



QNC NEWS

Newsletter of The
QUEENSLAND NATURALISTS' CLUB INC.

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September-October 2017

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PROGRAMME

General Meetings:

Sept 18	Dr Melinda Laidlaw
Oct 15	Members' Evening
Nov 19	Long Excursion Report

Excursions:

Sept 23	Freshwater NP
Sept 30-Oct 2	Crohamhurst Camp
Oct 11	Conservation Way, Mt Coot-tha
Oct 13-16	Aroona Camp
Oct 22	Eprapah



MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 5663, WEST END QLD 4101

President:	Mr Neil Fordyce	Ph: 0400299991	president@qnc.org.au
Secretary:	Ms Judy Haines	Ph: 0402 236 359	secretary@qnc.org.au
Treasurer:	Mr Mike Anderson	Ph: 07 3263 4502	treasurer@qnc.org.au
Excursion Secretary:	Mr Barney Hines	Ph: 07 3720 9414	excursion@qnc.org.au
QNC News Editor:	VACANT		news@qnc.org.au

Next Deadline – November-December 2017 QNC News – **15th October 2017.**

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ARTICLES to the EDITOR, Dr. Peter Woodall at journal@qnc.org.au

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, between February and November, starting at 7.30 pm, in the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland building at 237 Milton Road, Milton. This is near the corner with Baroona Road and next to the Castlemaine Perkins (Fourex) Brewery and the Theological College entrance lane. Entrance in Milton Road, with side ramp. Parking available in adjacent streets. For those who park in the Theological College car park, please put a \$3 donation in the box at the meeting reception. Milton railway station is directly opposite the building and there is a pedestrian underpass from the station under Milton Road.

Please bring any pictures of exhibits that you want to project to the Lanternist by 7.15pm.

Daytime meetings will be held occasionally at the Queensland Museum from 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

18th SEPTEMBER DR MELINDA LAIDLAW

Senior Ecologist at the Queensland Herbarium and Weed Spotters Network Queensland
Coordinator

Mapping Queensland's Threatened Species' Hotspots

The Queensland Herbarium has used modelling to map the pre-clearing habitat distribution of over 300 of Queensland's threatened flora and fauna species. Understanding where threatened species habitat occurred prior to land clearing allows us to determine the proportion of pre-clearing threatened species habitat that is remnant vegetation and to examine trends in threatened species habitat within each bioregion and across the state. It also allows us to consider the adequacy of our current reserve system for protecting threatened species habitat, to prioritise new areas for protection or restoration and to better direct our survey and monitoring efforts.

16TH OCTOBER MEMBERS' NIGHT AND BOOK AUCTION

1. **David Bouchard** - Some Natural History observations from Mt Kinabalu and North Borneo
2. **Book Auction:** Some unused and duplicate books and videos have been removed from the QNC Library to make space for new books and they will be auctioned at this meeting.
Please see pp 11- 14 for the complete list. You can bid for these items at the meeting or, if you are unable to attend the meeting, you can send a postal bid to the Secretary by either mail or email.
Instructions for post/email bids: (1) Accurately name each title you are bidding for and your maximum bid for that title. (2) Bids must reach the Secretary by 29 September *either* by mail to The Secretary, P.O. Box 5663, West End Qld 4101 *or* by email to secretary@qnc.org.au (3) Items successfully bid for can be posted to you on receipt of payment – the Club will meet the first \$5.00 of postal charges with the remainder to be paid by the purchaser.

Roster for General Meetings

Please consider nominating for the General Meeting Roster. You can select a spot on the Roster Sheet which is available at each meeting OR if you are unsure about committing two or three months in advance, email your availability to news@qnc.org.au closer to the day. Thank you to the following people who have nominated already.

September 18: **Reception:** Yvonne & Keith Travers; **Supper Duties:** Barbara Braddock
October 15: **Reception:**; **Supper Duties:** Jeanette & Murray Watson
November 19: **Reception:** Coral & Joseph Reichman; **Supper Duties:** Susan Nelles

Thank you to those who have helped recently; *June:* Faseny McPhee, James Hansen, Ann & David Hanger; *July:* Sheryl Backhouse, Desley Willgoss, Mike Anderson, Jan and Dick Date; *August:* Barbara Odgers, Janet White, Neil Fordyce, Barbara Braddock, Susan Nelles.

Thank you also to all the generous members who bring plates of food for supper.

MEETING REPORTS

General Meeting - 17th July The Evolution of Giant Flightless Birds

Associate Professor Matthew Phillips

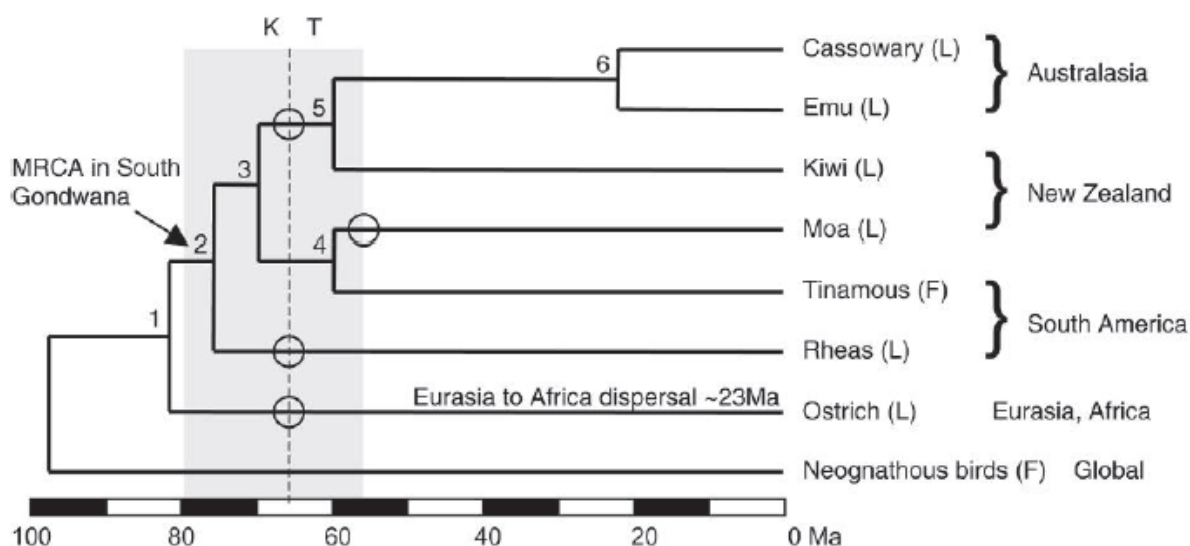
School of Earth, Environmental and Biological Sciences, QUT

