



# The Message Stick

## April 2011

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

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### Future Events

Flaggy Rock.....	10 <sup>th</sup> April
Party Tricks Party.....	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Green Point Exploratory.....	17 <sup>th</sup> April
General Meeting.....	20 <sup>th</sup> April
South Molle Camp.....	30 <sup>th</sup> April – 2 <sup>nd</sup> May

### Party Time



15<sup>th</sup> April

#### Note from the Editor

Items for the next newsletter should be sent to [jennywooding@dodo.com.au](mailto:jennywooding@dodo.com.au) prior to 25<sup>th</sup> April

### Club Officers

President	Garry Hendicott	49440236	Contact Officer	Cheryl Brodie	49552895
Vice President	Clive Goodson	49549338	Walks Coordinator	Coral Morgan	49578474
Secretary	Kathy Cant	49522269	Assist Walks Coordinator	Frances Eiteneuer	49576028
Treasurer	Cheryl Brodie	49552895	Newsletter Editor	Jenny Wooding	49440236
Safety Officer	Daphne Goodson	49549338	Publicity Officer	Colin Hoy	49999047
Walks Equipment Officer	Dan McKinlay	49534249	Social Coordinator	Dan McKinlay	49534249

## *From the Editor*

*As promised this month's newsletter is a little late in being produced. I have just returned from 10 lovely days of weather to a very soggy Mackay where the rain has again played havoc on the walks calendar. It **must** improve soon!*

*I have been in Victoria with 4 other club members – Garry, Cheryl, Kathy and Fran. After a fun trip to Hanging Rock where we searched for Miranda with no success, we undertook a gruelling 5 day back pack through the Lerderderg Gorge. It was much tougher than we anticipated with an incredible amount of debris (whole trees and branches) which had been washed up in the gorge from the January floods and made progress slow and difficult at times. We also had some steep climbs and Kathy counted 26 “ups” in one day alone. The “downs” were treacherous at times. However the scenery was spectacular and it was a trip that we all thoroughly enjoyed. It proved to be an adventure in very rugged country. We then went onto the Grampians for another 3 days of walking and treated ourselves to cabins instead of our tents – just as well as the second morning was truly cold and proved difficult to get out of bed. Again the Grampians had sustained major flood damage with much of them being closed. However we still managed to wear ourselves out on some spectacular walks or should I say climbs.*

*Remember Dan's Party on April 15<sup>th</sup> – these parties are proving to be legendary for the fun and good times to be had by all who attend. New members welcome.*

## 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*

**Please contact the leader to nominate for all walks.**

### Flaggy Rock

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April (Weather Permitting)

**Leader:** Peter Bennett 4954 3428

**Depart:** 7:00am

**Journey:** 200km \$20.00

**Map Ref:** Carmilla 508665

**Grade:** S55

**Estimated walking time:** 4 hours **Total of all uphill sections:** **Pace:** slow - medium **Terrain:** uneven terrain **Vegetation:** open forest, long grass **Expect:** long grass, lantana, some steep slopes.

The west side of Flaggy Rock Bluff is a cliff face up to 80 metres high. We will walk around the base of the bluff to the south end, then climb to the top where we can overlook the ocean to the east, Mt Funnel to the north and hills to the west and south.

Insect repellent is a must and remember to bring enough water for the whole day.

This is a fairly easy walk for the adventurous.

### Party Tricks Party

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> April

**Where:** Dan's Place; Unit 1/8 Jubilee Street

**Why:** Because we love a good party

**Time:** 6:30 pm

Ok Party trick (only if you want). Sing a song, play an Instrument, tell a joke, do a dance, wear a funny hat. Whatever!

Bring a main dish or dessert. Phone Dan 0409057494 or 49534249 to confirm your attendance and what food you are bringing.

