



# QNC NEWS

Newsletter of The  
QUEENSLAND NATURALISTS' CLUB INC.

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Print Post Approved: 100003858

January-February 2018

No. 336

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### PROGRAMME

#### General Meetings:

Feb 19	AGM & President's Address
Mar 19	Dr Bill McDonald
Apr 16	Ms Helen Schwencke
May 21	Dr D. Schneider

#### Excursions:

Jan 25-29	Bindarrabi
Feb 11	Pine Mt Bush Reserve
Feb 17	Mt Tamborine
Mar 29-Apr 3	Upper Mary River (Easter)
Sept	Bowra (Long Excursion)



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**Next Deadline – March – April 2018 QNC News – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018.**

***The Queensland Naturalist*** is published twice per year.

ARTICLES to the EDITOR, Dr. Peter Woodall at [journal@qnc.org.au](mailto:journal@qnc.org.au)

## COUNCIL NEWS & NOTICES

\*\*\*\*\* **NEW MEETING VENUE** \*\*\*\*\*

### **TOOWONG UNITING CHURCH HALL, 82 SHERWOOD ROAD, TOOWONG 4066**

With the sale of the RGSQ property at Milton, the Club has had to find new premises for our meetings. For the foreseeable future, we will be meeting at the Toowong Uniting Church Hall. This is located at 82 Sherwood Road, Toowong which is about 200 metres on the left-hand side of Sherwood Road as one travels along it from Toowong Village Shopping Centre and Toowong Railway Station and main bus stops. There is parking on site for 12 cars, nearby street parking and, provided you enter after 6pm, parking at Toowong Village is free. The area is well lit.

### **NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL 2018**

Nominations are open for the election of the QNC Council at the AGM on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. A nomination form is on page 12. Nominations need to be returned to the Secretary by post or email by February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. There are some crucial roles to be filled, in particular the Newsletter Editor and Assistant Secretary, so please consider volunteering to contribute to the functioning of the Club. Information about these roles follows and if you would like to know more, please contact Ruth Thomson at [news@qnc.org.au](mailto:news@qnc.org.au)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR** – It is imperative that this role is filled. The Newsletter is the Club's main means of communicating with members and the current acting editor is unable to continue on Council next year because of a variety of family obligations.

Skills needed are a basic familiarity with Word, manipulating photos, emailing and googling. It is not hard if you can do these. Each News can be produced using the previous edition as a template which is both helpful and time-saving. There are comprehensive instructions to follow which were prepared by the previous editor, Lynette Haselgrove. There are members who are happy to proof read the final copy. And Council has a subscription to Office 365 which would be available. It would also be feasible for people to share different aspects of the preparation.

**THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY** (or Minutes Secretary) and is responsible for Council Minutes and sometimes also the General Meeting Minutes and other occasional assistance to the Secretary. Skills needed are a familiarity with Word and emailing. Council has a subscription to Office 365 which would be available for use.

### **NEW SITE NEEDED FOR CLUB'S STORAGE CONTAINER**

For several years the Club's storage container has been accommodated on our property 'Melaleuca' at Kalbar. It is a 6m x 2.5 m container with a pitched roof, additional ventilation and is supported on hardwood planks. It is likely that this property will soon be for sale which means that the new owners may not wish to have the container on their property. Therefore, it may become urgent for the Club to find a new location. Any member who has information which may solve this potential problem is asked to contact myself or any Club Councillor.

Barry Jahnke 0411278865

**PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITS at General Meetings**\_- A request for anyone who would like to upload a PowerPoint or jpeg image to arrive by 7.15pm and liaise with the Lanternist.

### VALE DENISS REEVES

The Club regrets to inform members that long-time member Deniss Reeves passed away last December and we would like to offer our condolences to Joan and all members of the Reeves' and Hines' families.

