



The Granite Belt Naturalist



Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc., PO BOX 154, Stanthorpe, QLD 4380

Web Site: www.granitenet.com.au/groups/environment/fieldnats/

AIMS OF THE CLUB

1. To study all branches of Natural History
2. Preservation of the flora and fauna of Queensland
3. Encourage a spirit of protection towards native birds, animals and plants
4. Assist, where possible, in scientific research
5. Publish a monthly newsletter for the information of members.

PDF version

Can be downloaded from the web site above on the
Documents page.

Please let us know if you have any comments or
contributions.

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).

NOTE; the latest status of any outing is
posted to [the website](#) as soon as
possible.



CLUB OFFICE BEARERS - 2013/2014

President:	Rob McCosker	46835371
Vice-presidents :	Kris Carnell	46835268
	Jeff Campbell	
Secretary:	Halina Kruger	46835206
Treasurer:	Carol Smallwood	46811034
Newsletter Editor:	Shelley Farr	0417736024
Magazine C'mtee:	M Müller &	46811421
	P Andrewartha	46812913
Publicity Officer:	Lynette Haselgrove	46837255
Librarian:	Trish McCosker	46835371

Management Committee: President, Vice-Presidents,
Secretary, Treasurer.

The Pyramids

The Club acknowledges the support of the Gambling
Community Benefit Fund in the production of this
newsletter and the purchase of a data projector.

COMING UP

Friday 2nd August - H. Kruger's property

Sunday 25th August – Allora Hill M. Müller

Wednesday 28th August – Monthly meeting;

Presentation by M. Jeffries –
Kunming area of China

**Deadline for next newsletter
31st August 2013**

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, high level of fitness or plenty of time required

This document is on the website above for download. If there is anyone who would prefer to get their copy online, please email fieldnats@granitenet.com.au for inclusion on the email newsletter list. This will ensure you have the document as soon as it is finished and before it reaches you by post.

Pre-outing Reports

Friday 2nd August 2013 property of Halina Kruger

Meet at Weeroona Park 9.00am, we will travel to the lower part of our private property at Glen Aplin. We will have morning tea and then a walk amongst our own natural rock areas. Some rock climbing if you wish, otherwise a lot of stepping over fallen trees. There are no facilities available. If you wish you may stay for lunch.

Halina Kruger 4683 5206

Sunday 25th August 2013 – Allora Hill with Michael Müller

This walk is combined with the Toowoomba Field Nats. We will start from Weeroona Park at **8:30 am**.
M Müller

Allora Landcare Group has provided a file which includes the results of the Flora and Fauna Surveys conducted earlier this year. It indicates what might be observed on the excursion – they are very informative lists, and there are photos and maps. It can be downloaded from the website.

<http://granitenet.com.au/groups/environment/fieldnats/walks>

Saturday 3rd August – Wallangarra Ridge

Michael Müller is going for a walk to Wallangarra Ridge on the 3rd August and is inviting interested members to join him - *Ed*.

Wallangarra Ridge is the longest granite slab I have ever seen. From the end of it you look down on - you guessed right - Wallangarra, and there are good views all the way along it. From the end of Turtle Rock Track, we'll make our way south through the bush. There will be a few short Grade 8 or possibly 9 sections, but once on the rock shelf, walking will be easy. It is many years since I was last there so it is partly a survey walk. The best route might have changed a little, so we may be looking for a new one. Please note the total distance will be about 13 km. You must be accordingly equipped and reasonable fitness is required. As I expect only a small party of walkers, we will pre-arrange car-pooling instead of meeting at Weeroona Park.

Please ring for further details. Michael Müller Phone: 4681 1421

Outing Reports

Friday 5th July – Broadwater State Forest

A mostly sunny day saw 9 members venturing down a forestry track after morning tea in a small clearing. At about 7.5 km the distance covered was a bit longer than on most of our weekday outings. We reached Broadwater Creek, where we scrambled through and over the top of some big rock formations. Two of us nearly stepped on the tail of an Eastern Brown Snake dozing under a rock. After passing a secluded dam we walked back up the escarpment and most of us went up a rockface with views over most of the forest before we headed back to the cars along the boundary track.

