



The Granite Belt Naturalist



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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	46835268
Publicity Officer	Errol Walker	46812008
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

Sunday 19th June: *Meandering Along the Eastern Fall* with Kris & Margaret Carnell

Wednesday 22nd June: *Morocco* with Peter Andrewatha

**Deadline for next newsletter
13th July 2016**

If you have photos for *Remember Last Year* at AGM 27th July please give them to Kris Carnell so he can arrange the program

Pre-Outing Report – 19th June – Meandering Along the Eastern Fall

Leaders Kris & Margaret Carnell

The outing on 19th June will be mostly driving, about 300km in all, through very picturesque countryside. We will leave Weeroona Park at **8.30am** and travel south to Tenterfield and follow the Casino Road to Drake where we will stop in the park for morning tea at about 10.00am.

From Drake we go to Tabulum, on the Clarence River where we will look at the Light Horse Monument, before heading to the Bonalbo turnoff. There is a sculpture park at the turnoff dating from 1984, so we will have a look at the sculptures which are carved into wood. From here it is a very pleasant drive to Bonalbo, famous for bulls. We saw some magnificent specimens on the pre-outing. Not far along the road we passed McNamara's Plantation which has eucalypt and pine forest. We crossed over Knockmebandy Creek which has rainforest vegetation and saw a pheasant coucal crossing the road. There are a couple of places to stop in Bonalbo for a comfort stop before heading to Old Bonalbo a few kilometres down the road. There was beautiful autumn foliage when we did the pre-outing but it will have finished by the time we do the outing. Hopefully the weather will be as glorious as it was then. Bean Creek Falls is the next stop where the air was full of the calls of bell birds. There was a trickle of water going over the falls and a man trying to cast a line from the lookout into the pool at the bottom of the falls. It is a short walk from the car park to the lookout.



Carving at Bonalbo Turnoff

From Bean Creek Falls we pass through Yabbra State Forest which has stands of beautiful white-trunked gum trees and gullies with palms and some rainforest plants. On emerging from the forest there are beautiful views of Mt Lindesay and other peaks in the Main Range. Unfortunately, it was too hazy for good photos. Urbenville is where we will stop for lunch, about 15km from Bean Creek Falls.



Tooloom Falls

After lunch we will head for Tooloom Falls which was busy with people taking advantage of the free camping when we did the pre-outing. There was a small amount of water going over the horse-shoe shaped falls and purple swamp hens swimming above them. Afternoon tea will be at Tooloom Rest Area, 43km from the falls. This is an area of rainforest with a couple of short walks where you usually see several different species of birds. We saw scrub wrens and a logrunner.

After smoko we head for home via Legume.

From Legume we came home through Liston, about 57km to Stanthorpe. There are several kilometres of dirt road and it is quite windy and fairly slow. To go through Killarney and Warwick is 121km of bitumen road.

Margaret Carnell

Bird List: Sulphur crested cockatoo, red-rumped parrot, crimson rosella, eastern rosella, king parrot, scrub turkey, fire-tailed finch, grey shrike thrush, bar-shouldered dove, crested pigeon, log runner, white-browed scrub wren, tree creeper (call), purple swamp hen, currawong, unidentified raptor, ducks (at least two species), masked lapwing, pied butcherbird, crow, welcome swallow, bell bird, kookaburra, Indian mynah, grebe, ibis, quail, pheasant coucal white-winged chough, fairy wren, willy wagtail, pee wee, magpie, black-faced cuckoo shrike.

Outing Report – Passchendaele State Forest – 22nd May 2016



Mario and Graham on rock

We were fortunate to have a warm and sunny day. Twelve of us met at the park and drove to Mt Janet Road. We had morning tea at the creek crossing on a forest track. We then climbed up a hill through some interesting rock formations. A few people choose to stay at the bottom and explored the gully where there were some interesting plants. We then walked back to the road and drove to Gimm's Lane. We had lunch here and then walked along to a bike track that took us to a big open rock with good views to the west. We followed another track back. Most of us then walked onto 7acre rock to again enjoy the views.



Jeanie Wylie

Casuarina flowers & seed pods



Bird List - Passchendaele



Superb blue wren, Grey butcherbird, Satin bowerbird, Red wattlebird, Crimson rosella, White-throated treecreeper, Spotted pardalote, Yellow-tailed black cockatoo, Wedge-tail eagle's nest

Plant List – Passchendaele

Leucopogon melaleucoides covered in bud, *Persoonia sp.* x2, Geebung, *Plectranthus suaveolens*, *Trachymene incisa*, Native candytuft *Acacia sertiformis*, *Eragrostis sp.*, Native lovegrass with tiny (<0.5mm) insects on them - possibly aphids, *Whalenbergia graniticola*, Granite bluebell *Bracteantha viscosa*, Everlasting Daisy *Brachyscome stuartii*, *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, Yellow buttons *Allocasuarina littoralis*, Black she-oak, *Parsonia straminea*, Monkey rope, *Isotoma anethifolia* *Pelargonium australe*, Pelargonium

**Minutes of the Meeting
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
QCWA Rooms, Victoria St, Stanthorpe on Wednesday 25th May 2016**

Meeting opened: 7:37 pm

Attendance: 9 Apologies 7 as per attendance sheet

Minutes of the previous meeting:

J Campbell moved G Greenup seconded **carried**

Business arising from the minutes: Nil

Correspondence:

H Kruger moved that the Correspondence accepted T McCosker seconded

Financial Report: Due to treasurer being away we don't have any financial

Outing Reports: Amiens State Forest - outing report by G Greenup

Pre-outings: 19th June - A Look at the Eastern Fall - Drive with M & K Carnell
Outing early start 8:30am

General Business:

Rob reported that the Grant application is completed and noted special thanks to GBLC for further assistance with the application.

Rob also reminded all members to contribute photos from outings for "Remember Last year" to be compiled by K Carnell.

Next Meeting: 22 June 2016

Next month presentation: Dinosaur Trail - K & M Carnell

Meeting closed: 7:50 pm

Presentation: South Island of New Zealand - H Kruger