



The Message Stick

October 2023

Mackay Bushwalkers' Club Inc. PO Box 1313, Mackay, 4740
Web: <http://www.mackay.bwq.org.au>
Email: mackay.bushwalkers@gmail.com

Future Events

Eungella Tracks – Crediton Loop Rd to Broken River return.....	1 st October
The Diggings – Broken River – Buck Creek.....	8 th October
Corybas Cliffs.....	15 th October
General Meeting.....	18 th October
To Be Advised.....	22 nd October
Walk to Repulse Creek.....	29 th October



Pretty Creek – Lineel Falls

Club Officers

President	Clive Goodson	0437 588 734	Walks Coordinator	Coral Morgan	4957 8474
Vice President	Carole Weekes	0455 872 207	Assistant Walks Coordinator	Peter Bennett	0427383732
Secretary	Michelle Dartnell	0428 552 603	Membership Secretary	Mari Simmonds	0429190168
Treasurer	Mari Simmonds	0429 190 168	Digital Officer		
Equipment Officer	Bruce Pownall	0417 759 032			
Newsletter Editor	Laurinda Rosewood	0437 203 737			

From the Editor

The club AGM is coming up in November. If you are interested in taking on a committee role, or just helping out in some way, please let someone on the committee know in the next few weeks. Also coming up is our end-of-year break-up. This year we will probably have a BBQ lunch or tea somewhere local. If anyone has a great idea for a location, or a different idea for what to do, please let me know before the October meeting.

Items for the next newsletter should be sent to
mackay.bushwalkers@gmail.com
by 24th October

Key to Walks Grading System

Distance

S = short – under 5km
M = medium – 5-10km
L = long – over 10km

Terrain

1-3 = Graded or open terrain, no scrub
4-7 = Bush, minor scrub, rainforest,
8-10 = Rocks, creeks, rockhopping, scrambling,
thick scrub, major rock scrambling using hands,
technical

Difficulty

1-3 = Easy, suitable for beginners
4-7 = Medium, reasonable fitness required
8-10 = Hard, strenuous, fit walkers only

Future Events

All trip leaders please ensure you collect the club gear bag before undertaking your walk and return it as soon as possible afterwards

Please contact the leader to nominate for all walks before 12.00pm the day before the walk unless otherwise stated.

Eungella Tracks - Crediton Loop Rd to Broken River Picnic Ground and return Sunday 1st October

Leader: Ken Fihelly 0427 718282
Depart: 7 am
Journey: 200kms \$20
Grade: L15
Estimated walking time: 5 hrs.
Total of all uphill sections: 100 m.
Pace: Average.
Terrain: track walking.
Vegetation: rainforest.

Expect: platypus sightings, leeches, variety of flora and fauna, a good amount of exercise, and possibly a walk to the kiosk at lunch time. We will leave the cars at the Crediton Loop Rd end and walk back to the Broken River bridge area, and after lunch in the picnic grounds we will retrace our steps. Or wait at Broken River, if 15 km is too much for you. It is all track walking, and much of it is along the river, and the length about 15 kms in total. It is a suitable outing for those of us who enjoy easy walks but don't mind a bit of distance. Bring insect repellent and plenty of water.

**The Diggings - Broken River- Buck Ck.
Sunday 8th October**

Leader: Ken Fihelly 0427 718282
Depart: 7 am.
Journey: 180 Km \$18
Map Ref: Hillalong 8555 55K 652920E,
7657415N. AGD66
Grade: S54
Walking Time: 4 to 5 hours.
Total Uphill: 70 m.
Pace: Average
Terrain: Creek banks, rocky sections, minor
Lantana, small hill.
Expect: fairly easy creek bank walking, some
minor rock hopping, short cross country bush
traverse, and swimming opportunity. Probably
leeches. Bring insect repellent.
A relatively easy walk that should be suitable
for all. We drive down the Diggings Road to the
Camp Ground. Our main objectives of the day
will be the waterfall and the washtub about 1.4
km downstream. An opportunity to explore and
relax in this area. From there we can return by
detouring up Buck Creek to another small
waterfall, then by a short climb back up to
Diggings Road. An opportunity may arise to
explore some of the old mine sites in this area.
Otherwise from the river we would retrace our
path upstream to the vehicles. 4WD vehicles
are recommended and numbers may have to
be limited to available transport on the day.

**Corybas Cliffs
Sunday 15th October**

Leader: Penny McMahon 0421 071 294
Depart: 7am
Journey: 100kms. \$10
Map ref: Cumberland Islands
Grade: M55
Estimated walking time: 5 hours, Total of all
uphill sections - 200m
Pace: Average to slow.
Terrain: uneven.
Vegetation: open forest.
Expect some steep slopes, scrambles, great
views. From the Cape Hillsborough car parking
area, we will walk back along the road a short
distance, before heading up a reasonably steep

slope to the base of the cliffs. We will then
continue around the base of the cliff before
reaching the fern overhang. We then continue
on towards Cathedral cave, continue around
the cliff base and up to the track before
reaching the lookout. Heading back to the cars
we will follow the taped track to Cape
Hillsborough. Bring water and food for the day,
there will be plenty of time to complete this walk
and therefore there is no need to hurry.

