

THE TRUDGE

February 2021

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

7:30pm

Buderim Men's Shed
38 Advance Road, Kuluin

(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 2020-2021

President:	Julie Nunn	pres@scbwc.com
Vice President:	Clare Staines	vp@scbwc.com
Secretary:	Stephen Hunter	sec@scbwc.com
Treasurer:	Pam Sanders	treas@scbwc.com
Walks Coordinator:	Rod Edwards	walk@scbwc.com
New Member Officer:	Karen Edwards	enquiry@scbwc.com
Hire Equipment Officer:	Joe Kirkpatrick	equip@scbwc.com
Grants Officer:	Peter Fowler	grants@scbwc.com
Librarian:	Gerard Gallop	cooroora35@gmail.com

Non Committee Positions

Trudge Editor:	Stephen Hunter	trudge@scbwc.com
Digital Media Officer:	Julie Nunn	media@scbwc.com
OH&S Officer	Malcolm Rodley	
Assistant Secretary	Anne Miller	
Abseiling Coordinator	Peter Fowler	
Refreshments Coordinator	Lindy Kenniwell	

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 media@scbwc.com if they are not receiving general email communications from the SCBWC.

If you are a SCBWC member, join our closed Facebook group.





President's Report February 2021

Your new committee has had its first meeting on 17th February to map out and review the necessary issues to keep the club running smoothly in the ensuing months.

Our main topic was the requirement of online registration for activities and how we implement them. There were a variety of options brought to the table and they will be researched in the coming months. For the immediate future though, bushwalking clubs may continue to use pen and paper for the registration of activities. This is good news. There is one additional step the walk leaders will

have to take. When the attendees arrive at the start of the walk (or whatever activity), the attendee is required (Queensland directive) to do a QR scan (the same as when you come to a club meeting). If you aren't able to do this, the leader will input your details at the end of the walk. This information is only provided to Queensland Health on request for contact tracing.

Zoom meetings will now run in parallel during the physical monthly club meetings. This will assist members who want to attend but may live too far away to drive or are not comfortable attending a meeting under today's current circumstances. An email has been sent to members on 26th February with further details.

As part of our funding for the Kirbys Road grant, the Sunshine Coast Council requested we provide them a Strategic Plan. The document itself captures what the club has and is currently doing. This is presented at a high summary level. Peter Nagel and the past committee worked on this through the latter part of 2020. Our current committee has now accepted the final document and adopted it for the club. It will be submitted to Council. Should any member wish to review this document, please email a request to sec@scbwc.com.

As you are aware, 10 members have volunteered to lead 10 walks for the Healthy Sunshine Coast program. This is a Sunshine Coast Council initiative. Due to Covid, the program was delayed last year but it is moving forward with potentially the first walk in late May. The club will be responsible for managing the walks in their entirety (bookings, waitlist, payments, etc) to align with our own Covid Safe Plan. This will be done through our website with a new page to be developed. It will not interfere with our current calendar activities system. A subcommittee has been formed to create and implement the new processes. On the same web page, we will also state our involvement with the club's other community activities: Conondale NP Great Walk track maintenance and Kirbys Road construction and track maintenance.

In previous years, we have had a few activities at RockIt Climbing Gym and TreeTop Challenge where the club subsidized a portion of the per person cost. The members thoroughly enjoyed them. The committee has agreed that we continue to do this in 2021. We will schedule these activities for our members with initial discussions at the next Planning Meeting, 21st March.

BWQ have initiated monthly Zoom meetings that I will endeavor to attend as time permits. It does provide another resource of information. For our newer members, BWQ (Bushwalking Queensland) is the peak body that represents the interests of its affiliated bushwalking clubs in the state of Queensland such as SCBWC.

We've started the year in a positive direction and a variety of activities. The club is attracting a good number of visitors that are attending our meetings and going on our walks. We're also seeing our members out there enjoying the club activities. We look forward to an active and fun year with plenty of bushwalking.

Julie Nunn
President

SCBWC Christmas Party

Saturday 5 December 2020

There was a good turnout of around 50 members at the Noosa Sea Scouts for the annual club Christmas party. An enthusiastic group of volunteers spent the morning setting up the marquees, tables and decorations for the event. They were more efficient than they expected and were ready well ahead of time.

A nice catered lunch took care of the Covid-19 requirements and everyone was able to catch up with old and new friends in a relaxed atmosphere on the lawns. It was a little warm but we missed the worst of the heat and the rain stayed away.

Thanks to Julie for the organisation and all the volunteers for their hard work.





Photos by Stephen & Tita Hunter

Obi Obi Lookout

Sunday 13 December 2020

It is always great to try out new equipment in the weather that it is purchased for, and that is what the heavy rain forecast for the Sunshine Coast allowed on the Obi Obi Lookout bushwalk. New rain jackets, ponchos, protection bags were all put to the test and generally passed well.

