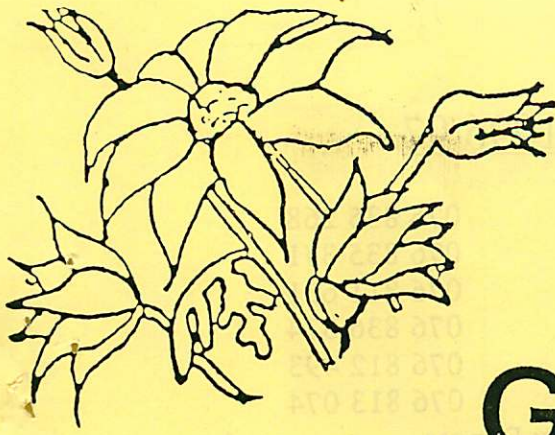


OCTOBER 1996

Vol 284



THE GRANITE BELT NATURALIST



Monthly Newsletter of the
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club

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 OFFICE BEARERS 1996/97

President :	Kris Carnell	076 835 268
Vice-Presidents :	Rob McCosker	076 835 371
	Lincoln McPhee	076 811 651
Secretary :	Liz Bourne	076 836 374
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.	

ADDRESS CORRECTION NOTICE

Please check your address and make sure that it is correct for Australia Post delivery. WE NEED YOUR MAIL SERVICE OR POST OFFICE BOX NUMBER.

FOR YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE !!

1. NEXT MEETING will be held on October 23rd at the CWA Rooms, Victoria Street, Stanthorpe at 8.00 pm. David Wilson is giving the programme on Volcanoes of Australasia.

2. OCTOBER CAMPOUT - Saturday/Sunday 19/20 October - Inverell Area - Further details inside. Some are going Friday 18 and some are staying Sunday night.

**** PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY ****

DEADLINE DATE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER - Because some members only have one mail delivery a week the newsletter has to be mailed two Fridays BEFORE each outing. THE DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER WILL BE MONDAY 11TH - I must have it ready by Wednesday evening for Neil & Wendy to be able to have it ready for mailing in Friday's mail. Thank you already for your co-operation in this matter.

SCALE OF DIFFICULTY FOR WALKS ON NATS OUTINGS

1. Flat walking, road or track.
2. Road or track, gentle hills.
3. Track, some hilly sections.
4. Track, some steep sections.
5. Cross country, easy open forest, gentle slopes.
6. Track, steep section common, with steps.
7. Cross country, some hills, some thick undergrowth.
8. Cross country, steep section with scrambles over rocks etc., some thick undergrowth.
9. Cross country, steep, hilly, rough, thick undergrowth.
10. Mountain climbing, hard going, higher level of fitness or plenty of time required.

PRE-OUTING - CAMPOUT 19/20 OCTOBER.

THE TRIP FROM STANTHORPE TO INVERELL VIA GLEN INNES SHOULD TAKE BETWEEN TWO AND A HALF AND THREE HOURS. If you have a little time to spare after you leave Glen Innes, take the track up onto Sinclair Lookout - it is worth the view.

Meet at Lake Inverell Reserve at 12 noon - 12.30pm Saturday 19th October. We will lunch there and do the walks around this water bird habitat and area of remnant forest. The walks are just rambles - scale about 1 - maybe 2. Bring and carry drinks for the walk. You may choose how far you walk - you may wish to just sit and look and listen. (N.B. - there are no toilets at this reserve.)

Camping will be at Tingha Gems Caravan Park. SOME OF US WILL BE THERE ON FRIDAY NIGHT, some staying Sunday. Tingha is 25 kms from Inverell. Make sure you turn left after you pass through Gilgai. The Tingha Caravan Park is on Swimming Pool Road - left off the Tingha Guyra Road after crossing Copes Creek bridge. It is well signed. It is also a very beautiful park and quite reasonable - \$6.00 per site with vans at \$20.00 - one 2 one 6.

Sunday morning 9.00 am we will start the walk around the Goonoowigall Wilderness Area. Carry lunch and drinks. The round trip is 5.1 km of easy walking which I did earlier in the year with ease. There are falls and a creek junction to detour to.

