



THE TRUDGE

March 2022

Club meetings are on the first Monday of each month (excluding January)

7:00pm Refreshments for 7:30pm Meeting

Buderim Men's Shed

38 Advance Road, Kuluin

(If the first Monday falls on a holiday or long weekend the meeting is held the following Monday)

Scheduled activities are on <https://www.scbwc.com/activities>

Committee Members 2021-2022

President:	Rod Edwards	pres@scbwc.com
Vice President:	Sam Rowe	vp@scbwc.com
Secretary:	Stephen Hunter	sec@scbwc.com
Treasurer:	Pam Sanders	treas@scbwc.com
Walks Coordinator:	Linda Gregory	walk@scbwc.com
Membership Officer:	Lorri Carrol	enquiry@scbwc.com
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Non Committee Positions

Hire Equipment Officer:	Garry Carr	guznez6@gmail.com
Trudge Editor:	Stephen Hunter	trudge@scbwc.com
Abseiling Coordinator	Peter Fowler	grants@scbwc.com
Librarian:	Gerard Gallop	cooroora35@gmail.com

Email enquiry@scbwc.com if you are unsure of whom to contact. They will forward your query to the appropriate individual.

Please send walk reports and photographs to trudge@scbwc.com

Members should email enquiry@scbwc.com if they are not receiving general email communications from the SCBWC.

If you are a SCBWC member, join our closed Facebook group.



Tasmanian Hikes 1 – Walls of Jerusalem

18th – 22nd February 2022



We did this walk as a 5 day circuit; the standard is 3 days up and back. After approx. 3 km of steep, rough climbing through Eucalypt Forest we reached historic Trappers Hut. Soon it was an easy flat walk on the Alpine Plateau and then another 3 km to Wild Dog Creek Camp, where we spent our first night.

Tents were erected on platforms and we got sub zero temperatures overnight with water icicles forming on the water taps and frost on the tents.

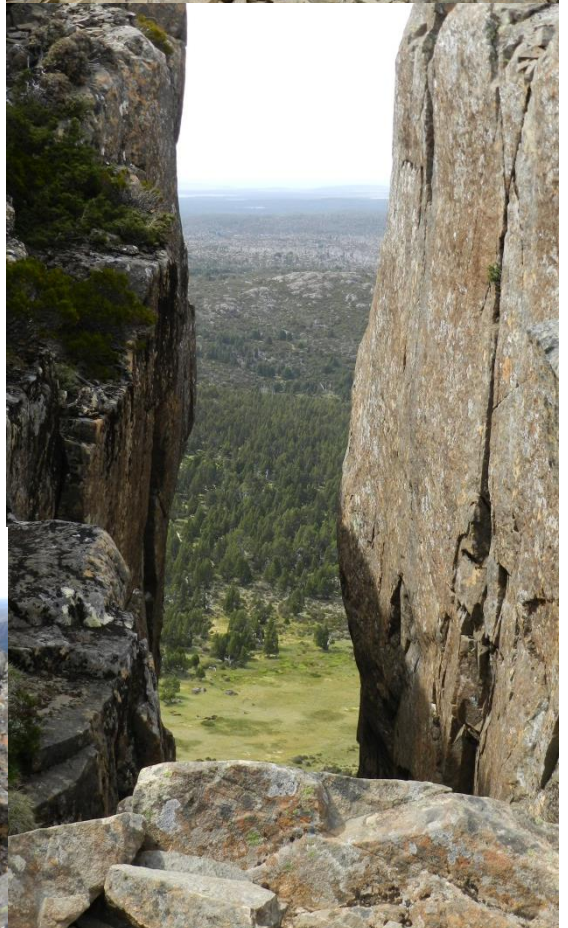
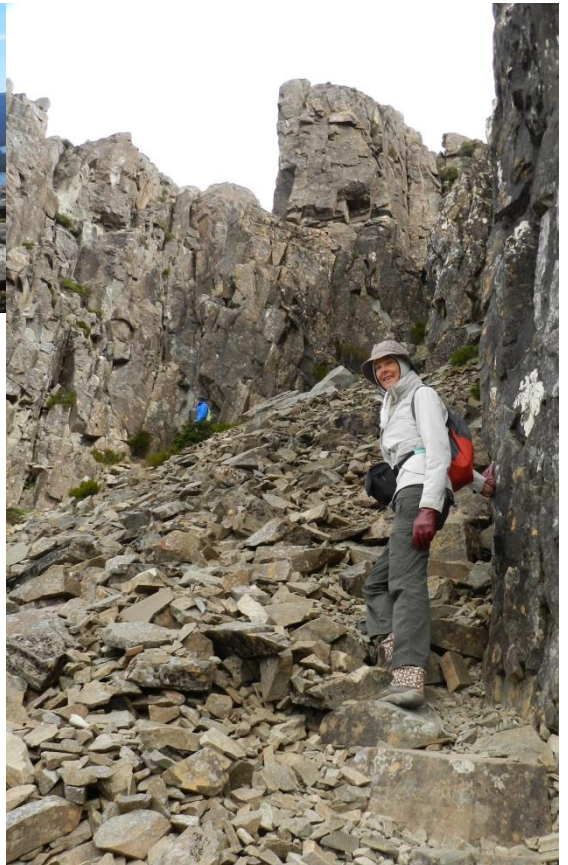
Nights 2 & 3 were spent at beautiful Dixon's Camp, the first night being a balmy 5 degrees and the second night there was some rain. It was a clear, sunny day so we climbed up to Mt Jerusalem (1459m) with its stunning views.

