



THE TRUDGE

November 2022

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

7:00pm Refreshments for 7:30pm Meeting

Buderim Craft Cottage

5 Main St, Buderim

(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
Grants Officer:	Peter Fowler	grants@scbwc.com

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.



Sunshine Coast Bushwalking Club

AGM – President Report 2022

Well, this year has flown by & thankfully it's been a year closer to what you could call normal in comparison to the previous couple of years as Covid restrictions subsided. This allowed the club meetings to return to the Buderim Craft Cottage from August to the delight of our members.

Wow, it's not until I started reflecting on the past year that I realised just how much we've accomplished.

When it's all said & done, our club is really one of promoting community, health (physical & mental), cooperation, collaboration, building self-confidence, & responsibility not only for ourselves but also caring for others, using the great outdoors as our playground. The club gives its members a safe platform to step outside their comfort zone to explore the experience of personal growth & testing one's limits. This might be walking off-track, learning navigation, leading a group for the first time, carrying everything on your back when multi-day walking or just overcoming something you thought unachievable, all while being surrounded by supportive encouraging folk that have travelled the same path before you.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend 3 club meetings due to illness but am eternally grateful to those that supported my absence by maintaining business as usual - namely Sam, Stephen, Linda & Pam. Sam even lead a walk on my behalf to ensure our members still got their bushwalking fix.

Over the Xmas break & the early months of the year, our webmaster David Andor had been busy setting up the club's new web host & website functionality. David was able to achieve this without any noticeable interruption to member's use of the website or calendar. With David's expertise, this then enabled the committee to create an improved membership database, activity calendar with potential for further development/improvement, for example online leader interaction, statistical analysis & activity history collection all for the future reference of club members & leaders.

This year the committee has reviewed the club's existing Strategic plan & is developing our first Risk Management Plan ready for presenting to the members at the first club meeting for 2023. Thanks to Sam Rowe, Peter Fowler & Peter Nagel for your instrumental involvement to ensure we meet our self-determined deadlines.

You will have noticed that this year we have started including the fortnightly track maintenance on the calendar to acknowledge & build awareness around the great work our volunteers do & to encourage participation by those that are able. Thanks to Joe Kirkpatrick & his team of dedicated committed volunteers. I personally love seeing the photos on Facebook no matter whether it's rain or shine. There's no rest for the wicked 😊

Peter Fowler has been busy again this year with all stages of acquiring grants for the club to contribute towards track maintenance equipment, education, ventures & funds benefitting all members of our club in some capacity. Also included this year was general first aid course, remote area first aid training & vertical rescue courses. The Recreation Trails Partnership with council to continue contributing towards Track building at Kirby's Rd & supporting community initiatives has recently been renewed for another 3 years.

Finally, after a long delay due to needing to meet environmental considerations, phase 2 of Kirby's Rd track construction began 21st Nov. Thanks to Peter & Joe for your commitment in seeing this project through to reality & creating an opportunity for members to enjoy for years to come. While Healthy Sunshine Coast program did not come to fruition this year, there was still communications in the background trying to establish with Council whether it was on or off. Anyway, it seems that it will continue next year. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of Sam & Peter in this space in maintaining readiness for Council's go ahead.

Linda started her year off with & continued the theme for the year by encouraging experienced leaders to take prospective leaders under their wing to build confidence in a new group of club leaders. Linda also instigated the idea of a training day for a small group of potential co-ordinators (Leaders) prior to them taking on the role of leader. These training days were a success & I feel should continue next year as the training day I was involved in produced 3 enthusiastic new leaders for the club. As Walks Coordinator Linda has done a marvellous job, well supported by Clare Staines.

Thanks to both of you for your hard work to keep our calendar full & up to date all year with regular day walks of all types & levels, abseiling, through-walks, base camps, bike riding, kayaking & educational outings. Thanks to all the leaders this year. You're all legends.

You will see from my previous report that safety is a prime consideration for our club to make sure we all get home to our loved ones, healthy & in one piece after our big adventures in the great outdoors. There is no doubt our Risk Management Plan will cover a lot of this but just wanted to remind you to consider carefully what you take with you on club activities including what you wear.

This is a big topic so won't cover it here but what I quickly wish say is, it is our Vice President that is responsible for obtaining safety documents from members & I wanted to reiterate Sam's message around ensuring that if there is an incident/accident during club activities that an incident report is completed & submitted to the VP for our records. All leaders/members should carry a copy on each activity printed from the website.

