



AUGUST 1995
Vol. 272



THE GRANITE BELT NATURALIST



Mr & Mrs R. McCosker
PO Box 24
SEVERNLEA Q 4352

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

Monthly Newsletter of the
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS
NOW DUE

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 and post it to members.

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each Month at QCWA Rooms at 8.00pm.
Outings: The Sunday preceding the 4th Wednesday of each Month.
Subscriptions: Single \$8.00 Family \$15.00 per annum July to June.
Rent : Donation per family per meeting.
Address: Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc., P.O. Box 154, Stanthorpe Q 4380.

CLUB OFFICER BEARERS 1995/96

President :	Kris Carnell	076 835 268
Vice-Presidents :	Rob McCosker	076 835 371
	Lincoln McPhee	076 811 651
Secretary :	Mary Walters	076 835 306
Treasurer :	Roger Logan	076 812 493
Newsletter Editor :	Desley McDonagh	076 813 074
Magazine Committee :	Julie Beddow & Wendy Donges	
Publicity Officer :	Patience James	076 811 853
Librarian :	Trish McCosker	076 835 371
Management Committee :	President, Vice- Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer.	

STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB INCORPORATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE for the year ended 30th June, 1995

	\$	\$
INCOME		
Bank Interest		65.78
Donations		50.00
Grant - Aust. Nat. Parks & Wildlife Service		2,800.00
Members Subscriptions		1,054.00
Photocopying Expenses		145.50
Post Office Box Rent (1/2 share)		20.00
Room Rent		103.50
		<u>4,238.78</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Bank Charges	7.40	
Incorporation Fees	19.00	
Liability Insurance	155.00	
Magazine Postage	320.09	
Members Subs Refunded (paid twice)	15.00	
Petty Cash	20.00	
Photocopying Expenses	145.60	
Post Office Box Rent	40.00	
Projections Stand & Screen	450.00	
Rent of Rooms	90.00	
Stationary	13.45	1,275.54
NET SURPLUS OF FUNDS		<u><u>\$2,963.24</u></u>

STATEMENT OF ACCUMULATED FUNDS as at 30th June, 1995.

Balance 1st July, 1994	1,143.77
Add Surplus of Funds	2,963.24
Balance 30th June, 1995	<u><u>\$4,107.01</u></u>
- Represented by -	
Cash at Bank	
Commonwealth Cheque Account (4431 0090 2063)	<u>\$4,107.01</u>

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB INC. 1995.

The year has been one of variety once again, with plenty of challenges for outing leaders. In another year of drought we have had one outing cancelled due to rain and at least two others affected by rain either on the day or just before, making the road impassable. In spite of this we have had 13 outings which included three Environmental Days in the new Heritage Park, 2 campouts, one half day outing and 7 normal day outings. It is interesting to note that almost half of the outings were in New South Wales. These Field outings are different for each person attending, as we all have our own personal interests, be it in one of the Natural History fields, or simply as recreation from our daily activities. It is my hope that these interests have been catered for and I would like to sincerely thank the Outing Leaders for their efforts.

Our meeting programs have also been varied with travelogue slide shows from around Australia and overseas but I feel special mention must be made of the two Activity Nights; Gordon Davis' Quiz night and the meeting at Girraween soon after the disastrous fires of September, both gave members the opportunity to become involved. They were thought provoking and a lot of fun. Many thanks to all the Meeting Program Presenters.

A wonderful achievement during the year was the presentation to Jean Harslett of the 1995 Queensland Natural History Award. Congratulations Jean on receiving this very deserving award, and a special thanks to Tom Archer for compiling this very thoroughly researched nomination.

The involvement of our Club in the development of the Heritage Park has become an ongoing project. The receipt of a Grant of \$2800 from the One Billion Trees Program will enable the construction of a shelter to house interpretive signs for four native plant beds, and the purchase of plants. Work done by members has so far been voluntary but rewarding, with the clean-up of rubbish from the area up to and beyond the 'Red Bridge', the painting of the 'Little Red Bridge' and the construction of the "Heritage Park" sign. I'm sure the Park will be as enduring as the granite sign, and I feel honoured to have been involved in what has already become a great asset to the community.

