

NOVEMBER 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 2nd Monday

Committee Members 2024 -2025

President:

Linda Gregory

pres@scbwc.com

Vice President:

June Hughes

vp@scbwc.com

Secretary:

Ian Vinen

sec@scbwc.com

Treasurer:

Karen McNamara

treas@scbwc.com

Activities Coordinator:

Kate Russo

activities@scbwc.com

New Member Officer:

Maree Bell

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Grants Officer:

Peter Fowler

grants@scbwc.com

Non-Committee Positions

Hire Equipment Officer:

Garry Carr

guznez6@gmail.com

Trudge Editor:

Chris Vieraitis

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.



50th Anniversary Year

ANOTHER LOOK BACK IN TIME FROM 1976 TRUDGE

This activity was originally undertaken in January 1976.
It is scheduled as a current club activity early November 2025.

BUNYA MOUNTAINS - AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND

We departed Ocean Plaza 7.30am Saturday morning. The trip up there took longer than we expected because everyone thought everyone else knew the way! Four and a half hours later we arrived at Bunya Mts National Park.

We set up camp at Dandabah Camping area and cooked ourselves some lunch. Later that afternoon we took a stroll around the circuit track. We noticed a number of magnificent specimens of the Bunya Pine. The rainforest is unlike anything we've ever seen before. Certainly not as dense as that which is found at Lamington or Kenilworth, but nevertheless very beautiful. There was quite a large amount of water coming over the falls, probably the result of the recent heavy rains.

Sunday dawned grey and misty with fine rain falling. We thought for sure it would lift, but no, it set in. The rain stopped just before lunch so we set off for Burton's Well in Brian's land cruiser. It was a toss up between Mt. Kangaroo and a walk to Westcott Plain. The latter won. We were amazed to see the sudden and frequent changes in vegetation. We saw beautiful falls and some spectacular views of Dalby from lookouts along the track. That night, Ruth cooked a tasty damper for us all. Apparently it was her first, a fluke, maybe, we've yet to see.

The sunshine saw us through Monday on our walks to the Great Falls. As we approached the falls, we suddenly walked onto a small plain devoid of any vegetation, whatsoever. It gives one a strange sensation, for a thick blanket of rainforest lining the falls is what I expected, and I think everyone else did too. The return walk to Paradise Picnic Ground was perhaps the prettiest if not the best part of the whole trip. It was just like a fantasy land with maidenhair ferns and larger the ferns lining the track, and a small creek winding around and across it. I immediately thought of the enchanted forest, when I saw it. We headed for home early in the afternoon and arrived safe and sound at 4.30pm or thereabouts.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2025

A quote from the first edition of our club's newsletter, The Trudge, states, "the Sunshine Coast Bushwalking Club took birth on the third day of April 1975."

There is no record of the membership numbers for that first meeting in 1975. However, it was reported in the NOV-DEC 1975 edition of The Trudge that the Christmas Dinner Dance, held on 6 December 1975 was attended by 37 members as well as relatives and friends.

Fast forward to October 2025. At the time of writing, our club has a healthy membership of 133 members and 12 Life members. This year we welcomed 22 new members. So, what have we been doing to celebrate 50 wonderful years of activities? Well, our 50th Anniversary year has been a busy one, with many commemorative activities integrated into our activities calendar. If my counting is correct, we had 19 of these activities. They were researched from original Trudge newsletters by Rod Edwards who co-ordinated with our wonderful activity leaders to replicate them.

The highlight of our year of course, has to be our 50th Anniversary Luncheon where we had in attendance over 70 club members, their partners and special invitees. The special invitees were some of the original foundation members of our club. An honour to include these foundation members at this special event and humbling to consider the amount of volunteer hours that helped to establish the club. Again, I acknowledge the very considerable amount of time and effort by Rod Edwards for co-ordinating all aspects of this event.

Our thanks must also extend to Russell Knight and Rob Shiels for the amazing and memorable video they created of past and present, club members and places explored during our club's 50 years of activities. Another club member, June Hughes is to be thanked for her extensive time and effort collating a commemorative booklet of poems, stories and photos.

During 2025, the SCBWC Management Committee has also been busy with the following:

- ❖ Kirby's Road Environmental Reserve - Funding was granted for a further three year period. Our thanks go to Peter Fowler our Grants Officer.
- ❖ The committee reviewed and updated the club's Risk Management Policy.
- ❖ We introduced an Induction Activity as an additional safety measure for Prospective Members. An Information Sheet and separate Registration Form were designed specifically for the Induction Activity.
- ❖ In line with the recommendations of Bushwalking Australia Insurance, all forms and the annual renewal notice were updated to reflect the new wording of the Acknowledgement of Risks and Obligations of Members and Prospective Members.
- ❖ In line with Bushwalking Australia Insurance, we detailed and adopted their recommended Child Safety Policy.
- ❖ The club hosted representatives from the National Fire Ant Eradication Program to learn more about identification of fire ants and current eradication programs.

