



The Granite Belt Naturalist



Mail Address: Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, Stanthorpe Qld. 4380
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Web site <https://mysd.com.au/fieldnats/>

Please send contributions to the magazine to editorsfnc@gmail.com

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



The Pyramids, Girraween National Park

Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at
Uniting Church, Small Hall, 113 High Street
Stanthorpe at 7.30pm

Outings: The Sunday following the 3rd Wednesday
of each month

Subs: Single \$20.00, Family \$30.00 per annum, July
to June

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS – 2025/2026

President	Martyn Vries	0408938482
Vice-presidents	Robyn Murray	0488515311
Secretary	John Salini	0400805236
Treasurer	Lyn Collins	0428810156
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	0427835268
Librarian	Rob McCosker	0410024383.

**Stanthorpe Field Naturalists is a group member of
Granite Borders Landcare.**



Management Committee: President, Vice-
Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer

SCALE OF DIFFICULTY FOR WALKS
ON NATS OUTINGS

1. Flat, well-formed track, no steps, 5km or less. Clearly signposted. Suitable for wheelchairs with assistance.
2. Formed track. May have gentle hills and some steps. Clearly signposted. No experience required
3. Formed track, some obstacles, 20km or less. May have short steep hills and many steps. Some experience recommended.
4. Rough Track. May be long and very steep with few directional signs. For experienced bushwalkers.
5. Unformed track. Likely to be very rough, very steep and unmarked. For very experienced bushwalkers with specialised skills.

Coming Up

Wednesday 19th: *China Yunnan* with John Salini.

Sunday 23rd: *The Junction Walk* with Martin and Alison

Deadline for next newsletter
7th September 2026

Pre-Outing Report - Girraween NP Junction Walk - Sunday 23 August 2026

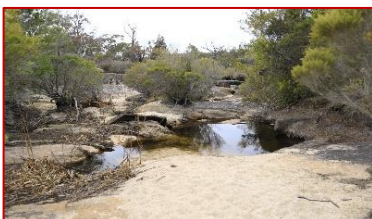
Leaders: Martin and Alison

Similar to last year's outing to the area, we plan to do the Junction walk from the day use park area and see what kind of flowers and blooming Wattle Trees we can discover. By memory the Wyberba Boronia was flowering last year at the end of August/early September also?

This year due to the drought, everything seems about 4-5 weeks behind Nature's schedule however. The Wattles only just started blooming and no Boronia's are in flower yet. If anything, it seems that about half of last year's Boronia's have died or have dead sections of plant on them.

The Gorge is fairly dry and apart from some water puddles, you can walk the last 500m to the actual junction of Rock Ck, Ramsey Ck and Bald Rock Ck. Last week's rain has added a bit more water and some more green is visible. Hopefully our walk in a week and a half will show a bit more development.

A few pics of the scenery on 12 August 2027:





Schedule:

For those traveling from the Stanthorpe area, please assemble at Weeroona Park in Stanthorpe at around 9:30AM. We will meet up at the Day Use Car Park area in Girraween National Park at 10:00AM. We'll have morning tea at the rest area before starting the walk to the Junction at say 10:30AM. Given previous outing experiences, it will take us about 1 hour to the Junction and 1 hour back. That means we can have Tea around 12:30PM back at the Day Use Car Park area. We'll aim to finish the Outing around 2:00PM for everybody to travel back home.

Please bring chairs, food and drink and some raincoats just in case.

Outing Report – Storm King Dam – 19th July 2026



Storm King Dam rests in a picturesque rural setting with many water birds (including pelicans) and is an ideal spot for picnics, water sport and fishing. Fish species include golden perch, Murray cod, silver perch, jewfish and river blackfish.

