

**“MAKING TRACKS WITH US.”**

## **BUNDABERG BUSHWALKING CLUB**

### **NEWSLETTER - APRIL- 2026**

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

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#### **Club Executives:**

<b><u>President:</u></b>	<i>Lucinda</i>	<b>(0421 011 181)</b>
<b><u>Vice President:</u></b>	<i>Allison</i>	<b>(0448 846 084)</b>
<b><u>Secretary:</u></b>	<i>Paula</i>	<b>(0490 330 542)</b>
<b><u>Treasurer:</u></b>	<i>Mary</i>	<b>(0414 190 566)</b>

#### **Presidents Ponderings -**

Well, what a lot has happened since our last newsletter! Bundaberg flooded - unexpectedly, and quickly. Thankfully, it didn't reach 2013 levels, but it did still affect our community. I hope everyone was safe during this time. I live in the flood zone, but thankfully it didn't affect me this time other than being without power for over 2 days.

The crazy fuel prices at the moment are also causing pain for everyone. This may affect some members and their decisions on whether to join walks. Just remember, carpooling is an option for most of our activities. While we haven't altered the walks already set for any changes or additional walks put on the calendar, we will be conscious of the fuel costs when setting the activity.

Anyone who has paid their membership fee AND completed their membership form has now been sent their membership card for 2026. Please take a photo/screenshot of this and keep it on your phone or print it out, to be able to show the walk leader on a walk.

If you haven't received this, it's likely that you either haven't paid the fee, or we haven't received the membership form (the link to do this online can be found on our website). Please contact Mary **(0414 190 566)** if you thought you had registered but haven't received your membership card yet.

As the weather has started to cool off, I hope everyone gets the chance to start getting out for some walks. I'm looking forward to doing so for Easter weekend.

Happy walking, Lucinda

## **Membership Cards**

Over the last few years, the leaders have had some difficulties knowing who is actually a member when filling in the walk sheets at a walk. We know that no one is intentionally claiming to be a member when they aren't, but a lot of people can't remember if they have re-joined this year or not.

Therefore, we are trialling having membership "cards" again. Over the next few weeks, if you have paid your membership for 2026, you will receive a membership certificate either by email or text. Please keep a copy of this handy for walking - I recommend taking a photo on your phone. You can even add it to your Google Wallet or iPhone wallet so it is easy to access when asked by a leader at a walk.

If you don't have email or text, Mary will get you a physical one.

As I'm sure you can all appreciate, we need to make sure that people are recorded correctly as members or guests for insurance purposes. If you can't show your membership card to a leader on a walk, you will have to pay \$5 to join that walk as a guest.

Hopefully, this is a fairly simple solution to the problem, but we welcome feedback from leaders or walkers and will review the procedure for next year.

Thank you all for your cooperation with this.

## **WALK REPORTS: -**

**Moonlight walk at Moore Park Beach – 3<sup>rd</sup> January 26 –** (late report). The walk was enjoyed by 10 members and visitors. We walked up the beach with a cool sea breeze behind us and the feeling it was good to be back walking again after the Xmas break. The moon gradually rose through some dark clouds. We enjoyed some cake supplied by Mary as we watched the moon get bigger and brighter as it rose high in the sky. Thank you Allison, we all enjoyed watching the moon rise on a beautiful night with good company

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February – Russo Nature Park. -** It was great to welcome some new walkers which made a good number to explore the area. I hadn't been to the park for a while so was surprised to find a formed carpark and toilet but not enough room for all the cars. Despite the dry, the creek had water, but the platypus remained elusive. As always, people were amazed at the age and size of some of the trees and vines. Once Joy & Verlie finished exploring the creek area they returned to the picnic table for morning tea with the balance tackling the climb and having morning tea at the lookout. After the walk a few went to Mollydookers to enjoy lunch. The rest of us dispersed in different directions. Thanks everyone for joining in.- Allison

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Meadowvale -** The evening was cooler and the circuit walk was very enjoyable for the 6 people who met at Meadowvale. The birds were noisy but hard to find in the thick bush. The trees were in flower and Splitters Creek looked invitingly cool when we reached the end of the track. We did not see platypus. On the way back Dawn and Murray took the shorter track home, and we continued to walk the longer part of the circuit. Thank you, Angela, for a relaxing evening walk. JOY

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Riverview. –** 6 people and 1 visitor drove to Riverview where we met Peter at the boat ramp. The morning was a bit steamy, but a nice breeze kept the sandies away. The tide was coming in, the sandbars already under so no wading birds to watch, but plenty of fishermen, women and kids trying their luck around the boat ramp. We walked through the park to the nature reserve, where we walked the side tracks first for a change and

the main track straight back with a deviation. Not a lot of wildlife around and no birdsong. Since we were last there a fence had been built at the 'mangrove lookout' preventing falling into a tidal stream. Nice to see the Council spending some TLC on our walking destinations. Thank you Council! - A nice short walk approximately 3km followed by morning tea at the picnic area. The tide was still coming in so it was a good paddle to Fallon Rocks for Mary and Angela. Thank you everyone for coming. – Angela.

