



# The Granite Belt Naturalist



**Mail Address:** Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, Stanthorpe Qld. 4380  
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Web site [www.granitenet.com.au/groups/environment/fieldnats/](http://www.granitenet.com.au/groups/environment/fieldnats/)

### 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 and post it to members



*Meetings* 4th Wednesday of each month at QCWA Rooms, Victoria Street, Stanthorpe, at 7.30pm

*Outings:* The Sunday preceding the 4th Wednesday of each month (Saturday outings as pre-arranged)

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

### CLUB OFFICE BEARERS - 2013/2014

|                   |                  |          |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| President         | Rob McCosker     | 46835371 |
| Vice-presidents   | Kris Carnell     | 46835268 |
|                   | Jeff Campbell    |          |
| Secretary         | Halina Kruger    | 46835206 |
| Treasurer         | Leslie Saunders  |          |
| Newsletter Editor | K & M. Carnell   |          |
| Publicity Officer | Margaret Carnell | 46835268 |
| Librarian         | Trish McCosker   | 46835371 |

The Club thanks the Queensland Country Credit Union for their donation that enabled us to buy a printer.

The Club acknowledges the support of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund in the purchase of a data projector.

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 walking, road or track
2. Road or track, gentle hills
3. Track, some hilly sections
4. Track, some steep sections
5. Cross country, easy open forest, gentle slopes
6. Track, steep sections common, with steps
7. Cross country, some hills, some thick undergrowth
8. Cross country, steep sections with scrambles over rocks, etc., and some thick undergrowth
9. Cross country, steep, hilly, rough, thick undergrowth
10. Mountain climbing, hard going, higher level of fitness or plenty of time required

**Coming Up**

Saturday/Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> September:  
Campout to *Woodside*  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September:  
Halina Kruger  
*"South Island New Zealand"*

**Deadline for next newsletter  
10<sup>th</sup> October**

**Pre-Outing Report - Campout to Mario's property at Woodside NSW. 19<sup>th</sup>/ 20<sup>th</sup> September.**

If Nats could arrive on the Saturday morning to set up camp and after lunch we will do a walk that many have wanted to do in the past. It is up to Red Rock behind my property. I had a dozer in last year and a track has been pushed to the base of the mountain so we can drive to the base and then walk up. This will depend on rainfall as there are two creek crossings to get there. 4 wheel drive will be needed but we can car pool; no problem. I will not be doing a pre outing as it is something I wouldn't want to do alone. Good walking shoes will be required and water. Of course cameras and binoculars.

Most Nats will not need directions to get there but if any one does please contact myself. Limited accommodation in cabins is available for those who don't have a tent or camper. Please note there are no lights or power in the cabins. There are beds and mattresses. Please contact me if you wish to book a bed. A bush shower with hot water will be available along with one bush toilet and one flushing toilet. There will be a wood fired BBQ available as well for everyone to use. Sunday morning we will go for a walk across the road to the neighbours place to take a look at where the original Woodside homestead was. After lunch relaxing before heading home.'

*Mario Pennisi* 46813750

**Outing Report Basket Swamp August 22/23**



Basket Swamp Creek

Five campers and nine members altogether (including day visitors) attended this outing. Contrary to the somewhat pessimistic weather forecast we had ideal walking weather. So it was a pity that not more members did come, especially considering the main walk has not been done before by the club and went to a quite spectacular spot which would be difficult to find on one's own.

On Saturday late morning we rock hopped (and occasionally scrambled) down the full length of the beautiful cascades upstream of Basket Swamp Falls.

These are often overlooked, as most people drive straight to the car park near the main falls. The evening concluded with a small camp

fire.



Hardenbergia and Acacia

For the Sunday walk we drove a few Km Southeast and after some light bush bashing we descended to the scenic creek bed of waterfall creek with its many small ponds and miniature falls. The display of orchids and hoveas was amazing. The end of the valley is a spectacular sight, here the creek drops down towards the cataract river, more than 100 m below us, over a large rock slab with a deep waterhole close to the edge.

