



# QNC NEWS

Newsletter of The  
QUEENSLAND NATURALISTS' CLUB INC.

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**MARCH-APRIL 2016**

**No. 325**

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## PROGRAMME

### General Meetings:

March 21	Lindsay Popple	<i>Cicadas</i>
April 18	John Moss	<i>Mistletoes</i>

### Excursions:

March 6	Mt Mitchell
March 20	Kedron Brook
March 25-28	Easter Camp, Sundown NP
April 9	Wellington Point
April 17	Nudgee Beach
April 30-May 2	Bindarrabi
August 17-22	Long Excursion, Cape Hillsborough



General meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, between February and November, starting at 7.30 pm, in the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland building at 237 Milton Road, Milton. This is near the corner with Baroona Road and next to the Castlemaine Perkins (Fourex) Brewery and the Theological College entrance lane. Entrance in Milton Road, with side ramp. Parking available in adjacent streets. For those who park in the Theological College car park, please put a \$3 donation in the box at the meeting reception. Milton railway station is directly opposite the building and there is a pedestrian underpass from the station under Milton Road.

Daytime meetings will be held occasionally at the Queensland Museum from 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

Mailing Address: PO Box 5663, WEST END 4101

PRESIDENT:	Mr James Hansen	Ph: 3263 2254	president@qnc.org.au
SECRETARY:	Ms Judy Haines	Ph: 0402236359	secretary@qnc.org.au
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EXCURSION SECRETARY:	Mr Barney Hines	Ph: 3720 9414	excursion@qnc.org.au
QNC NEWS EDITOR:	Mrs Lynette Haselgrove	Ph: 4683 7255	news@qnc.org.au

Deadline for News items - 15<sup>th</sup> of each even numbered month.

*The Queensland Naturalist* is published twice per year.

ARTICLES to the EDITOR, Dr Peter Woodall at journal@qnc.org.au

## General Meetings

**MONDAY 21ST MARCH** AUSTRALIA'S SUMMER SINGERS: STRATEGIES OF ACOUSTIC COMMUNICATION THAT HAVE LED TO A REMARKABLE DIVERSITY.

Cicada expert Dr Lindsay Popple will discuss different song production strategies and how these are used to enable pair formation and reproduction in these unique insects. He will then highlight the hidden diversity of cicadas in Australia, with specific examples from Queensland and an illustration of their contributions to the soundscapes of particular locations and habitats.

**MONDAY 18TH APRIL** INTRODUCTION TO AUSTRALIAN MISTLETOES

John Moss and a colleague have just completed a book on "The Mistletoes of Subtropical Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria". John is a member of the Queensland Region of the Australian Native Plants Society (NPQ) and vice-president of the Butterfly and Other Invertebrates Club (BOIC).

His talk will focus on the place of mistletoes within the Australian environment, their biology, biodiversity and associated myths and mysteries! This will include a discussion on the mistletoe host trees and the birds, butterflies and other creatures that depend on them

### ROSTER FOR GENERAL MEETINGS

March 21	Reception:	Myriam Preker and Ian Lawn
	Supper:	Karen Elmes and Lil Spadijer
April 18:	Reception:	
	Supper:	Joe and Coral Reichman

If you can assist at meetings with reception or supper, please advise a Councillor.

## Meeting Reports

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT:** 15 FEBRUARY

I am pleased to report that the Club had twelve very successful General Meetings during the year – ten at night at the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland building at Milton and two daytime meetings at the Queensland Museum which were also open to the public. Twenty-four people attended the first of these at the Museum on 26th August and 48 attended the following one on 18th November. This shows sufficient interest for planning more daytime meetings in 2016.

All meetings had excellent guest speakers who enthralled us with their efforts and expertise in their activities, whether setting up collecting traps and movement-activated photography or the

sheer physical effort in clambering around in steep terrain with ticks or leeches or through bat droppings for rare photographs or to collect specimens for further study.

The contributions of all Councillors and members (some of whom have served the Club for many years) have been made selflessly to make the Club operate successfully through the year and are gratefully acknowledged. I am deeply appreciative of them all for their assistance and dedication.

Our Club is a very active one with many members participating in and enjoying so many aspects of natural history. 2016 promises to be just as exciting – James.

A full version of James' report will be in the Annual Report for 2015 to be published in The Queensland Naturalist.

