased some beautiful spots which I wouldn't have known anything about but for the dedicated work carried out by Capricornia club. Next year its Gladstone Club's turn to hold the combined club on the May long weekend, so put the dates in your diary and make yourself available for a great long weekend of bushwalking.

The end of the financial year is fast approaching and please note that annual membership fees will become due for payment on the 1st of July. A reminder to all participants that part of the walk sheets you sign at each event is an acknowledgement of risk in undertaking that activity.

A reminder to all that it is vitally important to contact the walk leader to register for any walk not just turn up on the morning, as this can affect plans put in place by the leaders, particularly for the hard walks where 4WD vehicles are required for access.

Also, our next planning meeting is on 23rd June. This will be the meeting to plan the walk and activity calendar for the second half of the year. If you think you might be interested in leading/organising a walk or activity, please come along. We are currently getting a lot of interest in our walks, which is wonderful, and we can put on more walks and activities if we have people prepared to lead.

With the onset of winter, it is a great time of the year to enjoy some great bushwalking in our local area.

Happy Walking

Darryl

Walk Fee Changes

At the June meeting, it was decided that the club will no longer charge the \$2 walk fees for members to make this easier for both members and leaders.

It was also decided that the visitor walk fees would increase to \$5 per person per walk. A reminder to all visitors to walks to please bring the right change as the leaders are not carrying floats.

If you receive this newsletter or have joined in activities but not yet joined as a member, we encourage you to do so. You don't have to do anything differently, other than pay your membership. You don't need to attend meetings (although it is great if you can if you are interested), you don't have to lead walks or be on the committee (although again, it's great if you can). If you have any questions about joining as a member, please contact one of the committee members, or discuss this with your leader on a walk.

Fitness for Hard Walks

We are getting a huge amount of interest in our hard walks, which is fantastic to see. If you are interested in any hard walks, please keep in mind that:

- If you haven't walked with that leader before, you need to call them to register for the walk. The leader will have to go through the walk with you and discuss your equipment, fitness and experience to see whether the walk is suitable for you. The leader has the discretion to not allow someone on a walk if they are not convinced of their ability or preparedness.
- Full day, off track walking with a pack is very different fitness and ability to road running or going to the gym. It is even very different to walking on formed National Park tracks. You can be very fit and still struggle on a hard walk.
- We strongly recommend that you try and do one of the medium or easier hard walks as your first walk with the club. It gives you a good reference point for other walks.
- Keep in mind the pack requirements, as these are even more important for a hard walk than an easy one in town. Appropriate shoes and clothes, taking a rain jacket just in case (even on a sunny day), sufficient water and a first aid kit are all vital for hard walks.
- Although some people choose to walk in running shoes, it is not recommended for hard walks. Running shoes are not very robust, and some of the walks will shorten the lifespan of your runners by 6 months. They also provide very little support, the soles do not have much grip on rocks (especially in the wet), and your feet will jam into the toe of the shoe when going downhill which makes for an uncomfortable day. That, in turn, puts more pressure on your ankles, knees and hips. If you only have runners, we recommend starting on a shorter walk (medium or hard) and not one of the really big, long walks.
- The leaders will limit the number of participants for some hard walks. Priority will be given to members over visitors.

None of this is said to try and turn anyone off trying the hard walks. We encourage everyone to give it a go, but it is more enjoyable for you, the leader and the rest of the group if everyone on a walk is suited to that walk.

Membership Renewal Due

Reminder that your 2019 - 2020 membership fees are now due.

If you are currently a member, you can renew your membership by paying your \$20 membership fee by EFT to:

BSB 064-403, account no 00915879.

If you are not currently a member and would like to join, please contact Dee on 0407 805 125 or Darryl on 0409 796 723, or email info@bundabergbushwalkers.com.

Membership Rules

Just a reminder that by joining as a member or renewing your membership you agree to our terms of membership and the walkers Code of Conduct. You can find copies of all membership information in the [members handbook](#) which is available on our website or by emailing us.

