

DECEMBER 2024



The Trudge

Sunshine Coast Bushwalking Club
Est. 1975



CLUB MEETINGS

First Monday of the month (excl Jan.)

Time:

7:00pm – walk sign on opens

7:30pm – meeting commences with refreshments following

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

Committee Members 2024-2025

President:

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Vice President:

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Secretary:

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New Member Officer:

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Grants Officer:

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Non-Committee Positions

Hire Equipment Officer:

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Abseiling Coordinator

Peter Fowler

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Librarian:

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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.

November/December Activities

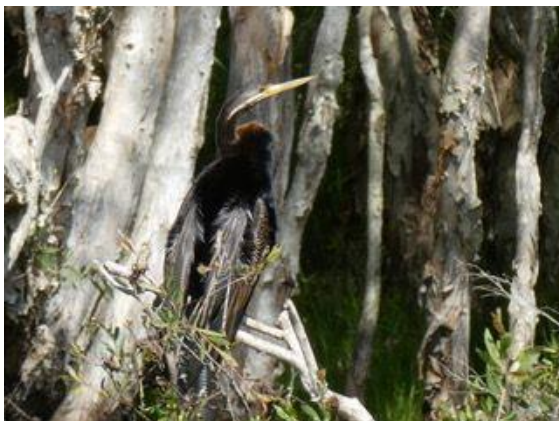
1 st	<i>Ewan Maddock Dam (Marilyn Shrapnel)</i>	17 th	<i>Leafy Lane to Mapleton Falls (Helen Bernard)</i>
10 th	<i>Byron Gorge and Stevens Creek (Jon Lee)</i>	24 th	<i>Kirbys Road Environmental Reserve Escarpment Walk (Sam Rowe)</i>
10 th	<i>Abseil Mt Tinbeerwah (Peter Fowler)</i>	1 st	<i>Summer Creek Circuit (Sam Rowe)</i>
15 th	<i>Lake Doonella Explore (June Hughes)</i>	7 th	<i>Club Christmas Party, Valdora Hall</i>
17 th	<i>Summer Creek Rock Hop (Claire Staines)</i>		
	- postponed		

Ewan Maddock Dam



This short, shady walk surprised our small group with many sightings of orchids, native flowers and birdlife. I will leave it to the twitchers in our group to confirm the birds we saw and heard. For my part I was able to identify, slender hyacinth orchids, large tongue orchids, (*cryptostylus subulata*), fringed lilly, dampieria, blueberry ash, woolly frogmouth, native waterlilies and bottle brush grass tree amongst others. Throw in some peaceful views of the dam to complete the scene. Thank you Marilyn and Helen for leading the walk and everyone for their company.

Linda Gregory



Byron Gorge and Stevens Creek

With Jon Lee at the helm followed by Michelle, Judy, Dot, Chris, Jo, Taylor, Ian, Richard and Cindy. It was a hardy bunch that fronted for this hike despite the threat of extreme temperatures, but as is often the case the weather gods were smiling down on us and I believe the day peaked at just under the 30-degree mark. The early morning Dayboro/Mount Mee scenic drive in was blanketed with a white-out of cloud reminiscent of a cold foggy winter's morning - except the car's icy aircon was responsible for the winter element as it was already quite balmy when we stepped out of the vehicle at The Gantry on the northern section of D'Aguiar National Park – our designated meeting spot. Some car pooling was organised for the quick trip from there along a fire trail to begin the hike.



Strolling along fire trails eased us into the hike then we ventured off track for a bit of bush bashing until the creek eventually revealed itself – always a welcome site. There hadn't been any recent rainfall so there were no slippery rocks to negotiate which made the going easy although the waterfalls were a tad lifeless as to be expected.

The steep slopes were regularly dotted with grass trees, prominent with their trunks blackened by fire. The vegetation at waist height was thick with lime-green fine-leafed bushes that looked like



they'd be so delicately soft to touch but in fact

were prickly little scratching demons. The march flies were equally hazardous. There was a diverse range of native plants flourishing, gorgeous vibrant green leaves against burgundy stems, and the dainty flowering blueberry ash.



We clambered over and around large granite-looking boulders which in some areas were splashed in pinkish mottled tones. Others massive slabs of rock were oddly marked with oblique parallel splits as though they had once lain horizontal until being uplifted by some massive force.

