



QNC NEWS

Newsletter of the
QUEENSLAND NATURALISTS' CLUB INC.

No. 362 May-Jun 2022

www.qnc.org.au

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PROGRAMME MAY-JUN 2022

General Meetings: Please register at meetings@qnc.org.au or phone Mike on 0434 148 170

Monday, 16 May The 2022 CT White lecture

Speaker: Dr Conrad Hoskin

Topic: Vertebrates of the mountains of North East Queensland

Monday, 20 June The 2021 CT White lecture (held over)

Speaker: Dr Geoff Monteith

Topic: Surveying Flightless Insects of the Wet Tropics Mountaintops - One Mountain at a Time.

Excursions: Please register at excursions@qnc.org.au

May 15 – Day excursion, Dunwich, Stradbroke Island

June 26 – Day excursion, Whites Hill and Sankey Scrub – details TBA

July 24 – Day excursion, Coochiemudlo Island

CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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The Queensland Naturalist is published twice per year, send articles to the Editor:

Dr Peter Woodall at journal@qnc.org.au

If you receive a paper copy of the newsletter, switch to receive the coloured email edition by contacting Mike (treasurer@qnc.org.au) to update your details.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Reminder - QNC Subscriptions due 30 June 2022

Website

QNC is currently working on a project to revise and update our website. Watch this space for more details as they become available <https://www.qnc.org.au/>

Facebook

Follow our Facebook page for titbits about the natural world, to find out what we've been up to and for information on upcoming events. Share our page with your friends and families and contact Leith (librarian@qnc.org.au) if you have information we could post. You do not have to be a member of Facebook to see what we publish, and you don't have to divulge any private information.

Library Catalogue

The library catalogue can be found on the QNC website at https://www.qnc.org.au/Library/QNC_LibraryCatalogue.pdf

Back Numbers of "The Queensland Naturalist"

Peter Woodall notes that over the years we have accumulated increasing numbers of past issues of "The Queensland Naturalist". The QNC council has decided that these surplus numbers will be available free at club meetings. Over the coming months, Peter will be bringing into meetings a range of these surplus copies from past years so please come and browse through them to see if you need to fill any gaps in your collection or if there are any of interest from the years before you joined the QNC.

COVID-19

COVID guidelines

- ❖ Please register for all meetings by email to meetings@qnc.org.au or phone Mike on 0434 148 170
- ❖ Please register for all excursions by email to excursions@qnc.org.au or phone Barney on 07 3720 9414
- ❖ COVID-19 social distancing, hygiene and other requirements will be implemented at all QNC meetings and excursions.
- ❖ Also, NO SUPPER will be held at the meetings, and the library display is limited to recent journals.
- ❖ ***Please do not attend QNC meetings or outings if you are feeling unwell or showing cold or flu-like symptoms.***

Vale Marjorie Jean Jahnke (nee Anderson)

Born 23.3.1939 Died 9.4.2022

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Marjorie. As a club we remember her warm presence and the contribution she made, directly and indirectly, to the success and enjoyment of our activities. Many of our members will have known Marjorie and Barry over many decades and will know of Marjorie's life, character and integrity. It serves well for us all to be reminded of her caring roles where she began work as a dental assistant, moved on to medical receptionist and legal secretary before taking on motherhood with devotion and competence. Marjorie was also wife and supporter of her schoolteacher husband in, amongst other places, a small school at Crows Nest and then to the UK in 1981, while living in the village of Drayton, Oxfordshire where he taught at the Abingdon School. On returning to Australia, Marjorie took up duties as an assistant in the biology teaching laboratory at St Peters Lutheran College.

Amid this catalogue of responsible activity, one might lose sight of another side of Marjorie. It might be remembered that she met Barry in 1962 when they were both members of the Brisbane Repertory Theatre and it was to the theatre, watercolour painting and the playing of mah-jong that Marjorie returned to after handing over the major responsibilities of her life.

We pause to remember Marjorie and her husband Barry, both so well known to us. We send condolences to their children Richard, Kathryn and Elisabeth. Our thoughts have been with you often over the difficult closing stages of your shared journey.

Ron Carr
President QNC

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings are held **between February and November on the third Monday of the month** from 7:30 pm at the Toowong Uniting Church Hall, 82 Sherwood Road, Toowong. This location can be accessed by public transport and is approximately 200 metres from Toowong Village Shopping Centre, Toowong Railway Station and the main bus stops. Street parking is available near the church and there is an off-street parking area on the river side of the church (ignore the permit required sign).

DIGITAL EXHIBITS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

Do you have something to share at a General Meeting? If your exhibit requires the projector, please arrive by 7:15 PM and liaise with the Lanternist to upload your PowerPoint or jpeg images. We would also love to see your exhibit in the QNC News and online.

