



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 4th 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 20th Feb: *Driving Back Roads to Goldfields Crossing* with K & M Carnell

Wednesday 23rd Feb: *Native Grasses* with Peter Haselgrove

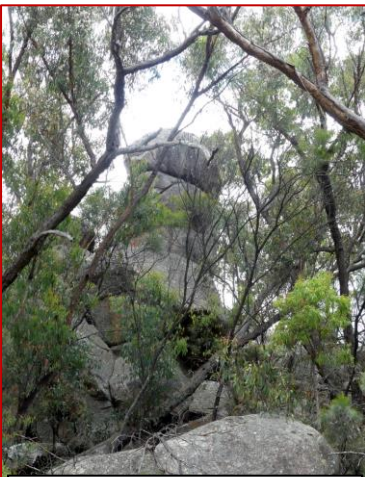
**Deadline for next newsletter
10th March 2022**

Pre-Outing Report 20 February 2022 – Driving to Goldfields Crossing via Back Roads

Leaders: Kris and Margaret Carnell

Phone: 46835268

We will meet at Weeroona Park at 9 a.m.



Rock Stack – K Carnell

When we were planning our program it was decided that the first outing of the year would be a driving outing so that we wouldn't be walking in the heat. Our first outing for 2022 will take us to the west and north west of Stanthorpe. We will basically take a loop from Stanthorpe out into the traprock country and back to Amiens. From there, we will go to the Goldfields crossing of Pikes Creek for lunch. The return journey will take us via Bapaume and the Cannon Creek Road back to Stanthorpe. The trip takes us through a number of different land forms and vegetation.

Overall the trip should be about 130 km, but that is very dependent on road conditions on the day. The trip contains some dirt roads but is planned to be suitable for conventional vehicles. Some of the roads that we had originally planned to use have been damaged with the recent weather events so we will be avoiding them. We will do a final check a few days before the 20th.

When travelling on the day please adhere to Nats rules and make sure the vehicle behind is still coming. If the vehicle behind stops then we all stop. We would like you to stop whenever you see something interesting so that everybody gets to have a look. You will be given a running sheet with some interesting things to look for. We would also like you to record any bird sightings and flowers you see. Please bring a chair to make it more comfortable for morning tea and lunch.



Break-up – 5th December 2021 – Peter and Lynette Haselgrove's Place

We met at Peter and Lynette's place in the afternoon of 5th December and were struck by the difference from last year when we were in the midst of a drought. The vegetation was very lush and there were a number of different wildflowers in bloom.

Peter and Lynette had the kettle boiling, so after a cuppa we set out on our walk along the road, with many stops to look at flowers and insects. Gunter

stopped to look at a young eucalypt and we saw three caterpillars, a eucalypt beetle and a leaf-hopper all on the same plant. There were bluebells, golden everlastings, *Leucochrysum albicans albicans*, Pimelea, and *Coreopsis*, among other things. Near the boundary there were a couple of lovely specimens of Clematis in seed and an evening primrose that had just opened its petals.

The barbeque was fired up and we all sat around eating our meal and chatting to end a relaxed afternoon and another successful year.

Margaret Carnell

General Meeting - Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc. 24th November 2021

Meeting opened: 7:40 pm

Attendance and Apologies: as per Attendance Book **Welcome guests:** Peter welcomed Rick Humphries, Lyn Cook and Mike Crisp

Minutes of the previous meeting (amended):

Confirmed Lyn seconded Lesley carried

Business arising from the minutes:

Quoll Society meeting: 10th November – a very informative evening, well attended, including quite a few Nats. Members. Much interest was shown in helping the Society in their efforts to keep the quoll from extinction. Peter mentioned there are quolls at 'Redgate Road', which, with a bit of luck, we may see on our April outing.

Christmas Break-up: 5th December at the Haselgrove's property at Storm King, with a late afternoon bar-b-que.

Correspondence: as per folder

moved Lyn seconded Kris carried

Financial Report:

Gunter reported a Bank Balance of \$2,154.24 plus Petty Cash of \$152.25.

moved Gunter seconded Lynette carried

Outing Reports:

The 'Mallee Ridge' outing was cancelled, due to the weather. During Kris & Margaret's

pre-outing, they saw 35 different species of wildflowers, mainly flannel flowers. So as not to miss these, a revised outing has been suggested for next Sunday, 28th November, dependent on the weather, details of which Kris will email out.

Pre- outings: 20th February – Kris & Margaret. More details prior to the day.

General Business:

Kris has a laser printer which had been used for printing the Newsletter. As this is not expected to be needed again, there was discussion as to what we should do with it. As it is not worth much, it was agreed that we donate it to a like-minded group.

Following on from the quoll report, Peter reported on another endangered species, the Regent Honeyeater. In the burnt areas of the Hunter Valley, there is a mistletoe planting blitz happening, with volunteers collecting mistletoe fruit, storing the seeds, and with the help of a Grant, Arborists are planting the seeds high in the trees, giving the birds vital food and nesting sources, a benefit far sooner than planting replacement trees.

Next Outing: 20th February

Next Meeting: 23rd February

Meeting closed: 8:05 pm

Presentation:

Guest Speaker Rick Humphries, President of the Granite Belt Sustainable Action Network, explained their mission to work with Councils, local groups and farmers, with some areas of particular reference being a push for regenerative agriculture, additional protected areas in the region, the development of nature-based tourism opportunities, and feral cat control, aiming towards a sustainable environment, and protecting the Granite Belt's biodiversity.

