

JUNE 2025



# The Trudge

Sunshine Coast Bushwalking Club  
Established 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

## Committee Members 2024 -2025

President:

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Grants Officer:

Peter Fowler

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## Non-Committee Positions

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Email [enquiry@scbwc.com](mailto: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](mailto:trudge@scbwc.com)

Members should email [enquiry@scbwc.com](mailto:enquiry@scbwc.com) if they are not receiving general email communications from the SCBWC.



## May Activities

3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Photo Composition Workshop (Rob Shields)</i>	16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Lake Doonella (June Hughes)</i>
4 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Mountain Creek Bike Ride (Malcolm Rodley)</i>	23-26 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Conondale Range Great Walk (Rod Edwards) - POSTPONED</i>
5 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Kenilworth Bluff (Sam Rowe) – CANCELLED</i>	24 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Chinaman Creek Circuit (Clare Staines)</i>
9-11 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Mt Barney Lodge Base Camp (Rod Edwards)</i>	24-4 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Flinders Ranges Adventure (Chris Vieraitis)</i>
13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Mt Ninderry Sunset &amp; Full Moon Hike (Kate Russo) - POSTPONED</i>	25 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Chinaman Creek &amp; Snake Creek Maleny NP (Peter Fowler)</i>

## Mount Barney Lodge Base Camp



While we left the Sunshine Coast with torrential rain behind us, we set off for Mount Barney unsure of what to expect weatherwise. To our relief the weather was kind for the whole weekend apart from some untimely inconsiderate showers for our evening gatherings around the fire. Luckily, some of our party had booked cabins so plan B was sitting around cosy fires sheltered from the rain.



Our activities for the weekend were in honour of our club's 50 years & Mount Barney area was a big part of where our pioneer club members used to frequent. Our earliest record of visiting this area was highlighted in our 6<sup>th</sup> Newsletter Oct-Dec 1976 when Brian Jeffries (Jack Marshall's son -in-law) lead an overnight walk up Mount



Barney. Brian's invitation said "On this, our first visit to Mt Barney, we will be ascending Logan's Ridge. This could possibly take up to 8 hours as there is over 1000m of fairly steep climbing.

Ultra light gear is essential, no tents will be needed as we will be staying in Mount Barney Hut overnight. Sunday, we shall descend via Rocky Creek"



While we did not climb Mount Barney this time, those that made the trip enjoyed some great walks, some adventurous & some educational with good company along the way. I'd like to thank all those that trekked these places before us but also to our leaders for the weekend & those who have volunteered to write the reports for the individual activities.

*Rod Edwards*

### **Mount May to Waterfall Circuit**



Since it was the month of May it seemed only fitting to include a hike up the twin peaks of Mount May during our Mount Barney weekend, and as such there were possibly more takers putting their hand up to do this hike than our fearless leader (Ross) may have expected. But he bravely rose to the challenge and took us all on (10 in total).

We were blessed with fine weather and headed off in two cars to the start of the trail from the Waterfall Creek Reserve Camping Ground car park where we were met with a large group all gearing up and readying themselves to also hit the trail. Naturally we got a move on and rushed to beat them up the track, however ... it is a rather long, steep, heart-pumping, rocky trail ... up an elevation of more than 600 metres ... so those youngsters eventually caught us nearing the top where we graciously gave way to them. We hiked on further to search out the best spot for morning tea and were well rewarded with

a spectacular view over Lake Maroon backdropped by mountains for miles and miles, while perched on a ridge amongst some gorgeous grass trees. Yes, that was what we had come for!



And the day rolled on in a similar fashion, offering up even more impressive views of the Scenic Rim marvels of Mount Barney, Mount Maroon and others as we made our way down into the saddle and up the second peak through all sorts of terrain, over rocky outcrops, bush bashing and scrambling, sometimes stumbling, often sliding.



By the afternoon the weather began to mist up and look a little threatening. We swung between being very boisterous and noisy, laughing and chatting away to quietly serene as we picked our way along the track with determination. Getting back down the final section proved more challenging than expected. We were met with slippery surfaces and fallen trees all along the creek bed that I guess was to be our home trail so we tried a few alternative routes, some a little more eyebrow-raising than others. The occasional obstacle was managed by impressive teamwork, with help and reassurance from the leader and the accomplished scramblers within our group, for which I was most grateful. We were all smiles, stepping out with arms swinging and greatly satisfied with our efforts as we headed back to our cars right on 4pm. What a remarkable day on Mount May!

*Taylor*

### Cronin Creek Falls



### Maroom Caves and Northern Escarpment

Day 2 of our Barney weekend started with clearer skies and just a little cloud on the top of Barney and Maroon. Six of us headed off to Maroon caves with Ross leading. Following a footpad (mostly) we traversed around Maroon from the carpark up to the caves.