The Bushwalking Gear Exhibition at the July club meeting organised by Peter Fowler was a success & an event that should continue at least annually. I have been approached by many members especially ones new to through-walking to say how much they got out of it. Great initiative Peter.

I must say how saddened I was this year to hear that Jack's Place will no longer be available for our club members to enjoy due to the sale of the property. Our club members have been going up to Jack's since the 70's. It was only from Don Burgher's (one of our club's Life Members, custodian of Jack's Place & good friends with Jack Marshall) commitment over the years with the help of some key club members that the club continued to enjoy the use of this property as a base for walking in the area.

Joe Kirkpatrick also put his blood, sweat & tears into the place helping Don make many improvements to ensure members were comfortable when they visited. Karen & I stayed at Jack's Place in May earlier this year for the first time on a kayaking trip organised by Joe. It wasn't till then that I realised the full extent of what Jack's place meant to the club & to Don in particular. For the whole weekend Karen & I were treated with the gift of hearing stories about the full history of the place from Don, Joe & Garry. I can't explain how grateful we are to have had the chance to visit Jack's Place even though just the once & hearing these stories of old.

Interesting facts: Jack Marshall resided at the property as a tenant so he could be close to his favourite walking locations. What was meant to be just a few short months turned into many years. The name "Jack's Place" simply came from club members saying they were heading down to Jack's place which then stuck to this day, years after Jack's passing. He was one of our founding members who were all in their 20's.

We've had another very healthy year of new member uptake but even more interesting is the high number of visitors to our meetings, sometimes over 10. It really adds to the vibe of the room knowing you're not just preaching to the converted but to people that are there to find out what the club's about.

Lorri may not sit out the front but hats off to her with so many new enquiries, visitors & the added pressure of learning a new membership database. To me, having had a good uptake of new members to our club in recent years indicates a healthy future for the club through offering what people are looking for in a club & which is obviously influenced by their first encounters, initial support & welcomeness from our existing members.

This is an extension of the club's culture & our friendly enthusiastic group of like-minded people that makes the club vibrant & attractive to join.

While it's great to encourage new members, we must also take good care of our long serving members by recognising & acknowledging their feats over the years of service to the club through inclusiveness, open heartedness, & an understanding that they may want to step back somewhat from volunteering to allow themselves more time to just to enjoy the club's activities or spend more time on other interests outside the club.

That's when it's time for others to gladly step up to take the baton from those that have served the club well for many years. This level of culture gives a club it's depth & viability for the future. I think we are very fortunate to have had a chance to develop this culture of nearly 50 years & we have a history that we must celebrate at every opportunity.

Following on from this line of thought, the committee has decided to nominate some worthy members for "Life Membership" at the upcoming AGM.

Please join us as it would be wonderful to see as many faces as possible at the meeting to show gratitude towards these very special people & honour their dedicated service to the club over many years.

A final word to thank all those on this year's committee (& non-committee) for your hard work & support – Sam Rowe, Stephen Hunter, Pam Sanders, Lorri Carroll, Linda Gregory & Peter Fowler.

To Non-Committee – Garry Carr & Gerry Gallop.

To Ian Greggery & Karen Edwards for taking care of our Facebook Group administration & track alerts.

To the committee members that have decided not to renominate, a special thank you to Pam & Stephen for stepping up over the last couple of years.

See you all very soon at the AGM &/or our Xmas Party Celebrations – Thanks in advance Karen & your team of Santa's helpers to make this Xmas Party one to remember.

While I am stepping down from committee duties after 5 years in various committee positions, I have enjoyed my time immensely & will remain an active member of the club supporting you wherever I can.

Thanks to all involved, I can confidently say, the club at the end of 2022 is in a strong financial position with a membership base that ensures a bright future.

Rod Edwards

SCBWC President

Mt. Allen from Booloomba Creek Camp

Sunday 30 October 2022



Sunday 30th October was the perfect day to visit Conondale National Park for a 12km hike with an elevation of approx 466m.

The trail from Booloomba Creek starts with giant stepping stones across the clear cool waters which make the camp site so popular.

Once across the creek it is a well-marked path through the dense rain forest that gradually transitions to dry eucalyptus woodland at the fire tower.

After morning tea and photo stop at the fire tower it was all downhill.

Thank you to Diana for leading the walk and to Clive for driving us across the creek to our starting point.