The Learning for Pleasure Group has been meeting regularly through the year. Three Discussion Groups - French, Ancient History and Current Affairs have been conducted and will continue. Liaison Officer, Mary Walters, will welcome enquiries from anyone to join in. Thank you, Mary for your work in this role.

In concluding this report I must especially thank the committee members for their support and dedication to their tasks throughout the year. Thank you all.

Rob McCosker

/.

OUTING REPORT - SUNDOWN N.P. - 23/7/95.

Some 30 (a good round number) people including very welcome visitors enjoyed a pleasant day at Sundown National Park on Sunday 23rd July.

We left Weeroona Park at approx. 9.00 am, arriving at Sundown in time for the proverbial 'cuppa'. (Nats can't exist without that cuppa!). We noticed and gave right of way to many kangaroos as we drove from Park Headquarters to the camping area. After the cuppa we followed the track to the permanent waterhole which appeared to have some more water in it than on the pre-outing in June, but the river is still not running. Some folk went some way up Ooline Creek while the majority went to the Permanent Waterhole. Exploring, chatting, photographing or just sitting drinking in the view from the rocky bank was done before lunch.

After lunch, most of the group crossed the river and walked up a vehicle track on the other bank to Red Cliff Waterhole. On the way we noticed many cypress trees with lichen attached to them - perhaps because of the fogs which probably stay in the valley, perhaps because of the moist breeze from off the water. Amongst the rubbish trapped at the base of one tree in a flood (what's that???) debris was an old, bottomless (where did that go?) galvanised milking bucket.

We noticed an ants' nest that had been attacked by an echidna. Lincoln bravely investigated a long snake skin hanging down a rock face. It was agreed that this was a very dead adder. We also noticed the Ooline Tree as well as the red ash tree. Ray, and others, retrieved a very old goat's horn from the river without anyone falling in - is it going to add to the feathers on that hat???

It was good to have Ray and Millie Marsden back with us again. We were very sorry that Peter Haselgrove who had planned to join us for the day was too ill to make it. We missed you Peter! Next time!

We are fortunate indeed to live so close to an area as beautiful as Sundown is, and it was good to have the opportunity to spend time there. My thanks go to those who helped with the outing in any way, and in particular to those who came and made the day such an enjoyable one.