The next day was cloudy and windy when we climbed up to The Temple Top and nearly got blown off. Next we climbed up Solomon's Throne and rock scrambled up to King David Peak (1499m) and beyond, where we were looking down on Wild Dog Creek Camp. This is the last year that Dixon's Camp will be like this as they are moving it and onto platforms.

Next day we hiked to Lake Adelaide with a good part along Lake Ball for our 4th night camp. The water was 'warmish' but too shallow to really get in. Another sub-zero night, but it was a lovely campsite. Then it was a hike leading back to the main track not too far above Trappers Hut.

All in all, a very enjoyable circuit encountering all weather conditions but we were very grateful for the cool temperatures.

Chris, Christine, Di and Lucy



Tasmanian Hikes 2 – Frenchman's Cap

25th – 28th February 2022



What a tough hike this was, with the hardest part being the 2nd day from Vera Hut to Tahune Hut.



The hike starts by crossing the Franklin River on a swing bridge, before climbing out of the river valley through patches of rainforest to the slopes of Mount Mullens.

The track then descends and sidles along the foothills through heathland, eucalypt forest, rainforest and moorland before arriving at Vera Hut, beside Lake Vera. The hut was basic but comfortable and we all had a skinny dip in the little creek behind the hut.

Day 2 starts with walking along the shoreline of Lake Vera and then a long steady/steep climb negotiating the slippery roots and rocks up to Barron Pass (950m) with its magnificent views of alpine lakes and dense rainforest. After descending from the Pass, we were then confronted with a set of vertical stairs to reach the next plateau before stumbling into Tahune Hut, a state-of-the-art, hydro powered, triple glazed hut with solar heating, USB ports, helicopter pad and a sundeck built in 2018.

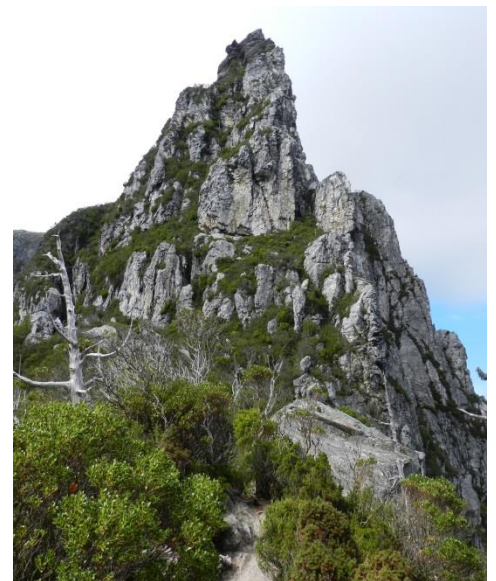
We arrived at Tahune Hut at 12.30pm, had lunch and a rest and then headed up to the summit at 2.30pm as the weather was fine and sunny. The climb to the summit was comparatively easy and with just a day pack we made good time. The views were fantastic all the way up with 360 degree views once at the summit (1446m). It was so good we stayed for an hour before heading back down to Tahune Hut for the night.