Deniss joined the Club in 1968 and was president on three occasions. He was also the foundation president of the Australian Dragonfly Society. He received The Queensland Natural History Award in 2010 for his contributions to natural history, especially regarding Odontata and Lepidoptera. He shared his knowledge willingly both within the Club and with schools and community organisations. His activities included numerous articles in scientific journals; donations of his significant collections of butterflies and dragonflies to museums; and supplying photographs for a variety of publications. A damselfly, *Eurysticta reevesi*, was named in his honour.

The Club recognises his many contributions to natural history and records its sincere appreciation.

## GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, between February and November, starting at 7.30 pm. In the foreseeable future, we will be meeting at the Toowong Uniting Church Hall. This is located at 82 Sherwood Road, Toowong and is less than 200 metres from Toowong Village Shopping Centre, Toowong Railway Station & bus stops. There is parking on site for 12 cars, nearby street parking and, provided you enter after 6pm, parking at Toowong Village is free.

Please bring any pictures of exhibits that you want to project to the Lanternist by 7.15pm.

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

**19<sup>th</sup> February 2018            AGM and Address by the President, Mr N. Fordyce on the Kaikoura 2016 Earthquake in New Zealand, its relation to movement of the Australian Plate and how it affects our daily lives.**

In November 2016 there was a magnitude 7.8 earthquake in New Zealand centred near the small North Canterbury town of Waiiau. Along the east coast of the South Island north of Kaikoura, a fault scarp up to 2m high emerged along the sea shore and it contained many metres of horizontal displacement.

Earthquakes are part of life in New Zealand and most people residing there realise that there is movement in the Earth's crust. Australia is also moving approximately 6 cm a year to the north-east but it is not readily apparent to the occupants of the Great Southern Land.

Neil will explain the implications of the different modes of movement in both countries with a geological overview and illustration of GPS and cadastral issues and how this movement affects our daily lives sometimes without our knowing it!

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2018            The Southern Connection – Forest Flora of Patagonia**

Dr W.J.F. McDonald, Honorary Research Associate, Queensland Herbarium

**16<sup>th</sup> April 2018****Caring for Caterpillars - Ms Helen Schwencke**

Helen's talk *Caring for Caterpillars* will explore the essential ecological roles caterpillars play in the natural environment; how to care for them through their various life stages to be able to release them as adults; and how they offer us a special connection with nature in our gardens or local spaces and places.

A member of QNC, Helen Schwencke is an ecologist whose passion is introducing people to a whole new "meaning of life" through connecting them with nature (especially insects) and also with growing food for biodiversity. She organises Woodfordia's Butterfly Project. She co-authored *Create More Butterflies* and is director of Earthling Enterprises ([www.earthling.com.au](http://www.earthling.com.au).) For further information on Woodfordia's Butterfly Project, see <http://theplantingfestival.com/apply/butterfly-group.html>

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2018*****C. T. White Lecture*****E. J. "Kalbar" Smith - Dr Darryn Schneider****Roster for General Meetings**

Please consider nominating for the General Meeting Roster. You can select a spot on the Roster Sheet which is available at each meeting OR if you are unsure about committing two or three months in advance, email your availability to [news@qnc.org.au](mailto:news@qnc.org.au) closer to the day.

February 19: Reception: .....; Supper Duties: .....

March 19: Reception: .....; Supper Duties: .....

Thank you to those who helped in November: Coral & Joseph Reichman, Susan Nelles & Karen Elmes

Thank you also to all the generous members who bring plates of food for supper.

## MEETING REPORTS

### **November Meeting – Report on Long Excursion to Noonbah Central West Queensland,**

In late June to early July, thirty-one members, including 7 children, camped on Noonbah Station, south-west of Longreach and west of Lochern National Park and home of the Emmott family who made the Nats contingent very welcome.

Peter Haselgrove chaired the session and gave an overview of the physical and geological characteristics of the property and surrounding areas. Kathy Clark described the birdlife making special mention of over 30 species characteristic of inland areas while Eric Anderson discussed the vegetation and Harry Hines the animal life.



## UPCOMING 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.

### **VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED TO LEAD EXCURSIONS**

Excursion Secretary, Barney Hines would like to hear from people who would like to lead any of the excursions he plans. If you are interested, please contact him, tel 3720 9414 or [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au).

