



QNC NEWS

Newsletter of The
QUEENSLAND NATURALISTS' CLUB INC.

No. 346 September-October 2019

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General Meetings:

September 16	Members' night and QNC Calendar Photo Comp
October 21	Roma Street Parklands, Lawrie Smith AM

Excursions:

August 31	Bradbury's Beach, Dunwich, Stradbroke Island
September 22	Tinchi Tamba Wetlands Reserve, Bald Hills
October 5 –7	Queen's Birthday long weekend camp, Mount Clunie Cabins
October 26	Roma Street Parklands, Brisbane
November 23	Samford Ecological Research Facility

PROGRAMME



Little black cormorants, Dowse Lagoon Photo: Paul Campbell

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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Deadline for News items – 15th October for November-December 2019.

The Queensland Naturalist is published twice per year, send articles to the Editor:

Dr. Peter Woodall at journal@qnc.org.au

If you receive a paper copy of the newsletter, switch to receive the coloured email edition by contacting Mike (treasurer@qnc.org.au) to update your details.

COUNCIL NEWS

Meeting Venue

The QNC Council is investigating venues for our monthly General Meetings. We are currently hiring the Toowong Uniting Church Hall for meetings as well as hiring container storage for our Library, books and equipment. If any members know of a suitable venue for our monthly meetings where there is also storage space for the equivalent of 4 double door cupboards, please advise Judy (secretary@qnc.org.au) or phone 0402 236 359.

Assistant Secretary (Minutes Secretary) is needed!

Can you help? If so, please contact the President or other member of Council.

New Members

Welcome to our newest members, we hope you have a long and happy association with the club:

- George Diggles (Everton Park)
- Robert and Evelyn Looney (Coorparoo)
- Diane Francis (The Gap) - Renewing member
- Richard and (Rosemary) Anne Bryden (Sandgate)

Facebook

Follow our Facebook page for tidbits about the natural world, to find out what we've been up to and for information on upcoming events. Share our page with your friends and families and contact Leith (librarian@qnc.org.au) if you have information we could post. You do not have to be a member of Facebook to see what we publish, and you don't have to divulge any private information.

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held between February and November on the third Monday of the month from 7:30PM at the Toowong Uniting Church Hall, 82 Sherwood Road, Toowong. This location is conveniently reached by public transport and is approximately 200 m from Toowong Village Shopping Centre, Toowong Railway Station and the main bus stops. Street parking is available near the church and there is an off-street parking area on the river side of the church (ignore the permit required sign). Parking at Toowong Village Shopping Centre is free for entry after 6:00 PM.

LIBRARY CUPBOARD

Journals and newsletters will be on display and new books will be brought to General Meetings. However, as the library cupboard is not available at the Toowong Uniting Church Hall, books can be borrowed by contacting Leith (librarian@qnc.org.au) prior to the meeting. The library catalogue can be found on the QNC website at http://www.qnc.org.au/Library/QNC_LibraryCatalogue.pdf.

DIGITAL EXHIBITS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

Do you have something to share at a General Meeting? If your exhibit requires the projector, please arrive by 7:15PM and liaise with the Lanternist to upload your PowerPoint or jpeg image. We would also love to see your exhibit in the QNC News and online. Please see the Exhibits section of this newsletter.

ROSTER FOR GENERAL MEETINGS

Our General Meetings are warm and welcoming thanks to the generous help of a few volunteers who provide reception and supper duties. Please consider nominating for the General Meeting Roster by signing up at a meeting or emailing your availability and preferred task to Judy (secretary@qnc.org.au).

Thank you to the volunteers at the July and August General Meetings.

COMING UP

Monday 16 September

Members' Night and QNC Calendar Photo Competition (see page 8 for details).

Monday 21 October

Roma Street Parklands, Lawrie Smith AM

Do you remember the Roma Street Railway Goods Yards? Have you been to the Roma Street Parklands? If you have answered yes to both of these questions then you have probably wondered how such a transformation of this site could have taken place. Lawrie Smith was one of the people behind this huge project and he will be our presenter at this October meeting. Lawrie is a well-known landscape architect who has designed many garden projects around Australia and overseas. A few examples are regional botanic gardens in Gladstone, Mackay and the Gold Coast, part of the Singapore Botanic Gardens and the recently opened Terra Australis Garden in the Canberra Arboretum. In this presentation Lawrie will give us an overview of the planning involved for the development of this delightful Brisbane feature.

