



The Granite Belt Naturalist



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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, Victoria Street, Stanthorpe, at 7.30pm
Outings: The Sunday preceding the 4th Wednesday of each month (Saturday outings as pre-arranged)
Subs: Single \$20.00, Family \$30.00 per annum, July to June

CLUB OFFICE BEARERS – 2013/2014

President	Rob McCosker	46835371
Vice-presidents	Kris Carnell	46835268
	Jeff Campbell	
Secretary	Halina Kruger	46835206
Treasurer	Leslie Saunders	
Newsletter Editor	K & M. Carnell	
Publicity Officer	Margaret Carnell	46835268
Librarian	Trish McCosker	46835371

The Club thanks the Queensland Country Credit Union for their donation that enabled us to buy a printer.

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

Stanthorpe Field Naturalists is a group member of Granite Borders Landcare.

*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

Sunday 19th October: Bolivia N.P. with
Kris Carnell

Wednesday 22nd October: Torres Strait
Islands with Col Hockings

**Deadline for next newsletter
12th November 2014**

Pre-Outing Report – Bolivia Hill – 19th October 2014

Leader: Kris Carnell



The Nats outing on the 19th October will be to the Bolivia Hill National Park south of Tenterfield. Meet at Weeroona Park at 9.00am or join the convoy at 10.00am at the truck stop at the top of Bolivia Hill. The turn off to the park is on the southern side of Bolivia Hill and is not signposted, so we will have to travel as a group.

Provided that he is not on bushfire duties, the ranger intends to join us when we arrive at the park. After morning tea we will look through the shearing shed and explore the surrounding area.

Lunch will be at the shearing shed and we will then split into two groups.

One group will walk up the ridge to the north east of the shed. The walk is quite strenuous (steep and lots of undergrowth) and it will take about an hour to reach the vantage point at the top of the rock slab. There are very interesting rock formations at the top with granite dykes and undulating rock surfaces, as well as very good views to the south and west. There are lots of wildflower gardens on the ridge and on the pre-outing there were two boronias and the Bolivia Hill wattle in flower, and Kunzea in heavy bud.

The second group will walk northward up a track to where the old cultivation meets the hillside. A couple of hours will be spent botanising along the edge of the hills and short distances up the gullies.

We will all meet back at the shearing shed for afternoon tea before heading home.

Kris Carnell
46835268

Outing Report – Crows Nest Campout September 12-14

Five members settled in at the Crows Nest Caravan Park for the campout with a further two staying in Hampton.



Golden King Orchid

Friday morning Glenys and I checked out the Museum and Pioneer Village in case we needed it and then had a look at the location of Hartman Park. We called in at Bullocky Rest to check on the footbridge that was closed last time we visited to ensure it was back in operation and ran into two other members recently arrived. We returned to the caravan park for lunch then proceeded on the Applegum and Hartman Park walks. The main botanical interest on the first walk was the various Acacias in flower, four or five species. Most of Hartman Park's tracks have been closed so we had only about 600 metres of walk there. The park was very dry with few plants in flower. On our return walk along the creek we dropped down to the Pump Pool, a nice spot for a picnic with plenty of short grass cover on the bank.

Saturday morning we set off for Hampton to pick up two members there, then travelled via Collingwood and Fifteen Mile Roads to White Mountain Road and followed this for some distance. We stopped for smoko at a creek crossing and spent some time here with several plants in flower and interesting rock formations to look at. When we arrived at the junction of what we thought was a road we intended to use, it proved to be an overgrown bush track. We decided not to push our luck and turned around back to Fifteen Mile Road which we followed to Murphys Creek. We had lunch at the Community Centre grounds after visiting Historic Jessies Cottage, a small cottage built by an early pioneer.

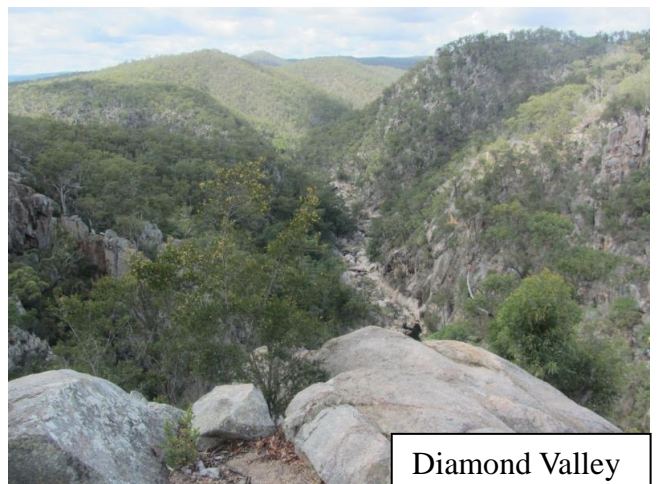


Spring Bluff Garden

After lunch we went to Spring Bluff expecting it to be in all its glory ready for the Carnival of Flowers next week and it was. We managed to visit during a wedding ceremony so parking was at a premium. From here we continued on to the New England Highway to return to camp. One car load set off earlier than the second lot and they decided to go to Ravensbourne National Park for a walk and returned via Lake Perseverance. The rest of us called in at the Danish Flower Art centre expecting to see Danish flower art but all but two

arrangements were gone. It is purely a bead shop and garden furniture plus coffee shop now, with thousands upon thousands of different beads etc., some made up into necklaces etc., some made up as D.I.Y. brooches and the majority to buy loose.

On Sunday we packed up and all met up at the day visitor car park in Crows Nest National Park. Our numbers increased by one with the arrival of Margaret from Toowoomba Nats. After smoko we set off along the track to the Diamond Valley lookout, sighting a lot more flowering plants along the way,



Diamond Valley

the highlight to this point being the beautiful tree Hovea with flower shades varying from mauve to deep purple. Some of the plants were over three metres tall. At the lookout we were entertained by a brush-tailed rock wallaby, quite unconcerned by our presence, allowing us to approach within a couple of metres and posing for our cameras. On our return journey we were lucky enough to spot several specimens of the Small Ant Orchid at the start of the main set of steps where Margaret was waiting for us to come back. Further along the track some of us took the Pools Loop track and we followed the side track down to the Bottlebrush Pool where Glenys spotted some pink flowers which proved to be the Pink Rock Orchid.

We returned to the vehicles for lunch following which we said our goodbyes and parted for home, very satisfied with our weekend.

Bird list:

Striated Pardalote, Yellow Wattlebird, Apostle bird, Willie Wagtail, Crested Pigeon, Australian Magpie, Wood Duck, Pacific Black Duck, Reed Warbler, Mudlark, Welcome Swallow, Paleheaded Parrot, King Parrot, Eastern Rosella, Rainbow Lorikeet, Scaly Lorikeet, Galah, Noisy Miner, Blueheaded Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill, Masked Lapwing, Butcherbird, Wedge-tailed Eagle, Scrub Turkey, Pied Currawong, Flame Robin, Eastern Yellow Robin, Whip bird, Little Pied Cormorant, Kookaburra, Raven, Grey Shrike-thrush

Plant list:

Several Acacias including *A. granitica*, two Hoveas, *Hardenbergia violacea*, *Viola betonicifolia*, *Melichrus urceolatus*, *Prostanthera*, *Grevillea*, *Zieria*, *Pomaderris* (green flower), *Correa reflexa*, *Leucopogon*, *Pultenaea*, *Pimelea* (pink flowers), *Patersonia*, *Chiloglottis truncata*, *Erythrorcis cassythoides*, *Dendrobium kingianum*, *Hibbertia*, *Phebalium*, *Hybanthus*, *Brachystachyum*, *Pultenaea*, *Dodonaea*

Jeff Campbell

Outing Report Wildflower Walk 21st September 2014



Stypandra glauca

We were greeted with a cool windy day for the Wildflower Walk at the TV Tower. Consequently the numbers were way down on the previous Wildflower Walk. Nevertheless, there were sufficient to form two groups. The first group set off followed closely by the second group, making our way in a semicircle below the towers. The main interest as it turned out, was the various orchids. One member of the group was a reporter from ABC radio Brisbane with mini recorder in hand who buttonholed several of us about various plants. The walk finished a little before twelve and most people left. Six members of the Club led by

Michael Mueller grabbed our lunch and set off along the ridge, up and down rocks and around rocks and over rocks and even had luncheon top of another lot of rocks. En route we came across an old dump site that created interest about what the various items were.