Dr Phillips presented a very interesting lecture on how recent DNA evidence has led to a re-evaluation of the evolutionary origins of the group of large, flightless birds known as Ratites. Ratites belong to the *Palaeognathae* and lack a keel on their sternum – this characteristic being the source both of their name (*Ratis* L. – raft) and their inability to fly. They include emus, cassowaries, kiwis, rheas and ostriches as well as the extinct moas and elephant birds. Tinamous also belong to the *Palaeognathae* and differ from ratites by having a winged keel and being able to fly.

Until recently it was postulated that all ratites originated from a common flightless ancestor in Gondwana that evolved in diverse ways after Gondwana broke up. There was no fossil evidence to support this idea and the suggested relationships were based solely on morphology: for example, cassowary and emu were grouped close to each other as were ostrich and rhea.

DNA evidence published in 2001, based on the mitochondrial genome sequences of two extinct moa species, seemed to confirm Gondwanan vicariance and the single origin of flightlessness though it separated the rhea from the ostrich at a much earlier time. However, later genetic analysis (2010) done by Dr Phillips showed that flightlessness had evolved independently in different locations.

Dr Phillips explained that the Cretaceous/Paleogene extinction event caused by the massive asteroid strike 66 million years ago is a significant factor in the evolution of ratites. For the subsequent 6 million years, the environmental niche usually occupied by cursorial omnivores and herbivores was available for other animals as there were no longer any dinosaurs and only a few small mammals. This window of opportunity enabled those birds which had survived to flourish and grow.



Flightlessness coincides with selection for larger size, which imposes allometric scaling constraints on flight, as well as coinciding with emphasis on hindlimb locomotion. During this period of opportunity, the ancestors of the ostrich, the rhea and the emu/cassowary evolved independently on the African, South American and Australian continental masses. The moa, kiwi and elephant birds of New Zealand and Madagascar appear descended from birds which flew there. Flightlessness is also associated with reduced

predation/competition pressures and we see relatively greater numbers of large flightless birds on these islands compared with the continents where there is more competition from mammals.

We also heard that ratites may not have a Gondwanan origin. Ostrich-like birds are known from Europe in the Miocene and one possibility is a northern origin with movement through North America to South America thence to Australia and on to New Zealand and Madagascar.

Dr Phillips concluded his talk with the “ground up” hypothesis of the origin of bird flight. The ancestors of birds were fast running dinosaurs for which elongated feathers first evolved for purposes such as catching insects, display, or for aerial steering. If there were wings both proximally and distally, it may have been possible to take off at lower speeds as happens with biplanes.

General Meeting – 21st August Eight Things You Didn’t Know About Spiders

Robert Whyte, Author of *A Field Guide to Spiders of Australia* (2017).

The August General Meeting was an informative and interactive session on spiders with Mr Robert Whyte, who encouraged the audience to ask questions and so the discussion covered a range of topics from behaviour to dealing with toxicity.

We learnt that the Redback Spider, *Latrodectus hasselti*, originated in north-west South Australia and the adjacent area of Western Australia and travelled with humans to other areas. The observed local decline in numbers over the past decade or so coincides with, and so may be a consequence of the arrival of the Asian House Gecko. The toxic effects of the venom are due to a neurotoxin which triggers neurotransmitter release and the main clinical effect is severe, prolonged pain. The CSL-produced antivenom, available since 1956, has long been used to minimize symptoms but recent reviews cast doubt on its effectiveness. *

Another received wisdom challenged in recent years is that bites from White-Tailed Spiders, commonly *Lampra murina* and *L. cylindrata*, cause necrotizing wounds. A review of clinical records in 2003 found no evidence from verified bites; and in cases of necrotizing wounds, there was no evidence to implicate this spider.

By contrast, there is no doubt in the situation regarding the Sydney Funnel Web Spider, *Atrax robustus*. Prior to the introduction of antivenom in 1981, its bites caused significant morbidity and mortality. No deaths are known to have occurred since and its use has shortened the recovery period. Use pressure bandage if bitten until one can access the antivenom. The same antivenom can be used for Mouse Spiders. The venom of both these spiders has been investigated for anti-cancer drugs.

The most dangerous spider in Australia, however, is the Huntsman ----- because of accidents resulting from people taking fright!!

A variety of spider behaviours was mentioned, among them carrying a clutch of baby spiders on the back for several weeks and walking on water. *Portia fimbriata* (a jumping spider) attracts other spiders by imitating the rhythm that the prey species female uses to attract a male. If re-located to an area where its usual prey is absent, it will try different rhythms until successful.

Ant spiders mimic ants in appearance, for example with a gold bottom. They have 8 legs but walk on only the back 6 and use the front pair as antennae if challenged by a real ant. They are reluctant to use silk as that would reveal their identity. It is believed that appearing to be an ant offers protection from predators who eat spiders.

It is well known that birds eat spiders - e.g. St Andrew’s Cross - but spiders have also been observed to eat birds caught in their web.

