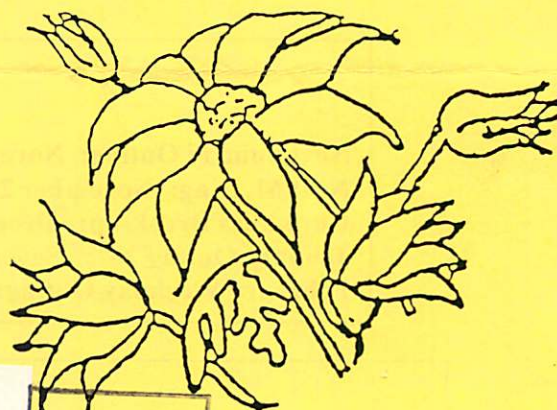
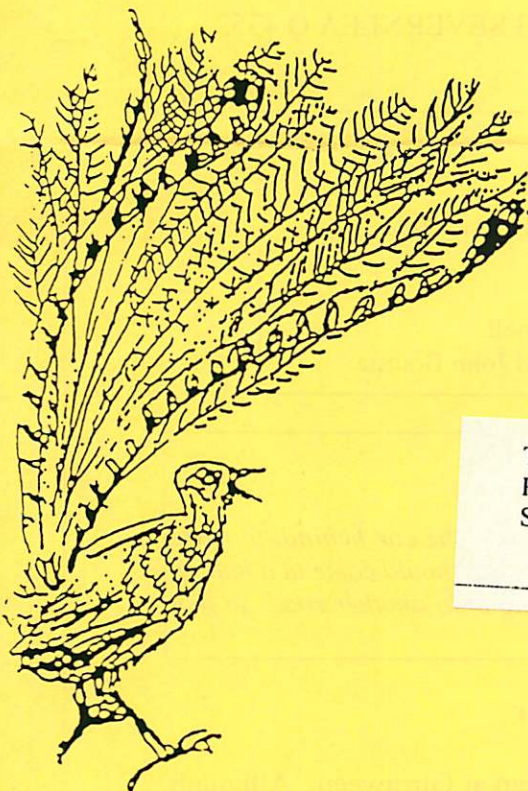


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THE GRANITE BELT NATURALIST



The Librarian, Field Nats
PO Box 24
SEVERNLEA Q 4352

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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: 4th Wednesday of each Month at QCWA Rooms at 7.30pm.
Outings: The Sunday preceding the 4th 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 2001 - 2002

President	Kris Carnell	46835268
Vice-Presidents	Millie Marsden	46 811593
	Mario Pennisi	46813750
Secretary	Liz Bourne	46 836374
Treasurer	Dave Bright	
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	46 835268
Magazine Committee	Wendy & Neil Donges	46 812913
Publicity Officer	Patience James	46 811853
Librarian	Trish McCosker	46 835371
Management Committee President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer		

**This is the last newsletter
for 2001**

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

Coming Up

Next Sunday Outing: November 25th. Petzlers Hill led by Rob Simcocks.

Next Meeting: November 28th W. Goebel.

Christmas Break-up: December 9th at "Orana" Severnlea.

January Outing 20th: Severn River led by Kris & Margaret Carnell.

February Weekday Outing: Friday 8th February led by Joan and John Bourne.

When Travelling in Convoy

*Just a reminder that when travelling in convoy you need to keep an eye on the car **behind**, to make sure it is still coming. If the car behind stops, you stop and the whole convoy should come to a halt, to make sure everyone is okay. This is particularly important when turning onto another road, so that nobody gets lost.*

Outing to Girraween on 2nd November

It was a beautiful day for walking and no better place to do that than at Girraween. Although there were only eight of us we were delighted to have two new faces join the party. It didn't take any time to convince them of the array of flowers that were showing of their best.

We commenced the walk by taking the path along the south bank of Bald Rock Creek, behind the camping ground where the Calytrix was in mass, but unfortunately just past its best, but spectacular with its red calyx lobes. Tea trees were in full flower with several types mixed among Jacksonia and numerous Eggs and Bacons, Grevellia, Hakea, Pomaderris and Actinotus. After crossing the creek this showing continued with the profusion of it all making a beautiful garden.

In all over 50 varieties were listed which included a very good display of Zieria and Eriostemon and Cryptandra, without forgetting the pockets of Boronia which added colour to the predominant white. Most of these were along the Junction track. It was pleasing to see the waterworn rocks with the creek being low, but hope it will not be long before rain replenishes the flow.