QUEENSLAND NATURAL HISTORY AWARD 2022

The Qld Natural History Award for 2022 has been awarded to Dr Conrad Hoskin of James Cook University. Dr Hoskin will attend our May meeting to receive the award and will deliver the 2022 CT White lecture. At the June meeting, Australian Entomologist Dr Geoff Monteith will deliver the 2021 CT White lecture (held over from last year).

CT WHITE LECTURE 2022

Title: Vertebrates of the mountains of North East Queensland

The Speaker: Dr Conrad Hoskin – Senior Lecturer, College of Science and Engineering, James Cook University

The Lecture: Dr Hoskin has an impressive academic background having completed his BSc (Hons) in 1996 at the University of Queensland and after various wildlife related employments, he returned to UQ to complete his PhD. He has since worked at ANU and since 2011, at James Cook University. His research has focused on Queensland vertebrates, particularly reptiles and frogs but he has also done some work on mammals and birds. Much of his work has been carried out in the mountains of eastern Queensland, particularly North Queensland.

He has discovered more than 33 new species of frogs and reptiles in Queensland, with more than 15 of these made in the field; the remainder resulting from genetic studies and analysis of available data. Amongst this taxonomic work is his co-description of three new genera. Dr Hoskin is an extraordinarily busy and productive academic and has published over 80 peer reviewed papers that have attracted over 2000 citations.

If this were his only contribution to natural history in Queensland then significant though that would be, it may not have been enough to persuade the selectors to award him the Qld Natural History Award. The Award focuses on the nominee's contribution to natural history in Queensland, and for this purpose considerable weight is given to a nominee's contribution by way of publications of books or popular articles for general distribution, as well as contributions of time, effort and support for organisations and teaching. Therefore, in addition to professional work, successful nominees are also enthusiastic about teaching the general public at clubs like ours, at schools and to anyone interested and willing to listen.

Conrad assists on the IUCN Amphibian Specialist Group and the Skink Specialist Group. He has been a long-term contributor and Honorary Research Fellow to the Queensland Museum. He has served as treasurer to the Australian Society of Herpetology and has supported the community group Kuranda EnviroCare for more than a decade.

Dr Hoskin has donated many specimens to the Queensland Museum including 28 type specimens, 14 of which are the only specimens held in any collection.

Unsurprisingly his teaching efforts are heavily focused on university undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, but his enthusiasm sees him appearing as a guest teacher at Townsville primary and secondary schools (which has nothing to do with his day job) but is born of his hope and passion to make kids care more about the incredible natural world around them.

His contribution extends to radio and television appearances within Australia and film appearances in documentaries produced by National Geographic, BBC and NHK Japan. Through these outlets he will have reached many millions of viewers.

CT WHITE LECTURE 2021 (HELD OVER)

Title: Surveying the Flightless Insects of the Wet Tropics Mountaintops – One Mountain at a Time.

The Speaker: Dr Geoff Monteith, Honorary Research Fellow, Queensland Museum

Geoff is a graduate in entomology from the University of Queensland and served his career as curator of insects at UQ from 1963-1978 and then at the Queensland Museum from 1978-2008. His main interest in entomology has been surveying and studying rainforest insects. He has been a member of QNC since the 1970s, was on Council from 1980-1985, President in 1983-84 and led long excursions of the club to Cape Tribulation in 1982 and to Kroombit Tops in 1983.

The Lecture: The mountains of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area, between Cooktown and Townsville, are geologically old and preserve a high, cool, wet, rainforest environment which has been continuous since times when Australia was connected to Gondwanaland and when most of Australia had that environment. Many of the insects that occur on their summits have a similar ancient ancestry but were unknown to science until famous Harvard biogeographer and entomologist, Philip J. Darlington Jnr., climbed and collected beetles on some of those peaks in 1957-58, revealing just a glimpse of an amazing and unknown fauna.

Between 1980 and 2000, Geoff Monteith led adventurous parties from the Queensland Museum who systematically sampled the insects from 61 different mountain tops in the Wet Tropics. Only 12 were accessible by vehicle. Fourteen of them were low enough to walk up and back in a day, while 35 were so high or remote that they required backpacking up and camping near the summit. The 2021 CT White lecture will summarise this fieldwork, the people who participated, and the broad-brush results derived from entomologists around the world who studied the many tens of thousands of insects that were collected.