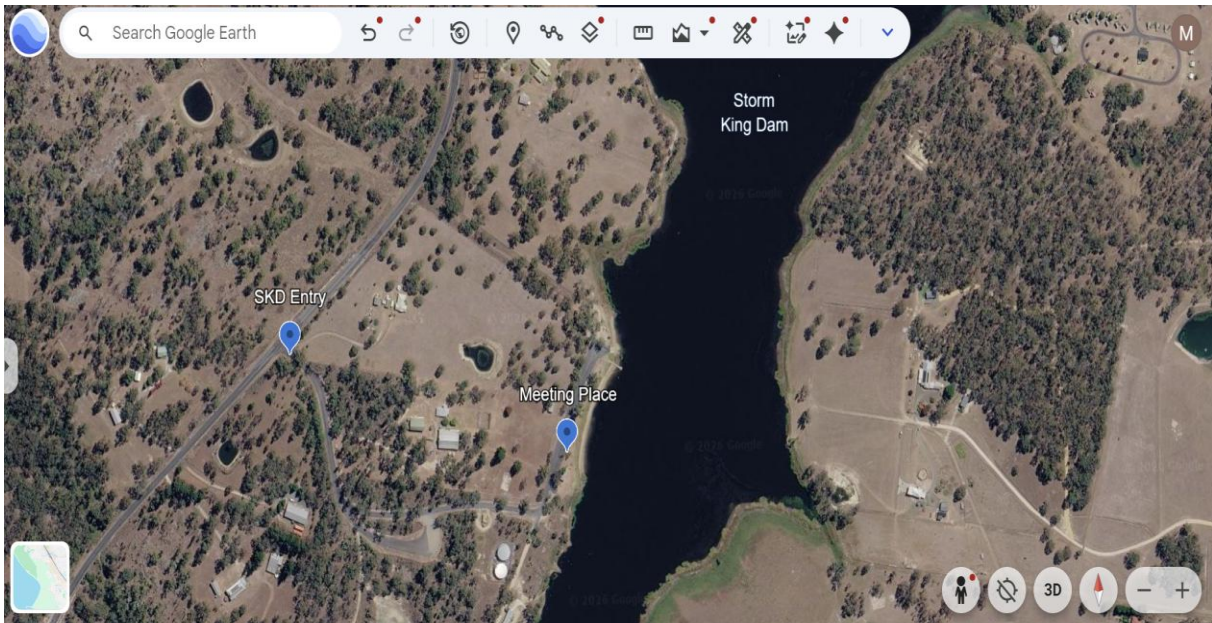
Storm King Dam is a gravity dam on Quart Pot Creek, located 10 km southeast of Stanthorpe. Completed in 1954, it holds 2,065 ML at 100% capacity. It is the sole potable water source for Stanthorpe and serves as a popular, dog-friendly spot for fishing, boating, and picnics.

Facilities include toilets, picnic tables, wood barbecues, drinking water, jetty, boat ramp,

swimming area and playground. Please note that camping is not permitted however there is a private tourist park offering camping and caravan sites, and a recreational/youth camp available for large group bookings. Storm King Dam is situated 10 kilometres southeast of Stanthorpe on the road to Eukey.

We travelled individually to SKD and met at the water's edge at SKD ("Meeting Place" – refer Google Earth map below) between 10:50 and 11:10AM.

Unfortunately there was a stiff and cold wind blowing which made any attempt to light or have a BBQ unpleasant. Therefore it was decided at 11:15AM to move to Peter's place just North of SKD. Peter had offered his place as an alternative if the weather turned out to be against us, which it did!



The ten of us reconvened at Peter's around 11:30AM and had Tea, Coffee, snacks and food. Martin & Alison brought the BBQ with them. Given the secluded and sheltered location of Peter's property, the BBQ turned out to be very pleasant and wind free....

From around 1:00PM people started leaving.

Many thanks again Peter for offering your location for the BBQ!

Martin & Alison



Minutes of SFN AGM July 2026
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc
Date: Wednesday 15th July 2026

AGM:

President Robyn Murray opened the meeting opened at 7.36pm.

Attendance: Thirteen members in attendance as per the attendance sheet.

Apologies: Kris and Margaret Carnell

Minutes of previous Meeting; Robyn referred members to the Minutes of the previous AGM which were printed in the Agenda; These AGM 2025 Minutes will also be published in the August newsletter. John moved that the Minutes be accepted; seconded Rob, Carried.

Amendments; None

Business Arising from the Minutes; None

Robyn declared the Office Bearer positions open.

