

the necessary high power transmission lines across the river. This would save some of the reserve by removing the need for high stanchions and a service road to it, thus saving some of the natural bushland which forms the reserve as well as improving the look of the new bridge. The Hurstville Council has also protested about the Railway Department proposals for high transmission wires.

PROTECTED BIRDS AND ANIMALS.

It is strange how things develop. Over the last few months your Secretary has been becoming concerned about occasional glimpses into private yards where there seem to be caged birds that from a distance look rather like protected birds. In the December issue of Wallumette, the paper of the Ryde Hunter's Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society, bird smuggling and the illegal sale of protected birds are mentioned as issues which could become major issues in the near future. How about it members? If you know of anyone who may be breaking the law unwittingly get him to stop it or if you see anything that raises your own suspicions, look into it, and when you have the facts straight, let either your Secretary or the NFWNS know them.

O.F.F. NEWS

Mrs. N. Grundy
4 Edna Ave.,
PENSHURST 2222

1147 Petula St
Oatley
2223

O.F.F. News

Price: 5 cents

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EDITORIAL

JANUARY, 1970

CONSERVATION IN THE SEVENTIES.

This year 1970 is the last year of the sixth decade of the twentieth century although perhaps the majority of us tend to think of it as the first of the seventies. How has conservation thinking developed in the past ten years and what of its future?

Ten years ago, conservationists (with some notable exceptions) were mainly concerned with the saving of individual species of plants and/or animals - a worthy enough objective but one that frequently sprang from a somewhat sentimental approach to nature and often lacked a realisation of the fact that it is not only the individual plant or animal that must be saved but more importantly their habitat in which they flourish be undisturbed. There was little general awareness of the rate at which habitat was being devastated and whole species threatened. With the passage of the decade however there has been an increasing awareness of the danger threatening our Australian bush because of our growing population and development. The word "Conservation" is almost becoming respectable and fashionable.

However, in the past decade we have also become aware of other dangers, dangers that threaten not only our native plants and animals but man himself. We used to take for granted the air we breathe, the water we drink

and the soil we cultivate. But scientists warn us that we cannot do so if we continue along our present course. Man cannot live apart from his environment, its biological processes are the basic apparatus on which our own breathing, eating and productivity depend. If the ecosphere (our total environment) is destroyed or seriously damaged, Man too will suffer.

We consume tremendous quantities of oxygen in our industries and deplete our source of it by devastating forests, by replacing green areas with concrete and by endangering the plankton of the ocean by the use of persistent chemicals.

We pollute the air with the outpouring from our factories and with the exhausts of our highly efficient engines to form smog and nitrate and other outfall. With the nitrates we endanger our agriculture, with the products of human sewage and the phosphates from detergents we pollute our rivers, and so on.

The problem of conservation has widened from a flora and fauna conservation to a total environment conservation, perhaps the preservation of man himself. But the two strands are interwoven. Flora and fauna cannot survive if man devastates the environment, but will the Australia we know and love survive without its unique flora and fauna?

We must continue to fight on all fronts, for clean air, clean water and fertile soil, and at the same time make sure that enough areas representative of our various Australian habitats and large enough to be viable are reserved for posterity in one form or another but spared the attention of the "developers".

COMING EVENTS.

TUESDAY, 3rd. FEBRUARY 7.45p.m. at the Swimming Club Hall, Myall Street, Oatley.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Please note that this is on a TUESDAY night instead of the usual Monday, and please do come. At the Annual General Meeting you hear the Secretary's report on the past year's activities and elect your Committee for the coming year. A good attendance at the election is important because an incoming committee likes to feel that it has been elected by the majority of the members, not just a few. And a big attendance makes the candidates feel they have an active, interested membership to work for, and there is also the opportunity to ask questions and put forward views.

This year some of the present committee will not be available for nomination and we will be looking for active enthusiastic younger members to take over and continue the good work done by the Society in the past. As the Editorial foreshadows, there will be plenty to do in the coming year.

After the business has been concluded Harry Goldstein will take you on a tour of Tasmania as seen through the cameras of the Dibleys and the Goldsteins during their recent visit to attend the FAOU conference in Launceston.

You can also pay your annual subscription which becomes due immediately after the meeting - and so save your Secretary and Treasurer some work.

CONSERVATION FRONT.

Reserve at northern end of Georges River Railway Bridge

The Society is in touch with the Minister for Railways and Mr. Doug. Cross to see if a cable can be used to carry

The Wildlife Preservation Society is having a field excursion to Mill Creek, a tributary of the Georges River. Mill Creek, which has been badly polluted, is an area suitable for educational purposes.

Meeting place: Deadman's Creek on the Heathcote-Liverpool Road at 9.30a.m., Sunday, 5th April. (Carry lunch and water.) Anyone interested in going should ring Mrs. Goldstein (57.5189).

Committee Activities.

Your committee is involved with a number of projects. A Tree Planting ceremony, and possibly other activities, are being arranged in connection with the Cook Bi-centenary. Plans are being made to repeat the invitation to students to attend a field day.

Letters have been written in connection with oil drilling on the Barrier Reef area, the proposal for the consideration of Wattamolla and Duffy's Forest as sites for Sydney's second airport (Leader 18.2.70), and on the desirability of the N.P. & W.S. being represented on the Water Pollution Advisory Committee.

Towra Point - Quibray Bay area.

Plans to have this area reserved as a Park are developing. The National Trust is preparing maps of the area, and Sutherland Conservation Society are calling a public meeting. Date and place to be announced. We expect Oatley F. & F. to be represented 100%.

O.F.F. NEWS

New Members.

We are pleased to welcome two new members:
Mr. David Strong and Stephen Hall.

O.F.F. News

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MARCH, 1970.

EDITORIAL.

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF.

Coral reefs do not occur anywhere in the world. Their distribution is restricted because they are built by a group of animals that need warm conditions, they do not move and they take from the sea the materials necessary for their stony skeletons, which form the Reef.

The world's greatest display of coral is in the Great Barrier Reef, which lies 15 to 100 miles off the Queensland Coast and extends for about 1200 miles. The visitor to the Reef is confronted with one of the most spectacular displays of colour the world of life can offer - dazzling coral sands, brilliantly striped and spotted fishes, grey, spotted and black sea cucumbers, colonies of a variety of red, pink, yellow and midnight blue animals. But the most colourful of all are the corals themselves, with their endless variety of shape and hue - every conceivable colour!

A fascinating fact about the coral skeleton (this is what is sold in shops) is that they are colourless. But in the bodies of the coral animals themselves are embedded myriads of microscopic plants, which lend their colour to the living coral. This close association is helpful to both. The plants produce oxygen for the corals, while the corals provide Carbon dioxide and other materials necessary for the plants. One coral, "Tubipora",

produces a red skeleton but the rest are white.

The Coral Reefs have taken thousands of years to grow - which brings us to the point: Do you think that these reefs belong to this generation alone? Have we the right to exploit the area if even the slightest danger to the Reef is possible?

"Four Corners" (Channel 2) expressed it very well: "The Great Barrier Reef is one of the wonders of the world --- for the time being."

.....

Activity of Members.

You are all interested in conservation, otherwise you would not have joined our society. One member told me recently that he would like to do something active if he knew what was required. So from time to time as the occasion arises, we propose offering suggestions. If a letter is involved, and you write one, would you please tell a member of the committee. It would be nice to report that a dozen (?) on one problem were sent by our society.

