

"MAKING TRACKS WITH US"

BUNDABERG BUSHWALKING CLUB

NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER - 2024



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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>

BUNDABERG BUSHWALKERS CLUB

President's Ponderings - Is it just me, or does Christmas arrive quicker each year? That's right, we've had our last monthly meeting for 2024, and our next one isn't until February. We do have the end of year celebration on the 30th of November - the details are below. I hope to see you all there.

The hiatus in walk activities over the next couple of months is a good time to think about what you would like to do next year. Got a walk we haven't done in a while that you would like to do? Bring it to the planning meeting. We would love for you to be the leader (which really just means picking the activity and the date and taking RSVPs), but if you aren't comfortable there's a good chance someone at the planning meeting will be happy to lead the activity. Ideas are always welcome.

In sad news this week, we have been told that the Gladstone Bushwalking Club will close at the end of May 2025. Further details are below. We know how hard it is to get the volunteers to be on the committee and to lead walks, so on behalf of our club, I extend my congratulations and gratitude to the many people who have put in the hours of the years to keep the Gladstone Club going. I have attended many wonderful Combined Club Camps hosted by Gladstone, and spent many enjoyable hours camping and walking with their members. I hope that we can all still stay in touch. You are all welcome to join us on our walks and camps, as it would be great to see you!

On that note, I hope to see as many of our club members as possible at the Christmas BBQ. And although it feels early to say this, this is our last official newsletter of the year, so I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all for another great year of walking in 2025.

Happy walking,
Lucinda

WALK REPORTS:

Sunday 6th October – Rules Beach

The original walk report has gone missing so with apologies to Mary this is a 2nd hand account. Despite it being the long weekend the car park at the 4WD access to Rules Beach was able to accommodate our vehicles. This was potentially because it was nearly high tide so all the vehicles had exited the beach. High tide did mean beach walking was more difficult so a number of people ditched the shoes and took to the water.

One by one some walkers turned around and returned to the non walkers. The balance of walkers continued to the mouth of Baffle Ck and walked around the water way as far as the tide and mangroves allowed. There were a number of campers set up along the way who would have been getting the full force of the wind. Once we could go no further we retraced our steps to the 4WD entry into the conservation reserve to find a shady place for a snack. The shoeless walkers were quick to put the shoes back on and eventually we found a spot to rest. Resting for long wasn't optional as the mossies moved in, plus to our dismay as the area was a camp site, previous residents had also treated it as their ablution block so it was not a pleasant spot. We continued through the park following 4WD tracks and reappeared onto the beach close to the boundary of the caravan park. By now the tide had turned and it was easier trek back to the access point. To our surprise the group of walkers were still there taking in the sites and catching up. All persons then travelled to Flat Rock picnic area for a late lunch. The picnic area is very well maintained and the local constabulary were also keeping an eye on the action.

Mary surprised us all with a cake for Jill's birthday so our present to Jill was a rendition of Happy Birthday (the cake was a much better gift). After lunch some visited some other members that live locally to check out their impressive orchard. - Allison

Sunday 13th October - Cordalba

Only one walker had signed up for the walk, so, when checking the map at Thabeban which track to go today, we both admitted to preferring to walk elsewhere and decided to walk the melaleuca track at Walkers Point. Good choice! Sun was shining and a nice cool breeze kicked in about 9ish. We went via the bird hide and the wetlands, and were rewarded with the sight of some waders. Lovely to watch the black-winged stilts, had not seen them there for quite some time. On we went to the campground and to Russel's Rest for a break, and were a bit surprised, instead of a peaceful empty beach we found it packed with 4WDs and fishermen, well, low tide and week end, what did we expect? After the walk we decided to treat ourselves with a nice coffee and lunch at the little café at the caravan park, but sadly it is closed. There was a coffee van instead, so our coffee needs were catered for, but the cakes..... Thank you Mary for walking with me, it was a good day and we both got plenty of exercise. - Angela

Sunday 20th October - Hummock: Ten people met at Heathwood Park and commenced walking in the Maureen Schmitt Park. The walkways were lined with many flowering trees winding around the park and opened up to views of sweet potatoe farms. Angela found a Peanut tree and showed us how to break the ripe fruit and find the peanuts, she ate one. Now we know why the birds and possums love those orange coloured fruits. When we returned to Heathwood Park we were surprised to find Barry & Glynn waiting for us with their billy boiling on the stove. We then walked up the boardwalk to the top of the water tank, counting 70 stairs on the gradual climb up. At the top we saw the views of all the beaches and townships before returning for a cuppa with Barry & Glynn. Thank you for a lovely afternoon Angela. - JOY

Sunday 27th October. - Social - Innes Park: - Seven people met at the Thabeban carpark and met a visitor Colleen from Childers. We met Peter at the park and Mary, Margot, Dawn & Murray arrived later after we found some shade and prepared for our morning tea. Innes Park is a popular swimming place and even though the sea was rather rough 2 of our members braved it for a swim. We walked along the footpaths to the other side of the inlet where Peter took some along the sandy track and got their feet wet crossing the waterway for a shortcut. 3 of us went back the same way along the footpath. Murray had another 2 of his amazing bird albums for us to admire the beautiful birds and animals he has photographed over the years. Many thanks Barry and Glynn for the socials, we hope to enjoy more of them in the New Year. - JOY

