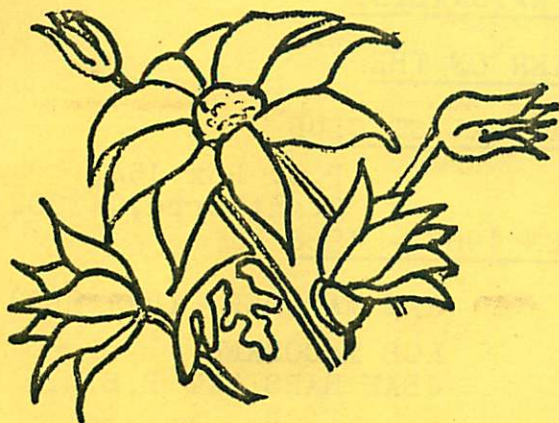


15 MAR 1988



THE
**GRANITE BELT
NATURALIST**



**Monthly Newsletter of the
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club**



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

P.O. Box 154,
Stanthorpe, Q4380.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 1987 - 1988

PRESIDENT	RAY MARSDEN (811 593)
VICE-PRESIDENTS	ROB MCCOSKER JEAN HARSLETT B.E.M.
SECRETARY	DOT ARCHER (811 754)
TREASURER	JOAN STEVENSON
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	MILLIE MARSDEN
NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE	DORE MCCOSKER LOUISE FISCHER TOM ARCHER
PUBLICITY OFFICER	JANET HOCKINGS
LIBRARIAN	BRIAN MCDONAGH
FLORA AND FAUNA OFFICER	COLIN HOCKINGS
GEOLOGY OFFICER	GEOFFREY WALKER
YOUTH OFFICER	ERROL WALKER
BUSHWALKING OFFICER	
<u>COMMITTEE</u>	Frank Wilkinson Roy Werner Esme Lacey 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

Donation .50c per family per
meeting to cover rent.

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 MONTHLY MEETING OF THE STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALISTS
HELD IN THE Q.C.W.A. ROOMS at 8pm on February 24, 1988.

OPENING.

President Ray opened the meeting and welcomed the 20 members present. 4 apologies were received.

MINUTES.

Moved by Mary Walters and seconded by Tom Archer that the minutes in the January Newsletter of the meeting of November 25, 1987 be taken as read and confirmed. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE. Inward correspondence received from 1. Dore McCosker (thank you note) 2. State Library asking for Newsletters 168-191. 3. Field Naturalists Club of Victoria re National History Award. 4. Dept. of Education Film Library 5. Green Mountain National History Assn. re National Parks Day Program March 25-27 at O'Reillys. 6. Aust. Conservation Foundation Appeal. Newsletters and Journals from 1. National Parks Assn 2. Qld. Naturalist Club Jan/Feb. 3. Qld. Naturalist Journal 4. Chinchilla Field Naturalist Club Jan/Feb. 5. Toowoomba Bush Walkers Dec/ Jan. 6. Darling Downs Naturalist Newsletter Dec/ Jan. 7. Darling Downs Naturalist Journal. 8. Richmond Valley Naturalist Jan/Feb.

Outward letters to 1. 4QS Christmas Breakup Party 2. 4QS January Outing Notice 3. 4QS February outing and meeting notices. 4. Card of sympathy to Dore McCosker. 5. Letter of thanks to Alex Petrie for allowing us on his property at Rocky River in February. It was moved by Ailsa Wilkinson seconded by Bob Lacey that the inward correspondence be received and the outward endorsed. Carried.

TREASURERS
REPORT

Balance as at 25/11/87 \$ 184.30 credit
Receipts Subscriptions \$82.00 Room Rent Collection \$3.30 total \$85.30.
Expenditure. Magazine Postage \$15.75, Duplication \$6.00, Room Rent \$6.00 FDT \$2.10 Total \$29.85.
Balance as at 24/2/88. \$239.75 Credit.
Treasurer Joan Stevenson moved that the report be received and the following accounts be passed for payment - Magazine postage (two months) \$31.50, Magazine duplication \$6.00, Room Rent \$8.00.
Seconded by Errol Walker and carried.

OUTING REPORTS. Robin McCosker spoke on the Girraween outing - 40 people walked to the Junction along the old track, not many flowers were seen, Ray found a green callistemon. The interest of the outing were the brilliant red crayfish and the "slitheries".

OUTING REPORT

February.

Report to Rocky River was given by Tom Archer who reported it was very well attended by 51 people. The weather was good and all who attended enjoyed the day, many went swimming and boating or walking along the creek banks.

SPECIMENS.

Ailsa spoke on a piece of cork found on the cork tree in Wood Street Tenterfield. Millie Marsden spoke on having seen a brown pigeon on the outing at Rocky River.

