



# Making Tracks With Us

*Bundaberg Bushwalking Club Newsletter*  
**September 2019**

## Contact Us

[info@bundabergbushwalkers.com](mailto:info@bundabergbushwalkers.com)

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

**Thanks to David Batt MP for the printing of this newsletter**

### **President**

Darryl (0409 796 723)

### **Vice President**

Marty (0459 724 294)

### **Secretary**

Joy (4152 7281)

### **Treasurer**

Dee (0407 805 125)

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## President's Ponderings

Another year of bushwalking has ended and I wish to express my sincere thanks to those who have provided support and guidance to me in my role as president. Also, again thank you to Mary Belia and Lucinda Doughty for stepping in during my absence on holidays.

A positive for the year is the continued success of Facebook in attracting new members to the club. The number of 'likes' have increased as we post details about upcoming walks and great to see walkers share their photos on the page. This has been a real positive allowing many more people in and around our area to connect with the Bundaberg Bushwalking Club. The Bundaberg Bushwalking website is another medium to provide awareness of our club and encouragement for people to enjoy the outdoors.

We have again seen an increase in new members with the continuing challenge of retaining the membership by providing a varied walk schedule to meet the different levels of walkers. The club is always seeking to find and develop new walks within our district and the introduction of our bi-annual walk planning meeting has been very successful with great attendance.

Once again, I would like to acknowledge our walk leaders and express my thanks, for without them there are no walks. We have had a couple of new walk leaders during this past 12 months and the club will continue to provide support and training for any member who is prepared to give it a go.

We have continued adding walks to the Club's GPS and this currently contains over 40 walks which is a great tool for walk leaders and I would encourage all walk leaders to utilise. The GPS is a great tool in assisting leaders on the walks, especially on the off-track walks which can become overgrown in a short period of time.

The club was successful in receiving a grant for First Aid Training and this course will be arranged in the coming months.

To finish I'd like to express my sincere thanks to the walk leaders, the committee, all those that undertake various roles to keep the club going and of course the members who turn up; without your support, the club would cease to exist.

*Darryl*

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## **New Committee**

Our AGM was held on Tuesday and the committee for 2019 - 2020 is:

President - Darryl Bell

Vice President - Martin Bettridge

Secretary - Joy Hammelswang

Treasurer - Dee Sweeting

Newsletter Editor - Lucinda Doughty

Thank you to the committee for the last year, you did a wonderful job, and thank you to everyone who has put their hand up for this year. The club couldn't run without you.

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## **New Member's Handbook**

We have revised and updated the Member's Handbook. You can find a copy on our website, or by emailing us (and we will email a copy directly to you), or if you don't have email please call Lucinda (0421 011 181) and she will post a copy to you. Please take the time to review the handbook as it contains important details for all members and visitors.

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## **A Few Changes**

At the AGM this week we decided to make a couple of small changes:

- Walk recce costs will increase to \$0.25 per km
- Membership fees will remain at \$20 for adults \$10 for children (provided they with their parents), or \$50 for a family (kids must be under 18).
- Walk leaders will no longer accept membership fee payments UNLESS they are accompanied by a completed membership form. Unfortunately, we have been receiving a lot of payments (via EFT or cash) without the membership form, so we have no contact details for those members.

- We have updated the membership form, which can be found on our website. You can also email the club or call one of the committee/leaders and we will arrange to forward a copy to you.
  - Can the following people please contact Dee on 0407 805 125 or Lucinda on 0421 011 181 to provide some contact details. We do not have a membership form for you, so if you could please forward the form to the club's email address or call Lucinda and arrange to drop it in to her work in the CBD. Your membership is not valid until we have the membership form from you:
    - Maria Hauser
    - Joanne Lamond
    - Annie McKay-Lweis
    - Janette McMorrison
    - Jane Stein
  - A reminder that all members should have a completed Member Emergency Contact and Medical Information form in their first aid kit in their bag. You can find this at our website, or email the club and we will forward one to you. This is for the situation we never hope arises, where you need medical attention and are not conscious. Other walkers can find this form to help the ambulance, and also to contact your family/friends.
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## Footwear

At the meeting we discussed footwear for walks. Members must wear appropriate footwear for walks - we will not usually dictate what this means as everyone walks at their own risk, however we would like all members and guests to be aware of a few things.

What is "appropriate" will vary depending on the walk. For a walk on concrete or well formed tracks around Bargara or Baldwin Swamp, sneakers will be more than adequate. However for 4 hour off track walks, sneakers are not very sturdy. They also provide little protection from spear grass, sticks or snakes (spear grass working its way through the top of your shoes will end your walk quite quickly). Off-track walking will also shorten the lifespan of your sneakers, as they are really designed for flat walking in one direction.