### **Council elected for 2016**

President	Mr James Hansen
Immediate Past President	Mr Harry Hines
Vice President	Ms Myriam Preker
Treasurer	Mr Mike Anderson
QNC News Editor	Mrs Lynette Haselgrove
QNC Naturalist Editor	Dr Peter Woodall
Librarian	Mrs Leith Woodall
Assistant Secretary	Ms Ruth Thomson
Excursion Secretary	Mr Barney Hines
Lanternist	Mr David Shaw
Councillors	Mr David Bouchard, Dr Dick Date.

After the meeting, the following members accepted positions:

Ms Judy Haines as Secretary and Mr Joe Reichman as a Councillor.

### **Queensland Natural History Award**

The Queensland Natural History Award for 2016 recognises the outstanding contribution made over several decades to natural history in Queensland by Mr. Lewis John Roberts of Shipton's Flat, about 50 kilometres south of Cooktown.

Lewis has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the plants and animals of north Queensland. He has assisted many Australian and international botanists and zoologists by locating the species for which they were searching. He is very highly regarded for his powers of observation, description and illustration.



Lewis examining an orchid at Peach Creek (McIlwraith Range)

### **Changes to the Constitution**

Two motions presented to the Annual General Meeting to amend the Constitution of The Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc. were passed.

- Motion 1. "That the class of membership in clause 4.2(b) "Country" be deleted and any reference to "Country" Members/membership be removed from the Constitution".
- Motion 2. "That the definition of "Family Unit" in Constitution Clause 4.3 (c) and By-Law 6) GENERAL (F) be amended to parent(s) and their children up to the age of 18 years".

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

**Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc.**  
**Annual Financial Report to 30 November 2015**

**Balance Sheet:**

At 30 November

<u>2014</u>	<b>Current Assets:</b>	<u>2015</u>	
140	Cash on Hand	119	
4,511	Westpac A/c	3,209	
2,723	Suncorp A/c	5,248	
73,780	Short Term Deposits	73,780	
<b>81,154</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>82,356</b>	
<b>Less Current Liabilities:</b>			
1,000	Unspent donation	1,000	
<b>80,154</b>	<b>Total Net Current Assets</b>	<b>81,356</b>	

**Members Funds:**

-3,238	Net Income/Deficit	1,202	
83,392	Balance, Funds start year	80,154	
<b>80,154</b>	<b>Members' Funds, 30 Nov.</b>	<b>81,356</b>	

**Income and Expenditure:**

<u>2014</u>			<u>2015</u>		
<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>		<b>Income</b>	<b>Expend</b>	
5,069	4,871	Excursions	1,636	550	
1,827	1,800	Books etc.	1,755	373	
130	2,388	QN Journal	179	3,238	
5,595		Subscriptions	5,665		
3,814		Interest received	1,419		
30		Sundry Inc,incl.dons.	0		
	1,785	QNC News,print,post		2,237	
	2,108	Insurance		2,150	
	836	Equipment, display etc		64	
	926	Council,Phone,Post,Forms		759	
386	1,075	Meeting costs,incl parking	335	1,060	
	427	Audit,QN Awards,charges		373	
141	478	Library purchases	0	0	
0		Miscellaneous	2,053		
	8	Bank & Government Fees		67	
	3,528	Club Shed		967	
<b>16,992</b>	<b>20,230</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>13,042</b>	<b>11,839</b>	

**-3,238                      Net Income from activities                      1,203**

1. Term Deposits (3) at Suncorp are at various maturity dates in July 2016, Aug 2016, Aug 2016 at interest rates of 3.50% (\$31,850), 3.30% (\$16,400) and 3.40% (\$25,529.57). Average Rate 3.30%.

2. Due to the Club accounting for its business on the basis of cash receipts and payments, certain assets and liabilities have not been included in the Balance Sheet. These include:

- a) Unsold books are not included in the assets.
- b) Sundry other assets including computer equipment, slide and digital projectors and camping equipment.
- c) Subscriptions amounting to \$215 (2014 - \$285) paid in advance

3. A special donation of \$1,000 was received during 2005, and included in liabilities, but no expenditure has occurred to date.