BIRD LIST

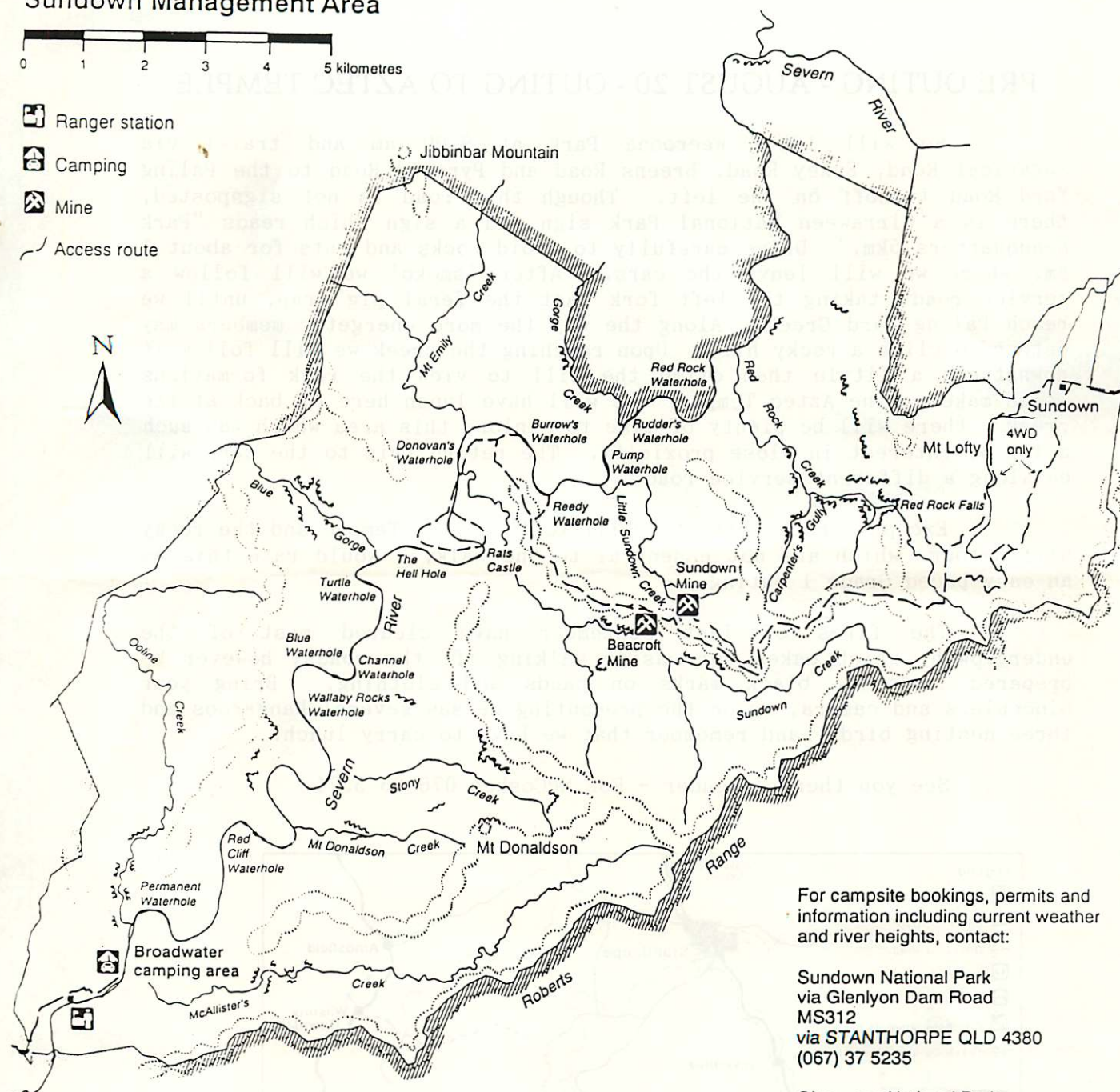
Butcher bird, Pied	Parrot, Crimson Rosella
Chough	Peewee
Crow	Plover, Spurwing
Eagle, Wedge-tail	Robin, Red capped
Egret	Robin, Scarlet
Fantail, Grey	Robin, Yellow
Flycatcher, Restless	Starlings
Honeyeater, Yellow faced	Swallow, Welcome
Honeyeater, White eared	Thornbill, Yellow rumped
Heron, White faced	Thrush, Grey
Magpie	Willy wagtail
Miner, Noisy	Jacky Winter
Pardalote, Spotted	Wren, Superb - male & female

Desley McDonagh

Sundown Management Area



- Ranger station
- Camping
- Mine
- Access route

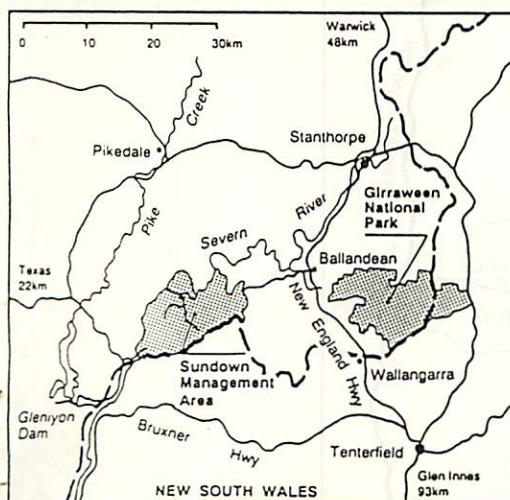


For campsite bookings, permits and information including current weather and river heights, contact:

Sundown National Park
via Glenlyon Dam Road
MS312
via STANTHORPE QLD 4380
(067) 37 5235

Girraween National Park
via BALLANDEAN QLD 4382
(076) 84 5157

Locality map



Access

Conventional vehicles can reach the Broadwater camping area and the Severn River at the southern end of the park via 75km of bitumen road from Stanthorpe and 4km of good gravel road.

