



The Message Stick

November 2017

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

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

Email: mackay.bushwalkers@gmail.com

Future Events

Western Trail.....	5 th November
Mick Ready Creek.....	12 th November
Annual General Meeting.....	15 th November
The Leap.....	19 th November
Christmas Break Up Camp.....	25 th & 26 th November

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 15th November

Yes – It's that time of the year again when all committee positions are declared vacant and we vote in a new committee to oversee the club for the following year.

Please show your support for the club by coming to this important meeting and consider taking on a club position. Most positions do not require a large time commitment and new faces are always welcome at our meetings.

Remember no committee, no club



Walkers working their way around the rocky shore line to the arch 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	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

Once again a reminder of the AGM in November! Please come along to support the club.

Details of the Christmas camp are included in this newsletter. It is always a lot of fun and it is great we are trying a different venue this year. Rowallan Park has plenty of walking tracks so it should be a great place to socialise and stretch the legs at the same time. Thanks to Daphne and Clive for coordinating it and organising the BBQ dinner. Thanks for the photos to all those who have sent them in. I have had plenty to choose from this newsletter

Happy walking everyone!

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

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

Western Trail

Sunday 5th November

Leader: Carole Weekes 4954 6108

Depart: 7am

Journey: 200km \$20

Grade: M43

This walk will take place on the Western Trail of Mt Dalrymple. The walk will be into the first creek crossing which is also known as Pretty Creek. Once at the creek the decision will be made to either follow it upstream for a short distance to a waterfall and swimming hole. If walkers are more

energetic, the creek will be crossed and the trail followed up to the top of the ridge. The walk will be through some pristine rainforest.

Mick Ready Beach Sunday 12th November

Leader: Coral Morgan 49578474

Depart: 7am

Journey: 70 km \$7.00

Grade: M

We will start walking along a road for 1km to the beach, then along a 4 wheel track. We plan to get as far as Breen Creek and cross Salonika Beach tide permitting.

Our return trip will be along the Beach and Rocky Headland.

This walk is suitable for new comers.

For more information contact Coral.

**Induction 6.30pm/ Annual General Meeting
7.30pm**

Wednesday 15th November

Downstairs room, Mackay Family Care and Community Support Association Centre 60 Wellington Street, Mackay. All committee positions will be declared vacant and a new committee voted in. Please come along and support the club. Newcomers and visitors welcome. Induction by Bryan and Ian

**The Leap
Sunday 19 November**

Leader: Frances Eiteneuer 49576028
Depart: 7:00am
Journey: 50km \$5.00
Map Ref: Mirani 635310
Grade: S86

Estimated walking time: 5-6 hours **Total of all uphill sections:** 230m **Pace:** average to slow **Terrain:** very uneven **Vegetation:** grass trees, long grass at the top – hopefully no lantana **Expect:** rockhopping, scrambles, some steep climbs and loose rocks

This walk will commence at the edge of the

national park at the end of the road from The Leap Hotel . We will follow a creek bed and then walk along the foot of the cliffs and up to the top. We should enjoy some great views of Mackay and the surrounding countryside. Suitable for reasonably fit beginners.

You will need to carry water for the whole day.

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

Coordinator: Daphne Goodson 4954 9338
0417706240

The Christmas Camp this year will take place at Rowallan Park. Directions of how to get there will be on the bottom of this newsletter. The Park has great facilities and walkers may choose whether to stay in the bunk houses, put up their tent or visit daily. If choosing to stay in the bunk house mattresses are provided but you will need to bring your own pillow and bedding.

Walkers can arrive at the camp anytime from early afternoon on Saturday. The park has several walking tracks so we will organise an afternoon walk.

For the weekend, the club will pay all costs for camping, staying in the bunkhouse or coming out just for the day. A BBQ dinner will also be provided at no cost. We do ask all participants to bring a plate of nibbles to share and to provide their own breakfast.

Partners and friends are also welcome to attend.

Please notify Daphne by Wednesday 22nd of November if you intend coming along.

Previous Activities

**Gooseponds.
24th September, 2017**



What a great walk! No slippery rocks! No scary, scambly, steep slopes! No scratchy lantana! No stinging moonlighter! No snakes! Not even the geese were interested in chasing us!