**Independent Audit Report:** The auditor has appended the usual statement to the above Financial Report that, subject to the usual qualifications, they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Club as at November 30 2015. Signed: R C Bates CPA Jan 18th, 2016.



# Excursions

Fees apply for weekend camps - \$2 per adult per night, plus other camping fees, if applicable.

Registration for all excursions is with the Leader or contact given.

Those participating in any Club activity do so as volunteers in all respects and as such accept responsibility for any injury to themselves, however incurred. The Club or its officers cannot accept any liability or responsibility.

## MARCH 6TH MT MITCHELL SADDLE AND SUMMIT

**Sunday 8:00am.** Leader: Barney Hines Ph: 07 3720 9414 Register by email to [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) - subject "Mt Mitchell" or with the leader.

Mount Mitchell is one of the two peaks that guard Cunningham's Gap and forms part of the Main Range National Park. It is an interesting mountain of diverse communities ranging from rainforest to open wet sclerophyll forest (grey gum with a heavy grassy under-storey) to mountain top heaths. The mountain top communities are perhaps the most interesting with lots of giant spear lilies *Doryanthes palmeri* and paper daisies clinging to the cliffs. It is likely that there will be lots of insects hill-topping and possibly some peregrine falcons doing likewise. There might also be some good fungi about if we have had some summer rains.

The trail up to the top of the mountain is 10 kilometres return and involves a 400 metre rise in elevation. I would prefer our outing to spend most time on the upper slopes of the mountain. As such I will encourage members to amble along at a moderate pace until we get some way up. We intend to stop for lunch at the saddle between the main peaks and people can decide if they wish to go on to the summit if they wish (about an extra 30 minutes, but with little shade). Please be aware that the summit area has sheer cliffs and care needs to be taken, particularly with children. Walkers will need to carry at least two litres of water and lunch. There are toilets at the carpark area on the Cunningham Highway. Please register in case of possible cancellation due to bush fires, cyclones, Kylie Minogue concerts or some other natural disaster.

**Directions:** From Brisbane, head out on the Ipswich motorway, before turning off onto the Cunningham Highway. Follow this until Cunningham's Gap (the nearest town is Aratula). The start of the trail is on the left hand (southern) side as you come up to the crest of the range. Parking is on the opposite side of highway. Allow 1 hour 35 minutes from Brisbane. Please arrive around 7:45 am for an 8:00 am start.

## MARCH 20 KEDRON BROOK

**Sunday 2.45 for 3pm to 5pm - *Walking with Life* - Kedron Brook Catchment.** Leader: Marion Goward, Men of the Trees. Register by email to [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) – subject "WWL Kedron Brook 20.3.16". Contact Helen Schwencke 0423 127 492 or through QNC's Meetup website: <http://www.meetup.com/Walking-with-Life-in-our-catchments-Nature-Excursions/events/222689351/> (become a member first)

**Directions:** Kedron Brook, Ferny Grove. Meet at the Tramways St carpark on the right behind the Ferny Grove Police Station (UBD Map 137, M3)

We will be visiting plantings along the lower reaches of Cedar Creek, then crossing Samford Road to Bob Cassimaty Park to see the junction of Cedar Creek and Kedron Brook and the plantings in this area. Time permitting on our usual slow meanders, we'll head a little further upstream to Thomsett Park, then return to our cars.

As we are exploring wildness (as much as possible) please wear good walking shoes, also bring your own water and refreshments. Toilet facilities are available in Bob Cassimaty park.

For more information visit: <http://www.kedronbrook.org.au/> ; <http://www.menofthetrees.org.au> [http://www.kedronbrook.org.au/home/20121127\\_know\\_your\\_creek\\_kedron\\_BCC\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.kedronbrook.org.au/home/20121127_know_your_creek_kedron_BCC_factsheet.pdf)

## **EASTER MARCH 25-28      SUNDOWN NATIONAL PARK**

Leaders: Barney Hines Ph: 07 3720 9414 and Peter & Lynette Haselgrove. Register by email to [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) - subject "Sundown - Easter" or with the leader.

Four large sites (Nos. 13-16) have been booked at the southern end of the park in the Broadwater Camping Area. Each site will be shared by club members. The sites have been booked for five nights - Thursday night to Monday night. Note: very large caravans / motor homes may have trouble reaching the camping area.

