



The Trudge

Sunshine Coast Bushwalking Club
Est. 1975



CLUB MEETINGS

First Monday of the month (excl Jan.)

Time:

7:00pm – refreshments & walk sign on

7:30pm – meeting commences

Where:

Buderim Craft Cottage

5 Main St, Buderim

Please note, when the first Monday falls on a public holiday the meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday

Find out what activities are planned
www.scbwc.com/activities

Committee Members 2022-2023

President:

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Vice President:

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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.

April Activities conducted

It was a busy month with a wide variety of activities completed:

1 st	Woondum Creek Loop	23 rd	Cotton Tree to Mooloolaba
2 nd	Yul-Yan Man and Soldiers Settlement Trail	23 rd	Above Gheerulla Falls
3 rd	Club Meeting	23 rd	Bribie Is Delight (bike ride)
11 th	Track Maintenance	25 th	Mount Langley
14 th	Botanical Delight	28 th	Doonella Wetlands Nature Reserve
15 th	Noosa Trail #1: Kin Kin Countryside Loop	30 th	Baxter Falls
16 th	Gheerulla Falls from Sam Kelly Road	30 th	Kenilworth Bluff
16 th	Stony Creek		

Woondum Creek Loop

All 6 of us met at Cooroy Railway Station at 7:15am to car pool. Woondum National Park was declared in 2009 to protect the mountains filled with Eucalypt, rainforest and cascading boulder strewn creeks and its diverse wildlife.

This was a very enjoyable off track hike up Woondum Creek with lots of rock hopping & scrambling up boulders. After about 3km we arrived at the Devil's Door (named by Michelle) which was a nice spot with a small waterfall for a break & morning tea. Taylor was game and swam in the rock pool to the Devil's Door.

We continued up the creek further to the 3 pools which was a lovely spot for a swim. A little bit further at the junction we exited the creek, and we looked up to see the steep hill of bush we then had to scramble up till we got up the top. The last 2 kms was downhill along a dirt road. We had our lunch off the road up a track where beautiful pink and blue fungi was spotted.

A total of 8.5km over 4 hrs we achieved when we arrived at the picnic area to our cars. It was a very quiet walk with no others to be seen and also a very enjoyable walk with great company.

Thanks Michelle for leading.

Judy Rimmelzwa



Botanical Delight

The SCBWC had a Friday afternoon walk on the tracks and trails within the Maroochydore Botanical Gardens including a sneak peak at the new bushland track. It was lovely to do a two hour bushwalk within the gardens late afternoon when the visitors have left and the flora and fauna are preparing for the evening. One kangaroo kept watch on us to ensure we moved out of their area before dark.

The 82 hectare garden supports native plants and wildlife, and includes a mix of eucalypt open forest and creek-side rainforest, featuring lagoons, rocky and palm filled gullies, and the headwaters of Mountain Creek. The Sunshine Coast Council purchased the land for the botanic garden in 1997. In 1998, a master plan was developed and major development work began in 2000. Governor of Queensland, Major General Peter Arnison, opened the gardens on 1 December 2001.

Thanks to all that came along for our afternoon twilight walk and stayed for a social nibbles and drinks catch up.

Sam Rowe



Let's welcome new members

**Kevin Mulrien
John Feeny**

We look forward to seeing you on more walk soon.



- REGULAR HIKING DAYS
- BONUS HIKING DAYS
- "WORKING" FROM HOME, BUT GOING HIKING
- UNNECESSARY DAYS

@hikingcomics

Stony Creek

16 April - The Stony Creek hike in Bellthorpe National Park was led by Jon Lee and enjoyed by seven other off track enthusiasts (John, Karin and Richard, Clair, Nick, Janine and Taylor).

The day was clear with a tweak of autumn freshness to it. We found the creek full enough to create endless clear pools with flowing water cascading over boulders and low enough to allow easy access for rock hopping along the bank. Dainty piccabeen flowers carpeted the way while their huge palm fronds annoyingly littered our path for most of the day as did massive tall trees upended with their roots bare and desperately clinging to the clumps of soil they had sprouted from. We made our way steadily along the creek bed past endless small waterfalls and broad ledges. Lush green vines spilled over steep-walled gorges that would force us out of the creek and up the rather vertical terrain which required a lot of ground hugging and tree grabbing over the endless loose rocks, tangled vines, stinging bushes, horribly prickly stems of something-or-other and way too many wait-a-whiles.



As soon as the terrain allowed we'd retreat back down into the creek bed which was more agreeable underfoot. However the rock hopping turned into some rock sliding in parts with "whoa"s and "are you ok"s floating through the air. I think most of us took a tumble at some point but without incident. One adventurous team member's attempt to cross a stretch of water over a fallen palm trunk almost succeeded until the trunk gave way at the last minute resulting in a chorus of "argh"s of concern ... but all was good.

We rock hopped and slid our way to the abrupt end of the creek where we clambered up the final few boulders before popping out onto a dirt road that took us the last 3 or 4 very civilised kilometres back to the cars. We'd apparently covered either 8 or 19 kilometres up the creek depending on whose GPS navigator you go by, so who knows ... let's go for 12. Either way we were all more than satisfied with the great adventure up the (stony) creek.



Gheerulla Falls from Sam Kelly Road

We listen to the sounds of nature while bushwalking. Playing music is a big no-no in the hiking community but there are songs we can listen to at home or in the car, that remind us of the outdoors, wide open spaces and landscapes which bring back memories.

