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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, 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)
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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.

July, 1988.

Minutes of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club General Meeting held Wednesday, June 22nd, 1988 in the Q.C.W.A. Rooms - 8 p.m.

Opening - President Ray opened the meeting and welcomed all present and in particular welcomed Jean Harslett back after her trip on the Birdsville Track.

MINUTES - It was moved by Ailsa Wilkinson and seconded by Rob McCosker that the minutes of the May 25th meeting be taken as read in the June Newsletter. Carried.

Correspondence - Inward received from - Endeavour School, Australian Post

Newsletters and Journals received from -
Toowoomba Bushwalkers Club; Chinchilla Field Naturalist Club;
Richmond Valley Naturalist Club; Q'ld Naturalist Club

Outward was sent to -

4 Q.S. Radio Station re outing & meeting notices
Warwick & District Area Office of Recreational Council.

Moved by Esme Lacey that the Inward Correspondence be received and the outward endorsed. Carried.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the Treasurer the Secretary read her report

Balance at 25/5/88

Cr. 177.18

Receipts

Room Rent Collection

5.30
182.48

Expenditures

Room Rent 8.00

Mag. Postage 15.75

Mag. Duplication 6.00

Mag. Cover Photocopy 8.00

Mag. Registration 40.00

77.75

Credit Balance

\$104.73

Secretary Dot moved that the Treasurer's report be received and the following accounts passed for payment - Room Rent 8.00; Mag. Postage
Mag. Duplication \$6.00 \$15.75

Moved by Jean Harslett. Carried.

June Outing report

Roy Werner spoke on the June Outing to Boonoo Boonoo River and Falls. It was a perfect day and a very pleasant trip to Boonoo Boonoo River where morning tea was enjoyed followed by a walk up the river. It was decided to have lunch at the river and then proceed to the falls. Most of the party went to the Lookout but the McCosker family went all the way to the base of the falls. Numerous Kangaroos were seen on the outing.

JULY Outing - as no reply had been received from the Q'ld. Recreation Council it was decided to have a look at the Leyburn Trail and places of interest in that area. - July 24th is the date.

July Meeting will be our Annual Meeting on July 27th. After the election of Officers and meeting a slide program "Remember Last Year" will

Next Meeting continued - be shown. Rob McCosker will organise this. A cup of tea will conclude the evening and members are asked to bring a plate.

Specimens - Tom Archer spoke on a Black flowered Sarsparilla which is growing in his garden but is from Western Australia (*Kennedia nigris*).

Dore McCosker brought a specimen which was identified as an Emperor Moth *crystalis* found on trees that have mistletoe growing on them. Dore had found it at the base of a tree.

General Business -

Moved by Millie Marsden that our Club continue to give \$3.00 prize money for 'Native Blooms' at the Stanthorpe Show. Seconded by Dore McCosker and Carried.

Members are asked to think up and submit suggestions for programs and outings for the coming year.

Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

After-meeting Program -

President Ray introduced the Guest Speaker Tom Archer who showed us a very beautiful collection of Wild Flowers found mainly in and around the Stanthorpe and neighbouring districts. There was quite a bit of audience participation discussing these - asking where they were found and helping Tom put a name to some of them. Many thanks Tom for a very interesting program.

Dorothy Archer,
Hon. Secretary

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June Outing Report

Roy Werner was the leader of the June outing and the destination was to Boonoo Boonoo River and Falls. Boonoo Boonoo is usually pronounced something like 'Bunna Boonoo'.

To get there we travelled down the Mt. Lindsay Highway to just before Bookookoorara (pronounced Bukka-ka-rara) where the Boonoo Boonoo Lane turns off to the left. The road down to the crossing is all weather but some of the creek crossings are not. It is a scenic drive, fairly steep in parts with fine views to the east of the mountains around Mt. Lindsay. The crossing over the river is on fairly flat rock and quite good if there is not too much water. We were told that the road from there on is not too good particularly the creek crossings during wet spells. On this road you eventually come to Boorak Station which is near the old Boorak Goldfields. In the past there have been several small goldfields worked in this area. From there it is a short drive to the Buxner Highway and a good road back to Tenterfield - a nice Sunday drive through interesting country.

The Boonoo Boonoo River crossing is a very pleasant place for a picnic and on this occasion the sun was shining brightly and there were no cold winds as it is down in a deep valley. After morning tea there we went for walks up and down stream enjoying the sights of cataracts, small waterfalls and rock pools as well as lovely ferns. Walking beside the stream is fairly easy. With the sound of running water in the background all voted it a very relaxing spot and it was decided to stay there for lunch as well. After lunch we drove further down the Mt. Lindsay Highway towards Tenterfield and then took the road to the Boonoo Boonoo Falls. This road has now been improved to take tourist buses. The BoonooBoonoo Falls themselves are quite spectacular. The river, in a series of falls and cataracts, drops 700 feet and from a lookout on a graded track part way down, you can get a good view of them. There is a walking track right to the bottom and though quite steep

June Outing Report continued -

is ok for the active. The McCosker Family went right to the bottom. The whole countryside is quite rugged and during the wild flower season there is quite a wide variety of flowers differing somewhat from those of the Granite Belt. The valley itself seems to be in a rain shadow as the vegetation in the valley, with the exception of a small patch of spray induced rain forest at the base of the falls, is of a drier type to that found at higher levels.

JULY OUTING.

The outing on July 24th will tie in with the Bi-Centennial Year and have a distinct historical aspect.

Members will meet at Weeroona Park at 9am and travel to Leyburn. The idea is to follow the Leyburn Heritage Trail of 21 historical sites in the area. As the school is the scene of a couple of the sites, we will have our cuppa in the playshed which was built in 1882-83 by a Toowoomba carpenter, Mr. William Clarke under contract to the Education Office. The principle of the school will, in all probability, join us there and we may have the company of several other locals for the day.

One of the buildings we will inspect is the gracious St. Augustines Anglican Church. This lovely old church was constructed in 1971. It is patterned on a typical English village church of the time. At one time Leyburn was the centre of a surrounding parish, the church was reshingled in the 1930's. We will also visit St. Matthew's Catholic Church, constructed in 1900 and still used for weekly mass, Leyburn's oldest residence built in 1864. The Royal Hotel, built in brick by James Murray in 1863 at a cost of £3000 is said to be Queensland's oldest continuously- licensed establishment, still operating in the original structure. Graves of pioneers will also be visited.

The outing will involve a longish drive to Leyburn, where it is anticipated that we will walk from site to site. Leyburn streets are in an neat grid pattern and were surveyed in 1857.

Contact Ray Marsden (811593) for further particulars.

JULY MEETING.

The annual meeting will be held in the QCWA rooms at 8pm on July 27. The programme is "Remember Last Year". Slides of places visited (see last months magazine for particulars) will be shown, Robyn will put the programme together from slides brought to the meeting. Remember also, a plate for supper, please.

The Editor would be grateful if members would make a new year resolution of supplying an article for inclusion in the magazine at least once during the year. I know that lots of interesting things are seen, done and read and it would certainly be appreciated if members would share these things with the club members through the magazine.