A graded shire road leads to the park's eastern boundary from Ballandean. A rough 4WD track leads to campsites along the river. Bushwalkers may leave vehicles just inside the park boundary at the start of the 4WD track.

To the north, a rough shire road leads from Nundubbermere Road to a Crown reserve above Nundubbermere Falls on the Severn River. The river may be crossed with care and good walking is available downstream.

Please care for Sundown!

To protect the natural beauty of Sundown, and to allow other visitors to enjoy the park, please:

- remove all your rubbish from the park;
- leave dogs and cats outside the management area;
- do not use generators, chainsaws or outboard motors;
- leave all plants and animals undisturbed;
- take great care with fire;
- be careful about hygiene, and where there are no toilets bury human waste well away from creeks; and
- do not enter contaminated area around old mines.

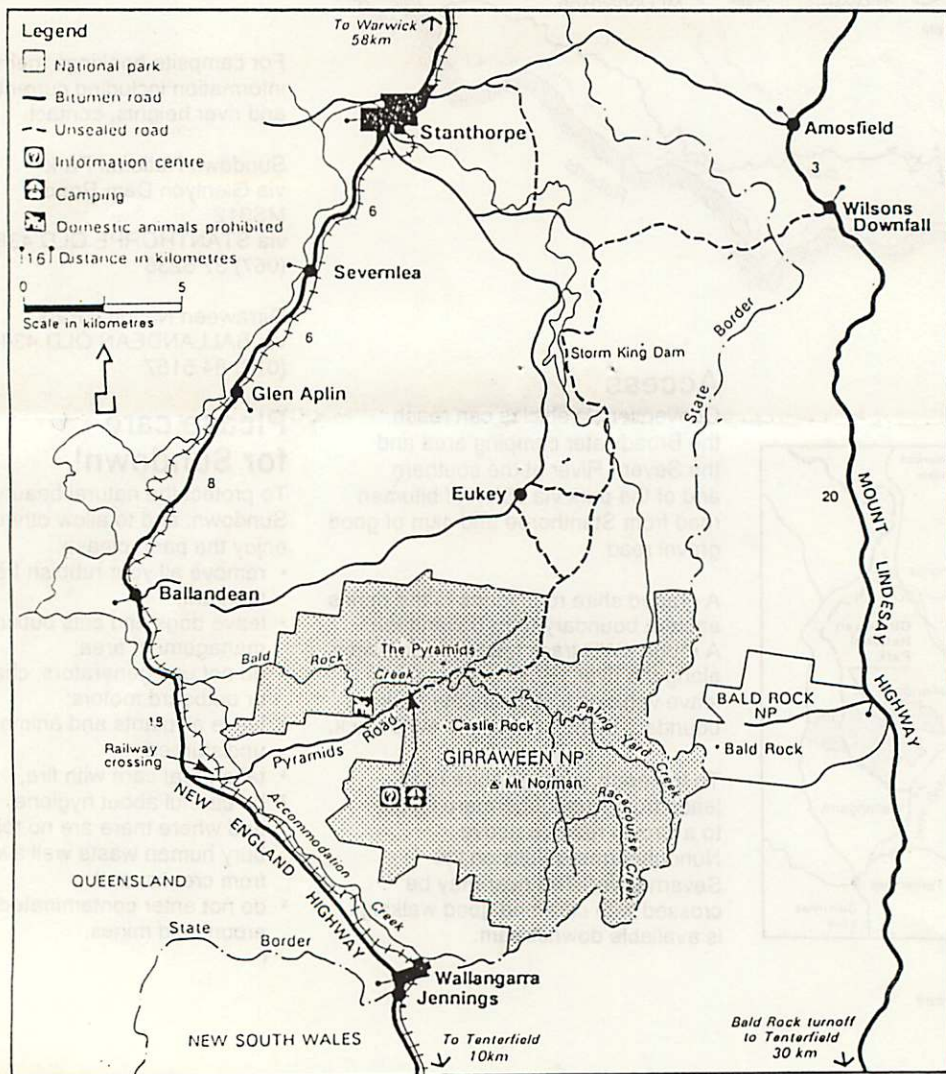
PRE OUTING - AUGUST 20 - OUTING TO AZTEC TEMPLE

