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THE
**GRANITE BELT
NATURALIST**



Monthly Newsletter of the
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club



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

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

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1986 - 1987

PRESIDENT	JEAN HARSLETT B.E.M. (833 185
VICE-PRESIDENTS	ROBIN M ^C COSKER RAY MARSDEN
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BUSHWALKING OFFICER	RAY MARSDEN
COMMITTEE -	Frank Wilkinson Don Lighfoot Roy Werner Esme & Bob Lacey Ailsa Wilkinson Lyle Thompson
HON. AUDITOR	JOAN FERRIS

MEETINGS 4th WEDNESDAY of each month at the C.W.A. Rooms
at 8 p.m.

OUTINGS - The SUNDAY PRECEDING the 4th Wednesday of the month.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Single - \$6.00

Family \$10.00

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 THE NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING held in the QCWA ROOMS

26th November 1986.

Present 25 Apologies 4

WELCOME. President Jean opened the meeting and welcomed all present and in particular, Fred Simpson from the Gold Coast and Enid McBain.

MINUTES It was moved by Frank Wilkinson seconded by Lyle Thompson that the minutes be taken as read in the November Newsletter and confirmed. Carried

CORRESPONDENCE. Inward received from Harry and Joan Stevenson thanking the club for letter of sympathy, accounts from Lees Newsagency \$7.55 and International Colour Productions \$34.80. Newsletters and journals from;- Toowoomba Bush Walkers Club, Richmond Valley Naturalist Club, Darling Downs Naturalist Club, Chinchilla Naturalist Club, November Government in Focus.
Outward forwarded to Harry and Joan Stevenson- letter of sympathy in the passing of Harry's father, Mr J Mayher and Mr. and Mrs Thorton thanking them for access to their properties on our outing of October 26th, Mr. Stuart Watt thanking him for his program on October 22nd and for leading the outing on October 26th, 4 QS with meeting and outing notices for November. Moved by Lyle Thompson and seconded by Bob Lacey that the inward correspondence be received and the outward adopted. Carried

TREASURER'S Balance as at 22/10/86 164.33 credit

REPORT

Receipts

Subscriptions	28.00	
Bring and Buy	2.70	
Room Rent Collections	5.00	
		<u>35.70</u>
		200.03 credit

Less Expenditure

Room Rent	6.00	
Magazine Duplication	6.00	
Magazine Postage	15.00	
Federal Tax	2.00	
		<u>39.00</u>
Balance as at 26/11/86		\$ 161-03 credit

Moved by treasurer Joan and seconded by Errol Walker that the report be received and the following accounts be passed for payment:- Room Rent \$6.00, November Magazine Duplication \$6.00, Photocopying \$21.00, Magazine Postage for November \$13.30, Magazine Cover paper \$7.55, Magazine wrapppers \$34.80. Carried.

Minutes continued

OUTING REPORT. Ray Marsden gave a report on the campout to Gibraltar Range. Thirty six were present, thirty four for the weekend and 2 day trippers on Sunday. Three young people from Denmark were all to join for the weekend. It was a good weekend and the wildflowers were good, Waratahs in full bloom. Numerous birds were seen. Some families came in on Friday evening and the rest on Saturday, ages ranged from three to seventy-five plus. Thanks Ray for a most enjoyable weekend.

NEXT OUTING. Christmas Break-up Sunday December 7th at the property of Colin and Janet Hockings. All planning to attend are asked to bring their own barbecue food, come during the afternoon and go for a ramble

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The Club has an invitation to join the Queensland Field Naturalists on the January long weekend when they will be camping on the Hockings property.

February 23rd - Outing to Beddow's property at Rivertree with leader Dore McCosker.

February 26th - Meeting with Robin McCosker as Guest Speaker with Peter Langdon as assistant. Slides will be of a recent trip to Western Australia.

SPECIMENS

T. Archer, who was unable to be present, sent along a specimen of bush honey comb and wild bee found in the load of wood at the Archer's Property. Frank Wilkinson brought 2 bag moth nests - a large amount of these were seen at the camp-out where large numbers of trees had been stripped of all leaves. Also on show were some photographs taken on the camp-out.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

Ailsa Wilkinson spoke on the coming Skin Cancer Awareness Week and asked all members to set an example by wearing hats.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

PROGRAM

Jean Harslett showed a series of slides of the "Interest of the Nature Lover" these were greatly enjoyed by all present, the photography being of a very high standard and the slides of many facets of interest. Members showed their appreciation by acclamation.

Dorothy Archer.
Hon. Sec.

Outing Report.

The camp out to Gibraltar Range National Park was very well attended by members and friends, 36 took part. The flowers were a joy to all and many varieties were in full bloom including the spectacular waratah. Most of the group took the Saturday afternoon walk to the edge of the forest and looked down on fold upon fold of ranges. On Sunday three different directions were taken with leaders Jean Harslett, Errol Walker and Myself.

It was interesting to have the company of two young men and a young lady from Denmark spend the weekend with us. We were able to gauge their reactions to the scenery, the way we did things, and were rather surprised to find that they wondered if the water was good enough to drink. We made a campfire on Saturday night, and all gathered round while a damper was cooked and the damper ceremony carried out. Fred Simpson recited his poems and a good night was had by all.

Many members were up bright and early in the morning, with the birds in fine voice. During the afternoon many of the young people took the opportunity to swim in the creek downstream from the camping area, this proved to be a very pleasurable occupation.

After lunch members made their own way home, most saying that they had enjoyed the weekend of good company, splendid scenery and lovely wildflowers.

Ray Marsden

FEBRUARY OUTING.

Date 22nd

Time 9.30am at Weeroona Park.

Leader Dore McCosker advises that it is about an hour's drive to Rivertree approx. 50 km and she plans to take us to the property of Mr. Beddow and to see the Mongabah mine.

There is a good water hole and some folk may like to take canoes or go swimming if the water is acceptable.

A non-event if too much rain should fall close to the appointed date - other arrangements will have to be made in that case. Dore McCosker may be contacted on 811787.

Dore has provided this poem by A.H.Watkins(nee Cullen) for inclusion in the magazine as we will be crossing the Bookookoorara Creek on our trip to Rivertree.

BOOKOOKOORARA CREEK

Primitive man in the ti-tree listens
To trickle of ripple on stone
Drumming round rootlets; dark water glistens
Dreaming a drowsy drone.

He mimicked the notes of Nature's voices,
Syllables soft as Greek.
Phonetic flowing that rhythm rejoices,
Bookookoorara Creek.

Long aeons ago, wild man translated,
The sounds of the creek's full song,
The printed words he mated
Where waters trickle along.

Still under ti-trees ripples run playing
Gambols of hide and seek,
Yet as of yore wee wavelets keep saying
Bookookoorara Creek!
Murmurous Boo-Koo-Koo, silvery ra-ra -
Bookookoorara Creek.