MEETING REPORTS

Monday 19 August

Professor Chris Frid, Griffith University (Gold Coast Campus) School of Environment and Science

The enlightened citizens guide to Marine Pollution. Or What can we do with our waste?

For many years, the response to waste disposal was 'the solution to pollution is dilution'. But 50 years ago, when we first saw images of our little planet hanging in space, it became obvious that we sit on a finite planet and cannot keep on diluting forever. Professor Frid introduced us to some of the pollutants that humans are introducing to our oceans, including plastics, oils and sewage. Hysteresis is the dependence of the state of a system on its history. Following this, ecosystem service delivery is likely to experience sudden catastrophic collapses when thresholds are exceeded. A combination of technical solutions, social change, management of human behaviour through legislation and regulation and a moral imperative will be crucial to achieving the change required to prevent such a catastrophe.

EXHIBITS

Do you have some natural history observations to share? Exhibits may be shared at General Meetings and through our website, social media and newsletter.

If you can bring your exhibit to a General Meeting, the exhibit may be in physical (e.g. specimens, books) or digital (e.g. images, videos) format. If your exhibit requires the projector, please arrive by 7:15PM and liaise with the Lanternist to upload your PowerPoint or jpeg image.

If you are unable to attend General Meetings, and we also ask this of Meeting exhibitors, please send photos and an accompanying description to:

- The Club website –David (web@qnc.org.au)
- Our Facebook page – Leith (facebook@qnc.org.au)
- The QNC News – May-Le (news@qnc.org.au).

EXCURSIONS

Fees apply for weekend camps of \$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

Do you know of a great place that other naturalists might enjoy exploring with you? We are looking for people to suggest excursion locations and for volunteer excursion leaders. If you are interested, contact Barney by email (excursion@qnc.org.au) or telephone: 07 3720 9414.

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 that you can receive a species list from the excursion.

COMING UP

August 31: Bradbury's Beach, Dunwich, Stradbroke Island

Meet Saturday, August 31 at 10:00 by the One-Mile Jetty, Yabby Street, Dunwich.

Leader: Myriam Preker

Description: North Stradbroke Island is one of Australia's most outstanding natural areas. It lies at the heart of a major biogeographic overlap zone. It is here that the southern and northern biotas meet, forming unusual communities of both temperate and tropical species. Bradbury's Beach, Dunwich, combines this with a diversity of habitats in close proximity to one another: mud and sand flats; seagrass beds; a small mangrove area; a macro-algal-dominated intertidal area; a rocky out-cropping; and a small patch of corals.



Soldier Crab, *Mictyris longicarpus*, spends much of its time buried underneath the sediment. Large numbers emerge on the falling tide to feed on detritus, leaving rounded pellets of discarded sand behind them.

Our day will start with a leisurely nature walk. The area around Dunwich offers an excellent opportunity for bird watching, especially shore birds; whereas in the cemetery, koalas can often be seen. After a lunch break, we will start to explore the low-tide area in the park in front of Bradbury's Beach. The low tide is at 16:17 (0.14 m).

What to bring: Sunblock; sunhat; sturdy footwear that can be used in water and that protects the ankles; reef-walking stick; windbreaker (if it is a windy day). Additionally, swimming and snorkelling equipment will also be useful for any "Vikings" among us, or glass-bottom buckets for Queenslanders!

How to get there: Make your way to Toondah Harbour, Cleveland (Brisbane UBD Ref. Map 186, D17)

By car: Cleveland is about 45 minutes from Brisbane CBD. There is free parking available.

By train: Catch the Cleveland Line from Brisbane (South Bank, South Brisbane, Roma Street, Central Stations, etc.). There is a free Stradbroke Flyer courtesy bus pickup from the train station 10 minutes prior to each water-taxi departure.



Brain Coral, *Dipsastraea speciosa*



Little Pied Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*

Two companies operate water taxis from Toondah Harbour to North Stradbroke: North Stradbroke Island Water Taxi (Vehicle Ferry & Water Taxi) and Stradbroke Flyer Water Taxi (Gold Cat). The journey will take around 25 minutes. Timetables and vessels are subject to change without notice so check the day before departing. The last ferry from the island is at 19:25 or, if you require a bus connection to the train, at 18:25.

Registration: Please register via excursion@qnc.org.au with the subject line "Stradbroke Island".

