



# Making Tracks With Us

*Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Newsletter*  
**November 2021**

## Contact Us

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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)

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## President's Ponderings

This week's meeting was the last of the year as we wind down activities with the hot weather now upon us.

The Christmas part is almost here - details are in the upcoming events. We would LOVE to see as many members there as possible. There are a lot of members who regularly come on walks but haven't met other people from the club, and this is a great opportunity.

Don't forget the photo competition at the Christmas party - it's always a lot of fun. Even if you can't make the party, you can send your entries along with someone else. It's a great idea to start looking through your photos now to give yourself time to get them printed (details at the end of the newsletter).

As this is the last formal newsletter for the year, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for a terrific year. Thank you especially to the committee members, walk leaders and other volunteers who keep the club running. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2022.

Happy walking,

*Marty*

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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

## October 10, 2021 - Burrum River Paddle

Sunday 10th October saw 9 paddlers in 7 boats meet at Buxton boat ramp for an adventuresome paddle up the Burrum River to Pacific Haven. The variety of craft was new for me – Steve and Ann were in their big double sea kayak; Rex and Ron were in a big Canadian canoe; Angela paddled her beloved little “Pawpaw”, and the rest of us were in sea kayaks.

It was a great trip upstream, with the tide powering us along at 11.5 kph at times! On arrival at the lunch spot, Rex and Ron landed to chat with the locals, while the rest of us continued 3 km upstream in search of a mysterious “weir” I’d seen on the nautical map on my GPS. Everyone was convinced there was no weir anywhere nearby, but I’d seen it on the map, so it must be there, I was sure!

Of course, there’s no legend on my nautical maps on the GPS. The “weir” was actually a submarine cable! D’oh! Gary is now having endless fun teasing me about my map reading skills and my mysterious submerged weir! Thanks Gary!!

I got over my hissy fit about looking stupid, however, because of a stroke of Serendipity. When we returned to the lunch spot one of the locals had decided to buy the Barracuda Beachcomber that I was paddling! I had listed it on Gumtree the day before. He’d been looking for just that boat for months! A happy accident!

The paddle downstream after lunch was a little tough, as the favourable tide was sluggish, and the headwind was roaring. Oh well, you can’t have everything. It was a lovely paddle. Thank you to all who came along. I had fun  
- Michelle

## October 17, 2021 - Botanic Gardens

on a beautiful calm sunny morning a small group of members met at Fairymead House and walked to the street behind the row of mansions that overlook the lake then returned to walk the boardwalk in front of the buildings. Many waterbirds, eels and tortoise were observed on and in the water. we walked up to investigate the environmental garden where vegetables and flowers are growing in harmony and waved to the people as the train went by. Then on to 1928 where we enjoyed a morning cuppa and were joined by another member. We continued on through the gardens past the woodworkers area and into the Chinese section over the new bridge where a creek is being formed. Up the hill above the Japanese garden and back to Fairymead House where a bridal expo

was being held. A lovely morning walk and thanks to those who joined me for the outing - *Verlie*

### **October 17, 2021 - Cordalba Gold Mine**

A large group of walkers nominated to tackle one of the last walks before the heat of summer kicks in. Mind you, there was sufficient heat to make us relieved to get back to the cars by lunch time.

Once we turned into the state forest off Paradise Rd there was some passenger re-shuffling into the 4WD's for the last leg down the hill (just to be sure). We were surprised to see locos working on the newly established cane line but the drivers were probably more surprised to see a group of vehicles burst out of the forest. Once parked we elected to start walking immediately. The problem with walkers starting before the leader is that the correct track is not necessarily taken so after an about turn the leader was initially followed but once onto the forest road we spread out. After the recent rain the bush felt fresh and there were puddles in the gullies. The road to the mine involves ups and downs through gullies that did involve a few slips on the loose gravel but fortunately no injuries were sustained. Once at the mine, exploration and morning tea followed. Barry had joined us for the outing planning on arriving at the mine for morning tea. A combination of factors meant this didn't happen and Barry was questioning his recollections of how to get there. In the end it turns out he was close but an overgrown gully crossing had us confused about the direction and they'd turned back. On our return leg Barry was once again heading in our direction and this time we could confirm he had been on the right track so they continued on to have a late morning tea at the mine while we continued our circuit route along the more open vehicle access road back to the cars. Barry had overtaken us on the return and was at the cars before the walkers.