More than one member of the audience wondered if spiders deliberately rebuild damaged webs in a higher position such as when someone accidentally walks into it. They often do things which seem intelligent to us but which are actually just random alterations until successful.

To collect spiders from the rain forest canopy, Robert fogged the forest with pyrethrums then collected the spiders off the ground.

*<http://www.mdpi.com/2072-6651/9/4/148/pdf> Treatments for Latrodectism—A Systematic Review on Their Clinical Effectiveness Nicole M. Ryan, Nicholas A. Buckley and Andis Gaudins

UPCOMING EXCURSIONS

Fees apply for weekend camps - \$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.

SEPTEMBER 17th Wembley Park To Bowie Flat, Bridgewater Creek, Coorparoo.

Walking with Life: Exploring our Living Catchments series

Sunday 2.45 for 3pm - 5pm

Leader: Helen Schwencke

Register by email: excursion@qnc.org.au with the subject: WWL Bridgewater Creek 17/9/17

OR contact Helen Schwencke 0423 127 492

OR through QNC's Meetup website: <http://www.meetup.com/Walking-with-Life-in-our-catchments-Nature-Excursions/> (become a member first).

Meet at the parking area off the corner of Robinson & Burke Sts, (Google Maps -27.489665, 153.062316, UBD Map 160, N20).

Bridgewater Creek flows into Norman Creek. The area is highly urbanised and the creek was straightened into channels (caged) many years ago. Norman Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee has had bushcare groups working for over 20 years, with delightful results where this work has been possible. We will explore the Creek around Wembley Park, then follow paths along the caged creek, crossing Old Cleveland Rd to Bowie Flat where the creek has been "uncaged" and turned into a wetland. There are no facilities listed for these areas.

Tracking down the headwaters for Bridgewater Creek is tricky. It is said to arise from Coorparoo Heights, adjacent to Whites Hill Reserve (which is in the Bulimba Creek Catchment), through the suburbs of Camp Hill and Coorparoo to where it joins Norman Creek. While the lower reaches are buffered by green parkland, many sections further south lie piped beneath roads or obscured by back fences. If one looks at faint traces of greener vegetation and deeper gullies, suggestions can be found that some of the run-off from the western side of the Whites Hill Reserve makes its way into Bridgewater Creek.

See the downloadable Norman Creek Catchment map link page:

<http://www.norman-creek-catchment.org.au/index.php/component/k2/item/27-catchment-map>

For more info about the NCCC itself, see: <http://www.norman-creek-catchment.org.au/>

Also: https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/20140619_-_norman_creek_master_plan_-_coorparoo_-_camp_hill.pdf

SEPTEMBER 23rd

FRESHWATER NATIONAL PARK

Saturday 9am.

Leader David Hanger phone 3880 0914

Register by phoning 3880 0914 or emailing dahangerkippa@gmail.com

The National Park was established in 1973 and covers 94 ha. It consists mainly of open woodland/low heathland. Paperbark ti-tree (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) and Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*) are the dominant trees, with an understorey of many hundreds of grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea* spp.), many in bud in mid-August. The herbaceous layer is predominantly sedges with a variety of yellow, blue and white wildflowers in bloom (in August).

Most walking will be on level old vehicle tracks, with forays into the adjacent sedge land. Long trousers preferred and gaiters because of the possibility of snakes at this time of year.

Bring hat, water, sunscreen, hiking stick, own first aid kit, morning tea and possibly lunch, and good walking shoes/boots.

Directions: *Driving north from Brisbane:* on the Bruce Highway, take Exit 142, “Burpengary - Deception Bay Road”. Turn right over the highway on to Deception Bay Road then second turn left - about 1km - into Priests Road. Park at entrance about 300-400m along Priests Road.

Driving south from the north coast. Take exit 142 “Deception Bay-Narangba Road”. Turn left at “Deception Bay-Redcliffe” sign. Take second turn left - about 1km - into Priests Road. Then as above.

There are no facilities on site. The nearest toilets are at McDonalds or Aldi, about 2 km further along Deception Bay Road. For those interested, there is a coffee shop with toilets, at 2 Bayview Terrace, Deception Bay, about 3-4 km from the National Park.

SEPT 30th – OCT 2nd CROHAMHURST (Queen’s Birthday Weekend)

Leader: Mike Anderson - phone 07 3263 4502

Register by phone (as above) or by email to excursion@qnc.org.au

Campers may arrive on Friday 29 September AFTER 4.00pm.

The property at Crohamhurst was purchased by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection under the Koala Habit Restoration Program. It is mainly a cleared former cattle property with some remnant patches of forest on steep sites and along gullies. Most of the cleared areas have been planted at wide spacings with koala food tree species.

The proposed camping area is located adjacent to a farm house, granny flat and sheds on the property. It is suitable for both camping and caravans and can be accessed by 2WD vehicles. We will have the use of the granny flat including one toilet and separate shower. We may have to erect a pit toilet. There is plenty of water from tanks available for drinking and washing purposes. Numbers are limited to 30 people so anyone intending to come should register early.

The Excursion will be mainly on the property but we may inspect the legendary Crohamhurst Observatory which is close by and the Crohamhurst Conservation Park.

Directions: Travel north along Bruce Highway and turn left onto Steve Irwin Way and set mileage indicator.

- 14.8km Turn right into Kilcoy-Beerwah Road
- 16.0km Turn left into Kilcoy-Beerwah Road
- 25.1km Turn right into Bald Knob Road
- 28.4km Turn left into Crohamhurst Road
- 30.0km Turn right into Breton’s Road
- 30.6km Turn right into Wild Road and then left into site.

OCTOBER 8TH WHITES HILL RESERVE, HOLLAND PARK.