September 22: Tinchy Tamba Wetlands Reserve, Bald Hills

Sunday 8.30AM – 12.30PM

Leaders: Peter and Leith Woodall (Ph: 0447 446 635 Email: plwoodall@bigpond.com)

Tinchy Tamba Wetlands Reserve is on the southern edge of the North Pine River just before it flows into Moreton Bay. The picnic area at the start has toilets and shelters with tables and benches. Two graded tracks lead from this: the Island Circuit track is 1,850 m long; and branching off this is a track to a small bird hide (500 m). Depending on how fast we go, we will try to do both of these tracks.

There is a mixture of habitats from fringing mangroves, a small area of saltmarsh, and inland areas of eucalypt forest. This diversity of habitat leads to a good range of birds and insects.

If you want to have a preview of some of the plants, animals and fungi that have been found at Tinchy Tamba, go to <https://www.inaturalist.org/places/tinchy-tamba-wetlands-reserve> Click on both the "Species" and "Observations" tabs. For a bird list, go to <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L960635> there are 1,320 checklists recording 238 species.

Bring: a backpack with your morning snacks and drink, which we will have somewhere along the track. If you want, bring lunch and we will try to have this at one of the shelters, although they may be crowded by lunch-time. Make sure you bring hats, sunscreen and insect repellent – the mossies can be fierce!

Directions: From the south, travel north on the Gympie Arterial Rd (M3), take exit 58 to Strathpine/Bracken Ridge, keep right at the fork and follow signs to Hoyland St, Bracken Ridge-Sandgate, turn Right onto Strathpine Rd (58), continue straight onto Hoyland St, turn Left into Bracken Ridge Rd, Right into Kluver St, Kluver St turns slightly right and becomes Wyampa Rd. 1.7 km along Wyampa Rd turn Left into the parking area at the sign for Tinchi Tamba (just past a property with a white wooden fence). [If you turn into the boat ramp you've gone too far and the road ends shortly after this]. From the north, get on the Gympie Arterial Rd (M3) and take the Strathpine Road exit (58) onto Hoyland St and then follow the directions as above. The picnic area is at S-27.2998 E153.0326, or UBD 100 A16.

Registration: Please register with Peter and Leith Woodall or with excursion@qnc.org.au with the subject Tinchi Tamba.

October 5 –7: Queen's Birthday long weekend camp, Mount Clunie Cabins

Leaders: Greg & Annie Neill

We will have the use of this beautiful, privately owned property for the Club's Queen's Birthday long weekend base camp. The property is on the southern slopes of Mt Clunie and borders the southern boundary of Mt Clunie National Park. Please see the website for more details:

<http://www.mountcluniecabins.com.au/index.html>

Arrive on Saturday around midday and set up camp. We hope to have a half day walk along a footpad on the south-eastern side of Mt Clunie. There is a possibility of a full day's walk on Sunday, mostly along an unused road reserve, and on Monday morning, a wander around the owners private garden with native plants, hopefully lots of Grevilleas will be in flower.

There is a very large grassed area that will be available for camping, vans and tents. Camp fees will apply (\$5/child/night, \$10/adult/night + QNC fee \$2/adult/night). There is one cabin still available, the other is already booked. Phone 07 4666 5118 or email bookings@mountcluniecabins.net to make a booking.

Directions: Drive for 2.5-3 hour from Brisbane via Mt Lindesay Highway to Woodenbong and continue for 11.5 km to Mount Clunie Road. The property is at the end of Mount Clunie Road.

Registration: Please register via excursion@qnc.org.au with the subject line "Mt Clunie".

October 26: Roma Street Parklands, Brisbane

Saturday 10AM

Leader: Lawrie Smith

This excursion is to supplement the presentation by Lawrie Smith at the October General Meeting.

This will be a guided walk around parts of the Parklands by Lawrie and other guides of the Roma Street Parklands.

Directions: If you are arriving by car you may enter off Wickham Terrace at the entrance opposite Gregory Terrace. Members arriving by rail or bus public transport would enter via Roma Street Station. We are to meet at 10am at the 'Frangipani', which is under the bridge between the Celebration Lawn and the Lake.

Registration: So that arrangements can be made with the guides would you please register your name by Wednesday, 23rd October with the Excursion Secretary by email excursion@qnc.org.au or by 'phone to Barry Jahnke on 0411 278 865.

November 23: Samford Ecological Research Facility

Saturday 4:00PM – 8:30PM

Leaders: Matt Phillips (mob: 0466 361 826) and Barney Hines 0420 35 1801.

This excursion was initially planned for February this year but was cancelled due to a gale warning. Hopefully we will have better luck this time around.