As always, you can discuss the walk with the leader when you register for the walk to help you decide what to bring.

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## Pilgrimage 2019

This year's Pilgrimage will be held at Camp Laurence, via Aratula on 27 - 30 September. Pilgrimage is a bushwalking camp open to members of any affiliated bushwalking clubs, so you must be a member of the Bundaberg Club (or another affiliated club) to attend.

Registrations for Pilgrimage 2019 are now being accepted. Early bird price will be closing soon. Walk will be held Saturday and Sunday, with a bush dance on Saturday night. Camping and cabin/dormitory accommodation is available.

A pdf booking form can be found via the link below for printing out and posting to our P.O. Box. Alternatively this can be completed online. Payment is via EFT or mailed cheque. Bank Details and mailing address are on the following links:

**Pilgrimage 2019 website:** (watch the video for an overview of the camp)

<https://bushwalkqld.wordpress.com/pilgrimage/pilgrimage-2019/>

**Pilgrimage registration form:** (can be completed online)

<https://bushwalkqld.files.wordpress.com/2019/07/pilgrimage-booking-form-2019.pdf>

If you would like a printed copy of the registration forms, please contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) and she will get one for you.

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## Photos



Top Left - Barry's car got a free ride home from the Granite Creek walk - all OK now though, only a collapsed battery.

Top Right - Granite Creek

Bottom Left - Chowey Bridge, Biggenden

Bottom Right - climbing up the ridge at Mt Bania

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# Walk Reports

## August 11, 2019 - Mt Bania

We had sixteen people show up for this walk, the first time we have had this walk on the club calendar. We started a bit late as Marty needed coffee and then missed the Wonbah Road turnoff, but that gave us all a bit of a chance to catch up and get to know the new visitors.

We parked at the rest area at Gaeta, and it was good to see they have now installed some BBQs which should come in handy the next time we camp there. We then walked down the road and started off towards the ridge, however a few members had worn joggers rather than boots and as the spear grass was going right through their shoes, they decided to head back to the car.

The rest of us found the track up to the lookout, and the first few who made it to the lookout were lucky enough to spot some rock wallabies on the rocks below. We sat and enjoyed our smoko/early lunch and then walked up a bit further to the top of the "mountain" before heading back down.

We were back at the cars about 2 hours after we left which was a bit earlier than anticipated, so everyone sat and ate their lunch/snacks at the picnic tables for an hour or so which was a lovely catch-up before heading home. On the way home, Marty and Marlene had a car travelling in the other direction overturn in front of them on Kalpower Road. Thankfully everyone was OK, but it was a long wait for the ambulance and police - *Lucinda*

## August 18, 2019 - Granite Creek

For this walk 17 people met and signed on at Gin Gin. We had morning tea at the popular Granite Creek rest area. We drove several klms further and turned into the Forest Road. Another 14klm of dusty tree lined track brought us to the start of the Dawes Range Road. We were in the Bulburin National Park. The road was blocked by a very strongly built gate and this was where we started our walk into the forest. The trees and flowers, birds and wild life were abundant. I think Murray counted 13 different species of birds. The thickness of the bush and trees was amazing. We could hear cattle or animals pushing through the undergrowth as we walked along the road.

To add to the enjoyment of the walk a cool breeze had hundreds of leaves raining down and scattering onto the roadway every now and then. The bushes along the road were in flower and it was great to see that this area did not appear to be effected by drought as we've seen on other walks. Some of the walkers drove in to look at the waterholes on the way home.

Barry and John did not walk, and when Barry went to shift his car found it would not start. After several attempts at jumper leads it was decided the starter motor was to blame. It was

plain luck that Barry had turned the car around to face the way home before he stopped the engine.

Many thanks go to Murray and Dawn for towing him the 14km back to the Highway where he rang RACQ. - A BIG thank you to Murray, Dawn and Elaine who stayed with him until the truck arrived. Another thank you goes to Jill for meeting Barry at the Garage when he got back to Bundaberg and taking him home. He rang me next day to say that his battery had collapsed but he got another replacement as it was still under warranty.

We all enjoyed the walk into the Forest it was a beautiful day, we have been so lucky to have such great weather for walking. Thank you Chris and John for organising this walk. - Joy

### **August 25, 2019 - Mt Woowoonga**

Four members and three visitors met up at Coles Kensington before proceeding to Dallarnil where we picked up another three members. (Two of them were almost directed to Degilbo-well, it's easy to get confused!) The remaining two members were met at the picnic area where the walk commences. Although Mt Woowoonga may not be everyone's favourite walk, for member Marlene she finds it so nice she hiked it TWICE, having already sprinted up the mountain and returned in time to meet the main party at the base. What gives this walk its sometimes bad reputation is its lung busting and muscle wrenching steep gradient. In 1.6 km one ascends roughly 400 meters.