**EXCURSION SIGN-ON SHEETS** The Club asks all people who attend excursions to sign an Attendance Sheet. This provides a record of your attendance in case it may ever be necessary to make an insurance claim. It also offers the option of recording your email address so you can receive a species list from the excursion.

**January 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> 2018 BINDARRABI**

**Australia Day Long Weekend Thursday to Monday**

**Leaders: Doone Wyborn and John Moss** (tel 0427 596 753)

**Register** either by phone or email [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) with the subject 'Bindarrabi.'

We are returning to Bindarrabi after a highly successful visit in May 2016. The organisers are hoping that a summer camp will enable more interaction with invertebrates, frogs and reptiles. Bindarrabi is an excellent site, surrounded on three sides by the Koreelah National Park (NSW).

Our hosts are Doone Wyborn and Carol Shantal. Their website contains further information and photos of the campsite: <http://www.bindarrabi.com/>

Participants are welcome to arrive from Thursday afternoon and stay until Monday morning. Longer stays may also be accommodated by arrangement with the owners.

**Camping Facilities** are excellent. There is a covered area for meals including a kitchen with a large gas stove and washing up facilities. There are 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 metres in diameter with floors which they rent out at \$20.00 per night and which can sleep four - BYO bedding etc. They will erect and take down. Contact Bindarrabi directly to book these tents.

The Bindarrabi camping fee, which includes use of all facilities, is \$10.00/person/night. This payment (plus payment for any bell tent hire) is to be made directly to Bindarrabi, either directly to Doone at the weekend or by direct debit to Bindarrabi PL, BSB 484 799 Account No. 123888240.

Payment of the usual \$2 club fee per person per night should be made to John Moss at the camp.

## Directions

**From Brisbane:** There are two routes: the recommended route is via Ipswich and Boonah which, though it has more gravel road, is shorter and, in Doone's opinion, safer and more scenic than the alternative route via Beaudesert and Woodenbong. *Don't use GPS when coming from Brisbane as it takes you the long way around.*

**From Ipswich or Yamanto** take the Ipswich-Boonah Road to Boonah and continue through the town on the Boonah -Rathdowney Road for 14 km. Turn right on to Carneys Creek Road and continue along it for 15 km. At this point where the road to Killarney and Queen Mary's Falls turns right, DO NOT TURN RIGHT, but keep straight on along the road to White Swamp. This road becomes a dirt road after 1.5km and crosses the border into NSW after 14km. At this point Carneys Creek Road in Queensland becomes White Swamp Road in NSW. At 10.8 km past the border you will find the turnoff to the right into the Koreelah National Park and camping ground.

Bindarrabi from Koreelah National Park turnoff: Proceed past the National Park camping ground on your left for 700 metres to the National Park yellow metal gate (we will have it unlocked for you.) Continue past the National Park gate for 200m to the Bindarrabi Gate. Please leave the gates as you find them. Continue on the road for 700m until you see the campground on your left.

**From NSW North Coast: via Kyogle.** Summerland Way to Mount Lindesay Highway, left to Woodenbong and on to Old Koreelah. Then turn right onto White Swamp Road and proceed for 11.8 km to the Koreelah National Park turnoff.

**From New England Tableland:** Proceed along Mount Lindesay Highway from Tenterfield to Legume and a further 23 km to Old Koreelah then turn left and on to White Swamp Road and proceed for 11.8 km to the Koreelah National Park turnoff.

**From inland SE Queensland:** From Warwick travel to Killarney. Four km past Killarney, turn left on to Spring Creek Road which leads you past Queen Mary's Falls and Carrs Lookout. Six km past Carrs Lookout where the Condamine River Road enters from the left, turn right towards Boonah, and 700m past this point turn right on to the Head Gate Road (gravel) towards White Swamp. You cross the border after 500m. After 5 km turn RIGHT on the White Swamp Road towards Old Koorelah and proceed to the Koreelah National Park entrance after 3 km.