Nominations

President, Martin Vries nominated by Leon, seconded by John, passed

Vice President, Robyn Murray, nominated by John, seconded by Alison, passed

General Secretary, John Salini, nominated by Robyn, seconded by Lyn, passed

Treasurer, Lyn Collins, nominated by Alison, seconded by Martin

Newsletter Editor, Margaret Carnell, nominated by Lyn (before the AGM), seconded by Rob, passed.

Normal Meeting Resumed:

Correspondence: John noted that he had forwarded 9 emails from other Field Naturalist societies to members since the June meeting.

John moved that his Correspondence report be accepted, seconded by Lyn, passed.

Treasurer's Report;

<u>Balance</u> as at 15/07/2026	\$2,661.19
<u>Income</u> Subscriptions	\$0
<u>Expenses</u>	\$0
<u>Current Balance</u> CommBank Acc at 20/05/2026	\$2,661.19

Lyn moved that her report be accepted, seconded by Robyn – Carried.

Outing Report : New President Martin Vries referred members to Kris and Margaret Carnell's report on the Tenterfield Region outing on Sunday, 21st July as printed in the July newsletter.

Pre-outing Report. Martin outlined the proposed BBQ on Sunday, 19th July at Storm King Dam as noted in the July newsletter. He will bring his own BBQ and gas. Peter Haselgrove had advised that the BBQ could be relocated to his home nearby if the weather interfered.

New Business Arising: - Martin suggested the Management Committee produce a list of financial members who can be approached for possible meeting talks or outings during 2026/2027.

Specimens: -

Speaker & Topic: Graham Rayner hosted the 'Year in Review' slide show prepared by Kris Carnell who was unable to attend.

Next Meeting: SFN OGM on Wednesday, 19th August at 7:30pm in the Uniting Church Small Hall. Speaker Alison Vohlan talking about a Trip to China in 2017.

Meeting Closed: 7:55pm, followed by supper.

These are the minutes from the 2025 AGM. I feel they should have been published last month. - Editor

Minutes of SFN July2025 Meeting Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc

Date: Wednesday 16th July 2025

AGM:

Vice President Robyn Murray opened the meeting at 1945h.

She invited Kris Carnell to present his slide show "The Year in Review" to allow the Secretary to arrive in time for the AGM.

Leon gave a vote of thanks to Kris. The Secretary was delayed and arrived during the slide show.

Attendance & Apologies: As per Attendance Book, 15 in attendance.

Minutes of the previous meeting: - No amendments.....

Confirmed John....

Seconded Kris

Carried

Business arising from the minutes: None

Robyn declared the Office Bearer positions open.

Rob McCosker nominated Robyn for **President**, seconded Allison, carried

Kris Carnell nominated Martin Vries for **Vice President**, seconded by Trish, carried

Robyn nominated John for **Secretary**, seconded Rob, carried.

John nominated Lyn Collins for **Treasurer**, seconded Trish, carried.

Robin nominated Margaret Carnell for **Newsletter Editor**, seconded Kris, carried.

Kris explained that he upgrades the SFN Facebook page and Website.

Treasurer's Report;

The account received \$500 in subscription payments:

Credit as at 30th June 2025 was \$2,770.79

Lyn moved her report be accepted, seconded by Margaret, carried

Robyn closed the AGM at 2030h.

OGM: following the AGM

President Robyn Murray thanked the newly elected Office Bearers for accepting their nominations.

Minutes; Robyn referred to the Minutes of the June meeting as presented in the July Newsletter. John moved that the Minutes be accepted, seconded Lyn, carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes; None

John moved there was no further business arising from the June Minutes, seconded Robyn, carried

Treasurer's Report; Balance as of 18th June 2025 \$2,865.79
Income; from subscriptions and Donations \$130.00
Expenditure, Meeting Room rent x5 months -\$125.00
Current Balance CBA account at 16th June 2025 \$2,870.79
Lyn moved that her report be accepted, seconded by John, carried.

Correspondence:.....PO Box contained a 2025 Certificate of Membership of the QWaLC. Several emails were forwarded to Members since the June meeting.