For the final bushwalk for the club for 2020, a year which has had incredible disruption, the rain forecast meant that the booked number of 15 walkers dropped to 5 bushwalkers at the starting time of 8am at the car park. Julie Nunn led the troops along the Great Walk track to the Flaxton Walkers Camp with only a light shower. This is where we left the Great Walk and continued on the old fire track westward.

I have done this walk numerous times with the club and also solo and never met another walker along the track after the Flaxton Walkers Camp. The track was also not maintained so at times the grass could be very long. However, with the introduction of the Sunshine Coast Council's *Adventure Sunshine Coast* website, this walk has now been publicised and the council is maintaining the track, so for the first time, in the rain, we met another group of local bushwalkers.

This group guided us to where the Christmas Orchids were in flower further long the track, and we supplied them with information on some other orchids that had been found a few months ago. After the pleasantries, we continued our walk out to the lookout.

This really is a lovely lookout over the Obi Obi Valley, but today we had cloud within the valley, and during our morning tea break the wet weather did come in so it was time to head back to the cars.

Thanks to Julie for leading the walk, and also Alf, Peter and Leanda for braving the elements and coming out for a fun morning. It was great that after a difficult year, the final bushwalk of 2020 went ahead.

Sam Rowe



Rotary Club of Buderim Australia Day Celebration Tuesday 26 January 2021

We have been involved with the Rotary Club of Buderim Australia Day celebrations for a few years.

Since there was no parade this year, Rod and Karen Edwards organised to set up our new gazebo as an information stand, which ran from 3pm-7pm. Thanks to them and Peter Fowler for bringing so much gear for display.

This was my first time attending the celebrations and it was a great afternoon. Thanks to the many members of the club who stopped by and had a chat with us. We also had quite a few visitors talking to us wanting to know about our activities. Some of these visitors then showed up to the following meeting in February.

This is definitely a good event to bring awareness of our club to the community.

Julie Nunn



Ubajee Camp Walk

Sunday, 31 January 2021

This was a 10 Km walk along part of the Hinterland Great Walk to the Ubajee Walkers Camp returning along the same track. Thanks to Julie Nunn for the photos.



A great turnout of members that joined our leader Joe Kirkpatrick for the walk



Great Walk? – Yes!



Jenny couldn't pass up this wonderful swing!

Multi day hikes

New safety equipment

To further improve safety on multi day walks the club has purchased a compact Garmin inReach Mini Satellite Communicator for the use by club members.

The inReach has multiple functions for communication through the Iridium satellite network.

Of particular note is the ability to send and receive text messages when mobile phone coverage is not available.

A minimum one month subscription through Garmin(at club member cost) is required to access the Iridium Satellite Network.

Follow this link for an overview of the inReach

buy.garmin.com/en-AU/AU/p/592606#overview

Video review of the inReach

www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMU8xVeHARo

Follow this link for satellite subscription details

discover.garmin.com/en-AU/inreach/personal/#subscriptions

The Inreach is recommended as a safety tool to compliment a PLB.

It is recommended you still take a PLB(personal locator beacon)

Contact Peter Fowler for inReach inquiries

Contact Joe Kirkpatrick for PLB inquiries.

Peter Fowler

Grants Officer/Abseiling Coordinator



Kureelpa Falls

Sunday 7 February 2021

Along with many new visitors to the club Russell lead his trusty eight followers on the 15km roundtrip walk to Kureelpa Falls. Entering the circuit, we followed a track under the canopy of towering blackbutt trees and a variety of others, and being downhill, the first half of the hike made for much chatter and socialising.

Our first welcome rest for morning tea would be alongside the quite water's edge to the sound of gentle flowing water and noisy cicadas buzzing above. Further on we would rock hop our way across a creek crossing without anyone managing to take an unexpected cooling dip. The path narrowed and the undergrowth grew thicker.

On one side the edge gave way to a large drop to the bush below and the other side provided spectacular water views with several bunya pines (false monkey puzzle tree) rising in the foreground. The edible seeds of the Bunya tree have provided a food source for the Aborigines of SE Qld making it a very sacred tree. The flavour is often compared to that of the chestnut.

Several sightings of the large monitor lizards were had along the way as well as plenty of birdlife. As the morning wore on the heat and humidity gathered and the falls were a welcome rest spot for lunch. Kureelpa Falls water comes from the South Maroochy River and cascades over boulders before falling 30m into a hidden gorge.

Although sadly not a fall that can be easily seen or photographed, it is one you can explore the surrounds of and hear the water rushing below.

After lunch came the long trudge back up the hill with less socialising and plenty of huff and puffing, but good banter and jokes got us back up to the start. Highly recommend plenty of water on hot days like this. Overall, it was a great walk with plenty of things to spot along the way. We covered the roughly 15km in about 5 hours.

