



The Message Stick

February 2020

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

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

Email: mackay.bushwalkers@gmail.com

Future Events

Blacks Beach Social Walk.....	9 th February
General Meeting.....	19 th February
The Junction.....	16 th February
The Diggins/Bucks Creek Loop.....	23 rd February



Walkers preparing to swim on our first walk for 2020

Club Officers

President	Peter Bennett	0427383732	Contact Officer	Donna Burgess	0488 787 953
Vice President	Daphne Goodson	0417706240			
Secretary	TBA				
Treasurer	TBA		Equipment Officer	Donna Burgess	0488 787 953
Newsletter Editor	Jenny Wooding	0447 091 532	Membership Secretary	Wendy Bennett	0429363929

From the Editor

A huge thank you to our 2 new committee members! We welcome Mari Simmonds and Julie Ward who have put their hands up for the Treasurer and Secretary positions and we will endorse them at the next meeting. Well done to Daphne for organising the 2019 Christmas camp. It's a big job to arrange the venue and catering but Daphne did it to perfection and all who attended had a great time. Just a heads up that this time of the year the weather can be unpredictable and walks may need to be cancelled at short notice. Any changes or cancellations will be posted on the Club Facebook page. Please don't be shy about leading a walk and we would love to see some new leaders come forward. Our first walk of the year had a great turnout of 20 participants. Let's keep the enthusiasm up!

**Items for the next newsletter should
be sent to
Jenny.e.wooding@gmail.com
prior to 24th February**

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

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.

**Black's Beach Social afternoon
Sunday 9th February**

Leaders: Clive & Daphne Goodson 0417706240, 4954 9338,

Depart: 3.00pm from Black's Beach picnic Area, Bourke St.

Grade: M32

Estimated walking time: 2 hours **Total of all uphill sections:** 5m **Pace:** medium **Terrain:** beach sand and sandy track **Expect:** sun, mosquitoes, views of Islands & Slade Point, migratory shore birds, attractive coastal scrub.

This is a social activity, being a BYO BBQ at the Blacks Beach picnic area, (Northern end of Bourke Street) with a short walk beforehand to stimulate the appetite. We will walk south from the picnic area along the beach, through remnant beach scrub to the mouth of McReady Creek, returning along the beach.(8km) There is a lookout at the picnic area that is well worth the climb (stairs).

Partners and friends are welcome to attend. Non walkers have the option of arriving for the BBQ around 5pm, or having a relaxing afternoon at the picnic area.

Please bring sunscreen, insect repellent, hat & suitable footwear, BBQ food and chairs.

**Induction 6.30pm General Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday 19th February**

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

Induction by Clive and Daphne

**The Junction
Sunday 16th February**

Leader: Jenny Wooding 0447091532

Depart: 7am

Journey: 140km \$14

Map Ref: Mirani 695708

Grade: M87

Walking Time: 6 hours **Total of uphill:** 550m
Terrain: Rugged Rainforest **Expect:** Steep climbs and scrambles, serious rock hopping and creek crossings, wait-a-while, leeches and good swimming holes.

We refer to the spot above the Wheel of Fire on Finch Hatton Creek where the "left hand branch" comes in as "the Junction". A steep climb up the hill off track is necessary to access this impressive spot. We will spend some time swimming/exploring before rock hopping on to Dooloomai Falls and then returning via the same route.

**Diggings-Buck Creek Loop
Saturday (please note change of day) 22
February**

Leader: Donna Burgess 0488 787 953

Co-Leader: Ian Burgess

Depart: 7am

Journey: 180km \$18

Map Ref: Hillalong 8555 55k 652920E 7657415N AGD66

Grade: S54

Walking Time: 4 to 5 hours **Total of uphill:** 70m **Pace:** Average **Terrain:** Creek banks, rocky sections, minor lantana, one small hill **Expect:** fairly easy creek bank walking, some minor rock hopping, a short bush bash and opportunities for swimming.

This will be a relatively easy walk suitable for all. We will travel down Diggings Road from Eungella, to the Diggings camp ground. Our main destination for the day will be the Waterfall and Washtub about 1.4 km's downstream, where we will spend some time relaxing and exploring this pretty area. We will return by a detour up Buck Creek to another small waterfall and from there a short climb back up to Diggings Road. This walk will be subject to the weather as too much rain will make the road unsustainable for regular vehicles.

We will also have a Pinnacle Pub return stop, for those wanting a cold beverage and perhaps a pie.

NB: This is a Saturday walk.