

THE GRANITE BELT NATURALIST
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB

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

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1980 - 1981

PRESIDENT	Robin McCosker
VICE PRESIDENTS	Colin Hockings John O'Donnell
SECRETARY	Graham Greenup
TREASURER	Dot Archer
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Jean Harslett
NEWSLETTER SUB-COMMITTEE	Janet Hockings Ian Jackson
PUBLICITY OFFICER	Joan Stevenson
LIBRARIAN	Millie Marsden
FLORA OFFICER	Dore McCosker
FAUNA OFFICER	Brian McDonagh
GEOLOGY OFFICER	Maurice Passmore
YOUTH OFFICER	Ruth Greenup
BUSHWALKING OFFICER	Ray Marsden
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	Frank Wilkinson Lyle Thompson David Pfrunder Tom Archer Desley McDonagh Jean Harslett

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

FAMILY - \$ 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.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING - held July 23, 1980 - C.W.A. Rooms, Stanthorpe.

Opening - 8.15 p.m.

Present 22, Apologies 4.

MINUTES of previous

Annual Meeting - The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on July 25th, 1979 were read and it was moved by Mrs. J. Stevenson and seconded by Mr. T. Archer that these minutes of the previous Annual Meeting be confirmed. Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Sheet - 1979/80.

July 6, 1979 Bank Credit Balance

\$3.45

<u>Receipts</u>	Subscriptions	255.00
	Rent Collections	44.15
	Camera Club Share in	
	P.O. Box 154	8.00
	Bank Interest	3.75

310.90

\$ 314.35

Payments Magazine Expenses

Po stage	62.64
Printing	34.00
Magazine cover	27.70
" back page	6.35
Stencils	<u>11.50</u>
	142.19

Rent room	50.00
P.O. Box rent	16.00
Receipt Book	.85
Hire of Projector	<u>5.00</u>
	<u>214.04</u>

July 1, 1980 Bank Balance Credit

\$100.31

+ Outstanding cheque No.650561

5.00

Actual Bank Statement Balance

\$105.31

I have checked the books and bank statements, receipt books etc. and found all to be correct and bank balance at 30-06-80 as stated.

signed - Frank Wilkinson Auditor
16-7-80

Moved by Mrs. D. Archer and seconded by Mr. J. O'Donnel that the Annual Financial Statement be adopted. Carried.

PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT:- Mr. Colin Hockings

"I feel we have had a most successful year with Outings to many varied places; and Guest Speakers providing interesting and informative programmes.

I would like to thank the executive for their assistance throughout the past twelve months - particularly the Secretary, Treasurer, and those people responsible for the production of our monthly magazine.

Presidents Report continued -

Thanks are extended to all who were involved in organising and leading monthly outings. Outings of course are not successful without a good attendance.

We have been fortunate this year to have gained several new members. It is pleasing to see the increasing number of children on outings.

There is a constant battle to find guest speakers so I am very thankful to all those who have provided us with such interesting programmes throughout the year."

Moved by Mr. C. Hockings and seconded by Mrs. M. Marsden that the Presidents report be adopted. Carried.

In seconding the motion, Mrs. Marsden congratulated the president for ensuring the club had such a successful year.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>NOMINATED BY</u>		
<u>President</u>	R. McCosker	C. Hockings	Accepted	elected
	(C. Hockings and Mrs. J. Hockings declined nomination)			
<u>Vice Presidents</u>	C. Hockings	R. McCosker	Accepted	elected
	J. O'Donnell	R. Marsden	Accepted	elected
<u>Secretary</u>	D. Pfrunder	Mrs. M. Marsden	declined	
	T. Archer	Mrs. J. Hockings	declined	
	G. Greenup	Mrs. D. Archer	Accepted	elected
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mrs. D. Archer	Mrs. F. Wilkinson	Accepted	elected
<u>Newsletter Editor</u>	Mrs. J. Hockings	C. Hockings	Declined.	
	(Position to be decided on at next meeting)			
<u>Newsletter Sub-Committee</u>	I. Jackson	Mrs. D. Archer	Accepted	elected
	Mrs. J. Hockings	R. McCosker	Accepted	elected
<u>Publicity Officer</u>	Mrs. J. Stevenson	Mrs. M. Marsden	Accepted	elected
<u>Librarian</u>	Mrs. M. Marsden	Mrs. D. Archer	Accepted	elected
<u>Flora Officer</u>	Mrs. D. McCosker	R. McCosker	Accepted	elected
<u>Fauna Officer</u>	Mr. B. McDonagh	F. Wilkinson	Accepted	elected
<u>Geology Officer</u>	Mr. M. Passmore	T. Archer		elected
<u>Bushwalking Officer</u>	Mr. R. Marsden	D. Pfrunder	Accepted	elected
<u>Youth Officer</u>	Ruth Greenup	J. Hockings	Accepted	elected
<u>Committee Members</u>	F. Wilkinson	M. Marsden	Accepted	elected
	L. Thompson	Mrs. D. Archer	Accepted	elected
	D. Pfrunder	G. Greenup	Accepted	elected
	T. Archer	F. Wilkinson	Accepted	elected
	Miss D. McDonagh	J. Hockings	Accepted	elected
	Mrs. J. Harslett	T. Archer	Accepted	elected