We continued across the 'spot the person' as we looked picking our way down on the track and descended to the

*Katherine Galligan*

Morning tea was had in the cool of the cave whilst taking in the 180deg views. From there the footpad ceased and we continued to traverse around to the northern escarpment. There was lots of climbing up and over and around rocks and vegetation. Luckily there was a lovely breeze and as we neared the top and the views were spectacular - 270deg.



northern escarpment and played across to Maroon's summit. After southern side we joined the main carpark.

## Mt Gillies and Maroon Historical Walk

Mt Gillies lies amongst a group of indistinct ridges and rocky terrain within the Mt Barney National Park with access through private property surrounding it. As we were guests at Barney Lodge, the club members staying for the weekend could enjoy the walk across the paddocks and up the hill to the base of these rocky outcrops. It is only for guests staying onsite that this access is granted.



There is no track up, and this trip was an explore to find some options for a route up in future trips down in the Barney area. The rocky outcrops gave us a chance to practice our rock climbing techniques, find hidden orchids and enjoy the dry eucalyptus woodland. The rocks were not too slippery from the overnight rain and the sun was shining brightly. Next

trip to Barney Lodge, I will allocate a day to get out and explore the mountain area and reach the "summit".



After a nice morning tea back at Henry's Hut, Karen, Taylor, Kate and Linda joined me for a trip to Maroon and going through the historical significance of the area to the SCBWC including Jack Marshalls Grave, the Cotswold Cottage ruins and the soldiers memorial. Perfect sunny weather to look over Mt May and Mt Maroon.

*Sam Rowe*



QUEEN OF THE MOUNTAINS

OR "AN ODE TO MT. MAROON"

Like a reigning monarch in command,  
Your noble features embrace this land;  
With dignity, emmence and grace,  
You cast your spell upon this place.

Oh venerable mountain you sit so calm,  
Like wise old Solomon of ancient psalm;  
So impregnable and rhyolite tough,  
Topographically described as "rough".

The Ugarapul tribe revered you so,  
You see history come and go;  
Ashamedly white man to plunder,  
Your fragile cloak to tear us under.

A wild bushfire thru your realm to race,  
To spread like a mantle and blush your face;  
Flannel flowers so rare you grow,  
Grasstree and wattle in exciting show.

High above an azure sky,  
Floating fleeces passing by;  
An eagle's flight to admire,  
O'er lofty heights to aspire.

Footsteps trespass and soon to test,  
Do climb upon your rocky breast;  
The sanctity of your crown to grace,  
There to claim a pride of place.

Entranced to stand and view with awe,  
North, South, East, West and more;  
Distant enchantment minus fences,  
Reward and fulfil the senses.

A glorious moon glows upon your face,  
Lighting up your lines of grace;  
A sleeping legend of spirit thins,  
As you resist the march of time.

Jack Marshall



## Chinaman Creek Circuit (Healthy Sunshine Coast Walk)



16 walkers headed off on an overcast morning for a bushwalk as part of the Healthy Sunshine Coast activities. The walk was led by Clare, with 3 other club members and 12 prospective members/Healthy Sunshine Coast participants. There was plenty of water in the creek and lying around on some of the maintenance tracks, which were muddy underfoot in parts.

Kate helpfully pointed out some orchids (no flowers at the moment) and we heard some bird life as we meandered along the track. There was some creek

hopping before we enjoyed morning tea at Chinaman

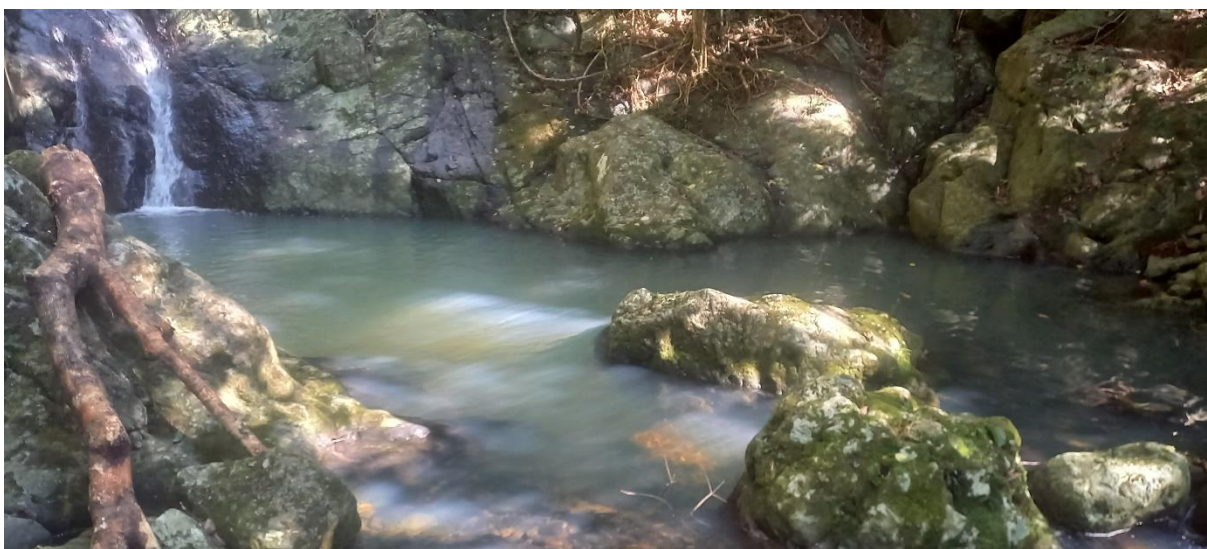
Creek Falls. We all enjoyed a short rest before the gradual climb back to the beginning of the circuit. It was wonderful to see so many people from the local community participating and benefiting from Clare's knowledge and leadership.



