



NATIONAL PARKS  
ASSOCIATION  
OF THE A.C.T.  
BULLETIN

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Vol. 3 No. 3 June-July, 1965

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE A. C. T. Inc.

"A National Park for the National Capital"

President : Dr R. Story, 104 Buxton St., Deakin  
(Office phone 92217)  
Treasurer : Mr I. Baird, 9 Canterbury Crescent, Deakin  
(phone 71644)  
Secretary : Miss M. Hamilton, P.O. Box 457, Canberra  
City. (Office phone 495111).

Monthly Meeting - 4th Tuesday of the month

This issue of our bi-monthly bulletin marks the end of another year of our association. Formed in 1960, it has now been functioning for 5 years, collecting a membership of over 200 members. Our association's influence on the thinking of the community can only be effective if all members are enthusiastic in the cause of conservation and speak about it at every opportunity. Unlike many community groups we do not function only for the enjoyment of members but to educate the public and to offer suggestions to the administrative powers on the necessity and desirability of nature conservation and the need for National Parks. Let us hope that in our 6th year we will carry out this aim even more effectively than in the past.

Annual Meeting

In July the Annual meeting will be held. One important item of business is the election of office bearers. All nominations, containing the signature of the nominee and the two nominators are to be in the hands of the Secretary, ten days before the meeting on 27th. July. As this is the most important meeting of the year, all members are asked to make every effort to attend.

Membership

At the Annual Meeting, subscriptions for the new year  
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1965-66, fall due. The Treasurer will gladly accept your sub. before or after the meeting.

The association welcomes the following new members :-

Mr & Mrs L. O. Brown; Mr & Mrs L. T. Carron;  
 Dr & Mrs P. D. Cooper; Mr & Mrs W. P. van Dijk;  
 Mr & Mrs R. J. Bennetts; Mrs Morna E. McPherson.  
 Subscription renewals to 2-5-65: Miss T. Vsheukina;  
 Dr & Mrs D. D. Perrin; Dr M. F. Day; Mr F. G. Frank;  
 Mrs J. Monahan; Miss G. Snodgrass; Mr J. Calaby;  
 Mr & Mrs G. Bennett; Miss M. Hamilton; Miss G. Watt;  
 Mr & Mrs Longstaff; Mr J. A. Carnahan; Dr A. B. Costin;  
 Miss A. E. Grant Lipp; Mr & Mrs J. R. Cameron;  
 Mr & Mrs M. P. Upton; Dr & Mrs F. B. Horner; Mr S. J. Wilson;  
 Mr & Mrs H. Temple Watts; Miss L. Crocker.

Have you your Association's Badge?

These fine badges are now on sale at outings, meetings or by mail order from Mrs F. Brand, 11 Dyson St., Lyneham.

The cost? 5/-. Wear one - its a good advertisement for our National Parks cause.

For T. V. Viewers Only!

Don't miss the Conservation series on Channel 3 (A. B. C.)

This excellent series of 8 programme is shown at 9.30 p.m. on Thursday nights. The first programme on 20th May featured Dr A. Costin.

An Emergency Call

The excellent nature magazine "Wildlife" published by Jacaranda Press for The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland is being forced to cease publication because of lack of support. The magazine has 4 issues a year, costing 4/- a copy. It would be a great pity to see yet another of our nature magazines disappear because of apathy on the part of people who should be interested. Show your support by sending an annual subscription of 16/- to The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland, Box 1173, G. P. O. Brisbane.

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Extracts from the Tasmanian Scenery Preservation Board  
Report 1961-1964.

"Functioning by virtue of the Scenery Preservation Act 1915, the oldest legislation of its kind in any Australian State, the Board is responsible for the administration of eight national parks and 68 other scenic reserves, a total of over 920 square miles . . . . ."

"The policy of the Board and the four Special Boards set up to advise the parent Board on the administration of the reserves within their jurisdiction has been to develop access roads to fringe areas of the larger National Parks and scenic reserves. The preservation of places of historic interest is also a responsibility of the Board.

Caravanners, motorists with trailers and boats, bushwalkers, skiers, mountaineers and campers on foot frequent our scenic reserves in steadily increasing numbers. The Board maintains resident Rangers in charge of those parks and scenic reserves where the traffic warrants. . . . ."

"From time to time the Board considers the creation of new reserves suggested by public bodies, scientific societies and Government authorities. Before proceeding to proclaim an area, the proposal is first submitted for the consideration of those Government Departments likely to be most affected. Proclamation brings it within the scope of the Board's administration, with responsibility for supervision, fire prevention, protection from poaching and illegal wood-cutting etc., should the area be adjacent to roads. Preservation of scenic values will be the paramount consideration when developmental works are carried out . . . . ."

"The Board is convinced of the need for additional finance to enable it to adequately fulfil its statutory obligations with regard to the reserves coming within its administration. A considerable increase in patronage at the  

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more popular national parks and scenic reserves has accentuated the need for a greatly increased expenditure on facilities for visitors, which lack of funds has prevented in past years . . . ."