Philippa Dorman



Mudjumba Beach Circuit

Sunday 6 November 2022

Our annual coastal walk, led by Russell was weather perfect. It was a good reminder of what a beautiful place we live in, virtually in our own backyard.

So good to see families out enjoying the sheltered parts of North Shore and (for me) the endless varieties of dogs as well. Can't say the jet skis were impressive but once they disappeared, the serenity returned.

It was just a bit too cold for me to swim but one brave soul jumped in and took a photo of our lovely morning tea spot.

Many thanks to Russell for leading the walk.



Artists Cascade

Sunday 13 November 2022



Sam, Bernard, Peter, Leanda, Karen, Toni, June, Marilyn, Rod, June and I met up on a glorious 'glad-to-be-alive' day at the bakery at Kenilworth.

People were already swarming in to get their 1kg donuts and so we hurried off in 3 vehicles to Campsite 4 at the Booloumba Creek part of Conondale National Park to start our walk.

The creek crossings to get there were back to normal which is good to know for repeat visits if you don't have a high clearance vehicle.

We set off, heading along the track to Artists cascades to the sound of a rifle bird with a noisy pitta whistling 'walk to work' not far away.

The big sandstone blocks that used to cross the creek have long been washed away but a nice line of rocks has been thoughtfully placed in their stead, so most of us got across with dry feet.

A short diversion took us to admire Andy Goldsworthy's 'Strangler Cairn' which after 11 years still has a little fig on the top with no sign of doing anything exciting.

Still, there were a few little orchids and staghorns with a toe-hold, so maybe in the future it will be the orchid cairn?

The walk progressed with few diversions, a big old goanna and various birds ably identified by Marilyn and glimpses of Booloumba Creek which was running nicely and crystal clear.





It was getting quite warm by the time we arrived at the artist's cascades and morning tea so a few of us took the opportunity for a dip. It was 'bracing' to get in, but once in was just 'refreshing'.

The return walk back was at a steady pace with the dulcet tones of shrike thrushes, whip birds and various cuckoos calling, and very pleasant having cooled off with the swim.

The track is mostly shady and the well maintained.



And then we were back at the camp where we had lunch to the sound of 4WD's leaving and other folk enjoying the National Park. All up 10.4km and a very enjoyable walk thanks to Sam.

Clare Staines



Summer Creek Circuit

Sunday 20 November 2022



Our group of 6 met at Kenilworth and carpooled to the start of the walk – Sam, Clare, Philippa, Rod, Mandy and me.

We drove up Sunday Creek Road and parked where the Great Walk crosses the road between Mt Allen and Summer Falls. We followed the trail in the direction towards Summer Falls and walked for about 4km before heading off track to find a point that looks across the gorge to the flowing Summer Falls. We started down the wrong ridgeline and had to contour across some difficult terrain before we eventually found the ridge that led down to the spot we were looking for. All part of the adventure said Rod.

We descended to the spectacular lookout where we had morning tea and enjoyed the views. Sam pointed out the area below where Peter's walk/swim would take them the following week.

A quick walk up and we were back on track and we headed towards Summer Falls walker's camp. After a quick inspection of the camp for those that hadn't been there before, we headed to the creek to start the walk up the creek.

This is where me and Mandy left the group and walked along the Great Walk track to meet the others at a later stage further upstream.



My track walk was unadventurous, however there were several spots where we had to climb under/over or around trees that had fallen across the track recently. The 2km creek walk was greatly enjoyed by Sam, Clare Philippa and Rod. It was quite slow going with numerous creek crossings to navigate the ever-changing conditions created by flood waters earlier in the year i.e. fallen trees, debris and undergrowth when we had to leave the creek bed to avoid deeper water levels.

There was some excellent rock hopping opportunities & scrambling up and over rock ledges above deep waterholes. Four snakes were seen along the way including a python & tree snake. You could see that the python had recently fed on something about the size of our little Jack Russell.

My walk up the track took about 40 minutes, but I had to wait another hour or so for the creek crew to make their way out. They stopped about 50m from further down the creek, so I made my way to them to see why they had pulled up. They had come across a group of lovely deep rock pools and just couldn't resist a quick dip to cool off.

This is where lunch was had as well.



We walked back up to the Great Walk track via a service road from the creek, and then back along the track that we came in on. We were back to the cars by about 2pm, and the walk had covered about 10km. Rod was very happy that the predicted storm had held off and the creek walk was able to be completed this time without the interruption of rain which makes the walk too dangerous with slippery rocks.