This month's suggestion. Would you please write to the Director, Committee of Enquiry into Oil Drilling on the Great Barrier Reef, Parliament House, Brisbane, and state that you are not in favour of oil drilling in this area. Write as much or as little as you like. Every letter helps.

You will remember the facts - Ampol and Japex have agreed to suspend operations pending results of an investigation by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments.

In case you are not already sold on the campaign, this advice was given to Australians, in connection with the Barrier Reef Oil Drilling lease, by an organisation of residents in Santa Barbara:

"Do not let them in. Don't under any circumstance let their exploratory rigs move in. You've got to get the Government to absolutely deny any oil activities now because once the companies get established, and they start paying money for leases, then it is too late and you've got them."

.....

ROYALTY SUPPORTS CONSERVATION.

The Australian Conservation Foundation has proudly announced that, as part of the Royal Tour, Prince Phillip has kindly consented to deliver an address at a Council meeting.

COMING EVENTS.

MARCH 23rd, MONDAY at 7.45p.m. SHARP.

- MOVIE FILMS
1. The KOALS (by Harold Pollock).
 2. BIRDS THAT NEVER FLY (").
 3. Short Australian travel film.

Our thanks are due to the Public-relations branch of the Bank of N.S.W., who are providing the projector, projectionist and colour films. Harold Pollock (partly sponsored by the Bank) makes a complete study of the life histories of the animals he films, often for six or nine months. We shall see them in colour, whereas on television they are black and white. Bring your interested friends. Will any members who have folding chairs please bring them. (We needed them last meeting).

.....

Subject of the Evening! .. Conservation Education (Mrs. Carder)

MARCH 21st, SATURDAY afternoon 2 p.m. AUDLEY.

Mrs. Lorraine McKenzie (Ranger Naturalist) will first show us the complete "Plans" for development of High Density Recreation in various parts of the Royal National Park. (Car park on right slightly before Office). The idea is to keep the crowds to these areas, so that much of the Park can remain in a natural state for Flora and Fauna.

We shall then get the cars and drive to places on the Plan, starting near Audley and moving towards Wattamolla. Bring you tea and have it in the Park afterwards. Non car-owners needing transport contact Mrs. Val Boyan (533.1013).

NOTE: This outing is before next meeting.

It is important that we all know about these Plans and this should be a most interesting afternoon. The entrance charge of 50¢ per car can be shared by passengers.

.....

THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL reports:-

1. Wildlife Conservation Legislation is being prepared to bring up to date the Fauna Protection Act, 1948, and the Wildflowers and Native Plants Act, 1927. The N.C.C. has prepared a full draft for the Bill, suggesting that wildlife be under the control of an Assistant Director (Wildlife) whose position is not subject to approval by the administration. This is to ensure that wildlife will receive adequate attention in the amalgamated administration of National Parks and Wildlife conservation.
2. Conservation Display, 1970. This is being organised in the Lower Town Hall during August. The committee, with Allan Strom as organiser, will be looking for photographs, ideas and helping bodies in the near future.

.....

OATLEY PARK.

Following continuing reports of vandalism in Oatley Park after 10p.m. when gates are locked, Aldermen have decided to seek legal advice on cases where people had been caught in the park after hours.

.....

REMINDER.

We regret that this is the last time 'OFF NEWS' will be posted to those who have not yet paid subs. Please pay the Treasurer at the next meeting, or by post.

LIBRARY.

Our Librarian reports that "Silent Spring" is again available. This is a must for all conservationists. The author Rachael Carson, is a leading American Biologist, and wrote the book after extensive research into the effects of pesticides. A copy was sent to President Kennedy who was so impressed that he set up a commission to investigate her findings. This triggered off the present world-wide concern on pollution.

.....

NEW MEMBERS.

Welcome to Mr. K. Bansgrove.

O.F.F. News

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EDITORIAL.

APRIL, 1970

THE KURNELL PENINSULA PROJECT.

Few of us have failed to be stirred when we visited the place where Captain Cook landed - and few have looked about at the industrial development in the vicinity, without murmuring - "What a shame"!

If you feel that industrialism, with its resultant problems such as pollution, erosion and sheer ugliness, should not find a place on the remaining foreshores of the Kurnell Peninsula, if you think that this of all places, so close to the city, and of such immense historical interest, potentially a place for rest and recreation should be preserved for all people, for all time, then now is the time to do something about it.

And if it is the loss of monetary gain that you are thinking of, then you will be interested in what Mr. Murdoch, Director of Tourism, N.S.W., has to say: "Few people realise that in terms of domestic values, tourism is worth twice that of the wool clip and represents one twelfth of the G.N.P. (Gross National Product).

"The growth of the tourist industry is phenomenal - 12½% per annum - and there is an ever increasing demand for natural open spaces. We must use wisely the available natural resources. Lose them now and they are gone forever."

Much of the Kurnell Peninsula and Towra, are still available, and I am sure that no one will deny the potential of this area as an attraction for tourists!

The recently formed Kurnell Committee intends to seek the retention of the remainder of the Peninsula as a memorial to Australia's foundation. The committee includes representatives from various conservation bodies. (We are represented by Phil Hall and Bernard Davis). Their task is colossal, and it is up to all members to support them. We must show our support by attending the Public Meeting they are calling. I know of no better project with which to be associated, during the Cook Bicentenary celebrations. Make a note now:-

PUBLIC MEETING.

called by

THE KURNELL COMMITTEE.

at

GYMEA BAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

on

WEDNESDAY, 15TH APRIL - 8 P.M.

The programme is very attractive and two films will be shown - "George Washington River" and "Bulldoze America". These alone are worth going to see. We hope that every member will be present and bring your friends.

YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.

.....

COMING EVENTS.

KANANGRA-BOYD.

The Wildlife Preservation Society invites our members to a weekend in the Kanangra-Boyd area, on 18th & 19th April.

LEADER: Milo Dunphy

MEETING PLACE : Boyd's Crossing at 12 noon, Saturday.
Further information please ring Allan Catford...449 1658.

COMING EVENTS (ctd.)

MONDAY, 27TH APRIL, 7.45 P.M. PROMPT.

ARNOLD MCGILL (R.A.O.U.) will give an illustrated talk on the "WARBLERS".

Arnold McGill is one of the leading Ornithologists in N.S.W. His voice carries clearly to the back of the hall.

Most of the small birds that you find so confusing belong to the warblers. They include the many species of Wrens, Thornbills and Chats, as well as Reed and Grass Warblers, and many others. His pictures and talk will show you how to identify them.

B ring interested friends and any small folding chairs, and come early.

.....

SUBJECT OF THE EVENING: .. "OIL SPILLAGE" .. Mr. H. Goldstein.

.....

SATURDAY 2ND. MAY, 1 P.M. PROMPT.

FIELD DAY - WEST HEAD ROAD, KURING-GAI CHASE. (Southern end).

"SPECIAL ABORIGINAL RELICS".

Meet our leader, GEOFF SPENCER, at the junction of McCarr's Creek Rd. and West Head Rd., (marked 'Duck Hole' on some maps) at 1 p.m. (Lunch before this.) Only short walks from cars. - Interval for afternoon tea.

Geoff Spencer has made a study of Aboriginal Relics and tried to find out what they mean. He would prefer no children under 9 years and certainly no tinies.

Travel via French's Forest and Terrey Hills.