Having all safely arrived at the summit, we enjoyed a nice rest and admired the view before regaining strength for the next stage of the walk- across the ridge to Mt Goonanamen. A short scramble down a barely discernible old path led to the saddle from whence it was a relatively easy tramp over to Mt G. This is arguably the most pleasant and scenic part of the walk with distant views and delightful wet sclerophyll forest. We arrived at the National Park boundary around 11.30am and rested for lunch or brunch in the clearing before retracing our steps back to the cars and a well earned afternoon tea in the picnic area - *Mary*

### **August 25, 2019 - Crater Lakes, Coulston**

20 people joined up for this outing. Whilst there isn't a lot of walking it is a full day of driving and exploring the area and going down back roads one generally wouldn't travel on. All those who intended to made it to the summit of the first crater, only to find the lake was the same as the surrounding area – brown and dry. Most continued onto the second crater to find the same result.

Upon return to the cars we drove onto Chowey Bridge where we had lunch. There was water beneath the bridge affording good photos of the bridge's reflection. Some scrambled down to the creek for further exploration while others chatted and read the historic notes. We resumed convoy; only to have it broken by observant bird watchers that spotted a bird (maybe a bustard) and stopped for some photos.

Once we all caught up it was on to Paradise Dam. The highlight here was a toilet, ice cream or coffee (not sure in which order)! Many left us here to return to Bundaberg and just a few decided to do the short track below the shop past the old mine sites. This track was in a terrible state, very overgrown and unkempt which was disappointing. We were about to head to the cars to go home when Willi and Mary from the hard walk group drove in to check out the dam. Considering the dry the dam still has a substantial amount of water so that was nice to see. Thanks to all for joining me on the day - *Allison*

### **September 1, 2019 - Paradise Dam Kayak**

On Father's Day, 6 intrepid explorers set off in their kayaks from Paradise Dam camp site to find their way to the historic Kalliwa Hut. A leisurely 7km paddle upstream through glistening blue waters, past low, bird—covered islands and through forests of dead gum trees, took us to the hut. Along the way we saw many raptor nests, including one huge eagle nest which has been taken over by squatter swallows. As Stan said, “they’ll be evicted when the eagles want it back!”

The delightfully cool paddle was followed by lunch at the hut, which has been repaired since the damage incurred during floods in recent years. Although a little overgrown, it made for a satisfying destination. The hut had been used by forestry workers before being moved to the Goodnight Scrub as a campsite destination many decades ago. Popular when the scrub was accessible by dirt road, the hut receives fewer visitors now that it has been cut off by water filled inlets created by Paradise Dam. From all reports, it is much easier and more pleasant to get there by kayak than to bushwalk, these days.

The paddle home was quick, with a backing breeze. A sea eagle watched us pass, undisturbed. Peter made it back by the time the rest of us were only half way there, and he didn't even have a sail! He's just a very strong paddler, I guess.

The trip culminated in ice cream and / or coffee and cake at the kiosk near the camp site. Nice food, good conversation, and a beautiful view! All in all, a gorgeous day in Paradise. We are so lucky! - *Michelle*

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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.*

### **September 8, 2019 - Woodgate - Easy S2a**

An easy walk of approximately 5km at Woodgate. We will walk up the salt flats and back along Theodolite Beach. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register. Leave from Thabeban State School at 7am.

### **September 8, 2019 - Eel Creek - Hard M3c**

A lovely walk in the Utopia section of Mt Walsh NP. Walk along Eel Creek (rock hopping and scrambling required), with an optional side trip up a gorge for some views. Depending on rain there should be waterholes for swimming. Depart Coles Kensington at 7am. Contact Martin (0459 724 294) to register.

### **September 14-15, 2019 - Overnight Camp, Palm Valley - Hard M3c**

This is a night walk in Mt Walsh NP to hopefully see the fireflies.

Walkers have two options. We will be camping in the national park, and will walk down to the valley before dusk and wait to see the fireflies before walking back to the cars and driving back to the campsite. Or if you prefer, you don't have to camp and can drive straight home (or stay in Biggenden).

4WD/AWD required, and if camping must provide own equipment. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **September 22, 2019 - Wildflower walk - Easy**

An easy walk in Vera Scarth Johnson reserve near Coonarr. Contact Verlie (4152 8885) to register. Depart Thabeban State School at 7am.