Day 3 was back over Barron Pass to Vera Hut and Day 4 back down to the carpark. Again, we were grateful for the cooler weather with rain later on Day 3, but we were already at the hut by then.

This hike brings out the crazies, like the 2 trail runners who 'ran' from the carpark to the summit and back in 1 day and 5 guys carrying enormous packs who went from the carpark to the summit to camp there overnight to watch the sunset and sunrise before heading back to the carpark the next day.

At least they packed the whiskey.

Chris, Christine, Di and Lucy



Tasmanian Hikes 3 – Lake Dobson

MOUNT FIELD NATIONAL PARK - TARN SHELF CIRCUIT

2nd March 2022

The glossy brochure said 5-6 hour circuit.

7.5 hours later we stumbled back into our government run cabin exhausted.

For some reason we decided to go in the opposite direction to most people heading up through mainly scrubby not so interesting bush until we reached Twilight Tarn Hut, a 1927 original hut believed to be the first hut for skiers (that's snow skiers) in Tasmania.

Inside were old skis and poles, old boots, ice skates, food tins, tools and photos from the 1930's. Very interesting. We decided to make this our lunch stop.

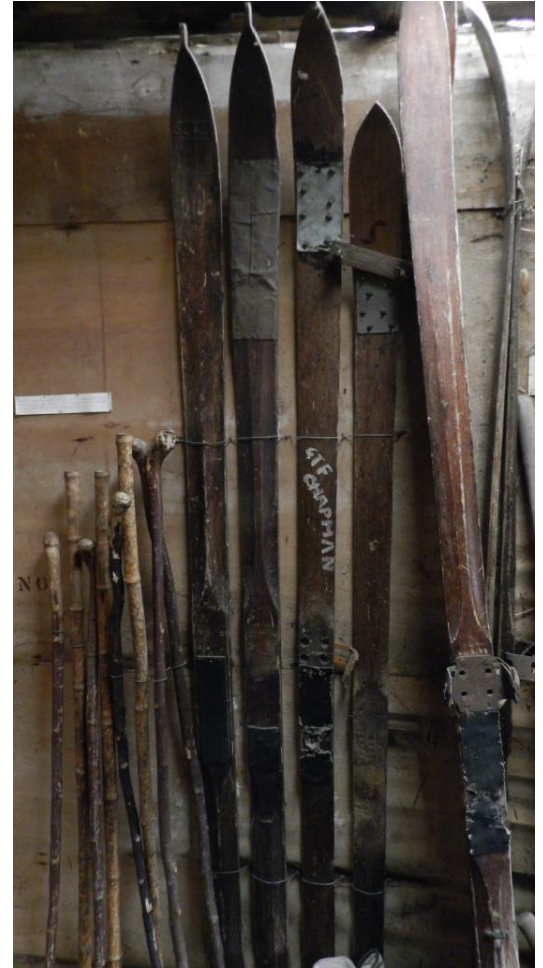
From there was a fantastic walk of up-and-down passing numerous tarns of different shapes and sizes until we reached the ski fields and old rope tows that looked so ancient. Who would have thought!!

More up-and-down passing yet more tarns and then on the descent we walked along the Snow Gum Track with many colourful snow gum trunks.

A long day, but varied and interesting with great views. Back at the cabin we lit the fire, heated some water for a bird bath and settled in with a wine or 2.

We spent 3 nights in this cabin with short walks on Day 1 (Russell Falls Loop Track, Tall Trees Track and Lake Dobson Circuit) and Day 3 to Seagers Lookout and Mount Field East Summit (1274m).

This was supposed to be our rest time before tackling Lake Rhona (haha!!).



Chris, Christine, Di and Lucy

Tasmanian Hikes 4 – LAKE RHONA

REED'S PEAK CIRCUIT

4th – 6th March 2022



The first challenge was finding the trailhead in the Florentine State Forest. Google took us to a dead end and as we were trying to find a way around, another car pulled up who were also following Google.

