

September, 1976.

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

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

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ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS - 4th Wednesday of each Month in the C.W.A. Rooms at 8 p.m.

OUTINGS - Each Sunday preceeding the 4th Wednesday.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Single - \$2.00

Family \$3.00

Please note increase for 1976/1977 Subs.

PROGRAMME

FIELD OUTING - September

Date - Sunday, September 19th. Place - Coolmunda Dam Area Leader -
Mrs. Dawn Donovan
of Texas.

Cars will travel independently to Greenup Store (see Map) where we will meet Mrs. Donovan at 10.30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, September 22, 1976 - 8 p.m. C.W.A. Rooms -
Guest Speaker - Sister Joan Hooper will talk on the Sepik River Mission.

- OCTOBER OUTING - Upson Downs Outing under the leadership of G. McDonagh we will be joined by a Redcliffe Group on this outing.
- NOVEMBER OUTING - Camp Out at Storm King Dam at which we are looking forward to being joined by other Nats Groups.

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MINUTES - Monthly Meeting for 25. 8. 76.

- Minutes - The minutes as published in August Newsletter were passed on the Motion of Sister Joan McGinley. Seconded by Mrs. M. Prentice. CARRIED.
- Corresp. - Inward Correspondence was received from:- M.S. Moulds, D. Donovan re Texas Outing. M. Bennie re proposed campout, Chinchilla Vol. 10 Warwick Walker Vol. 4 No. 1. Conservation & Bush Rescue No. 2. (Goodna)
- Outward was forwarded to:- D. Donovan re outing, Tmba. Nats, Wck Walker, Q'ld. Nats., Chinchilla Nats., J. Bennie (re Campout) 4 Q.S., Adult Ed. Return.
- That the outward be endorsed and inward adopted was moved by Mrs. M. Marsden and seconded by Mrs. R. Thompson. CARRIED.
- Treas. Report - Mrs. D. Archer moved that Credit of \$113.13 be received. Seconded by Mrs. Z. Newman. CARRIED.
- Outing Report - Mr. Maurice Passmore gave his report of the outing to "Rokeby" Warwick fossil beds with 47 attending in perfect weather. The day was most successful. Different fossils of shell & plant types were found and examined.
- Next Outing - This will be in the Coolmunda Dam Area and will be led by Mrs. Dawn Donovan from Texas. Cars will move independently to the Greenup Store where we will meet at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday Sept. 19th. It is anticipated we will be joined by other Texas folk and will all join in enjoying the wildflowers of the area.
- Next Meeting - Sister Joan Hooper will talk on Missionary Work on the Sepik River.
- Business - The request for wildflowers for the Society for Growing Australian Plants will be fulfilled by members who are to leave specimens at Tom Chapmans store. Thank you Tom for your offer to pack and despatch them.
- Mrs. Mathison has asked whether members would decorate the foyer of the Civic Centre on Sept. 23rd for the Paraka Affair. It was left to individual members to assist if possible.
- Notice was brought of the re-screening of "Jedda" which has been remade improving the colour and asks Club patronage.
- On Oct. 2 & 3 the Twmba Nats are camping at Harsletts and will be joined by Armidale Native Gardens Club. Any Club member is welcome to join them.
- To arrange a programme for the proposed campout in November - a special meeting has been called for Wed. Sept. 1st to be held at Archers at 7.45. Suggestion was made that we approach the Council to improve the back road to Girraween before the campout.
- Mrs. Archer moved and Sister Joan seconded that a letter of condo-

MINUTES CONTINUED:--

lence be forwarded to Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wilkinson. Carried.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m. after which Geoff McDonagh gave a most informative illustrated lecture on "Off Shore Oil Drilling".

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OUTING REPORT -- ROKEBY STATION.

47 members and friends attended the outing on August 22nd to Rokeby Station on the Old Warwick Road to examine the Fossil Beds.

The weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed searching for the fossils -- some of these containing shells and in other locations they had leaves and plants.

Lunch was a very happy occasion with most gathering around under some shady trees overlooking the water.

It was nice to have our members, Mr. & Mrs. Noakes from Warwick join us and also so many visitors who came along with members for the outing.

This was our third attempt. to hold this particular outing which had to be postponed previously due to the weather -- but the weatherman certainly turned on his best on this day and a very happy time was had by all.

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T R E E S

THEY STAND TO SHADE,
TO PURIFY:
TO SHELTER ALL WHO WOULD DRAW NIGH,
TO BID THE BIRDS
AND CATTLE COME
AND REST AWHILE WITHIN THEIR HOME.
I'M GLAD I KNOW
SOMETHING OF THESE --
THAT RARE COMPANIONSHIP OF TREES.

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ITEM OF INTEREST -- The response for wildflowers for the Society for growing Australian plants was wonderful and Tom Chapman had a very beautiful collection to send down on the bus last week. Many thanks to all who took the time to collect them.

PRE CAMPOUT NEWS - NOVEMBER OUTING

A Campout has been planned for the weekend of November 20th and 21st and the venue is Storm King Dam National Fitness Camp as our base camp.

A tentative programme has been arranged for this which we plan to start at 12.30. We will have lunch previous to this at Storm King and move off SHARP at 12.30 p.m. for a wildflower excursion to the Junction leaving the cars at Girraween National Park picnic grounds.

We return to base for tea where facilities will be provided for both Barbeque and stove cooking after which a programme for the night is being arranged.

An 8 a.m. start on Sunday morning will allow us to explore Bald Rock and surroundings. There are Barbeques at the parking area so we will take our lunch (own choice) with us to give as much time as possible at the Rock before returning to Break camp.

Please Note:- Each person is to provide their own food and eating utensils. The camp is set up with single and double decker beds (mattress only) and campers also may use hall facilities and hot showers. For all staying at the camp a fee of 65c per person per night is charged. Camp admission is from 4 p.m. Friday to 4 p.m. Sunday.

- ANY KEEN FISHERMEN ????? - I've been told by the Shire Office that this is permissible and the best place is off the end of the pier. - so bring along your fishing line.

DATE - NOVEMBER 20th & 21st.

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OCTOBER OUTING - to Upson Downs is under the leadership of Geoff McDonagh and will be on October 24th. Wildflowers are the main topic for this outing. We will have visitors from Redcliffe joining us on this occasion, members of Redcliffe S.C.A.P.

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Frank Wilkinson gave me this item from a Report on N.Z. Forest Products, which is as follows -

"A striking feature of the re-examination of the forests of the Company in 1976 has been the success achieved in the plantations of Eucalyptus regnans, established during the past few years. Applied research on Nursery techniques, siting, land preparation, planting and nutrition has resulted in even, healthy plantations of this species. At four years of age E. regnans is roughly double the height of good adjacent Pinus radiata of the same age. The species promises to be of major value to the company. By age 10 it should yield at least 250 cu.m. per hectare and will supplement Tawa as a source of hardwood pulp. The plantations of E. regnans will be a fully renewable resource. Eventually the use of E. regnans will replace Tawa, an indigenous forest tree, as the source of a substantial portion of the company's requirements for short fibred pulp."

