



Maroochy Wetlands Sanctuary
Support Group Inc

Bird Observers outing August 17th August 2014.

The August outing is to the Dunethin Rock Area, commencing at **8am**.
Park along Lake Dunethin Road, near the picnic shelter.
UBD Sunshine Coast Map 47, Grid H15.



Dunethin Rock, a scenic reserve on the southern bank of the upper Maroochy River, is an important site associated with the development of tourism from the early 1900s on the Sunshine Coast, a major tourist region in Queensland.

As a popular picnic spot and destination for excursionists, Dunethin Rock was associated with North Coast (now Sunshine Coast) tourism from as early as 1910. Gazetted as a scenic reserve in 1924, when the North Coast was emerging as a holiday destination for outside visitors, Dunethin Rock's increased popularity as a tourist destination from this period was enhanced through the provision of access by motor launches on the Maroochy River and Moreton Mill tram line, key components of Maroochy Shire's early tourist transport network. Road access to Dunethin Rock was improved during the 1950s in response to the rise of motor transport that occurred Australia-wide in this period. Dunethin Rock illustrates the principal characteristics of an early beauty spot primarily accessed by means of a river cruise from a seaside resort, including scenic amenity and opportunities for leisure and relaxation.

Accommodating picnic tables and seats within a robust timber framed and clad structure, the picnic shed near the summit of the rock is a fine example of this shelter type designed in the 1950s and commonly found in picnic areas in south-east

Queensland. Situated on a tranquil stretch of the upper Maroochy River, viewed from land and river Dunethin Rock is the dominant feature of this place, long valued for its natural beauty. From its summit, Dunethin Rock offers a fine panorama extending from the Blackall Ranges to the coast, offering expansive views of the mountains Ninderry, Coolum and Cooroy, sugarcane fields, native vegetation and the winding Maroochy River. The esplanade between Dunethin Rock and Dunethin Lake offers the opportunity for relaxation in a river setting.

Access Dunethin Rock from the Bli Bli – Yandina Road. From Yandina turn left into Pearce Drive and proceed to the picnic area. From Bli Bli, turn right into Pearce Drive and proceed to the picnic area.

Bring morning tea and lunch. Wear sturdy shoes, sunscreen and a hat. I am hoping that it will be fine weather, however, I will not be at all disappointed if the predicted heavy rain falls and you all choose to stay home!



Judith Hewett
0419 027 228
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