REPORTS FROM THE NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL.Michael Sharland F.R.Z.S.

Micheal Sharland, a well-known naturalist, and formerly Chief Superintendent with the Scenery Preservation Board of Tasmania, has joined the staff of the "Sydney Morning Herald" as Nature Conservation Writer.

Mr. Sharland invites member societies and individuals, to send him any appropriate news item.

Address: C/o. "Sydney Morning Herald", Jones Street, BROADWAY, 2007.

.....

Waterfowl.

The N.P. & W.S. is developing a Waterfowl Management Programme. A survey of wetlands has been made, and the report will be used when planning the overall conservation of wetland habitats along the coast. Inland, investigations are being carried out on duck shooting, damage to rice crops by ducks and projects to preserve wetlands.

This is the beginning of a wildlife management programme which is badly needed in this State.

.....

POLLUTION SURVEY.

The Department of Fisheries, in conjunction with the Health Department, is conducting a pollution survey of Botany Bay, the Georges and Cook Rivers. These findings are likely to have a major bearing on anti-pollution legislation to be debated in August. (published LEADER, 8.4.70)

LIBRARY: NEWS

Three new books have added to our Library.

1. Australian Butterflies in Colour .. Burns & Rotherham.
2. Australian Reptiles in Colour .. Harold Cogger.
3. The Last of Lands. ... Webb, Whitelock, Brereton.

.....

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER:

Master Stephen Suba.

O.F.F. News

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MAY, 1970

EDITORIAL.CONSERVATION IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY.

With our 200th Birthday has come a growing awareness of our past mistakes. The conservation "bandwagon", well supported by world-wide concern over pollution, ill-advised planning and wildlife destruction, is now running more smoothly, and is gaining momentum.

The Duke of Edinburgh added his support - "I would like to see Australians take more interest in the unrestricted exploitation of stocks of fish in its oceans."

At Kurnoll, the Queen reminded us that "we are also the architects of the future and we carry today a great responsibility for the generations who will be living here a hundred years from now".

Since major issues are now receiving attention, it seems that small societies such as ours can serve best by taking an active interest in local problems - land useage, pollution of our waterways, parks and reserves. One problem that confronts our Society right now is the fate of the Arms of Oatley Bay.

The "LEADER", 28.4.70, reported that the Water Board has decided to cause the overflow from a sewer to be diverted into a stormwater canal that discharges into the open creek area of Oatley Bay. The sewer is large enough to carry four times the normal quantity of sewage, but cannot cope with stormwater during heavy rain. Storm water should not enter sewers, but in many cases connections from roofs have been illegally made.

Enlarging the sewers would involve colossal expense. But, at no time should untreated sewage be discharged into a place destined for public recreation. This IS OUR affair.

BUDAWANG NATIONAL PARK.

In March, we asked for protests against oil drilling in the Reef area. Eight members reported having sent letters and this was much appreciated. Now, we have another request - support for a proposed National Park.

The area concerned is situated roughly parallel to the South Coast, about ten miles inland, from St. Georges Basin to Batemans Bay. It is a spectacular area with much of geological interest and outstanding scenery. It is very suitable for the recreational needs of campers, caravanners, motorists and walkers, and is convenient for visitors from Canberra, Sydney, Wollongong and Batemans Bay. Because it is almost all Crown Land, the cost of compensating the few property owners would be small. The whole of the South Coast would benefit from the increase in tourism.

We are still far short of the recommended 5% minimum of lands for Parks. If we do not reserve this land now it will be given over to other uses.

If you are in favour of having this area reserved as a National Park, would you please write to your State member or the Premier. State that you are interested in the proposed Budawang National Park, and would like to see it dedicated. Write as much or as little as you like - it is the number of letters that counts. Please write soon and again we would appreciate your telling a committee member. We have been asked to report activities to the National Parks Association who are conducting the campaign.

Electorate: Hurstville .. MR. T.F. MEAD M.P.
Kogarah .. MR. W.F. CRABTREE M.P.
Sutherland .. MR. N.D. WALKER M.P.
Georges River . MR. D.D. CROSS M.P.
(includes Catley)

PREMIER: The Hon. Mr. R. Askin, M.L.A., Premier of N.S.W.

Address all of these to Parliament House, SYDNEY, 2000.

.....

Our Committee:

We are involved in several projects including plans for the School Tree Planting Ceremony, Conservation Week display at Roselands and the restoration of the reserve at the Northern end of the Georges River Railway Bridge.

COMING EVENTS.

Monday, 25th May, at 7.45p.m. SHARP.

"SYDNEY 2000" (Preservation or Desperation). by GARTH SETCHELL.

Mr. Setchell is an Architect and Town Planner and Counsellor of the National Trust. He is a pleasant young speaker who will talk about what must be done in and around the Sydney area to provide sufficient open space to deal with the population pressures between now and the year 2000. The talk is illustrated with maps and slides.

We expect all members will try to attend so come early, bring your friends and any available folding chairs.

.....

MEMBER'S SUBJECT OF THE EVENING: .. The Mining Act .. Mr. Phil Hall.

.....

FIELD DAY .. 31st May, with GARTH SETCHELL.

Meet him at 10 a.m. at McGrath's Hill about 100 yards along the turning to Pitt-Town. His car is a greyish Volkswagen DMT-346. He will lead a landscape trip (with some historical interest) in the Upper Hawkesbury area to illustrate what he advocates. Bring lunch and thermos or cold drinks - no water available. Lunch near cars. More details will be given by Mr. Setchell after his talk. Check on time and meeting place. Whilst it will be best to attend both lecture and field day, each will be understandable separately.

See Mrs. Val Boyan if you need transport or can offer any. 'Phone 533-4982 after 4 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are going on the Field Day but cant attend the lecture, 'Phone 57-3234 (D. Newbould) in case there is some alterations in time or place.

DRUG CURE SOURCE IN FORESTS.

In making a plea for the preservation of rain forests, Dr. W. Williams a leading Queensland Botanist (CSIRO), claimed that Queensland's rain forests had a rare vine that produced an important cancer treatment drug. It was undergoing final trials at the U.S. National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Williams said that other drugs produced in rain forest plants showed promise in treatment of tumors and hypertension.

Investigations take up to twenty years. In the meantime, the rain forests were in danger of being cleared and exploited by farmers.

.. From "The National Parks Journal"
May, 1970.

Our Committee reports:

Arrangements are still being made for the Conservation Display at Roselands in August and the School Treeplanting Ceremony at Oatley Park.

Mr. Ray Knight has been appointed as our third rep. on the Kurnell Committee. He will attend in the absence of Mr. Hall or Mr. Davis.

The Minister for Transport has advised that our suggestions for restoration at the North end of Georges River Bridge, when work is completed, are receiving attention.

Following concern expressed by Mrs. Helman about white wax scale in Oatley Park, we applied to Council for

permission to have some infected plants. If this is granted, we shall be asking for volunteers to assist at a working bee.

LIBRARY:

Addition to library.

MAN, THE EARTH & TOMORROW - Edited by D.C.White & C.S. Elliot.

Mr. A. Strom said of this book - "Conservationists have a responsibility to be informed about management of resources. No better way to start than with this new publication."

WELCOME .. To Junior member Stephen Saunders.

Price: 5 cents

O.F.F. News

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EDITORIAL.

JUNE, 1970.

JUNIOR VIGILANTES.

