

“MAKING TRACKS WITH US”

BUNDABERG BUSHWALKING CLUB

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2025



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Club Executives

<i>President</i>	<i>Lucinda</i>	<i>(0421 011 181)</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Allison</i>	<i>(0448 846 084)</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Paula</i>	<i>(0490330542)</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>(0414 190 566)</i>

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We are getting close to Combined Camp now! Less than two weeks to go. The planning at Easter camp went well, so it should be a great weekend. The Gin Gin showgrounds is a great venue. I'll send out a separate email, but I'll say it here too – if you intend to come to camp and haven't already, please let Howard know. There is also a three course dinner on at the bowls club (literally next door to the showgrounds) for \$20, but you do need to RSVP for that with Howard ASAP so they know numbers.

The Show Ball is on the same weekend at the Showgrounds, but that shouldn't affect our festivities so don't worry.

At the meeting this week we discussed a change to the membership fee structure to align more with the walking "season". Usually, our membership year is from July to June, but we will be changing this as set out in the item later on in the newsletter. Further information about this will be sent out next month.

We don't have many cycling activities, but for anyone who does hold any, please note that we are now allowed to have e-bikes on these events. Previously the insurers didn't allow this, but they have changed their mind.

Just a final reminder about the time capsule. It will be sealed after Combined Camp, so if you have anything to add, please let Lucinda know.

We've also had a few injuries/illnesses in the club recently, so I just wanted to send our thoughts to those members. We'll see you soon.

I look forward to seeing as many of you at camp as possible.

Happy walking,
Lucinda

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

We will be changing the membership year to more align with the walking "season". The things you need to know are:

- This year, the renewals in July will be for July to December, and be \$10 for the 6 months
- Then in January, your membership will be due again, and will be \$25 for January to December. This is a small increase – the membership fees haven't risen in over a decade, so this is just to help offset our increased costs.
- Even if you have been a member for years, you will need to fill in a membership application form EVERY YEAR. This can either be done online (the link will be sent in June), or in paper form (available from Mary, Lucinda, or our website). Note this includes your date of birth – this is required for insurance purposes, it isn't an optional field!

Further information about the membership renewal process will be sent out in June.

WALK REPORTS:

Sunday 6th April - Social – Gorman Park – Burnett Heads

About 15 people joined us for another of Barry's social outings. We went for a walk out to the lighthouse and made it into a circuit. The sea was quite choppy, and everyone enjoyed seeing the pelicans (which were not ibis!), the tawny frog mouth owls and the fairy rings. Thanks Barry for a lovely morning – *Verlie and Jill*

Sunday 13th April - Banksia Park – Woodgate

As the sun set over Woodgate, the group of walkers saw a small glowing moon emerge from the sea. The group then made their way to Banksia trail, Burrum NP. Recent flooding rain meant that the group got their feet wet above the ankles, just before the boardwalk, but that did not deter them from walking on. The banksias were in full bloom, the mushrooms were emerging from the ground and the frogs were in symphony in the marshes. The moon lit up the white sand as the group chatted, completing the 5.3kms walk with ease. A pleasant evening was had by all – *Maira*

Friday 18th - Saturday 19th - 20th - 21st April (EASTER)

The Gin Gin showgrounds were looking lovely over Easter – very green, and with great facilities. We enjoyed a range of walks, including Boolboonda Rock (which I swear is getting longer every time I do it), Cassilus Creek (so much water, beautiful rock pools so we all jumped in), and a recce for the easy nature park walk. We also enjoyed a great meal at the pub on Saturday night. We are all looking forward to Combined Camp now! – *Lucinda*

Sunday 27th April - Barambah Creek – Kayak

13 members met at Lions Park Biggenden for an early morning drive out to Ban Ban Springs, and then a further 4klm drive to the infamous Thompson's Crossing, on Barambah Creek. The weather had turned it on for us, clear blue skies, with the occasional white fluffy clouds, water temp was near perfect, (well in my opinion anyway). After unloading all the Kayaks from rooftops, and trailers, with the assistance of the walkers, we headed off downstream, saying farewell to the 7 walkers doing it easy, following the creek bank.

Wasn't long before we hit our first obstacle, a small rocky bar. Most were luckily enough to traverse without any dramas, but Rhiannon somehow became entangled in the rocks, and some bushes. No amount of prompting by myself, could help extricate her, from her embarrassing position, but after a few minutes of toing and froing, her captives released her. On to the next obstacle, and this was the one that had my most concern. The creek ends at a large rock wall consisting of large angled hexagonal columns, with the creek proper then heading off to the right down a long, narrow run of shallow, rocky, fast flowing water.

