

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUBP.O. Box 154  
Stanthorpe, Q., 4380.Officers & Committee 1975-1976.

President	Mr. Noel Butler
Vice Presidents	Mr. Frank Wilkinson
	Mr. Maurice Passmore
Secretary	Mrs. Joan Stevenson
Treasurer	Mrs. Dot Archer
Newsletter Typist	Mrs. Dot Archer
Newsletter Sub-Committee	Mr. & Mrs. W. Cathcart
Publicity Officer	Mrs. Ailsa Wilkinson
Librarian	Mrs. Z. Newman
Flora Officer	Mrs. W. McCosker
Fauna Officer	Mr. B. McDonagh
Geology Officer	Mr. M. Passmore
Youth Officer	Mr. John Stevenson
Bushwalking Officer	Mr. R. McCosker
Committee Members	Mrs. Jean Harslett
	Mr. Errol Walker

ACTIVITIESMEETINGS: 4th Wednesday of each month at C.W.A. Rooms at 8.00 p.m.OUTINGS: Each Sunday preceeding the 4th Wednesday.ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Single - \$1.50

Family - \$2.00

PROGRAMMEFIELD OUTINGS:

* PLACE	DATE	ORGANISER
DALVEEN AREA - Picnic Type	Sunday, August 24th	Mr. Noel Butler
Outing		Leader - Mr. Mick Burkhart.

NEXT MEETING:SPEAKER

Wednesday, August 27th, 1975.

Maurice Passmore  
Subject - Basic Science.

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\* This outing will be in 'Picnic' form and we'll be visiting parts of the Dalveen, Goldfields and Leslie Dam areas.

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MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STANTHORPE NATURALISTS CLUB

Opening 8.10 p.m.

Wednesday, July 23, 1975.

Present - 31

Apologies - 8

Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Annual Meeting held 24/7/74.

Moved by Mr. N. Butler and seconded by Mr. M. Passmore that the minutes of the previous Annual Meeting be confirmed. CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT for the year.

Balance on hand - 24/7/74		\$30.25
<u>Income:</u>		
Subscriptions	\$119.00	
Sale of Car Stickers	4.30	
Refund $\frac{1}{2}$ P.O.Box Rental	4.00	
Bank Interest	<u>2.68</u>	
		<u>129.98</u>
		\$160.23

Expenditure:

P.O.Box Rental	\$ 8.00	
Magazine: Stationery	25.90	
Duplicating	30.00	
Postage	19.59	
Hire of Typewriter	4.50	
Floral Tribute	<u>8.00</u>	
		<u>95.99</u>

Balance on H and, July 23rd, 1975. \$ 64.24

Moved by Mr. F. Wilkinson and seconded by Mr. E. Walker that the Annual Financial Statement be adopted. CARRIED.

PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT:-

The President, Mr. F. Wilkinson, reported that the club had enjoyed a very successful year with an average attendance of 28 on the eleven outings held while meetings had been well attended with an average attendance of 26. The standard of After Meeting Programmes had been consistently high with local guest speakers providing mainly illustrated lectures.

The President thanked the leaders of the Club Field Outings, those who had helped in the successful compiling and production of the Club Magazine; thanks also to all Club Officers and Committee Members and to all members for their co-operation during the year.

The President, Mr. Wilkinson, moved the adoption of his Annual Report which was seconded by Mrs. J. Harslett and Carried.

Mrs. Harslett expressed appreciation of the personal effort Mr. Wilkinson had made as President and also thanked the retiring Secretary, Mr. David Pfrunder, and the retiring Treasurer, Miss Gloria Lancaster.