Two of our junior members have expressed concern about the increasing pollution of a once clear stream that flowed into Gungah Bay. They noted the effect on the fauna of the area; an eel, frogs and tortoises disappeared; an eagle was seen preying on the rats that were becoming prevalent. Foam piled up against rocks and other obstacles in the stream.

They searched for and finally found the source of pollution - a storm water drain discharging raw sewage!

At our last meeting, Mr. Setchell told us that he thought small societies such as ours could best serve by being the vigilantes for the authorities. The action of these two boys, Stephen Hall and Stephen Saunders, is the kind of vigilance we need in the community. CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM!

The trouble spot has been reported to the authorities and is being investigated.

A CONSERVATION PROTEST.

Would you like to own a share in one of Sydney's unpopular companies? The annual return is not great - six cents paid in two instalments of three cents each. But you will be participating in the biggest conservation protest ever staged in Australia.

For \$3.00 you will own a share in the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers (Australia) Ltd., you will hold a one-share Share Certificate, you will be invited to the

Shareholders' Meeting each year, and you will receive a free subscription to the Colong Bulletin.

The Colong Committee hopes to have at least a thousand Colong Shareholders by the end of this year. If you would like to be one of them, obtain an application form at the next meeting from your Editor (Ida Carder).

.....

EXTRACTS FROM THE LATEST COLONG BULLETIN.

"The N.S.W. Labour Party will revoke the Colong Mining Lease if successful at the next election. An assurance to this effect has been given by the Deputy Leader of the State Opposition, Mr. S. Einfeld, to the Colong Committee which now represents one hundred community bodies in the struggle to save the focal point of the Kanangra/Boyd National Park from limestone mining.

"APCM(A) is legally entitled to commence mining at Colong any day it chooses."

.....

N.P.A. MEMBER APPOINTED TO 'CROWN OF THORNS' COMMITTEE.

Mr. David Tranter, Senior Research Scientist, C.S.I.R.O Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, has been appointed to the Joint Committee to investigate the Crown of Thorns Starfish. Mr. Tranter is a member and a former State Secretary of the National Parks Association of N.S.W.

The Committee has been set up to study the problems of attack on the Great Barrier Reef by starfish. It will be financed jointly by the Commonwealth & Queensland Governments.

Mr. Tranter is on our Programme for July 27th.

.....

CONSERVATION DISPLAY.

The N.C.C. has announced with regret that the Conservation Display which was to be held in the Town Hall in August, has been cancelled owing to insufficient finance and support.

.....

COMING EVENTS.

MONDAY, 22ND, JUNE, 7.45 P.M. SHARP.

"QUAIL & WILD DUCKS" and "PRESERVATION OF WETLANDS & SWAMP AREAS".
by ALAN MORRIS Field Officer (Birds) N.P. & W.S. illustrated by slides.

Mr. Morris will talk about his experiences and the problems and policy of the National Parks & Wildlife Service. The question of the shooting of quail and wild ducks is a very controversial one. Mr. Morris is young, a clear speaker and happy to have questions and discussion, so this should be an extremely interesting evening, even if you have never seen a quail or a swamp. Mr. Morris' talk will be no longer than 1 hour with time for questions from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Many of the public think the N.P. & W.S. is bogged down in clerical work. You will be amazed at the things they have done.

Please be in your seats before 7.45 p.m. The Library is open for almost $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before then. Bring interested friends.

MEMBER'S SUBJECT OF THE EVENING:

History of our Society - Mrs. Newbault.

PROPOSED BUTTERFLY TAGGING AT CAMDEN, SUNDAY, 5TH JULY.

Mr. Courtney Smithers MSc., phoned me last week to say that the Wanderer Butterflies are not co-operating this year. Out of 3 sites in Camden, only one has had a cluster (small), none from the other two. Unless the situation alters this Field Day will have to be cancelled for this year, however I am to phone Mr. Smithers on the 22nd June and he will say if it is possible. You will need to come to the meeting on 22nd. June to find out. In any case we shall try to arrange another field day for Sunday, 5th July at the meeting. "Muogamarra" Sanctuary is a possibility but may not be open yet, or "Wirrimbirra" at Bargo. Come with further suggestions of where you would like to go.

D.M. Newbault.

OATLEY BAY

The committee has been concerned about the fate of the N.E. and N.W. arms of Oatley Bay, and suggestions were made to the Kogarah Council for recreational areas to be established without losing the bushland appearance. We have been notified that no plans have been made, but our suggestions have been noted with interest and will be considered at a later date.

WHITE WAX SCALE IN OATLEY PARK.

The Agricultural Department has been consulted. The scale "Gascardia destructor" is believed to have been imported into Australia about fifty years ago from South Africa, where the insect is rare. It is controlled in its native land by its natural enemies.

The C.S.I.R.O. is investigating possibilities of biological control in Australia. Possibly, they may release beneficial insects in the infected part of Oatley Park. Pending this, no further action will be taken by our Society.

.....

SAVE KURNELL COMMITTEE.

The Sutherland Council is supporting the Committee's plans for Kurnell. An application to build a silicone chemical plant in the area was rejected by the Council. However, on advice from a higher authority, bulldozers are now at work on the site.

O.F.F. NEWS

A report on recent surveys of Murrin Creek limestone deposits has been made available to the Colong Committee and to the cement company by Mr. W. Fife, Minister for Mines. The estimate for Murrin Creek is 34.61 million tons. The estimate for Colong Caves site is 49 million tons. .. Herald 3.7.70.

The next move ? ? ? ?

O.F.F. News

Price: 5 cents

Published by the
OATLEY FLORA
AND FAUNA
CONSERVATION
SOCIETY

Hon. Sec., Mrs. B. Goldstein
61 Mi Mi St., Oatley, N.S.W.
2223 Telephone 57-5189

Registered at the G.P.O., Sydney, for transmission by post as a periodical.

Hon. Sec. 53-7060

JULY, 1970.

CONSERVATION WEEK.

This is probably the busiest and most important month of the year for conservation societies. Conservation Week .. 27th July to 1st, August, 1970 .. is a week set aside each year to stress the need for the conservation of all natural resources. Conservation Societies are endeavouring to draw attention to the fact that wildlife is a very important natural resource.

.....

ROSELANDS DISPLAY.

The theme of our display this year is "HABITAT". We are endeavouring to show that in order to conserve wildlife we must reserve the habitats. We are again indebted to Roselands for the loan of the site and for generous assistance.

OUR TREE PLANTING CEREMONY.

Wednesday, 29th July, at 2.30 p.m. at Oatley Park. A group of pupils from Oatley West School will be planting native trees. Alderman Andreason and Alderman Cable will be representing Hurstville Council.

We hope as many of our members as possible will attend.

Meet at the Park gates at 2.30p.m.

SEMINAR:

CRISIS, 1970 - POLLUTION!

Organised by the Conservation Society of N.S.W., the N.C.C. and the Sydney University Conservation Society.

Place: Union Theatre, Sydney University (entrance off Parramatta Rd.)

Time: 10a.m. to 5p.m. Saturday, 1st. August, 1970.

Admission \$1.50. Students 50c.

FIELD TRIP SUNDAY, 19th JULY."ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION IN HOMEBUSH BAY".

Organised by the same group. Meet at the Sate Brickworks, Homebush Bay 1.30p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

WILDLIFE FILM FESTIVAL.

Presented by the Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia during Conservation Week.

Friday, 31st. July, 8p.m. at St. James Hall, 169 Phillip St., Sydney.

"WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO MY COUNTRY".

by Douglas Baglin and Frank Heimans.

A new Australian film in brilliant colour - excellent supporting films from United Kingdom and Canada. Admission by donation of \$1.00 for the Barbara Dew Memorial Fund.

Saturday 1st. August - Anzac House Auditorium, College St., Sydney.

Three Sessions: 10a.m., 1p.m. and 3p.m.

14 magnificent films from Canada, U.K. and Australia. Admission: Donation \$2.00 for three sessions or 80cents each. Children $\frac{1}{2}$ price.

Sunday night at 8 p.m.

The Art Gallery, Education Dept., Bridge Street, Sydney.

"UNDERWATER EXPLORATION AT LORD HOWE ISLAND". Superb slides presented by James J. Brown.

Sunday, 2nd. August at 7.30p.m. Savoy Theatre, Bligh St., Sydney.

The Theosophical Society will present an interesting programme of nature films including "Instincts of an Insect" and others. Guest speaker - Vincent Serventy.

Any enquiries on above please phone 43 6558 (evenings).

COMING EVENTS:

Monday, 27th July at 7.45 p.m.

"A Biologist looks at India" by David Tranter M.Sc.

David Tranter (senior Research Scientist at CSIRO Cronulla) has only recently returned from two years in Southern India, doing research on "Plankton" (small green algae eaten by whales). He also visited several Indian National Parks and will show slides and talk about these and his research work. He is an excellent speaker.

Recently he was appointed to the National Committee studying the problems of the Great Barrier Reef, and will show some slides of an oil spill and of the Crown of Thorns Starfish. He will be glad to answer questions.

Bring your friends and folding chairs, and come early.

Member Subject .. Mr. Coo, Saintry .. FIRE FIGHTING.

Sunday, 2nd. August at 9.30a.m.

FIELD DAY at southern end of Heathcote State Park, led by member BERNIE DAVIS.

We meet at 9.30a.m. near the D.C.A. Beacon. The concrete road to Woronora Dam (sign posted) is on the right of Princes Highway, two miles south of Waterfall. Approx. $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles along this road you see the D.C.A. beacon on your right. Take the next road on the right (leading to beacon and signposted Heathcote State Park, as far as the locked gates. Here we park cars and have morning tea. We walk down a quiet sealed road for about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile through heathland to a hanging swamp (not wet). Birds abound and some wildflowers should be out. This should be a lovely Spring field day. Easy walking for all ages. Return to cars for lunch about 1 p.m.

Bernie will distribute notes at Mr. Tranter's meeting.

D.M. Newbould.

AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATION FOUNDATION.

The A.C.F. has appointed an Education Officer, and is endeavouring to establish pilot Field Study Centres near Sydney and Melbourne. If you would like information about a Field Study Centre, write to the Education Officer, Natural Science Centre, 191 Royal Parade, PARKVILLE, Victoria, 3025.

.....

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL.

The N.C.C. is concerned with land usage of the 85 million acres of Western N.S.W., where wildlife habitats have been severely altered by lack of management in the past. It is anxious to secure at once a substantial part of this area as National Parks and Nature Reserves, and to influence the land use of much of the remainder in an effort to solve the Red Kangaroo and other wildlife problems.

Negotiations between the N.C.C. are still proceeding with the Minister for Lands. The N.C.C. wants the Wildlife Conservation Act to be administered by a distinct division of the N.P. & W.S.

.....

WIRRAMBIRRA ASSISTANCE NEEDED.

BILL KEECH will be arranging a "WORK & LOOK" party for 1st. November Field Day at Wirrambirra. In the meantime, any members who care to go privately would be welcome.

.....

DATES TO REMEMBER:

~~17th October .. N.C.C. Annual Conference & Dinner.~~

24th October .. Official opening of OCKENDEN PICNIC GROUND at Wirrambirra.

Details September OFF .

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Miss S.C. Sharp, Punchbowl. Mr. & Mrs. J. Tonkin,
Oatley. Mrs. D. Wilson, Kyeemagh. Mr. & Mrs. J.
Stait, Padstow.

O.F.F. News

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AUGUST, 1970.

EDITORIAL.OUR VANISHING MANGROVES.

An article in a recent edition of a science journal stated that considerable attention is being given to the possibility of raising more fish and shell fish in coastal waters where the effort would have the protection of national law. The cultivation would depend on the availability of suitable marine habitats and would open the immense possibility of using mangrove swamps and estuarine areas.

We hope that when the time comes there will still be mangrove habitats.

.....

Mangroves are protected by law. (Fisheries and Oyster Farms Act. 1935-60). It is an offence to destroy them without permission from the State Fisheries Department, - and these authorities understand the present and potential value of the estuarine areas, and are reluctant to give such permission. The few areas that still remain in the metropolitan area must not be allowed to disappear. It is time that those concerned with economic development should give due regard to remaining mangroves and consider their incorporation in future plans.

.....

ROSELANDS CONSERVATION DISPLAY.

All visitors who asked about our Society and left addresses will receive a copy of OFF NEWS. They are assured of a welcome to our meetings and field days. (see page 3).

TREE PLANTING CEREMONY on 29th July, 1970.

Those who were unable to attend, missed a very pleasant afternoon at Oatley Park, where native trees were planted. Our thanks to Hurstville Council for providing the trees and digging of the holes, Alderman Andreason, Alderman Cable, Mr. Reid (Headmaster), teachers and pupils of Oatley West School, Mr. Neil (Ranger) and all who attended. A very special 'thank you' to Mr. Andreason who presented 200 Christmas Bushes !!! Each child (and adult went away proudly carrying a plant in a tube. As you know, Mr. Andreason is a Life Member of our Society.

The Society presented two books to the school library.

.....

VIGILANCE.

One of our members has discovered, and reported to our committee a source of pollution. The matter has been brought to the attention of the authorities and is being investigated.

.....

CONCERNING NATIONAL PARKS.Domestic Animals Prohibited.

Dr. D.F. McMichael, Director of N.P. & W.S. stated that from June next year no domestic cats or dogs except those with permits (e.g. guide dogs for the blind) would be allowed in National Parks.

Bridge to be removed. .. The timber foot bridge at Audley in the Royal National Park, has been declared unsafe and will be demolished. There are no plans for replacing it.

Fines for Shooting. .. Fines totalling more than \$700 were imposed on three Victorians on a deer shooting trip in Royal National Park. (Leader 29.7.70)

BUSHFIRE DANGER PERIOD.

Because of the grave risk of bush fires, several Councils, including Sutherland, Blue Mts., & Kuringai, have brought forward the bushfire danger period by 2 months to 1st August. Fires must not be lighted in the open without a permit in these shires. (Leader 5.8.70)

COMING EVENTS.

Monday 24th August, at 7.45 p.m. SHARP.

"THREATENED WILDLIFE" by PETER FOSTER Field Officer of N.P. & W.S.

Mr. Foster, (and enthusiastic member of the Wildlife Service) tells me he has given a lot of thought to the talk he is going to give us and he will illustrate it with slides. As well as speaking about "Threatened Wildlife in N.S.W.", he will say something about his work as a Faunal Ranger (Allen Morris who came in June is his opposite number in charge of problems affecting birds). Bring your friends and make Peter's visit to Oatley worthwhile.

Sunday 30th August at 10.00a.m. DURAL (Round Corner).