Rob McCosker then showed us some images from the camp-out at Barakula State Forest, that he and Trish, Peter and Lynette recently attended, along with the Qld. Nats.

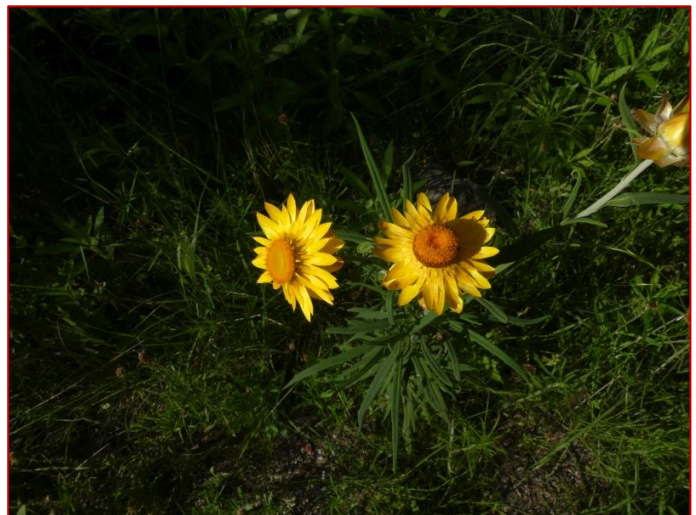
Gunter gave us a short show of some of his fascinating work with small creatures.

LIBRARY NEWS

Rob McCosker has kindly agreed to take over the role of Club Librarian when Laura Maywald leaves. In the meantime, we have discussed the idea of "culling" the library holdings which have become outdated or are of little interest to members.

Laura will bring the library in its entirety to our meeting on the 23rd. If a majority of members present agree to the plan, we will offer everything to those who would like to take items home. Afterward we will probably have to dispose of the rest, as the size of the collection has become unwieldy. Naturally we will keep all of the Stanthorpe Field Nats Newsletters! (In case of any dispute we plan to do a King Solomon and cut the books in half.)

Thank you!
Cheers,
Laura



Break-up Photos

Top Left: Gunter showing us insects.

Top Right: Three caterpillars

Middle Left: Old Man's Beard – Clematis in seed

Middle Right: Eucalypt Beetle

Bottom Left: Trigger Plant

Bottom Right: Golden Everlasting

Photos by Kris Carnell

Spottings

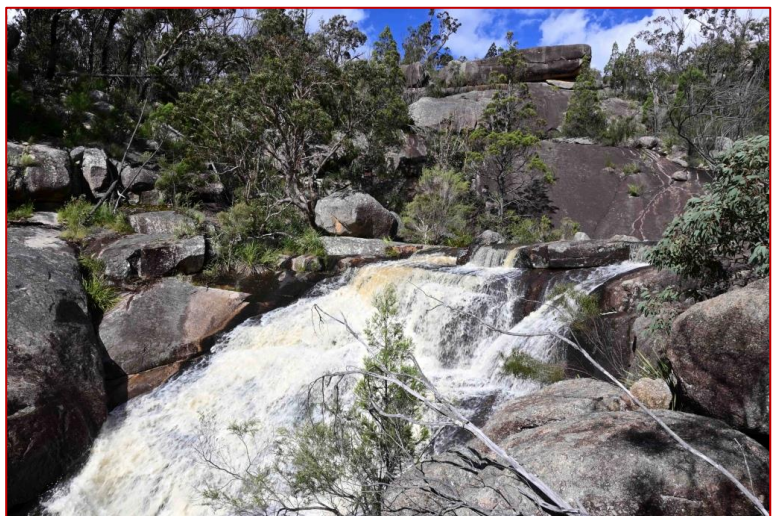


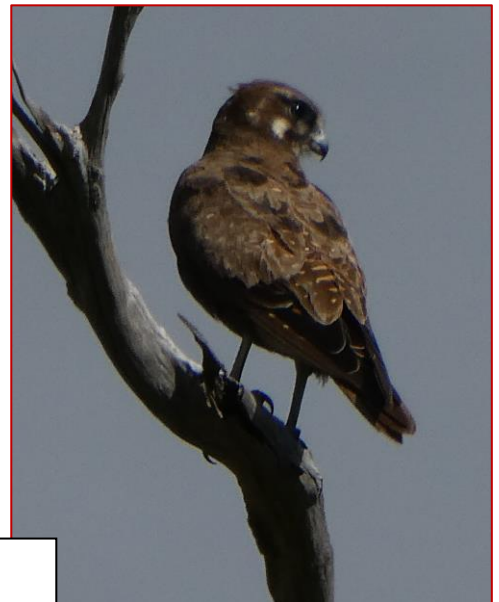
Top Left: *Diuris* sp. – Lockwood Wilson

Top Right: A Field of Flannel Flowers
– Liz Bourne

Middle: Nundubbemere Falls after
rain. – David Wilson

Bottom Right: Wyberba Falls – David
Wilson





Top Left: Microtis in a hanging basket. They've been there for years.

Top Right: Orchard Butterflies about to mate

Middle: Yellow-faced Honeyeater's egg and empty nest.

Bottom Left: Pheasant Coucal in a dead wattle tree.

Bottom Right: A raptor seen on the way to the Nats Breakup

Photos by Kris and Margaret Carnell