**1<sup>st</sup> March - Kayak Cedar's Crossing** - The weather managed to hold itself together on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March for nine paddlers at Cedar's Crossing postponed from 15<sup>th</sup> Feb. Seven kayakers, one paddle boarder and a sit-on paddle boarder all enjoyed approx. 7 km upstream paddle to the old cane railway bridge. Not much bird life on the river, just one family of whistling ducks, some egrets, and a sea-eagle nest. A number of turtles poked their noses up briefly as well as a few water dragons were sighted along the banks.

A brief shower caught up with us at the rail bridge. Some sheltered underneath while others climbed up to have a snack and a cuppa. A few of us attempted to walk part way across the bridge but the debris, logs and branches made this difficult. Paddling back to Cedar's into the wind was challenging for some. We all made it back safely though some had tired muscles and were pleased to see our vehicles. Thanks, Mary, for organising this outing. Please remember to check-in with the organiser before the next paddle. – Bev Kane.

**Coalstoun Lakes Circuit – 14<sup>th</sup> March.** - Seven people completed the Coalstoun Lakes circuit walk under cool grey skies. With the track recently cleared by QPWS, it was a very pleasant walk. Interesting mushrooms, spiders, a giant worm and two snakes were spotted. Geological information was also provided by the walk leader. Two participants were from Coalstoun Lakes farms and told some interesting stories about the challenges of local farming and how the cockatoos have worked out how to pull up the peanut plants at the right time that the nuts are ripening, doing a lot of crop damage. A brief shower saw the group huddle comfortably in the bird hide. Both craters were full of water, aquatic plants and noisy frogs. Lunch at Home Grown Cafe completed the day. - Moira

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – Elliott Heads** - "Singing in the rain." -Okay, forget about the singing and replace it by walking, but the rain stays. Weather forecast was warning of less than optimal walking weather, and only 5 of us took the challenge. One the drive to Elliotts Heads rain came down very hard and I briefly thought of cancelling. But it was mostly only drizzle at the coast and as everybody brought and donned a rain protection coat we were on!. It was a "walker friendly" walk and it was nice to see Verlie with her walker. We walked North, wind gusting, keeping us moist, waves crashing ashore, creating spray and foam along the beach. At the turning point I was disappointed to see that the nice fat she-oak normally shading the bench had been removed. "Thank you for the shade u provided over the years" On the return even the drizzle stopped, we could see the horizon to the East. Back at the Kiosk, having morning tea, the sun reluctantly started to peek through the cloud cover. Great - we did it! - Angela

### **FUTURE WALKS AND OUTINGS:**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> April. Easter Camping - Ubobo** - Join us for a weekend of camping and walking in the Boyne Valley. Walks to be determined, but a variety of easy and hard walks will be available depending on attendees.

We will stay at the Discovery Centre (<https://boynevalley.org.au/>) at Ubobo, a terrific campground with excellent showers and toilets and camp kitchen. There is also dorm accommodation onsite, however if you want that you should book early.

Unpowered sites - \$10 pp per night

Powered sites - \$10 per site per night + \$10 pp

Contact Lucinda **(0421 011 181)** to register

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Social – Meadowvale.** – Meet at North S/S to leave at **9am**. Bring chair and morning tea. Please phone Barry **(0403 736 420)**.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Kayak – Blackwater Creek** – Meet North S/S **8am**. or elsewhere by arrangement. This pretty paperbark lined creek is about 1 hour drive north of Bundy on the way to Deepwater National park. The creek is navigable fresh tannin stained water for about 4km before it hits a causeway where we can alight for a break. There is option to have lunch at the Flatwater Picnic ground on Baffle Creek afterwards and even another paddle wind and weather permitting. For more information phone Mary **(0414 190 566)**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April - Moore Park explore S1a** - An easy stroll around Moore Park from the beach to the lagoon and return, 3.5km. Mostly following paths. Bring morning tea, water, insect repellent & sunscreen. Option to do further walking if interested.

Depart North school **8.30am**. To register please contact Allison after **3pm** on **(0448 846 084)**

**Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> – PALM VALLEY**

Depart: **7am** Coles Carpark Kensington (Convoy), to meet Lions Park Biggenden **8am**.