Sunday 3rd November - Coonar Beach: It was the perfect time of the day for 9 people to walk along Coonar Beach in the cool afternoon breeze, after a very hot day. Some of us walked barefoot in the water to cool off. We walked the 5klm towards Elliott Heads and returned to the start point to thank Angela for a pleasant afternoon walk. - JOY

Copy of a letter received from the Gladstone Bushwalking Club: -

Dear fellow Bushwalkers

The Gladstone Bushwalkers are planning to close the club at the end of May 2025. You may be aware that it has been increasingly difficult for us to fill committee and walk leader positions, and for several years now we have been discussing the possibility of closing the club. Sadly, the time has come.

There is a long rich history between our clubs, and it has been enjoyed by many of our members. The friendships and fun times are cherished by our clubs many members past and present. I would like to express how thankful we are for your comradely over the years. It is the end of an era for us, however, we will still be walking and socialising together, but just not as a club. We still have the upcoming Combined Club Camp on our 2025 calendar which I'm sure some of our members will want to attend. I'm hoping that some of our crew will be interested in joining your clubs. Sincerely,

Naomi Williams

President, Gladstone District Bushwalkers Club.

FUTURE WALKS AND OUTINGS -

Saturday 16th November - COALSTOUN LAKES sunset and full moon hike - 4pm start. Please contact Moira 0458 365 051 for details and to register.

Saturday 16th November – Elliott Heads. - Full moon walk at Elliott Heads 6klm on concrete walkway. Bring torch. Meet at Elliott Heads Kiosk at 5.00pm. Contact Angela by text only. (0447 226 854).

30th November Christmas Break up Party. Meet at the BaldwinSwamp shelter Shed at 9am for a BBQ. Bring chair, & plate, a cup for tea/coffee. If you wish please bring something to share on the day. The badges for the 40th reunion will be on sale for new and past members. We are re-sealing the Time Capsule and if you have anything you would like to place inside the capsule please bring it along. Don't forget the photo competition. -

2024 Annual Photo Competition Rules **Categories:** Landscape, Wildlife, Macro and People (one or more persons) - Flora and Funny. **'Stripes'** of any colour. -
Open Category: - Any subject - Anywhere - One 6 x 4 photo per person per category.
Cash prizes for winners in each category.

REMINDER NOTICE: Please RSVP before 23rd November to Allison (0448 846 084).



To all our Members -

Wednesday 1st January 2025 - Mt PERRY New Year's Day Sunrise hike. 3am to start. Please contact Moira 0458 365 051 for details and to register.

AUSTRALIA DAY – Saturday 25TH - 26TH - 27TH JANUARY 2025 – Monduran Dam

For those who want facilities and be closer to home there is the option to camp at Lake Monduran (near Gin Gin). Powered & unpowered sites available. Make own bookings. Lake Monduran Holiday Park (07)4157 3881. When making the booking let them know you're with the bushwalking Club. Suggest arrive Saturday and depart Monday. If you have a kayak or paddle board bring it along. On Sunday (Australia Day) day trippers are welcome to join us for a BBQ lunch and a walk. BYO food, drink & chair. For more information contact Allison on 0448 846 084

WALK PLANNING MEETING: - 1ST FEBRUARY 2025 Meet at the Chapel area at the Bundaberg Botanical Gardens at 10am. Bring a chair and something to eat unless you wish to order at the cafe 1928. Bring along any walks or ideas of places you would like to explore or kayak. Please think about leading walks, it is very easy to lead a walk and an enjoyable experience to be with people who love bushwalking. We hope to see you all there to start our 2025 walk calendar.

Date Claimer: Combined Camp - 16th -17th and 18th May 2025. Destination to be confirmed.

Expressions of interest in the Cooloola Great Walk: -
Contact Glenda on 0418730229

Tuesday 4th February 2025 Meeting: New start time 5.30Pm - Meet at Bundaberg State High School. (F Block) Park on Maryborough Street and enter through the gate beside the Administration Building.

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

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REMINDER – MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE JULY 1ST.

New Bank Account - - Auswide

BSB - 645 646 - Account number - 107 969 998 Use your surname as a reference.

Membership Fees Due for 2024 - 2025 membership fee (\$20 for adults, \$10 for children) by EFT at a monthly meeting, by posting a cheque c/- PO Box 696, Bundaberg QLD 4670.

Any questions please call Lucinda (0421 011 181).

Current Fees: (Membership fees due July 1 each year)

- (1) **Membership fees – \$20 per adult
\$10 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.

- (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**

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.

2024 Annual Photo Competition Rules

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

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

This year we have chosen 'Stripes' of any colour.

Open Category – Any subject - Anywhere

One 6 x 4 photo per person per category. Cash prizes for winners in each category.

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 the website at www.bundabergbushwalkers.com

The newsletter is also available at the Bundaberg Library.