Mr. Wally Cathcart also commended Mr. Wilkinson on his leadership during the year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President	Mr. Noel Butler
Vice-Presidents -	Mr. Frank Wilkinson
	Mr. Maurice Passmore
Secretary -	Mrs. Joan Stevenson
Treasurer -	Mrs. Dot Archer
Newsletter Editor -	Mrs. Dot Archer
Newsletter Sub-Committee -	Mr. & Mrs. W. Cathcart
Publicity Officer -	Mrs. F. Wilkinson
Librarian -	Mrs. Z. Newman
Flora Officer -	Mrs. W. McCosker
Fauna Officer -	Mr. B. McDonagh
Geology Officer -	Mr. M. Passmore
Youth Officer -	Mr. John Stevenson
Bushwalking Officer -	Mr. R. McCosker
Committee Members -	Mrs. J. Harslett and Mr. E. Walker. Meeting Closed 9 p.m.

AUGUST, 1975.

General Meeting Minutes continued:-

Board of Adult Education are unable to grant our request for continued assistance in regard to payment for advertising regular club meetings and enclosing a letter from the Board setting out their reasons for not continuing assistance.  
 Cheque from Ena W. McCulloch, 70 Mt. Nebo Road, the Gap, 4061 for subscription.  
 Letter and questionnaire from the New South Wales Environment Centre.  
 Letter from Mr. D. Anderson enclosing \$2.55 in Postal Notes for a copy of the Geological Booklet.

Press statements from the Minister for Lands.

Newsletters from : The Toowoomba Field Naturalist Club - No. 263  
 The Chinchilla Field Naturalists Club - Vol.9 No.1.  
 The Queensland Naturalists Club - No. 76

OUTWARD CORRESPONDENCE:-

Monthly report of club activities sent to the Board of Adult Education.  
 Letter of condolence to Mrs. B.J. Harslett on the loss of her mother.  
 Letter to Warwick Bushwalkers Club accepting the invitation to their Annual Meeting and extending an invitation to them to be present at our annual meeting.  
 Letter to Station 4QS requesting that our July outing and meeting be announced over Station 4QS.  
 Letter to Mr. D. Anderson advising him that we will keep a copy of the Geological Booklet for him.  
 Letter to Miss Gloria Lancaster thanking her for her contribution to the club and wishing her success with her nursing in Sydney.  
 Letter to Mr. Peter McKechnie, M.L.A., thanking him for his efforts to have the Board of Adult Education reconsider its decision to discontinue paying for newspaper advertising of monthly meetings.  
 Moved by Mr. D. Pfrunder and seconded by Mr. F. Wilkinson that the Inward Correspondence be received and the Outward adopted. CARRIED.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance brought forward - June 25th, 1975	\$64.06
Balance brought forward - July 23rd, 1975	\$64.24

Moved by Mr. F. Wilkinson and seconded by Mrs. J. Harslett that the Treasurer's Report be adopted and accounts be passed for payment. CARRIED.

OUTING REPORTS: Mr. Errol Walker reported that the Hike from South Bald Rock to West Bald Rock on Sunday July 20th, 1975 was very successful. Thirty-three people travelling in 10 cars enjoyed the outing including visitors from Warwick and Brisbane.

A letter of thanks to be written to Mr. K. Nealing, Wallangarra, thanking him for allowing us access to South Bald Rock.

NEXT OUTING: Sunday, August 24th, 1975.

Location - Dalveen Area. Picnic Type Outing.

Leader - Mr. Noel Butler. Departure time - 9.30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING : Wednesday, August 27th, 1975, C.W.A. Rooms, 8 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS:-

Moved by Mrs. T. Archer and seconded by Mrs. N. Butler that letters of condolence be sent to Mr. Peter Higgins and to Mr. W. Cathcart.  
 Discussion on invitation by Warwick Bushwalkers Club to join their outing to Red Rock Gorge.

A Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday, 31st July at 7.45 p.m. at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Wilkinson.

Closure - 10 p.m. After Meeting Programme: "Remember Last Year" arranged by Mr. Errol Walker and Mr. Robin McCosker. Evening concluded with supper.

AUGUST, 1975.

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT - STANTHORPE FIELD NATURALIST CLUB.

21/7/75.

