



The Message Stick

October 2017

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

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

Email: mackay.bushwalkers@gmail.com

Future Events

Blacks Creek.....	8th October
Rock Arch.....	15th October
General Meeting.....	18th October
Teemdeavour.....	22nd October
West Hill Island.....	28th & 29th October
Christmas Break Up Camp.....	25th & 26th November



Walkers resting on the way to Lost Rock

Club Officers

President	Clive Goodson	4954 9338	Contact Officer	Coral Morgan	49578474
Vice President	Carole Weekes	4954 6108	Walks Coordinator	Coral Morgan	49578474
Secretary	Bryan Marshall	4954 3209	Assist Walks Coordinator	Frances Eiteneuer.	49576028
Treasurer	Julie Vella	4955 3093	Newsletter Editor	Jenny Wooding	49440236
Safety Officer	Charles Hamlet	0478772418	Publicity Officer	Charles Hamlet	0478772418
Equipment Officer	Garry Hendicott	49440236			

From the Editor

It was great to see 13 people attending the car based camp for walks to Migaloo and Lost Rock. I still have not made it to either of these destinations but hopefully next time.
October's walks calendar has good variety on offer so hopefully we will see lots of walkers out having fun in the bush. Remember to keep sending me write ups and photos to keep the newsletter interesting.
Have a great month everyone.

**Items for the next newsletter should
be sent to
jennywooding@dodo.com.au
prior to 25th 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,
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 Garry before undertaking your walk.

Please contact the leader to nominate for all walks

Blacks Creek Sunday 8 October

Leader: Frances Eiteneuer 49576028
Depart: 7:00am
Journey: 130kms \$13.00
Map Ref: Mirani 901423
Grade: M55

Estimated walking time: 5 -6 hours **Total of all uphill sections:** 10 m **Pace:** average - slow. **Terrain:** uneven, rocky and soft sand creek bed. **Vegetation:** some open rain forest, scratchy

vines. **Expect:** walking along creek bank and through scrub, some walking in soft sand and rocky creek bed, some minor scrambling,

This will be a relatively easy walk along the banks of the picturesque Blacks Creek. Be prepared for a bit of adventure thanks to Cyclone Debbie. There should be plenty of opportunities for swimming.

You will need to bring water for the whole day.

**The Rock Arch – Cape Hillsborough
Sunday 15 October 2017**

Leader: Penny McMahon 49 514287 or e-mail penny_mackay@msn.com

Deaprt: 7.00am

Journey: 90km \$9

Map Ref: Cumberland Islands 127850

Grade: S45

Estimated walking time: 4 hours **Total of all**

uphill sections: almost nil, **Pace:** Average,

Terrain: Initially along National park track, beach, rocky foreshore sections, boulders, some sharp rocks – gloves advisable. **Expect:** Some rockhopping, some sharp rocks,. Possibly hot with not much shade in some sections. Bring plenty of water as there is none available along the walk. Great views.

We will commence the walk along the National parks Track at Hidden Valley, then make our way to the “beach” (rocky foreshore). The tide should be low enough for us to get around the headland without wet feet. We will inspect an impressive sea cavern which affords great views & hopefully we may spot some turtles. We will then continue along the foreshore around some more headlands to another impressive feature – the Rock Arch. We will have lunch here. There will be time to beachcomb along the way & who knows what treasures we may find! We may also check out a rock ledge along the way. Don't forget – slip, slop, slap!

**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 Ian

**Teemdeavour Loop
Sunday 22nd October**

Leader: Garry Hendicott 49440236 or Jenny 0447091532

Depart: 6am

Journey: 160km \$16

Map Ref: Mirani 749 517

Grade: L56

Walking Time: 7 hours **Total of uphill:** 300m

Terrain: Creek banks, rocks, long grass **Expect:** Cow pads, fairly easy creek bank walking, some rock hopping, short steep scrambles, bush bashing, swimming.