Back at the cars various options were discussed with some heading home and some driving on to the mountain bike trail head for lunch. A bit over 8 km was walked in total. Thanks to everyone for a great walk - *Allison*

### **October 23, 2021 - Sunset at Mt Walsh**

6 of us (5 members and one visitor) met at the car park at Mt Walsh at 4pm. BOM had been forecasting storms all week, but thankfully they didn't eventuate even though it was certainly humid enough for them! Checking my pack before the climb I learnt a valuable lesson - check your headlamp works BEFORE leaving home. Thankfully, Eddie (our visitor) had a spare headlamp for which I was extremely grateful.

We headed up the track, and yes, it is just as steep as I remember. There was little to no breeze on the climb so it was very hot and humid so we took it very slow. We still made it to the top and the lovely cool breeze in time to watch the sun go down which was beautiful although mainly hidden behind a few clouds.

The walk back down was just as hot even though it was dark, but walking downhill doesn't work up the same sweat as climbing. Walking back in the dark looking over the lights of Biggenden was beautiful. We made it back to the carpark in good time and enjoyed some well-earned nibbles and beer by torchlight before heading home. It was a lovely walk for my first real night walk, I expect this won't be my last. Thanks everyone for the excellent company for the last hard walk for the year. Thanks Marty for organising and leading, it was a great evening - *Lucinda*

### **October 31, 2021 - Moore Park Beach**

There were not many people on the beach when 5 of us began our walk along the shoreline. The outgoing tide made it easy walking. The wind was at our backs and the sun was coming up in a clear blue sky. We came across one lonely Crested Tern sitting forlornly beside the incoming waves. We thought it might have been lost or exhausted from a very long flight.

After a couple of hours walking we enjoyed our morning tea and talk at the park. Thanks to Verlie for a lovely morning. - *Joy*

### **October 31, 2021 - Barolin Reserve**

On Saturday afternoon I was considering cancelling the outing after having checked the weather forecast, again. But early Sunday morning I was very glad I hadn't. The storm had come and gone over night, and even it being overcast and grey, the radar didn't show any current or future rain. At the entrance to the reserve at the state school there was a slight hiccup as half of the walkers waiting at the Bargara Rd entry, the other half at the entry on Potters Rd. But it was soon sorted, the united 7 walkers entered the reserve and commenced the walk. Of course and as usual looking at plants and trees, trying to identify birds and watching any other wildlife around. First leg of the walk was on the east side of the reserve, to Davidson St entrance and further north to Nielson Park, where we found a nice picnic table in the shade to have morning tea. The clouds were clearing, blue showed in the sky, the sun started to come out.

We continued along a path behind the sport area and sewage plant, then turning south again and crossing the turtle trail re-entered the reserve. As it was getting hotter it was agreed to go directly back to the cars and leave the

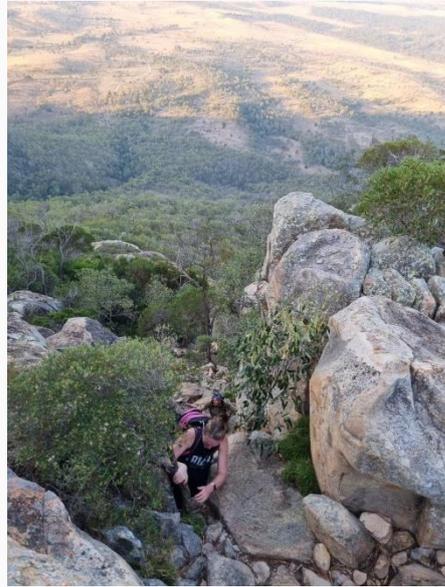
melaleuca circuit for another day. Most of the path back was cool and shaded, just at the very end the shade ran out - *Angela*

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## Photos



Sunset on Mt Walsh



Cordalba Gold Mine





Pacific Haven Paddle

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## Future Walks & Outings

### **November 6, 2021 - Russo Nature Park and Macadamias Australia - Social Outing**

#### **Please note: new itinerary**

Leave Thabeban State School at 8am and drive to Russo Nature Park. There is one main track to the lookout and a couple of short side tracks. Should be good after the rain.

