



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	Leon McCosker	46811737
Vice-presidents	Peter Haselgrove	46837255
Secretary/ Treasurer	Robyn Murray Leslie Saunders	0488515311 46813837
Newsletter Editor	Margaret Carnell	46835268
Publicity Officer		
Librarian	Rob McCosker	46835371

**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 21st August: Mt Koola with
Leon McCosker
Wednesday 24th August: *An
Introduction to some threatened
species on the New England Tablelands*
with Neil Fordice

**Deadline for next newsletter
14th September 2022**

The following is a precis of Neil Fordice's talk at this month's meeting.

An Introduction to some threatened species on the New England Tablelands.

This talk is an overview of four threatened species found on the New England Tablelands with a focus on the Tenterfield Plateau.

It is an update on a talk given as a Presidential address to the Queensland Naturalists' Club in 2019. Neil will cover the physiography and climate of the area and discuss how "Threatened Species" are defined.

The species to be discussed are Hastings River Mouse, *Pseudomys orals*, Wallangarra White Gum, *Eucalyptus scoparia*, Wyberba Wattle, *Acacia pubifolia* and Bolivia Hill Rice-flower *Pimela venosa*.

Pre-Outing Report - Mt Koola Recreation Reserve, Dalcouth – Sunday 21st August

Leader: Leon McCosker

Meet at Weeroona at 9.00 am then we drive along Amosfield Rd, turn right into Dalcouth Rd, one kilometre along, turn right into an old council gravel area and park. We will have morning tea at the car park before heading up Mt Koola.

The walk up the first part is fairly steep on an unformed track. At the crest on the right, we pass through masses of *flannel flowers*, some still flowering, *leucopogon* and *hovea* in flower. We make our way over granite rocks to the top of Mt. Koola passing through more *flannel flowers*. A few good specimens of *boronia* can be seen.

From the top, Bald Rock is visible in the South- East. After exploring the rocky pavement we make our way back down to another rocky pavement with views to the West overlooking Stanthorpe. Walking

back down we follow around the base of the mountain to see some more *boronias* then back to the cars for lunch.

After lunch those who wish can come back to McCosker's, 335 Amosfield Rd, to walk along a track to see where tin mining was carried out in the 1920s.

President's Annual Report 2022/23

The Club had a good year with members enjoying monthly outings ranging from a rainforest walk at Goomburra led by David Wilson and Narelle Crawford to being led along lesser-known back roads in the Granite Belt by Kris and Margaret Carnell. Rain washed out one outing onto the Traprock and it was extremely cold and windy at Goomburra but otherwise we enjoyed good weather for our outings. Rob and Trish McCosker led a walk to upper Bald Rock Creek, which most of us had not done before, and we enjoyed distant views of Wyberba Falls and some of us were lucky to see what was probably a River Blackfish in one of the larger pools.

The Club revisited a small reserve in Warwick that we had visited some years before. It was encouraging to see that work had been carried since our last visit with walking tracks slashed through the area and revegetation begun. A trip to Jayn Hobba's property in September allowed us to view many wildflowers and also see the results of cool burning that she had carried out.

At monthly meetings members heard about a variety of subjects ranging from volcanic landscapes in New Zealand to Eucalypt taxonomy, grasses, and fencing history on the Granite Belt. Kris gave us a brief history of his revegetation efforts at his home property. Gunter showed some wonderful photos of "small things".

Several members joined the QNC for a campout at Barakula SF north of Chinchilla in early September and at a subsequent meeting Rob McCosker showed slides of some of the wildflowers seen there.

The Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club donated a fascinating book about their first 70 years. This is now in our library and makes interesting reading.

With encouragements from the Editor members have been more forthcoming with photos and notes of interest for inclusion in the newsletter. I would like to encourage all members to continue doing this.

I would like to thank everyone on the committee for helping to keep the Club running efficiently this year. I also wish to thank everyone who organised and attended outings and meetings during the year. The Club is looking for a new President, Secretary and Treasurer for the coming year. I do hope members will come forward to fill these positions.

Spottings

The only Spotting this month is this Speckled Warbler that was hopping around the back yard this morning, 12th Aug. We used to see them more frequently, often with a flock of Yellow-rumped Thornbills.
Photo by Margaret Carnell



**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Stanthorpe Field Naturalists' Club Inc.
held at the Uniting Church Hall on 27th July 2022**

Meeting opened: 7:30pm

Attendance: Rob and Trish McCosker, Peter and Lynette Haselgrove, Gunter Maywald, Kris and Margaret Carnell, Leon and Karrie McCosker, Teresa Clifford, Andrew Pengelly, Lesley Saunders, Robyn Murray.