Michael Müller

Plant List

Mirbelia speciosa ssp speciosa Showy mirbelia
Leucopogon neoanglicus New England beard heath
L. melaleucoides Snowbush
L. microphylla
Trachymene incisa Nativescandytuft
Acacia granitica Granite wattle
A. pruinosa Frosty wattle
A. ulicifolia Prickly moses
Lobelia andrewsii Trailing lobelia
Utricularia dichotoma Fairies aprons
Mitrasacme paludosa
Chrysocephalum apiculatum Yellow buttons
Banksia integrifolia ssp compar White banksia
Correa reflexa var reflexa Common correa
Hovea granitica Tree hovea
Spyridium scortechinii Pepper and salt
Xerochrysum bracteatum Golden everlasting
Melichrus urceolatus Urn heath
Cryptandra amara var floribunda
Pimelea linifolia ssp linifolia Queen of the bush
Swainsona oroboides Variable swainsona
Drosera spatulata Rosy sundew
D. burmannii Tropical sundew

Jeff Campbell



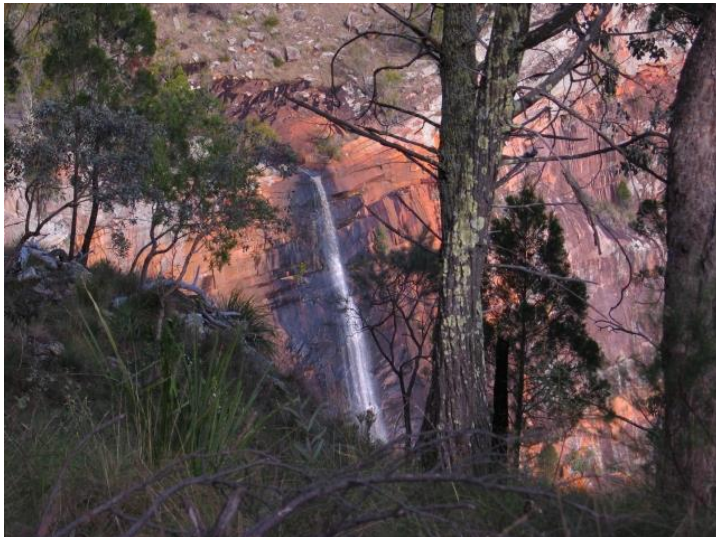
Sunday 21st July – Beehive Mine, Sundown National Park

The Beehive Mine was discovered in 1912 by Bill Lynam and Eli Marstella on the northern side of Red Rock Gorge. Surface deposits were extremely rich. The leases were transferred to the Beehive Tin Mining Company in 1913. It made numerous open cuts and pits along the contact zone of the granite and traprock and carried out sluicing along the sides of the gorge. They also tried alluvial mining along Red Rock Creek. The company was wound up and the leases forfeited in 1917. To provide power for the sluicing a steam engine was lowered to the floor of the gorge. This was later hauled up and provided power for the Glen Aplin sawmill for many years.

Twenty-seven members and visitors drove into the northern end of Sundown NP to Red Rock Gorge. After the rain and cold conditions the day before, Sunday turned out to be clear and sunny.

Smoko was taken at the parking area and the group walked out along the old mining road to the Beehive Mine on the northern side of Red Rock Gorge. The road, put in about 1914, has been cut into the sloping hillside below Mt Lofty and we could imagine the amount of work involved by the sizes of the rocks dug out. Lunch was enjoyed in the sun at the end of the road with views of Jibbinbar Mountain and north to Nundubbermere.

After lunch, some of the group scrambled down into Red Rock gorge and after some searching located one of the diggings. We then returned to the parking area and followed the track down to the gorge lookout.



The falls were running after the recent rain. Afternoon tea was back at the car park and then the drive home.

Birds on the day:

Red Wattlebird, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, White-eared Honeyeater, White-throated Treecreeper, Golden Whistler, Brown Thornbill, Superb Lyrebird.

Plants observed

Yellow Box, Blakely's Red Gum, Youman's Stringybark, Tenterfield Woollybutt, Oleander Wattle, *Correa reflexa*, *Hibbertia sp.*, Greenhood

A visitor who was with us on this outing to the Beehive Mine told us a story of the nearby Sundown Mine. We thought you might be interested.