Walking with Life: Exploring our Living Catchments series

Sunday 2.45 for 3pm - 5pm

Leader: Helen Schwencke

Register by email: with the subject: WWL Whites Hill Reserve 8/10/17

OR contact Helen Schwencke 0423 127 492

OR through QNC's Meetup website: <http://www.meetup.com/Walking-with-Life-in-our-catchments-Nature-Excursions/> (become a member first).

Meet along the road verge at Wyncroft St, (Google Maps -27.489665, 153.062316, UBD Map 181, E12) Whites Hill is part of the Bulimba Creek Catchment. *Walking with Life* has previously visited some sites along this catchment in early 2015. The catchment comprises 122 square kilometres, ie. 10% Brisbane City; 20 of Brisbane’s southern and eastern suburbs; 16 bushland remnants; 7 freshwater swamplands; 10 significant riparian wetlands. We will be exploring tracks on the southern side of Whites Hill to the summit. For more information:

<https://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/environment-waste/natural-environment/bushland-reserves/whites-hill-reserve>

<http://bulimbacreek.org.au/>

**OCTOBER 11TH QUEENSLAND CONSERVATION COLLECTION
BRISBANE BOTANIC GARDENS MT COOT-THA**

Wednesday Mid-week Walk 10am Leader: Dr Dick Date 07 3379 7957

Register by phone (as above) or by email to excursion@qnc.org.au

It is important to register so we can have another guide if numbers warrant.

Earlier this year Mr Dale Arvidsson talked to the Club on developments at the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens especially the establishment of Conservation Way as part of the Queensland Conservation Collection. This is a living collection developed on the 4.6 hectares area previously used as the Legacy Way Tunnel construction site and although still a work in progress displays a range of rare and threatened Queensland plant species.

Meet at the (old) Information Kiosk for a 10:00 am start. The walk will progress via the exotic rainforest area to the stack (fume exhaust funnel for the Legacy Way tunnels) for an overview of the Collection site then anticlockwise around the area finishing at the Kitchen Gardens. At typical Nats pace, the walk should take 2 to 2.5 hours.

OCTOBER 13 -16 AROONA, MT MORT

Queensland Trust for Nature Property - QNC Wildlife Second Survey

Aim: The aim of the survey is to get a better understanding of the flora and fauna of Aroona.

Background: The Club visited the property in July 2017 and successfully undertook a range of systematic fauna survey methods at four sites as well as incidental observations and collections at a range of other sites.

Aroona is a 2000 ha property recently acquired by the Queensland Trust for Nature, that straddles the Little Liverpool Range, south-west of Grandchester (see www.qtn.org.au/aroona-nature-refuge). Prior to the Club's visit there last year there had been no detailed flora or fauna surveys of the property, nor of the adjoining Mount Beau Brummel Regional Park.

The Survey: The previous QNC survey in winter 2016 provided excellent information on small terrestrial mammals, birds, plants and fungi. The upcoming survey will target groups such as reptiles, amphibians and bats which are more likely to be active in mid-spring, but surveys of all taxonomic groups are welcome. The Club has animal care and ethics approval to undertake surveys on vertebrate fauna and the relevant approvals from the Queensland Department of Environment Heritage and Protection.

We plan to establish several pit trapping sites, hopefully dug using a tractor and post-hole borer! There will be lots of hand searching too for reptiles as well as a range of other methods targeting various other groups. An inventory of fungi and flora species will also be made, with collections of specimens for the Queensland Herbarium.

The leaders will be onsite from late Fri 13 Oct 2017 and some harp traps for bats will likely be set. Saturday morning will involve setting up pit trap lines (if not already in place). Sunday will involve clearing traps and undertaking hand searching for reptiles at a range of sites. Traps will be pulled in or closed on Monday (Oct 16) morning.

The outing is open to all Club members and you are welcome to come for all or part of the excursion.

The Camp: The camp will be based at the QTFN headquarters (see below). There is ample room for camping/camper trailers/vans etc on the flats around the homestead. There is a toilet in the homestead but if the number of participants is high we will also provide one or more of the Club's toilets. There is tank water available and a shower for those that need it. No open fires. There may be options for some members to stay in the homestead but this will be assessed on a case by case basis (the preference is for people to camp). A BBQ is available for use as well as a stove top and QTFN will provide a BBQ dinner on the Sat night, otherwise self-catering. Power is available for charging equipment and for outside lighting purposes. There is ample room under the house to set up work space out of the weather.

Directions: The address of the homestead is 338 Alpers Rd, Mt Mort (-27.830236°, 152.417763° GDA94). From Grandchester take the Grandchester-Mt Mort Road and continue to follow as it turns into Alpers

Road. Access to the homestead is via an all-weather road suitable for 2WDs. Approximate travel time from Brisbane is 1.5 hr.

Registration: Please register by emailing excursion@qnc.org.au or by telephoning Harry (see below). Feel free to ring Harry if you require any further information on 3061 9559 (hm) or 0423 782 186 (mob).

Harry Hines and Tanya Pritchard (QTFN) - Leaders

OCTOBER 22nd CHARLES S. SNOW ENVIRONMENTAL RESERVE, VICTORIA POINT

Sunday 8.30am Leader: John Moss, phone 0427 596 753

Register: by phone (as above) or by email to johntimmoss@gmail.com with the subject "QNC Eprapah excursion".

Meet in the carpark of Scouts Eprapah Centre on the corner of Cleveland-Redland Bay Road and Colburn Avenue, Victoria Point; directly opposite the town centre and shops [UBD ref: map 226, D2].

If approaching from the north along the Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd, the entrance to the carpark is via a gate immediately before the Colburn Ave intersection. If this is missed, turn left into Colburn Ave and, after about 300m turn hard left into the perimeter track and follow the fence line back to the carpark. If approaching from the south the easiest access is by this track off Colburn Ave.

Strongly recommend insect repellent, hat, sunscreen and closed shoes. The duration will be open-ended so bring water and sufficient snacks. Afterwards, participants may wish to have lunch across the Cleveland-Redland Bay Rd at one of the many restaurants at the nearby Lakeside Shopping Centre.