Remote First Aid Course

Thanks to those who registered their interest in the Remote First Aid course. Lucinda will be in touch with people. If you haven't registered your interest and would like to, please email bundabergbushwalkers@gmail.com.

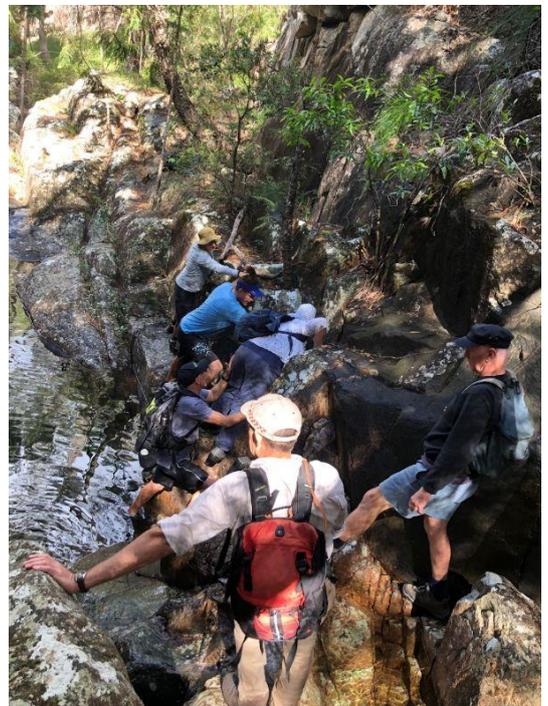
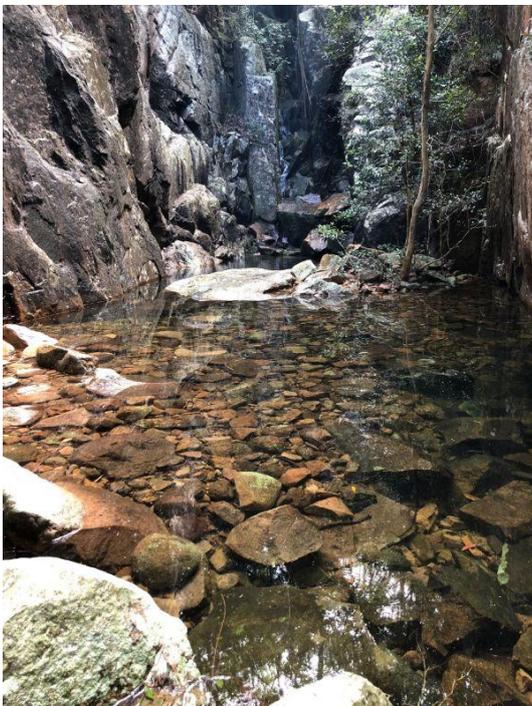
FIDO Weeding Trip to K'gari (Fraser Island)

The next FIDO (Fraser Island Defenders Organisation) weeding trip will be 9 - 15 June. These are both enjoyable and very satisfying projects mixing work, recreation and exploring Fraser Island to actively addressing Weed Management and Bush Regeneration in Eurong and Happy Valley. FIDO works in close collaboration with other stakeholder to control the spread of invasive weeds out of the townships into the surrounding bush where control is far more difficult.

Experienced leaders will direct each program. FIDO asks volunteers to contract to undertake a minimum of 20 hours voluntary work. In the downtime make excursions to explore the outstanding features of this World Heritage island. The houses we rent can accommodate up to 8.

You can visit their website at www.fido.org.au or email weeding@fido.org.au for more information.

Photos



Top Left - stunning day for a bike ride at Bargara

Top Right - looking for a way around the Pinnacles at Mt Walsh

Bottom Left - crystal clear water at the bottom of the waterfall, Waterfall Creek

Bottom Right - precarious trip back from the waterfall along narrow ledges

Walk Reports

May 18, 2019 - Turtle Trail Cycle

Well, a nice, leisurely, sunny and cool morning ride, with fresh air, coffee, H2O onboard with 4 people including myself. A few quick stops, a few snaps for Facebook and Insta along the way and a break at the other end and Nelson Park.