The Board executive staff consists of 5 officers, a superintendent of scenic reserves, an assistant superintendent, 2 inspectors and a clerk. The Mt. Field National Park had over 56,000 visitors in the period of June 1963-June 1964. The Cradle Mt. - Lake St. Clair National Park has an area of 520 sq. miles. Other reserves are Port Arthur, Coal-mines Scenic Reserve, Eaglehawk Neck, Remarkable Cave, Liffey Falls, Ben Lomond National Park, Mt. Barrow, Notley Fern Gorge, Lake Pedder, Meander Falls, St. Columba Falls, Hellyer Gorge Frenchmans Gap National Park, Freycint National Park and Hartz Mountains National Park. The Kodewong Wildlife Refuge No. 106 (from Fauna Protection Panel).

The Kodewong Wildlife Refuge No. 106 is a recent addition to the areas of privately owned land in the state of N. S. W. gazetted as Wildlife Refuges. It is an area of about 2,500 acres between Amaroo and Borenore on the Orange - Molong railway line, owned by Mr C.H. Pratten who invites anyone interested in this experiment in ecology to visit "Kodewong".

The area, situated almost exactly on the boundary between Central Tablelands and Central Western Slopes at an altitude of about 2,500 feet is almost entirely first class farming and grazing country, having an annual rainfall of 27".

The value of this type of cleared pastoral country as a refuge for wildlife is very limited, but fortunately in the centre of this holding is an elevated ridge where considerable traces of scrub vegetation remain. The ridge, about 150 acres contains much gravel and is of little use for grazing purposes. It is Mr Pratten's intention to keep this area completely free from stock, exterminate the rabbit population and allow the area to regenerate with Eucalyptus eleophora (Apple) and Black Cypress Pine.

### EYES OR NO EYES NO. 13



Have you ever looked at the fruits of a Kurrajong Tree? They are split open on one side to release the shining pale brown seeds. The empty follicles (which is the proper name for this type of fruit) are like small boats.

We would suggest you do not try to handle the seeds too much. There are fine stiff hairs on the inside of the follicle and these can cause itching for several days.

The local Kurrajong is Brachychiton populneum because of its poplar-shaped leaves but sometimes the leaves have three slender lobes. It grows on Mt. Majura and on hills near the Murrumbidgee and is not uncommon on the tops of dry stony hills.

N. T. B.

## MEETINGS

### June

Date : Tuesday, 22nd June at 8 o'clock  
Place : Institute of Anatomy  
Feature : An illustrated talk by M. J. Webb,  
"National Parks for the Far West". Mr. Webb  
has travelled widely in the western part of  
N. S. W. studying especially the Mootwingee  
area.

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### July

Date : Tuesday, 27th July at 8 o'clock  
Place : Institute of Anatomy  
Feature : The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
All members are requested to attend.

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### An Important Reminder of Association Rules

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1. No litter to be left at lunch sites.
  2. Dogs to be kept on a leash, please on outings.
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"Conservationists don't set out to protect animals - they protect species. The sight of a roo being stripped of its skin arouse sharp emotions, but these feelings for the individual animal will not help to conserve the species. If we can build an industry dependent upon the kangaroo, then so long as the industry can be managed, we could expect that the species would be protected so that it can be used - and this, after all, is pure conservation.

It is the responsibility of this generation to set aside sufficient number of environmental samples so that future generations of man will be able to study the biotic relationships that have grown up during the whole of time".  
(From N. S. W. P. A. article by Mr Allan M. Fox).

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OUTINGSJune

- Date : Sunday 27th June, 1965  
 Place : Wild Life Division, C. S. I. R. O. and  
 Mt. Majura.  
 Leaders : Mr E. Pook and Mr S. Judge  
 Features : Members will meet at 10 o'clock at the  
 C. S. I. R. O. Gungahlin (on the Yass Rd.)  
 The division will be inspected during the  
 morning and after lunch Mt. Majura will  
 be climbed.
- 

July

- Date : Sunday, 25th July, 1965  
 Place : Blue Range  
 Features : Meeting place is Uriarra homestead at  
 10 o'clock. Cars will proceed to Blue  
 Range which is country inhabited by the  
 Lyrebird. These birds should be in  
 good voice at this time of the year.
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A Place for you to visit

The Mount Arthur Reserve, Wellington, N. S. W.  
 A very active group of local citizens at Wellington, in the  
 Central West, were interested in preserving the  
 naturalness of the delightful range country around Mt.  
 Arthur, which is situated near their town. They built  
 walking tracks, and erected notices and shelters.

The Department of Lands has now agreed to set up a  
 Trust for a Reserve of about 3,000 acres and will include  
 on the Trust a representative of the Fauna Panel.

(from "Wildlife Service").

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