Fees are \$5.95 per person per night, with a family fee of \$23.80 per night. Note: A family is 1 or 2 adults and accompanying children under 18 years. The family rate applies to a maximum of 8 people. Free for children under 5 years.

**Please book before the 5th March**, so that any un-needed sites can be relinquished. Payments may be made at the meeting in February or to the treasurer. Please complete the form on page 12 and attach to your payment or scan and email to [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au).

The camping area has separate mowed campsites with steel BBQ's, pit toilets and bush showers with a donkey boiler to heat water. Water (both tank and river) is available at the park HQ.

There are four recognised walks of various lengths - only two have formed tracks. The creek beds are rocky so sturdy shoes are needed. There is excellent bird watching in the open areas. One full day walk will be to the back boundary where a granite dyke comes through the park.

### **Directions:**

From Stanthorpe:-

0.0km Texas Road at Britannia Street. Route 89.

34.0 Inglewood turn-off. Keep left to Texas.

65.0 At junction, keep left to "Glenlyon Dam".

79.0 Left at signpost "Sundown National Park 4 km" - Permanents Road. (Bitumen ends at grid)

83 Park Headquarters and house.

84 app. Camping area. NOTE: Last petrol is at Stanthorpe.

From New England Highway, via Bruxner Highway:-

**Travelling south from Wallangarra** - turn right into Sunnyside Road just past bridge over Tenterfield Creek. At T-junction with Bruxner Highway, turn right to Bonshaw.

0.00 on trip meter After approx. 44km turn right at Mingoola. At 48.3km turn right at T-junction (To Stanthorpe). After 55.6km turn right at sign "Sundown National Park 4km".

**Travelling north from Tenterfield** - turn left at junction with Bruxner Highway. Sign "68km to Sundown Nat Pk". At 52.5 km turn right at Mingoola. At 56.8km turn right at T-junction (To Stanthorpe). After 64.1km turn right at sign "Sundown National Park 4km".

Booking form is on page 12.

## **APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>      WELLINGTON POINT - Marine Excursion**

**Saturday 3pm** Low Tide: 0.25m at 17:12. Leaders: Dr Ian Lawn & Myriam Preker.

Ph: 07 3374 0478. Register by email to [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) with the subject "Wellington Point". Please include names and contact details in case the activity is cancelled.

Assemble at 15:00 under the fig trees near the "Point of View Restaurant & Café". There are toilets and picnic shelters available nearby. The walk will commence at the base of the steps that descend from the rock wall on to the beach. We will then follow a sand causeway from there out to King Island, a small, offshore island encircled by mangroves. The return walk is about 2 km and is suitable for all ages. The intertidal seagrass flat is very rich in marine life. We can expect to see worms, crabs, molluscs and, perhaps, the beautiful burrowing Tube Anemone *Pachycerianthus* sp. Sharks and rays can often be seen hunting for food in the mangrove shallows and King Island itself is a roost for waders.

What to bring: sunblock; sunhat; footwear that can be used in water; and a windbreaker, if it is a windy day. It is much easier to walk on this shore than on the slippery, rocky reefs we have encountered on previous marine excursions.

#### APRIL 17TH NUDGEES BEACH

**Sunday** 1.45 for 2pm - 4pm - *Walking with Life* - Leader: Helen Schwencke Ph: 0423 127 492 Register by email to: [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) - subject: "WWL Nudgees Beach 17.4.16" or through QNC's Meetup website: <http://www.meetup.com/Walking-with-Life-in-our-catchments-Nature-Excursions/events/222689351/> (become a member first)

**Directions:** Nudgees Beach, Tabbil-Ban Dhagun Boardwalk. Meet at the O'Quinn St carpark near Nudgees Creek (UBD Map 111, L16)

While not exactly the mouth of Kedron Brook, which has been highly modified and repositioned for the construction of Brisbane airport, Nudgees Beach Reserve is close to the Kedron Brook Floodway. The Floodway also has little wildness left to explore at the current mouth. The Nudgees Beach Reserve has vegetation that is likely to be representative of what the mouth of Kedron Brook would have been like. While walking the 2km Tabbil-Ban Dhagun Mangrove Boardwalk (meaning Place of Salt Water) we will be enjoying the variety of habitats made available to see via the construction of this walkway through the mangroves. There is also a bird hide for viewing any waterbirds visiting the creek. It is an easy walk.