Michael Mueller

#### Bird list Basket Swamp

Eastern spinebill, Yellow-faced honeyeater, Lewin's honeyeater, New Holland honeyeater, White-faced honeyeater, Yellow-faced honeyeater, Eastern yellow robin, Grey fantail, Superb fairy wren, Scrub wren, Yellow-tailed black cockatoo, Glossy black cockatoo, Welcome swallow, Crimson rosella, Scaly-breasted lorikeet, Laughing kookaburra, Pied currawong, Yellow-rumped thornbill, Brown thornbill, Striated pardalote, Spotted pardalote, Fantailed cuckoo, Southern boobook, White throated tree creeper, Australian raven, Silvereve

#### Plant List Basket Swamp

*Epacris microphylla*, Coral heath, *Hovea heterophylla*, Trailing hovea, *Hovea graniticola*, *Leucopogon melaleucooides*, Snowbush, *Leucopogon neoanglicus*, New England beard heath, *Leucopogon affinis*, Lance beard heath, *Bauera rubioides*, River rose, *Pimelea linifolia*, Queen of the bush, *Philotheca epilosa*, Waxflower, *Hardenbergia violacea*, False sarsaparilla vine, *Kennedy rubicunda*, Red kennedy pea, *Patersonia sericea*, Silky purple flag, *Banksia neoanglica*, New England banksia, *Banksia integrifolia*, White banksia, *Glycine clandestina*, Twining glycine, *Pterostylis pedunculata*, Maroonhood, *Pterostylis curta*, Blunt greenhood, *Pterostylis nutans*, Nodding greenhood, *Thelymitra nuda*, Plain sun orchid, *Melichrus urceolatis*, Urn heath, *Phebalium sp*, *Dillwynia sp*, *Monotoca sp*, *Pomaderris sp*, 2, White daisy, *Stylidium sp*, *Lomandra sp*, 3, *Acacia sp*, 7 including Prickly moses, Prickly pea, Hibbertia sp

#### October 2-5 Friday-Monday - Armstrong's, Carney's Creek.

The QNC is having a camp at Sandy and Jenny Armstrong's property on the headwaters of Carney's Creek. Field Naturalist Clubs are invited to join the camp. This will be the fourth camp that the QNC has enjoyed on the Armstrong's property.

The property is about a "square mile" of hilly country with an interesting mixture of lightly logged sclerophyll forest with some patches of rainforest and heathlands. There are many tracks so it is easy to access various areas at a slow naturalist's pace. We hope that on one of the full days that our host, Sandy, will be available to guide us to some of his favourite sights.

The camp-site is a reasonably level grassy area surrounded by forest. It will be necessary for you to bring your own water. Spring water may be nearby but you can be informed about its availability by the leader when you register. Club toilets will be erected.

Cost: (QNC) Club and Camping Fees of \$7 per person per night will apply.

The leader is Barry Jahnke and people are asked to register with him via Phone - 073870 7189 or 0411 278 865 or email [b.r.jahnke.1939@gmail.com](mailto:b.r.jahnke.1939@gmail.com). However if members of Stanthorpe Field Nats prefer they may email Lynette Haselgrove on [news@qnc.org.au](mailto:news@qnc.org.au) and register.

**Directions:** Turn right off Cunningham Highway before Aratula into Charlwood Rd, right into Lake Moogerah Rd, continue ahead. Do not turn into the lake. Right into Dwyer Ridges Rd and right at T-junction into Carney's Creek Road.

0km Ignore Croftby Road to Moogerah.

5.3km Ignore Head Road on right, just after crossing Teviot Brook for the second time. At some point Bitumen ends.

7km Pass Chalk Road on the right, and later when on the higher country, pass Fletcher Road on the left.

18.7km Turn right into Hardcastle Road on the right. If you miss this turn and find yourself at the State Border (Boonah Gate) you have gone too far. So return slowly and look for the road sign, now on your left.

20.3km Steel gate with a 'Land for Wildlife' sign. Proceed, after closing the gate and follow the QNC signs.

The address for Armstrong's house is 196 Hardcastle Rd and the GPS is : -28.247840, 152.522500  
Alternative directions are available from Lynette Haselgrove.

