



The Message Stick

April 2018

Mackay Bushwalkers' Club Inc. PO Box 1313, Mackay, 4740

Web: <http://www.mackay.bwq.org.au>

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Future Events

TBA.....	8 th April
Stockyard Creek.....	15 th April
General Meeting.....	18 th April
Lamberts Beach/Slade Point Reserve.....	22 nd April
Dalrymple Creek.....	29 th April
Easter Camp.....	30 th March – 2 nd April
South Molle Island.....	5 th – 7 th May
St Lawrence Wetlands Weekend.....	8 th , 9 th & 10 th June



Wendy, Therese and Kevin enjoying a wet walk at Cape Hillsborough

Club Officers

President	Clive Goodson	4954 9338	Contact Officer	Coral Morgan	49578474
Vice President	Carole Weekes	4954 6108	Walks Coordinator	Coral Morgan	49578474
Secretary	Donna Burges	0488 787953	Assis Walks Coordinator	Frances Eiteneuer	49576028
Treasurer	Ian Burgess	0428 875 991	Equipment Officer	Julie Vella	0448076983
Publicity Officer	Charles Hamlet	0478 772 418	Safety Officer	Charles Hamlet	0478 772 418
Newsletter Editor	Jenny Wooding	0447 091 532			

From the Editor

Something of interest to note – Garry and I travelled to Brisbane for the weekend. After collecting our luggage from the carousel, we bumped into none other than Dan McKinlay. He was looking good and it was great to be able to have a brief catch up with him.

Some good walks on offer again this month although the wet season seems to have arrived very late so any necessary cancellations or changes will be published on the club Facebook page. The Easter car camp is looking to be in doubt due to recent rains but the hardy backpackers are still up for it.

Have a great month everyone.

Items for the next newsletter should
be sent to
jennywooding@dodo.com.au
prior to 24th April

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,
Rocks, creeks, rockhopping, scrambling
8-10 = Bush as above + thick scrub, major rock
Scrambling using hands, technical

Terrain

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 from Julie before undertaking your walk.

Please contact the leader to nominate for all walks

Sunday 8th April

This walk will be advertised on the club Facebook page

Stockyard Creek from Peakdowns Hwy Sunday 15th April

Leader: Kate Brunner Ph: 49588436 or
katcalen@hotmail.com

Depart: 7.00am

Journey: approximately 140kms return, \$14

Terrain: Creek edge, some rock-hopping, some sand, creek crossings.

Expect: Rock formations, uneven terrain, hopefully swimming holes.

This will be an exploratory walk for me. Some people in the club have accessed or exited Stockyard creek this way before. I have only been there from downstream and the area from the hwy to the pools in the rocks are unknown to me.

I hope we can check out that section of the creek and reach a beautiful large swimming hole lower down. And possibly find interesting new sights and surprises... We will decide how far we go on the day.

**Induction 6.30pm/ General Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday 18th April**

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

**Lambert's Beach and Slade Point Reserve
Sunday 22nd April**

Leader : Carole Weekes (49546108) Departure: 8 am!!!!

Journey : N/A

Grade : M34

Assembly : Lambert's Lookout car park (see map 21 in phone book)!!!!!!!!!!!!

Estimated walking time: 6 hrs **Total of all uphill sections :** 50 m **Pace:** comfortable **Terrain and vegetation:** sand, formed tracks, grassy sections, open forest and scrub **Expect:** variety of bird life, reptiles, insects and botanical specimens, wetlands, and both shady and exposed area.

This will be an easy walk but quite a bit of distance will be covered. The plan is to commence with a climb up Lambert's Lookout, followed by a stretch along Lambert's Beach to the Harbour. We will then return to Pacific Esplanade to access the Slade Point Reserve tracks which will take us to the amphitheatre, the wetlands, and Fern Valley. I am confident that I have selected a day with suitable tide heights, so we won't have to fight our way through the scrub to escape being inundated as we did last year.

If there has been rain around, Fern Valley will be mosquito central, so come prepared. Also, I will be arriving back in Mackay late Tuesday 17th April, so please book to join me on the walk from Wednesday onwards.

PLEASE NOTE THE DIFFERENT STARTING TIME AND ASSEMBLY POINT.

**Dalrymple Creek
Sunday 29th April**

Leader: Ian Burgess (Mob. 0428 875 991)

Depart: 7:00am

Journey: 120km \$12.00

Map Ref: Mirani 773728

Grade M75

Estimated walking time: 5 hours **Total of all uphill sections:** 120m **Pace:** average **Terrain:** very uneven terrain **Vegetation:** rain forest **Expect:** mostly rock hopping, swimming holes, difficult creek crossings.

The starting point for this walk is at the end of Argents Road, Mt Charlton. The creek flows through rain forest. The main waterfall should be reached by lunch time. The best spots to swim will be at morning smoko and lunch spot again on the way back just before reaching the cars. Medium rock hopping and water crossings are the order of the day. Wet weather shoes should be considered as there will be a lot of walking in water.

Bring spare cloths to change into after the walk, food and water for the day

To register for the walk please [ring](#) me no later than 12.00 noon Saturday.

**South Molle Camp
Saturday 5th – Monday 7th May**

Leader: Jenny Wooding 49440236 0447091532

Journey: 320kms \$32.00

Return Boat Trip: \$65

Camp Fees: \$12.70

A camp in Paradise – 2 nights on South Molle Island! It will be a casual camp and will include walks both on and off track and provide stunning views of the Whitsundays.

The boat fee includes water supplies but walkers will need to bring all food and cooking gear.

We will catch a boat at 12:30 on Saturday from Shute Harbour to take us over to the island and Monday morning we will be collected at 7.30am. The boat times are determined by the tides. We will be camping at the Paddle Bay campground which I have fully booked. The cost will be shared evenly amongst campers. Please contact me early if you would like to join this camp. Campers will also need to share the cost of carpark fees with the drivers.

4 spots remain for this camp so if interested you need to contact me ASAP.

Previous Activities

Eungella Track Sunday March 4th



Thank you to the 16 wonderful folk who joined me on my first walk as leader. Thankfully it's a bit hard to go wrong along a graded walking track with perfect weather conditions. Even the leaches weren't the attacking force I expected although some of us did get the odd close encounter with the little blood suckers.

Our walk was a return walk to Broken River from Eungella, about 16km in total. We kept a good pace to Sky Window lookout where the view was a bit hazy after a week of rain. I pulled out my selfie stick and captured the moment as only a selfie stick can. After morning tea, we separated into two groups, one heading on to

Broken River and the other exploring the surrounds.

We lunched at Broken River, with some of us braving the murky fresh for a cooling swim. Our groups rejoined at the Sky Window picnic grounds where we shared stories of interesting fungi and feral pigs. The fungi stalkers had been rewarded with some fine photos of colourful specimens.

To end a lovely day, we coffeed at The Chalet. They don't grow coffee at Eungella so I think they had to send out for beans, luckily the same can't be said for potato wedges and Daphne saved the day with enough wedges to forestall the famine until the coffees arrived. Photo credits to Garry and Penny.

Donna



One of the Pioneer Peaks in lieu of Owens Creek Sunday 11th March

Due to a lot of rain in the catchment area the Owens Creek walk had to be cancelled.

An Impromptu walk up one of the Pioneer Peaks was enjoyed by 14 people on that Sunday instead.

Lovers of fungi had a most enjoyable time photographing the different fungi not often seen on other walks.

Frances