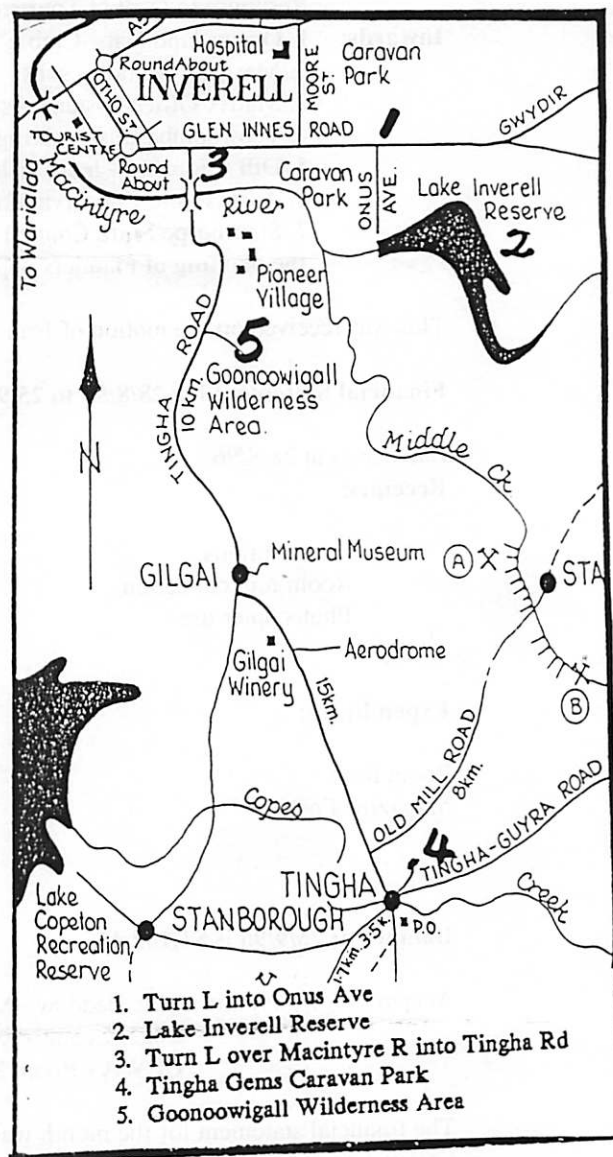
Please see attached map. We could be travelling home after Goonoowigall via Pindari Dam and Ashford - you may decide /need to make a more speedy way home. Millie and I enjoyed Pindari when we did the preouting. A huge lake!

If you are a member of the RACQ the NRMA map of New England Northern Tablelands is a good one for this trip.

Contact me on 813074 at weekends or before 8.15am and after 6.00pm. During the day I am relieving at the Electorate Office in Victoria Street this month. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY ADVISED THAT YOU ARE COMING IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU DO NOW !!!!!

I am leaving at 3.00 pm on Friday for Tingha and will catch up with those coming whenever and wherever. I can assure you that it is a beautiful area. Please come.

Desley McDonagh



MINUTES OF MEETING OF STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB INC.
held in Q.C.W.A. Rooms, Stanthorpe on 25th September, 1996

Opening: The meeting opened at 8.05pm with Vice-President, Rob Mc Cosker, welcoming members and visitors in the absence of Kris Carnell.

Attendance: There were 22 present and 14 apologies as per the attendance book.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: These were received as a correct record of the meeting on 28/8/96 on the motion of Patience James, seconded by Mary Walters. Carried.

Correspondence:

Outwards: Response to Directory of Australian Associations -entry in their directory
Response to Dept of Tourism - information on organisation

Inwards:

1. Queensland Nats. Club - "Q.N.C. News"
2. Margaret Mellon - subs
2. Margaret Compton - subs.
3. Matrix Office Systems - statement
4. Toowoomba Bushwalking Club - "Footprints" Sept., 96
5. DPI - Forestry - letter re harvesting of native plants and copy of Plant Conservation Plan
6. Aust Nature Conservation Agency - "Conservation Australia"
7. Stanthorpe Shire Council - copies of letters from various government agencies regarding the planting of Flanders poppies in the Shire

This was received on the motion of Jean Harslett, seconded by Patience James. Carried.

