



The Granite Belt Naturalist



Mail Address: Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, Stanthorpe Qld. 4380
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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 – 2013/2014

President	Rob McCosker	46835371
Vice-presidents	Kris Carnell	46835268
	Jeff Campbell	46811420
Secretary	Halina Kruger	0427835206
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 25th June: Driving in the Boonah area with Halina Kruger
Wednesday 28th June: *Around the World in 106 Days* with Errol Walker

**Deadline for next newsletter
11th July 2017**

Outing Report to DURIKAI STATE FOREST 21st May 2017

A group of 14 travelled along the Rabbit Fence which passes through the southern half of the forest. The weather was fine and warm.

First stop was smoko in a large patch of mugga ironbark *Eucalyptus sideroxylon* which was flowering well from pale cream through to bright pink with many honeyeaters calling. The next stop, at a large area of spotted gum *Corymbia maculata*, we walked down a side track and discovered a hop bush *Dodonea peduncularis* with unusual shaped leaves and several macrozamia *Macrozamia conferta* which turned out to be restricted to this and the Warwick area.



Mugga Ironbark Flowers



Smoko by the dam

We travelled further through the forest, passing through several gates including the Greymare Gate, possibly a former boundary of Greymare Station. We then had lunch down a side track before re-joining the main road and moving north to another side track leading to a dam where, following a walk in the vicinity, we had afternoon tea. We then retraced our route to Stanthorpe. It was a long day, but the weather was good and we saw some different country and plants.



Dodonea peduncularis



Dodonea peduncularis seed pod

Some of the birds and plants seen are:-

Birds - Noisy Friarbird, Scarlet Honeyeater, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, White-eared Honeyeater, Little Lorikeet, Dusky Woodswallow, Spotted Pardalote and Grey Thrush.

Plants (flowering) - Mugga, Broad-leaved Ironbark, Gum-topped Box, *Acacia leiocalyx* *Whalengergia* sp. and *Hypoxis* sp.

Plants not flowering but of interest -

Narrow-leaved Ironbark, Spotted Gum,

Macrozamia conferta, *Dodonea viscosa*, *D. peduncularis*, *A. fimbriata*, *A. montana*, *A. ixiophylla*, *A. falcata*, and *Olearia elliptica*.



Macrozamia conferta

A note about Macrozamia from Wikipedia: Macrozamia is a genus of 38–40 species of cycads, in the family Zamiaceae, all endemic to Australia. The majority of the species occur in eastern Australia in southeast Queensland and New South Wales, with one species in the Macdonnell Ranges of Northern Territory and three in southern Western Australia. The common name burrawang, originally referring to *M. communis* in the Daruk Australian Aboriginal language, is often used for all the species in the genus.

Macrozamia viridis is known from Girraween NP, *M. occidua* from Sundown NP and *M. conferta* from the Warwick area.

Peter Haselgrove and Jeanie Wylie

Pre-Outing Report 25th June 2017 – Driving in the Boonah Area

Leader: Halina Kruger

As this is a mainly drive outing for a cold winter's day we will leave Stanthorpe at 8am sharp travelling along the Mt Lindesay Road and through to Queen Mary Falls for morning tea. Enjoying the warmth of our vehicles we will then meander through rainforest and charming hills stopping for a look at the Moss gardens, Teviott Falls and winding our way towards Boonah. The road is narrow, so slow going but lots of fun.

Lunch will be at Mt French with a couple of small walks with great views, especially the lookout over Mt Edwards, and Kalbar. Depending on time moving on to Moogerah Dam wall then a peak at Minto Crag. We will turn back home through a section of Koreelah NP, again Queen Mary falls back to Mt Lindesay Road and home.