FIELD DAY at CADWELLS'S "BOONGALA NURSERY", ANNAGROVE ROAD.

BILL KEACH is our leader and he will conduct the party around Cadwell's spacious Australian plant nursery, where only Australian plants are grown. You will see many species of Grevilleas and other rare plants not grown elsewhere such as "CROWEI" long flowering and does well in Oatley (CROWEI SALIGNA will even grow in our bed in Oatley Park and grows wild in the Royal National Park particularly near Winifred Falls and Flat Rock). Bill will show you everything and you will have lunch in the grounds. He will then take you to a private property where "NATIVE ROSE" grows wild.

Round Corner is the suggested meeting place (10 a.m.). If you miss the group get into Annagrove Road and drive about 3 miles from Dural and look for Cadwell's on the left after passing "Ameroo" Nursery.

D.M. NEWBOULT.

MEMBERS SUBJECT AT AUGUST MEETING ... CEC. SAINTY on FIRE FIGHTING.

MEMBERS OF OUR SOCIETY HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING:

A public meeting to be held in the Lower Sydney Town Hall on Thursday 27th August at 8.p.m. by Sydney Harbour and Parramatta River Pollution Committee. Sir Garfield Barwick, G.C.M.G. will be acting as Chairman and there will be several guest speakers. A prize winning film will be shown entitled "The Shadow of Progress". The theme of the evening will be environmental pollution.

The Kangaroo Protection Committee have organised a KANGAROO DAY WALK to take place on Saturday 29th August. Assemble at Hyde Park at 11a.m. above St. James Station. The walk will proceed along Elizabeth St. & Park St. to outside the Lower Town Hall where petitions will be available for signing. On Tuesday 1st, September at 8.p.m they will have a Film night & rally at Teachers Federation Hall, 300 Sussex Street, a few hours from the Town Hall. Film "MARIOO the RED KANGAROO"

Official Opening - Saturday, 24th October.

At Wirrimbirra, near Bargo, this picnic area was designed by Milo Dunphy as a memorial to the late Roy Ockenden. When completed, it will consist of five separate, furnished areas with bushland and parking space between each. Two of these should be completed by the opening date. Our Society members will be welcome.

Much voluntary assistance is required at Wirrimbirra. Mr. Bill Keech is organising a working party for it on 1st. November, but if you wish to go before that you will be very welcome. Phone Bill Keech (50-3476) for information.

.....

FORMATION OF BANKSTOWN COUNCIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY.

The first meeting will be held on Thursday 1st. October, at Bankstown Council Chambers. The Mayor of Bankstown will be Chairman and has consented to be Patron of the Society. A film will be shown and it is hoped to form a Committee.

Cec. Sainty is endeavouring to launch a Conservation Society and would appreciate the attendance of as many of our members as possible. Please notify any friends in that district.

.....

LIBRARY.

PARENTS! Have you enquired if WILDLIFE IN AUSTRALIA is in your school library? This year it has four special features.

- March .. THE GREAT BARRIER REEF.
- June .. THE KANGAROO PROBLEM.
- September .. TWO HUNDRED YEARS SINCE COOK. What has happened

O.F.F. NEWS December TWO HUNDRED YEARS ON . What should happen to our Wildlife.

THIS MAGAZINE IS AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY.

.....

NOTE TO NEW MEMBERS: We hope to supply you soon with a separate sheet giving information concerning the various conservation societies mentioned in OFF NEWS. We realise it must be confusing to you and we regret there is insufficient space here for explanation.

O.F.F. News

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SEPTEMBER, 1970

EDITORIAL.

THOSE MANGROVES AGAIN!!

The Mayor of Strathfield was reported (Herald 8.8.70) to have stated that the mangrove swamp (Homebush) was being reclaimed as open park land. "Can you see any beauty in mangroves?" he asked. "They will only grow in swamps".

Certainly, there is no beauty in the Homebush mangroves as those who attended the field day on 19th July will remember. But the unpleasantness is all man made.

We consulted the Australian Museum. Mangroves, we were told, are very productive areas and it is sheer stupidity to remove them unless absolutely necessary. Remove one organ, (e.g. the liver from the body of an animal), what happens to the animal? Mangrove habitats are organs of the environment. Remove them and the whole environment is adversely affected.

Research on mangroves is currently being carried out, and a brochure on their value will soon be realised. In the meantime, we were pleased to learn that the N.E. Arm of Oatley Bay is to become the site for scientific research into mangrove habitats.

.....

RESEARCH IN OATLEY PARK.

Mrs. Helman's enquiry about the white wax scale in Oatley Park has some interesting results. The area has been chosen by the C.S.I.R.O. for experimental research into biological control of the scale. The scale is thriving in Australia because when it came from Africa, it did not bring its natural enemies with it.

The C.S.I.R.O. has obtained some of these parasites, and has tested them thoroughly to make sure that they are harmless to other living things. Now, controlled experiments will be carried out with them in Oatley Park.

.....

POLLUTION IN OUR PART OF THE METROPOLITAN.

The section of the report by Mr. A.E. Barton (British waste disposal expert) dealing with this area, states: "the Georges River from Liverpool to Botany Bay is up to 60% polluted. Woronora River is equally filthy. Mill Creek is up to 20% polluted until just before it joins the Georges River where the pollution rises steeply. Liquid industrial waste and seepage from tipping areas are mainly responsible.

The report disclosed that the Kurnell Refinery disposed of its waste 150 miles out to sea.

KOGARAH COUNCIL has decided to set up its own anti-pollution committee & has placed a ban on backyard incinerators.

LEADER 12.8.70.

.....

THE KURNELL COMMITTEE.

Strong support from the Sutherland Shire Council is being given the campaign to save the peninsula. The Council has decided to draw up a development plan for Kurnell and then ask the State Government to adopt it.

The Council's plan retains existing residential and industrial areas, provides a small area for light industry (this is not included in the Kurnell Committee's plan), and keeps the rest of the peninsula for recreation.

The Sutherland Shire Clerk, Mr. A.G. Hill said that Kurnell produced about \$60 million a year for Government, and it should be possible to buy privately owned land for park land.

LEADER 29.7.70.

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL.

The N.C.C. Annual Dinner will be held this year on Saturday 17th October, at Cahill Centre, Falcon Street, Crows Nest. The Dinner is at 6 p.m. Tickets \$3.00 from Mrs. B.J. Nipperess, Kilcare Heights, via Hardy's Bay, 2256. Tele. 043 60 1024 (STD).

The dinner is an excellent opportunity to meet conservationists from other societies and we hope that Oatley will be well represented. The guest speaker will be Mr. E.M. Fox M.H.R. who was largely responsible for the establishment of the Committee of Enquiry into Wildlife Conservation on a national basis.

COMING EVENTS.

Sunday, 27th September, 9.30 A.M. FIELD DAY

Meet at the Audley Office, Royal National Park and drive to the MARLEY TRACK about four miles along the Bundeena Road. Lorraine McKenzie, Ranger Naturalist will lead.

There is a car park on the left and Marley Track on the right. Carry lunch. Lorraine has been doing research along this track on the wildlife and geology.

The track leads through heathland (many flowers) down to a fresh water pool. (Deer Pool). Here are wattles and later a eucalypt forest. It is haven for birds and mammals. Those who don't wish to go further (about 2 miles from cars) can here. Others can continue to Marley Beach - about 2 miles further on to a lagoon, sand dunes and swamp. No fires allowed.