After a recalibration we made it to the trailhead only having lost about 15-20 minutes.

The second challenge was crossing the log over the Gordon River after about 40 minutes of downward meandering.

From here we headed north along the Rasselas Track for the next few km of button grass marshland and sclerophyll forest before entering the historic Gordonvale Homestead site.

The next few km was a gradual climb crossing many small creeks and following the ridgelines of the Denisons Range.

The final section, and our third challenge, was the trail which then climbed 400m over only a relatively short distance with many false peaks with the last ridge being the steepest.

We were all exhausted by this point (did somebody forget to mention this very steep climb?).

Thankfully we were now looking down at Lake Rhona (900m) surrounded by massive slabs of stone which unfortunately looked a lot closer than it actually was.

Tents were quickly erected on the beach and then thoughts turned to indulging in a quick dip in the lake (for some of us anyway).

The temperature of the water would have been close to sub zero and the screams could be heard for miles.

The circuit around the ridges above the lake is only 6kms and takes in Great Dome and Reed's Peak with fantastic views down onto the lake and beyond.



Once having scaled up the initial ridge, Reed's Peak is clearly visible with the last part of the ascent a steep scramble requiring both hands with more amazing views once on the peak (1290m).

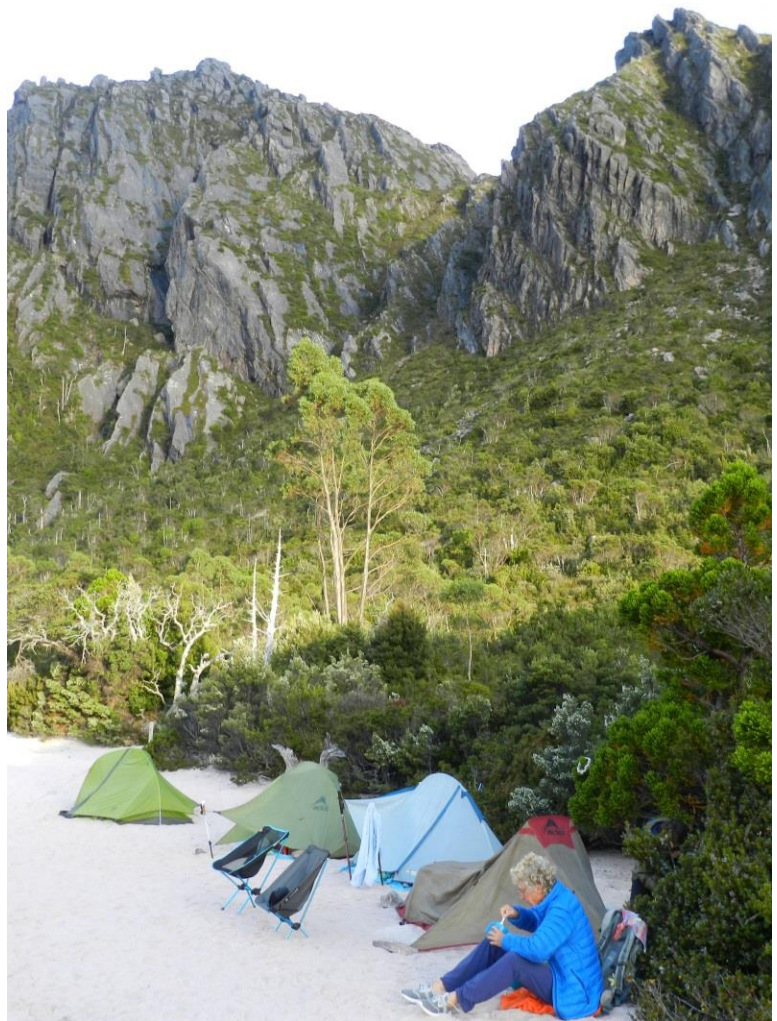
The track down was a steep descent to the lower ridgeline before zigzagging, climbing across a narrow ridgeline, which then flattens and widens before snaking down the slope to end up right behind our campsite.

An amazing day.

That night we battened down the hatches and braced ourselves for a storm that we knew was coming. With so much wind and rain, none of us came out dry the next morning.