The Samford Ecological Research Facility (SERF) is situated on a property that was bequeathed by Elizabeth 'Pat' Marks estate. Pat was a past president of the QNC and very active member. Long standing members may recall visiting Pat's property in the early 1980's for QNC breakups.

The outing will involve a walk around the property. This will be followed by a supper and hopefully some moth trapping and looking for other nocturnals.

Bring: A picnic meal, a BBQ may be available, subject to confirmation closer to the date. Please bring a torch for the evening activities.

Lots of information is found on the SERF website, including articles from the QNC:

<http://www.serf.qut.edu.au/>

The club's last outing to the site occurred in 1993 and is described here:

http://www.serf.qut.edu.au/serfresourcefiles/nature_notes_excursion_qnc_1993.pdf

Directions: From the city, follow Samford Road through Ferny Grove and Ferny Hills. Turn left into Camp Mountain Road. Continue along this for 3.3 kilometres and turn left into the site. Allow approximately 40 minutes from the Brisbane CBD.

Registration: Please register for this outing by email to excursions@qnc.org.au

EXCURSION REPORTS

Sightings/records made during our excursions are now lodged with INaturalist and the lists are available on the QNC website under Excursion Sightings (previously Species Lists from Excursions).

Excursion reports will be included in the next edition of QNC News.

OF INTEREST

The Global Fire Atlas is a new freely available global dataset that tracks the daily dynamics of individual fires to determine the timing and location of ignitions, fire size and duration, and daily expansion, fire line length, speed, and direction of spread. Data are available in easily accessible GIS-layers and can also be explored online: <https://www.globalfiredata.org/fireatlas.html>

QNC CALENDAR PHOTO COMPETITION

The QNC runs a wide range of day outings and camps during the year. We would like to capture some of these moments in our annual calendar. To this end, we are asking members to submit photos from QNC outings to the QNC Calendar Photo Competition. The competition rules are:

1. Photos must depict natural history and taken in association with club activities.
2. Photos must be in JPG format, not larger than 4Mb size and in 3:2 aspect ratio to allow printing onto A4 paper. QNC may crop entries submitted with other ratios for display or for the calendar.
3. Participants may submit up to 4 entries.
4. Photos should be submitted by email with supporting information including location and species to: photo@qnc.org.au
5. Titles/captions are not necessary. Photos will be judged by members on their merit.
6. Photos will be printed to A4 size and displayed on the night of the September general meeting.
7. Voting will be by members on the night of the September general meeting.
8. Entrants agree that the Club may use their photos on the 2020 calendar.
9. The photographer will be credited and copyright remains with the photographer.
10. Entries will be accepted until 5PM on 12th September 2019.
11. Council's decision about inclusions in the calendar is final.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Searching for Photos for a Field Guide to the Plants of Toowoomba and Darling Downs

Can you help us?

A local group of plant lovers has initiated a project to develop a field guide to the plants of Toowoomba and the Downs based around the Condamine River catchment. Our inspiration is the excellent *Mangroves to Mountains* by Glenn Leiper et al. Our working title is *Condamine Country: A Field Guide to the Plants of Toowoomba and the Darling Downs*.

To that end, we are seeking photos of local flora and would be pleased to receive any good shots you might have that you are willing to share with us. The project is not a profit-making venture, so no payment for images is possible, however authorship of any images we use will be acknowledged.

If you have photos that may be suitable for our book or have questions regarding the book or photo requirements, please email condaminecountry@gmail.com

The Condamine Country Team: Trish Gardner, Kerrie Rathie, Peter Macqueen, Steve Plant, Lisa Churchward, Greg Spearritt

Save the Bilby Fund's 2019 Bilby Tracks Program

Bilby Tracks is a program run by Save the Bilby Fund, which is responsible for managing the land and bilbies within the Bilby Fence at Currawinya National Park. The program engages members of the community in conducting regular animal and habitat surveys and monitoring in this relatively remote area of western Queensland. The *2019 Bilby Tracks – Journey with us into bilby country, a tour of learning and discovery* (31 August – 7 September 2019, departing Brisbane) is based around the program developed during our three previous trips.

The details for the 2019 Bilby Tracks program run by Save the Bilby Fund are now on the website:

<http://bilbytracks.com.au>

Please contact Colleen with any questions: bilbytracks@savethebilbyfund.org

The Northern Hairy-Nosed Wombat Project: Volunteer caretaker recruits needed

The Northern hairy-nosed wombat project is looking for recruits for the volunteer caretaker program for summer 2019 and 2020. The project needs two people to conduct the daily on site duties for managing the sites at Epping Forest National Park and Richard Underwood Nature Refuge. Ideally, the project is looking for individuals who are capable of committing one month (or more) to be on-site undertaking the daily duties.

