

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD February 26, 1986.

Present 30

Apologies 3.

Meeting opened with President Jean in the chair. She welcomed all present and in particular visitors Helen & Keith Cobon; J. Bonner and Peter Power.

MINUTES - It was moved by Bob Lacey and seconded by Don Lightfoot that the minutes be taken as read in the February Newsletter. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE - Inward - Newsletters & Journals received from:- Conservation & Bush Rescue; Chinchilla Nats; Q'ld Nats; National Parks Association; Richmond Valley; Darling Downs Naturalist; Rain Forest Rescue. Also Gov't in Focus and 10 press statements from Hon. Peter McKechnie M.L.A. Outward - 4QS - Outing & Meeting notices. Moved by Errol Walker and seconded by Ailsa Wilkinson that Inward Correspondence be received and outward endorsed. Carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT -

Balance as at 22/1/86

241.43 Cr.

Receipts

Subscriptions 42.00

Room Rent Collect. 5.25

Bring & Buy 1.60

Less Expenses

Room Rent 6.00

Mag. Wraps. 32.00

Mag. Postage 9.59

Balance as at 26.2.86

48.85 \$290.2847.59 47.59\$242.69 Cr.

Moved by Joan Stevenson and seconded by Frank Wilkinson that the Treasurer's report be received and the following accounts passed for payment Room Rent 6.00; Mag. Postage 13.00; Mag. Duplication 7.00; and Minute Book 11.25

Carried.

OUTING REPORT

Tom Archer gave a report on the outing to Goomburra State Forest on Sunday, Feb. 23rd. 22 People attended including 3 children. Sylvester's outlook was quite rewarding with a beautiful view of Moogerah Dam and stretching to the south was the escarpment of the rim down past the Gap to Mt. Wilson. A second lookout to the North is directly behind and overlooking Castle Mt. From this lookout is a view down the Laidley Valley to Laidley and in the distance Brisbane Skyscrapers could be seen and beyond that on distant low Hills could be see white patches which must have been sand hills on Stradbroke Island. Walking through the rainforest to these lookouts some really big trees were seen; tree ferns and cunjevoys many with strongly scented flowers. Birds were numerous and noisy but shy. Bell birds were numerous and one nervous one was seen in a nest near the picnic area. Many thanks Tom for an interesting and enjoyable outing.

NEXT OUTING - on March 23rd to South Bald Rock under the Leadership of Robin McCosker.

NEXT MEETING March 26th - guest speakers Frank & Ailsa will take us on their trip.

MINUTES CONTINUED:- GENERAL BUSINESS - Whether the Club Newsletter be stencilled or Photocopied was brought up. The Executive to look into this and report costs of both to next meeting. As there was no further business meeting closed at 8.37.

President Jean introduced her husband Rob Harslett as our Guest speaker for the night and all present enjoyed Rob's program of his recent trip by train across Russia. Many thanks Rob for sharing this with us.

Dorothy Archer, Hon. Secretary.

GOOMBURRA OUTING REPORT by Tom Archer.- Our last outing was to the Goomburra State Forest. The picnic spot is on Dalrymple Creek which lies in the next valley north of the Cunningham Gap Highway. This is a narrow but fertile and scenic valley which runs up into the high country just to the west of The Rim. The tops of the hills are the remainder of a large lava flow which once covered the eastern part of the Downs, but has now been largely eroded away, leaving a number of table top mountains and flat topped ridges. Most members left early and travelled on their own, but those of us who left last found the early risers parked by the road several miles from our destination. There had been a storm the night before and the surface of the road was slippery and slushy and the fact that a bus (a big one) had gone through earlier did not help. However, when we got there the road had dried just sufficiently and it turned out to be a case of the last shall be first. At the Forestry Picnic Area we had our first cup of tea and then drove the 8 Km. to Sylvester's Lookout up a good but steep and rocky road. From the Lookout there is a beautiful view of Moogerah Dam and stretching away to the south of us was the escarpment of The Rim down past The Gap to Mt. Wilson. A couple of miles to the north is a second lookout. This is directly behind and overlooking Castle Mt. Castle Mt. actually looks like a castle and is that mountain which is clearly visible and standing out in front of the Range when seen from the lower part of the road when coming up the Gap. From this lookout there is a long view to the North down Laidley Valley to Laidley in the distance. Over Castle Mt. can be seen a great expanse of grazing country and on that Sunday could be just seen were the skyscrapers of Brisbane standing up like square pillars in the haze. Beyond that on distant low hills could be seen white patches which must have been sand hills on Stradbroke Island.

