



Maroochy Wetlands Sanctuary
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Fungi at the Wetlands

Judith Hewett

Lycoperdon pyriforme – Stump Puffball



Photo: Judith Hewett

This pear-shaped puffball species is common in eucalypt forests where it usually occurs in colonies on decaying wood. It has a well-defined stout stem-like base which has a similar texture to the fruit body with the outer wall of soft spines, warts and granules. These may be washed off by heavy rain. Their colour is white to cream initially turning a grey brown with maturity and developing an apical pore through which the olive brown spores emerge.

A large colony of these puffballs recently emerged through the gravelly soil on the side track to the fig tree seat.