Annual meeting continues -

GENERAL BUSINESS

Moved by Mrs. F. Wilkinson and seconded by Mrs. D. Archer that a letter of sympathy be sent from the Club to Mrs. Arthur Baker on the passing of her husband Arthur. Mr. Baker has audited our club books for the past 3 years. Carried.

Position of Auditor - It was decided to approach Mrs. Stan Ferris and if she is agreeable to confirm her appointment as Auditor at the August General Meeting.

Committee Meeting - A Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30th July at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Tom Archer at 7.30 p.m.

Closure - 9 p.m.

* * * * *

GENERAL MEETING following Annual Meeting

Apologies as per attendance book. Moved by Mrs. J. Stevenson and seconded by Mr. T. Archer that apologies be accepted. Carried.

Minutes - Moved by Mrs. M. Marsden and seconded by Mrs. A. Wilkinson that the minutes be "taken as read" in the newsletter and confirmed. Carried.

Correspondence - Inward - Post card from Miss Desley McDonah sending greetings on her tour; Letter from the Australian Heritage Festival inviting us to send flowers for display in their flower show; Letter from the Department of Education advising that our application for registration with their film library has been approved.

Outward - Letter to S.C.A.P. advising we will be sending flowers to their flower show on Sept. 6 & 7. Letter to Caloundra Public Library with a copy of our newsletter and suggesting that the publications "The Granite Belt in Colour" and "They Came to a Plateau" might be of value to their Library. Letter to Mr. Bonner thanking him for allowing the NATS to have access to his property for their outing and thanking him for helping to head this outing. Letter to Radio Station 4 QS for advertising our July Outing and meeting. Newsletters received from - Richmond Valley Nats; & National Parks Association. Press Statements from Hon. I.J. Gibbs M.L.A.

Moved by Mr. D. Pfrunder and seconded by Mr. J. O'Donnell that the Inward Correspondence be received and the Outward adopted. Carried.

Business arising from Correspondence - it was decided to support the Australian Heritage Festival by sending specimens of Wild Flowers to Brookvale Park as requested. Mr. S. D. Archer volunteered to take the flowers to Brookvale Park.

Treasurers Report - As per Annual Meeting Report - Bank Cr. Bal. \$100.31.

Moved by Mrs. D. Archer and seconded by Mr. L. Thompson that the Treasurers Report be adopted and the following accounts passed for payment

Room Rent \$8.00, Mag. Postage 5.53, June Mag. Duplication \$5.00, Stencils \$11.50.

Carried.

Outing Report - Mr. Colin Hockings reported on the outing to Bald Rock on July 20th 18 members made the climb to the top and enjoyed the outstanding views of the countryside. Bird life in the vicinity of the rock was very tame. Some of the early wild flowers were coming out.

NEXT OUTING - Sunday, August 24th. Venue Pikedale Mine Leader Don Lightfoot

Departure Time - 9.30 a.m. from Weeroona Park.

NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, August 27th, 1980 - C.W.A. Rooms - 8 p.m.

Aftermeeting programme - Film screening from the Dept. Education Film Library.

General Business

Moved by Mrs. H. Marsden and seconded by Mrs. F. Wilkinson that a letter be sent to C.W.A. pointing out we are only a small non-profit club and request concession for rent of C.W.A. Rooms. Carried.

THANKS - Mr. D. Pfunder thanked Mrs. J. Hockings for taking over as acting secretary during June/July.

Closure - 9.30 p.m.

After Meeting Programme: "Remember Last Year" - a showing of members slides compiled and presented by Mr. R. McCosker. Evening concluded with supper.

* * * * *

JUNE MONTHLY OUTING BY GRAHAM GREENUP

A gorge on the Maryland River, in the Liston area was the venue for the Naturalist Club's outing on Sunday, June 22. We are grateful to Dick Bonner of "Burrenbar" for kind permission to visit his property and were glad to have him accompany us on the walk. About thirty people, including ten or so children came out for the afternoon. The day commenced mild and sunny but around mid-afternoon the sky became overcast though the temperature remained comfortable.

