Newsletter No. 43

March 1981. Price 20¢

EDITOR W ALCORN, RUTLAND ROAD MEDLOW BATH 2780.

Registered for transmission through Post (Category C)



Patron. Allen A. Strom. A.M.

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Gould League Pledge.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

OUR SOCIETY

The date for the A.G.M. is Friday 27th March.

Make a note of it now and be there to elect officers for 1981.

Written nominations may be forwarded to P.O. Box 29 Wentworth
Falls

Walks Programme March, April and May 1981.

Saturday 7th. March

Bedford Creek from Hazelbrook, return via Terrace Falls. Meeting Place: South side of Hazelbrook Station at commencement of Terrace Falls Road, at 10a.m.

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Lockley Pylon via Mt. Hay Road.

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#### KATOOMBA AND DISTRICT WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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The meeting was convened on October. 5th 1961 in Katoomba Town Hall (the old building at the top of Farke St.) The Mayor was in the Chair and 8 others present (names not recorded). It was resolved (a) that a society be formed, (b) that a further meeting be held on October 26th, and (c) that in view of the poor attendance, election of officers be held over to that meeting.

On October 26 the meeting was again in Katoomba Town Hall, with Stan Fallows taking the Chair. Also present were the misses Brown and Pearce, the Ern Sommervilles, the Jeff Fairs, The Astles, Allen Hawke, Geoff Bates and Les Hill.

After a film showing by Charles Boyd (officer of the N.S.W. Fauna protection Panel) the meeting decided (a) that the Society be named "The Katoomba and District Flora and Fauna Protection Society," (b)that membership fee be 2/6 (two shillings and sixpence), and (c) that election of officers and adoption of a constitution be held over till a meeting on November 30th. (Donations totalling £1 were given "toward the cost of forming the Society").

A third meeting was held in the same place on November 30th. Present were 8 of those who were at the previous meeting, plus John Buki(who had agreed to  $t_a$ ke on the office of Secretary). The meeting was chaired by Stan Fallows until office-bearers were elected.

Those elected were: President - Fred Astle; Vice President - Allen Hawke; Secretary John Buki; Treasurer Jeff. Fair; Publicity Officer - Moira Pearce. Alderman Frank Walford was elected Patron "for his outstanding service in this field"

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It was further decided (a) that meetings be held on the last Thursday of each month, (b) that membership fee be set at 3/-, and (c) that a committee of office-bearers should draw up a draft constitution ready for the next meeting, set for 1/2/1562. The guest speaker at this meeting was the late Mrs Marjorie Jeavons.

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Between the Nov. 61 meeting and the end of January 62, John Buki wrote down what he called A few rough Ideas for Effective Wildlife Conservation Work. They covered 3½ foolscap pages of typescript. These few rough ideas led to very many of the activities undertaken by the Committee and members; they were used as the basis of the Interest Survey sheets printed and used later in 1962-3 and of the membership application form still being used; they included many ideas that were never pursued but which are still well worth considering. This remarkable man's creative thinking, intense energy and infectious enthusiasm had perhaps most to do with the strong early growth of the Society

This growth could be seen in the increase in membership (secretary's report on 18/5/62 shows 81adult financial members and 35 Junior financial members) and in attendances at meetings (72 members and friends on 22/2/62 when the speaker was Arnold McGill, a very prominent ornithologist; and 53 present at the Annual Meeting on the 29th.3.'62 when Isobel Bowden was guest speaker).

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Then the Society took its great leap forward with the Valley of Waters project. And it was John Buki who had the vision of TheHUT and who carried the rest of us into the Effort To Attain it.

Nature Conservation Council . continued the draft resolutions for the Conference and deciding what resolutions we would submit on our behalf.

If endorsed by the Conference the Council's representations to the Government carry more weight than a fragmented approach although ideally the member Society should also make their own submissions.

Reading Newsletters back to 1971, one finds resolutions we have put forwardmany of which are now inoperation. Some examples are: a call for a Tree Preservation Order in the Blue Mts., Protection for The King's Table at Wentworth Falls, a call for additions to Blue Mts.Nat.Park; a call for the inclusion of BoydPlateau in Kanangra Boyd Park, for the cessation of mining near the famous Limestone 'slot' at Bungonia; for the retention of native vegetation on roadside verges; for the forming of Colo National Park, for research into effect of controlled burning on flora and fauna, erosion, runoff etc. It is almost like a history of the triumphs and defeats of the conservation movement in this State.

Incidentally, looking back over 10 years issues we have had some fine articles on wildlife over the years. We have all observed things like the comical games of young mag pier so why not send your observations to the Editor fro the next issue. Editor.

SHOULD A RED DOT APPEAR HERE IT DENOTES THAT YOU HAVE FAILED TO SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FOR THE CURRENT YEAR. IF YOU SEE TWO RED DOTS, YOU MIGHT BE FED UP WITH CONSERVATION OR OUR NEWSLETTER. WE HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU AND THAT YOU ARE ENJOYING OUR EFFORTS TO INFORM YOU.

#### KATOOMBA AND DISTRICT WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Newsletter No.43 P5. March 1981 Price 20¢ We reprint this article from June 1972 issue for the benefit of our many new members. Ed.

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Last year, Mr W. Holland, a geomorphologist in the Department of Geography, University of Sydney, and myself, as an archaeologist, excavated five Aboriginal sites in representative parts of the Blue Mts., to see if any correlation between climatic and cultural change in the Blue Mts. could be found. I had previously published "An Archaelogical Survey of the Blue Mountains" (Mankind, 1970, pp.295-301) and the present work also set out to extend this survey.

Without going into details of our methods, the location and types of sites, and the description of artifacts, the following conclusions may be of interest to your readers.

- 1. The most recent culture in the Blue Mts. was the Bondaian, an industry characterised by the making of finely backed, stone points and blades In other parts of Australia this culture seems to have been superseded in the last thousand or so years by one making greater use of organic materials (wood, bone, shell) and a more simplified stone technology. However in the Blue Mts. it persisted at least till 500 Years ago (From a C 14 date derived from Lyre Bird Dell) and almost certainly until the coming of white man. The earliest date obtained for this industry was about3360 years ago (Blackheath)and it reached its peak, in technique and probably population, about1500 years ago.
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The above article by the Rev. Dr. Eugene D. Stockton.

This version of the Newsletter was re-typed from the original by Phoebe Coster in June 2022 to enable search engines to 'see' the text. Minor changes have been made to correct typographical errors and to add clarity.

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