The sky was blue, but the temperature was freezing so packing up wet gear was difficult (fingers didn't work).

We headed off early and made good time back to the trailhead before heading straight to Hobart (2 ½ hours drive) to a comfy dry bed, real food and a few glasses of wine to celebrate our amazing adventure.



Chris, Christine, Di and Lucy

Nojoor Rd Boat Ramp to Mudjimba return

Thursday 17 March 2022



Hi All,

What a great morning we had walking through the wetlands with Cheryl Stevens as our leader of a group of 15.

Setting out from the Nojoor Road boat ramp we walked for a short distance alongside the road before entering the Nojoor Road Conservation Park.

Unfortunately due to the recent heavy rains we were unable to follow a number of tracks as the paths were still under water.

We continued our walk to the Mudjimba beach lookout and admired Old Woman Island.

The Mudjimba barbecue area was our last stop where we had coffees and munchies, then headed back via the Conservation Park.

We followed a different track but had to retrace our steps due to the path being waterlogged.

Finally on exiting the Park, we bumped into a Snack Catcher's van as they were about to relocate some red bellied black snakes.

Perfect timing on our part!

It was a most enjoyable morning and wonderful company.

A great big thanks to Cheryl for leading the walk.

Richard Cranswick

Photos by Carol Cranswick



Yul-Yan-Man & Soldiers Settlers Circuit

Sunday March 20, 2022



Walk Leaders: Rod & Karen Edwards

Yul-Yan-Man, from the Kabi Kabi language means “Walk Slowly”, and this is certainly what you need to do on this walk, to take in the spectacular views of the Glass House Mountains.

This walk starts at the Beerburrum trailhead and quickly becomes a scramble up a narrow pathway for the first 800 metres or so which is a good challenge. The path is very rocky and rough and in some places it's not so obvious which way the path goes.

Luckily there are pink markers to indicate the track. The track follows the Trachyte Ridge to the first rocky lookout which was our morning tea spot. The second lookout is on a heath covered bluff and from here it is down a steep rocky descent which is quite tricky, but just has to be taken slowly.

Once at the bottom, you follow the trail which makes its way to the Trachyte Circuit. To add some distance we turned left at this point and headed to Jack Ferris Lookout for some more great views.

Then it was back along the Trachyte Circuit and after a short distance we went off track and cut through to Soldiers Settlers Trail which we followed for about a 5km back to the cars.

This is a good beginner's track to get a taste of uneven surfaces, scrambling over obstacles and experiencing some good ups and downs.

The walk distance was about 11 km and took us about 5 hours with a few good stops at the lookouts. Of the 21 walkers on the day, 5 were visitors/prospective members who got a good taste for what we typically do on our walks.



Karen Edwards

Cooroora to Cooran return

Sunday March 27, 2022



Under the ebullient and considerate leadership of Michelle Freeman, our small group of members, current and prospective, ventured into the bushland from Cooroy Mountain Carpark on a warm Sunday morning and were rewarded with cool gullies and relatively lush access trails (for this time of year) along Noosa Trail Network #5.

