



The Message Stick

September 2019

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

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

Email: mackay.bushwalkers@gmail.com

Future Events

Paradise Falls.....	8 th September
Pretty Creek and Micro Gorges.....	15 th September
General Meeting.....	18 th September
Freshwater Point.....	22 nd September
Diggings Loop Walk.....	29 th September
Eungella Dam Camp.....	26 th & 27 th October



*Walkers on top of Mt Dalrymple
Thanks to Julie for taking the photo!*

Club Officers

President	Clive Goodson	4954 9338	Contact Officer	Donna Burgess	0488 787 953
Vice President	Garry Hendicott	4944 0236	Walks Coordinator	Coral Morgan	4957 8474
Secretary	Donna Burgess	0488 787 953	Assis Walks Coordinator	Peter Bennett	0427383732
Treasurer	Ian Burgess	0428 875 991	Equipment Officer	Garry Hendicott	4944 0236
Newsletter Editor	Jenny Wooding	0447 091 532			

From the Editor

No walk has been scheduled for this Sunday 1st September. If you would like to put your hand up to lead one, please let me know and I will put it on the Club Facebook Page.
Have a great month everyone.

Items for the next newsletter should
be sent to
jennywooding@dodo.com.au
prior to 25th September

Key to Walks Grading System

Distance	Terrain	Difficulty
S = short – under 5km	1-3 = Graded or open terrain, no scrub	1-3 = Easy, suitable for beginners
M = medium – 5-10km	4-7 = Bush, minor scrub, rainforest, Rocks, creeks, rockhopping, scrambling	4-7 = Medium, reasonable fitness required
L = long – over 10km	8-10 = Bush as above + thick scrub, major rock Scrambling using hands, technical	8-10 = Hard, strenuous, fit walkers only

Future Events

All trip leaders please ensure you collect the club gear bag before undertaking your walk.

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

Paradise Falls

Sunday 8th September

Leader: Ken Fihelly 0427 718282

Depart: 7:00 am

Journey: 100km \$10

Map Ref: UTM 55K 711840E 7687260N GDA94

Grade: M66

Estimated walking time: 7 hours **Total of all**

uphill sections: 300m **Pace:** average. **Terrain:**

very uneven underfoot, creek, and beach.

Vegetation: rainforest **Expect:** off track, some rockhopping, some steep slopes.

Paradise Falls is on the north-east side of Cape Hillsborough. There will probably be no water coming over the falls, but it is a pretty area. I would like to try to get to the top of the falls, and perhaps beyond, if time and conditions allow. I haven't done this walk before, and I will be following a gps track. There is a low tide at about 1:30pm, so we should be able to walk back along the beach.

**Lineel Falls/Pretty Creek Loop.
Sunday 15th September**

Leader: Garry Hendicott 49440236 0447091532

Depart: 7.00am

Journey: 200km \$20

Grade: M75

Map Ref: Mirani 669 731

Estimated walking time: 5 hours **Total of all**

uphill sections: 100m **Pace:** medium

Terrain: Rainforest, rockhopping, some

scrambling, creek crossings. **Expect:** Nice

swimming holes and some steep off track bashing.

This walk begins on the Western trail to Mt

Dalrymple before we will head off on a ridge down

to the junction of Pretty Creek and the upper

reaches of Cattle creek. We will explore a little way

downstream where there are some spectacular

swimming holes. We will then head back to the

junction and diverge 150m or so upstream to visit

Lineel Falls. From here we will travel 800m back

up Pretty Creek via some small waterfalls and

micro gorges to where we will rejoin the western

trail to return to the cars. The creek is quite

spectacular in this section with some short difficult

sections requiring use of all four limbs.

This walk is weather dependent and will not go

ahead if there has been heavy rain in the days

beforehand or forecast for the actual day.