Financial Statement for 28/8/96 to 25/9/96:

Balance as at 28/8/96	\$1055.07
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Receipts:

Subscriptions	\$84.00	
Room rent collection	\$ 6.00	
Photocopier use	<u>\$ 6.40</u>	
	<u>\$96.40</u>	\$1151.47

Expenditure:

Room Rent	\$12.50	
Magazine Postage	<u>\$36.55</u>	
	<u>\$49.05</u>	(49.05)
		\$1102.42

Balance at 25/9/96 is \$1,102.42

Accounts for payment: Julie Beddow - Magazine Postage for Sept. - \$ 36.60
 Roger Logan - Receipts and Account Book - \$ 3.25
 QCWA - Room Rent - \$12.50

The financial statement for the month was adopted on the motion of Roger Logan, seconded by Herb Colley. Carried.

Outing Report:

Brian Dodd reported on the outing to Girraween National Park on 22nd September at which 20 people participated. The group proceeded from the picnic area down Bald Rock Creek to The Junction with some people then proceeding further downstream to try and find a set of waterfalls. A slower group of botanisers only went as far as The Junction. The first group did not find the waterfall and then proceeded back on the opposite creek bank before stopping for lunch back at The Junction. This group then climbed a nearby hill and were rewarded with some beautiful wildflowers on the way up, including some flowering *Eriostemon australasius* at the top of the hill. Good views of Castle Rock and The Pyramids were also had from the top of this hill. The party then descended back to the creek and on the way back to the picnic area made a diversion to look at a recent rock fall from a massive boulder. It is possible this may have been caused by a lightning strike. A total of 68 flowering plants were identified on the trip. Brian suggested that in future it may be preferable to have either a botanical trip or a walking trip and not try and combine the two.

Next Outing:

There will be a half day wildflower outing to Brian McDonagh's property at The Bluff at Lyra on Sunday, 6th October. This will be a good opportunity to see *Boronia* in bloom.

Millie Marsden requested on behalf of Desley Mc Donagh that those people likely to be going to the campout to Lake Inverell Reserve on the 19th/20th October let her know, especially if they would like a van booked for the weekend. 14 people at the meeting indicated they would be interested in going. Millie said she expected there would be a good display of wildflowers and plenty of waterbirds to see.

Next meeting:

This will be on Wednesday, 23rd October and will feature David Wilson talking on the "Volcanoes of Australasia".

Specimens:

1. Rod Hutchin - flowering beech orchid
2. Joan Bourne - cocoon of some insect she wanted identified. Jean Harslett said it looked like the pupae of a fawnish/pinkish moth which was very attractive and fed on eucalypts and wattles.

Guest Speaker:

Paul Sattler, the Acting Director of the Conservation Strategy Branch of the Department of Environment, gave a talk on how the biodiversity of Queensland was being protected through the consolidation of the national park system. After outlining the current conservation status of the 13 major biogeographic regions in Queensland and the processes being used to ensure an adequate representation of all ecosystems in national parks, Paul then gave a quick "Cook's tour" of slides of some of Queensland's newest national parks including Diamantina and Davenport Downs in the Channel Country; Welford and Idalia in the central west; Lawn Hill; White Mountains near Hughenden; Undara Lava Tubes and Homevale, south west of Mackay. Rob McCosker then moved a vote of thanks to Paul for coming from Brisbane to share with the club such an interesting and informative presentation.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.

OUTING REPORT - GIRRAWEEEN

Leader - Brian Dodd

The day dawned fine for the September outing, a little cool and windy at first, but warmed up as the day progressed. There were 20 starters from Girraween and 21 finishers with the numbers up to 25 at one stage. The group quickly broke up into two groups, one being enthusiastic botanists, the other walkers, with different paced and objectives. There was a fresh in Bald Rock Creek which caused fording problems at the Junction. Consequently, the walkers followed down the more difficult right-hand bank for a while until a crossing was found. On returning to the Junction there were some temporary culinary problems as the two groups looked at each other across the creek with carried lunches on the wrong side of the creek. After this was resolved and lunch completed, the walkers climbed the mountain overlooking the Junction and were rewarded with an excellent view of Castle Rock and the distant Mt Norman and enough flowering of *Eriostemon australasius* to make this detour worthwhile. On the way back to Girraween camping area there was a good example of fallen rock with newly exposed surfaces thought to be caused by a lightning strike.

The botanical group identified 68 flowering native species.
These are listed in this newsletter.

