



The Granite Belt Naturalist



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Web site <https://mysd.com.au/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 – 2019/2020

President	Jeff Campbell	46811420
Vice-presidents	Kris Carnell	46835268
	Peter Haselgrove	46837255
Secretary	Rob McCosker	46835371
Treasurer	Gunter Maywald	46810674
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	46835268
Publicity Officer	Jeff Campbell	46812008
Librarian	Laura Maywald	46810674

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

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 22nd March: Aztec Temple with Rob McCosker

Wednesday 25th March: *The Kimberleys* with Rob and Trish McCosker

**Deadline for next newsletter
9th April 2020**



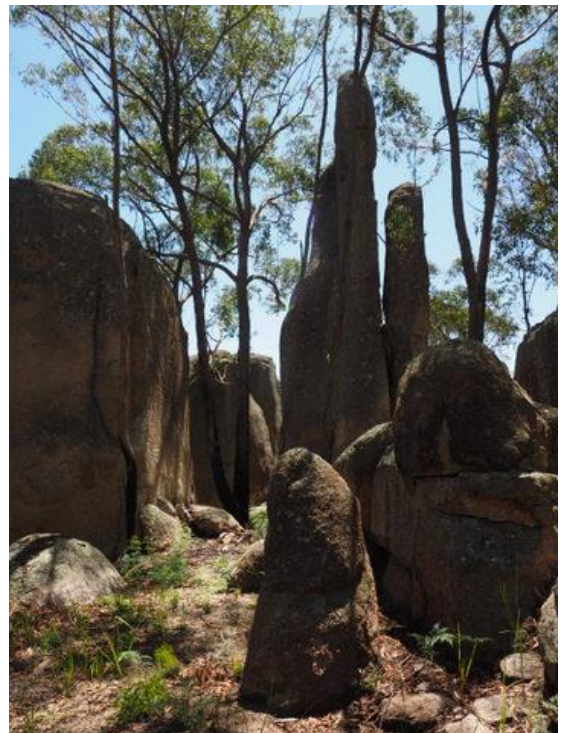
Pre-outing Report 22nd March 2020 - Aztec Temple, Girraween.

Leader Rob McCosker 46835371

We will meet at Weeroona Park, to depart at the usual time of 9.00am and drive to Eukey then turn off into Parrish Lane then right onto Pyramids Road. We plan to stop along Pyramids Road for a brief side trip to an interesting rock outcrop before continuing on and then turn left into Mt Norman Road and parking at the northern entrance to the Creek to Peak Track for morning tea.

The walk from here is about 2km along a mostly level vehicle track, crossing Bald Rock Creek just upstream of the Underground Creek, until we leave the track a couple of

hundred meters further on to scramble up the Aztec Temple. The water was low enough to walk through on the pre-outing trip but we may have to remove footwear if it is any deeper. The area was burnt about 12 months ago so walking is quite clear through the bush but there is a short steep climb to get to the top where we will be having lunch. The natural rock formations are the main attraction, but hopefully there will be plenty of wildflowers also and we can point out an old Lyrebird's nest. We heard a lyrebird and saw plenty of their scratchings. We plan to spend some time wandering around these rock formations and the surrounding area before returning to the cars by about 3.00pm. The walk is grade 4 and be prepared with insect repellent, we were bothered by flies, mozzies and midges.



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
Held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St, Stanthorpe on Wednesday 26th February 2019**

Meeting opened: 7.35pm

Attendance: Present 9 Apologies 4 as per attendance sheet

Minutes of the previous meeting:

confirmed by Lynette Haselgrove seconded by Kerrie McCosker Carried

Business arising from the minutes: nil

Correspondence: as per folder

moved by Rob McCosker seconded by Sue Frances Carried

Financial Report: The Statement provided by Treasurer Gunter Maywald, and in his absence read by Rob McCosker, showed a balance of \$1663.44 after payments of \$50 for room rent and \$200 to start a petty cash account. The balance of the Petty cash account was \$115 after payments of \$20 for stamps and \$75 for the 50th Anniversary Cake. The report was moved by Rob cCosker and seconded by Peter Haselgrove Carried

Outing Reports: Outing to "Maybe" Neil Fordyce and Janet White's property near Tenterfield was cancelled due to wet weather.

Pre-outings: Rob McCosker reported that he planned to lead an outing to the Aztec Temple in Girraween to depart from Weeroona Park at 9.00am on 22nd March instead of the proposed bus trip to the Sherwood Arboretum in Brisbane.

General Business: Peter Haselgrove said he had checked the First Aid kit and noted that several items in it were out of date and that he would replace those and add other things suggested by Holly Patti.

Peter Haselgrove suggested that an Email address be set up and added to outing reports for people to use to register for outings so that the leader could readily advise people of changes, such as the recently cancelled outing.

Following discussion about a donation to Adam Mattner for crowd funding to develop Feral Smart Traps a motion was moved by Peter Haselgrove for the club to donate \$50, seconded by Rob McCosker Carried

Specimens: Small snake skeleton Rob McCosker, Daisy type plant no one could identify, from Sue Frances and a quite smelly iridescent beetle which arrived uninvited and was quickly ejected from the meeting.

Next Meeting: 25th March – The Kimberleys with Rob and Trish McCosker

Meeting closed: 8.10pm

Presentation: Sue Frances gave a very informative presentation on her trip to the Faroe Islands with excellent photos.

Specimen IDs

The plant which Sue Frances brought to the meeting for identification is probably Cobber weed *Sigesbeckia australiensis* from a description in Flora of the Granite Belt.

I found this information on a CSIRO website about the stink beetle we had, uninvited, at the last meeting.

“The green carab beetle (Carabidae family) is a large ground beetle which can grow to around 27 millimetres in length. Both the larvae and adults feed on other insects and under favourable conditions can build up in large numbers. Adults are nocturnal and often attracted to lights at night. When disturbed they can produce a nasty smelling odour as a defence against attack. This species is active during the summer months and can be found hunting on the ground or on vegetation during the day. The larvae of this species is thought to dwell predominantly underground. The green carab beetle occurs over much of Australia and is often collected in pitfall traps”. Rob McCosker



Everlastings on the Aztec Temple walk



Rock Formations at Aztec Temple

Long-Necked Turtle

On 10th February Kris was driving out when he saw this long-necked turtle walking up our driveway, presumably heading for the creek out the back. It was the biggest one we had seen. – Margaret Carnell