Apologies: Lyn Collins, Graham Rayner, Laura Maywald, Loch Wilson and Sue Frances.

Minutes of the previous AGM: Peter Haselgrove moved that the minutes be Accepted as a true and accurate record. **Seconded:** Rob McCosker.

Business arising from the minutes: None.

President's Annual Report: Peter Haselgrove presented his report outlining the club's activities over the past year and thanked everyone for their input at meetings and outings.

Financial Report: Gunter Maywald presented his Financial Report which showed a balance of \$2080.24 plus petty cash of \$102.25 making a total of \$2182.49 as at 30th June.

Gunter Maywald moved that his report be accepted. **Seconded:** Lesley Saunders.

Election of Office Bearers: Peter Haselgrove vacated the Chair and Leon McCosker took the chair and thanked the outgoing committee for their efforts during the year. He then oversaw the election of office bearers.

President:	Leon McCosker Nominated by Peter Haselgrove Accepted	Seconded: Lesley Saunders
Vice Presidents:		
One:	Peter Haselgrove Nominated by Leon McCosker Accepted	Seconded: Lesley Saunders
Two:	Robyn Murray Nominated by Karrie McCosker Accepted	Seconded: Lesley Saunders
Secretary:	Lesley Saunders self-nominated	Accepted
Treasurer:	Lesley Saunders self-nominated	Accepted
Newsletter Editor:	Margaret Carnell Nominated by Rob McCosker Accepted	Seconded: Gunter Maywald
Publicity- Facebook manager:	Teresa Clifford Nominated by Lesley Saunders Accepted	Seconded: Robyn Murray
Librarian:	Rob McCosker	

Business for AGM: Nil

Meeting Closed: 8 pm.

Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.		
Financial Statement 1/7/2021 to 30/6/2022		
Balance c/f 1/7/2021		\$1,925.04
INCOME		
Member subscription	\$690.00	
Donation to club	\$50.00	
Total Income	\$740.00	\$740.00
EXPENDITURE		
Rental of hall for meetings	\$275.00	
P. O. Box rental	\$139.00	
Fair Trading Certificate	\$57.60	
Miscellaneous expenditure	\$10.95	
Total Expenditure	\$482.55	-\$482.55
Balance at 30/6/2022		<u>\$2,182.49</u>
BANK RECONCILIATION as at 30/6/2022		
Balance as per Commonwealth Bank Statement on 30/6/2022	\$2,080.24	
Petty Cash at 30/6/2022	\$102.25	
Balance as per Cash Book above	\$2,182.49	
BALANCE SHEET		
Balance c/f 1/7/2021	\$1,851.84	
Petty Cash c/f 1/7/2021	\$73.20	
Plus Income	\$740.00	
Less Expenditure	\$482.55	
Accumulated Funds	<u>\$2,182.49</u>	
Represented by:		
Commonwealth Savings Account	\$2,080.24	
Petty Cash at 30/6/2022	\$102.25	
Total Accumulated Funds 30/6/2022	<u>\$2,182.49</u>	
This Financial Statement reflects the financial records for the year ending 30 June 2022, and is a proper record of the income and expenditure of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.		
This Financial Statement has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc.		
There is no reason to believe that the Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club is unable to pay any debts which may fall due. The Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club has no liabilities.]		

Minutes of the General Meeting
Stanthorpe Field Naturalist Club Inc
27th July 2022

Meeting opened:7.33pm

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting by the new 2022/23 incoming President Leon McCosker.

Attendance & Apologies:.....As per Attendance Book

Minutes of the previous meeting [amended]:

Confirmed.....Lesley.....

Seconded.....Kris.

Carried

Business arising from the minutes:

Change of email address confirmed by Kris though the old address still appears on the website and is on the magazine. Hopefully this matter will resolve with time.

Monthly meetings/bi-monthly meetings were briefly discussed. Consensus was that if bi-monthly meetings were chosen then the club would fold. Outings could be structured so that the same outing could be visited at differing times of the year.

The Constitution needs to be checked to see if it needs reviewing. This was discussed and a mention was made that if not specifically requested by Authorities to alter it.....why bother?

