

October 68

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KALORI



CONSERVE, PRESERVE, INVESTIGATE, EDUCATE

Kalori is published monthly by and for the members of the Lower Blue Mountains Wildlife Conservation Society.

The aims of the Society are, briefly, to:-

1. Educate the members and the community to the cultural values of nature.
2. Work for the reservation of areas of natural environment for the refuge and breeding of indigenous flora and fauna.
3. Carry out research into the distribution, population and species of flora and fauna in the Blue Mountains.

President

Mr. H.L. Paish  
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Secretary

Mr. G. Croghan  
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Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month in the Springwood Fire Station, commencing 8.00 PM.



Lower Blue Mountains Wildlife Conservation Society

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 1968

The year has not been remarkable in regard to activities, however we have instituted a system of monthly field trips which have proved more than successful. Seven field trips were made, mostly within our immediate boundaries. Unfortunately the general attendance to these field trips has been of the same old crew which seems to me that those that do not attend regularly may want some other form of activity. If you feel this way speak up at the meetings, don't mumble behind a bush about it.

Although our numbers have decreased the numbers at meetings has been constant so that all members are active, to those who may know of anyone who is interested in our aims but are too far away or lack time to attend meetings there is always Associate membership.

One thing that was achieved during the year was the beginning of the Blue Mountains Resources Group aimed at uniting all the kindred societies on the mountains. I think this group should be regularly constituted and more active in operation than as of now. I would like to see the incoming committee work towards this end.

The North Springwood Show day was a successful display with many people enquiring. I would like to thank the very few members who gave aid at this show. If it had not been for the efforts of these few the show would have been a dismal failure and we would have lost a valuable outlet for pressing home our aims on the general public.

I am pleased to see that Kalori has got off the ground and I think that through its medium we may achieve most of the good that we aim at. More articles are needed however to make the magazine more informative, especially from the other members of the Resources Group.

Photography Officer, Librarian, and Programme Officer have all done an excellent job behind the scenes and I wish to thank them for their continued interest and support during the year. While I am handing out thanks I feel I should thank all the other members that gave considerable time and effort to the activities of the society.

The system of mini lectures on Botany were quite successful and this leads to a few recommendations to the incoming committee. Firstly that the members of the society be encouraged to carry out more Natural History activity in the form of lectures or projects; secondly that the renewed interest in the census of flora and fauna of our district be boosted, thirdly that the preparation of an Herbarium be carried out, and lastly but by no means least that serious consideration be given to the formation of a special committee to investigate and prepare for active operation a Reserve under the trusteeship of the society for education purposes and care, control and investigation of indigenous flora and fauna.

Once again I wish to thank all those that helped through this year to make it a success and ask that they give the incoming committee the same support.



North Springwood Show

The Bushland and Wildlife Centre was a great success, thanks to the labour performed in the planning, erection and management by our President and a number of other stalwarts. Springwood Bushwalkers, Valley Heights Bushfire Brigade and the Blue Mountains Group of S.G.A.P. were equally involved in the days achievement.

Annual General Meeting

Two years! We have come a long way and October 10th marks the beginning of our third year. Agenda for the meeting will include Annual Reports, copies of which are enclosed, election of officers, next years programmes, etc.

Annual Dinner

Last year 48 members and friends attended the "eat-in". We hope that this year will be even better. More details at the next meeting, but it will probably be held on the last Saturday of November or the first in December.

Field Trip

Next month - October 13th - we go to Barren Grounds under the leadership of Jim Ferguson. Final details will be given at the meeting; but if you want to go, get in touch with him or me (at Warrimoo 402).

G. Croghan  
Hon. Sec.

Next Meeting 10th October

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Secretary's Report, 1968

I cannot say that secretariially it has been a good year, but if not all that I would have wished, it has not been entirely wasted.

We have had 12 ordinary meetings since the last Annual General Meeting. Average attendance has been 13. Five executive meetings have been held in rotation between the homes of those attending. These have not only been social successes but useful work sessions. Average attendance has been 5.

