

Dear Members and Industry contacts

Sapphire Coast Heritage Tourism Strategy Stage 1 – Draft for review & your feedback

The SCT Cultural Heritage Working Group has released stage 1 of the Draft strategy for public comment.

The consultants EC3 Global have collected an array of local tales and with the Working Group, identified three iconic stories for the region. These stories were selected from the top ten stories identified from the initial stakeholder survey and an audit of Stories, Products and Experiences available within the Sapphire Coast, followed by further stakeholder workshops and a 'Matching Stories and Experiences' report. This report listed the Top Ten Heritage Stories as future opportunities for the development of heritage tourism for the Sapphire Coast.

While all of the stories provide an insight into the natural and cultural heritage of the region, three key iconic stories were selected for further development as the first part of the strategy. The Killers of Eden, Meeting of the Waters and In the Shadow of the Mountains provide an inclusive framework for developing existing and future tourism opportunities.

The SCT Cultural Heritage Working Group is now calling on locals to have input into the strategy with ideas for stories and how they can best be told.

The draft strategy can be downloaded from either the Sapphire Coast Cultural Tourism blog <http://sapphirecoastculturaltourism.blogspot.com> (with a space for you to share your thoughts, feedback and an opportunity to insert additional local stories of interest), or from the SCT website http://www.sapphirecoast.com.au/contact_membership_information.php or the Bega Library.

Your thoughts and feedback would be greatly appreciated. Comments on the report are due by July 16th and the implementation of the strategy will begin in August via the SCT Cultural Heritage Working Group.

SCT Membership Update

As the financial year draws to a close, so too does the SCT membership fees. Ordinarily, fee reminders would be distributed amongst you all at this time as our membership period runs from Jul-Jun on an annual basis.

At this stage, SCT are waiting on a reply from BVSC re. their rate variation application which will be used to support tourism into the future. We hope to hear from BVSC during July. Once we have been advised of this result and how this may affect future SCT operations, we will be able to advise you of the SCT membership structure for 2010-2011. So in a nutshell, we hope to be able to update you shortly.

Thank you for your patience and understanding and watch this space!

Kindest regards
The SCT Team