PREVIOUS GUEST SPEAKERS

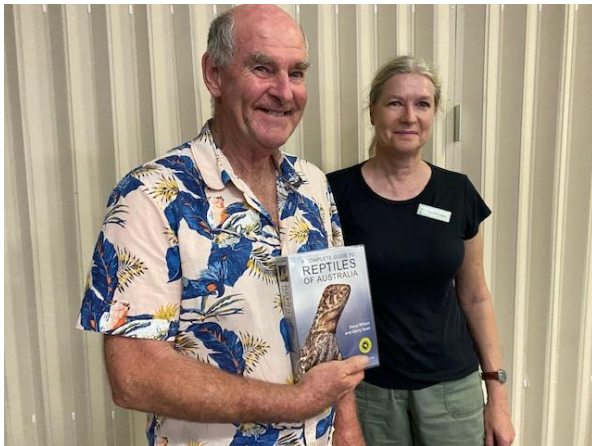
Monday 21 March 2022

Speaker: Steve Wilson

Topic: 'Living on the edge: Queensland's endangered grassland earless dragons'

Australia is home to 23 described species (Genus *Tympanocryptis*, Family Agamidea) of dumpy little rough-skinned lizards called earless dragons. They range from hyper-abundant over vast tracks of inland Australia through to critically endangered and may represent mainland Australia's first reptile extinctions, victims of habitat fragmentation and loss. *Tympanocryptis* means hidden ear because there is no obvious ear opening. The inner ear structures are atrophied and the animal is probably functionally deaf. Earless dragons are exclusively diurnal (awake and active during the day). The most common and widespread earless lizard in Eastern Australia is the four-clawed earless lizard. Other species, such as the Nullarbor earless dragon, are more localized.

Earless dragons thrive in some of the harshest deserts including the vast gibber plains of stones and clay with little or no topographic relief, shade or standing water. When the mercury rises, they are often the last lizards standing in a shimmering heat haze. But some species, restricted to temperate and subtropical grasslands, are not doing so well. Others are hanging on but only just. These little lizards are living on the edge.



**Steve Wilson and QNC Vice President
Colleen Folz**

Steve Wilson is an award-winning Australian herpetologist, naturalist, photographer and author. Steve has authored and co-authored eight reptile books ranging from natural history to reference books (national, state and regional identification guides) and a children's book. For nearly 40 years he has been working to compile one of the most comprehensive image libraries of Australian and international reptiles. These photos appear in his field guides and dozens of other books and magazines. Some of Steve's photos from his talk are reproduced with permission on p 7,8.



Core habitat for smooth-snouted earless dragon (north of Birdsville, Qld)



**Smooth-snouted earless dragon
*Tympanocryptis intima***



**Four clawed earless dragon
Tympanocryptis tetraporophora
Gravid (with eggs) female (denoted by yellow colour on the jowls)**



**Nullarbor earless dragon
Tympanocryptis houstoni
Note - prominent vertebral stripe and dark transverse bands**



**Five-lined earless dragon
Described in 2014
*Tympanocryptis pentalineata***



**Five-lined earless dragon
found on the floodplains southwest of
Normanton, Qld**



Claypan earless dragon
Tympanocryptis argillosa described in 2019
 Found in claypans Stryzlecki desert, SA
 Bar across snout is characteristic



Goldfields pebble-mimic earless dragon
Tympanocryptis Pseudopsephos
 A species of Agama found in the Goldfields
 region of Western Australia



**Gascoyne area of WA includes vast plains of
 quartz gibber, habitat for the
 Gascoyne pebble-mimic dragon**



Gascoyne pebble-mimic earless dragon
Tympanocryptis Gigas



**Typical stance of earless dragons to
 minimise exposure to heat –
 facing the sun with reflective pale belly**



Roma earless dragon
Tympanocryptis Wilsoni

EXCURSIONS

Fees apply for weekend camps of \$2 per adult per night, plus other camping fees, if applicable. Those participating in any Club activity do so as volunteers in all respects and as such accept responsibility for any injury to themselves, however incurred. The Club or its officers cannot accept any liability or responsibility.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES DURING COVID-19

- The number of participants at Club activities may need to be restricted.
- **Members must register via email** to the Excursion Secretary at excursions@qnc.org.au preferably at least 24 hours before day outings and three days prior to camps.
- **Registration needs to include the names and contact details of all persons attending.**
- Participants are recommended to maintain social distancing requirements for the outing.
- ***Please do not attend QNC outings if you are feeling unwell or showing cold or flu-like symptoms.***

UPCOMING EXCURSIONS

Day Excursion– Bradbury’s Beach, Dunwich, Stradbroke Island

Excursion Leaders: Dr Ian Lawn & Ms Myriam Preker (Ph 0499 089 394)

Day and Time: Sunday, May 15 at 10:30am by the One-Mile Jetty, Yabby Street, Dunwich.

Registration: Please register by sending an email to excursions@qnc.net.au with details of all people attending in your party and a contact phone number. Please put “Dunwich” as the subject. Please also address your email to Barney (the excursion secretary) as otherwise it can end up in the spam folder.