We will leave Weeroona Park at 9.00 am and travel via Sugarloaf Road, Eukey Road, Breens Road and Pyramid Road to the Paling Yard Road turnoff on the left. Though this road is not signposted, there is a Girraween National Park sign and a sign which reads "Park Headquarters 5km." Drive carefully to avoid rocks and ruts for about 1 km, where we will leave the cars. After 'smoko' we will follow a service road, taking the left fork past the feral pig trap, until we reach Paling Yard Creek. Along the way the more energetic members may detour to climb a rocky hill. Upon reaching the creek we will follow it downstream a little then climb the hill to view the rock formations which make up the Aztec Temple. We will have lunch here or back at the creek - there will be plenty of time to explore this area which has such a lot of interest in close proximity. The return trip to the cars will be along a different service road.

Except for the bit of uphill to the Aztec Temple and the rocky hill detour, which are not essential to the walk, I would rate this as an easy-paced Grade 1 outing.

The fires of last September have cleared most of the undergrowth, which makes for easier walking off the roads, however be prepared for some black marks on hands and clothing. Bring your binoculars and camera, as on the pre-outing we saw several kangaroos and three nesting birds, and remember that we have to carry lunch.

See you there. Leader - Rob McCosker 076 83 5371



Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
Held in Q.C.W.A. rooms Stanthorpe on 26.07.95

Opening: President Rob McCosker welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Attendance: There were 24 present and 17 apologies as per attendance book.

Dot and Tom Archer passed on their thanks for good wishes after Tom's accident.

Patience James was in hospital after falling at the last outing, with a chipped elbow.

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting were confirmed as a correct record on the motion of Frank Wilkinson, seconded Mary Walters. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Statement of Income & Expenditure for the year ended 30th June 1995 showed a credit balance of \$4,107.01. Roger Logan moved, Lyle Thompson seconded that the report be adopted. Carried.

President's Report: Rob McCosker presented his report for the year and moved it for adoption. Carried by acclamation. Robin thanked the committee for their work during the year.

Election of Officers:

President: Rob McCosker declined nomination.

Kris Carnell was nominated by R. McCosker, seconded J. Beddow
Elected.

Vice President: Mary Walters declined nomination by F. Wilkinson.

Rob McCosker was nominated by Mary Walters, seconded N. Crawford. Elected

Vice President: Lincoln McPhee was nominated by Wendy Donges, seconded Mary Walters. Elected.

Secretary: Mary Walters was nominated by M Carnell, seconded R. McCosker
Elected.

Treasurer: Roger Logan was nominated by D. McDonagh, seconded J. Beddow
Elected.

Newsletter Editor: Desley McDonagh was nominated by J. Brown, seconded Julie Beddow. Elected.

Librarian: Trish McCosker was nominated by D. McDonagh, seconded J. brown. Elected.

Publicity Officer: Patience James had indicated that she was willing to take this office and was elected. Margaret Carnell volunteered to the publicity while Patience is away.

Magazine Committee: Julie Beddow volunteered to do the posting.

Wendy Donges was nominated by R. McCosker, seconded J. Stephenson.
Elected.

Auditor: Power Tynan & Co. was nominated by D. McDonagh, seconded R. Logan. Elected.

As this concluded the business of the Annual Meeting Kris Carnell took the chair and the general meeting commenced.

Minutes of Meeting of Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
held in Q.C.W.A. Rooms, Stanthorpe on 26.07.95 following Annual Meeting.

Present; 24 present and 17 apologies as per attendance book.

Minutes: of the previous meeting were accepted as a correct record on the motion of Desley McDonagh, seconded Lyle Thompson. Carried.

