

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

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

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1982 - 1983

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<u>COMMITTEE</u>	Colin Hockings David Pfrunder Tom Archer Ailsa Wilkinson Lyle Thompson 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 - \$5.00

Family - \$8.00

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 NEWSPAPER.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY, MAY 25th, 1983.

Present 13. Apologies 5.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS

NEW DATE

The President welcomed all present.

Minutes That the minutes be taken as read moved by Tom Archer and seconded by Maurice Passmore. Carried.CORRESPONDENCE - Inward was received from:-

1. 5 Press Statements from Hon. J.A. Elliot M.L.A.
2. Duplicate copy of Darling Downs Nats Mag. No348 and also copy No349.
3. 7th Annual Report Q'ld National Parks & Wildlife Service
4. National Parks Assoc. News Bulletin.
5. Reply from Q'ld. Nat. Parks & Wildlife Serv. re the amenities at Sundown - - they are to be considered in future works.
6. Press Statement from M.J. Ahern M.L.A.
7. Letter re Citizens Initiative from Colin Mason, Deputy Leader for Aus. Democrats.

Outward was sent to:-

1. Bernie Hickling - thanks for outing.
2. 4 Q.S. re outing & Meeting.
3. Colin & Janet Hockings - congratulations re the birth of their 2nd son.

Moved by Ray Marsden and seconded by Frank Wilkinson that the inward be received and the outward adopted. Carried.

Financial Statement -

April 27, 1983 Bank Cr. Balance 116.32

Receipts

April 27th Room Rent Collection 5.76

\$122.08

Payments

April 27th April Room Rent 6.00

" Mag. Duplication 5.00

" Mag. Postage 6.03

Mag. Back Pages 6.60

23.63

May 24, 1983 Bank Credit Balance

\$ 98.45

I move that this report be adopted and the following Accounts passed for payment.

May Room Rent \$6.00, May Mag. Postage \$8.18, May Mag. Duplication \$5.00
Mag. Postage Renewal Reg. \$20.00.

Dot. Archer, seconded by Lyle Thompson Carried.

Minutes continued:-

Outing Report - due to inclement weather the outing on May 22nd to Kelvin Falls was cancelled.

Next Outing - June 19th - It was moved by Frank Wilkinson and 2nd by Tom Archer that the Kelvin Falls outing be held on June 19th. Carried.
John reported re this outing that the Gorges were lovely and the Falls running well.

Next Guest Speaker - John O'Donnell will be the Guest Speaker and his subject will be "Remedies to negate Erosion" - this is on Wednesday, June 22nd.

Specimen - John spoke on the Sugar Glider that he found dead - - no marks on it so it could have died of fright -- probably caused by a ferral (?) cat or the extreme wet weather we've had could have caused it.

Business - Donnybrook outing will have to be postponed for at least a month due to the extreme wet in the area.
May & Jack Bennie suggested an outing to their place at Lake Broadwater would be worth considering as the Lake is full and overflowing. This to be discussed when next year's programs are drawn up in July.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 8.50 p.m. after which Maurice Passmore gave a very graphic and entertaining talk on "soils" - - its formation from bedrock showing how important clay is for holding nutrients. He showed us how important this subject is - - soil takes so long to form -- millions of years -- but can be destroyed in so many ways in much less time.

Many thanks Maurice for much food for thought.

Dot Archer,
Hon. Treas & Stand-in Sec.

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ANOTHER NEWS FLASH FROM THE MATERNITY SECTION -

This time congratulations to Judith and David Pfrunder on the birth of their Daughter Kirsty Rose a sister for Matthew

- - our future bushwalkers list is growing !!!!!

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PRE OUTING REPORT - June 19th - Kelvin Falls - Elbow Valley.

Leave Weeroona Park at 9 a.m., turn onto the Old Stanthorpe road (Now called Mountain Park Road) at Dalveen, go another 3 Km. to meet the leader, John O'Donnell. From there it is about 20 minutes drive to where we park the cars and commence the walk. The 5 km walk will be roughly triangular, across open grazing country (prepare for conservation lectures here!) and along a deep gorge, which starts as a cascade. The ground may still be soggy near the creeks and sock burrs were a problem on the preouting trip. Bring a packed lunch for a pleasant and not too strenuous day.

John O'Donnell.

SPECIMEN AT THE MAY MEETING

Sugar glider (Petaurus breviceps)

This animal was found on the lawn, and I assumed it had been killed by my overfed, short-nailed cat. There were no marks of violence though, and at the meeting Brian McDonagh suggested that it may have died of hunger or exposure during the heavy and nearly continuous rain in early May. These cute marsupials are common and widespread, and feed on nectar, blossoms and insects. They glide with a swishing sound, and land on a tree trunk with a 'thwop' -- quite an eerie experience to hear above one's head in the bush around dawn!

John O'Donnell.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS
NOW DUE

NEXT OUTING - June 19th - Kelvin Falls - Elbow Valley -

John O'Donnell is our leader - we meet at Weeroona Park 9 A.M.

Bring a cut lunch and join us for a happy and enjoyable outing.

NEXT MEETING - C.W.A. Rooms, Wednesday, June 22nd at 8 p.m.

Guest Speaker - John O'Donnell and his subject is -

"Attempts to repair the damage caused by a century of land abuse" - Experiments on "Mountain Park" to heal the scars of Overclearing, Overgrazing etc.

DON'T FORGET - JULY IS OUR ANNUAL MEETING

LOOK OUT YOUR SLIDES FOR OUR PROGRAM -

LOOKING BACK AT '82 - '83 with the NATS CLUB."

JULY MEETING DATE IS THE 27th.

Dot. Archer, Temp.Editor.