Description: The sheltered, sandy/mudflat near Bradbury’s Beach supports a complex array of environments with seagrass beds and a diverse fauna of benthic invertebrates and fish. Our day will start with a leisurely, nature walk. This will be an excellent opportunity for bird watching, especially the shore birds, and koalas can often be seen in the trees close to the Dunwich Cemetery. After an early lunch break, we will start to explore the low-tide area. The low tide is at 13:14 (0.10m).

What to bring: Sunblock; sunhat; sturdy footwear that can be used in water and that protects the ankles; reef-walking stick; and a glass-bottom bucket if you have one.

How to get there: Make your way to Toondah Harbour, Cleveland (Brisbane UBD Ref. Map 186, D17)

By car: Cleveland is about 45 minutes from Brisbane CBD. There is free parking available.

By train: Catch the Cleveland Line from Brisbane (South Bank, South Brisbane, Roma Street, Central Stations, etc.). There is a free Stradbroke Flyer courtesy bus pickup from the train station 10 minutes prior to each water-taxi departure.

Two companies operate water taxis from Toondah Harbour to North Stradbroke Island. Of these, the excursion secretary recommends the Stradbroke Flyer Water Taxi www.flyer.com.au (Gold Cats - 07 3821 3821). **The wearing of masks is mandatory.** The journey will take around 25 minutes. Note that parking is limited, so give yourself plenty of time to find a park and walk to the ferry terminal.

Day Excursion – Coochiemudlo Island

Excursion Leader: Susan Nelles (0487 202 101) zefarella@icloud.com

Day and Time: Sunday, 24 July. We will meet at the ferry terminal on the island at 10.15 am. Call Susan to find our location if you are late.

Registration: Please register by sending an email to excursions@qnc.net.au, with details of all people attending in your party and a contact phone number. Please put “Coochiemudlo” as the subject. Please also address your email to Barney (the excursion secretary) as otherwise it can end up in the spam folder.

Description: We will explore some of the natural features - in the coastal, mangrove, open forest habitats and the Melaleuca Wetlands. Lynn Roberts (Botany in the Bush Redlands) with advice from John Moss, has compiled a flora list of 144 species (available on request from Susan). Go to Coochiemudlo.org and click on ‘About’ and ‘Explore the Island’s history and natural resources’ for links to a February 2020 Birdlife Redlands list by Kathy Clark *et al* and a list of 118 species observed back to 1971.

There is also an excellent Community Booklet on the web site, with history etc. There are 4 km of sandy beaches; Morwong on northside, Norfolk eastside, Main Beach southside and the foreshore. The entire foreshore is public land reserved for conservation and recreation since being gazetted in 2019. There are toilets, several free gas BBQs, tables and 3 cafes.

The ferry leaves from Victoria Point terminal, at the end of Colburn Ave on the half hour, 9.00 am, 9.30 etc and leaves the island at 3.15 pm, 3.45 pm etc. Note that parking at the ferry may be limited, so please allow some extra time before the ferry departs. The journey to the island takes 10 minutes. Visit Amity Trader to see details of price, discounts and information on the island. **When catching the ferry please be aware that cash is not accepted and facemasks must be worn.**

Activities will involve general naturalising in the coastal forests and the melaleuca wetland. Low tide may provide us with an opportunity to visit the mangroves or alternatively do an intertidal walk on the sandier beaches. Exact activities will depend on people’s preferences on the day. Low tide will be 12:39 pm with a height of 0.58 m. Please note that this is not a super low tide, but hopefully a few critters will still be exposed for those who are keen.

What to bring: Bring a hat, sun and insect protection, water and food, binoculars, print out of the plant or bird lists, shoes that can get wet if you wish, and cash for the ferry. You can swim at the island on the high tide.

PAST EXCURSION REPORTS

Long Excursion – Expedition National Park (Lonesome section)

Dates: Sunday 10 April 2022 to Tuesday 19 April 2022

Leaders: Sally Johnsen during the preparation phase, with assistance from others during the excursion itself.

The 2022 QNC Long Excursion to Lonesome can only be described as a resounding success. Nearly 50 Naturalists of all ages camped at Lonesome Homestead. Our thanks to Dept of Environment and Science (DES) for allowing QNC this unique privilege. Unfortunately, due to illness Sally and Terry were not able to join the group from the start but arrived several days later. We thank Sally for all her excellent preparatory work which meant registration went smoothly. Also, thanks to people who put their hands up to lead day and night excursions, including Dave Bouchard, Barney Hines, Harry Hines, Murray Watson and Greg Neill. We also extend our appreciation to several experts who gave freely of their time and knowledge. **We were fortunate to be able to trap and release vertebrates under permit and had the assistance of many experts covering various fields:** Charles Huxtable (grasses); David Bouchard (plants); Harry Hines (herpetology); Mel Venz (vertebrates); Tony Bean (plants) and Warwick Willmott (geology).