Correspondence: There was no outwards correspondence. Inwards correspondence was received on the motion of M. Carnell, seconded F. Wilkinson. Carried.

Inwards: 1. Qld Naturalist Club Inc. - Q.N.C. News.
2. Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club Inc. - "The Darling Downs Naturalist"
3. D.W. & L.M. Hofflin - subscription. 4. P. Kerr - subscription
5. Stant horpe Shire Council - invoice & receipt; 6. Matrix Office
Systems - Account; 7. Toowoomba Bushwalkers Club Inc. - "Footprint" July.
8. Chinchilla Field Nats. - "Urimbirra" July ; P.C. & D. Landon - subs.

Finance: R. Logan moved & R. McCosker seconded that the financial statement be adopted. Carried.

Balance at 28.6.95	\$3890.01
Receipts	217.00
	<u>4107.01</u>
Expenditure	222.50
Balance at 26.7.95	<u>\$3884.51.</u>

General Business; Heritage Park: The top soil should be spread this week, information centre erected in August and trees planted in September or October. Four information plaques should be ready in September.

Book "The Flora of Girraween and Bald Rock National Parks" was on sale/
There were five extra copies available at \$18.00 each.

Frank Wilkinson moved a vote of thanks to all office bearers for the past year.

Specimens: Kris Carnell showed a case moth on Eucalyptus scoparia growing in a pot. There appeared to be little damage to the tree although the moth was large. He also had an air plant which several members had seen before. The common names are Air Fern, Old Man's Beard, or Grandfather's Whiskers.

Program Next Meeting: Mary Walters will arrange a Quiz as Noela & Brian Dodd will nt be available on 23rd August.

Outing Report: Desley McDonagh reported on a successful outing to Sundown National Park with about 30 people attending. Some explored Ooline Creek while others stayed close to The Permanent Water Hole. About 20 birds were sighted.

Next Outing: The outing on 20th August will be led by Rob McCosker, leaving Weeroona Park at 9 a.m. and travelling to Race Course Creek and the Aztec Temple. It should be fairly easy apart from some scrub in the creek.

The secretary was asked to send a letter to Patience James wishing her a speedy recovery.

The Committee is to arrange the program for the next 12 months on Tuesday 1st August.

Program: The program presented by Rob McCosker was "Remember Last Year" with several members bringing slides of outings, and was followed by supper.

**Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
Outing & Meeting Dates 1995/96**

Date	Activity	Leader/Speaker
20.08.95	Outing - Racecourse Creek & Aztec Temple	Robin McCosker
23.08.95	Meeting - Quiz	Mary Walters
24.09.95	Outing - Mt Colliery	Ron & Nancy Goodings
27.09.95	Meeting	Ray Marsden
08.10.95	Outing - 1/2 day - The Junction	Brian Dodd
21/22.10.95	Camp Out - Urbenville	Lincoln McPhee
25.10.95	Meeting	John Sommerlad
19.11.95	Outing - Mole River	Helen Hartman
22.11.95	Meeting	Errol Walker
10.12.95	Outing - Break-up at "Shortlands"	Rob & Trish McCosker
21.01.96	Outing - Basket Swamp	Kris Carnell
25.02.96	Outing - Poverty Point	Geoff Walker
28.02.96	Meeting - Bees	Lincoln McPhee
23/24.03.96	Camp-Out - Emu Vale	Alan & Diane Jones
27.03.96	Meeting - Scenic Rim	Robin McCosker
21.04.96	Outing - Slip Rock	Brian Dodd & Bill Goebel
24.04.96	Meeting	Jean Harslett
19.05.96	Outing - Brian McDonagh's Bluff	Brian McDonagh
22.05.96	Meeting - Walking for Health	Local Doctor
8/9/10. 06.96	Camp Out - Glass House Mountains	Errol Walker
26.06.96	Meeting	Noela & Brian Dodd
21.07.96	Outing - Sundown National Park	Peter Haselgrove
24.07.96	Meeting - Water Conservation	D.P.I.
25.08.96	Outing - Warwick Area	David Wilson
28.08.96	Meeting	Gordon Davis