Eprapah Scout Environmental Education Centre, as it's generally known, is a 39 hectares bushland property in the heart of the Brisbane Bayside suburb of Victoria Point. It was partly used as a dairy farm when purchased by Scouting Australia (Qld Branch) in 1928. Scouting Queensland uses the property as a base for several Victoria Point Scout groups from Cubs upwards, and, in conjunction with the Qld Education Department, provides instructors and resources for "hands on" environmental education of primary school groups of children. The proximity of the tidal estuary of Eprapah Creek, which forms the northern boundary of the property, currently allows activities such as canoeing/kayaking. As a method of further funding for maintenance of the property, there are new plans for low impact recreational activities such as a tree-top ropes course on the southern perimeter adjacent to Colburn Ave.

Due to the large area of bushland, including creek and estuarine riparian, the property is a remarkable refuge for wildlife, bird species in particular. In addition, there are many species of crustacea, reptiles and fish in both the freshwater and tidal parts of the creek. There is considerable plant diversity, and, as would be expected, a plethora of invertebrates including many species of dragon/damselflies, beetles, moths and butterflies.

It was because of the potential to augment the butterfly population that, about 13 years ago, John was asked to help design and plant up a dedicated butterfly garden on the south-eastern boundary of the property adjacent to the Cleveland-Redland Bay Road.

NOVEMBER 15th SHERWOOD ARBORETUM

Wednesday Mid-week Walk 10am Leader: Dr Dick Date 07 3379 7957

Register by phone (as above) or by email to excursion@qnc.org.au

It is important to register so we can have another guide if numbers warrant.

The efforts of the Friends of Sherwood Arboretum recently have received a boost from Brisbane City Council by incorporating the Arboretum as part of Brisbane's Living Plant Collection under the care of the Curator of Brisbane Botanic Gardens. Recent plantings of important tree species have broadened the range of Queensland tree species represented. The arboretum was established during the 1920s. QNC was represented at the official opening and planting of the 'Kauri Pine' avenue by the then President of the Club. Meet at the Jolimont Street car park for the walk around the Arboretum finishing up at the picnic table area for a quiet lunch. Good spot for 'birdos' as well as timber and ornamental tree addicts.

COUNCIL NEWS & NOTICES

VALE DAVID HOCKINGS AM

The field of natural history lost one of its great stalwarts on 17th July with the passing of Francis David Hockings and our condolences are offered to his wife Olive, son Col and daughters Lindy and Cecily.

David was a friend to many members of the Club and an active member for many years, serving on Council in various positions including that of President and leading camps and excursions where his extensive knowledge of Australian native plants was put to our benefit. His publications included *Friends and Foes of Australian Gardens* (1980) with a revised edition in 2014, *Pests, Diseases and Beneficials: Friends and Foes of Australian Gardens*.

His contributions were acknowledged by a number of awards, including Australian Plants Award (1999) and the Order of Australia Medallion (2007). In 2014, he received the Queensland Natural History Award for his contributions to the knowledge of Queensland's native plants, to the Society for Growing Australian Plants, to the Queensland Naturalists' Club and to various other individuals and clubs.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to Mr Craig Reid of South Toowoomba.

We wish you a long and happy association with the Club

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITS at General Meetings

A request for anyone who would like to upload a PowerPoint or jpeg image to arrive by 7.15pm and liaise with the Lanternist.

EXCURSION SIGN-ON SHEETS The Club is now asking 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 you can receive a species list from the excursion.

MEMBERSHIP FEES were due on 1st July. If you have not yet paid, the renewal form can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Prompt payment of fees is greatly appreciated by our Treasurer.

VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED for QNC Information Stand at Native Plants Queensland Show, Mt. Coot-tha Botanic Garden. Please notify James Hansen of your availability on Saturday or Sunday 16th -17th September. Email jameshansen853@inet.net.au or phone 3262 2254.

QNC CALENDAR 2018

Sheryl Backhouse has again generously offered to produce the Club's Calendar. This is a significant fund-raising project for the Club but that depends on the support of members not only to buy it but also to supply the photographs. So that the calendar can be ready by the October General Meeting, Sheryl requests that photos be submitted to sheryl.backhouse@bigpond.com by August 31. Inquiries to Sheryl at 3289 4198.

OXLEY CREEK TRANSFORMATION PROJECT

Following on from the item in the last newsletter, the Oxley Creek Transformation Project now has a website, www.oxleycreek.com.au. If you are interested in this 15 km of Oxley Creek, you can sign up on the website for email notifications. A draft plan is forecast to be circulated one day. *Faseny McPhee*

A NEW EDITION OF MANGROVES TO MOUNTAINS has been printed and will be officially launched at the NPQ Flower and Plant Show at Mt. Coot-tha on 17th September. It has a plastic cover on the paperback edition and contains 32 additional pages. New material covered includes orchids, grasses and vines. The paper used is of the same high quality but is of lighter weight so this edition is not as heavy as the first edition. It is hoped to have copies for sale at our September General Meeting at a cost of about \$55.

EXCURSION REPORTS

June 25th - July 4th

LONG EXCURSION 2017

This year's long excursion was to Noonbah, a cattle property 160km south-west of Longreach. Our group consisted of 24 adults and 7 (Hines) children. Karen and Angus Emmott were our hosts. They have three properties bordering each other and our excursions included visits to all these properties as well as neighbouring Lochern National Park and a more distant drive to Mt Felix, about 50km west of Noonbah.

Our activities included setting Elliott traps, putting out recorders for night parrots, birdwatching and getting to know the many plants in the region.

We enjoyed two social evening barbeques at the Noonbah homestead with live music provided by people in our group and guests of the Emmotts.

