

AUGUST 2001
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THE GRANITE BELT NATURALIST



The Librarian, Field Nats
PO Box 24
SEVERNLEA Q 4352

Monthly Newsletter of the
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.

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:	4 th <u>Wednesday</u> of each Month at QCWA Rooms at 7.30pm.
Outings:	The <u>Sunday preceding</u> the 4 th Wednesday of each Month.
Subscriptions:	Single \$15.00 Family \$25.00 per annum July to June.
Address:	Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc., P O Box 154, Stanthorpe Q 4380.

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS 2000 - 2001

President	Desley McDonagh	46 813074
Vice-Presidents	Millie Marsden	46 811593
	Kris Carnell	46 835268
Secretary	Liz Bourne	46 836374
Treasurer	Julia Brown	46 814540
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	46 835268
Magazine Committee	Wendy & Neil Donges	
Publicity Officer	Patience James	46 811853
Librarian	Trish McCosker	46 835371
Management Committee	President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer	

Coming Up

Next Outing: August 19th to Red Rock Gorge led by Peter Haselgrove.

Next Meeting: August 22nd "Remember Last Year" – supper.

Half Day Outing: 9th September to Basket Swamp.

Mail contributions to The Newsletter Editor, PO Box 33 SEVERNLEA Q 4352
e-mail orana@halenet.com.au

Deadline for next Newsletter Friday 7th September

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.



Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St., Stanthorpe on Wednesday 25 July, 2001

Opening: The meeting opened at 7.44pm with President, Desley McDonagh, welcoming members and special guest, Peter Robinson.

Attendance: There were 11 present at the meeting and 7 apologies as per the attendance book.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the last meeting, held on 27 June, 2001 were received as a correct record of the meeting on the motion of Patience James, seconded by Kris Carnell. Carried.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

1. Toowoomba Bushwalkers Club - *Footprint* - July
2. Murrumbidgee Field Nats - *Murrumbidgee Naturalist* - July
3. Qld Naturalists Club - *QNC News* - July/August
4. Chinchilla Field Naturalists Club - *Urimbirra* - July 2001
5. Queensland Museum - re missing issues of newsletter
6. Toowoomba Field Naturalists - *Darling Downs Naturalist* - July
7. Dept of Equity and Fair Trading - annual return
8. Diana Holley, J. Deutscher - membership renewal
9. Samson Total Technology - invoice for \$41.29
10. Southern Qld. Institute of TAFE - Training Needs Seminar

Outwards Correspondence:

1. Community service announcements for outings and meetings

This correspondence was accepted on the motion of Liz Bourne, seconded by Errol Walker. Carried.

Financial Statement for the period from 27/6/01 to 25/7/01:

Balance as at 23/6/2001 \$ 802.10

Receipts:

Room rent collection	1.90	
Bank interest	1.55	
Donation (J and M Tricker)	10.00	
	13.45	13.45
		\$815.55

Expenditure:

Room rent	12.50	
Magazine postage	32.00	
Samson Total Technology	6.60	
Millie Marsden (advert re raffle result)	11.00	
Govt tax (June and July)	1.80	
Liz Bourne (petty cash)	10.00	
	73.90	73.90
		\$741.65

Balance as at 25/7/01 is \$741.65

This report was received on the motion of Julia Brown, seconded by Val Richardson. Carried

Accounts for payment:

Room rent - QCWA	12.50
Magazine postage	32.00
Samson Total Technology	41.29

These accounts for payment were approved on the motion of Julia Brown, seconded by Val Richardson. Carried.

Members were reminded that their yearly membership fees were now due.

General Business:

1. Photocopier

Kris has discussed the new billing arrangements with Samson Total Technology and has also investigated other options for a replacement photocopier with Downs Office Equipment. He thinks we have about 12 – 24 months supply of toner left and believes the machine should also last that long. He estimates that a replacement copier would cost approximately \$2,000 and that we should investigate funding options such as the Community Benefit Fund.

2. Weed identification

Desley had a call from a lady in Glen Aplin asking for assistance in identifying potential weeds on her property. She visited the property and was able to help her.

Outing Report:

Col Hockings reported on the trip he led to the Billy Goat Hill area of Girraween National Park on 22 July. Twelve people went on the outing which climbed an unnamed hill SE of Billy Goat Hill and then returned to the cars via Billy Goat Hill. A beautiful sunny winter's day with great views of the rest of the park. Quite a few flowers were out including wonderful displays of *Acacia adunca* and *Mirbelia* but few birds were sighted. The group returned via Wallangarra and saw a good display of blue mountain daisies beside the Mount Norman carpark.

Pre-Outing Report:

The August 19 outing will be to Red Rock in Sundown National Park, led by Peter Haselgrove. It will require 4WD vehicles to access this section of the park.

Errol Walker will not be able to lead the September outing to South Bald Rock as advertised.

Weekday Outing:

Joan Bourne will be leading the next outing on Friday 3 August to the "Robert's tree" at Sugarloaf.

Desley said she had obtained permission to go to Jolly's Falls for the September weekday outing. Members thought that the Sunday outing that month could also be to this area.