**Induction 6.30pm
General Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday 18th October**

Downstairs room, Mackay Family Care and
Community Support Association Centre 60
Wellington Street, Mackay. Newcomers and
visitors welcome. Induction by Carole and
Laurinda.

**To Be Advised
Sunday 22nd October**

**Walk to Repulse Creek
Potential shorter option to Wompoo Way
Sunday 29th October**

Leader: Laurinda Rosewood 0437 203 737
Departure: 6am **NOTE EARLIER TIME**
Journey: 280 kms, \$28
Grade: L15
Expected walking time: 6 hrs
Total of all uphill sections: 200m
Pace: average.
Terrain: undulating, gravel track.
Vegetation: rainforest
Expect: mountain bikers, rainforest, creeks,
humid conditions, maybe leeches.
This is a section of the Whitsunday Great Walk.
We will leave the cars at the Brandy Creek
entrance, and will be aiming to reach the
Repulse Creek campsite (16.5km return) for
lunch and an exploration of the creek, and then
return to the cars.
A shorter option of the Wompoo Way (7km
return) might be possible, if there are enough
people, and someone volunteers to lead the
group.

Previous Activities

Progressive Mystery Walk Sunday 10th September

First, the mysteries. Who left her backpack at home and had to make a quick trip back to her place to collect it? Luckily there was plenty of time for her to do this as she had arrived early the first time, and also we were trying to solve the mystery of the lost man so that the walk could commence with all six participants present.

Secondly, the progressive element. The term was originally used as the afternoon was planned to incorporate three walks which progressively became longer, and which involved short car trips to relocate from the end of one to the start of the next one. However, we also progressively reduced our numbers, as some bush walkers had other commitments. All six of us completed the first two walks, but only three of us went the full distance for the final lap, although another two did most of it. The stayers covered almost 10 kms by the end of the day.

Luckily the weather was favourable - no rain, a pleasant breeze, and not as hot as the day before. The places visited were the Rosewood Reserve, Black's Beach Cove Constructed Wetlands, Black's Beach Spit, and of course the beach itself. As well as following paths, easements, bush tracks and sand, some litter was collected and bird life was observed, including eight black swans in one of the Rosewood ponds.

Thank you to Carmel, Penny, Laurinda, Len and Edie for making the afternoon an enjoyable one, and to Edie for her co-leadership on the day and beforehand at the planning stage.

Carole Weekes



Pretty Creek - Lineel Falls Loop. Sunday 17th September

We were driving through fog on Dalrymple Rd on the way to the start of the Mt Dalrymple West track. It was lifting as we started walking along the track. We turned off the track at the high point on the ridge above Pretty Creek, before the crossing, and we followed the ridge, more or less, to the junction of Pretty Creek and an upper tributary of Cattle Creek. It's a bit steep getting into the creek, but the walking is mostly easy, once in the creek, on rock slabs and around boulders.

The creeks here are especially beautiful, and the rainforest lush and green. We went downstream a bit to enjoy the views, then turned around and continued past the Pretty Creek junction, to Lineel falls, on the Cattle Creek tributary, where we had lunch. It was a mild day, and only Michelle was brave enough to have a swim here. Then we backtracked again to Pretty Creek and followed it upstream to the crossing of the Mt Dalrymple track. Pretty Creek is spectacular in this area.

Ken Fihelly



**Mt Ossa Area
Sunday 24th September**

Four of us opted for the very pleasant easy walk around the farmland at Mt Ossa. Cloud cover was very welcome, and the breeze when it came also welcome. Morning tea on a rise with good views. Lunch beside the dam area which we shared with horses, cattle and sheep. Frances was intimidated by a horse who wanted to share her sandwich ... and she wouldn't share! A very pleasant relaxing day, with good conversation and company. Thanks Carole. Lots of Azola (red water fern) on the dam making a red carpet - native, but not good as it takes oxygen from the water.

Penny McMahon



**Mt Ossa National Park
Sunday 24th September**

It was one of those gloomy overcast mornings with drizzle that makes you think we are all mad going out to do this. (Well I did).

But what an excellent walk this turned out to be, one of the best I have been on for a long time. Great to go somewhere I haven't been before.

A walk full of interest at every turn, the gloomy weather could do nothing to dampen our spirits.

What about those grass trees!

Many thanks to Ken and his excellent navigation and leadership skills getting us all up and back in one piece.

Garry Hendicott