Facilities available are: toilets, a playground and picnic areas. Come and enjoy the walk and stay for a BBQ or picnic dinner if you're inclined. There is also a cafe nearby.

For more information visit: <http://www.mustdobrisbane.com/outdoors-walks-bay-wetlands/tabbil-ban-dhagun-mangrove-boardwalk-nudgees-beach>

#### APRIL 30 - MAY 2 BINDARRABI

Friday-Monday Leaders: Doone Wyborne and Robert Backhouse. Organiser: Sheryl Backhouse. Please register by email to [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) - subject "Bindarrabi" Details on when and how to pay camp fees will be advised in the next edition of the News.

At the camping ground there is a covered area for meals including kitchen with large gas stove and washing up facilities. Also two hot showers, two composting toilets, two long drop toilets and as much spring water as you want to use and drink. The camp can take 24 vans in the main area but several more nearby. They have ten bell tents five metre diameter with floors which they rent out at \$20.00 per night and they can sleep four - BYO bedding etc. They will erect and take down.

Bindarrabi is \$10.00pp per night for camping which includes use of facilities. If you wish to stay longer either before or after, email Sheryl at [sheryl.backhouse@bigpond.com](mailto:sheryl.backhouse@bigpond.com)

Hosts are Doone Wyborne and Carol Shantal and their website is <http://www.bindarrabi.com/>. Queen Mary Falls and the National Park are nearby.

**Directions:** (from website)

**From Boonah:** Take the Rathdowney Rd for 14 km. Turn right into Carney's Creek Rd, travel for 15 kms to the Killarney and Queen Mary's Fall turnoff to the right. DO NOT take this turn-off, just keep straight along the White Swamp Rd. This road crosses the NSW border after a further 15 km.

At 10.8 km beyond the border is a turn to the right for Koreelah National Park and camping ground. Turn into the camp ground and follow the track for 700 metres to a locked gate (which will be open!). Continue along track to Bindarrabi Gate. Please shut this gate after you enter as there are cattle on the property. Continue on road for 620m until you see our campground on your left.

**From Woodenbong:** (coming from the Lismore / Kyogle/ Byron area)

Follow Mt Lindsey Highway west for 23 kms to Koreelah.

Turn right into White Swamp Rd. Follow White Swamp Rd for 11.8 km until you see the sign for Koreelah National Park and camping ground on your left.

Turn into the camp ground and follow the track for 700 metres to a locked gate (which will be open!). Continue along track to Bindarrabi Gate. Please shut this gate after you enter as there are animals on the property. Continue on road for 620m until you see our campground on your left.

## AUGUST 17-22 LONG EXCURSION 2016 - CAPE HILLSBOROUGH

Leaders: Myriam Preker & Ian Lawn

This year's Long Excursion is planned for Cape Hillsborough National Park, a ruggedly-scenic stretch of coastline located 50 km northwest of Mackay. The Camp will be based at Cape Hillsborough Nature Tourist Park.

Cape Hillsborough, the youngest volcanic area in Australia, contains spectacular remnants of the world's longest-known chain of continental volcanoes, the "Cosgrove hotspot track". Notable rock formations include: a steep headland, rocky outcrops, overhangs, caves, rhyolite boulders, and dark, sandy beaches glistening with flecks of mica.

The vegetation around the park is diverse, featuring lowland rainforests, vine forests growing along the creeks, open eucalypt forests on the rocky hills, and headlands covered in hoop pines. There is also a large mangrove community accessible by a boardwalk. The diverse vegetation and topography in the park provide a broad range of habitats supporting an abundance of terrestrial animals: 167 species of birds, 42 reptiles, 11 amphibians and 27 mammals have been recorded from the area.

### *Marine habitats:*

The excursion is timed to take maximum advantage of a low-tide series, which will allow us to explore the abundant, rocky tide-pools and other intertidal areas. The sandy beach in front of our campsite is especially interesting at night as numerous marine animals, which have burrowed into the sand to stay moist and cool during the day, come up to the surface to forage. Marine stingers may be encountered year round on northern Queensland beaches, but the excursion has been scheduled to minimise chance of contact. The stinger season for the area between Townsville to Gladstone is December to March.