In March of this year the club added an additional track maintenance activity on the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Great Walk track, co-ordinated by Peter Fowler. To date this has included clearing and general maintenance of the track, as well as weeding, revegetation and watering of newly planted tube stock.

We acknowledged and thanked club member Joe Kirkpatrick for his 15 years of work, co-ordinating the Conondale track maintenance team. Joe was involved in and gave valuable assistance with the actual construction of the Conondale Great Walk and was instrumental in forming the track maintenance team that continues until this day. A remarkable legacy. Joe's contribution and

commitment to track maintenance was acknowledged by the park rangers at the Kenilworth depot. A barbecue lunch was provided and a speech acknowledging Joe's contribution was delivered by ranger Sarah. All who have volunteered on track maintenance with Joe are grateful to him for co-ordinating us and wish to thank him as well.

This year we paid tribute to one of our foundation members and the club's first President, Lindsay Hope who passed away in May of this year. His enthusiasm, spirit of generosity and volunteering spirit were truly remarkable.

My thanks go to all of the SCBWC Management Committee, Secretary Ian Vinen, Vice President June Hughes, Activities Co-ordinator Kate Russo, Treasurer Karen McNamara, New Members Officer Maree Bell and Grants Officer Peter Fowler, for their continuous hard work, enthusiasm, commitment, collaborative approach and ongoing positive input on all committee matters.

My thanks extend also, to our non management committee of Garry Carr, Equipment Officer, Gerry Gallop, Librarian, Chris Vieraitis, Trudge Editor and Peter Fowler Abseiling Co-ordinator. In their individual roles they have provided invaluable and important contributions to our club. I acknowledge all the assistance and expertise provided by David Andor, who is our IT go to and website expert.

I am also sure that club members would want to thank Toni Roberts, for providing supper for us. Her baking has been enjoyed and appreciated by all who sampled it. Last but certainly in no way least, we should all be thankful for our activity leaders. Some of these club members have led multiple activities throughout the year. Our thanks as well to those club members, who when approached, agreed to lead 50th anniversary activities and base camps for the club.

If I have omitted to thank anyone, I apologise. All those who have volunteered are very much valued and appreciated. Without volunteers we will not survive and thrive. They are the engine that powers our club. It has been a privilege to hold the position of club President in 2025, a year that marks our 50th anniversary and my tenth year holding a management committee position. It is my sincere hope that our club will continue to grow and flourish for many years to come.

With thanks,
Linda Gregory, Pres. SCBWC



Social Breakfast

Lots of lovely chatter at our monthly social breakfast which was held on Saturday, 4th November at the Pool Cafe, Peregrine Springs. We always cover such a great range of topics with lots of laughter!

Next one is at Alexandra Headlands Surf Lifesaving Club Saturday 1st November - preceded by a lovely short hike in the Alex Forest Conservation Area led by Tania.

Kate Russo

October Activities

4 th	<i>Social Breakfast – Peregrin Springs (Kate Russo)</i>	17 th	<i>Lake Weyba Foreshores (June Hughes)</i>
5 th	<i>Revegetation Watering SC Hinterland Great Walk (Peter Fowler)</i>	19 st	<i>Kondalilla to Witta Creek Hike (Ross Thompson)</i>
6-19 th	<i>Grampian Peaks Trail Mighty Through Hike (Ian Vinen)</i>	19 th	<i>Induction Hike – Emu Mountain (June Hughes)</i>
12 th	<i>Leafy Lane to Gheerulla Falls via Ubajee Walkers Camp and return (Janine Conway)</i>	21 st	<i>Mapleton Observatory Club (Kate Russo)</i>
14-16 th	<i>Mt Barney up Logan's Ridge down South East Ridge (Ross Thompson)</i>	23-26 th	<i>Harrys Hut Kayak and Hike Base Camp (Joe Kirkpatrick)</i>
		31 st	<i>Night Bike Ride (Peter Fowler) - POSTPONED</i>
		Weekly	<i>Wednesday's Fitness Circuit</i>

Mount Barney

Route: Up Logan's Ridge, down South-East Ridge

Team: Ross (Leader), Katherine, Peter & Carolyn

Date: 15 October 2025

Total trail time: 9 hours

The team set out for a classic Mt Barney adventure, ascending via Logan's Ridge and descending by the SE Ridge — a combination guaranteed to test the legs, lungs, and navigation skills alike. Ross, as leader, came well prepared, carrying an 11 m length of tape that proved its worth several times over. His 5.5 litres of water, however, were all but consumed through sheer exertion and a little excretion along the way.



The mountain was alive with colour, wildflowers in full bloom — including the striking Mt Barney Bush Pea. Along the way, a sun-baking skink looked on, entirely unperturbed by our passing — a true local enjoying the fine conditions. The weather was kind, with clear skies and a gentle breeze, though the sun was strong enough at the summit to ensure a respectable suntan. Katherine wisely claimed the only shade available beneath a small tree — a premium summit spot.