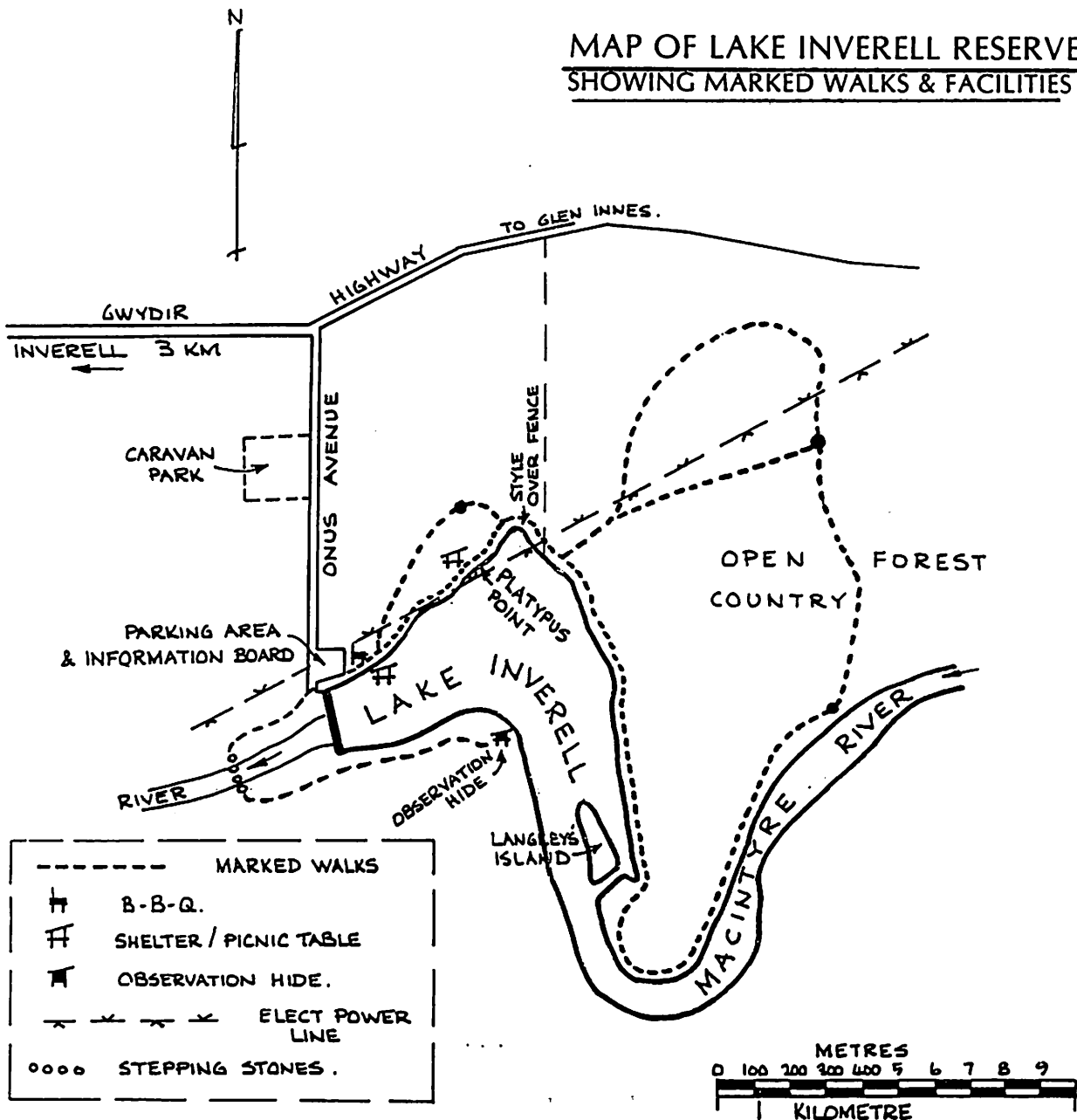
STOP PRESS : The outing to the Lyra Bluff area on the afternoon of October 6 beat that number. In a very short time. That list will be in the next newsletter. (Editor)