At the picnic ground the usual birds of magpie, currawong, wattle and bower came to sample

lunch but during the day we saw an Eastern Spinebill, Dusky Woodswallow, Crimson Rosella, Kookaburra, and a family of Yellow Faced Honeyeaters enjoying their meal.

My thanks to those who made such an enjoyable day.

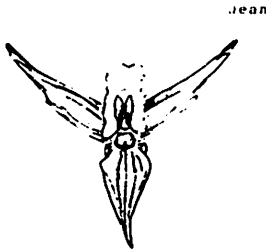
Joan Stevenson

Flower List: Whalenbergia, Leucopogon, Pimelea, Helichrysum, Solanum, Epacris, Dianella, Dampiera, Isopogon, Yellow Callistemon, Stypantra, Kunzea, Phebalium, Prosanthera, Lomandra, Hibbertia, Comersperma, Stylidium, Red Callistemon, Zanthorrhoea, Bulbine Lily, Dodonea, Spinifex, Merbelia.

Report on Outing to Jolly's Falls 14/10/2001

It was well attended, on a pleasant Summer afternoon and there was interest for everyone. On arrival (and as pre-planned) we took a short walk, on a cleared track, up to a rocky platform overlooking the view to the west. This allowed time for Neville and Betty Jolly and their daughter to arrive from another appointment and to join our party.

The track was bordered by the low-growing dainty teatree which is more common on the western side of the district (*Leptospermum microcarpum*) and on the right, shapely umbrella type bushes of the yellow pea (*Daviesia corymbosa*). At the top, members soon spotted a patch of Yellow Donkey orchids. Rod Hutchin noted there were two species involved. *Diuris aurea*, the common one and *Diuris sheaffiana*, the latter generously spotted with rich brown markings. Sheaff found it in southern states. In October 1950 I sent specimens from the Golf Course in Stanthorpe for identification and they were the first Queensland record.



Millie Marsden spotted the third species of orchid, one spike only of the Leek Orchid (*Prasophyllum odoratum*) the specific name meaning scented. I must have sounded waffle headed when I tried to recall its story, but I had sent it to Rev Rupp who pronounced it also the first record of it from Queensland. This was 19th October 1947 - (54 years ago is a long time to recall!) Over the years I sent a specimen from Ballandean, Jolly's Falls and Kyoomba in 1947, 1954 and 1960 respectively. I note with interest that all were collected on the 19th

October and the one we saw was 14th October, which suggests how faithful native ground orchids of a particular species are to periods of flowering. Makes me think I would like to compare seasons and rainfalls for those years.

The Jolly family joined us and Neville told us the story of the family taking up the land in the late 1880s. These areas had been resumed for closer settlement from "Maryland Run". Watersheds divided these huge properties in that early era. In this area the watersheds divided the Bapaume Ridge (of today) and other features separated "Pikedale and Maryland". The Jolly land contained much rugged terrain. However, Neville said his grandfather, a stonemason, was impressed by the large blocks of naturally square granite. He dreamed of building his home in stone sometime. It's still a monument to his skills today. They lived initially with their increasing family in a bark home for many years and were even kind enough to board the Upper Broadwater school teacher for many years. She had her own room even though it was bark.

The story told by Neville was supported by their daughter, who had enlarged photographs of yore, which created a deal of interest.

The Falls in the early days were known as "The Upper Broadwater Falls". However, the Jolly family shared their lovely area with everyone for rambles, picnics and swimming down at "The Duckpond" at the foot of the falls. Thus the area became affectionately known as "Jolly's Falls" – a name which has stuck officially. Small tracks across the granite slabs have been lovingly marked by small stones to lead you through the most attractive flower areas or little side track vistas. A large flat rocky area, ringed with wildflowers, especially *Calytrix* in its russet shades and back lit, provided a special memory for the afternoon and *Boronia granitica* showed a few pink sprays.

Members also walked down to the "Duckpond" and sat on the large granite slabs in the gentle sunshine. Neville told an interesting story of his uncles, when boys, who made a very substantial canoe. It was solid ironbark, took a long time to hollow out, and was very heavy to carry down the rocky, steep track. It was launched into the deepest part and immediately sank to the bottom and lodged firmly between the rocks. All efforts to dislodge it were finally disbanded. Many years later, after a big flood, and when they were grown men, it reappeared. Such had been the task, that they reverently carried it back up to the old granite home. This time, however, not by human effort but by tractor.

Thanks to the Jolly family for allowing us to visit the area which is now closed to the public but is well cared for in their hands.

Margaret Carnell on behalf of her husband, President Kris, moved a sincere vote of thanks to the Jolly family for having us and providing the history and family stories. Margaret also kept the plant list.