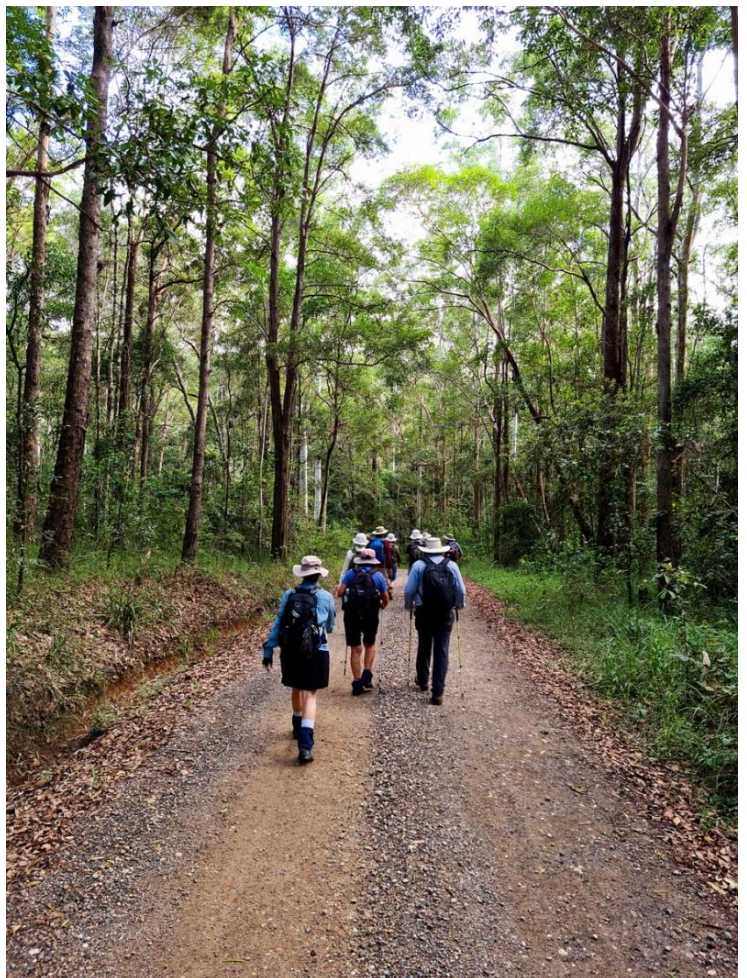
Recent deluges of rain were evident not only in the abundant grass that snagged our legs and poles on trails, but also in the erosion evident almost everywhere on the unsealed trails.

Parallel channels, narrow but deep, dug into foot tracks forced us to keep our eyes on our feet and, further along in the hillier sections, normally stony rises were eroded out to bedrock with exposed roots and many loose stones that introduced some interest into the occasional ascents and descents.

Bird life was abundant in the gullies and slopes around Mount Cooroy.

The only creek crossing with a flood gauge showed not much damage from rainwater, though it was easy to see that the water level had ranged between 1.2-1.4 meters at the worst of recent flooding.

Of note was the view of Mount Cooroy from the rear and it's more vertical escarpments when compared to the more commonly viewed aspect facing Cooroy village (and folklore of lovers' leaps to their deaths), and the majestic columns of mature Spotted Gums, prompting some discussion such as, what makes a Spotted Gum spottier?



Descending into Cooran via an alternative route then resting next to a promised duck pond that, alas, held no ducks, we ran the gauntlet of some mildly muddy conditions via horse trails along the back of Cooran township, ending up finally at Cooran shops, where our group took advantage of raiding the local store for indulgences, with one of our number holding up the group by ordering some samosas from a local popup Indian stall (Reader, they were Delicious!).

Some locals were observed still taking out their flood-damaged carpets in the back of their trailers, but the mood was nonetheless high, with locals embracing each other and their dogs as they met over coffee - and why not?

Cooran/Cooroy and surrounds are beautiful areas to live, and offer favourable contrasts to the more crowded and developed southern beachside suburbs along the Sunshine Coast.

Starting back along the bitumen through Cooran, we rejoined Trail #5 again, following it back and returning along our outward trail around the back of Mount Cooroy.

Other points of interest, and somewhat sobering, were the direction signs from the Noosa Ultra-Trail running event, still in place from the previous day, which had guided runners across some of the same terrain we passed over - offering a perspective on our own efforts walking the trails that harder souls just the day before had passed quickly and lightly over in running shoes.

Rain reports were monitored, but we regained Cooroy Mountain Carpark with our waiting vehicles well before the subtropical low managed to make good its promise of heavy rainfalls later in the evening.



Initial distance estimates for the total walk of around 16.5 kilometres were shown in reality to have been only 15.4 kilometres traversed.

And yes, that was enough!

A solid day in classic hinterland, Grade 3 style.

David Andor

Toowoomba Taster Base Camp

March 25-27, 2022

A group of fifteen members heading down and west of the highway to the lovely city of Toowoomba where we made our home for the next two nights at the Toowoomba Motor Village. The weather gods were relatively kind to us over the weekend, and most of the tracks were open despite the heavy rains a few weeks before. Friday afternoon the first hike was to walk and climb Tabletop Mountain where eight of the group did the full ascent. This is a previous volcano and how it is formed is best shown in the photo. The climb was done before the showers set in, so our BBQ dinner was relocated to the very comfortable BBQ area of the caravan park.