### *Climate:*

We will be visiting during the dry season. Temperatures are typically 21-25°C with overnight minimum temperatures of 13-14°C. The region lies in the trade-wind belt for most of the year giving rise to southeast winds.

### *Camping:*

The club has reserved a cluster of powered and unpowered campsites adjacent to a shared, covered camp-kitchen equipped with gas burners and washing-up facilities. This area will make an excellent communal gathering place. Members not wishing to camp can make their own arrangements: cabins are available at the Tourist Park. The excursion will be self-catering and the resort shop carries basic groceries.

**Booking:** Please register with the Excursion Secretary: Mr Barney Hines [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) or by posting a copy of the booking form on page 11 to QNC, PO Box 5663, West End 4101.

## LORD HOWE ISLAND

Another trip to Lord Howe Island, similar to the ones in 2014 and 2015, has been booked for 11-18 March 2017.

If you are interested in joining us, please let me know **as soon as possible**. Email me, Lynette Haselgrove, at [news@qnc.org.au](mailto:news@qnc.org.au).

## Excursion Reports

### DECEMBER 13-19 LONG EXCURSION: KROOMBIT TOPS NATIONAL PARK

The 2015 long excursion was held over seven days at Kroombit Tops National Park, south-west of Gladstone. Twenty-four participants enjoyed warm, fine days with cool mornings. The excursion was based on Griffith's Creek campground with day trips to northern and eastern sections of the park. The area had received reasonable rain in the preceding months so most areas visited had a good variety of plants in flower. Focal areas included the mesic open forests of the eastern escarpment, including Amy's Peak, rainforest in the headwaters of Kroombit and Three Moon Creeks, the incised valley of



Three Moon Creek at the falls, the elevated ironbark woodlands and rock outcrops of the Dry and Callide Creek areas and the dry mid-altitude northern slopes. Some spotlighting was conducted around the campsite and an early evening trip was made to Kroombit Creek to look for frogs. The Woodalls also ran a light trap at these two sites for insects.

The aim of the excursion was to build on the already impressive knowledge of the biological values of the area: Andrew Franks undertook an intensive collection of bryophytes, the Jahnkes collected dozens of plant specimens, Gretchen Evans and Lil Spadijer searched for fungi and the Woodalls oversaw a project gathering qualitative data on the abundance and age structure of the endangered cycad *Cycas megacarpa*. I undertook some small mammal and bat trapping and everyone pointed out/discussed/photographed/noted everything else natural history in between.

There were many highlights from hill-topping butterflies at Amy's Peak, numerous plants in flower including several orchids but in particular the display of the short-lived terrestrial orchid *Epipogium roseum* around the campsite, bryophytes, fungi, cycads, glossy black cockatoos, peregrine falcon, spotted quail thrush and of course the stony creek and Kroombit treefrogs at Kroombit Creek.

There are many specimens and photographs to be studied and identified. A more complete summary of the excursion will be presented at a general meeting later this year – see you there. My sincere thanks to all the participants – it was a very easy group of people to “lead”!

*Leader: Harry Hines*



L: *Epipogium roseum* - a very ephemeral terrestrial orchid

R: Web of a tree funnel web spider, headwaters of Kroombit Ck

Photos on front page also from Kroombit Long Excursion - Lily-of-the-Valley Orchid *Dendrobium monophyllum*, and a hill-topping cycad or wattle blue butterfly *Theclinessthes* species, both Amy's Peak.

### FEBRUARY 13TH MARY CAIRNCROSS SCENIC RESERVE

Eleven participants had a good excursion to Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve on Saturday, 13th February. Overcast weather but fine at the start. Then light showers were almost unnoticeable because of the canopy. Heavy rain occurred two and a half hours after the start when the walk was 80% complete. At least the rainwater was pleasantly warm but we didn't stay for the picnic lunch. We saw scrub wrens, grey bats roosting in the palms (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*), pademelons and several macrofungi including *Microporus xanthopus*. We saw interesting botany including *Pothos longipes* and *Wilkiea macrophylla* (dark green leaf with little spikes on the serrated leaves but no hairs - a very unusual plant). *Melodorum leichhardtii* was in fruit, as was *Ficus watkinsiana*.

*James Hansen*

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Mr Gavin Goodyear, Narangba;  
Mrs Leanne Hales, Malanda.