The next edition of *The Queensland Naturalist* will provide a comprehensive overview of key scientific findings. Flora and fauna lists collated on the trip are available on the QNC website. Dr Peter Woodall has created an iNaturalist Project to record many of the species observed on the excursion. The full project can be viewed at <https://inaturalist.ala.org.au/projects/qnc-2022-april-lonesome-np-and-lake-nuga-nuga-np>

Similarly, Greg Neill has collated all the bird lists for the long excursion at <https://ebird.org/australia/tripreport/47526?view=checklists>

Reflections on Lonesome NP By David Bouchard

The QNC 2022 Easter excursion was based at a former grazing property on the Carnarvon Range about 40km NE of Injune. This property had been purchased by the Qld Govt and now forms part of the western, Lonesome section of Expedition National Park. The Carnarvon Range forms the western and southern extremities of the Arcadia Valley. The geology here comprises of sandstone mostly belonging to the Bowen Basin, and in higher parts sandstone from the younger Surat Basin. The Dawson River forms the northern boundary of the National Park, though remnant forest and woodland continue further north along the range. The river here has cut a gorge through the range, with 30 to 40 metre drops from the surrounding land to the river below. The river consists of long deep waterholes with intervening small races, and in some places, it completely disappears under the sandy bed. The local drainage has also cut out very narrow side gorges which run north into the main Gorge.

Apart from the gorges, much of the property is of gentler relief, with the exception of ridges with minor cliff lines in the south and west. Much of the southern areas consists of eucalypt and cypress woodland, some of which had been cleared or thinned for past grazing.

Areas with better soils once supported brigalow and belah, and these communities are now regenerating.

The sandstone ridges have sandy soils supporting ironbark woodland, with acacia understorey. Large fires in 2018 have resulted in the extensive regrowth of dense acacia scrub. Some areas of the ridges have very shallow soils that only support shrubs and it is in these places that rare plants like *Apatophyllum teretifolium* are to be found. On the slopes of the sandstone ridges in less fire prone areas there are often patches of semi evergreen vine thicket (dry rainforest), with bottle trees and crow's ash being quite common constituents. These bottle tree "scrubs" are also to be found in other protected areas, such as the lower sections of the side gorges.

Weeping bottlebrush *Melaleuca viminalis* was quite dense along the river, easily coping with the flood last November which left debris eight metres above normal water levels. On the river terraces are scattered forest red gum *Eucalyptus tereticornis* and a bit higher on the slopes below the cliff lines are the quite impressive grey gum species *E. longirostrata*. The property has three small farm dams which attracted various species of water birds. As well as naturalising on the property, the 'Nats' made driving excursions to other nearby parts of the park. One excursion to the east covered areas of the Dawson River downstream from the property, where views were had of eroded sandstone formations called the candlesticks. Another excursion visited a remnant patch of brigalow scrub at the southern end of the Arcadia Valley. Regrettably only a few small areas of brigalow are left in the valley since the clearing in the 1960s.

Geological observations around QNC campsite at Lonesome NP

By Warwick Willmott

The camp was at a quite interesting junction between two major geological components of Queensland - the sedimentary Bowen Basin to the east and the Surat Basin to the west. When we went out to swim in the Dawson River or look down into its gorge we saw the thick reddish Clematis Sandstone, one of the last packets of sediment of the Bowen Basin. This accumulated in apparently arid conditions in the Triassic period after the mass extinction or 'Great Dying' at the end of the Permian period terminated the earlier coal swamps of this Basin. We also saw this sandstone at the public lookout on the main road to the east.

In the road cuts below this lookout we saw softer mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Rewan Formation. These were some of the first sediments deposited after the 'Great Dying'. They have eroded easily to form the broad Arcadia Valley and heavy soils that previously supported brigalow scrub. We saw some of these soils and their characteristic gilgai depressions in a remaining patch of scrub.

In contrast, the small cliff line to the west of our camp was of the white Jurassic Precipice Sandstone, the first unit of the Surat Basin and a major component of the Great Artesian Basin. This was deposited on broad river plains when conditions had changed drastically from the earlier basin. There was about 30 million years gap between the two sandstones. The Precipice Sandstone forms the gorges at Carnarvon, Mount Moffatt, Ka Ka Mundi, Salvator Rosa etc so is a major extensive unit. It appeared somewhat thinner near our camp.