### **September 27 - 30, 2019 – Annual Pilgrimage, Aratula**

The Pilgrimage for 2019 will be held at Camp Laurence, via Aratula 27-30 September 2019. There will be a range of bushwalks, plus bike rides and kayaking with direct access to the lake. More details at [www.bushwalkingqueensland.org.au/pilgrimage.php](http://www.bushwalkingqueensland.org.au/pilgrimage.php). This is the 50th Anniversary Pilgrimage, so it should be a great weekend!

### **September 29, 2019 - Bike Ride**

Join Darryl and Cameron for a bike ride starting at the Burnett Heads marina. Meet at the car park at the marina at 8am. Contact Cameron (0401 435 954).

### **October 1, 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.

### **October 5 - 7, 2019 - Weekend camp at Ubobo**

Spend the Queen's Birthday long weekend camping at Ubobo. Bring your own tent/van. There are a variety of walks/activities on offer which we will decide when we get there.

Campsites are \$10 per site per night (up to 2 people) - PLEASE BRING CASH, there are no eftpos facilities. Contact Barry (4151 2438 or 0403 736 420) to register and for directions.

### **October 13, 2019 – Kayak**

This kayak will start at Buxton and paddle up the Isis River. Depart Thabeban State School 8.30am. Contact Mary (0414 190 566) to register.

### **October 20, 2019 - Goodnight Scrub - Easy S1a**

A walk through Goodnight Scrub on national park tracks. Visit the old ranger's house, ancient grass trees and the "Magic Faraway Tree". About 5-7km. Depart North State School at 8am. Contact Michelle (0428 957 326) to register.

### **October 20, 2019 - Camp Creek - Med/Hard S3c**

A 3 - 4 hour walk up Camp Creek (near Mt Perry) and return. The walk will involve a lot of rock hopping and scrambling, and there should be a pool at the end that is suitable for swimming (depending on whether we have had rain). If it is raining or showers the walk will be cancelled as the rocks are extremely slippery in the wet. Depart North State School at 7am. Contact Lucinda (0421 011 181) to register.

### **November 2-3, 2019 - Weekend trip to Gympie Rattler**

Date claimer at this stage for a weekend trip to go on the Gympie Rattler, with some walking/kayaking to be included. More details to come.

### **November 5, 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.

### **November 6 - 12, 2019 – Carnarvon Gorge Trip**

Planning is underway for a 5 day trip to Carnarvon Gorge early in November. If you are interested in going on this club trip, please ring Michelle on 0428957326 to register.

The off peak season starts at the beginning of November, so the prices are a little cheaper. It will also be starting to get hot, so the long 87 km walk is closed by National Parks, but there are lots of shorter walks (half day to full day) walks to entertain us. Word is that the creek runs all year round, and the swimming hole is always suitable for swimming. Staff at Takarakka informed me that they had good rain a couple of months ago, so things are still looking pretty green. But remember, it will be the start of summer. It will be hot.

Accommodation: Takarakka Bush Resort, which is close to the National Park entrance and most walks. They have a kitchen and socializing areas available for patrons to use. It sounds quite friendly. Participants will need to book their own accommodation directly with the resort.

Options are:

Note: Price is per night. We are staying for 4 nights. Extra people are charged at \$15 per person, with the cost of the site to be shared equally between residents.

We will camp overnight at Moura on the way there and back. Friday, Saturday, Sunday will be the days for walking, swimming, lazing around, whatever.

If you want more information feel free to look at the Takarakka Bush Resort website and National Parks website.

### **November 17, 2019 - Baldwin Swamp - Easy S1a**

An easy walk through Baldwin Wetlands. Meet at the BBQ shed on Que Hee Street. Contact Crystal on 0422 171 704 to register.

### **December 1, 2019 - Christmas Party**

Mary and Willi have again offered the use of their property at Bucca. All attendees to please bring a plate of nibbles/sweets to share, your own cutlery, chair and drinks. BBQ brunch will be provided by the club. Partners are welcome (even if they are not members).

Meet at North Bundaberg primary school at 8.30am to travel out. Don't forget to bring your photo competition entries!

## **December 22, 2019 - Social Outing, Paragon Theatre**

That's right, we aren't finishing with the Christmas Party this year! The historic Paragon Theatre in Childers will be showing the classic Christmas movie Miracle on 34th Street on Sunday, 22nd December at 10am. Cost is \$10 per person. Depart Thabeban State School at 8.45am.

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### **2019 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.

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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 at least one week before a walk. If you leave it until 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