We were lucky enough to be joined by a visitor from Mississippi who spoke to us one evening about research work he had carried out with his students in the US.

On our visit to Mt Felix we were joined by a journalist from ABC Western Queensland who interviewed a number of our group during the full day outing. This resulted in some publicity for the Club. [*See below]

Originally our trip was to include a week at Edgbaston Reserve but unfortunately, we were unable to visit at that time.

Peter and Lynette Haselgrove

*Mr Harry Hines, "ecologist with the Queensland Naturalists' Club," was featured on both the 7am and 7.45am News on 612ABC Brisbane on July 6th speaking about the placement of recorders in the vicinity of Noonbah Station in the hope of detecting the calls of the Night Parrot. The birds have been found in adjacent areas with similar spinifex vegetation, *Triodia longiceps*. The full report can be found at

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-07-06/call-of-elusive-night-parrot-to-be-monitored-by-grazier/8684522>

July 9th TALLOWOOD TRACK, TOOHEY FOREST. *Walking with Life*

Greeted by a beautiful afternoon, some 15 of us slowly meandered our way from the base up the Tallowood Track and back to our vehicles. The weather had been extremely dry and there was little evidence of recent invertebrate action. Gullies that had once been full of Casuarinas, and which had had large colonies of overwintering Common Crow adults (*Euploea core*) in the 1990s had become mixed dry sclerophyll forests with few stands of Casuarina. To add to the situation, it is the author's observation that conditions during last summer had not led to large population build ups of this butterfly species. All in all, a pleasant walk was had by all.

Helen Schwencke

July 23rd

BEERBURRUM MOUNTAIN

Four members and four visitors ascended Beerburrum Mountain via the steep paved walkway on a nice warm morning of clear skies. No records were kept but the climbers looked at various plants on the way. The 360 degrees view from the platform on the Fire Tower was worth the effort of the steep walk. The highlight was witnessing the flight of a drone controlled by a young man at the base of the tower. Following the descent, most of the climbers retired to the Café at Beerburrum.

Mike Anderson

August 13th THE COMMON PARK & MOORHEN FLAT, NORMAN CREEK *Walking with Life*

Our group of twenty including two children SLOWLY explored the mangroves along the Creek at Norman Park, looking for signs of wildlife. A variety of larvae were found, including some from the Tussock Moths (Family: Lymantriidae), an unknown reddish-pink caterpillar with sizeable chewing mandibles that was making its way rapidly across a muddy patch, some Rattle Ants (*Polyrachis* spp) that had stitched leaves together, and a variety of galls and signs of leaf mining larvae. Our walk was graced by a small group of Superb Fairy-wrens undoubtedly making good use of the various said larvae. After crossing Norman Creek, we ventured into Moorhen Flats to be greeted by many signs of small wildlife including Leaf-cutter Bee leaf carvings, the empty exo-skeletons of a pair of mating flies with a small jumping spider very close to hand. There was a large amount of the chewed grass leaf, evidence of Evening Brown larvae (*Melanitis leda*) on green panic, with one adult becoming eagerly stalked by several adult humans seeking to get

photos. A White-banded Plane (*Phaedyra shepherdii*) caterpillar and chrysalis were found on a Koda (*Ehretia acuminata*), along with evidence that some Kookaburras had made and abandoned an attempt to create a hollow in a arboreal termite nest which was situated unusually close to the ground. Lots of fun.

Helen Schwencke

August 16th

ENOGGERA RESERVOIR

The car parks at the Park Headquarters were brimming by 8.15 on this hot public holiday morning but only a small proportion belonged to QNC members! A group of 4 members and a visitor set off and were joined later by a couple of member families who divided their time between the water and the walk. Despite the crowds, there was constant bird activity on the well-made (and shady!) path of the Araucaria Walk with the constant silvery tones of scarlet honeyeaters, joined at times by calls (and sightings) of a shining bronze cuckoo, a white-browed scrub-wren, a striated pardalote and an eastern yellow robin. White-browed sea-eagles soared over the water, comb-crested jacanas walked over it and a glorious trio of variegated fairy-wrens in full male breeding dress displayed by it. Turtles were basking in the shallows and eastern sedge frogs were heard. Plant life was varied with Hovea and Hardenbergia displaying their purple flowers, and Hard Aspen, *Acronychia laevis*, and its strangely shaped purple fruit. Even on such a hot day the path remained shady and pleasant for the half day walk and the birds remained active until midday as did the humans!

Judy Haines

BOOKS FOR AUCTION OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

	Authors/Editors	Title	Publisher, Place, Date
	GENERAL/ENVIRONMENT/PLACES		
1		Arid Zone Field Environmental Handbook	Santos & Delhi Petroleum, Adelaide, 1994
2	Brothwell, Don R.	Digging Up Bones	Brit. Museum, London, 1965
3	Dakin. W.J.	Great Barrier Reef	Australian National Travel Assn. 1955
4	Gillet K & McNeil F.	The Great Barrier Reef and adjacent isles	Sydney: Coral Press 1959
5	Thorsborne, A & M.	Hinchinbrook Island	Weldons Pty Ltd. 1996
6		The National Estate, Moreton/Wide Bay/Burnett regions	
7	Durbidge, Ellie & Covacevich, Jeanette	North Stradbroke Island	SIMO, Brisbane, 1981
8	Stevens, N.C. & Monroe, R. (Eds.)	Stradbroke Island Symposium, (1974 : Point Lookout, Stradbroke Is, Qld)	St. Lucia, Q. : Royal Society of Queensland, 1975
9		Northern Moreton Bay Symposiums	RSQ 1979
10		Moreton Island Environmental Impact Study and strategic plan	1976
11	Tara Women's Show Auxiliary	Tara Tucker Book	Tara Women's Show Auxiliary, 7th Edn. 1990
12		Proceedings of the Royal Socy of Qld-vols 1/2 (Bound)	A.Muir 1884