Images of Lonesome Long Excursion 2022

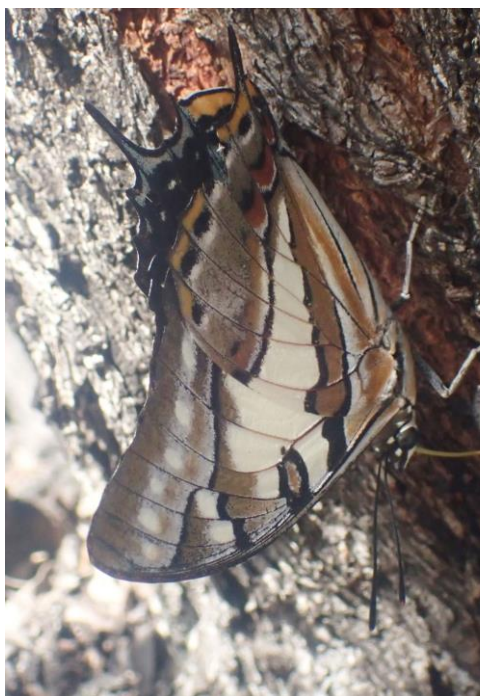




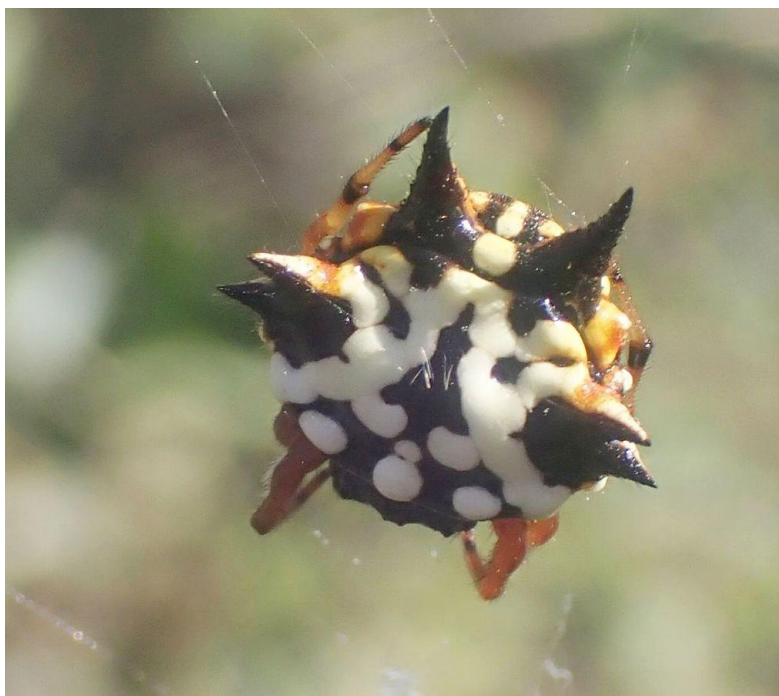
Some species recorded in iNaturalist - Lonesome Long Excursion 2022

Many more observations can be found at -

<https://inaturalist.ala.org.au/projects/qnc-2022-april-lonesome-np-and-lake-nuga-nuga-np>



Australian Tailed Emperor
Charaxes sempronius



Christmas Jewel Spider
Austracantha minax



Joseph's Coat Moth
Agarista agricola



Lemon Migrant
Catopsilia pomona



Thick-tailed Barking Gecko
Underwoodisaurus milii



Salmon-striped frog
Limnodynastes salmini



Spotted Ground Swift Spider
Nyssus coloripes



Thalatha guttalis



Hibiscus sturtii var. *sturtii*



Grey Mistletoe
Amyema quandang

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Records sought for Bushfire Recovery Project – Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink **By Dan Sparks**

By way of introduction, my name is Dan Sparks and I'm currently working on a project with the Department of Environment and Science (DES) and the Queensland Museum in updating the current record database for *Coeranoscincus reticulatus* (Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink) specifically focused on development of a habitat model for this species that can be intersected with bushfire severity mapping in southern Queensland.

I'm touching base with QNC members in the hopes that you have some Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink records that have not already been added to Wildnet or the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) that you wouldn't mind sharing with us for use in this project.

If you are interested in contributing your (much appreciated!) records (and/or photos) get in contact with me at daniel.sparks@griffithuni.edu.au and I'll flick you a short template to fill in. We can offer confidentiality on your records if you require (i.e., not visible to the public or even flagged "not to go to WildNet") however we will need the lat/longs (GPS coordinates) for precision as a minimum for the model.

Species lists from QNC outings are now on iNaturalist **By Peter Woodall**

iNaturalist.org is a web site, supported by National Geographic and the California Academy of Science, that gathers observations of natural history from around the world. It currently has over 93 million observations from over 2 million observers. In Australia, the numbers are nearly 3.4 million observations from nearly 45,000 observers.