### **FEBRUARY 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 PINE MOUNTAIN BUSH RESERVE**

Pine Mountain Quarry Rd, Pine Mountain and the nearby "The Cricket Pitch"

#### ***Walking with Life: Exploring our Living Catchments series***

**Sunday 2.45 for 3pm - 5pm**

**Leader: Helen Schwencke**

**Register** by email: [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) with the subject: WWL Pine Mountain Bush Reserve 11/02/18

**OR** contact Helen Schwencke 0423 127 492

**OR** through QNC's Meetup website: <http://www.meetup.com/Walking-with-Life-in-our-catchments-Nature-Excursions/> (become a member first).

Meet at the car park on Pine Mountain Quarry Rd., Pine Mountain. (Google Maps -27.544308, 152.709465. Search Google Maps for "Pine Mountain Bush Reserve Car Park" as I've had it named as a place. The street address is 20-100 Pine Mountain Quarry Road, Pine Mountain. UBD Map192 A4.

It is listed on a number of bird observer websites and made for an interesting reccyng walk. The walking tracks are graded and the walking is easy with only some small rises. The creek lines flow to the Brisbane River.

Regional Ecosystem type: 12.11.14: Eucalyptus crebra, E. tereticornis, Corymbia intermedia woodland on metamorphics +/- interbedded volcanics. The conservation status of this vegetation type is listed as being "of concern."

Time permitting, we will also look at the nearby "The Cricket Pitch", 857-863 Pine Mountain Rd, Pine Mountain QLD 4306. Google Maps Reference, -27.543463, 152.711912, also searchable using "The Cricket Pitch" Pine Mountain Ipswich.

This is a small patch of remnant dry vine scrub vegetation which doesn't have a Regional Ecosystem type designation. There are some mowed tracks, though some of the more interesting vegetation, including a variety of butterfly host plants, is off track.

Wear good walking shoes, and it's recommended to wear long trousers and a long-sleeved shirt. There are no facilities in the Reserve or at The Cricket Pitch, although BBQ facilities are available at The Cricket Pitch. Anyone for an after-excursion BBQ or picnic? The nearest facilities are at the Kholo Botanic Gardens.

### **FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 MT TAMBORINE**

**Saturday 8:30 am.** Leaders: Murray and Jeanette Watson (telephone 3349 5965)

**Register** either by phone or email [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) with the subject 'Mt Tamborine'.

Meet at the car park for The Knoll National Park at the end of Knoll Road, North Tamborine.

We will be exploring the natural history in the above National Park first. This part of the park is home to flooded gums, piccabeen groves and casuarinas – the latter are the favoured feeding choice of the glossy black cockatoos. Following this we'll head down to the Witches Falls section of the National Park and investigate a swampy area full of frogs and other invertebrates.

Time and energy permitting other options are the Macdonald Section of the Park and the Botanic Gardens.

Wear good walking shoes, bring morning tea and lunch and drinking water as it will be hot.

### **MARCH 29<sup>th</sup> – APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> (EASTER) UPPER MARY RIVER**

**Leaders:** Brian and Grace Lowry ph: 5435 0318.

**Registration & Further Inquiries** either by phone or email [excursion@qnc.org.au](mailto:excursion@qnc.org.au) with the subject 'Easter'.

The Easter camp will be held on the property of David and Jacky Lowry on the headwaters of the Mary River. The club has held successful camps here before, at Easter in 2007 and again for the May camp in 2009. It will be nice to return after a 9-year hiatus.

Campers can arrive Thursday afternoon and depart Tuesday morning if they wish to avoid Easter traffic.

The property comprises 60 acres in the headwaters of the Mary River, with the young river forming one boundary. It is mostly under grazing. There is riparian rain forest along the river and in a tributary creek running through the property. Camping will be in a grassy paddock alongside the river. There are now distinct camping bays from David's planting of rainforest trees. Please see photo on page 8 of the campsite from previous excursions. We envisage the evening campfire to be again under giant *Waterhousia* trees beside the stream.

