## THE GRANITE BELT NATURALIST

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

#### STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB

P.O. BOX 154 STANTHORPE, Q., 4380.

## OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1979-1980

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MEETINGS - 4th WEDNESDAY of each MONTH at C.W.A. ROOMS at 8 P.M.

OUTINGS - Each SUNDAY PRECEDING the FOURTH WEDNESDAY of the Month.

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

SINGLE - \$4.00

<u>FAMILY</u> - \$6.00

#### 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.

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# MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING - Wednesday 25th June, 1980.

Present -19 Apologies 6

The President extended a welcome to all present and opened the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

Minutes - It was moved by Mrs. Marsden and seconded by Mrs. MacDonald that the minutes, as per the June Magazine, be"taken as read." CARRIED.

#### Correspondence - Inward Correspondence: was received from -

- 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service
  Information brochures on (a) Tamborine Mt. (b) Eungella Park (c) Cape
  York Peninsula Parks. (d) Nature Conservation. 5 Press Statements.
- 2. Pereguine Expedition pamphlets on Himalayan Holidays and Snowy Mountain Holidays.
- 3. Caloundra Public Library re information suitable for their library.

  Magazines: Down Under Vol. 3 No. 1, Vol. 19 No. 2; Warwick Walker Vol. 7

  Nos. 9 & 10; Richmond Valley N aturalist.
- 4. Society for Growing Australian Plants re flowers for Annual Flower Show to be held 6 7 September, 1980.

Outward Correspondence was forwarded to Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey; 4 QS.

It was moved by Mrs. Wilkinson and seconded by Mr. Walker that the inward correspondence be adopted and the outward correspondence endorsed. Carried.

Business arising from the correspondence 
The was moved by Mr. Archer that the Club forward a copy of our monthly Newsletter to the Calcundra Public Library, and also suggest that the Library may like to purchase "Granite Belt in Colour" by Errol Walker and "They came to a Plateau" by Jean Harslett and Mervyn Royle. Seconded by Mr. Wilkinson. CARRIED.

In reference to the correspondence from S.G.A.P. it was decided to support their annual Flower Show in September, as done in previous years.

- FINANCE Mrs. D. Archer moved that the credit of \$102.58 be received and the following accounts be passed for payment. C.W.A. Room Rent \$5.00; Magazine Postage for June \$4.52. Seconded by Mrs. Prentice. CARRIED.
- OUTING REPORT In the absence of Graham Greenup, Mr. Wilkinson reported on the half day outing to the gorge on the Maryland River, to which 30 members and friends attended. It was pleasing to see a good attendance of children all of whom thoroughly enjoyed exploring the gorge. Our thanks to Hr. Graham Greenup and Mr. R.C. Bonner for leading the outing.

t Outing PLACI - Bald Rock National Park

DATE \_ July 20th, 1980.

LHADERS - Janet & Colin H ockings.

Members are asked to meet at the Bald and right area, 6 Km in from the Mount Lindsay Highway, at 9.30 a.m. It is about 36 Km from the Boald Rock National Park Turn-off to Stanthorpe, so allow about 1 hour cavelling time. Bring a packed lunch that can be carried to the top of Bald Rock, together with some form of liquid refreshments.

DON'T FORGET YOUR HAT!!!

Next Meeting - DATE - Wednesday, July 23rd, 1980. 8.00 p.m.

As this will be the Annual Meeting members are asked to bring slides of "Remember Last Year", but request that slides be left with Mrs. Dore McCosker, 38 Railway St., Stanthorpe, one week before the meeting. Suppor will be served and members are asked to provide a Plate.

General Business - Hrs. Wilkinson reminded members about the importance of wearing HATS when out-of-doors; Stanthorpe district having a very high incidence of skin cancer. It is hoped that more hats will be worn at outings.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40 p.m. to be followed by a most informative and well illustrated slide programme on "Nepal", presented by Mr. Douglas Stevenson.

Janet Hockings, Acting Secretary.

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#### JUST A BIT ABOUT BALD ROCK NATIONAL PARK

Bald Rock National Park is located in the northern tablelands adjacent to the Queensland border. The entrance is 29 km north east of Tenterfield along the Mt.Lindesay Highway.

The main feature for the visitor is the rock itself. It is a solid granite dome 750m long and 5 0 0 m wide rising 200 m above the surrounding bushland and is believed to be the largest exposed granite rock in the southern hemisphere. The altitude of the trig station is 1,341 m.

Strictly speaking the rock is not a true granite, being classified as "Stanthorpe Adamellite". It is of Lower Triassic age showing marked phases in mineralogy and texture. Resultant soils are generally poor and sandy.

The area now contained within the Park was once grazed and partly logged. In 1906 the area surrounding the rock was dedicated for public recreation. On 12th November the area was dedicated as Bald Rock State Park and later in 1974 was reclassified as a National Park.

Run off from a large area of the rock gives rise to a high moisture level to the vicinity immediately around its base. This area is termed wet sclerophyll forest whereas most of the remaining land is dry sclerophyll forest. In addition there are heaths on the rock and swamps in low lying gullies. One of the most interesting features is the small community of Cypress, Callitris monicola at the sheltered top of the dome. These trees have built up a humus layer which has grown to be several feet deep over many years.

Due to the diversity of habitats a variety of animals occur. These include g rey kangaroos, vallaroos and red-necked, swamp, pretty-faced and black striped vallabies. Brush-tailed, ring-tailed and glider possums have been sighted, as well as wombats and Eastern native and tiger cats. Spiny anteaters have also been found on the very top of the rock. Approximately 100 species of birds have been recorded in the park.

The area we know as Bald Rock was known by the Aborigines as boonoo boonoo meaning "Big Rock".

A marked walking track leads to the summit of Bald Rock, a distance of 2 km. The extensive view over a granite out crop-dotted landscape to the north west and as far east as the volcanio plugs of the Tweed Valley is a reward for this most unusual walk.

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