PRE OUTING REPORT

The March outing will be led by Bushwalking officer Errol Walker and will be a walkout from Quart Pot Creek in Talc Street to Finney Falls and return. The walk to begin at 12.30pm and please carry afternoon tea.

GUEST SPEAKER

March guest speaker will be Sundown National Park Ranger, Peter Haselgrove who will talk on the park in general.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

John Walter said that he and Nancy Aiken would be happy to present a programme later in the year on birds. It was decided that this program would take place on August 24 and the president to contact Mrs. Aiken.

AFTER MEETING PROGRAM.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

All present enjoyed sharing Esme Lacey's trip overseas with Frank and Ailsa Wilkinson last year. Places seen were fond memories to others and we thank Esme for taking us down Memory Lane - we all enjoyed it.

Dorothy Archer
Hon. Sec.

Just a reminder that there are a couple of camp-outs in the near future, both in the capable hands of Roy Werner. The weekend of April 23,24,25th will take us into New South Wales and the June long weekend we are to travel to Gympie to camp at the school camp attached to former member Ray Rollands' school. Roy will be looking for a good roll up to both of these camps.

PLEASE NOTE

Change of time for the commencement of the walkout on March 20. Leave Talc Street at 1pm not 12.30pm.

INVITATION FROM CHINCHILLA FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

The President and Members of the Chinchilla Field Naturalist Club invite ~~MEMBERS OF STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB~~ to the launching of "Going Bush with Chinchilla Nats" on Saturday the 19th March, 1988 at 3 p.m. at the grounds of the Chinchilla Museum. Mrs. Jean Harslett is our Guest of Honour. The Club will have a Natural History display; "Going Bush ..." will be on sale from the C.F.N.C. tent. Visiting Clubs will be welcome to join us in our B.B.Q. 5.30 - 6.00 p.m. (Please wear your club badge and name tag so you can be recognised by C.F.N.C. members). The launch of this bicentenary publication forms part of the Chinchilla Historical Society's Heritage Week Programme. There will be an admission charge of \$1. per person (maximum of \$4 per family) to the Museum grounds.

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FEBRUARY OUTING REPORT

On Sunday, February 21st the outing was to Rocky River which, as the crow flies, is about 20 miles south east of Tenterfield but is considerably further by road. The Billarimba Road takes off from near the Tenterfield Reservoir. It is mostly a good dirt road, very scenic and the countryside could not have looked better. Fifty one attended the outing on a day that was just right & not too hot. Enroute we passed through patches of very fine timber with a number of views down into the valley which is partly cleared grazing country. In places there were numerous blackboys or grass trees - some up to 20 feet tall with over ten branches or flowering heads. The road along the Rocky River branches off to the right while the road itself continues on to Drake. An interesting drive along the river, but it can be a bit rough after rain.

The Rocky River or Timbarra River flows fairly fast over rocks and gravel. It is not a big river but never the less a very pleasant stream. With permission of the local landowner, we picnicked under the River Oaks and went swimming or canoeing or just yarned - a quiet relaxed afternoon.

Geologically the valley of Demon Creek and Rocky River is very interesting, for they lie along the Demon Fault. This fault stretches from just east of Stanthorpe to Kempsey - a distance of about 200 miles and the greatest lateral shift is about 40 miles. On a satellite photograph the fault line shows up very clearly. In its heyday it must have been something like the St. Andreas Fault which runs through San Francisco. Now it is completely stable and immobilised.

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March Outing - Sunday, March 20th, 1988. 'Our Quart Pot Creek'

Preouting report by Errol Walker.

Contrary to the outings that I usually seem to become involved with, This outing I can guarantee will be leisurely, social and interesting.

As this is a half day outing there is no need to pack a lunch.

We will meet at 1 p.m. under the Willow Trees across from the Y.M.C.A. on Quart Pot Creek. We won't need to do any weight lifting at the Y.M.C.A. centre before our walk but you will need to carry your own smoko and cup and wear rubber soled shoes. A hat would be useful for walking at this time of the day. Hot water, tea, sugar and milk will be provided at Finney's Falls where I hope Bill and Jenny Humble will be able to join us for afternoon tea.

Features of the walk which will be a round trip, will include our creek beautification scheme, the silver Red Bridge, creek Rapids rock formations and Finney's Falls etc., etc.

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BIRDS AT ARCHER'S PROPERTY

As I've written before - most of our little visitors are larger feathered friends - but I was so thrilled to see some little Thornbills out under the clothes Hoist. We have lots of small birds down in the lower paddocks and by the creek but not up near the house. We also had some visitors one day (haven't seen them since alas) whom I'm told were Barbary Doves - they were so pretty - cream with just a touch of brown on their wings and a black bar across their neck. I haven't been able to find anything about them in various bird books but would like any information anyone can give me.

Dot. Archer.

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