I opted to be the first guinea-pig, but slammed into a group of low-hanging trees a few metres in, and ended up overturned, embarrassed, and wet. Luckily, the water temp was just right, so after securing my Kayak further down out of harm's way, I pushed back upstream to clear as much overhanging branches as possible for who-ever was game (stupid) enough to try next. Gary took the plunge, and missed the boat altogether like me, 2 down, 2 to go. Mary, (a seasoned Kayaker), was next, and having seen what course us 2 males took, decided on another attack, and nailed it. Unfortunately, the next lot of branches downstream took her out, and she went for a swim also. Last, but not least was Angela, who was smart enough to follow Mary, but alas, also suffered the same fate as us all.

The remainder of the creek was a gentle paddle to where we had decided to meet the walkers for smoko under the shade of trees, with views of the creek, and the impressive large rocky Island, that Isaac was keen to climb. Unfortunately, his sense of falling off the knife-edge ledge into the creek, got the better of him, and he bailed, which is rare for Isaac.

After a relaxed smoko, we all mounted our various transport, (feet, and kayak), and made our way back upstream to the cars, with assistance from the walkers at the rapid section, (no-one was keen to paddle that section against the fast flowing current), who helped portage all the kayaks to a deeper section.

It was agreed by all that to celebrate our achievements, we would dine at Robbie, and Jess's Homegrown Café in Coalstoun Lakes for lunch, before departing for home.

Thanks all for a lovely outing, must do it again one day! - *Howard*

Sunday 27th April - Barambah Creek - Walk

After seeing our intrepid Kayakers on their way, 7 walkers were eager to follow the cow pads along the creek, enjoying the bird calls, beautiful blue skies, tall gums, and rock formations. We all came together at the infamous rapids, helping those portaging around the said rapids, and enjoying the antics of the paddlers who were brave enough to take on the challenge. Well done to all! After a leisurely morning tea stop, under the shade of the bottlebrush trees, we packed up, and walked back the way we had come, stopping to help carry the Kayaks across the rocky terrain to a safe re-entry.

To top the morning off, we all enjoyed lunch at the Homegrown Café in Coalstoun Lakes. A BIG thank-you to Robbie, Jess, and staff. And especially, a BIG THANK-YOU, to all my fellow adventurers. – Jo

Sunday, Monday 4-5th May - Eel Creek

Moria unfortunately had to withdraw from this walk, but that still left 8 keen walkers who set off early afternoon on Sunday of the long weekend. Moira joined us for the walk to the creek, and then bid us farewell as we set off. After so much rain this summer, there was a lot of water in the creek and a lot of beautiful swimming holes, but also a lot of lantana and other vegetation so we got quite a workout that afternoon. We found a lovely swimming hole with a big sandy bank for our camping spot. We set up camp, and a couple of us had a quick swim – the water wasn't as cold as we feared. Sitting eating our dinner by the pool, the small waterfall bubbling away in the background and the quarter moon and meteor shower above made for a magical evening. It got quite chilly after we went to bed! In the morning we left our packs and walked further up the creek past lots of small waterfalls and swimming holes to the big rockpool, before returning to camp, packing up and making our way back down the creek. Just as we reached the car park, the rain started – we were very glad to have been out of the creek before the water made the rocks slippery. All up it was a lovely overnighter, one we will definitely be doing again – Lucinda

FUTURE WALKS AND OUTINGS:

Sunday 11 th May - Elliott River. - Medium Walk MB. - Meet at Thabeban S/S 9am
Please phone Mary (0414 190 566)

Sunday 11th May - Billy Gorge Falls – Biggenden – Hard L3C - Full To Bluff Mtn and return via Saddle Creek. Please phone Howard. (0438 722 301)

Friday 16th – Saturday 17th - Sunday 18th May- Combined Camp Weekend.

Please RSVP to Howard if you haven't already. Three course meal at the bowls club on offer for \$20 on the Friday night, but must RSVP to Howard by this weekend. Separate emails have been sent to members with further details – if you are a member and haven't received them, please contact Lucinda on 0421 011 181, email the club or contact us via Facebook.

Saturday 24th May – Social – Riverview - Another Social Day at Riverview with a walk and smoko. Meet at Thabeban S/S at 9am. Please ring or text Barry (0403 736 420).

***Date change* Sunday 1st June – Three Pinnacles. S4D.** Hard walk comprising steep slopes, rainforest and rock scrambling. Leave Coles Kensington at 7am, or meet at Mt Walsh car park 8.20 am. Phone Lucinda to register – 0421 011 181.