H Kruger Mobile: 0427 835 206

Thank you to Jeff Campbell for the information about leaves of Geophitic Orchids. I will be printing this out and carrying it with me. – Editor

Leaves of Geophitic Orchids found in Queensland

The leaves of geophitic or terrestrial orchids are almost as varied as the genera, ranging from single to multi and rosettes. Most terrestrial orchids may be identified to genus by their leaves. Some orchids flower when their leaves are absent, others flower on separate stems, some *Pterostylis* or greenhoods have sterile rosettes and flower stems without the rosette.

Caladenia leaves are very variable, erect, ranging from short or long narrow to short or long broad. The small flowered have few hairs whereas the spiders can be extremely hairy.

Diuris or donkey orchids have 1 or more grass-like leaves either prostrate or erect.

Chiloglottis or bird orchids normally have 2 prostrate dark green elliptical leaves.

Caleana and *Paracaleana* or duck orchids have a single reddish-brown prostrate leaf.

Arthrochilus or elbow orchids non-flowering have a rosette, flowering a leafless stem.

Acianthella or elf orchids single basal leaf held horizontally above soil.

Acianthus or mosquito orchids single heart-shaped leaf held horizontally above soil.

Nemacianthus or mayfly orchid single heart-shaped leaf held horizontally above soil.

Cyrtostylis or gnat orchids single heart-shaped leaf at ground level.

Corybas or helmet orchids single broad leaf flat at ground level.

Corunastylis or midge orchids single onion-like erect leaf with inflorescence emerging from it.

Prasophyllum or leek orchids single leek-like erect leaf with inflorescence emerging from it.

Microtis or onion orchids single onion-like erect leaf with inflorescence emerging from it.

Thelymitra or sun orchids single erect sometimes slightly channelled leaf.

Calochilus or beard orchids single erect channelled leaf.

Cryptostylis or tongue orchids erect mostly lanceolate dark green stalked leaves.

Dipodium or hyacinth orchids mostly leafless or 1 or more leaves, 1 epiphytic leaved species.

Empusa or hobgoblin orchids narrow erect leaves.

Eriochilus or bunny or parson's bands orchids single ovate ground level or stalked above ground level leaf, usually absent at time of flowering.

Lyperanthus or beak orchids single erect long narrow leaf with thickened margins.

Orthoceras or horned orchid flowering plants with a tuft of thin grass-like leaves.

Pyrorchis or fire orchids single 1 to 3 broad leaves held flat on the ground.

Spiranthes or spiral orchids loose rosette of narrow leaves.

Habenaria or rein orchids either basal rosettes or loosely scattered up the stem leaves.

Cheirostylis or fleshy jewel orchids loose rosette of leaves.

Zeuxine or verdant jewel orchid shiny leaves scattered or in loose rosette.

Calanthe or christmas orchid 4 to 9 pleated leaves per pseudobulb.

Phaius or swamp orchids 3 to 8 erect large pleated leaves.

Excluded northern genera

Apostasia, *Cooktownia*, *Eucosia*, *Salacistis*, *Vrydagzynea*, *Peristylis*, *Anoectochilus*, *Rhomboda*, *Nervilia*, *Phoringopsis*, *Conostalix*, *Brombeadia*, *Crepidium*, *Dienia*, *Diteilis*, *Eulophia*, *Pachystoma*, *Spathoglottis*, *Tainia*.

Leafless genera

Epipogium, *Erythrorcis*, *Gastrodia*, *Pseudovanilla*, *Rhizanthella*

EEExcluded northern genera

Aohyllorcis, *Demorchis*, *Didymoplexis*.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
Held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St, Stanthorpe on Wednesday 24th May 2017**

Meeting opened: 7:32pm

Attendance: 17 Apologies 1 as per attendance sheet

Minutes of the previous meeting:

L Saunders confirmed seconded by K Carnell **carried**

Business arising from the minutes:

Correspondence: as per folder

H Kruger moved seconded L Saunders Carried

Financial Report:

L Saunders moved financial report be accepted seconded A Walker

Outing report:

P Haselgrove outing to "Durakai State Forest" attended 13 members

Pre outing report:

H Kruger Driving outing Boonah area

General Business:

Projector sale

E Walker moved that the projector be offered for sale for \$100 seconded by L Saunders

Next Meeting: 28th June 2017

Next Month's Presentation: E Walker "Around the World in 106 days"

Meeting closed: 8.00pm

Tonight's Presentation: D Wilson "Wild Scotland"

Financial Report

Balance 23/4/17			\$701.87
½ P.O. Box fee	\$62		
River Trust for planting	\$350		
CWA rent		\$50	
Fair trading certificate		\$22.40	
R McCosker HDMI cable		\$7.00	
K Carnell stamps		\$40	
Balance 22/5/2017			\$994.47

Coming Up (date yet to be set - possibly weekday walk - I need feedback from those members who would be interested.)

GAP CREEK CHASM

This walk starts at Cunninghams Gap. First we'll take the track down to the top of Gap Creek Falls. From here we enter a scenic rocky gully and emerge on top of a cleared hill which offers a great 360 degree view. Then we descend into a horseshoe-shaped valley which the creek exits through a narrow passage. Here we find the small and beautiful chasm which is not marked on maps and therefore little known. We follow the creek upstream till we reach the large scenic pool at the bottom of Gap Creek Falls. After backtracking to the nearby creek junction, we have the option to have a look at another (much smaller) waterfall at the end of a little side gorge. Then it's up a steep slope back to the track which takes us back up to Cunninghams Gap.

The first part of this walk (to falls top and back = similar to Mt Mitchell or Bare Rock) is manageable for most members. (9.5Km Grade 6)

Proceeding on the second part requires occasional scrambling over obstacles in the creek bed. The total height differences are over one and a half times of those on the Mt Norman walk. Subsequently a high degree of fitness is necessary, especially because the major elevation gain is on the way back.

Michael Mueller
Phone: 46811421

New Web Site

The GraniteNet web facility that we have been using is going to close at the end of June. We have moved to another free community portal
My Southern Downs.

Our new web address is <https://mysd.com.au/fieldnats/>

I have been informed that our email address will continue to function as usual.

We have endeavoured to migrate all the old information to the new web site but there will inevitably be teething problems. It may be some time before Google brings the new site to the top.

Our apologies for any inconvenience.

Subscriptions and Program for 2017/18.

Subscriptions are due for the next 12 months from the end of June,

Subscriptions for 2017-2018 : Family \$30.00 – Single \$20.00

Please complete your correct name and address details below and bring or send to the Treasurer

Name (including preferred title please)

Postal Address:

Post-code **State**..... **Payment made \$**.....

Circle payment method please: **CASH** **CHEQUE** **DIRECT DEBIT**

If paying by cash at a meeting please put your money in an envelope with your name on the **outside** to make it easier for the Treasurer.

PAYMENT METHODS

1. **Present with your subs.** to the meeting in an envelope with your name on the outside.
2. **Post to:** Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, STANTHORPE Q 4380.
3. **By Direct Debit** to Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc. BSB 064-431 Acc. 00902063

I would like to receive my magazine by **POST** **EMAIL** (please circle)

As quite a few of our members have Email we would like to have your email address if you are agreeable. Sometimes it is convenient to contact as many members as possible about a change in arrangements at short notice, and this can be a convenient way to do it.

Email address:-

The monthly newsletter is distributed electronically by email and by post.

It is also posted on the website in the Documents folder.

Names and addresses are only used for posting the magazine and are not passed on to anyone else.

The committee once again asks for your assistance to provide a wide range of outing activities and meeting programs for the coming twelve months.

Please jot down your suggestions below, and indicate if you would be prepared to lead an outing or provide a meeting program. All suggestions will be considered at a special committee meeting to be held shortly after the AGM.

Name: Outing: (Place or area, duration, time of year)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Campout: (Place, duration and dates)

Meeting subject: (Title and brief description)

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Other comments and suggestions:

Thank you