Access is suitable for conventional vehicles unless there is a major flood. The camp will use club toilets. Bore water of excellent quality will be laid on. Bring plenty of arthropod repellent or other anti-tick measures.



Several activities are envisioned including trips to new areas not previously visited. Some excursions will require vehicle trips away from the camp.

#### GETTING THERE:

Option 1. (Shorter and more scenic). Follow Glasshouse Mountains Highway about 16 km to the turnoff to Beerwah and Woodford. Zero the odometer and follow the Woodford/Kilcoy Road through Beerwah and Peachester. At 16.8 km take the right turn (Stanley River Road; sign says 'Maleny 20'). Follow road up to the plateau, pass turnoff to Bellthorpe on the left and soon after at 24.0 km look for a minor road on left named Postmans Track. Follow this down into the Mary River headwaters. Care! The road is sealed but narrow and very steep in places. Soon after reaching the valley floor, at 28.3km, look for QNC sign and turn off to the right. Follow QNC signs to the camping area.



Option 2. (via Maleny). From Maleny follow the Conondale - Kenilworth Road past the Witta turnoff and down from the plateau. Just before Conondale look for Aherns Road on the left (patch of Paulonia trees on the right). Set odometer and follow this for 1.5 km, and continue on Aherns road as it does a sharp right turn. At 8.8 km cross the upper Mary River. At 10.1 km look for QNC sign and turn off to the left.

## EXCURSION REPORTS

**September 21<sup>st</sup> 2017 - Freshwater National Park at Deception Bay** was led by David Hanger. A 90 hectares coastal and sub-coastal floodplain tree site with *Melaleuca* and *Eucalyptus* species. Twelve attendees walked 5.2 km on a warm day. The country was very dry - there were possibly more flowers in August when the recce was done. Twenty birds seen. Few weeds, many sedges and swamp plants. Grasstrees were in flower, possibly *Xanthorrhoea johnsoni*, and there were lomandras and ferns.

**October 11<sup>th</sup> Queensland Conservation Collection Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha** -Led by Dr Dick Date – 4 attendees. Conservation Way is a new area that has been planted on groundworks for the Legacy Tunnel. It is planned to display Queensland's rare and threatened species and is envisioned that 75% of them will be part of the living collection by 2020. Of the 13 bioregions of Queensland, they hope to have 11 represented. Plants of particular interest included the Emu Mountain Sheoak, *Allocasuarina emuina* from the Mt Coolum region, which is wind-pollinated with seeds released only on death of or significant damage to the parent plant; *Cycas cairnsiana*, limited to the Newcastle Range NQ, where it grows on dry rocky soils derived from granite in open woodland and has attractive grey blue foliage; Beerwah Mallee, *Eucalyptus kabiana*, resembles grey gum and is being used as street tree in northern shire councils a food tree for koalas; and Tree Omphalea, *Omphalea celata*, the sole host plant for the Zodiac moth in Central Queensland.



**October 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> – Aroona, Mt Mort, a Queensland Trust for Nature Property  
QNC Wildlife Survey – led by Harry Hines.**

Aroona is a 2,000 ha property recently acquired by the Queensland Trust for Nature (QTFN), that straddles the Little Liverpool Range, south-west of Grandchester (see [www.qtnf.org.au/aroona-nature-refuge](http://www.qtnf.org.au/aroona-nature-refuge)). The club undertook a preliminary survey of the property in July 2016, targeting fungi, birds and small terrestrial mammals principally at four sites. The aim of this excursion was to target bats, reptiles and amphibians. QTFN staff and volunteers installed Elliot, pitfall and funnel traps with drift fences at four sites with the help of a tractor with posthole digger to bore into the dense black clay. Eighteen adults and 12 children Nats Club members joined at various times over the weekend. Unfortunately, significant rain came and with 50+mm received, and more forecast, we were forced to make the difficult decision to close the traps early to ensure the welfare of animals – the black soil also made it impossible to access sites by vehicle. The wet weather also precluded trapping for bats or using ultrasonic detectors.

