



The Granite Belt Naturalist



Mail Address: Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, Stanthorpe Qld. 4380

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



The Pyramids, Girraween National Park

The Club acknowledges the support of the Gambling Community Benefit Fund in the production of this Newsletter

- 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 (Friday outings as pre-arranged)
- Subs:** Single \$15.00, Family \$25.00 per annum, July to June

Mail contributions: The Newsletter Editor, PO Box 33, Severnlea Qld. 4352. Email: orana@halenet.com.au

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS - 2002/2003

President	Kris Carnell	46835268
Vice-presidents	Millie Marsden Col Hockings	46811593 46811978
Secretary	Liz Bourne	46836374
Treasurer	Dave Bright	46811034
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	46835268
Magazine Committee	Wendy & Neil Donges	46812913
Publicity Officer	Janet Hockings	46811978
Librarian	Trish McCosker	46835371
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

**Deadline for next Newsletter:
6th October 2003**

Outing Sunday September 21st: Broadwater State

Forest led by Liz Bourne.

Next Meeting Wednesday 24th September: Program by Col Hockings – videos of The Overland Track in Tasmania and a Queensland Naturalist campout on Hinchinbrook Island.

Friday Outing October 3rd: Mt Norman area led by Errol Walker.

Sunday Outing October 19th: The Cascades below Dr Roberts Waterhole led by Rob McCosker

Meeting October 22nd: Program by Col Hockings – Mt Moffatt?

Leila Hermansson recently found the following poem, which was written by Jack Passmore for a Glee Club presentation that was produced by Zoe Passmore in the 1930s. It is published with permission of Maurice Passmore.

*When you're swinging along the wallaby track
With the sun in your eyes, and a pack on your back
When the water-bag's empty and the tucker is low
And your feet get more painful the further you go
When there's not a cool spot between heaven and sea,
O Gosh! You'd give quids for a nice cup of tea.*

*When you think you've just dodged a nest of green ants,
With a howl of dismay you find one in your pants,
When a leech drives its beak in the small of your back
And a tick makes you think you've just sat on a tack,
When the back of your neck meets a young stinging tree,
Oh Gosh! You'd give quids for a hot cup of tea.*

*And this is our pleasure, We bush-walking band
From the city's mad roar plunge back to the land
Of wide open spaces, of river and hill,
As with a laugh and a song we stride onward until
Beneath a great gum we sprawl, happy and free,
There to drink in the view with a billy of tea.*

Jack Passmore

Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St., Stanthorpe on Wednesday 27th August, 2003

Opening: The meeting opened 8.10pm, following the Annual General Meeting.

Attendance: There were 19 present at the meeting and 14 apologies as per the attendance book.

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Minutes of the previous meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 23rd July were received as a correct record of the meeting on the motion of Margaret Carnell, seconded by Val Richardson. Carried.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

1. Murrumbidgee Field Nats Club – *Murrumbidgee Naturalist* – August 03
2. Toowoomba Bushwalkers' Club – *Footprint* - August
3. Fassifern Field Naturalists – Newsletter – August
4. Chinchilla Field Nats – *Urimbirra* - August
5. Qld Naturalists Club – *Old Naturalist* – June 03
6. Samson Total Technology – invoice and statement - \$38.50
7. Membership renewals – Peter and Lyn Haselgrove; Christine Anderson; Sue Jenkins; Mrs Ridge; Margaret Compton; R & G Chapman; Sue Frances; Mr and Mrs Newman; Terry & Margaret Tricker;
8. Pro Bono Australia – listing in their publication
9. Jean Harslett – letter of thanks for card and flowers
10. Blue Care – request for donation

This correspondence was accepted on the motion of Liz Bourne, seconded by Neil Donges. Carried.

Financial Statement for the period from 23/7/03 to 27/8/03:

Cash book balance as at 23/7/03 \$603.03

Receipts:

Subscriptions 315.00

Expenditure:

Photocopy maintenance 15.19

Aust Naturalists Network membership 10.00

Govt. tax 0.30

25.49

Cash book balance as at 19/8/03 is \$892.54 which agrees with the bank balance.

