



The Granite Belt Naturalist



Mail Address: Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, Stanthorpe Qld. 4380
stanthorpefieldnats@gmail.com

Web site <https://mysd.com.au/fieldnats/>

AIMS OF THE CLUB

1. To study all branches of Natural History
2. Preservation of the Flora and Fauna of Queensland
3. Encouragement of a spirit of protection towards native birds, animals and plants
4. To assist where possible in scientific research
5. To publish a monthly newsletter



The Pyramids, Girraween National Park

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month at
Uniting Church, Small Hall, 113 High Street
Stanthorpe at 7.30pm

Outings: The Sunday following the 4th Wednesday
of each month

Subs: Single \$20.00, Family \$30.00 per annum, July
to June

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS – 2022/2023

President	Leon McCosker	46811737
Vice-presidents	Peter Haselgrove	46837255
	Robyn Murray	0488515311
Secretary/	Leslie Saunders	46813837
Treasurer	mobile	0403073442
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	0427835268
Publicity Officer		
Librarian	Rob McCosker	46835371

**Stanthorpe Field Naturalists is a group member of
Granite Borders Landcare.**



Management Committee: President, Vice-
Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer

SCALE OF DIFFICULTY FOR WALKS
ON NATS OUTINGS

1. Flat, well-formed track, no steps, 5km or less. Clearly signposted. Suitable for wheelchairs with assistance.
2. Formed track. May have gentle hills and some steps. Clearly signposted. No experience required
3. Formed track, some obstacles, 20km or less. May have short steep hills and many steps. Some experience recommended.
4. Rough Track. May be long and very steep with few directional signs. For experienced bushwalkers.
5. Unformed track. Likely to be very rough, very steep and unmarked. For very experienced bushwalkers with specialised skills.

Coming Up

Wednesday 28th June: *Rare Wildflower Consortium* with Liz Bourne

Sunday 25th June: Girraween Rock Slab with Kris and Margaret Carnell

N.B This outing is before the meeting because of *Snowflakes in Stanthorpe*

Deadline for next newsletter
15th July 2023

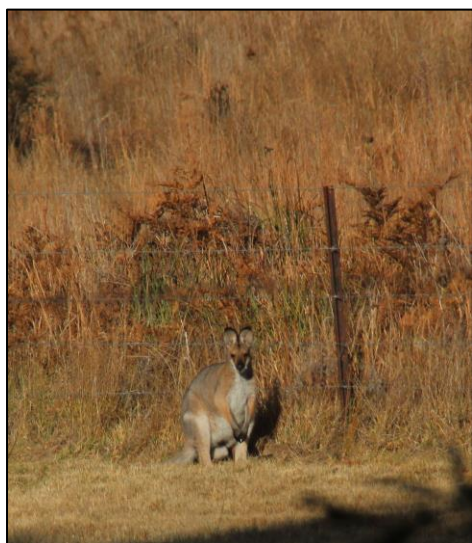
Preouting Report - 25 June – Girraween Rock Slab

As many of our members come from different areas in the Granite Belt we will make our own way to our meeting spot for 10 a.m. morning tea which will be a short distance along Mt Norman Road from the intersection with Pyramids Road . This spot is about an hour's drive from Stanthorpe. When doing the pre outing we noticed lots of wattle heavy in bud but no flowers yet. There were still flowers of golden everlasting remaining and also banksia integrifolia . We saw one banksia Spinulosa.

After morning tea we will climb the rock slab out to the south carrying our lunch. We will be looking for changes to the environment since we were last there in October 2022.

Instead of doing a loop walk we will be exploring further to the south than on our previous visits. The return trip will be retracing our steps and we plan to back at the cars for afternoon tea.

If we have spare time we will look at the area on the western side of Pyramids Road where there is an extensive area of acacia granitica. When doing the pre-outing we were surprised at the number of pretty faced wallabies beside the road and also some eastern greys, so drive safely. After the outing it may be better to return via the day use area and the highway so as to avoid the afternoon sun glare.



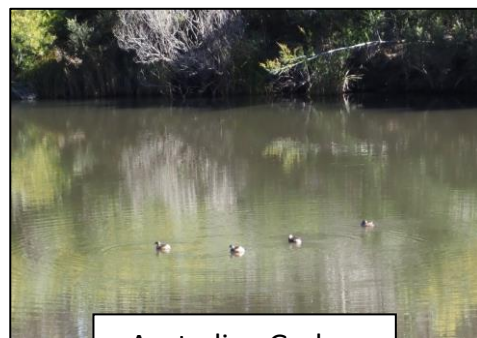
Kris and Margaret Carnell 040716503/ 0427835268

Boonoo Boonoo Outing Report 28th May



Unfortunately there were no takers for the outing at Weeroona Park on a perfect winter day, but as Trish and I were all prepared we decided to go it alone. The previous outing to the area in April 2015 attracted 11 people, and before that I found another outing in April 1978 with 25 and the best in November 1971 with 41. On the latter two trips most participants climbed to the bottom of the falls on the track which is now closed.

Trish and I stopped at the Platypus pool for morning tea with a family of four Australasian Grebes to entertain us. We then went along the River track to the falls which were quite a sight with a good flow in the river, then returned to our car for a rather late lunch and returned home.



Australian Grebes

The following list of flowering plants surprised us since it was early winter.