Cheryl Ryan



Kirbys Road Reconnaissance

Sunday 7 February 2021

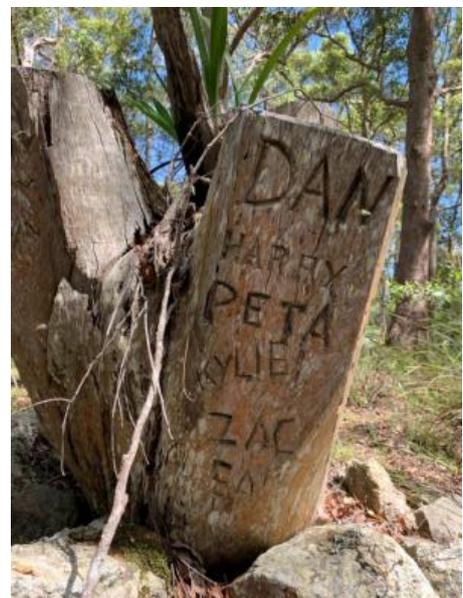
Eight club members met at the back of the library at Mapleton to share the drive down to Kirby's Road Environmental Reserve.

We parked at the maintenance shed and set off roughly west, up through a grassy paddock where the old homestead used to be. After an old eucalypt plantation we soon hit rougher woodland and, seemingly nowhere in particular, Peter announced that we were leaving the environmental reserve and entering Maleny State Forest.

The terrain quickly got steeper and we gained a couple of hundred metres to get to the first peak, henceforth to be known as 'Hill 391'. It was pretty warm with some of us shedding 'toxins' by the bucket load but we pressed on to have morning tea in a pretty forested spot.

Love flower, spade flower, native parsnip and a cute pink and white orchid dotted the woodland floor in amongst the kangaroo grass.

After morning tea it was decided to continue on towards the second higher peak rather than try and follow a vague track which didn't look like it was heading in the right direction.



A discussion was held on whether to follow the contours, or go straight up the ridge line. Gary was sure that the ridge line would be less vegetated, so straight up it was.

We intrepid adventurers burst up through the grass trees and brush box to claim the second peak, only to find that Dan, Harry, Kylie, Peta and Zac had got there before us. They had kindly left plenty of chairs to sit on, a fireplace if needed too.

The collapsed barbed wire fence not far from the top should have been a clue, as we had walked out of the state forest and were close to private property and Suicide Road. There was also an old almost rotted out square survey post which Peter thought might be around 100 years old; and fossicking about not far from the peak we found what looked like it might have been an abandoned camp with square holes cut into a couple of ancient trees and bits of old tin. Plus the most stunning orange and green fruit of a zamia.

The trip back was pretty much back the way we came with a cool-off in the creek for those who wanted to, and lunch. Wikiloc reckoned we had walked less than 5km but gained and lost 408m in elevation. A satisfying off-track exploration with much thanks to Peter for leading it.

Clare Staines

Obi Obi Swim Through

Sunday 7 February 2021



I've always wanted to do a swim through hike with the club after having had the fortune to be invited on one years ago and thinking at that time, 'wow ... I never knew people actually did this kind of thing?' I'd clearly been mixing in the wrong circles to have missed out on such an adventure ...

And so I patiently waited through many cancelled swim throughs until it finally happened - the club planned the February swim through down the Obi Obi Creek with Peter Fowler at the helm and I was in! But on the morning of the hike grey clouds filled a rather bleak looking sky, it had started to drizzle and I was feeling a little dejected that without clear blue skies this hike probably wouldn't meet my expectations ... although I needn't have worried - it was superb and surpassed my expectations in every way.

We started out (nine of us) at 8 o'clock from just below the Baroon Pocket Dam wall and followed a well-marked trail, turning off early in the piece down to the Obi Obi Creek. Within minutes we were wading waist deep, navigating over and around some very slippery boulders in the drizzle accompanied by the occasional tumble.

The water temperature was surprisingly pleasant and the drizzle added a misty magic to the thick dense 'jungle' all around us. The creek level was exceptionally good to float down large sections of the gorge, bum it over small rapids, swim under a delightful spray of waterfall toppling over the face of a small cave (exceptional) and lay back looking up at the sheer cliff face way above us while cockatoos squawked high in the sky.

There was the most picturesque mound of rock up along one section of the wall uniformly planted in a circle with lush fine green ferns while on the other side of the creek there were birds nest ferns perfectly positioned in the limbs of the trees lining the creek. And then when we'd waded out and along the bank we'd be stepping on the greenest, thickest moss carpet sprinkled with small polished black river rocks and freshly sprouted raindrop-speckled little ferns that looked like it was a snapshot from some trendy Nature magazine.