Cooloola Great Walk: - 2nd - 3rd - 6th June - Full. Glenda (0418 730 229)
Tuesday 3rd June - Meeting – 5.30Pm. Meet at the Bundaberg State High School (F Block). Park on Maryborough St and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building. All members welcome.

Saturday 7 th June - Boulder Mountain circuit. - Hard L3C.

Meet at 8am- Mothar Mountain Rock Pools Car Park and Picnic Area. This 4-to-5-hour walk will start at the Mothar Mountain Rock Pools Car Park, and we will follow the clearly marked trail for the Boulder Mountain hiking 11.6-km loop trail . The first part of the Mt Boulder circuit is a challenging walk as it rises to 496m and requires a good level of fitness with the last 300m to the summit being quite a steep section that is manageable with plenty of rocks and trees to help with the climb. Bring with you plenty of water, morning tea, lunch and leave some swimmers and a towel in the car for an optional swim in the rockpools afterwards. More details and directions to follow closer to the walk-Vicky Riley (0478 759 911)

Sunday 8th June – Barolin Nature Reserve. - Easy - Meet at Thabeban S/S at 8am. Please phone Verlie (4152 8885).

Tuesday, 10th June – Monthly Meeting - *note date change*
Bundaberg State High School, 5.30 pm.

Sunday 15th June – Hard Walk. – Camp Creek.

This is a relatively short walk for a hard walk, about 3 hours return. We will walk up the creek, which involved a lot of rock hopping, until we reach a rockpool known as the “sheep dip”. If it’s clear after this rain, it’s a nice spot for a dip. RSVP to Lucinda. (0421 011 181).

Saturday 21st June - Mingo Crossing Camp weekend. - Kayaking. Please phone Brian for more details. (0419 568 479).

Saturday 28 th June. - Walk Planning Meeting
Venue and time to be confirmed.

8th - 10th August 2025. - Gold Coast Bushwalk Club Pilgrimage. Gold Coast Bushwalkers Club will be hosting the 2025 Pilgrimage at the Beaudesert Showgrounds 8-10 August 2025. The program will follow the usual format participants arriving Friday 8 Aug

Late July- Early August – Kayak/Walk trip in north Qld.

Expressions of interest for a kayak and walk trip of approx 2 weeks duration. Head north to Mackay hinterland (maybe camp at Mirani) for kayaking on Pioneer river and Lake Teemurra and walk Finch Hatton gorge. Next head west via Eungella to Eungella Dam to free camp. There are walking tracks in the nat park. From here head SW to Lake Elphinstone to camp and kayak and then to Moonlight Dam campsite in Homevale NP where there is a walk to Mt Britton or with gold prices so high just do a bit of fossicking at the old township site. Options after that are a visit to Blackdown Tableland, Lake Cannia and/or Wuruma dam. The

latter has a free camp I think. At this stage dates and itinerary are flexible. Please call or text Mary on 0414190566 if interested.

2025 ANNUAL PHOTO COMPETITION

The annual photo competition will take place at the Christmas BBQ Breakfast.

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

Categories: Landscape, Wildlife, Funny, Flora, Macro and People (one or more persons)

along with a photo of any subject featuring the colour '*circles*' – interpret that how you will!

There is also an additional category of Free Choice. This may be a photo of any subject

taken in any year. One 6 x 4 photo per person per category. Cash prizes for the winners in each category.

Walk Gratings

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

2025 Fees: 6 months July – December

- (1) **Membership fees – \$10 per adult
\$5 if under 18 (for one or more children from the same family)**

Please do not send cash through the mail. You can pay your membership fees at the Monthly meeting, or by **EFT BSB 645 646**, Account Number **107969998** quoting your surname as the reference.

Please note that in 2026, the membership fees will be \$25 for January to December.

- (2) Walk fees – \$5.00 per visitor. Free for Members.**

- (3) Postal Address - P.O. Box 696 Bundaberg. Qld. 4670**

General:

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 the third walk.

Tips for Members/Guests:

- Most importantly, if you are interested in joining in an activity PLEASE call the Leader. They are best person to answer any questions, explain what you need to do/bring.
- You cannot register for a walk by responding to 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 National Park numbers or the preference of the leader.
- For hard walks, don't be fooled by the distance. A 10 klm 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.
- 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.

Car Pooling Arrangements:

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

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

Newsletters are available from Bundaberg Library.

It would be appreciated if any contributions to the newsletter (*and they are always welcome*) could be received by the editor several days before the meeting.

Email address for newsletter items is: joyham@westnet.com.au

The club email address is info@bundabergbushwalkers.com

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 In an attempt 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.

From now on, only members will be emailed a copy of the newsletter. If you aren't a member you will be able to access the newsletter via our website.

The newsletter is also available at the Bundaberg Library.