To get to both lookouts one has to walk through about $\frac{1}{2}$ km. of bush rainforest in all its beauty and grandeur and carpeted with dense green fern. Here some of the party and not so young copied their ancestors and went swinging on the lianas.

We then went back to the Picnic area which is on a small clear running stream surrounded by tall timber. There were various estimates of how many strainer posts could be got out of a suitable tree. By this time it was getting a bit late but we set out along the path following the creek up to the rock pools but only a few of the party got that far. The track is through tall timber and scattered through it some really big trees. The under story was largely of scrub timber tree ferns and cunjevoys grew in profusion; many in flower and I was told are strongly scented. Birds were numerous and noisy but they were shy and could only be seen flitting through the high branches. Bell birds were numerous plinking away and near the picnic area was a bell bird nest relatively close to the ground and in it a nervous bellbird.

OUTING NOTES OF THE PROPOSED TREK TO SOUTH BALD ROCK

Date of outing 23rd March 1986.

Leader Rob McCosker phone 835217

Departure from Weeroona Park will be at 8.30 am.

Rob has furnished this report.

We will travel via Eukey to the turn off to Wallangarra on the Eukey-Wyberba road. The road from here to South Bald Rock turnoff has not been maintained and although trafficable, definitely requires vehicles with good ground clearance - preferably four wheel drive. I therefore appeal to members with suitable vehicles, to make room available for passengers. Access to the South Bald Rock track, which is normally denied to the public, has kindly been granted to us by the Girraween National Park Ranger, for this outing.

We will drive to the base of the rock for smoko, and then climb to inspect the wonderful range of rock formations and the cave system, for which South Bald Rock is famous. Lunch will have to be carried with us, and of course, wear stout shoes and a hat and perhaps bring a torch also - those energetic souls with a speleological tendency.

I think the Stanthorpe Nats. last visited this area in June 1971, under the leadership of John Harslett and Bill Goebel, and I am hoping that Bill will be able to join us on this outing as well.

Rob McCosker.

How did you make out with Ray Rolland's quiz last month?

Here are the answers;

1. Honeyeaters
2. Flannel flower
3. Callicoma
4. Pallid Cuckoo
5. 11,300 hectares
6. low banks on the ground
7. 30 metres
8. Noisy Friar Birds
9. Brown in colour
10. Banksia ericafolia

Ray tells me that the Banksia is blooming now in his garden so I thought I would find out a little more about it. My book tells me that the shrub is also known as heath banksia or red honeysuckle. Perhaps the most spectacular of the eastern Australian Banksias, this species has fine heath-like leaves, 10-13mm long, notched at the apex and with revolute margins. It forms a shrub, often dense, up to 6m high. The flowers are bronze-red and in dense spikes up to 15cm long. It is common in coastal heaths and scrub from s Qld to the NSW Central Coast and also in the Blue Mountains. The plant is killed completely by fire, regenerating from seed which germinates readily in the ash-bed conditions. It takes 3-4 years from germination for the first flower spike to appear, and these nectar laden flowers are frequented by several different bird species. Family - Proteaceae.
(Flowers and Plants of N.S.W and Sthn. Qld. by E.R. Rotherham, Barbara Briggs, D.F. Blaxell, R.C. Carolin.

