



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

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

"A National Park for the National Capital"

President: Mr. A. Brand, 11 Dyson St., Lyneham (43538)  
Secretary: Miss M. Sexton, Box 457 P.O. Canberra City (45795)  
Treasurer: Mr. J.L. Schunke, 26 Clivanthus St., O'Connor

Monthly Meeting - 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Editorial

Another year of our Association has finalised with the annual meeting. The President, Jim Webb, presented an excellent report and the thanks of the Association for his hard work and leadership during the past year were expressed by Dr. Burbidge. Sadness was noted in the Report at the passing during the year of Mr. Ian Baird, the Treasurer of our Association for many years, and a wise, considerate person, interested in practical conservation.

It was disappointing that only approximately 40 of our members attended the Association's most important meeting of the year. This lack of interest, lack of stimulating thinking, along with a stagnation in the growth of our membership, are matters of concern and will be discussed with all urgency by the new Committee.

The Visit of Vincent Serventy aroused much interest in conservation. A large audience of over 350, a good proportion being non-members, attended the June meeting to hear his talk and see his film "A Continent in Danger". This successful experiment of bringing to Canberra a speaker of note in the field of conservation will be repeated again in our year of 1967-68.

The New Committee elected is as follows:

President: Mr. A. Brand; Vice President: Dr. N. Burbidge;  
Secretary: Miss M. Sexton; Assistant Secretary: Mrs. P. Hammond  
Treasurer, Mr. J. Schunke; Committee Members: Miss  
V. MacFarlane, Mr. K. Green, Mr. V. King, Dr. Creaser.

The position of Publicity Officer is vacant and two more Committee members are also needed. If you think you could fill one of these

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vacancies, please contact one of the Committee members.

#### Interstate News:

##### Tasmania - the "Save Lake Pedder National Park Appeal".

In 1955, 59,000 acres in the s.w. of the State was declared by an Act of Parliament as a scenic reserve, protecting the natural scenic beauty and interesting native flora and fauna from unwanted exploitation. Now this area is threatened with permanent "modification" by the proposed Gordon River Power Development. It will not only flood the unique lake but inundate most of the National Park as well as flooding and consequently destroying the aptly named Serpentine River Valley and a vast area of buttongrass plains to a depth of fifty feet.

The Committee hopes to stir up enough interest and financial support to save this established national park with its lake and white quartzite, and as a habitat for birds and animals found only in the southwest. They wish to promote a planned development which will enable people to experience spiritual and physical refreshment in the midst of primitive nature. Send your donation to "Save Lake Pedder National Park" Committee, P.O. Box 440, Devonport, Tasmania.

##### Queensland

On 28th May 1967 in Lamington National Park at the roadside 3 miles from O'Reilly's Guest House, the Premier of Queensland unveiled a plaque and cairn honouring Mr. Romeo Lahey, founder of the National Parks Assn. of Queensland and President of this Association from 1930 to 1961.

Recently another National Park has been declared - an area of  $\frac{1}{4}$  million acres on the edge of the Simpson Desert, near the South Australian border. The total membership of the Queensland N.P.A. is 883 persons.

##### Illawarra Naturalist Society

The following extract is from this Society's monthly newsheet. "Ornithologists are proud of the large number of birds recorded from

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the Illawarra district. The total now stands at 306 which is approximately 45% of the species on the official Australian checklist. There are several reasons for this high figure; more people are watching birds these days, but one of the major contributing factors has been the recovery of rare seabirds found derelict on the tideline during regular patrols of the seashore. The project began almost twenty years ago and has been responsible for several valuable additions to Australia's known avi-fauna. The two most recent additions are the Mottled Petrel and the Cook's Petrel.

#### New South Wales

The N.P.A. of N.S.W. is now 10 years old. The inaugural meeting was held on February 16th 1957. In this time much has been achieved. The association has been responsible for, or associated with, nearly every proposal for a National Park or Reserve to go before the Governments of the time, and it has been the prime force in persuading Government to prepare a National Park and Wildlife Bill. August 1967 will see the culmination of that work and it is fitting that even now a N.P.A. delegation is waiting on the Minister with further improvements to the legislation. The total membership of the association is 1,119 persons.

#### Goulburn Naturalist Association

Our association has made contact with this group and one of our members Dr. N. Burbidge addressed their June meeting. It was very pleasing to have two of their members participating in our recent weekend outing to Jervis Bay.

#### Poster Competition

Over 500 entries were received from school children in the A.C.T., and the best have been displayed in the Mall. The President presented book prizes to the nine winning entries, and certificates were given to those highly commended. Many thanks to the Secretary for organising the competition and to the members who helped in the large task of collecting, sorting and displaying the posters.

Letters to the Editor.

(I received the following letter, which comments on an article published in our April-May Bulletin. Letters in support of articles or voicing disagreement (such as the letter below) will always be welcomed, along with any articles members would like to submit.  
 Editor. )

Sir,

Roadless National Parks.

I found Frederic Swann's article on "Road and Reserves" (April-May Bulletin p.3 ) most interesting, but I feel that his introductory statement could be misleading.