Nevertheless, we still managed to capture a number of animals in the pitfall and funnel traps and by active searching, including the skinks *Anomalopus verreauxii*, *Calyptotis scutirostrum*, *Carlia vivax*, *Lygisaurus foliorum*, the bearded dragon *Pogona barbata*, a beautiful red-naped snake *Furina diadema*, and several small blind snakes of the genus *Anilius*. Two other snakes were observed, a juvenile brown tree snake *Boiga irregularis* at the house and the carpet python *Morelia spilota*. A bat was opportunistically captured from its roost site in a culvert – an adult male *Myotis adversus* – a species typically associated with permanent water bodies.

Given the rain it was surprising that generally the frog activity was low, probably because of the long dry period and very hot weather that preceded the trip. However, a dam near the homestead provided people an opportunity to see and hear six species of frogs: *Litoria fallax*, *L. gracilentata*, *L. nasuta*, *L. rubella*, *Crinia parinsignifera* and *Platyplectrum ornatum*. There were also a reasonable number of green treefrogs *Litoria caerulea* around the homestead and a *Limnodynastes peronii* was also observed there.

Finding the small blind snakes was of particular interest as the only individual of the recently described Fassifern blind snake *Anilius insperatus* was collected from similar basalt hill country a little further to the east. Blind snakes are not often captured during surveys and their accurate identification in the field is very difficult. For these reasons, three individuals were retained and lodged as specimens at the Queensland Museum. They were subsequently identified as the brown-snouted blind snake *Anilius wiedii*, which is widespread in eastern Australia.

The highlights of the birds observed during the outing were a single glossy black cockatoo that flew over the house and a barn owl seen by many one evening. For mammals, it was the first observation of a living koala on the property.

While it was disappointing to have to abandon the excursion, particularly given the effort to install the pit traps and drift fences, we did manage to add a reasonable number of reptile and amphibian species to the list for the property. There is still much more to be discovered on this property and the Club will return in the coming years to continue its work. On behalf of the Club and the members who attended the excursion I thank Queensland Trust for Nature for allowing us use of the homestead (which was greatly welcomed by everyone in the wet conditions) and for providing another fabulous barbecue meal for everyone on the Saturday night, as well access to this very interesting area.

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Charles S. Snow Environmental Reserve, Victoria Point** led by Dr John Moss. The Epraphah property was acquired in 1920s by the Scouts organization. John has volunteered there for 10 years starting up the butterfly garden. Fifteen people attended seeing many host plants for butterflies.

### **November 15<sup>th</sup> - Sherwood Arboretum – Dr Dick Date**

Different vegetation types comprising 1100 specimens are displayed. It was established in the 1920s by Francis Octavius Nixon, a member of QNC. There are Queensland Kauris in an avenue with plaques naming those who planted them and including former members of the QNC. An interesting tree was the Pongam oil tree, *Millettia pinnata*, which is found in Asia and the northern coastline of Australia and has many applications from soap-making and medicinal use to biofuel. We also watched magpies and noisy miners dustbathing and saw Scaly-breasted Lorikeets with a chick in the nest.

### **EXHIBITS**

Exhibits for general meetings may be in the form of specimens, books, digital images etc.

If you have a PowerPoint or jpeg image to display, please bring them to the Club Lanternist by 7.15pm.

If you take an exhibit to a meeting, a written description to accompany it would be greatly appreciated by the Secretary and Newsletter editor. Your natural history observations can then be shared with all members via:-

- The club website - email text and photos to [web@qnc.org.au](mailto:web@qnc.org.au)
- Our Facebook page - contact Leith for help at [facebook@qnc.org.au](mailto:facebook@qnc.org.au)
- In the QNC News - email text and photos to [news@qnc.org.au](mailto:news@qnc.org.au)

This variety of formats allows all members, including non-Brisbane members, to share their experiences.

#### **November Meeting Exhibits**

Scented-top Grass *Capillipedium spicigerum* which grows along creek lines. Crushing the seedheads produces a pleasant smell. Found by Susan Nelles in a reclamation area and identified by Bob Backhouse.