4X4/High Clearance required to access starting point off Coongarra Rd. Creek walk rock-hopping through beautiful Palm Forest to small waterfall. Limit of 12 (members get preference). Contact (text or ring) Howard **(0438 722 301)** to book.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> May – Eel Creek (overnight) – hard s4d** - This is an easy introduction to overnight hiking. We will leave around midday and walk up Eel Creek to a campsite. Camp overnight, and the next morning we will walk a little further up the creek (this time without our packs) to the large waterhole, walk back to camp to pack up and collect our gear and then walk back to the cars. We should be back in Bundaberg early to mid-afternoon. Total walk - 10km, about 2km of that will be without packs. The walk is not easy - the creek is overgrown in parts, and rocky. This is not on a formed path.

Walkers will need to have all their own equipment - large hiking backpack, tent, sleeping bag and mat, food. I do have some items I can lend if you don't have everything.

Contact Lucinda **(0421 011 181)** to register.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May** – Meeting at Bundaberg High School **5.30pm**. Meet at the gates in Maryborough Street. All members and visitors welcome.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Social – with Mary and Willy** - Meet at North S/S at 9am to leave for the farm to enjoy a Swiss Sausage Sizzle. Please bring a chair, tea/coffee and a plate of sweets to share. Phone Barry **(0403 736 420)**.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May – North Botanical Gardens** – Meet at the Chapple at **3.30pm** for a walk around the lake and new section of the Gardens. Please text only to Angela **(0447 226 854)**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May – Giant Staircase- Mt Walsh – Hard.** Meet at Lions Park Biggendon **8am**. Numbers limited to 10. (Members preferred). For more information and register phone Howard **(0438 722 301)**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> May – Combined Camp Weekend – Rockhampton.** To be held at the *Bouldercombe Sport and Recreation Complex, 52496 Burnett Highway, Bouldercombe QLD 4702.* – **More details and registration form at end of Newsletter.**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May Barolin Reserve – easy/medium** Meet at Bargara S/S **8am**. Please text only to Angela **(0447 226 854)**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June –** Meeting at Bundaberg High School **5.30pm**. Meet at the gates in Maryborough Street. All members and visitors welcome.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Social – Smith Crossing.** – Meet at North S/S **9am**. We drive to Smith's Crossing. Bring chair and morning tea. Please phone Barry **(0403 736 420)**.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Stripey Boulder – S3b** - An off-track walk around the base of Mt Walsh. Total 3.7km. Hazards include long grass and hidden rocks underfoot. Terrain is up and down across gullies. Day pack required with morning tea and lunch. Depart Coles Kensington at **7.30 am** or Lions Park Biggenden at **8.30am**. To register please contact Allison after 3pm on **(0448 846 084)**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Kalina Creek – easy** Meet at **3.30pm** at Woongarra S/S. Klein's St. Easy walk on pathway. We can walk along beach front. Text only to Angela **(0447 226 854)**

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Walk Plan Meeting.** – Meet at The Chapple, Botanical Gardens **10am**. Bring chair and morning tea and ideas for walks, kayaking and socials for the last 6 months of the year. Please think about leading walks you would like to do.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Barambah Creek -** Meet **8am** Lions Park. Travel to Ban Ban Springs, then 4klm along gravel road to creek. Easy to medium stroll along creek, for smoko and/or swim. Lunch at Homegrown Café @ Coalstoun Lakes. Phone Howard to register **(0438 722 301)**

**For those interested in Multi day treks.**

Are you interested in taking on multi day treks?

Want help building your gear/kit in the right order?

Need encouragement to train sufficiently for multi day treks?

Please ring Glenda on **(0418 730 229)**

First trek in **July**:- Cooloola wilderness trail 4 nights and 4 days.

Next trek in **September**:- Carnarvon Gorge Great Walk.

Come along - Embrace your wild side.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> August - Mini-Pilgrimage weekend – Binna Burra Lodge: -**

## **Reminder About Walk Procedures**

As we start a new year and a new walking season, we welcome any new members and use this opportunity to remind everyone of the procedures for walking with the club. First, you must register for a walk/activity with the walk leader. Please don't email the club or message us on Facebook, as our emails and Facebook are not necessarily monitored by the leader for that activity. Same goes for asking any questions about the walk, such as difficulty or what time you'll be back - talk directly to the walk leader.

Always read the walk description carefully, and talk to the walk leader if you have any questions or concerns about the walk, especially for harder walks. If you are new to the club, the leader will need to ask you questions about your equipment and experience - don't be offended! This is just to ensure the walk is right for you.