I think we were quite lucky with the temperature in the Conondale's being much lower than the heat we felt when we got out of the car back in Coolumb.

Thanks to Sam, Clare, Phillipa and our friend Mandy for sharing this walk with us.



Karen Edwards

Stumers Creek to Peregian Beach

Sunday 20 November 2022

A group of 11 gathered at the Coolum Aquatic Centre for a pleasant half day walk up Emu Mountain and along Peregian Beach.

The sky was overcast but visibility was good and walking conditions were excellent.

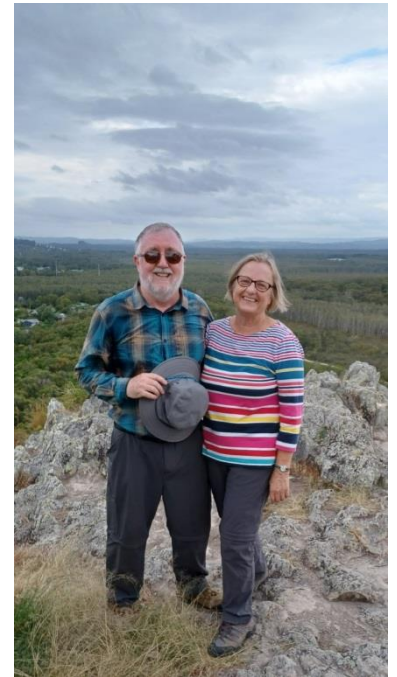
After a short walk through forest, the route took us up through heathland. A steep, but short, scramble brought us to the summit of Emu Mountain which provided great views up and down the Sunshine Coast.

After descending to Peregian Beach we were making good time and so it was decided to go north to the township for a coffee and a quick look at the Sunday market.

We then returned to the beach and went south towards Coolum before walking over a boardwalk through the bush to join the main road to return to the Aquatic Centre about three and a half hours after we set off.

The walk was great for newcomers who wanted a gentle introduction to bush walking, combining different terrains and some great views.

Special thanks to our leader Diana and also Brian with his intimate knowledge of the area.



Maleny Trail Loop

Sunday 27 November 2022

Three visitors, Vernon, Kerry and Dan joined Clare, Linda, Toni, Helen and June at the Maleny Showgrounds with Kerry being a first-time walker with the club.

It was cloudy when we set off but soon warmed up, so we took it at a leisurely pace. The Maleny trail starts off as a nice shady walk next to the Obi Obi Creek and through Maleny town, along the boardwalk at the back of the Riverside Shopping centre to the Community Precinct.

Once in the precinct we took the grassy mown path up around the wetland and Dan pointed out the deep water hole which supplies water to the native plant nursery. We were fortunate to spot a family of red-backed wrens with the brightly coloured male sitting clearly out on a tobacco bush.

We then wended our way to 'Fairview House', one of the oldest slab timber houses in the state, around the top of the golf course and down to Reynolds Crossing where it was a line-ball decision to have shoes on or off to cross the creek. I think Vernon was the only one who managed to cross with shoes on without getting wet feet.

Morning tea was had at a pleasant rocky outcrop overlooking the creek with Vernon demonstrating the benefits of 'cold bathing'.

A quick look at the falls which was busy with families enjoying the warm day and then back along the Obi Obi into town. Dan decided to take a detour, demonstrating the importance of waiting for everyone at each intersection.

Fortunately he burst back out through the bush whilst we were still wondering where he had got to. When I got home I realised I hadn't asked anyone to write the walk report, but I think that was a better error than losing someone before they had even joined the club.

All up we walked about 10km and were finished just before lunch.



Christmas Party

Just a reminder about our Christmas party coming up with details as follows;

DATE: Saturday 10th December

TIME: 12 noon – 3pm

WHERE: Valdora Community Hall 360 Valdora Road Valdora

WHAT: Lunch and good company

BRING: A savoury side or sweet dessert to share

BYO drinks

If you haven't already RSVP'ed please email Karen on karod@bigpond.net.au and let me know what you will bring.

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Signing off one last time as Trudge Editor.

I've enjoyed the last 2 years in the role, vicariously enjoying the walks through the reports and photos of the contributors. Thank you one last time to all of the people who took the time to share their stories and views of the walks to all of us who could not be there.

Cheers,

**Stephen**

## HAPPY TRAILS