Moved...John

Seconded Alison

Carried

Outing Report for June: Leon reported on the outing to the Inglewood Tobacco Museum. He scanned some of the QR codes listed on the Museum display boards and was able to find further information about the displays .Kris reported that Liz Bourne had contacted him about the unusual Pine trees photographed by Graham at the Coolmunda Dam picnic grounds where Members enjoyed their lunches.

Pre-outing Report: Rob McCosker suggested meeting at Weeroona Park at 0900h before driving to Uncle Tom's Cabin on Sunday. The cabin is on private land at 295 Plant Lane.

New Business Arising: -

Robyn reported that she had communicated with Ranger Jo to arrange her talk at the August meeting. At this stage it was uncertain whether Ranger Jo would talk about Wombats in particular or about Girraween National Park in general.

Robyn suggested a Planning Meeting of Office Bearers at her house on Friday, 25th July. This will organize Speakers and Outings for the forthcoming year (2025/2026). John will send out an email reminder to the relevant members.

Specimens: - None

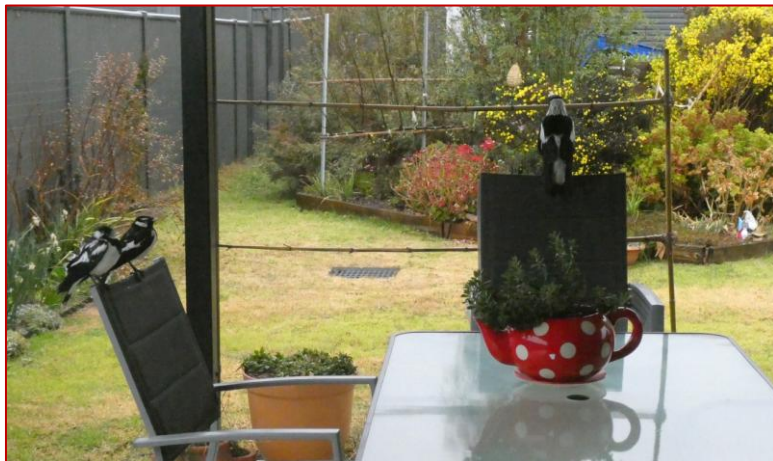
Speaker & Topic: Remember Last Year – Kris Carnell, the slide show was presented at the start of the AGM, while waiting for the Secretary to arrive.

Meeting Closed: 2100h



Kris would like to thank the Field Nats very much for the beautiful flowers when he had his knee replacement operation. As you can see they are really lovely.

Spottings



Two Pee Wees and a Magpie sheltering from the rain. A Noisy Miner joined them for a minute or two and then flew off. We are not just providing habitat in the garden apparently.

Subscriptions and Program for 2026/27.

Subscriptions are due for the next 12 months from the end of June,

Subscriptions for 2026-2027: Family \$30.00 – Single \$20.00

Please complete your correct name and address details below and bring or send to the Treasurer

Name (including preferred title please)

Postal Address:

Email address:-

Post-code **State**..... QLD **Payment made** / /2026

Circle payment method please: **CASH** **CHEQUE** **DIRECT DEBIT**

If paying by cash at a meeting please put your money in an envelope with your name on the outside to make it easier for the Treasurer.

If paying by Direct Debit please make sure you have your name on the deposit so the treasurer knows who has paid.

PAYMENT METHODS

1. **By Direct Debit** to Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc. BSB 064-431 Acc. 00902063
2. **Present with your subs.** to the meeting in an envelope with your name on the outside.
3. **Post to:** Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, STANTHORPE Q 4380.

The monthly newsletter is distributed electronically by email and also posted on the website in the Nats Magazine folder.

The committee once again asks for your assistance to provide a wide range of outing activities and meeting programs for the coming twelve months.

Please jot down your suggestions below, and indicate if you would be prepared to lead an outing or provide a meeting program. All suggestions will be considered at a special committee meeting to be held shortly after the AGM.

Name: Outing: (Place or area, duration, time of year)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Campout: (Place, duration and dates)

Meeting subject: (Title and brief description)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Other comments and suggestions: