



# The Granite Belt Naturalist



**Mail Address:** Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc, PO Box 154, Stanthorpe Qld. 4380  
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Web site <https://mysd.com.au/fieldnats/>

## **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

**Meetings:** 4th Wednesday of each month at  
Uniting Church, Small Hall, 113 High Street  
Stanthorpe at 7.30pm

**Outings:** The Sunday preceding the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday  
of each month

**Subs:** Single \$20.00, Family \$30.00 per annum, July  
to June

## **CLUB OFFICE BEARERS – 2020/2021**

President	Peter Haselgrove	46837255
Vice-presidents	Kris Carnell	46835268
	Leon McCosker	46811737
Secretary	Lyn Collins	0428810156
Treasurer	Gunter Maywald	46810674
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	46835268
Publicity Officer	K & M Carnell	46835268
Librarian	Laura Maywald	46810674

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

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, well-formed track, no steps, 5km or less. Clearly signposted. Suitable for wheelchairs with assistance.
2. Formed track. May have gentle hills and some steps. Clearly signposted. No experience required
3. Formed track, some obstacles, 20km or less. May have short steep hills and many steps. Some experience recommended.
4. Rough Track. May be long and very steep with few directional signs. For experienced bushwalkers.
5. Unformed track. Likely to be very rough, very steep and unmarked. For very experienced bushwalkers with specialised skills.

**Coming Up**

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September: Greenlands with Jayn Hobba

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September: *Revegetation* with Kris & Margaret Carnell

**Deadline for next newsletter**  
**13<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**Pre-Outing Report - September 19<sup>th</sup> – Greenlands**

**Leader: Jayn**

Meet at Weeroona Park ready for a 9am departure. As there is limited parking, carpooling would be helpful but only if current Covid rules allow.

We will travel in convoy.

As you enter the property you pass a cottage on your right and immediately after this Jayn will have a sign to indicate a parking area which is at the front of the property on a flat area.

We will have morning tea at the cars and then carry lunch and head out from here. The walk will take us to the western end of the property near the house where we can have lunch outside in the garden area. After lunch we can wander out on the rocks looking at the numerous rock gardens and then take another trail back to the cars. Approximate return 3 - 3.30pm. The walking is easy to moderate - some negotiating rocks on uneven path etc. It's possible to walk on the property road if people find the tracks too difficult.

There is an extensive array of flowers and many birds around. This property has extensive rock pavements. Jayn keeps track of what is flowering where and has seen some bearded orchids recently. She has been experimenting with a burning regime and monitoring results and she will explain this. It will be possible to compare areas where burning has taken place and areas that remain untouched.



Leonima rotundifolium

**Outing Report – Passchendaele State Forest – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

About 70 people met at the Amiens State School on a sunny spring morning for the first Rare Wildflower Walk for 2021, including a few Nats. After signing in we travelled to the Passchendaele State Forest, passing



through sections of clear-felled pine forest. The *Acacia venulosa* was growing very well in this section, along with a *Dampiera*.

The walk was well-organized, dividing into four groups with a competent leader for each. As we started the walk we noticed extensive pig rootings under the trees.

The star attraction of the walk was *Boronia granitica*, so we slowly headed up the hill towards the large rock slabs, botanising on the way. There was *Leucopogon melaleuroides*, *Glycine clandestina*, *Micromyrtus sessilis* and the first of the *Bossiaea rhombifolia*. We reached the *Boronia granitica* and were surprised at the number of plants. In this area the *Bossiaea* was magnificent.

Boronia granitica



Triggering the Trigger Plant

When we reached the rock slabs, one of the first things I noticed was the *Stylidium laricifolium* (Tree Trigger Plant) at the edge of the rocks. There were a couple of plants of the best specimens I've ever seen. I was very pleased to see one young mum showing her daughter how the triggers work. Also in this area the *Leionema rotundifolium* was in full bloom. We explored the area around the rock slabs noticing *Drosera peltata* in the shallow areas and admiring the rock gardens where there was *Calytrix tetragona* (Fringe Myrtle), and *Leptospermum* making a show. We were not so pleased to see evidence of pigs in this area as well.

After about two to three hours we made our way back to the cars and headed home in time for lunch. It was a most enjoyable outing.

Margaret Carnell



Stylidium laricifolium (Trigger Plant)



Calytrix tetragona (Fringe Myrtle)

### **Butterflies on the brink: identifying the Australian butterflies most at risk of extinction**

Reference: This is an extract from the National Environmental Science Programme (NESP) Threatened Species Recovery Hub. 2021. Butterflies on the brink: identifying the Australian butterflies most at risk of extinction, Research findings factsheet.

This factsheet is a six-page PDF. Contact Peter Haselgrove if you would like a copy emailed to you.

From the factsheet: Invertebrates are declining globally in both diversity and abundance, with potentially serious consequences for ecosystem functioning. Many Australian butterflies are imperilled or declining but few are listed for protection by legislation.

We identified the 26 Australian butterflies at most immediate risk of extinction within a 20-year time frame. We found that one butterfly is facing a greater than 90% chance of extinction in the next 20 years (and may already be extinct), and four species have a moderate to high (greater than 30%) chance of extinction. We also identified key threatening processes affecting these species (chiefly inappropriate fire regimes, habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species and climate change), and the research and management actions needed to save them. Mapping of the 26 butterflies' distributions revealed that most are now found only in a single state or territory and many occupy narrow ranges. Increased resourcing and management intervention is required to avert future extinctions.



### **ACE GUIDE TO EUCALYPTS**

Brisbane

by Roderick Fensham

This plant guide is fully illustrated in colour, featuring photographs of the leaves, flowers and bark of all 37 eucalypt trees that are native to the Brisbane region. ACE Guide to Eucalypts is a user-friendly book that enables the identification of local gum trees. This guide is designed to be used by school students and anyone who appreciates a walk in the bush as well as for expert naturalists. Advice is given on how to find koalas and which trees they eat. Profiles are provided on 37 species with high resolution photos to aid identification. There is a map of Brisbane Reserves and a list of species found in those reserves. There is also a summary of Aboriginal uses of eucalypts. .

First edition 2021, cardcover, 48 pages, B&W and colour photos, map  
ISBN 978-0-6452326-0-8

\$25.00

<https://aceguidetoeucalypts.com;>

<http://www.kpress.com.au/General%20Books.htm>

**General Meeting**  
**Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.**  
**held 25th August 2021 at the Stanthorpe Uniting Church Hall**

**Meeting opened:** 7:40 pm

**Attendance:** As per Attendance Book

**Apologies:** Gunter and Laura

**Minutes of the previous meeting:** confirmed: Lyn seconded: Rob carried

**Business arising from the minutes:**

ANN Get together: An email was sent to all members, confirming that despite best efforts, unfortunately we are no longer hosting the 2022 Get together.

**Correspondence:** As per folder moved: Lyn seconded: Teresa carried

**Financial Report:** In Gunter's absence, Peter presented the Financial Report, showing a bank balance of \$2,307.44. An outstanding cheque of \$150 for hall fees will bring the balance to \$2,157.44.

moved: Peter seconded: Trish carried

**Outing Reports:** Teresa reported on the joint walk with the Wildflower Consortium at Amiens, which had an attendance of 65-70 interested people.

**Pre-outings:** Barakula camp-out – if anyone is interested in going to this, please speak to Peter or Lynette.

**General Business:**

Programme for the coming year was put together at a meeting at the Haselgrove's.

September outing – Sue will be asked if she could lead her suggested trip to Jayn Hobba's property in September.

April Meeting – Errol will be asked if he could do a Speaker spot in April.

A programme will then be prepared and sent to all members.

**Specimens:**

Kris had what looked like a spider, but with only 6 legs. It was determined to be a Wolf Spider which had unfortunately lost 2 of its legs.

He also had an unusual gall, which had been totally encompassed by leaves.

Rob had a mystery plant, which Teresa thought was a *Muehlenbeckia rhyticarya* – Wrinkle nut lignum or Lignum.

**Next Meeting:** 22nd September

**Meeting closed:** 8:30 pm

**Presentation:** David Wilson then showed us his 'Volcanic New Zealand', giving us a fascinating insight into the types and causes of volcanoes, and the history of eruptions over the eons.



## Spottings

Thanks to Rob McCosker for the photos below taken on a return trip to The Signboard on 17/8/2021.



Rob wrote: The plant specimen taken to the last meeting – *Meuhlenbeckia gracillima* (above) The description in Flora of the Granite Belt, page 171, matches, except this one was not a climber.

**Below:** *Acacia* and *Sarsparilla* in bloom.



<b>Stanthorpe Field Nats Club Program 2021-2022</b>			
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>OUTINGS</b>	<b>MEETINGS</b>	<b>CAMPOUT</b>
September	19 <sup>th</sup> Jayn's place at Greenlands	22 <sup>nd</sup> Revegetating Orana Kris & Margaret Carnell	
October	24 <sup>th</sup> Cascades Rob McCosker	27 <sup>th</sup> Small Things Gunter Maywald	
November	21 <sup>st</sup> Mallee Ridge Kris & Margaret Carnell	24 <sup>th</sup> GBSAN Rick Humphries and Barakula Wildflowers (Peter H)	
December	5 <sup>th</sup> End of year Breakup Peter & Lyn Haselgrove		
February	20 <sup>th</sup> A Driving tour Kris & Margaret Carnell	23 <sup>rd</sup> Native Grasses Peter Haselgrove	
March	20 <sup>th</sup> Broadwater SF Peter & Lyn Haselgrove	23 <sup>rd</sup> Tongariro National Park, NZ David Wilson	
April	24 <sup>th</sup> Redgate Road Peter & Lyn Haselgrove	27 <sup>th</sup> Easter Island Errol Walker	
May	22 <sup>nd</sup> Top of the World, Amiens Teresa Clifford	25 <sup>th</sup> Eucalypts Gunter Maywald	
June	19 <sup>th</sup> Hermitage Open Day and Everest Road Flora and Fauna Reserve, Warwick Lyn Collins	22 <sup>nd</sup> An Introduction to Endangered Species of the Northern Tablelands Neil Fordyce	
July	24 <sup>th</sup> Glen Rock Camp in lieu of day walk. Details to come.	27 <sup>th</sup> AGM and Remember Last Year	Glen Rock Camp Rob & Trish McCosker
August	21 <sup>st</sup> Mt Koola Kerrie & Leon McCosker	24 <sup>th</sup> Travels with the Carnells Kris & Margaret Carnell	
All outings and programs are subject to change and members will be advised by email if changes occur.			