Jean Harslett

Plant List: *Brachyscombe* sp, *Leptospermum microcarpum*, *Diurius aurea*, *Diuris sheaffiana*, *Davesia corymbosia*, *Mirbelia confertiflora*, *Prasophyllum odoratum*, *Pimelea*, *Stylidium*, *Whalebergia*, *Hibbertia*, *Haemodorum planifolium* (blood root lily), *Cryptandra*, *Leucoponon* (2 species), *Dianella*, *Lomandra filiformis* (wattle matrush), *Correa*, *Calytrix*, *Calochilus robertsonii* (bearded orchids), *Acacia betchei*, *Actinotus helianthi* (flannel flower), *Actinotus gibbonsii*, *Ozothamnus obcordatus* sub sp major (yellow rice flower), *Boronia granitica*, *Helipterum albicans*, *Corytrium*, and some shrivelled Greenhoods.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc
held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St., Stanthorpe on Wednesday 24 October, 2001**

Opening: The meeting opened at 7.40pm with President, Kris Carnell, welcoming members.

Attendance: There were 14 present at the meeting and 10 apologies as per the attendance book.

Minutes of the previous meeting: The secretary noted that the minutes of the last meeting, held on 26 September, 2001 inadvertently had the financial statement for the previous month included. The correct balance should have been \$1,291.86. The amended minutes were then received as a correct record of the meeting on the motion of Jean Harslett, seconded by Rob Harslett. Carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

1. Postage of Newsletter The issue of paying for the postage of the newsletter (ie. by an account or through the purchase of stamps each time) is still not resolved but Kris will discuss it further with Australia Post to come to some mutually agreeable arrangement.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

1. Toowoomba Bushwalkers Club - *Footprint* - Oct 2001
2. Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists Club - *Murrumbidgee Naturalist* - Oct 2001
3. Chinchilla Field Nats Club - *Urimbirra* - Oct 2001
4. Senator Andrew Bartlett - request for assistance with election campaign
5. Membership renewals - Glenn and Jenny Crossman; Robin Riley

Outwards Correspondence:

1. Community service announcements for outings and meetings

This correspondence was accepted on the motion of Liz Bourne, seconded by Rod Hutchin. Carried.

Financial Statement for the period from 26/9/01 to 24/10/01:

In the absence of the Treasurer, an interim financial statement was presented by the Secretary, Liz Bourne.

Balance as at 26/9/01 \$ 1,291.86

Receipts:

Subscriptions	65.00	
	<u>65.00</u>	<u>65.00</u>
		\$1,356.86

Expenditure:

Room rent	10.00	
Magazine postage (two months)	65.95	
Govt tax	<u>1.30</u>	
	77.25	<u>77.25</u>
		\$1,279.61

Balance as at 24/10/01 is \$1,279.61. However, the latest bank statement indicates a balance of \$1,302.61 so there appears to be a discrepancy of \$23. Kris will investigate this and discuss with the Treasurer, Dave Bright, when he returns. This interim financial report was received on the motion of Liz Bourne, seconded by Rod Hutchin. Carried

Outing Report:

1. Jean Harslett reported on the half day outing to Jolly's Falls at the Summit which was held on 14 October. About 17 people attended. Because of the dry conditions, there was only a small amount of water flowing over the falls but quite a good variety of wildflowers were seen. Of particular note was a leek orchid, *Prasophyllum odoratum*. Neville and Betty Jolly spoke to the group about the history of their house and family.

Pre-Outing Report:

1. On Sunday 28 October, there will be a joint outing with members of the Queensland Naturalists Club to the southern, eucalypt section of Amiens State Forest. This group will be camping for the weekend on the property of Liz Bourne, who will be conducting the outing on the Sunday. The trip will follow the track which borders the State Forest so should be fairly easy. Liz said there was an excellent display of wildflowers in the area at present.
2. The Friday outing for November will be to a mystery location at Girraween National Park and will be led by the Stevensons.
3. The November outing will be to Petzler's Hill at Eukey and will be led by Rob Simcocks. He estimates it will take about 20 - 30mins to climb the hill. Those who are feeling energetic can then continue walking through to the Kitchen Caves/Split Rock area of Girraween National Park. This should take an estimated 5 hrs. Those who don't want to do this walk could bring some cars around to the park to pick up the walkers.

Next Meeting:

Bill Goebel, a former ranger at Girraween National Park, will be the guest speaker at the November meeting.