All observations from Australia are subsequently loaded on to the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA). The QNC council has agreed that observations from QNC outings will be listed on iNaturalist. iNaturalist uses "Projects" to gather together similar observations. I have set up an umbrella project called "The Queensland Naturalists' Club" and under this are a series of projects from individual QNC outings. Currently we have 25 of these projects ranging from the 2011 outing to Heron Island (QNC 2011 Sept Heron Island) to the most recent at Lonesome NP (QNC 2022 Apr).

To look at these projects you do not have to join iNaturalist but:

- **go to the website [iNaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org)**
- **under "Community" select "Projects"**
- **In the Project page, enter "QNC" in the search function, and you will get all the QNC projects currently up on iNaturalist**
- **to narrow it down you can enter "QNC 2021" or "QNC 2019" etc. in the search function, and you will get all the QNC projects for those years currently up on iNaturalist.**

To enter your observations for a particular QNC outing, you DO need to join iNaturalist (which is free) and enter your observations. iNaturalist requires an image or audio record for an observation to reach "Research Grade" and you are strongly encouraged to enter observations in this way. Then you need to let the administrators of the QNC Project (currently Peter and Leith Woodall) know that you have these observations up on the site. We will add your username to the project and then any of your observations that fall within

the period of the outing will automatically be added to the project. You can spend a great deal of enjoyable time browsing through these and many other projects or just “Exploring” the site for particular countries, locations or species. Please go and explore this exciting resource.

eBird trip lists for QNC excursions

By Greg Neill

QNC members have traditionally collated lists, including bird lists, for our excursions. On extended trips this has usually entailed having a bird call on some nights while sitting around the campfire at night. These lists have been of very limited use and limited accessibility to the public and science, as there is no record of the numbers or the actual location of the birds observed.

Most interested ‘birders’ have for some years used eBird, managed by Cornell University in the USA and since February 2014, with an Australian portal managed by Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation Science at UQ. Using eBird is an excellent way to keep personal bird records, and by using the **eBird mobile app**, where and when you observed the birds. Photos and recordings can easily be added to individual lists.

Just recently a new upgrade to eBird allows the observer to combine eBird lists over a period of time, maximum 30 days, and see all the birds recorded on the trip, gross numbers of a particular species and the number of times that each species was seen. You can invite other eBird contributors that were also on the outing to include their eBird lists to the trip list.

For a QNC outing, particularly our extended trips where some members will go in different directions on a particular day, this allows bird lists to be compiled for different locations on the same day increasing the value of the observations to researchers, plus our own personal records.

QNC first tried out eBird trip reports on the Jan 2022 Goomburra camp, <https://ebird.org/australia/tripreport/3293>, and the contributing members found it easy to use and beneficial to the outing. Another trip report has been set up for the Easter camp at Lonesome, <https://ebird.org/australia/tripreport/47526?view=checklists>.

To do an eBird list that is relevant there is no time limit to the recording, you can be stationary or travelling (recommended distance of less than 5km) or you can do an incidental record for a particular noteworthy sighting of a bird. Any queries please feel free to talk to me at a meeting or on an outing.

Meeting Exhibits

Fungus and Flies

By John Sampson

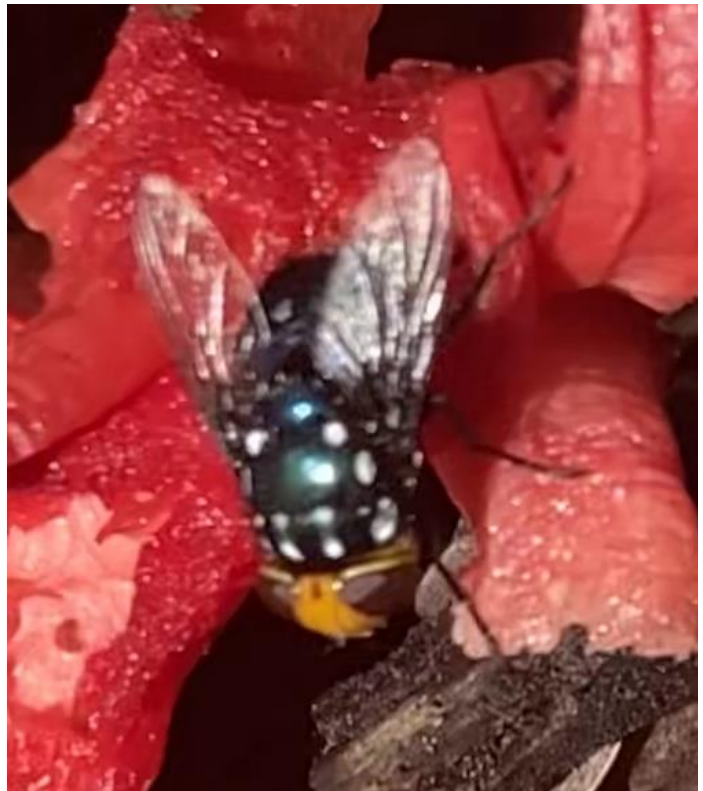
John Sampson discussed anemone stinkhorn fungus (*Aseroe rubra*) discovered in mulch on Mt Coot-tha. The generic name *Aseroe* refers to the spore-bearing sticky, smelly brownish gleba and comes from Greek *Asē-* and *-roe*, meaning 'disgusting juice'. The name *rubra* refers to the colour of the arms of the fungal fruitbody; comes from Latin and means red.