The most noteworthy item to me has of course been the growth of Kalori. We are nearly at the stage where a printed cover is justified. Although there are problems I think it will continue to improve. Our thanks are due to Norma Wallace for typing the stencils and to all those who contributed articles etc.

George Croghan.

# Treasurer's Report, 1968.

As at 12th September, 1968.

<u>INCOME</u>	
Balance at Sept. 1967	70.79
Subscriptions	48.00
Annual Dinner	79.10
Sale of refreshments	12.90
" " plants	12.90
" " stickers	.20
Film night	2.00
Bank interest	1.59

227.48

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Petty cash	18.90
Annual Dinner	87.55
Display frames	2.80
Donation Drought Research	5.00
Postage	10.10
Subscriptions:	
Aust. Cons. Found <sup>n</sup> .	5.00
Nat. Parks Assn.	3.00
Hire of Hall	10.50
Books	30.00
Canteen supplies	2.00
Balance, being accumulated funds.	52.63
	<u>227.48</u>



## Report on field trip to Heathcote Primitive Area

There were a number of worried people before the convey left the starting line. Is the Loftus-Waterfall fire still burning? Did the Primitive Area burn? How do we get there?

The promised Ranger escort was called off, understandably, owing to the fire danger in the Royal National Park which had been burning, again. However, ten of us (including four teenyboppers) set out and after successfully negotiating Penrith, Kemps Creek and Liverpool arrived at an unburned, well tracked, beautifully signposted, but not so primitive Area.

We walked a track which followed the contour about 200 feet above Heathcote Creek, then sharply dropped down to the main track following the creek bank. After lunch we walked up Heathcote Creek to the cars, covering a much shorter distance than planned. This was entirely due to our continual stops for admiration and inspection of flowers, all of which were on their best behaviour for us (except for the ubiquitous Gynea Lily, which had inconsiderately flowered earlier).

Most startling to me were the displays of Boronia etc. right by the track. Why have they not been stolen? Perhaps because, although the Area is internally well marked, there are no signs on the Highway inviting idle passers-by to the scene.

Walking is easy in the Area; a paucity of understory - due perhaps to repeated burning - allows extensive views, and all tracks are well graded, with steps where necessary. There was even a small culvert under the track at one spot. The term 'Primitive Area' is a misnomer; there is camping allowed and no attempt to keep walkers to the tracks. I think that the Trustees could well go the whole hog and add nameplates to the plants.

A partial list of plants noted is:-

### Flowering

Waratah  
Pink Swamp Heath  
Fern leafed Grevillea  
Native Fuschia  
Spotted sun orchid  
Pomonderis  
Lady's Slipper  
Boronia ledifolia  
" serrulata  
Tongue orchid  
Dog Rose  
Coral heath  
Golden Glory Pea  
Grey spider flower  
Conospermum tenuifolium

### Flowering

Wild Iris  
Pink Wax flower  
Dillwynia spp.  
Eriostemen spp.  
Fine-leaf bush pea.

### Not flowering

Sundew  
Club moss  
Dwarf apple  
Crimson bottlebrush  
Green "



Kieth King was our delegate at the Annual Conference of the Nature Conservation Council. Here are the motions which were passed at the Conference.

'The Nature Conservation Council is opposed to the taking or killing of any animal within any National Park, State Park, Historic Site or Nature Reserve except where approval is given in writing by the Director of National Parks and Wildlife for harvesting as part of planned management, scientific enquiry or educational reference. The Council does not oppose the proclamation of Game Reserves under the Fauna Protection Act, 1948-1967, where controlled hunting of native animals may take place, provided that such Reserves are managed by the N.P.&W.S. to actively produce and maintain, by artificial means if necessary, adequate populations of native game animals'

'The Executive may admit to Associate Membership, bodies which have as one of their main aims the taking of animals (including fish) for sport; providing that it is satisfied that the bodies applying for membership are actively working for the conservation of the species which they seek to take, and the habitat in which these species live, and that the Bodies support the Council's aims and objectives.'