Brought in by David Hanger from Freshwater NP, pupal cases of the Mistletoe Emperor Moth which, though widespread, are not often seen. Occasionally seen in a colony. Also, almost mature Kauri Pine cones.

John Moss showed 3 larvae of a common hawkmoth - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> instar larvae and also a tray of azure butterflies, bright metallic blues and purples. As the colours are due to refraction of light, the colours varied when seen from different angles.

**NATURE NOTES** Members are reminded that we welcome you sharing your natural history observations with other members in the form of a short Nature Note.

## **WHAT'S ON**

**QUEENSLAND HERBARIUM SEMINARS** FM Bailey Room, at 12 noon

The Herbarium hosts free public seminars at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens from noon until 1pm on the second Monday of the month (March to November) - FM Bailey conference room in the Herbarium building. No need to register. The 2018 programme is not yet available so please refer to the following website for details: [www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/seminars-events](http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/seminars-events)

## CORRESPONDENCE

### **From Dr Brian Lowry - Migration of Megafauna ? First floated in Queensland Naturalist**

There have been reports lately on ABC TV and elsewhere regarding evidence for the seasonal migration of megafauna. The paper that has generated these reports is a recent very multi-author publication (G.J. Price et al, Seasonal migration of marsupial megafauna in Pleistocene Sahul (Australia - New Guinea) Proc. Roy. Soc. London; Series B: 284 2017).

This paper reaches the conclusion that the biggest browser, Diprotodon, was in the habit of migrating seasonally over large distances. I have no reason to question the science, which is based on isotopic analysis of teeth. The report, and most of the commentary, treats this not as "solving a mystery " because it is question no one asked. Rather it is treated as a new and surprising insight into the marsupial megafauna. Fair enough.

However, for what it is worth, QNC members may like to know that this suggestion appeared a few years ago in the Queensland Naturalist\*, advanced on a very different basis. In my 2004 Presidential Address, I noted that there were a number of palatable browse plants, such as *Brachychiton* spp, that had no obvious means for deterring herbivory, and yet they were a significant component of the dry rainforests of the time. This implied browsing pressure was intermittent, with intervals long enough for plants to recover and seedlings to establish. I suggested that the most probable reason for this would be from the big browsers migrating elsewhere for a while.

\* Brian Lowry (2005) "Marching after the Megafauna" Queensland Naturalist 43: 24-32.

### **From Mike Hines, three interesting web addresses:**

***The Stanthorpe Wildflower Consortium*** which aims to maintain and improve wildflower ecosystems through increased awareness and improved management. Occasional wildflower walks are organised and photos from the 2017 walks can be seen at their website:

<https://www.granitebeltwildflowers.com/>

***The website of the Queensland Mycological Society*** which includes an aid to try to identify fungi commonly found in local gardens:

<http://qldfungi.org.au/resources-2/garden-fungi/garden-fungi-what-is-that-fungus-in-my-garden>

***And an article on Grevillea baileyana.***

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grevillea\\_baileyana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grevillea_baileyana)

### **From the Australian Citizen Science Association**

Individual and student memberships are now available and are being discounted for the initial offering. Details of how to apply and more information on the Association can be found by following the link to <https://www.citizenscience.org.au/>

### **PHOTO CREDITS:**

page 1 Neil Fordyce – Dragonflies seen at Kholo Botanic Gardens outing 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

The Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc  
**Council Nomination Form**

**Proposer:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ being a financial  
(Full name of Proposer)  
member of the **Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc** hereby

nominate \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of Nominee)

for the position of \_\_\_\_\_

(Council Position)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Proposer)

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**Secunder:**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Name of Secunder: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee:**

I agree to accept this nomination and, if elected, will fulfill the duties of the position.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Nominee)

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** This form must be returned to the Secretary 14 days before the Annual General Meeting either by post to PO Box 5663 West End 4101

or emailed to [secretary@qnc.org.au](mailto:secretary@qnc.org.au)

*If undeliverable return to:*

Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc.  
PO Box 5663  
WEST END Qld 4101  
QNC News

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100003858**

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