Dear Members,

I am pleased to be able to state in this, my Annual Report for 1974/75, that we have had a very successful year. Our numbers have been sustained and all outings have been instructive and enjoyable. One outing was cancelled because of adverse weather, and the average attendance for the eleven others was 28.

These outings all had "Leaders" and I give my thanks to each of them, a special 'thank you' to Jean who went to considerable trouble arranging our two 'camp-outs', both of which were outstandingly successful.

Our meetings have been well attended, averaging 26, and we have had a consistently good standard of Speakers who usually showed films or slides of good quality to illustrate their talks. I would like to point out that all our Speakers this year have been 'locals', six being Club Members, and we must admit the talent in our midst is something to be proud of.

Our magazine has come out each month, it is an informative little publication, the result being due to the combined efforts of our Secretary, who provides the minutes, our trip Leaders add their reports, as does our Treasurer and various contributors then Dot our Stencil cutting expert gets to work, the Rover Scouts now duplicate enough for 70 plus magazines, Wal & Nessie collate the pages, put them between covers and staple them, wrap and address them and off to the Post Office. My thanks to all concerned, and while I'm at it an appeal for more contributions.

Thanks are due to all Club Officers and Committee Members for their help, to all members for their co-operation during the year, to our Speakers I am grateful and in closing I ask for your loyalty to our incoming President and his Officers.

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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING.Opening Time 9 p.m.

Wednesday, July 23rd, 1975.

Present - 31

Apologies - 8.

President's Opening Remarks: The Incoming President, Mr. Noel Butler, said he would try to do as much as possible for the club as President, bearing in mind he had commitments to Industry organisations and his seasonal harvesting work. He had gained great satisfaction and interest in the NATS through his membership and he expressed the hope all members would continue an active interest in the club. It would be necessary to locate new areas for outings even if these were not quite so spectacular.

Minutes of General Meeting held Wednesday, June 25th, 1975.

Moved Mr. R. McCosker and seconded by Mrs. F. Wilkinson that the Minutes "Taken as Read" in the newsletter be confirmed. CARRIED.

INWARD CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Mr. D. Anderson, 19 Goweth Avenue, Hawthorne, Brisbane, enquiring if the Geological Booklet and Map of the Stanthorpe district is still available.

Letter from the Board of Adult Education re return of vouchers and/or Attendance reports.

Letter from Mr. Peter McKechnie, M.L.A., Member for Carnarvon, advising that the

## MANGROVES.

These are the distinctive flora of muddy tidal areas. The various species do not belong to one plant family, but rather are an assembly of plants which have solved the problem of growing in salt water. The salt concentration of sea water is about 3%, but at low tide evaporation causes much higher concentrations.

The lack of air in the mud is overcome in various ways, but principally by special types of root systems.

Avicennia, the white mangrove has breathing roots emerging from the mud about every foot along its underground roots.

Rhizophora, the red mangrove has large numbers of prop roots from the stem and branches.

Bruguiera, the black mangrove often has solid knees coming out of the mud.

Some mangroves have buttressed trunks.

Germination of mangrove seed generally occurs on the tree, and when the young seedlings become sufficiently heavy they fall, either directly into the mud or into the water to be carried away to start life elsewhere.

Mangroves are best developed in the tropics. In North Queensland there are over 30 species belonging to different families, but in Moreton Bay only 7. In the Sydney area only two occur, while in Victoria only one species, the white mangrove, which is very stunted, only about 2 feet high compared with 50 feet in the tropics. None occur in Tasmania.

When a mudbank is formed there is a definite succession. Mangroves first establish, generally the white and the red. These catch rubbish, wood, leaves and more mud until the level is gradually raised above that of high tide. Then trees with slightly lower capacity for dealing with salt are established. Finally we may get a land forest; generally the first land trees to appear will be the swamp she-oak, Casuarina glauca.