DON'T MISS THIS SPRING FIELD DAY.

.....

Monday, 28th September, at 7.45 P.M.

AUSTRALIAN FERNS by COLIN SLADE.

Colin Slade is now in charge of EVERGLADES at Leura, (under the National Trust). Although he is only 26, he is an experienced lecturer and has studied ferns whilst working at the Royal Botanic Gardens. He has diplomas in Horticulture from Ryde Evening School. He will bring along specimens and plants. Many have expressed a wish to know more about ferns and this is the first lecture we have been able to arrange. Come and bring friends.

.....

3rd. October - 8 hour Week-end.

Phyllis and Arnold Bryden are arranging a camping week-end at CUDMIRRAH NATURE RESERVE. (about 10 mls. south of Sussex Inlet), to show us how it has been regenerated since it was burnt out. They, Nancy Beattie, Mimi Godfrey and others have done a lot of Research there. It is near the sea and there are water tanks, fire places and toilets. (Better take some water).

'Phone the BRYDENS' 57-8456 (evenings) or see them at the Fern Lecture.

KOGARAH ANTI-POLLUTION COMMITTEE.

We are pleased to report that we have a representative on this committee set up by the Kogarah Municipal Council. Our nominee Mr. Ray Knight was accepted and he attended the first meeting on Wednesday 30th September. The committee consists of 12 aldermen and 8 members of the public and will meet each month. Further reports later.

.....

THE MYALL LAKES COMMITTEE reports:

The establishment of the Myall Lakes National Park was announced by the Premier in January. The boundaries of the Park have excluded some land eminently suited for inclusion, and the area has been left open for uncontrolled development, with despoilation and pollution of the Lakes. The rest of the Park is to be subjected to mining, thus destroying the scientific area. A road giving an access to the leases held by Mineral Deposits Ltd., is to be built through the scientific area proposed by the Sim Committee Report.

.....

NATURE CONSERVATION COUNCIL reports:

Kangaroo Conservation - The executive of the N.C.C. has drawn up a paper titled "The Survival of the Kangaroo". It offered advice on management programme including the establishment of parks, reserves, refuges, education and multiple use of lands. The paper was sent to the Minister for Lands for perusal and advice as to whether or not the statement agrees with the N.P.& W.S. kangaroo management programme.

Nature Reserves - In connection with the proposed new wildlife conservation legislation, the N.C.C. is still negotiating with the Minister for Lands about the terms of the paper (Nature Reserves) prepared by the N.P.& W.S. and approved by the N.P.& W.S. advisory Council.

Copies of both these papers are available from the Secretary.

N.C.C. Conference - 17th October, 1970. Our representatives will be Mrs. Carder and Mrs. Lloyd.

.....

BOOKS:

Most of us will remember Mr. Ray Mascord and his incredible photos of Australian spiders. He has now published a book :

"AUSTRALIAN SPIDERS IN COLOUR" .. \$3.95.



O.F.F. NEWS

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OCTOBER, 1970

EDITORIAL.

Congratulations to all concerned on the very successful launching of the Bankstown Nature Conservation Society !

We shall watch its growing stages with keen interest and look forward to friendly associations with its members.

Our best wishes to the B.N.C.S. (or is it to be S.J.B.N.C.S.?) Welcome to the fraternity of conservationists.

Good work Cec !!

.....

STOP THE COASTAL SPRAWL.

The Eurobodalla Conservation Trust of Canberra, and the South Coast Committee, Queanbeyan, have written seeking to enlist our support for the MURRAMURRANG STATE PARK project. They remind us that the coastal sprawl is gaining momentum and that unless we stop it now it will soon be too late. At present only 40 miles of the entire coast of N.S.W. remains in its natural state.

There is no need to remind us of the destruction of beautiful coastal scenery by developers. Too often have we returned to a delightful spot on the coast, only to find that the bulldozers have been there.

"This land was made for you and me", and it is up to you and me to do something to preserve it.

THE MURRAMURRANG STATE PARK.

The N. P. & W.S. planned a park on the mid-south coast from just south of Ulladulla to just north of Bateman's Bay. This is the only relatively unspoiled bit of natural coastline between Sydney and the Victorian border. But already the plan has been whittled down to a 1/4 mile wide strip south of Durras Lake. Housing development, State forests and roads have accounted for the major part.

There is still time to save the forests and gullies with the kangaroos and wallabies, smaller marsupials, lyre birds and a wealth of other bird life - if we can convince our representatives in Parliament that we are sufficiently interested. Only widespread public pressure will save MURRAMURRANG.

Please write to your State member and ask for the Murrumbidgee State Park to be saved in its original boundaries as planned by the National Parks & Wildlife Service, and for the immediate declaration of suitable areas still in their natural state as national parks.

The new member for the Georges River is:

MR. F. WALKER, M.P., Parliament House, Sydney, 2000. or write to:
The Hon. Mr. R. ASKIN M.L.A., Premier of N.S.W., Parliament House, Sydney.

Our thanks to the many members who reported having written letters on previous requests - and our thanks to the members who supported Cec Sainty's project by attending the inaugural meeting of the Bankstown Society.

"EARTH DAY" FOR AUSTRALIA.

Australia is to follow America's example and have an "EARTH DAY", Mr. V. Serventy said recently (Herald 21.9.70). Earth Day will be organised by conservation and anti-pollution societies for March next year. Clean-ups of the cities, demonstrations against polluters and "teach-in" programmes are expected to take place. Mr. Serventy is preparing a brochure on ways of preventing pollution for distribution to the public.

I.E.A. PUBLIC LECTURE:

Subject ... POLLUTION
Speaker ... Dr. A.D. BROWN

To be held in the Kanyanya Room, Hurstville Civic Centre on Friday, 30th October, 1970 at 7.30p.m. Admission 50 cents. Further particulars may be obtained from Mrs. J. Lane, 57-4291.

COMING EVENTS:

FERN FIELD DAY .. Sunday, 25th October, 1970. at MINNAMURRA FALLS 10.30 A.M. with COLIN SLADE.

see
You will/Australian ferns growing in their natural habitat. Distance from Sydney is only about 60 miles south on the Prince's Highway. Turn off to ALBION PARK and along Jamberoo Road. Way to Minnamurra is signposted just before Jamberoo village. Meet at the entrance at 10.30a.m. Lunch in picnic area near cars.

"NATURE RESERVES" - illustrated talk by Arnold Bryden - Monday 26th OCTOBER, 1970 at 7.45p.m.

Arnold will talk on 1. COCOPARA, near Griffith(new reserve). 2. BARREN GROUNDS, 3. CUDMIRRAH FAUNAL RESERVE and 4. LAKE VICTORIA (duck shooting problems & fauna). This should be a varied, interesting and informative evening.

..... 31st October, &
WORKING WEEK-END AT WIRRIMBIRRA - 1st. November, 1970.

Come down for the day or stay the week-end any help you can give would be appreciated. Further particulars from Bill Keech. There are about a dozen mattresses, an electric fry-pan and jug in the visitors centre. Its mostly very light work and there is a wide range of native plants for sale.

WILDLIFE WALKABOUT .. Vincent Serventy's two hour Colour Film.

This will be shown at ANZAC House Auditorium on Thursdays, Fridays at 8.00p.m. and Saturday matinees at 2.00 p.m. commencing November 7th thru' to Decmeber 12th. Admission \$1.00 adults, 50c children, 50c. pensioners. Further details from your Secretary.