On 16 April, we dressed appropriately for a walk along Gheerulla Creek (These Boots Were Made For Walking... Nancy Sinatra).

The group of eleven walkers met at Sam Kelly Road (You'll Never Walk Alone...Gerry and the Pacemakers). It's not a hard walk like some club walks, just fairly long (Walking On Sunshine... Katrina and the Waves). The grass trees, tall gums and rain forest along the path are photogenic (Give Me A Home Among The Gum Trees....Bob Brown).

Usually there are several creek crossings requiring rock hopping, but there had been so little rain that the water was hardly flowing (Hold Back The River... James Bay).

The lunch stop was at Gheerulla Falls, where there was only a trickle of water. Conversation ranged over past hikes, (I've Been Everywhere ... Johnny Cash) and the benefits of exercise (Forever Young ...Alphaville).

We returned along the creek (Hold On We're Going Home...Drake).

The rocky track and hills were tiring (I Will Survive.. .Gloria Gaynor).

Some walkers plan to do the walk again when there is water flowing over the falls and filling the waterholes (See You Again...Westlife).

June Hughes

Bribie Island Delight - cycle



Guest Speaker – June Meeting

Come along to our June meeting (5th) and hear from our local SES

We need you!

Supper is always a winner at meetings and we need you!

Our volunteer supper register for the rest of the year is looking a bit bare. If you can supply some home made goodies or a packet of store bought goodness please get in touch with Cheryl Meligonis (postbox.meli@gmail.com).

Lake Doonella Nature Reserve

Looking for an easy, short walk in the local area, away from the crowds and with a bakery close by?

Here it is!! This relatively unknown area is a good addition to our list of local walks. Tucked behind quiet streets of houses and schools is the Doonella Wetlands Nature Reserve.

Lake Doonella is a large shallow lake which empties into the Noosa River near Tewantin. There is an excellent concrete track through the bush and around part of the lake, suitable for both walking and bikes. At different times of the year there are lots of birdlife and good fishing in the lake.

The walk has several off-shoots, but our small group of 5 chose to do a circuit which ended at the bakery. This is definitely worth a return visit in the summer months.

Above Gheerulla Falls

Viewpoint from a creek hopper newbie! (SDW5B)

23 April 2023

Walk Leader Peter Fowler

Oh my gosh - so much fun! I hesitated to register for this hike - I always doubt my fitness and ability and didn't want to let anybody down. But...I had a chat with Peter who assured me I would be fine. And I was!

Don't get me wrong - there were some definite "what the! I can't do that" thought moments. But I had faith in Peter, support and encouragement from my hiking buddies so took a deep breath - and did it.

It started with a nice stroll to the Falls from the Gheerulla Falls carpark on Delicia Road. To use the description from the Activity "we head off track to climb very steeply through the bush to take us to the top of Gheerulla Falls. We follow the creek upstream for about 1.3km to join a forest track, a further 1.6km along the track takes us back to the start". Easy!

Yes there were easy bits and there were also very challenging (for me anyway) climbs and creekside ledges. We were lucky with dry weather - although it meant the waterfalls and creek were at very low levels, wet rocks and a fast running creek would have taken the trickiness to a whole new level!

A nice hike for our group of 9 off track adventurers. Loved having the creek to ourselves and the challenge of working out the best route to take. And the highlight for Linda and myself? Finding a sweet flowering rock orchid at the top of one of the more challenging rock scrambles - our reward for effort! LOL.

And the morning was topped off nicely by a takeaway coffee and lunch at Mapleton Lilyponds Park.



Mt Langley

MT LANGLEY STATISTICS (SORT OF)

Mt Langley - highest point in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland — 868m - true fact

Hundreds of hungry of leeches — might be an exaggeration, not the hungry bit

Lots of undulating hills — sure felt like that on the return trip.

A good deal of wait-a-while - that's a fact

12.4km of track (give or take a km)

Five hiking buddies - Sam, Joe, Helen, Ian and Linda

Three snakes - 2 carpet pythons, 1 red bellied black

One mountain - definitely a true fact.

One pair of secateurs welded by Joe to clear the wait-a-while Thanks Joe

Zero view - sad but true

I think that covers the stats. Oh wait up. The most important one!!

We had a LOT of FUN on our push up the mountain.

Thanks for leading Sam.



Baxter Falls



At 3:00am when the rain started to pour down, a number of us had started to wonder if today's walk would be a wash-out. However Kate's timely 6:30 am text message confirmed we were a "go" and the weather was perfect. Following Kate's directions (also excellent) all 7 of us (4 members and 3 prospectives) assembled in the right place at the right time and we set off on a gentle descending path through typical hinterland rainforest. Closer to the river the descent became steeper and switched to steps but it was a clear trail, not slippery and an easy decline. Once at the river we were rewarded with great views of the falls, courtesy of the overnight downpour, and took time to cross over the suspension bridge (one at a time – maintenance in progress!) for morning tea.

The climb back up allowed us to walk off morning tea – the same steps then eased off to a series of gradual switchbacks up to the top and a total 300m of elevation gain. Seven of us started out and seven of us returned safely – we all seemed to escape the leeches. A perfect Autumn's day walk

UNTIL NEXT MONTH..... HAPPY TRAILS