We clambered out of the water halfway along for morning tea spreading out along a rocky bank and it was only then we wished for a little sunshine to warm us as we started to chill. Jackets, raincoats, and fleeces were pulled on and Leanda graciously offer us a hold of her piping hot china tea cup which we all stoically declined. And it was only here that we ran through a bit of a gear check and discussed some of the shortcomings ... some waterproof equipment not repelling water at all, some backpacks becoming more like anchors than floats and some Vegemite and cheese crackers refusing to stay dry and crisp becoming instead the most hilarious looking inedible sludge. But no biggie.

We peeled off the warm gear and jumped back into the water. The sky had begun to clear a little and the water was like glass. We continued drifting down the creek, some happily chatting as they made their way through the water while a couple of the more agile goats rock hopped along the bank. Miraculously at a spot along the bank with no obvious landmark detectable Peter waved for us to make our way out of the water and within a few minutes we had joined up to the Kondalilla - Baroon Pocket Dam track (about 3km back to the carpark) which occasionally boomed with short blasts of the most deafening 100 decibel summer song of cicadas!

We detoured to the lookout for an ogle of the magnificent terrain we had just been completely immersed in ... however, we clearly lingered there too long as one by one we started plucking leeches off our legs - not many escaped the bloodletting - and so we returned to the carpark, legs streaked in blood at around midday.

What an epic adventure. Thanks to Peter for guiding us safely on this wonderful escapade and thanks to the rest of the group for sharing the joy with lots of happy chat and smiles along the way.

Cheers, Taylor



Photos by Tracey Hawke

Maleny Trail Loop

Sunday 21 February 2021

Maleny Trail Loop – Discover the magic!!!

The Maleny Trail Loop was debuted on the Club's Walk Calendar and was the second walk led by the lovely Clare Staines. I'm betting it won't be the last time it features on the club activities as it was a delightful Sunday walk.

I'm new to the club and this was my second walk as a Prospective Member and I thoroughly enjoyed it. Very easy and picturesque. One in which you can walk and talk and get to meet other club members.

The circuit walk was approximately 10km and of easy grade. It commenced at 8am at the Maleny Showgrounds (easy meeting spot to find) and we were immediately connected to the Maleny boardwalk that runs along the Obi Obi Creek.

Clare then guided 15 of us across and up the green parkland trail, passing wetlands, to the historic and very elegant Pattermore House (Fairview). The group had a brief water/comfort break as Clare shared her knowledge of the Queensland State Heritage Listed property, built back in 1907.

I must flag here that Clare did make mention that Morning Teas have been hosted at the House, with scrumptious cakes, so I think it is every club member's duty to notify everyone should this event arise again in the future. I'll be there in a heartbeat!!!! I personally think it should be added as a running Club Agenda item, so we keep track of this possible development.



From Fairview, Clare led us along the shaded Poetry Sculpture Trail and kindly showed us where the proposed bridge to Gardeners Falls is earmarked to be. It was a very peaceful spot, and many photos were taken here. We then circled the Maleny Golf Course before Clare shared another little gem, the Obi Picnic area.

So many beautiful butterflies to quietly watch here and the water looked very inviting. We continued along the soft trail and trees, with the Obi Obi creek to our left until we stopped for morning tea at a Platypus Viewing Area. Mental note – bring the kids/grandkids back for this one.

I don't think anyone in the group spotted a platypus on this occasion (they probably heard us coming), but a keen photographer was there when we arrived, and he had captured them on camera a few moments earlier. He kindly let us take a look at his photos. So, they are definitely there folks!

The last section of the walk takes you through the 'Peace in the Trees' Sculptures. There are a number of sculptures to enjoy here with some lovely little inscriptions. Before I knew it, we were back on the boardwalk heading to the cars.

The walk ended right in time for lunch and being located right near the Maleny Town Centre, there were many opportunities at the conclusion of the walk for club participants to meet up the road for a coffee or a bite to eat, or even explore the local farmer's market. I came home with a big bunch of Sapphire Grapes!

This walk certainly did not leave a sour taste in my mouth and it delivered on the Town Slogan 'Discover the Magic'. Thank-you Clare – a most enjoyable walk and thanks again for sharing your knowledge of this lovely part of the Sunshine Coast.

Julie Fielke



Photos by Julie Nunn & Sangita

Cilento Bushland Conservation Reserve Circuit

Thursday 25 February 2021

Cheryl Stevens lead a few of us on an enjoyable pleasant Thursday morning walk at the Cilento Bushland Conservation Reserve.

What a pleasant surprise it was to discover this beautiful location in the heart of Nambour.

It was a short easy walk, a little slippery due to the recent rain but we enjoyed seeing the 2 small waterfalls that fell into a decent sized rock pool along the way.

No one had a swim but it would have been pleasant in the humid weather.

Yvonne Gregg



Photos by Pam Sanders

Lovely to see all the photos this month, keep them coming.
See you next month,

Stephen

HAPPY TRAILS