Wildflower List from September Outing

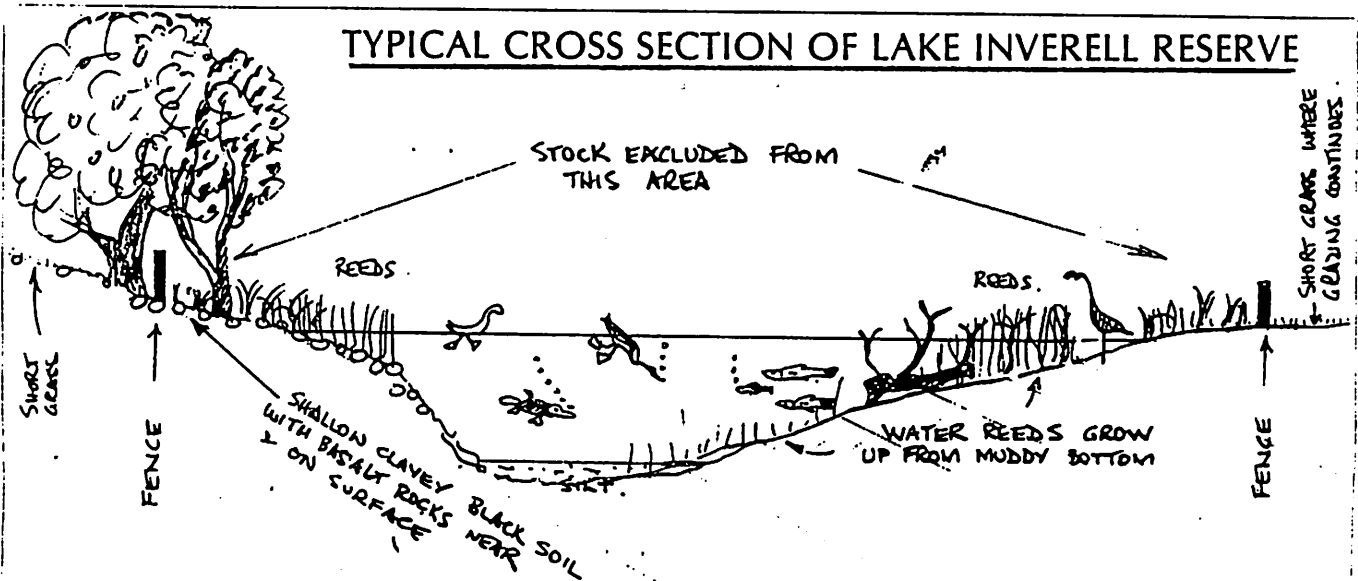
Hovia longifolia - purple pea flower bush
Merbelia speciosa - mauve flower almost finished
Bossiaea obcordata (microphylla) - small leaf egg and bacon plant
Bossiaea rhombifolia - larger rhombic shaped leaf
Pimelia neo-anglica - slender or scanty Rice-flower
Pimelia linifolia var. collina - Queen of the Bush
Micromyrtus sessilis - Harbinger of spring
Olearia microphylla - Star flower
Epacris microphylla - Coral heath
Melichrus urceolatus - low prickly shrub . urn shaped flowers
Patersonia glabrata - Wild iris
Daviesia latifolia - egg and bacon pea, 10 x 3cm veined leaves
Hardenbergia violacea - Sarsaparilla
Glossodia major - Wax lip orchid
Glossodia minor - Small wax lip orchid
Lyperanthus suaveolens - Brown beaks or Snake orchid
Caledonia carnea - Pink fingers orchid
Grevillea linearifolia - narrow leaved spider flower
Isopogon petiolaris - Drumsticks, almost in flower
Dianella longifolia - Flax lily
Wurmbea biglandulosa - (Anguillaria Dioica) Early Nancy
Phebalium rotundifolium - small round leaf
Phebalium ambiens - Fruit salad plant
Phebalium whitei - spectacular yellow flowers
Calocephalus citreus - Soldiers buttons
Leucopogon neo-anglicus - New England beard heath
Leucopogon biflorus - bells in pairs on one side of branch
Leucopogon melaleucoides - Snowbush almost finished flowering
Viola betonicifolia - Mountain violet
Notelaea linearis - Narrow-leaved mock olive
Glycine candestina - Twining glycine
Stenanthemum scortechinii - Snowballs
Drosera peltata subsp. peltata - Tall Sundew
Acacia floribunda, A. adunca, A. latisepera, A. venulosa
A. pubifolia, A. granitica, A. ulicifolia, A. viscidula
Acacia ruppiae - Rupp's wattle
Acacia pruinosa - once known as spectabilis
Pomaderris sp.
Logania albiflora - showy with masses of white flowers
Lissanthe strigosa - Peach heath
Pultenaea hartmannii - Stanthorpe pea, an egg and bacon plant
Choretrum candollei - Wild broom
Banksia integrifolia - Common banksia
Casuarina rigida - Dwarf she-oak
Bertya glandulosa - Pineapple birch
Baeckea densifolia - just one or two flowers out
Boronia amabilis - Wyberba boronia, looking magnificent
Zieria laevigata subsp. laevigata - Twiggy midge bush
Cryptandra amara var. floribunda -
Dodonaea hirsuta - Hairy hop-bush
Stypania glauca - Nodding blue lily
Leptospermum minutifolium - Small leaf tea tree
Stylidium laricifolium - Tall trigger plant
Calytrix tetragona - Heath myrtle
Eriostemon australasius - large Waxflower starting to bloom
Eriostemon myoporoides subsp. epilosus - low Waxflower
Isotoma anethifolia - Rock isotome
Lomandra longifolia - Long leaf matrush
Petrophila canescens - Conesticks
Pandorea pandorana - Wonga Wonga vine
Kunzea obovata - Pink kunzea
Xanthorrhoea johnsonii - Grasstree