John noted that this was the first fungus scientifically described in Australia in 1792. The French biologist Jacques Labillardière (1755 - 1834), a member of the D'Entrecasteaux expedition, collected a specimen in 1792 at Recherche Bay, Southern Tasmania, and published a scientific description of it in 1800, thereby establishing its currently accepted scientific name *Aseroe rubra*. Having failed to find any sign of the La Pérouse expedition, D'Entrecasteaux headed back to France. Unfortunately, war had broken out (again) between France and England, and Labillardière's precious specimens (collected over three years) were confiscated! It took about two years but Sir Joseph Banks eventually facilitated the return of the specimens to their rightful owner.

Aseroe rubra's 'disgusting juice' smells malodorous and attracts blowflies. John showed photos of the yellow-headed Snail Parasitic Blowfly (Genus *Amenia*). The females give birth to large and well-developed larvae which are known to parasitise land snails.



Red Stinkhorn Fungus
Aseroe rubra



Snail Parasitic Blowfly
Genus *Amenia*

**Dwarf Tamarillo (*Solanum abutiloides*) discovered in Whites Hill Reserve,
Holland Park, Brisbane
By Greg Neill**

I have been walking in Whites Hill Reserve regularly for 10 years or so. On the 28th Feb a small fruiting shrub caught my eye. I took a photo thinking it was a Wild Tobacco, *Solanum mauritianum*. I put the observation on iNaturalist and it was identified as a Dwarf Tamarillo (*Solanum abutiloides*) with five observations in iNaturalist, mostly in South East Queensland but also a recent record near The Channon, NSW.

This piqued my interest due to the small numbers and limited range recorded, so I then carried out a search of Atlas of Living Australia (ALA). There are 15 records in ALA. The first record is April 1985 from Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens. The next three records are also from that locality in October 1998. The first record outside the Gardens area appears to be at Sinnamon Park in July 2001. My record from Whites Hill shows that this potential weed has spread some distance.

The ALA provides the following background information “It is endemic to Argentina and Bolivia and thrives as a weedy plant in rocky land, on stream banks, and scrub land between 900–3,600 metres (3,000–11,800 ft) in elevation.” All of the SE Queensland observations were recorded well short of 900m elevation.

Greg asks “Could this become another potential weed for bush regenerators to be concerned about?”



QNC Financial Report 2021

By Mike Anderson

The Queensland Naturalists' Club Inc.

Balance Sheet

As At 30th November

<u>2020</u>		<u>2021</u>
	<u>Current Assets:</u>	
71.85	Cash on Hand	132.9
	Cash on Call:	
4,506.83	Westpac	3,898.05
13,391.01	Suncorp	11,394.27
73,150.09	Term Cash Deposits (Note 1)	73,150.09
91,119.78	Total Current Assets	88,575.31
	Less: Current Liabilities:	
9,060.76	Unspent Donation (note 3)	7,256.54
82,059.02	Total Net Current Assets	81,318.77
82,059.02	Total Assets (Note 2)	81,318.77
	Represented By:	
	Members' Funds:	
-477.05	Net Income/Deficit	-2,840.41
	Prior Year's Adjustment	
90,596.83	Balance of Funds at beginning of year	90,119.78
<u>90,119.78</u>	<u>Members' Funds as at 30th November</u>	<u>87,279.37</u>

Notes to the Accounts:

1. Term Deposits (2) at Suncorp are at various maturity dates in August 2022 and April 2022 at interest rates of 0.4% (\$30,000) and 0.35% (\$43,150.08) respectively. Average rate 0.37%
2. Due to the Club accounting for its business on the basis of cash receipt and payments, certain assets and liabilities have not been included in the Balance Sheet. These include:
 - a) Unsold books are not included in the assets
 - b) Sundry other assets including computer equipment, slide and digital projectors and camping equipment
3. A special donation of \$1000 was received during 2005 from the John McLean Estate and included in liabilities, and \$10,000 in 2018 from the Dennis Reeves estate. Expenditure of \$1615.73 from the Dennis Reeves Estate occurred in 2021 and \$188.49 occurred in 2021 from the John McLean Estate.

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164/462 Beams Rd

Fitzgibbon

Queensland 4018

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