Specimens:

1. Rob McCosker had a twig of a plant killed by scale.

2. Jean Harslett had a book on orchids showing the leek orchid seen on the trip to Jolly's Falls.
3. Desley McDonagh had a poster and brochures produced by the Scottish Seabird Centre near North Berwick of the rock gannet rookery.
4. Liz Bourne had photos of a good display of king orchids on a rock outcrop on *Mountain Station*, north of Dalveen.

General Business:

Kris said that next year's newsletter would have a regular segment on "My Favourite Place" and would like members to make contributions. He said it may also be possible to include black and white photos of these areas.

Meeting closed at 8.12pm.

Rod Hutchin then gave a very good slide presentation on a trip he took through the national parks of the western part of the USA in 1993, including Yosemite, the Grand Canyon, Mt Ranier, the Grand Tetons and Bryce Canyon.

Outing Report – Amiens State Forest – Sunday 28 October

This outing was a joint one with members of the Queensland Naturalists Club, most of whom arrived in Stanthorpe on the Saturday and camped on our property that night. We went on a short walk that afternoon to visit an area of boulder outcrops on one of our creeks and managed to see a reasonable number of birds and wildflowers along the way. A highlight was finding a drey of bark and leaves containing a grey ringtail with two young on board who were very interested in all the attention. A koala was also heard, but not seen, near the campsite that night.

On the Sunday, the visitors were joined at Amiens State Forest by a good contingent of locals with a total of 40 people setting off on the walk. We were lucky enough to have Peter Sparshott, the Naturesearch Co-ordinator from Toowoomba, with us as well as his wife, Kym, who is a botanist with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. Their combined knowledge certainly helped a lot with the identification of the plants and birds we saw that day.

The first part of the walk produced a diversity of wildflowers and the group soon became strung out along the track as various people became absorbed in identifying each new find. There were some good displays of the endangered *Boronia granitica* beside the track. At the top of the hill, on an area of exposed granite slabs, we were rewarded with some excellent views south to Sundown and Girraween National Parks while we had smoko. The flannel flower display here was excellent. Some of the group who could not spend the whole day out returned to the cars from here while the rest of us continued in a generally westerly direction along the track. Up in this higher heath country, the profusion of wildflowers continued with *Wahlenbergia*, *Hibbertia*, *Leucopogons*, *Bossiaes*, *Daviesias*, *Hardenbergia*, *Jacksonia*, *Mirbelia*, *Goodenias*, *Prosantheras*, *Kunzeas*, *Dodonaeas* and *Ozothamnus* all putting on good displays.

We slowly meandered our way along the track, eventually stopping for lunch at a small creek crossing on the southern border of the forest where there were signs of old tin mining activity. The group then proceeded back towards the cars, stopping to explore another creek and getting very excited by a fine display of *Westringia amabilis* found by Jean Harslett

beside the track. This rare plant, known from Girraween National Park, had not previously been recorded from this area.

The group returned to the cars mid-afternoon after a very productive outing. 135 plant species were recorded for the day, including a number of rare and endangered plants and this will provide a good basis for future excursions into this very significant area of our local natural history.

An abbreviated plant list compiled by Kym Sparshott is attached. If anyone would like the full list recorded from Amiens, please contact me.

Liz Bourne

Ph 4683 6374

The following is a plant list from the outing to Amiens State Forest on 28th October 2001 compiled by K.M. Sparshott, J. Harslett, P.E. Sparshott, P & L Haselgrove. We have printed the species which were in flower on the day to the outing. A full list will be available at the November meeting for those who are interested. The complete list was far too long to print in our newsletter.

Families, genera and species are arranged alphabetically. Common names are provided where known.