13		Proceedings of the Royal Socy of Qld-vols 3/5 (Bound)	A.Muir 1887
14		Proceedings of the Royal Socy of Qld-vols 9/14 (Bound)	A.Muir 1893
15		Proceedings of the Royal Socy of Qld-vols 15/17 (Bound)	A.Muir 1900
16		Proceedings of the Royal Socy of Qld-vols 18/21 (Bound)	A.Muir 1904
ANTHROPOLOGY			
17	Thozet, A.	Notes on some of the roots, tubers, bulbs and fruits used as vegetable food by the Aborigines of northern Queensland, Australia	Rockhampton, Qld. : Capricornia Institute, c1985
GEOLOGY			
18	Holmes, Arthur	Principles of Physical Geology	Nelson, London, 1970
19	Willmott, W.F. & Stevens, N.C.	Rocks and Landscapes of Brisbane & Ipswich. (2 copies)	Brisbane: Geological Soc of Australia, Qld Division, 1992
20	Willmott, W.F.	Rocks and Landscapes of the Sunshine Coast	Brisbane: Geological Soc of Australia, Qld Division, 1998
21	Willmott, W.F. & Stevens, N.C.	Rocks and Landscapes of the Gold Coast Hinterland	Brisbane: Geological Society of Australia, Queensland Division, 1998
BOTANY			
22	Stepnell, Kenneth	Australia's Native Flowers	National Book Dist. & Publ.NSW.1996
23	Bailey, A. (Editor)	The Brigalow belt of Australia : the proceedings of a symposium held at the John Kindler Memorial Theatre, QIT, 23 October 1982	Brisbane : QDPI for the Royal Society of Queensland, 1984
24	Lebler, Beryl	DPI Qld Advisory Leaflets (2 folders)	Brisbane, Qld. : Dept. of Primary Industries and Fisheries,
25	Lebler, Beryl	Wildflowers of South-eastern Queensland	Brisbane, DPI 1977
26	Chippendale, G.M. ed.	Eucalyptus buds and fruits; illustrations of the buds and fruits of the genus with a list of authentic specimens from which the drawings were made	Canberra, Commonwealth of Australia Dept. of National Development, Forestry and Timber Bureau, 1981
27	Johns, Louise	Field Guide to the Common Saltmarsh Plants of Qld (<i>duplicate copy</i>)	Brisbane, Qld. : Dept. of Primary Industries and Fisheries, c2006
28	Dowling, R.M. & McDonald, W.J.F.	Moreton Region Vegetation Map Series. Explanatory Notes for Brisbane Sheet	Brisbane, Qld. : Dept. of Primary Industries and Fisheries, 1976

29	Elsol, J.A. & Dowling, R.M.	Moreton Region Vegetation Map Series. Explanatory Booklet for Beenleigh Sheet	Brisbane, Qld. : Dept. of Primary Industries and Fisheries, 1978
30	Elsol, J.A. & Sattler, PIS.	Moreton Region Vegetation Map Series. Explanatory Booklet for Caloundra Sheet	Brisbane, Qld. : Dept. of Primary Industries and Fisheries, 1979
31	McDonald, W.J.F. & Whiteman, W.G.	Moreton Region Vegetation Map Series. Explanatory Booklet for Murwillumbah	Brisbane, Qld. : Dept. of Primary Industries and Fisheries, 1979
32	Smith, L.S. & D.A.	The Naturalised Lantana camara Complex in Eastern Australia. Qld Botany Bull.	Qld DPI, Brisbane, 1982
33	Cribb, A.B. & J.W.	Plant Life of the Great Barrier Reef and Adjacent Shores (<i>duplicate copy</i>)	St. Lucia, Qld. : University of Queensland Press, 1985
34	Everist, Selwyn L.	Poisonous Plants of Australia	Sydney: Angus & Robertson, 1974
35	Batianoff, G.N. & Dillewaard, H.A.	Port Curtis District Flora & Early Botanists	Gladstone, Qld. : SGAP (Qld. Region) Inc., 1988
36	Hockings, David	Propagation of Australian Plants	SGAP Qld, Brisbane, 1972
37		Vegetation on Moreton Island: A field guide (<i>duplicate copy</i>)	Moreton Is. Protection Soc, Brisbane 1992
38	Swain, E.H.F.	The Timbers and Forest Products of Queensland	Brisbane : Govt. printer, 1928
39	Baker	Famous Trees of New Zealand.	AH & AW Reed 1965
	ZOOLOGY		
40	Blakers, M., Davies, S.J.J.F. & Reilly, P.N.	The Atlas of Australian Birds	Melbourne Univ. Press, 1984
41	Thomas David	Tasmanian Bird Atlas	Uni of Tasmania 1979
42	Leach. J.A.	An Australian Bird Book	Whitcombe & Tombs 1944
43	Vernon, D.P.	Birds of Brisbane and environs.	Q'ld Museum 1968
44		Index of Australian Bird Names	[Canberra] CSIRO, 1969
45		Birds of Australian seashores	Aust. Wildlife Series/Bay Books 1981
46		Birds of Australian waterways	Aust. Wildlife Series/Bay Books 1981
47	Chisholm, Alec H.	An Explorer and His Birds: John Gilbert's Discoveries in 1844-45. (<i>duplicate copy</i>)	Brown, Prior & Anderson, Melbourne,
48	Slater, Peter	Field Guide to Australian Birds: Non-passerines, Passerines (passerines and Non-passerines in separate books)	Rigby, Adelaide, 1970/1974
49	Adams, G.M.	Foliage Birds	Reed Books 1984
50	Cayley, Neville W.	What Bird is that?	Angus & Robertson 1968
51	Chisholm. Alec H.	Nature's Linguists	Brown P.Anderson 1946