- Register early - if there is a lot of interest for a walk, the leader will cut off registrations to ensure everyone's safety and enjoyment.
- Check the Member's Handbook on our website for details of what you should bring with you on a walk (including a first aid kit), details on convoy procedures for driving, expectations for monetary contributions for car pooling and other matters.
- Remember that the leaders, committee and all club workers are volunteers. We love bushwalking and want you to love it too.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS - 2026**

Membership fees for **January – December**. You need to complete a registration form, otherwise your registration is not complete. The link to register is below, and is also available on our website and Facebook page. Link - <https://forms.gle/fj2cSo55pqvUSsFc6>

If you don't want to register online, we still need you to complete a registration form, otherwise your registration is not complete. You can fill in a physical registration form by:

- Printing one off our website
- Contacting Lucinda or Mary to have one emailed to you
- Contacting Lucinda to find a time to meet her at her office in the CBD to fill in a form.

You can return a form by:

- Posting it to PO Box 696, Bundaberg QLD 4670
- Scanning/photographing it and emailing it to [info@bundabergbushwalkers.com](mailto:info@bundabergbushwalkers.com)
- Bringing it to a monthly meeting
- Dropping it into Lucinda's office at 7/53 Woongarra Street, Bundaberg, at any time.

- In **January**, your membership 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.

## **2026 ANNUAL PHOTO COMPETITION**

The annual photo competition will take place at the Christmas breakup party. 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) There is also an additional category of Free Choice. This may be a photo of any subject taken in any year. The new category for 2026 will be the colour "**PINK**". One 6 x 4 photo per person per category. Cash prizes for the winners in each category.

## Walk Gradings

Max Kilometres per day	Terrain	Fitness
<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

### 2026 Fees:

**(1) Membership fees – \$25 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 km 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](mailto:joyham@westnet.com.au)

The club email address is [info@bundabergbushwalkers.com](mailto:info@bundabergbushwalkers.com)

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

- Please contact walk leaders **at 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 are not a member you will be able to access the newsletter via our website.

The newsletter is also available at the [Bundaberg Library](#).

**Combined Club Campout - May 22 – 24<sup>th</sup> for walking friendship and fun.**

**Venue** – Bouldercombe Sport and Recreation Complex.

**Date** From 09.00 am Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May to 18.00pm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May.

(The complex is available to campers until 09.00 Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May)

**Cost** \$10.00 per person per night

Site power is available but very limited (No specific site allocations taken)

**Facility:** Kitchen is open to attendees.- Endless tea/ coffee and biscuits. Shower and toilet Block adjacent to complex. Full program of walks and other activities:

- Friday afternoon – Bouldercombe Gorge Wander

- Saturday Multiple full day walks or combination of ½ day walks
  - Park run at the Rockhampton Botanical Gardens can be part of the ½ day combination.
  - Sunday Multiple full day walks or a combination of ½ day walks.
  - Happy Hour on Friday and Saturday from 5-6pm (BYO drinks and nibbles)
  - Second hand shop with items pre-marked with cost and name of seller
  - Raffle and Wolks Stick handover on Saturday night.
  - Ensure you bring cash for the raffle and second hand shop.
  - Bushwalking quiz on Saturday night.
  - Complete the registration form attached and email to [capbushwalkers@gmail.com](mailto:capbushwalkers@gmail.com) with payment being made via bank debit as per the details on the camp registration form. Registrations for CCC 2026 is preferred by 15<sup>th</sup> May. Late camp registration will be accepted on arrival.
- Registration form for the Combined Camp at Bouldacombe Rockhampton.

<b>Completed forms to be emailed to:</b> <a href="mailto:capbushwalkers@gmail.com">capbushwalkers@gmail.com</a>			
<b>Your Name:</b>			
<b>Contact #:</b>		<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Bushwalking Club:</b>			
<b>Names of other people included on this registration (If any):</b>	1.		
	2.		
	3.		
<b>Total number of people included on the registration:</b>			
<b>Circle nights you plan to camp:</b>	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Fees:</b>	<b>Registration:</b>		No charge
	<b>Camping:</b> \$10.00 pp per night		\$
	<b>Dinner:</b>		NA – Self-catered.
	<b>Total:</b>		\$
<b>Direct Debit Details:</b>	<b>Bank Name:</b>		Westpac Bank
	<b>Account Name:</b>		Capricornia Bushwalkers Club Inc
	<b>BSB #:</b>		034-636
	<b>Account #:</b>		388 472
	<b>Reference (Family Name):</b>		