No injuries or bike breakdowns, it was agreed that we all enjoyed the bike ride and also that next time we may go earlier and leave from Nelson park and ride further north instead
- *Cameron*

May 18, 2019 - Moonlight Walk - Elliott Heads

8 bushwalkers turned up, 6 did the first walk out to Dr Mays Island and 4 to the northern end of Elliott Heads. It was a nice evening but a bit windy. There was plenty of sand built up so we had no trouble staying dry, walking to Dr Mays Island to see the moon rising then back to the kiosk for fish & chips. The second walk headed north along the coastal path through councils "remake" of Elliott Heads with 4 of us continuing and the waves crashing on the rocks, while the remaining 4 remained to talk and catch up. We saw some crabs and cane toads but no possums and it was too dark to see any dolphins. Nice walk and hope to see the 2 new walkers return - *Peter*

May 19, 2019 - Waterfall Creek

We continued our trend this year of having a lot of visitors on our hard walks, and we set out with 15 people with several joining us from Childers and Maryborough. It was a nice day, a bit overcast though which would later cause us some grief.

The upgraded road into Waterfall Creek made for easy going and we were the only ones there when we arrived. We set off to the creek, and were delighted to find that there was a LOT of water in the pools and the creek - the highest I've ever seen, although I've only been here a few times.

It became evident as we walked up the creek that the rain was very recent. The creek and rock pools were crystal clear, and the leaf matter at the bottom of some sections were still multi coloured, and had not yet started to decay. The clear water made for a beautiful walk, although we did have to work a bit harder to find a track as we couldn't walk up the middle of the creek.

We reached the waterfall in time for lunch, but found the pool at the bottom of the waterfall so high that we couldn't get close to it. While we were having lunch a light shower of rain came through, and unfortunately this made our trip home quite treacherous. The rocks were very slippery, and quite a few of us slipped on the way back. I managed to have both feet slide out

from under me and landed square on my hip, but at least no broken bones! We took it slow and steady due to the conditions, and also while Marty when in search of one of the new radios that fell off during the trip, never to be found.

The kids had a swim in the rock pools on the way back, and the rest of us were very happy when Marty pulled out a cheese platter to share! (I'll expect this on every walk now, thanks!) Thanks everyone for a great day, it was nice to see the creek with so much water in it - *Lucinda*

May 26, 2019 - Kayak at Burnett River, Wallaville

Our Facebook page has attracted plenty of attention for this our second kayak foray of the year. Four of our members plus three visitors met up in town and drove the 40 minutes or so to Wallaville, where Darryl was already busy attending to the paperwork for a further 6 visitors and 4 members. Little wonder that after collating everything at the end of the day a few signatures were found to be missing. At least the money tallied to the correct figure!

Anyway, from Wallaville it was but a short drive to our launching spot and before long a brightly coloured flotilla in various shapes and sizes had managed to negotiate the muddy entry and scatter across the water. The weather proved very kind with warm sunshine, soft clouds and virtually no wind. A small mishap occurred early on when one lady, after probably hitting a concealed snag, tipped over. Undeterred, she soon managed to remount and cheerfully continued.

We paddled upstream as far as the Wallaville bridge before doing an about turn for the journey back. Most of us took a detour up the much narrower Currajong Creek and were entertained by a concert of birdsong- in particular (I am reliably informed) by the pure notes of the pied butcherbird. Many waterbirds were sighted along the river including pelicans, cormorants, and the odd darter and egret. The observant also caught a glimpse of the beautiful azure kingfisher and a majestic sea eagle keeping a watchful eye on us from above. A group of feral geese was also to be seen enjoying the morning sunshine on the sandy bank. Aside from all these birds, water monitors and lung fish were also reported.