Sunshine was out Saturday morning for our first walk of the day, Redmond Park. This walk starts on the top of the escarpment east of the main city and takes us down the escarpment. The birdlife on this walk was fantastic with Rod and Marilyn giving us a masterclass in bird identification. Morning tea was in the picnic area of the escarpment and then the climb back up to the cars at the top.

Jubilee Park had been affected by landslides, so our walk in that area had to be abandoned, so off to lunch with a view at Webb Park. The playground at Webb Park was an added attraction to most of our group. We then split into different groups to enjoy some local sites whilst the showers started to come in. Some explored the Queens Park (famous for the Carnival of Flowers), Japanese Garden and Mt Peel (see walk report below).

Dinner Saturday night was at the busy Irish Club in town. Great food for all, fun company and a lively atmosphere. Sunday was a quick pack up before the heavy showers set in, and the trip back up the coast.

Thanks to our group for a fun weekend and I know they all enjoyed seeing a bit of Toowoomba and a plan to return in the future.

Members along for the fun – Sam, Rod, Karen, Karin, Richard, Larry, Chris, Taylor, Sharon, Judy, Peter, Marilyn, Linda, Leanda, Ian.

Sam Rowe

Saturday 26 March, afternoon

A small sub group opted out of the Queens Park gardens walk and headed south west about 8km out of town to the Mt Peel Bushland Park.

Mt Peel actually has two summits and we first headed up the northern one, which has some interesting trails but is also criss-crossed with mountain bike tracks, so can be confusing to navigate. The top surprised us with a graded shingle area, park benches and a view back towards the sprawling Toowoomba industry and residential areas.

Dropping down, we circled clockwise and then backtracked a bit on firetrails to the much more walker friendly southern Mt Peel. Of the two possible ascents, we chose to go anticlockwise around the base and up the longer meandering path. The summit was again a surprising graded area with benches and a 'view orienting' cairn, but the views were 360 degree and much more worthwhile. (Un)fortunately we could clearly see the approaching rain and we hightailed it down a steeper twisting rock strewn track, making it back to the car just as the rain transitioned from drizzle to big splats.

Start point : Westminster Rd; distance about 5km; time about 2hrs (stopping frequently).

Richard Palmer

Jack's Place

From the Club Archives 1987

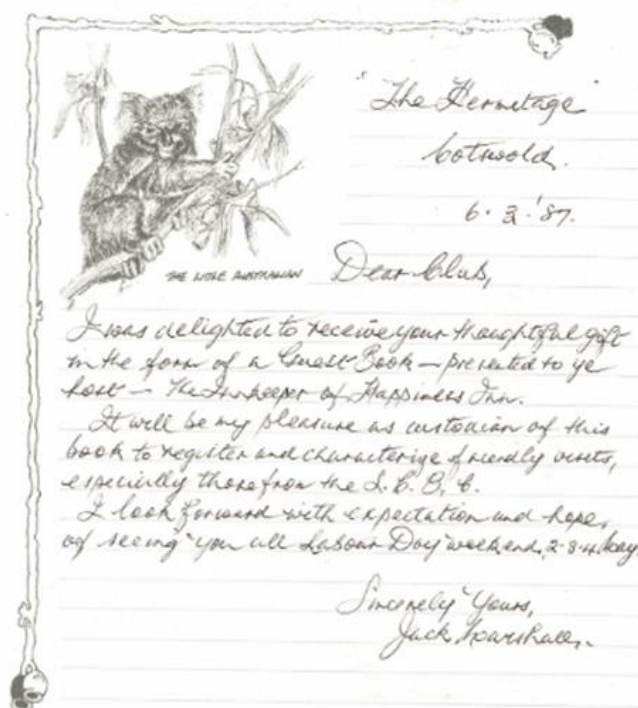
You may hear about "Jack's Place" at times in the Club.

This is an amazing location that we are fortunate to be able to access occasionally for some very special walks.

Prior to the internet Jack would communicate with the club by writing a letter



Jack Marshall @ Jacks Place circa 1987



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Thanks once again to all contributors, especially for the special Tasmanian adventures, what a trip!

Stephen

HAPPY TRAILS