52	Hand, Suzanne J. (Ed.)	Care and handling of Australian native animals : emergency care and captive management	Chipping Norton, N.S.W. : Surrey Beatty & Sons in assocn with Royal Zool Soc of NSW, 1990
53	Kikkawa, J & Thorne, M.J	Behaviour of animals	Jacaranda Press, 1971
54	Frauca, Harry & Burton, Barbara	The Echidna	Lansdowne Press, Melbourne, 1974
55		Monotremes & Placentals	Aust. Wildlife Series/Bay Books 1981
56	Hyett, J & Shaw, Noel	Australian Mammals	Nelson, 1980
57		Australian Small Marsupials	Aust. Wildlife Series/Bay Books 1981
58	Cogger, H.C.	Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia	Reed, 1975
59	Cogger, H.C.	Australian Reptiles in Colour	Sydney : A.H. & A.W. Reed, 1967
60		Australian Crocodiles, Turtles, Tortoises & Frogs	Aust. Wildlife Series/Bay Books 1981
61	Goode, John	Freshwater tortoises of Australia and New Guinea	Lansdowne Press, Melbourne, 1967
62		Australian snakes and lizards (2 copies)	Aust. Wildlife Series/Bay Books 1981
63	Deas, W & Lawler, C	Beneath Australian Seas	AH & WA Reed 1970
64		Crown-of-thorns Starfish (<i>Acanthaster planci</i>). Report of C'tee of C'wealth & Qld	CSIRO, Melbourne, 1971
65	Child, John	Australian Spiders	Melbourne : Periwinkle Books, 1971
66	Clyne, Densy	A Guide to Australian Spiders	Nelson
67	Burns, Alexander & Rotherham	Australian butterflies in colour	Terrey Hills, N.S.W. : Reed, 1977
68	Hodgkin EP, Kendrick G, Marsh L & Slack-Smith, S	The Shelled Gastropoda of South Western Australia. Western Australian Naturalists' Club. Handbook ; no.9	Perth : Western Australian Naturalists' Club, 1966
69	Gabriel, Charles J.	Victorian Sea Shells	Field Nat. Club, Vic, 1936
		VIDEOS	
70	Hogarth, Jeremy	The Kimberley, Land of the Wandjina	ABC co-production in assocn with the Natl Geog Soc, 1991
71	Drozдов, Nikolai	Realms of the Russian Bear	BBC Enterprises, London, 1992
72	Rankin, Robert	Secrets of the Scenic Rim (2 copies)	1992
73		The Wetlands	Sirocco Acoustic 1994

EXHIBITS

Exhibits for general meetings may be in the form of specimens, books, digital images etc.

If you have a PowerPoint or jpeg image to display, please bring them to the Club Lanternist by 7.15pm.

If you take an exhibit to a meeting, a written description to accompany it would be greatly appreciated by the Secretary and Newsletter editor. Your natural history observations can then be shared with all members via:-

- The club website - email text and photos to web@qnc.org.au
- Our Facebook page - contact Leith for help at facebook@qnc.org.au
- In the QNC News - email text and photos to news@qnc.org.au

This variety of formats allows all members, including non-Brisbane members, to share their experiences.

August General Meeting: Neil Fordyce brought a sample of wattle which may be a hybrid of *Acacia nerifolia* and Wallangarra Wattle *A. adunca*.

NATURE NOTES Members are reminded that we welcome you sharing your natural history observations with other members in the form of a short Nature Note.

Photos page 1 – Noonbah: Scene (P. & L. Haselgrove); Apostle Birds (H. Hines)

WHAT'S ON!

QUEENSLAND HERBARIUM SEMINARS FM Bailey Room, at 12 noon

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) - FM Bailey conference room in the Herbarium building. No need to register.

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

11 September Jeremy Simmonds (PhD candidate, University of Queensland)

Species-area Relationships in Fragmented Landscapes - Identifying Thresholds for Incorporation into Conservation Planning and Land Management

9 October Philip Griffin (www.philipgriffin.com)

La Música de las Flores - Botanical connections in music from Schubert to Robert Plant

THECA MEETINGS www.theca.asn.au

The Hut, 47 Fleming Road, Chapel Hill 7pm – 9pm

27 September Why birds don't crash into themselves when flying in flocks – Dr Srinu Mandyam

25 October What to expect in the summer snake season – Rod Whitaker, snake catcher

WILDLIFE PRESERVATION SOCIETY OF QLD SYMPOSIUM:

WILDLIFE MATTERS: IN A CLIMATE OF CHANGE

9 September 1pm to 6pm New Farm. Speakers include Dr Gordon Guymer, Mr Angus Emmott, Professor Lesley Hughes, Dr Richard Fuller, Dr Christian Rowan MP

Further details and bookings at wildlife.org.au

NATIVE PLANTS QUEENSLAND SPRING WILDFLOWER SHOW & NATIVE PLANTS MARKET

Auditorium, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt. Coot-tha

Saturday 16th September from 9 - 4 and Sunday 17th September from 9 - 3. Entry \$3.

The Plants Market will have a huge diversity of plants from popular to rare and expert advice on plant identification, selection and care is available from growers and members. The specialist growers provide natives in all sizes from tubes to mature plants - most are not to be found in commercial nurseries. Prices are very reasonable and efpas is available.

Also featured will be displays of plants and flowers of South East Queensland, informative talks, books for sale, and displays by other wildlife societies

Annual Membership Subscriptions

DUE 1st JULY

Family \$40; Single \$25; Student /Junior \$15; Replacement Club Badges \$15

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❖ **By Post to**

The Treasurer, Mr Mike Anderson, 164/462 Beams Rd, Fitzgibbon 4018
with a bank cheque or money order and this completed form.

OR

❖ **At a General Meeting:**

Handed to the Treasurer in an envelope with this completed form
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Bank: Westpac *BSB:* 034-068 *Account No.:* 901249

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