By midday all 17 kayaks had made it back safely and their owners set about securing them by various ways and means to their vehicles. Thirteen of our number were able to finish the day with lunch at the Wallaville pub where we had the pleasure of getting to know some of the visitors – *Mary*

May 30, 2019 - Show Day walk, Queen's Park to Pacific Coffee

Ten people met at the Queen's Park entrance near the Mater Hospital to begin an easy walk

along the river. It was a sunny Autumn morning, with sparkling blue skies streaked with a few vapour trails. There were many boats on the water and the gardens were in flower. We crossed the road from the hospital and continued on to the Zoo at Alexandra Park. The birds and animals were sunning themselves and the Cockatoo screeched a friendly welcome. We followed the river path to the Marina. The group continued on to walk up Bourbong St to the Pacific Coffee shop. I travelled with Racheal by car proudly showing her P plate. Barry met us at the coffee shop and we enjoyed coffee and cake, and a lot of talk. Before leaving we wished our youngest member Racheal a very Happy Birthday for Friday, and expressed our thanks to Allison for organising this walk at short notice. Thanks to everyone for an enjoyable walk on a perfect sunny day. - Joy

June 2, 2019 - The Pinnacles and Stripey Boulder

Despite the threat of rain and high winds 11 dedicated walkers set off to tackle the Pinnacles and Mt Walsh summit. Unfortunately the conditions made the Rock scrambling sections extremely dangerous. After an unsuccessful search for a safer route to the top of the first Pinnacle the decision was made to return to the Mt Walsh track and walk across to the Striped Boulder instead.

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Despite the change off plans and the threatening showers everyone enjoyed themselves, the views and our smoko break up in the clouds made it worthwhile.

The Striped Boulder is a massive piece of rock that fell off the Mountain in the 1950' with trees growing on top and ferns starting to cover the sides it is creating it's own little ecosystem. We returned to the carpark and after chatting and saying goodbye, we left just as the heavier rain started to fall.

Thanks to everyone for the great company and support – *Marty*

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.

June 16, 2019 – Giant's Staircase - Hard S4e

We have already had a lot of interest for this walk so unfortunately we have had to close registrations to non-members. If any members wish to join the walk, or if you are interested on being on the wait list, please contact Lucinda to register. This walk is a full day walk at the back of Mt Walk NP. We will walk along the creek, which involves over an hour of rock hopping in both directions. Then there is a steep climb and scramble up the "staircase", with some great views up high. We walk back along a ridge and back to the creek. This is one of the hardest walks on our calendar, so this is for fit walkers only and you must bring at least 3 litres of water. It is a long day, you won't get back to Bundaberg until after dark. Meet at 7am at Kensington Coles. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register to be on the wait list.

June 16, 2019 – Cordalba State Forest - Easy S2a

This is an easy walk along the forestry tracks in Cordalba State Forest. Meet at 7am at Kensington Coles. Contact Margot (4153 5595) to register.

June 23, 2019 – Planning Meeting

This meeting will be to plan the walk calendar for the second half of the 2019. 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 30, 2019 – Palm Valley - Med/Hard S4d

4WD into Mt Walsh NP (Coongarra Rock side, beyond the waterfall) to find Palm Valley. This will be a 2hr drive each way. The walk involves a short but very, very steep descent through scrub to reach the valley full of palms, where the terrain flattens out. Meet at 7am at Kensington Coles. Contact Darryl (0409 796 723) to register.

June 30, 2019 – Barolin Nature Reserve - Easy S1a

An easy walk through Barolin Nature Reserve at Bargara. Leave Thabeban Sate School at 8am. Contact Verlie (4152 8855) to register.

July 2, 2019 – 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.

July 14, 2019 – Stoney Creek, medium S3c

This is a 4 - 5km off-track walk in Mt Walsh NP. We will start at the carpark and head west around the base of the pinnacles to Stoney Creek and then walk up the creek before returning the same way to the cars. Leave from Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Martin (0459 724 294) to register.

July 14, 2019 – Elliott River, easy S2a

A walk along the Elliott River. Leave from Coles Kensington car park at 8am. Contact Allison (0448 846 084) to register.

July 26 - 28, 2019 – Weekend trip to Bunya Mountains

Weekend trip to Bunya Mountains for various walks. Reservations are now closed.



2018 Annual Photo Competition Rules

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

Categories: Landscape, Wildlife, Macro and People (on or more persons) along with a photo of any subject featuring the colour **BLUE**. We are also adding a new category this year - "Funny"!

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.

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