This is an interesting combination of the old favourite Teemburra and Endeavour Creek walks forming a loop covering various terrain types. We will start at Captain's Crossing and head upstream towards Teemburra Dam (instead of the usual downstream). A fairly leisurely stroll up Teemburra will bring us to the junction with Endeavour Creek (3.3km). We will then divert into Endeavour Creek and follow it upstream to a small waterhole (2.2km). From here we will “scramble” (hands and knees) up a short but steep grassy gully to pick up the road (300m). Once on the road we will travel north (2.2km). Leaving the road we will bush bash on a compass bearing (106.8°) to pick up a ridge and eventually reach an interesting waterfall in Horse Creek looking down upon the “Big Waterhole” (1.4km). There will be another “scramble” down to the waterhole. The aim is to be at the waterhole for a slightly late but extended lunch with copious swimming and frolicking. The final leg will be north up Teemburra back to the cars (2.7km with some rock hopping). All up we will be covering around 13km's so although not overly difficult, it is a long day, hence the early 6am start, you will be glad of the swim at the big waterhole by the time you get there.

**West Hill Island
28th and 29th October**

Leader: Coral Morgan 49578474

Depart: TBA

Car Contribution: \$18

Map Ref: Carmilla 508 840 (Edge of salt-pan)
548 847 (causeway)

We will be parking at the edge of a salt-pan. The last 1.5km of the car journey will require 4WD vehicles. The date chosen is preceded by low high tides, so if the weather has been fine it will be easy to walk across the salt-pan along a vehicular track of approx. 5kms to the mouth of the creek. Crossing the causeway involves walking through shallow water across a rocky area, so it is recommended to carry suitable footwear.

The first day will involve walking to the island, setting up camp and doing some exploratory walks on the island. There is no water on the island so all will need to be carried across. On Sunday those who wish will be able to circumnavigate the island.

Please phone Coral no later than Wednesday 25th to register for this camp.

**Christmas Camp
Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November**

This is just early notification to keep the weekend free. The camp this year will be held at Rowallen

Park, just to the north of Mackay. There are lots of walking tracks for us to explore and there will be a choice of staying in dorms or camping. More details will be in the next newsletter.

Previous Activities

**Car Based Camp
9th, 10th and 11th September**

Thirteen members participated in a 4WD car based camp at “Break O’Day” in the Credition State Forest. The route to this area was in relatively good condition due to recent dry weather, and thanks to the clearing done National Parks since Cyclone Debbie.

We reached our destination and set out for the “mystery walk” at 11:30am. In retrospect, it would have been better to leave town at break o’day.



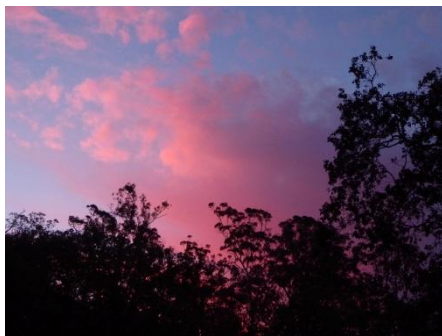
The group followed a disused road and then down a ridge to drop into an upper tributary of Station Creek. Further downstream and voilà, we reached the top of an impressive waterfall. There was only a trickle of water but the feature appears like a small white whale on Google Maps. Hence it has been dubbed MIGALOO.

Our next challenge is to figure out a route to the base.



We drove a few kms back to the camp site just in time to set up before dark. You could not ask for a better base camp site – expansive level cleared area. We decided to forgo a campfire due to the dry conditions.

**Day break
At
“Break O’Day”
Campsite**



Day 2

This was a more demanding walk to Lost Rock, led by Garry and only 9 walkers of the party participated. The pictures will speak for themselves for this walk.



Day 3



Some of us who had Monday free stayed an extra night. We did some more exploring over towards Mt Brydon and on the way home checked out the "Big 4" caravan park. That's the name we coined for Campman's old camp. Also we checked out an interesting bridge known as Clem's Folly, built in 1988 and collapsed in the first wet season. We called in

at Plevna Rain Gauge Lookout but we didn't find Kevin's lost money.

Thanks to all camp participants for your company and enthusiasm.

Coral