We also came across outcrops of some different boulders that looked gnarly like blobs of molten lava, not round and smoothed like the others. And, of course, there were caves and trickling waterfalls and massive trees that had tumbled, or more likely thundered, down to the ground.

We made the most of the cool cover of a magnificent rock overhang for morning tea and to savour



the beauty of the gorge. As the day began to heat up, we considered every water hole we passed for a quick dip, boycotting one with a little snake slithering across the surface. The further we walked the more impressive the water holes became. Our al fresco lunch destination was fabulous - the perfect rockpool setting to laze in the pool then spread out on the rock to dry off and eat. Our exit from this most

enjoyable hike was via a wonderfully old and very wide girthed fallen tree. How fitting! Thanks Jon for showing us through this beautiful landscape.

Taylor

Abseil Mt Tinbeerwah



This was our first time abseiling so we were a little nervous. However, Sam and Peter's calm confidence was very reassuring. On our first abseil we were focused solely on our feet, the rocks and the rope! On our second descent we were more relaxed, and by our third descent we were able to pause and enjoy the spectacular views around us!



We finished it off with a hike to the views. It was an unforgettable day for giving their time and sharing their



summit for magnificent 360-degree us! A big thank you to Peter and Sam skills and knowledge with us.

Jackie and Pat Nair

Kirbys Road Environmental Reserve Escarpment Walk

After a week of rain, it was lovely to have the sun shining for our walk at Kirby's Road Environmental Reserve. After meeting at Mapleton, we drove the short distance to the gate of the Reserve. As it is not yet open to the public, the gate was locked and we had to leave our cars on the outside and walk only a couple of hundred metres to the start of the new walk which heads off from what will be the public carpark.



After investigating a huge Fungi in the garden near the carpark, we walked up some steps to the start of 'Track 1'. The ground was slightly wet and boggy in some spots due to the rain, but nothing too bad. Not long into our walk we were confronted with a tree down and had to detour around it – I'm sure our track maintenance team will make short work of that. We were lucky to have Ian's daughter Francesca on the walk who was able to give us some information on the endangered Scrub Serpentine trees which have been identified and marked along the track so they are not disturbed.

The path meanders upwards and branches off into a second track 'Track 2', which is what we followed up to the escarpment. The ascent of about 270 metres is pretty cruisy with some well-placed steps along the way (thanks to our club members that have been working on the track over the last year or so). Just below the escarpment there is a steeper climb and with lots of work done in this section involving rock work to create manageable steps, and making this a short, sharp climb to the top. Once up the top, it was a short walk to where some bench seats have



been placed to sit and enjoy the fantastic view over the Environmental Reserve and the Obi Obi Valley. This was a perfect place for our morning tea break.



After a short break, we continued our walk along a fire trail in the Kondalilla National Park, taking us to a spot near some power lines which affords another great view looking northwest out to Kenilworth Bluff and the Conondale Ranges. From here we walked back via a waterfall that drops off the escarpment and thanks to the rain earlier in the week, was flowing nicely.

Our walk back down was lovely, being able to take in the views as we made the descent. Close to the bottom, we branched off onto Track 1 which took us back via a couple of creeks to the carpark.

The entire walk took us about 3 ½ hours at a very cruisy pace and we covered about 6.5km. This will be a lovely short walk with a bit of a heart starter up the top, that will hopefully be enjoyed by many in the years to come. Congrats to the Track Team who have put so much work into developing these tracks for others to enjoy.



Our group was made up of Karen, Rod, Sam, Ian, Francesca, Janine, Chris, Rob, Melissa, Steve and Damien. The majority went back to Mapleton to enjoy lunch together. Rod and I took the opportunity to take a drive through the



beautiful countryside via Coolabine to Kenilworth and then lunch at Mrs Browns Diner at Beli Park – highly recommended.

Karen Edwards

Club Christmas Party





FROM THE EDITOR –

**MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED REPORTS, PHOTOS,
ANNOUNCEMENTS, ARTICLES OF INTEREST, AND ALL OTHER ITEMS FOR THE
NEWSLETTER THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.**

WITHOUT YOU THERE WOULD BE NO TRUDGE!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL
ENJOY THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS
STAY SAFE AND HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE TRAIL IN 2025**



HO HO HO