Annual subscriptions are now due. If you haven't already paid please do so before the end of the month or we will have to take your name off the mailing list

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.  
Held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St, Stanthorpe on Wednesday 26th August 2015**

**Meeting opened:** 7:40pm

**Attendance:** 13 Apologies 1 as per attendance sheet

**Minutes of the previous meeting:**

R McCosker moved K Carnell seconded carried

**Business arising from the minutes:** Nil

**Correspondence:**

H Kruger moved that the correspondence be accepted E Walker seconded carried

**Financial Report:** \$1133.92

L Saunders moved that the financial report be accepted T McCosker seconded

**Outing Reports:**

Campout to Basket Swamp – M Mueller

**Pre-outings:**

Sunday outing: 6<sup>th</sup> Sept "Stanthorpe Rare Wildflower Consortium"

Site is the Passchendaele State Forest, Southern Amiens Section.

Meet at the Amiens School 9.30am.

Campout – 19-20<sup>th</sup> Sep - M Pennisi property Tenterfield

**General Business:**

Letter of support requested for insulation QCWA rooms.

If interested in going to the campout at M Pennisi's Tenterfield please check your next Newsletter.

E Walker our Publicity officer required someone to take over this position for a short period.

E Walker informed the group that the work done at Sentimental rocks has stood reasonably well the elements.

R McCosker had contact with a member that could not find their way the campsite at Basket Swamp. He suggested that we could work more with maps in the newsletter, if staggered days were part of the outing, usually we meet and tag along. Suggested also that signage could be used, we will definitely make a better effort for hard to get sites, with staggered day visits.

L Saunders handed over the treasurer's books for to L Hazelgrove for a short time.

**Next Meeting:** 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2015

**Next Month's Presentation:** H Kruger - "South Island New Zealand"

**Specimens/ Items of interest:**

R McCosker – specimen of Diatomite from mine at Mt Sylvania.

T McCosker found an unusual used nest on the road with leaves strikingly weaved into the top. Eucalypt leaf with many galls.

**Meeting closed:** 8:12pm

**Presentation:** J Campbell - "Western Canada"

**Remember last year**

Kris Carnell is collecting images for our "Remember Last Year" program . Could you please send suitable images to [oranakm@bigpond.com](mailto:oranakm@bigpond.com) after each outing to make it easier to compile the program next July.

Images from the Basket Swamp Campout



Running Postman



Top of Waterfall Creek Falls



Trigger Plant

**Program 2015/16**

| <b>Month</b> | <b>Sunday Outing</b>   | <b>Meeting Program</b>   | <b>Campout</b>  |
|--------------|--|--|---|
| October      | 18 <sup>th</sup> Underground Ck area with Fassifern FN Rob McCosker        | 28 <sup>th</sup> Panama Peter Andrewatha                             |   |
| November     | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Lake Broadwater Jeff Campbell                             | 25 <sup>th</sup> The Burren, Ireland Jeff Campbell                   |   |
| December     | 13 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Breakup Quart Pot Creek near Information Centre |  |   |
| February     | 21 <sup>st</sup> Bluff Rock Errol Walker                                   | 24 <sup>th</sup> Norway Errol Walker                                 |   |
| March        | 20 <sup>th</sup> McIntyre State Forest Peter & Lynette Haselgrove          | 23 <sup>rd</sup> South West Greenland Jeff Campbell                  |   |
| April        |  | 27 <sup>th</sup> West Australia Wildflowers Ian Milinivic            | 23-24 <sup>th</sup> Yarraman, Palms NP, Coomba Falls Rob McCosker (Anzac Weekend) |
| May          | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Amiens Forest Jeannie Wylie                               | 25 <sup>th</sup> The Grandeur of Victoria David Wilson               |   |
| June         | 19 <sup>th</sup> Paddys Flat Drive Kris Carnell                            | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dinosaur Trail Kris and Margaret Carnell            |   |
| July         | 24 <sup>th</sup> Swanfells Valley Karyn Van Tilburg                        | 27 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Remember Last Year Show      |   |
| August       | 21 <sup>st</sup> "Yooralla" Girraween NP Rob McCosker                      | 24 <sup>th</sup> Morocco Peter Andrewatha                            |   |
| September    |  | 28 <sup>th</sup> Southern Highlands of NSW Kris and Margaret Carnell | 24-25 <sup>th</sup> Torrington Campout Kris and Margaret Carnell                  |