A previous hiker, promptly dubbed “Snapper” for his habit of marking his route by breaking off small branches, left a few unintended clues along the ridge. Our own navigation drew on the classic Mt Barney reference points: the “little tree” (now looking rather scraggy), the “big tree,” and the infamous “greasy rock.” With teamwork and steady progress, the summit was reached and the descent completed safely — tired but unscathed.

As always, the mountain demanded a fair price: a few offerings of blood, sweat, and skin left behind as mementos. Despite the challenges, the views were magnificent and the company even better. A demanding but thoroughly rewarding climb — Mt Barney at its best.

Carolyn Kennedy



Lake Weyba Foreshores



This is a favourite easy walk with good views to the hills and north to Noosa. The weather was perfect for a stroll around the lake. Five members Helen, Toni, Marilyn, Trish and June were joined by Peter doing his second walk. The track was shady and quiet with only a few other walkers. The distant calls of Black Cockatoos was heard, a Brahminy Kite flew over and one sting ray was seen. Sometimes there are sailing boats and paddle boarders on the lake but on the day we were there the water was completely calm. Remember Lake Weyba for a quiet picnic when the crowds are at the beach!

June Hughes

Kondalilla Falls to Witta Creek Hike



Our leader was Ross Thompson and our group included Peter Fowler, Carolyn Kennedy, Noelia Pinto and myself. We walked down from Kondalilla to Flat Rock on defined tracks, then went off track bush bashing and rock hopping for the rest of the hike following a tributary of the Obi Obi Ck.

Altogether we covered 13.3 km and took 6 hrs for the hike.

Ross expertly navigated the way which took us up around the sides of numerous spectacular waterfalls along the way. Sometimes Ross and Peter would confer about the best route as they had initially reccied the route and had done this hike about 4 times.





The majority of the hike was then winding our way back up from one side of the tributary to the other with some quite difficult sections of traversing around some pretty sketchy sections of rock. Along the way, some “gardening” with secateurs was needed to help with thick undergrowth and also errant Wait A While. On many occasions we needed to use roots and vines to haul ourselves up and where the rock was quite blank or slippery, Ross’ 20 yr old climbing tape was very helpful.

Towards the end of the hike around the final waterfall, there were some lengths of poly pipe and a chain that were left there where there was little else of use. Thanks Ross and the other hikers for a Sunday well spent.

Narelle Poulsen

Induction Hike – Emu Mountain

Five prospective members took part in the very first Induction Activity to give visitors an idea of the types of activity the SCBWC offers. The Emu Mountain walk was chosen because it is a reasonable distance and there is a mixture of flat walking, some sun exposure and a rocky scramble to the summit.

Catherine, Peter, Robyn, Larissa and Eve were given information about the club and hints about bushwalking from Kate and June. We hope to see them again.

June Hughes

Mapleton Observatory



Nine Club Members were enthralled for the whole 2 hours of our private booking at the Mapleton Observatory on Tuesday night 21 October. The 2 volunteers from the observatory shared their passion with us so enthusiastically. We spent time outside with volunteers showing us various things of interest using a laser pointer. Then we followed up by time inside the observatory dome looking through the scope or listening to the wealth of knowledge of Adrian our volunteer. Just mind blowing on how small our world/solar system is in the big scheme of things!

Definitely an activity to be included on the calendar again next year - perhaps in winter when the viewing clarity is at its premium.

Kate Russo



Harry's Hut Kayak and Hike Base Camp

14km return SDW2B

Our intrepid group of 5 set off on what was termed a "reccie" - none of us having done it before. We started at the Harry's Hut campsite and trusting our navigation skills set off. Quite an easy track to follow although I must say that there was a section at the start that was a bit sketchy - one of those ...stop, look in the distance for the next orange triangle...type of tracks.



Our morning tea stop was Figtree Point where we met up with our Club kayakers who had come down from Harry's Hut. A short break and then we returned along the same track.

By this stage it was getting quite hot and humid and we were all glad to reach Harry's Hut camp to cool down over lunch.

The track was a dry one for us but we could see that with only a small amount of rain it would certainly be a boggy wet feet one. So perfect timing on our behalf!

Kate Russo





Wednesday's Fitness Circuit



Yep! They are still happening!

Every (1st, 2nd & 3rd) Wednesday afternoon 4pm (note time change) at the Parklands Conservation Park main entrance on Radar Hill Road Parklands. We do either the Coobong or Rocky Creek Circuits - just over 5km of ups and downs.

And then on the 4th Wednesday we head over to Mt Ninderry 4pm for a bit of variety. Our numbers do fluctuate a bit on these - depending on other commitments and weather conditions! Great to see results from our efforts. All welcome to join us.

Details on the Activity Calendar.

Kate Russo



UNTIL NEXT MONTH HAPPY TRAILS