Following lunch as we returned to the vehicles the weather began to improve and became somewhat warmer, too warm for jumpers and too cold not to wear it.

Jeff Campbell

Wildflower Walk Flower List

Tea tree *Leptospermum polygalifolium*, Heath myrtle *Calytrix tetragona*, Beard heath *Leucopogon lanceolatus*, Snowbush *L. melaleucoides*, New England beard heath *L. neoanglicus*, Urn heath *Melichrus urceolatus*, Sticky wattle *Acacia viscidula*, Granite wattle *A. granitica*, Pink Kunzea *Kunzea obovata*, Early Nancy *Wurmbia biglandulosa*, Wild iris *Pattersonia glabrata*, Grass tree *Xanthorrhoea johnsonii*, Nodding blue lily *Stypandra glauca*, Golden lily *Bulbine bulbosa*, Boronia *Boronia repanda*, Wax lip orchid *Glossodia major*, Pink fingers *Caladenia carnea*, Purple beard orchid *Calochilus robertsonii*, Climbing orchid *Erythrorchis cassythoides*, Greenhood orchid *Pterostylis mutica*, White mint bush *Prostanthera nivea*, Dampiera *Dampiera purpurea*, Common Apple-berry *Billardiera scandens*, *Seringia hillii*, Sago bush *Ozothamnus diosmifolius*, Variable groundsel *Senecio lautus*, Boobialla *Myoporum undulatum*, Twining glycine *Glycine clandestine*, Headache vine *Clematis glycinoides*, Hop bitter pea? *Daviesia latifolia?*, *Pomaderris sp*, Narrow-leaved mock olive *Notelaea linearis*, Bluebell *Wahlenbergia sp (Tiny)*, *Dianella sp*, Snowy mint bush *Prostanthera nivea*

Minutes of the Meeting of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc. Held in QCWA Rooms, Victoria St, Stanthorpe on Wednesday 24th September 2014

Meeting opened: 7.35pm

Attendance: 15 Apologies 5 as per attendance book

Minutes of the previous meeting:

L Saunders moved seconded J Campbell **carried**

Business arising from the minutes:

nil

Correspondence:

H Kruger moved that the Correspondence accepted seconded E Walker **carried**

Financial Report: \$1139.07

L Saunders moved that the financial report be accepted seconded V Insall

Outing Reports:

Weekend outing: 21st September Stanthorpe Rare Wild Flower Consortium

Campout: Crows Nest and surrounding areas

Pre-outings: 19th October K & M Carnell Bolivia Hill

General Business:

V Insall to contact Harley West re proposed work at Sentimental Rocks.

H Kruger to contact Chinchilla FN re campout 24/25/26 October for possible inclusion with some of our club members

Next Meeting: 22nd October 2014

Next month's presentation: Col Hockings "Thursday Island North Qld"

Meeting closed: 8.15pm

Presentation: R McCosker 'Lord Howe Is.'

Bank Reconciliation September 2014

Balance C/F 30/08/20	Balance			\$ 1,132.07	Balances with Bank Statement as at 18/07/2014			
	Cumming P & J subs	\$ 30.00						
	Saunders L subs	\$ 20.00						
	N Bryant subs	\$ 30.00						
	Bank Interest		\$ 0.01					
	S Francis subs	\$ 20.00						
	V Sullivan subs	\$ 30.00						
		#####	\$ 0.01	\$ 130.01				
				\$ 1,262.08				
	LESS EXP			\$ 123.01	K Carnell Qno 499	\$123.01		
Balance C/F 30/09/2014				\$ 1,139.07	Balances with Bank Statement as at 23/09/2014			

Terrestrial Orchids at Orana



Glossodia major

There seems to have been a very good flowering of terrestrial orchids everywhere this year. When I went for a walk one morning I was delighted to see hundreds of waxlip orchids (*Glossodia major*), along with spider orchids (*Caladenia sp.*) and donkey orchids (*Diuris sp.*) in the shallow ground close to the creek. We have always called the *Diuris* double-tails. We showed them off to a few people and Jeff Campbell told us which species he thought the *Diuris* and *Caladenia* might be. There were also Onion orchids (*Microtus parviflora*) and the midget greenhood (*Pterostylis mutica*).

Margaret Carnell



Diuris sp.



Caladenia sp. (Spider Orchid)