**Party will go ahead rain, hail or sleet. The weather will not dampen this event.**

**Newcomers welcome.**

**Guaranteed to be fun!**

**Green Point Exploratory  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April**

**Leader:** Denis Jeffery 49583394  
**Depart:** 7am  
**Journey:** 320km \$32.00  
**Map Ref:** Proserpine 855592  
**Grade:** M44

**Estimated Walking Time:** 5 hours **Total of all uphill sections:** 250m **Pace:** average  
**Terrain:** tracks, beach, rocks **Vegetation:** minor bush & scrub **Expect:** pebbly beach, sand, scenery

This should be a relatively easy walk in the Shute Harbour area. We will commence the walk at the Swamp Bay car park and walk up and over Mt. Rooper and down to Swamp Bay. From there we will head north along a pebbly beach to Green Point and possibly beyond. From our eventual destination we will retrace our steps down the beach and walk back to the cars on the Swamp Bay track. This walk will be either on track or beach, so even though it is exploratory, it should be suitable for most. The only real ascent is 220 metres to Mt. Rooper. The total distance should be approximately 10ks. Water will need to be carried for the day.

**Induction/General Meeting  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

Induction 6.45pm, General Meeting 7.30pm, downstairs room, Mackay Family Care and Community Support Association Centre 60 Wellington Street, Mackay.

Newcomers and visitors welcome

Induction to be conducted by Garry and Dan

**South Molle Island Camp  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Leader:** Jenny Wooding 49440236, 0447091532 after 5pm.

**Depart:** 4.30am

**Journey:** 320kms \$32.00

**Return Boat Trip:** \$65

**Camp Fees:** \$10.30

This will be a 2 night camp on South Molle Island. Saturday has a very early start as the boat trip needs to coincide with the high tide and we will need to return mid-morning on the Monday. The boat trip fee includes snorkel equipment and drinking water. This will be a casual camp where we will be able to walk all the tracks on the island and they provide stunning views over the Whitsundays. An evening walk up the cliff will provide lovely views of the sun setting over the mainland if the weather permits. We will also have time to snorkel off the beach where we will be camped and it has some really nice corals. Those who don't wish to snorkel can enjoy their time exploring the rocks around the beach. Campers will also need to share the cost of carparking fees with the drivers and should only be a few dollars each.

**PLEASE NOTIFY ME BY APRIL 20TH IF YOU INTEND ON COMING TO THE CAMP SO I CAN BOOK THE BOAT AND CAMP SITES.**

## *Previous Activities*

**Trivia Night  
25<sup>th</sup> February**

Once again Dan is to be heartily congratulated for hosting a fantastic Trivia Night. The air-conditioner in the room the Boomerang Hotel had set aside for us to use had packed it in that day. When Dan arrived, the staff had set us up in the main room with the other Hotel Patrons. Dan announced that would not do and as we were bush walkers and used to heat and discomfort, he quickly had us restored to the original room. Kaz was confused as to the Hotel name and rang us from the Kooyong wondering why no one else was there. She is to be congratulated for escaping in one piece to come and join us.

Dan had some warm up games to get us all in the mood for some fun and then the questions began in earnest. After being on the losing table at the previous Trivia Night, I decided to be proactive and import some brains to the table Garry and I were on. Alas even with the combined intelligence of Peter, Wendy and Edie we still came last. We had fun losing though and several times we initially had the correct answer, but, after some intelligent discussion, ended up changing it to the wrong one.

The competition was tight for first, second and third places and the lead changed several times and at the end two tables tied for first places. Unfortunately the table I was on had no serious competitors for last place.

Thanks Dan for a fabulous night.

### St Helens Creek 27<sup>th</sup> February

Photos by Agie Smith and Col Hoy



### Eimeo Creek to Reliance Creek, 27<sup>th</sup> March.

We woke up to heavy rain, but the radar image showed it clearing, so we headed off for the Eimeo to Reliance Creek walk. Dan decided not to come out with Col and Therese, others obviously changed their minds, but with overcast skies and a light breeze it was a perfect morning for a beach walk, and the three of us, Clive, Anne and I (some people prefer quality to quantity) enjoyed a brisk walk to Reliance creek and back, and as there were no delays for photos, the walk was finished by 1.

However, although the morning may have been perfect, the afternoon saw an abrupt change and we walked back along Bucasia Beach in driving, stinging rain – it is not every leader that organises leg and face acupuncture. It was obvious at this point that the others had made the right choice in not coming, and I am sure Anne was regretting not taking the option of finishing her walk at Shoal Point. But, right on cue, the rain eased off as we got back to the cars, so we were able to divest ourselves of our wet raincoats and shoes. Despite the rain, I enjoyed the walk, and hope the others did as well.

Daphne

A few pictures from Lerderderg Gorge and the Grampians.