APIACEAE <i>Actinotus helianthi</i> (flannel flower)	ASTERACEAE <i>Helichrysum collinum</i> <i>Ozothamnus obcordatus</i> subsp. <i>Major</i> <i>Ozothamnus diosmifolius</i>	CAMPANULACEAE <i>Isotoma anethifolia</i>
DILLENIACEAE <i>Hibbertia linearis</i> var. <i>obtusifolia</i> (guinea flower)	DROSERACEAE <i>Drosera spatulata</i> (sundew)	EPACRIDACEAE <i>Brachyloma daphnoides</i>
EUPHORBIACEAE <i>Poranthera corymbosa</i>	FABACEAE <i>Aotus subglauc</i> <i>Dillwynia retorta</i> <i>Dillwynia ?sericea</i> <i>Indigofera australis</i> <i>Jacksonia scoparia</i> <i>Mirbelia rubrifolia</i>	GOODENIACEAE <i>Dampiera purpurea</i>
LAMIACEAE <i>Prostanthera phyllicifolia</i> <i>Westringea amabilis</i>	LILIACEAE <i>Laxmannia compacta</i> <i>Stypantra glauca</i> <i>Thelionema grande</i> <i>Thysanotus tuberosus</i> (fringe lily)	MYRTACEAE <i>Baeckea densifolia</i> <i>Callistemon ptyoides</i> <i>Calytrix tetragona</i> (heath myrtle) <i>Kunzea bracteolata</i> <i>Leptospermum microcarpum</i> <i>Micromyrtus sessilis</i>
ORCHIDACEAE <i>Calochilus ?campestris</i> (bearded orchid) <i>Erythrorchis cassythoides</i> (climbing orchid)	PITTOSPORACEAE <i>Billardiera scandens</i> var. <i>scandens</i>	POLYGALACEAE <i>Comesperma</i> sp (match-heads)
PROTEACEAE <i>Hakea microcarpa</i>	RANUNCULACEAE <i>Clematis ?glycinoides</i> (travellers joy)	RHAMNACEAE <i>Stenanthemum scortechinii</i> (pepper and salt)
RUTACEAE <i>Boronia granitica</i> <i>Zieria aspalathoides</i>	SANTALACEAE <i>?Choretrum candollei</i>	STACKHOUSIACEAE <i>Stackhousia ?viminea</i>
STYLIDIACEAE <i>Stylidium graminifolium</i> (grass trigger-plant)		

Birds Seen on Outing to Amiens State Forest – 28 October, 2001

Ruth and John Walter, Qld Naturalists Club

White-faced Heron
Fan-tailed Cuckoo
Rainbow Bee-eater
Superb Fairy-wren
Brown Thornbill
Noisy Miner
Rufous Whistler
Grey Fantail
Australian Magpie

Crimson Rosella
Laughing Kookaburra
Dollarbird
Spotted Pardalote
Red Wattlebird
Yellow-faced Honeyeater
Grey Shrike-thrush
Willie Wagtail
Pied Currawong

Eastern Rosella
Sacred Kingfisher
White-throated Treecreeper
White-throated Gerygone
Noisy Friarbird
Brown Honeyeater
Leaden Flycatcher
Grey Butcherbird
White-winged Chough

PRE OUTING- REPORT - PETZLERS HILL – 25th NOVEMBER

The outing to Petzlers Hill will be led by Rob Simcocks. We will meet at Weeroona Park at 9.00am and travel to Peter Pugno's property at Eukey. After travelling through his property, we will leave the cars and walk up the eastern side of Petzlers Hill. Morning tea will be at the top of the hill.

After allowing a while for exploration, we will split into two groups. The more energetic of us will walk through to the Girraween Road, just east of Bill Goebel bridge. On the way we will pass Slip Rock and the Kitchen Caves. According to Rob we should be on the road at the "Kangaroo Paddock " between 3.30pm and 4.00pm. Lunch and afternoon tea will be carried.

Those who do not wish to walk through will make their way back to the cars and travel around to the meeting point to ferry drivers back to their cars. A suggested place for lunch would be the Underground River, unless we're engrossed at Petzlers Hill.

If you have any queries please phone Kris Carnell on 46835268.

CHRISTMAS BREAK-UP DECEMBER 9TH AT "ORANA"

The Break-up this year will be held at Kris and Margaret Carnell's place, "Orana", 374 Back Creek Road, Severnlea on 9th December, from 1.00pm onwards. To get to "Orana" turn off the New England Highway into Back Creek Road at the Fruit and Nut House at Severnlea, follow Back Creek Road for a bit over 3.5 kilometres. The entrance is on the right hand side, with a sign at the gate.



There will be a couple of self guided walks down to the creek, and provided the day is not too hot, Kris will lead a walk up the mountain at 2.00pm. From the mountain there are views from Sundown right around the west and north to east of Stanthorpe. There are also interesting rock formations. Bring water and afternoon tea.

The barbecue will start at about 5.30pm. We'll supply the barbecue, tea, coffee, milk etc. Bring your own food to cook, a chair to sit on and your favourite CD. In the event of inclement weather the barbecue will be in our old packing shed – lots of character.

Kris & Margaret Carnell
Phone (07) 46835268

NEW YEAR OUTINGS

There will not be another magazine before the half-day outing on 20th January to the Severn River at Ballandean, led by Kris and Margaret Carnell; or the Friday Outing on February 8th organized by Joan and John Bourne. Details of these outings will be published in the Border Post in the week prior to 20th January.