Mangrove forests are one of the most efficient converters of sunlight into other forms of energy. But unfortunately they are seriously endangered by men, particularly in the form of real-estate developers and local authorities. It is very easy to pump sand onto a mangrove swamp to make playing fields and canal developments. The Noosa Shire Council was told by a Harbours & Marine biologist, that they could have mangroves, sandflies and fish, or none of them. They voted to destroy a large area of mangroves.

Contributed.

(Ed. Note)

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Visited the Forestry at Passchendaele a few weeks ago and was pleasantly surprised to see the glorious 'Gold Picture' it presented at this time of the year with the Wattle trees in full bloom.

Well worth a drive out to see it!!

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## THE CENTIPEDE

No wonder that the centipede  
Can make such record-breaking speed!  
It has one hundred legs or more  
To aid propulsion, aft and fore,  
And makes a hasty getaway  
When apprehensive, night or day,  
While I, the animal, must do  
My daily stint with only two.

AUGUST, 1975.

REPORT ON SOUTH & WEST BALD ROCK OUTING

20/7/75.

Thick fog heralded the morning of the outing but it was also a sign of a perfect clear day to follow. 9.30 a.m. saw 33 people in 10 cars leaving the Civic Centre for the 21 mile trip into the base of South Bald Rock which lies astride the QLD/NSW border east of Wallangarra.

The track which is on private property had settled well from the recent wet and little trouble was experienced in negotiating some boggy sections which had given cause for concern on the pre-outing trip.

Cars were parked at the rock base and at 11.30 a.m. we all climbed to the summit to obtain clear views as far as Mt. Lindsay and Cunningham's Gap. Insufficient time was available to explore the unique caves in South Bald Rock and it was commented by many that we needed a full day just in the vicinity of this rock alone.

1 p.m. and lunch was finished when about 30 people set off to explore the rugged country along the border on the way to West Bald Rock. We wondered at balancing rocks and new green ferns tucked away under granite boulders of all sizes. West Bald Rock loomed ahead and with acacias in full bloom on the eastern escarpments we had reason to make good time to the summit where the occasional use of a rope made it that bit easier for all of us.

A young wild goat was found in a crevice on the summit and it was only a matter of time before great and bushwalker were being photographed side by side (no comments please). Views to Mt. Norman, the Pyramids, Bald Rock and South Bald Rock as well as Mt. McKenzie near Tenterfield were as clear as crystal. Time was marching on as we made our way down the rock where we met up with the QLD/NSW border maintenance track and 20 minutes later we were back at the cars. Time was taken for pictures of the sun setting across the Racecourse Ck Swamp to the gentle but impressive slopes of South Bald Rock.

The trip was completed, some cars heading home via Wallangarra with the remainder going back the way we came in. Opening and shutting more than enough gates was a small price to pay for access to a really impressive area and we are more than grateful to Mr. K. Nealing, the owner.

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REPORT ON NEXT NATS OUTING BY NOEL BUTLER

The next outing proposed for our club will be one with a picnic atmosphere, this outing is designed to suit all our members, there will be very little walking unless some of the members wish to explore the creek bed after lunch.

The outing will take place in the Dalveen, Goldfields, Leslie Dam area. It has great Historic significance as most of the country we will travel through belonged to either Pikedale or Rosenthal Station which were the Great sheep runs of the early or mid 1840. Gold mining was carried out from about 1860, (this outing will not visit the Gold mines as we have a proposed visit to them in May/76).

This outing should be very pleasant if the weather is kind to us. On the way along the old Warwick road we will pass by an old Homestead with a historic slab kitchen, at the present moment we have not obtained permission to visit it but we are endeavouring to obtain permission to do so, also we will be passing close to areas that it is proposed for our club to visit at a later date perhaps in 1976.

The departure time is as usual 9.30 at the Park and then proceed to Dalveen to be met by the outing leader at the moment I am not sure if I will be the leader or Mick Burkhardt from Warwick. For myself I have an annual commitment in Tbowomba, however, I would like to see you all along and have a pleasant outing with whoever is leader.