**Induction 6.30pm/ General Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday 21st September**

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

Induction by Clive and Daphne

**Freshwater Point
Sunday 22 September**

Leader: Penny McMahon 49514287

penny_mackay@msn.com

Depart : 8am

Journey: 100km \$10

Grade: S44

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

uphill sections: Not much

Pace: Average

Terrain: some, beach, some rough tracks, some

rocks.

Vegetation: Could be long grass, open sunny
sections.

Expect: Sandflies. Great views. This should be
a relatively easy day with some beach walking
(sand and rocks), some rough tracks, possibly long
grass & not much shade. If the weather is hot
bring plenty of water and do the Slip, slop, Slap.
There is a very short but steep climb up to a
lookout with views south to Mt Funnel and this is
well worth the effort. If there has been rain, the
tracks could be muddy. This walk is suitable for
beginners. **Note the later start time.**

**Diggings Loop Walk
Sunday 29 September 2019**

Leader: Donna Burgess - 0488 787 953

Depart: 7am, Alfred Street

Journey: 180km \$18.00

Grade: L47

Estimated Walking Time: 5 Hrs **Some uphill**

sections Pace: Medium **Terrain:** Firebreak/old

logging track, unsealed & sealed road **Vegetation:**

Rainforest, open farmland **Expect:** Leeches,

snakes, lantana, long grass, hot sun and humidity

or fog and cool conditions

Our walk will start from the Broken River car park
and head up the sealed road towards Eungella
Dam. We turn off after a short uphill section and
head along a firebreak which will take us through
to the Diggings Road; the firebreak section could
have long grass, lantana and could even be boggy
depending on recent rainfall. Once we arrive at the
Diggings campsite on Broken River we'll have
lunch and perhaps a swim. From Broken River
Diggings campsite we'll be walking along the
unsealed road again until we meet the Eungella
Dam road, which we'll follow back to the Broken
River car park for a much deserved coffee. Even
at this time of the year the sun may be hot and
there may be little shade, so ensure you have a
hat and lots of water. This is not a typical bushwalk
with lots of road walking however a reasonable
level of fitness is required due to the distance.
Total distance is about 15km.

**Eungella Dam Camp
26th and 27th October 2019**

Leader: Donna Burgess – 0488 787 953,

Co-Leader: Ian Burgess

More information will be available in the October newsletter. This will be a car based camp with two new walks for the club. Saturday afternoon will involve a walk up a nearby hill with expansive

views across the 'Turkey Run' and Sunday we'll hike down to and across Broken River to eventually arrive on a rock feature with view back to Eungella Dam. Sunday will be a full day walk.

Previous Activities

Back of Finch Hatton Sunday 21 July 2019



Recently we walked up Mt Pinnacle and from there we could look across to the rocks which formed the lunch spot and final destination for our Back of Finch Hatton walk. We had a big group of walkers who were keen for a short sharp walk which started from the water tanks on the terrace in Finch Hatton. After the fires in late 2018 and the rain that followed, the grass cover was fierce, thick with para grass that seemed to last well beyond its normal

range, it tangled our legs and was tough to push through for those up front, thanks to Garry and Ken who shared the fatigue.

Morning tea was on top of a nice set of rocks overlooking Finch Hatton with views across to Mt Dalrymple. Some of us were feeling the effects of the steep ascent and thick grass so the pace slowed for a number of the group who lunched short of our final destination. For those who continued to the lunch rocks, we had great views across to Mt Pinnacle, south to Teemburra Dam and down the Pioneer Valley. For our members, check out our FaceBook site for an interesting perspective of our lunch spot.

Slow and steady on the way down meant we had plenty of time to enjoy the birdlife, Julie and Kate have a wealth of knowledge and it was interesting to gather around and speculate on nests, calls and plumage of some of our native birds, maybe the light smattering of rain made them keen to be out and about.

Once we were all down and back to the cars it was time to head to the Pinnacle Pub for a pie as promised. A big thank you to Jenny and Garry for co-leading, their help was invaluable.

