

MINUTES OF AUGUST MONTHLY MEETINGAugust 27th 1986.PRESENT - 24APOLOGIES. - 9OPENING. - President Jean welcomed all present especially Mrs. Nancy Hodgson and Diana Holley.Minutes. - Moved by Lyle Thompson and seconded E. Lacey that the minutes be taken as read and confirmed. CarriedCORRESPONDENCE. - Inward. Invitation to launching of Neil McKilligan's book "Bushwalking in Toowoomba Region." Newsletters and journals from: Darling Downs Naturalist; Richmond River Naturalists Club; Queensland Naturalist Club; Chinchilla Naturalists Club; N.P.A. Journal; Queensland Recreation Council-pamphlet re camps, also form to be filled in; Australia Post re new registration and postal charges as of August 25th. Government in Focus; Guide to 1986-87 Commonwealth Budget.Outward. Letter of thanks to Joan Ferris, 4QS re outing and meeting notices, Warwick and District Committee for Recreation re September and October meeting programmes. Moved by M. Marsden and seconded by R. McCosker that the inward correspondence be received and the outward endorsed. Carried.FINANCIAL REPORT.

Treasurer Joan presented her statement which showed a credit balance of \$63.38 and moved that her report be received and the following accounts be passed for payment Room Rent \$6.00; Magazine Postage \$13.00; Magazine Duplication \$6.00. The motion was seconded by Don Lightfoot. Carried.

OUTING REPORT. Ray Marsden reported that the outing had been cancelled due to rain and that it would possibly be held at a later date if there was enough interest.NEXT OUTING. This has been changed from Winstead Falls to Murphy's Gully with Brian McDonagh as leader. If the river is high this will have to be changed.NEXT MEETING. Guest Speaker will be Tom Archer and his topic is "Victoria".GENERAL BUSINESS.

Postal charges were discussed - decided to continue with Magazine.

Magazine duplication charges were discussed and it was decided to pay at the rate of \$6.00 for the present.

PLEASE NOTE.

OCTOBER MEETING WILL BE HELD ON 22nd AND THE OUTING WILL BE HELD ON THE SUNDAY AFTER \$ OCTOBER 26th.

This is to fit in with the Guest Speaker and Leader Mr. Stewart Watts.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

PROGRAMME. Colin Hockings showed films from the Film Library entitled "Echnidas" and "Biological Control of Insect Pests". Many thanks to Colin for arranging this and supplying the projector.

SPECIMENS at the MEETING.

Brian McDonagh brought along an interesting carnivorous marsupial mouse, which their dog had had a close encounter with!

Because of their nocturnal and shy habits, we do not often see them. They haven't gained friendly or familiar names, thus I can only call this little fellow a Yellow-footed Antechinus (An. flavipes, "flavus" meaning pale yellow and "pes" a Foot.)

They, as marsupials, differ from kangaroos and possums etc. which are herbivorous, by being carnivorous. In this group are, from the largest weight-wise, Tasmanian Devils weighing in at eight kilograms to tiny Planigale mice - at the best, 5 grams in weight.

We have all seen pictures of the fierce jaw and teeth arrangement of the Tasmanian Devil. Brian tried, with difficulty, to display the jaw of this little chap, which is also remarkably fierce looking, with its biting and cutting dentition characteristics.

Its ear shape is interesting and the change of colour from slate-grey with "highlights" of sandy to reddish colouring, make it easy to identify it. Also when alive their darting jerky movements quickly make it clear that it is not the ordinary house mouse, which moves so smoothly.

They only breed once a year, and they have an extremely unusual habit. After mating, the male die, leaving pregnant females and young to be in an environment free from competition. Owls and feral cats are their number one enemies ... and the odd dog of course.

It is good when members bring these casualties along to meetings, allowing members an opportunity to examine closely, these otherwise rarely seen little chaps.

Jean Harslett.

SEPTEMBER OUTING.

Leader Brian McDonagh has supplied the following information for the outing on 21st September.

The outing will be to Murphy's Creek and will leave from Weeroona Park at 9am, for those wishing to join from the southern end of the district - members will group at the Ballandean School at 9.30am.

The road is quite O K for an ordinary car with reasonable clearance. Two cars were in at the creek, a Mazda 323 and a Datsun Stanza, so there should be no trouble at all provided you leave the Jaguar at home.

Lunch will be taken at the cars.

For those who are fairly restricted in their mobility, there is plenty to be seen in pleasant surroundings on the river where we will be having lunch.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAMME.

Tom Archer will present a programme entitled "Victoria" in the Q.C.W.A. Rooms on Wednesday 24th September.

No. 179.

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September 1986.

The following is the proposed list of meetings and outings for the year August 1986 to August 1987.

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>OUTING</u> | <u>MEETING PROGRAMME</u> |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| AUGUST Sunday 27th | Mount Jibbinbar Leader Ray Marsden assisted by Gordon Leahy | Films applied for by Colin Hockings "Echidna" and "Insect Biological Control" |
| SEPTEMBER Sunday 21st | Murphy's Gully-Ballandean Leader-Brian McDonagh Alternative if river is up Winstead Falls and Quart Pot Creek - Jean Harslett | September 24th Tom Archer Victorian Tour |
| OCTOBER Sunday 26th | Geology Outing NOTE: DATE CHANGE Stewart Watts Leader | Stewart Watts - Geology 22nd October |
| NOVEMBER 22nd-23rd | Camp Out GIBRALTAR RANGE Leader Ray Marsden | Jean Harslett Slides on "Pleasures of Field Naturalists" 26th Nov. |
| DECEMBER | Christmas Party at Colin and Janet Hockings property | NO MEETING. |
| JANUARY | NO OUTING | NO MEETING. |
| FEBRUARY Sunday 23rd | Rivertree Beddow's property Leader- Dore McCosker | Robin McCosker's W.A. Trip assisted P. Langdon 26th September |
| MARCH 22nd and 23rd | Camp Out Silent Grove Emmaville, Torrington Leaders Dore McCosker and Roy Werner | Neil Mungall not available. Have to find Speaker 26th |
| APRIL Sunday 27th | Hutchin's Hill Leader Tom Archer | Speaker to find 30th April |
| MAY Sunday 25th | Basket Swamp Leader May Prentice | Gulf Country Roy Werner 28th May |
| JUNE Sunday 22nd | Arrow Rock Leader Rob McCosker | "Surprise Programme" Colin Hockings 25th |
| JULY Sunday 20th | Spicer's Gap Leader Col Hockings | Annual Meeting 23rd "Remember Last Year" |
| AUGUST Sunday 24th | Blue Mountain Leader Ray Marsden | Birdsville Country Ray Marsden |