



# The Message Stick

## April 2020

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

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### Newsflash

After consulting with several committee members it has been decided to suspend all Mackay Bushwalking Club activities until further notice. We hope you all understand the need to follow government recommendations during this world health crisis. Stay well and we'll keep you updated.

From the President

Peter Bennett

### Leadership Day

At the last committee meeting we decided to hold a Leadership Day at Rowallan Park for all current and future leaders. The proposed day is intended to be a supportive day to give new leaders confidence and skills whilst supporting existing leaders. It will also be a fun day with lunch included.

Obviously we can't organise a date at this stage due to circumstances beyond our control but will keep you informed when things return to normal.

### Club Officers

President	Peter Bennett	0427383732	Contact Officer	Donna Burgess	0488 787 953
Vice President	Daphne Goodson	0417706240			
Secretary	Julie Ward	0403230545			
Treasurer	Mari Simmonds	0459835551			
Equipment Officer	Donna Burgess	0488 787 953			
Newsletter Editor	Jenny Wooding	0447 091 532	Membership Secretary	Wendy Bennett	0429363929

## *From the Editor*

It's sad that we have to postpone all club activities but we must follow the government directives. Hopefully it won't be too long until we are all back in the bush. In the meantime stay well and safe and I look forward to catching up again when this crisis is over.

## **Another Message from the President**

### **Attention to all Mackay Bushwalkers**

In order to participate in club activities, you must be a financial member of the Mackay Bushwalkers' Club Inc.

Our membership period is for 12 months from 1st July to 30th June each year. Membership must be renewed each year prior to 1st July. Completed membership application forms should be **posted** together with payment to: The Membership Secretary, Mackay Bushwalkers' Club Inc, PO Box 1313, Mackay Qld 4740. Alternatively you can pay via BSB: 064 707 Account: 10047598 using your name as Reference. You must still complete and return a membership form to the secretary with this option.

All memberships, including renewals, are processed and approved at our monthly meetings. If your membership renewal and fees have not been received by the July bushwalkers' meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> July you will not be eligible to participate in club activities until such fees have been paid and received, along with your completed form, and your membership has been approved at the following meeting.

This year, in order to make renewals easier for you, membership forms will be posted to you around the middle of May. If you do not receive your form by the end of May please contact the membership secretary or alternatively this form can be downloaded from <https://www.mackay.bwq.org.au/>

Thanks,

Peter Bennett

## *Previous Activities*

### **McBride's Lookout Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Eleven of us were lured by the blue sky and the sunshine, with two cars travelling from town and another four walkers joining us at Halliday Bay. The group was an interesting mix of newish members and old hands, with the usual almost 2:1 ratio of females to males.



First on the agenda was a walk along the beach to the northern end of Halliday to access the track out to the rocky outcrop. Activities here included turtle spotting, displays of agility on the rocks and much photography. On returning to the other end of the beach it was time for the track up to the lookout to be negotiated. The day was clear enough for the views of Ball Bay, Cape Hillsborough, the islands and bays to be stunning, and we all took up a position on the rocks at some stage. Morning tea was enjoyed at the base of the formation before the group set off along the taped trail to Ball Bay.



Penny then directed us to the remains of the whale she and Kate had previously discovered, and the bones and baleen were a point of interest to everyone. We were then lead over rocks and tracks through the scrub to a variety of lookout points in the direction of McBride's Point, and the turtle Peter spotted at Halliday Bay, or one of its friends, appeared in the water close by. Thanks Penny for offering to contribute this added extra which we all enjoyed.

Lunch was eaten in the comparative luxury of the camping ground, with shade, tables and benches on hand. A short stroll along the esplanade took us close to our point of entry to the wetlands, and a few serious puddles and a fair length of old track, flooded in places, directed us to the roads we needed to follow to return to the beach and our track back to the cars. We all took a break on the rocks at Ball Bay first, taking advantage of the shade and the cool breeze. It was then an easy trip along the track from one bay to the other and back to the vehicles, and even though the day was laid back, we did cover about 9.5 km all up.



Carole