Many of the group brought their lunches, availing themselves of a very pleasant picnic spot adjacent to the river, on short green grass beneath several large bullock trees. Ti-trees flanked the rocks by the water's edge. At one o'clock we set off up-stream on a walk of about one and a half kilometres, a walk which all ages negotiated without difficulty - in fact, Catherine Bonner, aged 5, insisted in no uncertain terms that she could walk the entire distance. Very little bird life was observed owing to the advance party of children alerting all to our presence.

Initially the land at the edge of the river was flat but this gradually developed into steeper terrain until the gorge was reached, large granite boulders being a major feature. In a couple of places nature had neatly stacked boulders on top of each other in jigsaw-like patterns while a large rock atop the highest outcrop appeared to be supported by a relatively narrow pillar of rock underneath. Dick mentioned that several years ago two of his dogs cornered a euro (wallaroo) on this high rock, and with it went over the edge both dogs perishing in the fall, the euro managing to escape though injured.

A good flow of water added sparkle to the scene in the form of small rapids, pleasant contrast to the almost dry river bed a couple of months previous.

After spending some time relaxing in the gorge we made our way back down river. The billy was boiled and some stayed on for afternoon tea, helping Laurie Bonner celebrate his birthday. A most enjoyable outing was had by all. I will correct an error I made in my pre-outing report "Mt. Lindesay" is the correct spelling.

* * * * *

Congratulations

Congratulations to the new office bearers for the 1980-81 year. We hope they find the experience rewarding and that they enjoy, the full co-operation of members. Committee members have already met, and are planning an interesting programme of outings and guest speakers for you. Give them your support by paying your membership and coming along to enjoy the outings and the fellowship.

My special thanks to my "voluntary second-in-command" bulletin editor, Dot Archer, who got out two bulletins and part of the third while I was trekking merrily in Kashmir and Ladakh. Tripping up the passes, drooling at the wonderland of dainty small plants, flowering just beneath the melting snow and glaciers. Thinking they had rather poor oxygen at 14,000 ft, (not like Australian oxygen !!) Enjoying all Indian food, which "hotted" up our insides, good insulation to compensate our outsides. Taking cameras for, in freezing, romping glacier streams, and gasping at the beauty of the scenery.

Meanwhile Dot was at home slaving at the bulletins, one brought out under extreme difficulties, of being hospitalized at more or less the same time. Dot has also typed the sheet with the new officers and our aims, which prefaces each bulletin. Since we look at it every month, it is good to have it done with the efficiency and neatness of a typer with skill... and a brand new typewriter ! Many thanks Dot for your willing co-operation, and for a "beaut" friend.

August Outing.

Mr. Don Lightfoot who is the leader of the outing to the old Pikedale copper mine area, has done a pre-outing survey, met the new manager of "Pikedale and has his blessing for our visit. He is particular who is on his property, with a strong aversion to shooters. Plans are to depart from "Weeroona Park" SUNDAY 24th. AUGUST at

9.30 am. A stop or two will be made enroute to point out features of interest, thence proceed to the old Pikedale mine area. Cars will be left near the road and a short easy walk to inspect what remains of the mine area, and a look at the site of the old hotel and the old Pikedale school site. This small provisional was opened on 1st. September 1922. In conjunction with the Mallow school, this

one operated and was termed as a "2 school". This means that the same headmaster operated at both schools, but was in attendance at one or the other, week about. This allows for a lot of speculation, as to how much actual learning went on. No doubt it was only those students, or their parents, who could see the value of education, who would have gained very much from the experience. It does also prove that there were residents who placed a pretty high priority on their children having the benefit of formal education.

Mr Lightfoot plans to have lunch at a casuarina bound stream where the old pump was situated. Cars can be driven to this spot, and it is hoped the bird population will be of interest. From this point he hopes, with a bit of organization, and a little quiet, to a spot of deer stalking. Last weekend he saw twenty-two of them. With a bit of co-operation, he hopes to repeat this opportunity for members. So your co-operation and attendance is enlisted.

Birds. Speaking of birds, recently several more denominations have been added to our Australian stamp issues. These have been designed by artist-naturalist Kay Breeden Williams who is known to some of our members from her visits to the district and to Girraween. I'm sure the Nats enjoy using these stamps and they are, 1c. Zebra finch, 2c. Crimson Finch, 5c. Dotterel, 10c. Golden Shouldered Parrot, 15c. & 22c. Kingfishers, 35c. Regent Bower Bird, 45c. Woodswallow, 80c. Rainbow pitta and \$1 a magpie, a fine roll-up of our birds, also 20c. grebe & yellow robin, 40c. lovely wren and 50c. Flame robin.