Thanks
Donna

Mt Funnel Sunday 4th August

Mt Funnel is a distinctive mountain south of Sarina in the Cape Palmerston National Park. It consists of conglomerate and coarse sandstone formed from freshwater sediments that were deposited by more recent volcanic activity. Mt Funnel has been protected from erosion by a hard sandstone cap. Ten of us left from near the entrance to the National Park, east of Mt Funnel, and battled our way through thick bush, long grass, grasstrees, fallen trees and rough terrain, to reach the base of the



cliffs surrounding the mountain. We enjoyed spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean, islands, and the coastline, as well as views to the Connor range to the west. We circled the mountain at the base of the cliffs, and found the route that some use to climb to the top. There was a short piece of rope and an old sling lying on the ground nearby. Obviously, the rope to climb up was not in place. We decided not to attempt the potentially dangerous climb, and continued around the base of the cliffs. We retraced our route back to the cars. Thanks Garry, for your gps track and advice on the route, and Peter for leading the way back.

Ken

Mt Britton Sunday 11th August



The 4WD track from Mt Adder Rd to the old cattle yards was in good condition, with some long grass on it. Eight of us set off for The Arch, with some long grass and rocky slopes to contend with. The Arch was a good place for morning tea, and photos. Then we headed up the steep slope, and around the base of the higher cliffs to a steep rocky slope that took us to the ridge that leads to the top. There is an exposed scramble up a rock there, and a hand rope was used by some. We followed the ridge up, with some more rock scrambling and finding bypasses around one or two knolls. There are some great views of the southern cliffs of Mt

Britton and Mt Fort Cooper from this ridge. Then the ridge became less steep, but scrubby, which slowed us down a bit. Eventually we made it to the first peak, and across the saddle to the main peak, at 727m, which provided spectacular views to Sydney Heads, The Marling Spikes, and views to the west. We made our way back to the saddle, then found a different ridge that took us down on the north side of the main gully. There are some great views from this ridge, including of a large hole in one of the cliffs. At the bottom of the ridge, we crossed the gully, and were confronted with thick long grass. We had to push through this to get back to the cars. Thanks Charles and Tony for your help.



Ken

Mt Dalrymple Sunday 18th August

10 walkers set off bright and early on a clear Sunday morning to conquer Mt Dalrymple. Walking conditions were near perfect with the cool and dry day. Due to the dry conditions the leeches stayed in bed and only 1 or 2 were sighted for the entire day.

We made good time to the top, easily traversing all the ups and downs along the way. The creeks were flowing nicely but we were able to cross without too much bother.

Once on top we had a leisurely lunch and many photos were taken with the views being expansive.



The afternoon walk back was pleasant and we made it back to the cars in good time. Thanks to all those who participated in the walk and to Deb, co-leader for the day who did a good job of keeping me on the track.

Jenny

Creek to Creek Sunday, 25 August 2019



An ideal day for the Creek to Creek walk on Sunday 24 August, with 11 keen walkers meeting at the Eimeo Creek boat ramp car park at Bucasia. From there we had a leisurely walk along the path through the Bucasia reserve, then headed for the beach to do the rest of the walk on sand to Reliance Creek.

A large sea snake washed up on the beach caught the attention of some of us, with discussion about who was going to do the right thing and

get it back to the safety of the ocean, but when it started to move we decided it was big enough to look after itself.



After the customary photos at the Obrien Esplanade Lookout we had smoko at the Shoal Point park. The weather was perfect, and apart from the stunning views there was plenty to see including red tailed black cockatoos and soldier crabs, some brown on instead of the usual blue. It was sad to see to see how the mangrove forest had died.



Too early for lunch at Reliance Creek, so after briefly exploring the creek itself, we headed back to the Shoal Point park to eat, before walking back to Eimeo Creek along the beach, with a good breeze keeping us cool.

Photos by Jeanette
Daphne