Walk as far or as little as you like. Bring water and snacks if required. Insect repellent recommended.

On conclusion, we return to Macadamia Australia (Goodwood Rd) for morning tea & possible tastings under the macadamia trees.

Purchase own morning tea/lunch from the café. If you wish to just join us for morning tea (around 11ish) please let me know. Numbers are required so please RSVP to Allison 0448 846 084 by Friday 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **November 7, 2021 - Kayak, Elliott River**

Suitable for beginners. Must have own kayak. Distance of 10km or less. Please text Michelle 0428 957 326 for meeting time and place.

### **November 14, 2021 - Nielson Park to Turtle Rookery & beyond - Easy s1a**

We will walk from Nielson Park along the turtle trail to Mon Repos and a bit further on (until the shade runs out). Likely have morning tea around Mon Repos and then walk back to Nielson Park. Depart Thabeban State School at 8am. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register.

### **November 21, 2021 - Kayak, Smiths Crossing**

Suitable for beginners. Must have own kayak. Distance of 10km or less. Please text Michelle 0428 957 326 for meeting time and place.

### **December 4, 2021 - Christmas Party (note - Saturday)**

All members are invited to a brunch at the BBQ area (Que Hee St entrance), Baldwin Swamp from 9am. The club will provide bacon, eggs, sausages and juice. Please bring:

- your own drinks (including tea and coffee - although an urn will be available)
- your own cup/mug/plate/cutlery (better for the environment that paper/plastic)
- 
- and if you feel inclined, a plate to share.

Please RSVP to Allison by 26 November for catering purposes. If you have any dietary requirements please advise Allison when registering. Don't forget your photos for the photo competition!

### **December 5, 2021 - Kayak, Lake Gregory**

Suitable for beginners. Must have own kayak. Distance of 10km or less. Please text Michelle 0428 957 326 for meeting time and place.

### **February 6, 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!

### **February 8, 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.



#### **2021 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 (on or more persons) along with a photo of any subject featuring the yearly colour which this year is WHITE.

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 sent cash through the mail. You can pay your membership fees at the

monthly meeting, or by EFT BSB064-403, account no 00915879 quoting your surname as reference. A receipt will be emailed to you by the Treasurer.

All persons take part in outings on the understanding that they do so entirely at their own risk. They agree that the responsibility which they take for their own safety, is the same that they would apply if they were on their own organised outing.

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

On day walks, car loads are generally arranged at the nominated departure point with passengers contributing to fuel costs. Suggested basic contributions for passengers are:

**10-20 kms \$5/person, 20-50km \$8/person, 50/100km \$10/person  
100-200km \$15/person, 200-250km \$20/person, 250-300km \$25/person**

### **Contact Code: A few reminders for all walkers**

- Please contact walk leaders a least one week before a walk. If you leave it till Thursday or Friday night you may be disappointed to find that the walk has been cancelled, due to apparent lack of interest. Also dates, details etc can & do change. Leaders give their time to organise walks and need to know if they are committed to lead a walk.
- Arrive at the meeting point 10 minutes before the set time. Our times are departure times and we try to be punctual. Late walkers can be left behind!
- Read the walk description and note the rating. If you are unsure of your abilities, please discuss this with the leader before nominating. Neither you nor other walkers will have a good day if your fitness is not of a suitable standard.
- Do you have a health problem that may affect your performance on a walk? It is important that you inform the leader of this and discuss the matter.
- If you have commitments after a walk please discuss this with the leader before commencing a walk. Leaders cannot guarantee the time of return, due to weather, terrain & the expertise of walkers.

**Walk Recce Costs** - just a reminder to anyone carrying out recce's for walks. Funds are available to cover expenses (fuel etc). Please submit a claim (mileage travelled) to the treasurer.

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

### **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