CONSERVATION IN QUEENSLAND.

The National Trust and the W.L.P.S. will present a talk by MRS. JUDITH WRIGHT MCKINNEY in the State Office Block Theatre, Bent & Phillip Sts., Sydney on Friday 23rd. October, 1970 at 8.00 p.m.

THE CONTROVERSIAL FACTORY PLAN ON KURNELL.

The meeting of the Sutherland Shire Council on 2.11.70 was attended by four M.L.A.s, as well as three Department of Local Government Officers; and many members and supporters of the Save Kurnell Committee. Our Society was well represented. The attraction was the debate on the Dow-Corning application for a silicone factory at Kurnell. Mr. Morton, Minister for Local Government, told Council representatives the previous week that if the council (Sutherland) rejected the application, then his department would also refuse it. Later however, he withdrew the statement.

Council spent a considerable time discussing the probable pollution that would result from the establishment of the factory. The Dow-Corning application was unanimously rejected.

IT IS NOW UP TO THE MINISTER.

One Councillor also expressed concern about the possibility of Towra Point as being the site of the new Air Port. Senator Cotton's statement that a report on the site is unlikely to be made available to the public, is not reassuring. (S.M.H.) 3.11.70.

.....

THE WOLLI CREEK CONSERVATION SOCIETY.

A new conservation society was very successfully launched on 1.11.70 by the Junior Wildlife Club, - and the credit for this is due largely to the initiative, enthusiasm and 'drive' of our junior member MARK GELBERMAN. Mark organised the project, co-opted the speakers (Cec Sainty was chairman and addresses were given by Chief Secretary Mr. Willis and Ald. Gosling, Rockdale), he even cooked the dampers for afternoon tea !!

The first meeting of the new society will be at Mark's home 19 Demaine Ave, Bexley at 8p.m. Friday, 27th November.

.....

BOOKS: "Australian Native Gardens & Birds" recommended by Mr. Eric Wheeler proved so popular that it has sold out. It is now being reprinted and should be available in a month or so.

.....

THIS WILL BE THE LAST EDITION OF OFF NEWS FOR 1970. OUR COMMITTEE WISHES YOU ALL A HAPPY AND RELAXED CHRISTMAS.

THE NEXT EDITION WILL BE JANUARY, 1971.

O.F.F. NEWS



Published by

OATLEY FLORA & FAUNA CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Price 5 cents.

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PRESIDENT .. Phil Hall, 33 Yarran Road, OATLEY, 2223. Ph. 579-1703
SECRETARY .. Ali Lloyd, 21 Belmore Rd. PEAKHURST, 2210. Ph. 53-7060
EDITOR .. Ida Carder, 84 Waratah St. OATLEY, 2223. Ph. 57-5909

NOVEMBER, 1970.

N.C.C. ANNUAL CONFERENCE & DINNER, 1970.

This year's conference with delegates from member conservation societies (such as ours), took place on Saturday, 17th October, at Cahill Centre, Crows Nest. Forty three motions were submitted by the various organisations and of these 41 were carried, some with amendments. The Kurnell Committee's plan was endorsed, and the Government is to be asked to prepare a plan for Kurnell along the lines of the Committee's proposals.

Two motions submitted by our Society, one relating to the growth of population and industry along the coast from Newcastle to Wollongong and asking for positive action towards decentralisation, and the other requesting a publicity campaign to reduce pollution, were both approved.

The Annual Dinner followed and it was gratifying to note that 14 of our members were present. The after-dinner talk was given by Mr. E.M. Fox M.P., who is Chairman of the House of Representatives Select Committee on Wildlife Conservation. His address was interesting and informative. He conveyed the impression that there is a growing awareness in Parliamentary circles of the need for conservation, and that conservation is becoming a major political issue - although actually, Mr. Fox stated that it should be a non-political issue.

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REMINDER: Our Librarian requests the return of all books by the next meeting - or please take your book to the home of a Committee member. Several books have been outstanding for two or three months and Mrs. Grundy is anxious to recover them.

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THE MYALL LAKES.

The Myall Lakes Committee is still striving to have included in the proposed National Park as much Crown and privately owned land around the lakes as possible. To prevent sub-division with its resultant spoilage of beauty and pollution of the lakes, it is necessary to acquire this land without delay. The N.P.& W.S. has indicated its intention to do so when funds are available, and it has recently resumed lake-side land north of Mungo Brush at a cost of \$100,000.

The Violet Hill Peninsula lies between and to the west of the lakes. It is hilly, heavily timbered and with extensive panoramic views - ideally suited for inclusion in the Park. The owners are already moving to sub-divide into residential lots. To avoid this, a company, BOOLOOMBAYT PTY. LTD. is being formed to purchase and hold the land until it can be sold to N.P.& W.S. Such a scheme is not likely to bring large financial gain, but the intangible reward would be great. Investors would become the owners of some of the finest bushland in Australia.

As our President explained last meeting, we have been invited to participate. However, while we agree in principle, we feel that we need more information. We hope to report in detail next issue of OFF NEWS.

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THE WIRRAMBIRRA WORKING PARTY. .. 1.11.70

As Bill Keech and all of the 45 people who attended will tell you, a very enjoyable weekend (or day) was spent at Wirrimbirra. Mrs. Stead has a remarkable capacity for finding jobs to suit all. Weeding, watering, repotting, pruning, taking cuttings, labelling, painting, packaging seeds, sorting and stapling leaflets, making shelves and screens (the Bertram specialty) and a host of other tasks.

Mrs. Watson brought along about 10 Girl Guides for field study.

If you have a spare day, we strongly recommend Wirrimbirra where you will be assured of Welcome and a Job !!

COMING EVENTS:

MONDAY, 23rd. November, at 7.45 p.m. SHARP.

MEMBERS' NIGHT with SUPPER.

This will be the last meeting of our 1970 season and so we are showing members' NEW slides and a few interesting slides of past events. There will be an opportunity to chat during supper. We don't intend this to be a party but please bring a plate of something towards supper. Mrs. Val Boyan is arranging this and her 'phone number (after 4 p.m.) is 533-1013.

Of particular interest will be a few spectacular new flower slides by Bill Keech and slides of O'Reilly's on Lamington Plateau (Qld.) by Eric Wheeler, who recently attended a Spring School there and of the Gould League Camp-out and Dorrigo State Park. Eric takes excellent pictures and explains them. We hope all members will be able to come. (Put folding chairs in your car in case we need them).

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PLEASE DONT FORGET TO BRING LIBRARY BOOKS.

Our next meeting will be the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on Wednesday 3rd. FEBRUARY, 1971.

Put it in your new Diary or Calendar now.

D.M. Newbould.

WILDLIFE WALKABOUT at the ANZAC AUDITORIUM.

This is Vincent Serventy's 2 hour colour film and you will see highlights of their journeys round Australia. Mr. Serventy will be present to explain and answer questions. Seats for a particular date may be booked by sending cheque or postal order, self addressed envelope to Wildlife Walkabout, 8 Reiby Road, Hunters Hill, 2110. Thursdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturday Matinees at 2 p.m. commencing Saturday 7.11.70 through to Saturday 12.12.70. Admission: Adults \$1.00, Children 50c. Pensioners 50c.

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OFF NEWS; Members will be interested to know that the "new Look" for this news-sheet is the work of committee member Ray Knight, who designed and donated the colour plate.