Accounts for payment:

Samson Total Technology -photocopier 38.50

Room rent for third quarter 45.00

United Tax and Accounting - audit 121.00

Magazine postage (\$50 spent + \$100) 150.00

Office of Fair Trading – annual return 34.20

This financial report was received on the motion of Dave Bright, seconded by Rob McCosker. Carried

Outing Reports:

1. Friday Outing – Nundubbermere Falls – 1 August

This was held on 1 August and was led by Dave Bright. Seven people attended.

2. Outing to Coolmunda Dam - 24 th August

This outing was cancelled due to rain.

3. Friday outing – 5 September

This will be to Tom Minch's mine near Dalveen and will be led by Archie Cameron. They will also visit the Rosenthal Creek gorge and then drive through to the Connolly Dam.

4. Broadwater State Forest – Sunday 21 September

This will be led by Liz Bourne and will leave from the end of Plant Lane on the southern edge of the forest. It will follow forest tracks and traverse a variety of forest types.

5. The next meeting on 24 September will feature a presentation by either Millie or Esme.

Specimens:

1. Liz Bourne reported that her parents had seen a procession of 4 echidnas crossing the road north of Dalveen. It was assumed that the first was a female being followed by 3 males. Neil Donges said he had seen a female up on a rock, surrounded by males.

2. Margaret Carnell reported on a good sighting of Mars that evening.

General Business:

1. Jack Bennie of Dalby apparently has a good slide presentation on *Cactoblastis* which he could give to a future meeting if we were interested. It was agreed to take up this offer.

The meeting closed at 8.27pm and was followed by slides from members covering Club outings during the previous year.

OUTING TO THE BROADWATER STATE FOREST – Sunday 21 September

Leader: Liz Bourne (Ph 4683 6374)

The outing in September has been chosen to visit an area where there should, hopefully, be a good display of local wildflowers. This forest, situated just north west of Stanthorpe, is made up of two sections and stretches from Ellwood Road at The Summit to the back of the Happy Valley Resort and west to Broadwater Creek. The forest covers quite a variety of plant communities and there should be plenty of interest for bird and plant enthusiasts to see.

As usual, the meeting place will be Weeroona Park in Marsh Street, opposite the Council Chambers, at 9am and from there we will proceed along Amiens Road and up Plant Lane to the southern boundary of the forest. We will leave the cars here and proceed on foot to a suitable stop for smoko. It is intended to have lunch beside the Broadwater (just a few waterholes at present because of the drought) and allow enough time here for relaxing and exploring the surrounds.

The route will all be on forest tracks, so is graded between 3 – 4 in difficulty, although the more adventurous may care to explore some of the rock outcrops to be found off the track. I estimate a total distance for the day of approx. 10km depending on the route taken. For those seeking a shorter walk, there is the possibility of doing only part of the circuit.

Pre-Outing Friday 3rd October – Mt Norman Area

The Friday outing in October will be led by Errol Walker to the Mt Norman area. We will meet at the Lions Park in Wallangarra at 9:00am for morning tea, then travel to the Mt Norman Day Use Area. The outing will consist of a walk along the track towards Mt Norman. You may go as far or as short a distance as you want. The more energetic may like to go to Mallee Ridge. Lunch will be carried.

With a little bit of luck the wildflowers should be good in that area at that time. After exploring as long as we like in the area we will head for home. The Wallangarra Railway Museum is open on an irregular basis at the moment, but it may be possible to visit there. There is a small admission charge.

Reminder Notice

To those of you who have not paid your subs, they are now due. \$15.00 single, \$25.00 family. Please post to PO Box 154, Stanthorpe 4380, or bring to the next meeting.

Because so many of our executive are away we cannot arrange the program for the next twelve months until some time in October. If you have any suggestions please pass them on to a member of the executive. We urgently need suggestions and leaders for the Friday outings.

At our annual meeting there were two changes to our executive. Col will replace Mario as one of the Vice Presidents and Janet will replace Patience as Publicity Officer. These changes will appear on the cover of the next magazine. Oops!