Specimens:

1. Desley had photos from her overseas trip
2. Col Hockings had a map of the area in Girraween National Park that the outing went to
3. Kris Carnell had a specimen of *Eucalyptus caleyi* flowering on his property
4. Patience James had books on the wildflowers of Tasmania

Next Meeting:

Desley reminded members that the August meeting was the AGM and asked people to bring along some supper. Suggestions on the trip and meeting program for the coming year would also be welcome.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Peter Robinson then gave a very interesting and informative talk on the flora and fauna of Africa.

July Outing Report Girraween- An unnamed hill SE of Billy Goat Hill

A total of 12 people attended the outing. The weather was perfect- fine, a few clouds for the photographers and a comfortable temperature for walking.

Following morning tea, we departed from the vehicles at the locked gate at about 10 to 11. The National Park service road had recently been slashed making the walk to the crossing of the un-named creek, very pleasant.

At this crossing we left the road and headed cross-country, reaching the intended rock outcrop at about 20 to 12.

Everyone was delighted with the flower show which greeted us. The outcrop was encircled by *Acacia adunca* and *Mirbelia* sp., both of which were in full flower.

After exploring the area and enjoying the view to Mt Norman, Twin Peaks, The Pyramids, Billy Goat Hill, Bald Rock and West Bald Rock, we had an early lunch in the lee of the crest of the bare rock area. Following lunch, Dave Bright was the only member to accept the challenge of the tricky scramble to the top of the slightly higher peak about 300m south of our lunch spot. The struggle was rewarded with a good view of West and Middle Bald Rocks.



Vombatus ursinus

As it was still early afternoon, Errol suggested that we return via Billy Goat Hill. Along the way we passed a freshly used burrow which, Liz suggested, may be used by a wombat.

On returning to the vehicles it was decided over afternoon tea, to return to Stanthorpe through Wallangarra. Enroute we paused to view a small patch of Blue Mountain Daisy (*Olearia ramosissima*) which was in full flower. Other flowers observed during the outing were *Acacia ulicifolia*, *Prostanthera* sp., *Leucopogon*, *Phebalium*, another low growing *Acacia* and *Banksia spinulosa*.

Col Hockings.

Outing 19th August To Red Rock Area

Leader: Peter Haselgrove

The August outing is to the Red Rock area in Sundown National Park. We will meet at the gate into the National Park from the Ballandean end at 9.00am. Allow ½ hour from Ballandean village.

Morning tea will be at the Red Rock picnic area. We will be able to wander down to the lookout where we'll be able to look across the gorge to our lunch destination. The walking track to the edge of the gorge was upgraded some time ago to a good standard and the National Parks have constructed a viewing platform. There is also a toilet at the picnic area.

After smoko we will continue further along the Sundown Road to the halfway hut. We will leave our vehicles here and walk about 1 ½ km to the edge of the gorge. The walk will take us through both trap rock and granite country. Lunch will be on the edge of the gorge across from the viewing platform. After lunch and the usual exploration of a new area we will return to the vehicles via a different route, and then make our way home.

Obviously lunch and water will have to be carried. The trip will require 4WDs, but Peter says that Foresters and Rav4s etc should be okay. There are some spare seats available, so if you require a lift please contact Kris Carnell on 46835268 as soon as possible.

PROGRAMME CHANGES

1. There will be no Friday half day outing in September. Instead there will be a wildflower outing to Basket Swamp on **Sunday 9th September**. We will meet at Weeroona Park at 11.00am and travel to Basket Swamp Picnic Area for lunch. After lunch we will explore for wildflowers. Margaret Tricker is going to have a look beforehand to see what's out.
2. The proposed outing to Jolly's Falls was not able to be arranged on a suitable date and will have to be postponed.
3. Errol will not be available to lead the September outing, so we urgently need a volunteer to lead an outing somewhere. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING



The Annual Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc. will be held in the Q.C.W.A. Hall, Stanthorpe on Wednesday 22nd August at 7.30pm. At this meeting all positions are declared vacant and Julia has indicated that she will not be able to do the treasurer's job any more.

The programme for this meeting will be "Remember Last Year" and we would like members to bring both slides and prints of the last year's outings. We will also be having supper after the programme, so please bring a plate.



A good attendance at this meeting would be appreciated.

Outing Report – Roberts Tree

Again nine people on the Friday 3rd August outing to view the "Robert's Tree". This tree was blazed by surveyor Roberts when mapping the Qld /N.S.W. border. It is about 2 km S.E. of the Sugarloaf border gate.

We stopped off at a nice rocky area on the Dalcouth Road on the way home, hoping for wild flowers, but there was not much out as yet.

Birds seen were :-

Crimson rosella	Kookaburra	Spotted pardalote
Yellow tailed black cockatoo (Heard)		Noisy friarbird
Grey butcherbird	Noisy miner	Superb blue wren
Black-faced cuckoo shrike	Grey shrike thrush	

John Bourne

Annual Meeting August 22nd 2001

Subscriptions are now due for 2001/2002

Family \$25.00 – Single \$15.00

Please complete your correct name and address details below and present with your subs. to the meeting, or post to:

Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, STANTHORPE Q 4380.

Name (including title please) _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Payment enclosed \$ _____

Please note – Receipts not collected at the meeting will be enclosed with your Newsletter.

Club Program Suggestions – 2001/2002

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. Please include suggestions for Friday outings .

Name: _____