New committee needed to get together to plan the outings for the year 22/23 as soon as possible.

Correspondence:.....read as per correspondence book

Moved.....Lesley	Seconded.....Kris	Carried
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Financial Report: Lesley presented the Treasurer's Report Current Balance: \$2569.74

Petty Cash \$ 102.25

Total \$2571.99

MovedLesley	Seconded..... Peter	Carried
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Outing Report: Outing to Glen Rock was cancelled

Pre-Outing Report: August outing to Mt Koola by Leon McCosker. As the Pistol Club has a lease on this area permission was sought and agreed since Public Insurance was guaranteed by the field Nats Club inc. The area is rugged. The track to be followed is a motorcycle one. On the top of Mt Koola are good views of Bald Rock and there should be a myriad of wildflowers to view. As the walk will be a short one, after lunch another walk will be scheduled on Leon's property. Meeting area will be at Weeroona park at 9am and convoy travel to Dalcouth Rd and Mt Koola. If rain occurs the walk may be cancelled.

General Business:

August speaker will be Niel Fordice....."Introduction to endangered Species of the NSW Tablelands".

The Regional Council has been allocated monies of approx.. \$170,000 to apply a Cat Management Plan. It appears from a survey done locally that approx. 80% of the ratepayers stated that cats needed to be controlled in some way. Peter has offered to write a letter to council on behalf of the club supporting this option.

Specimens: None presented

Next Meeting: Wednesday 24th August

Meeting Closed: 8.30pm

Presentation: Kris gave a compilation of photographs taken on the various outings held over the past 12 months. Thank you Kris.

A Revegetation Story From Orana

By Margaret Carnell

In 2006 we started to revegetate old orchard ground at our place. In November 2008 we planted part of this with plants that are indigenous to the property. I really enjoy propagating by seed or cutting, so I started work, planting seeds in a mixture of clean sand and native potting mix. None of the plants were grown from cutting.

I started with the Happy Valley Bottlebrush, *Callistemon pungens* (now renamed *Melaleuca williamsii*) and we planted two rows of these far enough apart to drive a vehicle through to reach the back yard. *Eucalyptus caleyi* (Caley's Ironbark) grows up on the mountain, and *Eucalyptus prava* (Mountain Orange Gum) is quite prevalent, as well as *Eucalyptus blakleyi*. There was no need to plant any *blakleyi* as there were some growing on the edges of the block already and they have self-seeded and appear to have suckered. I only managed to get one *Eucalyptus obliqua* (Stringybark) to grow to planting size and then it died in the drought. There are no *Eucalyptus mellidora* (Yellow Box) in the block and no *Angophoras* because I have trouble collecting seed. I always seem to be too late and it has fallen.

The following photos show how some of the trees and shrubs have grown.



Planting November 2008



Eucalyptus caleyi



Eucalyptus Prava



Melaleuca williamsii flower - taken in spring



An *Allocasuarina* (left) grows in a gully on the mountain. Its foliage tends to be slightly weeping and when planted near the house it turns reddish purple in the winter because it's lower and more exposed.



Top Right: A group of Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton populneus*). These were planted but they self-seed quite readily.

Above Left: *Callitris endlicheri* (Black Cypress)

Above Right: Self-sown *Eucalyptus blakleyi*

Right: *Clematis decipiens*



During the drought we lost a lot of shrubs in one of the native gardens. We cut back the dead wood from the *Callistemons* that had survived and replaced the dead shrubs. Below are some of the new plants in flower.



Grevillea Fire Cracker – always in flower



Grevillea juniperina (I think)



Above Left: *Grevillea Murray Valley Queen*
Above Right: *Acacia brunoides* in bud
Left: *Acacia latisepera* grown from seed
Below Left: Kangaroo Paw grown from seed.
Below Right: *Stenanthemum scortechinii*





Top Left: *Hardenbergia violacea* in the garden, grown from seed

Top Right: *Acacia adunca* (Wallangarra Wattle)

Centre Left: *Acacia pubifolia* Wyberba Wattle. The first flower for this year has appeared on this tree.

Centre Right: This is either a seedling or a sucker *Acacia pubifolia* in bud.

Left: A clump of *acacia* seedlings. They are a cut-leaf wattle but not sure of the name. The original plant died so Kris lit a fire with the dead wood and waited for the seeds to germinate.

These wattles are growing in the revegetation area further from the house.