Banksia neoanglica

New England Banksia – *Banksia neoanglica*, White Banksia – *Banksia integrifolia*, New England Beard-heath – *Leucopogon neoanglicus*, Prickly Moses – *Acacia ulicifolia*, River she-oak – *Casuarina cunninghamiana* male and female flowers, Grass trigger plant – *Stylidium graminifolia*, Golden everlasting – *Xerochrysum bracteatum*, Wild Parsnip – *Trachymene incisa*, Flannel flowers – *Actinotus helianthin*, Common correa – *Correa reflexa*, Trailing lobelia – *Lobelia andrewsii*, Grey billy buttons – *Craspedia canens*, Prickly guinea flower – *Hibbertia acicularis*, Black-eyed Susan – *Tetradlea thymifolia*, Lady's slippers – *Hybanthus*

monopetalus



Boonoo Boonoo Falls

Birds seen

Superb Fairy-wren, Australasian Grebe, White-throated Treecreeper, Lewin's Honeyeater, Striated Thornbill, Eastern Spinebill. Rob McCosker

July Pre-outing Notes

The proposed outing for July is to the Stone House on Mt Norman Road. We plan to leave at the usual 9.00am from Weeroona Park and drive to the Mt Norman Day Use area for morning tea then drive back to the start of the walk at the arch. After inspecting the house ruins we intend to return to the cars via an outcrop of large boulders. More info in the next Newsletter.

Rob McCosker

Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc

Date 24th May 2023

Meeting opened: 7.30pm

Attendance & Apologies: As per Attendance Book

Minutes of the previous meeting: - Any amendments.....None

Confirmed.....Lesley

Seconded.....Peter

Carried

Business arising from the minutes:

- **Photos for Website..... Teresa.** Project still under review. Teresa asked for any photographs that members can supply. Suggestions were to copy photos from the Newsletter. **Teresa also asked for any help** that any member can give with this project as she is very busy with the Wildflower Consortium plus with the Snowflakes Festival that is coming up shortly.
- **Report on Landcare AGM plus frog lecture..... Rob.** Rob stated that the meeting was very enjoyable with a goodly number of attendees.
- **Discussion on My Directory.....**The members attending tonight's meeting agreed that the club should be listed on the My Directory website as this may garner more members for the club.

Correspondence: read as per correspondence book

Moved..... Lesley

Seconded.....Rob

Carried

Financial Report: Lesley presents the Treasurer's Report Current Balance: \$2237.14

Petty Cash \$ 102.25

Total \$2339.39

MovedLesley

Seconded.....Trish

Carried

Pre-Outing Report: - Ooline Creek Sundown to be led by Peter Hazelgrove was adjusted because he would be away that weekend. Rob kindly stepped into the breach and offered to lead a trip to Boonoo Boonoo. A duplicate excursion that was taken some time ago.

New Business Arising: - Stuart Watt...a guest at the meeting stated that he contributed an article entitled "What's in the Sky" to various clubs and thought that the Field Nats Club would also benefit from the knowledge. This offer was enthusiastically accepted by the members present. Stuart was given the phone number and email of the Newsletter editor to pursue the matter further. Thank you Stuart.

September Speaker & Topic: - David Wilson....." Flinders Ranges".

An informative talk as always from David with plenty of maps/some rock specimens and awesome photographs. Many Thanks.

Next Speaker:- Carol Booth to present the topic on Flying Foxes at the next meeting

Specimens: - None presented

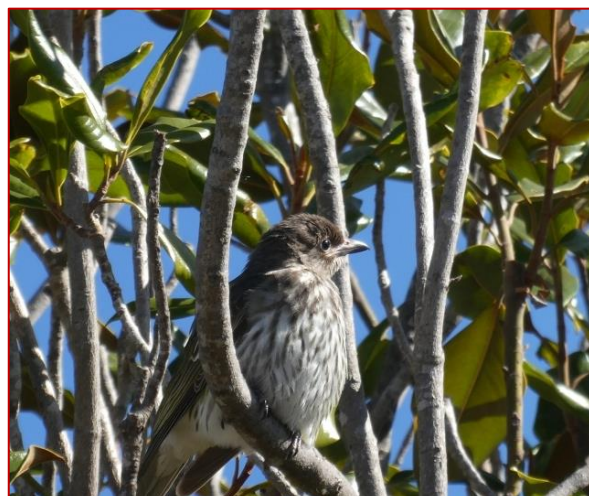
Next Outing :- Winter Girraween Rock Slab July 2nd.....Led by Kris Carnell

Next Meeting:- 28th June 7.30pm

Meeting Closed: Approx 8pm

Spottings

When we moved to town I didn't know what to expect in the way of bird sightings and have been pleasantly surprised at the number of different birds we've seen in our yard or close to. The butcher birds are regulars and we've had the plovers were doing daily inspections walking up the road. We haven't seen them for the past week or so. We had heard the grey-crowned babbler a number of times and I managed to snap this photo when they were in a tree across the street (below left). As I took the photo I noticed this juvenile rufous whistler sitting very still on a branch hoping not to be noticed (below right). Blue-faced honeyeaters, eastern and crimson rosellas are frequent visitors. *Margaret Carnell*



Remember Last Year

The program for the July meeting will be *Remember Last Year*. If you have any photos of outings could you please email them to Kris at carnellkris@gmail.com