P&L Haselgrove

The story from Jim has been placed on the Blog page of the Field Nats website - <http://granitenet.com.au/groups/environment/fieldnats/blog> - - Ed

**Annual General Meeting
Stanthorpe Field Naturalists' Club Inc.
24th July 2013**

Meeting opened: 7:36pm

Attendance: Present 21 Apologies: 7 as per attendance book

Minutes of the previous meeting:

H Kruger moved minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record **seconded** M Jeffries
Business arising from the minutes: nil

Presidents Annual Report: Rob McCosker

Correspondence: Incorporation application

Financial Report: \$688.45

C Smallwood moved that the financial Report be accepted **seconded** E Walker

Election of Office Bearers:

President:

C Smallwood **Nominated** R McCosker **seconded** M Jeffries accepted

Vice Presidents:

R McCosker **Nominated** J Campbell **seconded** L Saunders accepted

R McCosker **Nominated** K Carnell **seconded** C Smallwood accepted

Secretary:

L Haselgrove **Nominated** H Kruger **seconded** P Andrewartha accepted

Treasurer:

A Walker **Nominated** C Smallwood **seconded** C Hockings accepted

Newsletter Editor:

M Jeffries **Nominated** S Farr **seconded** V Insall accepted

Magazine Committee:

R McCosker **Nominated** M Muller **seconded** L Saunders accepted

P Andrewartha volunteered to help deliver the magazine jointly with Michael

Publicity Officer:

L Haselgrove agreed to continue being publicity officer until someone else would take over the position.

Librarian:

R McCosker **Nominated** T McCosker **seconded** L Haselgrove accepted

AGM General Business:

Executive Committee meeting Wednesday 7.30pm 7th Aug 2013 R McCosker's home.

Meeting Closed: 7.46pm

STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB INC
FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1/7/2012 to 30/6/2013.

<u>INCOME.</u>		<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	
BALANCE C/F	\$447.61.		
Members subscriptions	1140.00	Room Hire	250.00
Donations	40.00	Magazine costs	134.95
Visitor outing fees	9.00	Insurance	473.00
Projector hire fee	10.00	Office of Fair Trading	45.00
Bank Interest	.04	First aid kit item	5.75
P.O. Box Hire ½ share	49.50	P.O.Box hire fee.	99.00
TOTAL	\$1,696.15	TOTAL	\$1,007.70
		BALANCE C/F	\$ 688.45
<u>TOTAL</u>	\$1,696.15	<u>TOTAL</u>	\$1,696.15

Cash book and Bank Balance on 30/6/2013 is \$688.45.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.
Held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria st, Stanthorpe on 24th July 2013**

Meeting opened: 7.46 pm

Attendance: 21 **Apologies:** 7 as per attendance book

Minutes of the previous meeting:

confirmed by P Andrewartha seconded by C Smallwood carried

Business arising from the minutes:

Correspondence: as per folder

H Kruger moved correspondence be accepted seconded T McCosker carried

Financial Report:

C Smallwood moved that the financial report be accepted L Haselgrove Seconded

Outing Reports:

Weekday outing: M Muller – West of The Summit

Sunday outing: P Haselgrove – Beehive Mine Sundown NP

Pre outing reports

Week day outing: H Kruger – Glen Aplin/Severnlea

Weekend outing: M Muller – Allora Hill- with the Toowoomba FN early 8.30 start

General Business:

No Program for September until the executive meeting 7th Aug. 7.30 next week.

Note that further discussion about the Friday, Saturday and Sunday outings will be sorted out before the next meeting.

Next Meeting: 28th August 2013

This month's presentation: Remember last year R McCosker

Meeting closed: 8.14 pm

Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 2013.

INCOME.

BALANCE C/F.	\$688.45.
Members Subs	300.00
Visitor fees	12.00
INCOME JULY	\$312.00
BALANCE	1000.45
Less expenses	316.60
<u>BALANCE 25/7/2013</u>	<u>\$683.85</u>

EXPENDITURE.

Printer	220.00
Room Rent 2mths	50.00
Office Fair Trading	46.60
EXPENSES JULY	\$316.60

An Apology

Michael Müller says - My apology for missing the AGM without letting anyone know, but very unexpectedly I had to undergo major dental surgery. After not just getting a tooth extracted, but also the remains of a fractured root dug out, I was a bit out of action and not even the Field Nats came to my mind.

Publicity Officer Needed

The position of publicity officer was not filled at the AGM and someone is needed to take on the role. Lynette Haselgrove is continuing in the position until a replacement is found. The person would need to be available in the first week or so of the month so that something can be sent to the papers before the outings. Lynette says that the position only requires ½ to one hour per month to reduce the reports from the newsletter down to about 250 words, get photos from the regular photographers in the group and send it off to the papers.

Email Option for Newsletter

As the club has a new printer which is a black and white laser, the printed newsletters will no longer be printed in colour. If you would like to be able to see the included photos in colour, and you have access to email, then why not opt to receive your newsletter electronically? Send an email to the editor - fieldnats@granitenet.com.au.

This contact can also be used if you want to change your current email address.



I took this picture of a tree trunk and later noticed this impressive cliff in the background, complete with waterfall!
– Chris Farr