**We hope you have a long and happy association with the club.**

*The QNC always prides itself on going to interesting places with interesting people. Council is seeking venues and enthusiastic leaders to guide us through 2016. If you know a place that you would like the club to visit, please contact Barney Hines or email [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au)*

❖ *Council wishes to remind excursion leaders that a contribution toward recce costs can be claimed from the Club.*

WANTED  
Excursions  
Ideas and  
Leaders

## What's On!

### Wildlife Qld. Brisbane North Branch

2<sup>nd</sup> March, 6:30pm **Creek Rehabilitation** seminar, speaker Greg Ringwood  
at Downfall Creek Bushland Centre, 815 Rode Rd McDowall  
Please rsvp Anne Spooner at [northernseminarseries@gmail.com](mailto:northernseminarseries@gmail.com)

THECA Meetings <http://www.theca.asn.au/>  
General meetings are usually held at  
The Hut, 47 Fleming Road, Chapel Hill,  
the fourth Wednesday of each month from  
February to November at 7:00pm.  
(UBD 177 P2)

### Queensland Herbarium Seminar FM Bailey Room, at 12 Noon

<http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/seminars-events/>

The Herbarium hosts free public seminars at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens from noon until 1pm in the second week of the month (February to November) - FM Bailey conference room in the Herbarium building. You don't need to register, just turn up on the day.

## Notices

### QNC QUEENSLAND NATURAL HISTORY AWARD

Nominations are being called for this annual award. Information and nomination forms may be obtained by emailing [president@qnc.org.au](mailto:president@qnc.org.au) or by writing to the Secretary. Closing date for lodgement with the Secretary is 31 August 2016. Any nominations carried over from the previous two years may be updated by the closing date.

And if you have a nomination for 2017, please put it forward now. To learn more about this award see the Guidelines and Rules at [www.qnc.org.au/QNHA/qnha.htm](http://www.qnc.org.au/QNHA/qnha.htm)

### BUSH HERITAGE is calling for volunteers.

1. Assisting at **Yourka Reserve** in far north Queensland for 1-2 weeks between **16-27 May** with the annual foot survey and treatment to control siam weed, a Priority 1 pest plant.
2. Someone with draftsman/architectural/design skills to help Rob Wager with sketches related to securing populations of native fish at Edgbaston Reserve in western Qld. This is a task that can be done from home but a site-visit can also be arranged if you are able to do the travel.
3. For either item, please reply to Leanne Hales: [lhales@bushheritage.org.au](mailto:lhales@bushheritage.org.au)

**CAPE HILLSBOROUGH LONG EXCURSION 2016 – AUGUST 17 - 22**

**BOOKING FORM**

Name: .....

Postal Address: .....

Email: .....

Contact Phone (Home): ..... (Mobile): .....

Type of campsite required (please tick one below):

Unpowered Site (\$175)\* ..... Powered Site (\$200)\* ..... Own Arrangements (\$20)\*\* .....

No. of adults: .....

Names:

No. of children\*\*\*: .....

Names and ages of children:

\*Single site fee applies to a maximum of 2 adults per site. Extra adults: \$70 per person.

\*\* Only Club Fee applies as Cabin Accommodation should be arranged directly with the Cape Hillsborough Nature Resort.

\*\*\*Cost per child: \$40 per child.

Amount enclosed: .....

**Sundown National Park Booking - Easter 2016**

Name:.....

Email:.....

Contact phone:.....

..... x ..... = ..... = \$......

(No. of adults)      (No. of nights)      (camper nights at \$5.95 per night)

..... x ..... = ..... = \$......

(No. of children)      (No. of nights)      (camper nights at \$5.95 per night)

OR Family ..... at \$23.80 per night = \$......

(No. of nights)

Total enclosed \$......

**Please print or scan this form and include it is with your payment.**

Payment

- By Post to 164/462 Beams Rd, Fitzgibbon 4018 with bank cheque or money order and include this completed page.
- at a General Meeting in an envelope with this completed page.
- by EFT - email this page to [treasurer@qnc.org.au](mailto:treasurer@qnc.org.au).

EFT on (date) ...../...../2016

Account: The Queensland Naturalists Club Inc

**Bank:** Westpac    **BSB:** 034-068    **Account No.:** 901249

**Reference:** Your surname and "Sundown"