For more information, email: jenny.molyneux@des.qld.gov.au

September 7-8: Native Plants Queensland Wildflower Spectacle and Plants Market

Saturday 9AM – 4PM, Sunday 9AM – 3PM

Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens Auditorium

Please come and enjoy the wonderful spectacle of specimens of our diverse native flora. There will also be displays by Native Plants Queensland (NPQ) branches with our exciting theme 'Colour your garden with Native Plants'. Environmental groups will feature vital fauna such as bats, frogs and butterflies and the Botanical Artists will display their beautiful work. Refreshments featuring home baking will again be provided by the Brookfield CWA.

The famous Plants Market will have a huge range of plants for all situations from rockeries and containers to gardens and larger areas. Plants are available in all sizes from tubes to advanced and are very reasonably priced. Expert advice will be available from specialist native plants growers as well as NPQ members, and books are for sale and brochures with plants selections and information will be available.

Come and enjoy an interesting and stimulating visit with people who are passionate about our delightful and diverse native flora.

September 28: 7th Queensland Bushfoods Conference – Meeting the Growing Demands of Bushfoods



Saturday, Registration: 8:30AM – 9:30AM, Sessions 9:30AM – 4:30PM
Australian Technology & Agricultural College, 4808-4822 Mt Lindesay Hwy, North Maclean

\$40 registration fee, includes tea and lunch (\$30 QBA members)

Contact: Sheryl Backhouse sheryl.backhouse@bigpond.com

or Dr. Narendra Nand nnand@atac.qld.edu.au

September 29 – October 3: Australian Native Plant Society (Australia) National Conference 2019

Australian Native Plant Society (Australia) National Conference and Biennial General Meeting 2019, Blooming Biodiversity, will be held in Albany, Western Australia, this year. A series of tours and day excursions to take in native flora in bushland settings as well as gardens and landscaped areas. The south-west of Western Australia is known for its pristine bushland and there will be an emphasis of native flora in its natural setting.

For further information, please see www.bloomingbiodiversity.com.au or contact the Perth Office at enquiry@wildflowersocietywa.org.au

September 11-20, 2020: Australian Naturalists' Network 2020 Get-together in Stanthorpe, Qld

The Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club is hosting the next Australian Naturalists' Network (ANN) Get-together from Friday 11th to Sunday 20th September 2020. Introductory information and an Expression of Interest form are now available. To receive these or for further information please email Lynette Haselgrove at anngb2020@gmail.com or contact members of the QNC Council.

Outings will be to local protected areas with high botanical diversity including those on granite soils, traprock soil and basalt. Areas we hope to visit include:

- Girraween National Park – noted for its wildflowers and striking granite features.
- Sundown National Park – containing box/ironbark woodland which provides excellent birdwatching.
- Amiens State Forest – a great diversity of flowers and birds.
- Queen Mary Falls at Killarney – spectacular area in rainforest.
- At least one outing will concentrate on geological aspects of the district.

Queensland Herbarium Seminars

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) at the FM Bailey conference room in the Herbarium building. There is no need to register, refer to the following website for details:

www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/seminars-events

9 September 2019 Australian Coastal Wetlands - Sea Level, Peat and Fire
Patrick Moss, University of Queensland

14 October 2019 Extinction Risk in Novel Communities
John Pandolfi, University of Queensland

The Hut Environmental & Community Association Inc. (THECA) Meetings

General meetings are usually held at The Hut, 47 Fleming Road, Chapel Hill, 7:00PM start on the fourth Wednesday of each month from February to November. www.theca.asn.au

25 September 2019 Erin Watson: Research on Lizard Island

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

DUE 1st JULY

Subscription Type (please tick)

Family \$40 Single \$25 Student /Junior \$15 Club Badge \$15

Payment Options

❖ **By Post**

Post a bank cheque or money order with this completed form to:

The Treasurer, Mr Mike Anderson
164/462 Beams Rd
Fitzgibbon
Queensland 4018

❖ **At a General Meeting**

Hand payment to the Treasurer in an envelope with this completed form.

❖ **By EFT**

Please transfer payment to the following bank account and email your details and newsletter preference to treasurer@qnc.org.au

Account: The Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc.
Bank: Westpac
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