Ten of us spent the morning strolling and chatting along the paths (12 kilometres worth) looking at and taking photos of the numerous types of ducks, geese, water fowl, pelicans and heaps more birds that I don't know the names of. It was dry – the last two times I walked in this area it was raining (first time) and flooding (second time). This time we actually got to the end of the line/path.



We had a snack in the shaded playground sitting on the playground equipment. Some walkers were forced to move when a little girl arrived to play!

Toileting was a bit of a problem. We didn't feel that we could really duck behind a bush or a tree.



Lunch? Hot, cooked by someone else, on plates that were washed up for us, at a table and sitting on chairs, in the air-conditioning and delicious to boot! Can recommend the North Mackay Bowls Club.

Thanks to Edie for organizing this walk. It really was fun!

Therese

Black's Creek Sunday 8th October



Eleven members joined Frances for a hot, humid walk up Blacks Creek. We left the cars in the Pinevale area and then headed up the wide sandy river bed. It wasn't long before we ventured up the creek in the shade.

A number of butterflies were noted including the Ulysses. Very dry leaves and vines were in the undergrowth and the remnants of trees fallen down from the most recent cyclone. Some of these trees were extremely large and high above our heads. The river bank had badly eroded in a number of places.

Wildlife, in the form of a huge bull, stopped 3 of us dead on the track as it took a look at us and thankfully bolted in the opposite direction. Soon we arrived at the largest Fig tree I have seen on any of my walks. A photo stop was appropriate and a break for morning tea. No tree kangaroos to be seen this walk but a large, arched tree for more photos.



Continuing in the shade we found another good rest stop for lunch and a few of us enjoyed a refreshing time in the water. A river crossing came next. Frances was noted to have crossed in her new boots and got them wet.

The river bed was now very stony. Some interesting trees were spotted on this side of



the creek, one with a goanna up its trunk, which everyone admired. Birds were sighted along the banks. 2 Azure Kingfishers held our attention and Garry managed to photo them.

Thank you Frances for leading us on this walk. Most of us arrived back at the cars knowing we had had a strenuous walk and were ready for a rest.

Elaine.



Rock Arch Sunday 15th October



14 members enjoyed a walk to the Rock Arch at Cape Hillsborough on Sunday 15 October. We commenced along the Happy Valley pathway before heading down to the rocky foreshore. I misjudged the tide, which meant that we had an early morning tea on the rocks waiting for the tide to recede enough to enable us to get around the first headland. This wait did also enable several of the group to explore some small sea caverns which I had not explored before. Once the tide had receded sufficiently we were able to climb up into the large sea cavern. This cavern has several openings and many photographs were taken of the views stretching from Belmunda, Habana, Shoal Point and Keswick & St Bees Islands. We then continued on, mostly over rocks large and small, around several more headlands until the Rock Arch came into view. It is a stunning sight and we were eager to reach it and explore around it. That done, we then rock slope and up to a ridge for lunch. Views from here were even more stunning, and included part of Wedge Island, Carlisle and Brampton as well as Keswick and St Bees Islands. However this ridge has very little tree cover so we did not linger too long over lunch. We were fortunate enough to spot turtles and some dolphins from the lunch area. On the return, several of us decided to climb on top of the arch, which gave us a sense of achievement, excitement and a different perspective on the area. A good day was completed by some with some well earned drinks & ice-cream at the Resort.

Islands. We then continued on, mostly over rocks large and small, around several more headlands until the Rock Arch came into view. It is a stunning sight and we were eager to reach it and explore around it. That done, we then rock slope and up to a ridge for lunch. Views from here were even more stunning, and included part of Wedge Island, Carlisle and Brampton as well as Keswick and St Bees Islands. However this ridge has very little tree cover so



we did not linger too long over lunch. We were fortunate enough to spot turtles and some dolphins from the lunch area. On the return, several of us decided to climb on top of the arch, which gave us a sense of achievement, excitement and a different perspective on the area. A good day was completed by some with some well earned drinks & ice-cream at the Resort.



Penny

Rowallan Park
Glendaragh Rd, Farleigh QLD 4741

More information and maps can be found on Rowallan Park's website