I refer to the part in which he says: "We want to keep the Park unspoilt and unaltered, but, face the facts, this is quite impossible. Some sections might be kept "as is" for a time, but the general public, who will own the Park, will have to be given access and amenities."

Conservationists have been battling for roadless wilderness areas for years and now in New South Wales victory is in sight. Not only are wilderness areas being established within parks, but the Park and Wildlife Bill 1966 states that ".....the whole of a National Park or State Park may be set aside as a wilderness area to be kept and maintained in a state of nature".

One hopes that when this Bill has become law, conservationists will work to take maximum advantage of this provision.

(signed) Geoff Mosley.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 1967-68 membership are now due. Single membership \$2; Family Membership \$3; Junior 60 cents.

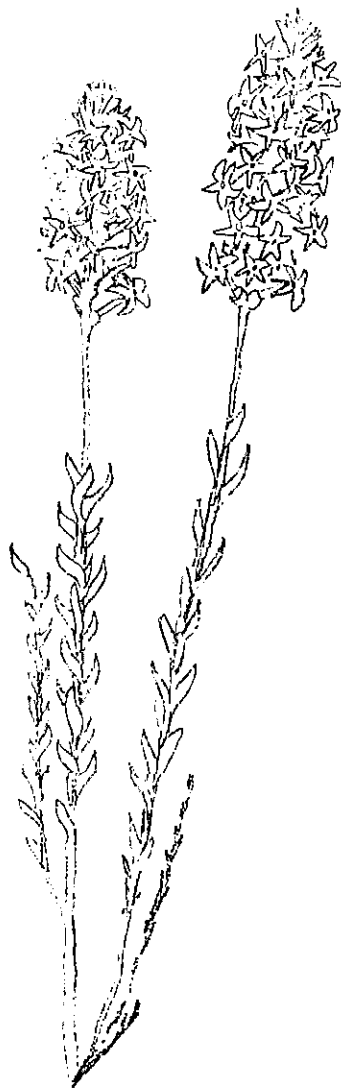
Renewals: Family subs: Nicholson; Smith; Frankel; Pinson; Adams; White; Cruttwell; Story; Hammond; Longstaff.

Single: N. Hall; Clancy; Sexton; Morris; Mitchell; K. Green; Aston; Dahl; McKay; Henry; Burbidge; Smits; Stokes.

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We welcome the following new members:  
Mrs. Schwarzlose and family; Mr. & Mrs. Brown; Dr. Horner;  
Miss Lonergon; Mr. & Mrs. Stevens; Mr. & Mrs. Johnston.

### EYES OR NO EYES



The plant shown in the sketch is a common species of shaded places or sheltered gullies in our mountains. Its botanical name is Stackhousia monogyna but it is sometimes called "Candles" because of the shape of the spike of creamy-white flowers.

It is a perennial herb which means that the plants produce new shoots from the base every year. If you look closely you will find remains of some of last year's stems below the new ones.

This species is very widespread in eastern Australia. It is found in Queensland and also in N.S.W. Victoria and South Australia. It is common in Tasmania where it may be called "Native Mignonette"

The family Stackhousiaceae to which this belongs is almost restricted to Australia though a few species are found in south-east Asia and the Philippines.

The largest group of species of Stackhousia are found in the southwest of Western Australia. N.T.B.

## MEETINGS

### August:

Date : Tuesday 15th August at 8 p.m.  
 Place : Institute of Anatomy  
 Speaker : Mr. Ron Rose, whose subject will be "Aboriginal Art in the Northern Territory". Mr. Rose has travelled extensively in the Northern Territory and has excellent slides.

### September

Date : Tuesday 19th September 1967 at 8 p.m.  
 Place : Institute of Anatomy  
 Speaker : Mr. D. Kerr, Faunal Reserve Ranger who will speak about the Kosciusko National Park. Colour slides illustrate

### October Outing

There will be an extra outing in October on Sunday 1st October, led by Dr. Nancy Burbidge. This will be to the Cotter Valley to view the Spring flowers. Meeting place will be Uriarra Homestead at 10 a.m.

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OUTINGS

August

Date: Sunday 27th August, 1967.  
Place: Pierce's Creek.  
Leader: Mr. J. Schunke will lead an easy walk to creek.  
Meeting  
Place: Cotter Kiosk at 10 a.m. Bring a lunch you can carry.

September

Date: The weekend 23rd-24th September, 1967.  
Place: Y.M.C.A. Camp at Sturt Island. Members will gather by noon at the camp, which is through the gate at right at the top of the hill before descent down to Uriarra Crossing. The Uriarra Crossing road turns off the Cotter Road at Stromlo Forest.  
Leader: Marie Sexton has prepared the following programme.  
Saturday: Lunch on river bank, then walk along river bank towards Cotter. A camp-fire discussion after dinner.  
Sunday: Walk downstream beside the beautiful Murrumbidgee. Overnight accommodation in huts at 70 cents a day (i.e. \$1.40 for the weekend) for adults; 50c (i.e. \$1 for weekend) for children. Small surcharge for cooking facilities. Other facilities are hot showers, gas range, blankets. Bring own food and sleeping bag.