time to learn a little about each other. I'm sure we all appreciated the serenity of the bush and the sound of the water.

*Jo Bragg*

## Chinaman Creek and Snake Creek



A group of 6 – Peter, Jon, Ian, Maree and new members Karen and Chris – met around 7.30 at the Witta shops to arrange to meet at the top end of Maleny National Park and work out a car shuffle.



Four-wheel drives were not needed this time as we parked for the start of the walk at the lower end of the Park on Chinaman Ck Road, about 8 kilometres south-east of Kenilworth. The fog had cleared by this time and it was a beautiful day (such a pleasure after all the rain we have had) with a moderate temperature – perfect hiking conditions!



We followed Chinaman Creek for 1 kilometre before turning west up Snake Creek, which we followed for 2 kilometres. Fortunately, Peter and Jon had completed a reccie and cut back some of the lantana overhanging the entrance. The creeks were flowing beautifully with 3 large waterfalls and numerous small ones. Those we couldn't climb were navigated by scaling the banks, which were quite steep and challenging at times and loose rocks kept us on the alert for falling ones.

Walking over the creek rocks was a slippery affair at

times too, with few of us remaining dry by the finish, including ripped pants! 500 metres or so across country near the top brought us to the fire break and a 5 km trek back to the cars.



Bush plants *Calamus australis*, or wait-a-while, and barbed-wire vine, together with our Lantana weed had us treading carefully. An interesting stinky fungi, *Phallus Indusiatus*, sprouted from the embankment. Whip birds and Bellbirds were a common chorus too. Fortunately no snakes or leaches this time, however Jon managed to acquire 5 scrub ticks. The total distance was about 8 km and elevation 550 metres. Our thanks to Peter and Jon for their navigation skills to guide us through this challenging walk. Us 'newbies' felt it quite an accomplishment to finish, and before dark too.

*Maree Bell*

## Flinders Ranges Adventure (Part 1)



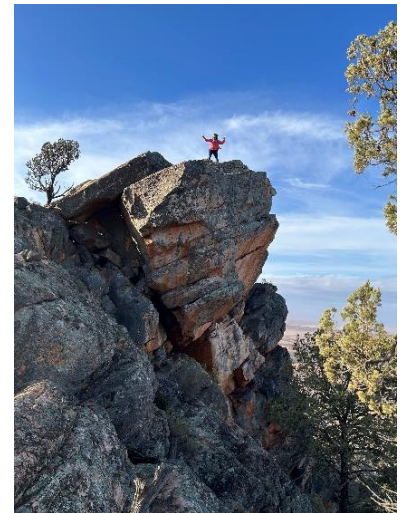
After receiving 10 EOI for this adventure, we were left with 5 who made the commitment and booked their flights to Adelaide. Just a few days prior to departure it all went pear shaped for 2 participants (completely separate incidents) and we were left with 3. Last minute readjustment on car hire and accomodation and we were all set to go. First stop was the lovely historial town of Quorn 310 kms north of Adelaide CBD where we stayed for 2 nights as we did 3 half day walks. Couldn't leave the town without a visit to the Flinders Gin Distillery either.



**Dutchman's Stern Loop** – 10.6km circuit – elevation of 820m – forms part of the Heysen Trail. Hike starts along the Dutchmans Valley Hike trail, summiting Dutchmans Stern where we nearly got blown off and passing Terrace Viewpoint Lookout along the way. The summit gave us spectacular views of Spencer Gulf, surrounding ranges and the Willochra Plain.



**Devil's Peak Trail** – 2.4kms return – elevation of 697m. Although short, this hike was spectacular, starting out moderately difficult and becoming increasingly strenuous towards the summit where some scrambling over rocks was required. From the summit, there were extensive panoramic views of Quorn, the Southern Flinders Ranges, the Horseshoe Range, Pichi Richi Pass, Port Augusta, Upper Spencer Gulf and beyond to Wilpena Pound. Wow, that's a lot to take in.



**Warren Gorge Trail** – 5.2km circuit – elevation of 550m. This circuit follows Warren Gorge between towering cliffs, along a native pine tree lined forest, before climbing up to the saddle through yackas with multiple lookouts along the ridgeline.



UNTIL NEXT MONTH ..... HAPPY TRAILS