Thanks to everyone who helped find and compile this list especially Jean Harslett and Brian Dodd. My second prize for the most spectacular flowers on this outing would have to be shared between the Hovea, Boronia, Logania and Leucopogon biflorus, with first prize going to Phebalium whitei.

MAP OF LAKE INVERELL RESERVE SHOWING MARKED WALKS & FACILITIES



TYPICAL CROSS SECTION OF LAKE INVERELL RESERVE



CAN YOU REMEMBER WHEN OR WHERE YOU FIRST SAW A PARTICULAR BIRD ?

(This is an incomplete list. There are many other birds that I have known for most of my life and therefore cannot put a time or a place on their identification so these are not on the list. This list is an encouragement (hopefully) for other members of the club to submit a contribution to YOUR newsletter. Please remember that I'm only the editor!!??!!)

BIRD	WHEN	WHERE
Scarlet honeyeater	1989	Pierpoint St
Leaden flycatcher (female)	1996	Quartpot Creek
Plumheaded finch	1996	Pierpoint St
Sun bird	?	Agnes Water
Golden Whistler	1994	Lyra
Whitenaped honeyeater	1993	Pierpoint Street
Pheasant Coucal	?	Somerset Dam
Red winged parrot	1994	Pierpoint Street
Blue faced honeyeater	?	Tewantin
Tawny Frogmouth	?	Wyberba
Redbacked Wren	1994	Minnie Water
Splendid Wren	1970	Western Australia
Satin bower bird	?	Wyberba
Great bower bird	1970	Katherine Gorge
Jabiru	?	Noosa
White cheeked honeyeater	1994	Pierpoint Street
Black & white wren	1970	Western Australia
Mistletoe bird	?	Tewantin or Wyberba
Little Corella	1970	Western Australia
Spectacled Monarch	1995	Levuka
Lotus bird	1970	North Queensland
Red tailed tropic bird	1984	Norfolk Island
Blackbird	198?	Melbourne
Bustard	1970	Julia Creek
Brush turkey	?	Cunningham's Gap
Emu	?	Wreck Rock
Magpie goose	1970	Northern Territory
Hoary headed grebe	1970	SW Western Aust.
Koel	?	Stanthorpe
Superb Lyrebird	198?	Marysville
Little penguin	198?	Phillip Island
Spinifex pigeon	1970	Wittenoom W A
Australian pratincole..	1970	Near Karumba
Wedgetailed shearwater	198?	New Zealand
Yellow rumped thornbill	199?	Pierpoint Street
Mynah, common (Indian)	199?	Melbourne
Yellowtufted honeyeater	199?	Girraween
Little crow	1995	Agnes Water

Birds like crows, magpies, peewees, plovers, butcher birds, blue wrens, robins - red capped, red breasted, southern yellow and other 'common' birds are some of those that have been 'part of my life' forever. I have a bit of trouble remembering when/where I met the coastal birds like sandpipers etc also.