'That the NCC seek a total ban on the use of persistent toxic chemical insecticides and herbicides, and promote the use of less harmful control measures.'

'That the N.C.C. draw to the attention of the Government, the value of maintaining a close liaison and consultation with the Council on all proposals to revoke, amend, or in any way affect, all reserves involving the preservation of naturalness.'

'The Conference records its appreciation for the report and recommendations submitted by the Conservation-in-Education Committee and directs the Executive to appoint a Standing Committee on Conservation Education. The Standing Committee should be asked to consider the report and recommendations of Conservation-in-Education Committee in careful detail and in light of current developments and difficulties. The Standing Committee should have authority to look at any other aspects and developments as might be brought to its attention, and to take such action subject to Executive approval, as is thought appropriate and to the betterment of all age groups in the field of conservation education.'

'This Conference believes it is necessary to urge the establishment of a land usage authority with true authority or gain this for the State Planning Authority.'



'Bearing in mind the urgency involved in the establishment of a National Parks and Nature Reserves System along the seaboard of the north coast of N.S.W., and in view of the fact that the Sim Report has been with the Ministers for Lands and Mines for more than six months, this Conference recommends that the Government takes immediate steps to

- (a) publicise the contents of the Report;
- (b) indicate what action it proposes to take in respect of the Report;
- (c) implement the establishment of those parks and reserves supported by the Sim Committee.'

'This Conference resolves-

- (a) that it is concerned with the result produced by the existing methods and lack of management of many small natural areas;
- (b) that the Minister for Lands be requested to order that a review of all reserves gazetted or dedicated under the Crown Lands Consolidation Act for purposes related to public recreation, preservation of fauna and flora, preservation of aboriginal relics and the like, with the intention of sorting out those reserves (or parts of reserves) which should have upgraded management in the interests of scientific and educational reference, and passive recreation aimed at enjoyment of naturalness;
- (c) that the Minister for Lands be requested to set up a committee of review representing the Deptt. of Lands, N.P.&W.S. and the N.C.C. to make representations to him on the more effective management of small natural reserves in the interest of scientific and educational reference and passive recreation aimed at the enjoyment of naturalness.'

'This Conference is disturbed by the spread of exotic plants in natural reserves and calls upon the Minister for Lands to direct the N.P.&W.S. to investigate ways and means of having research carried out as a matter of urgency for the control of exotic plants in natural reserves.'

'This Conference congratulates the Minister for Education and Science on the appointment of an Advisor in Conservation, but desires to point out that the urgency and breadth of the work cannot be satisfied by the efforts of one officer. The Conference therefore calls upon the Minister to set up a Conservation Education Branch, with capacity to use the teaching experience of the Department of Education over the full spectrum of learning, from infants to adults.'



"THE TONGARIRO CREEPER"

(N.Z Forestry News Vol.XIII,  
No. 8; August, 1963).

(This little ditty was inspired by the recent misapprehensions concerning the growth of Murrayana (Lodgepole Pine) in certain areas, including that of "the plains about the Chateau..." However, authorities assert that far from being an undesirable invader, the species when used in such areas can be a valuable tool of protection).

"COME HAND ME DOWN MY MATTOCK AND UNLEASH YON CROSS CUT SAW -  
THE NATIONAL PARKS AUTHORITY IS ABOUT TO GO TO WAR.  
THEY GATHERED IN THE CAPITAL, THESE STANCH GOOD MEN AND TRUE  
THEY SENT OUT MEMORANDA - 'MURRAYANA JUST WON'T DO!'  
'ON THE PLAINS ROUND KARIOI FROM WHENCE CONTORTA CREEPS  
LET US PULL OUT ALL THE PINE TREES AND BURN THEM UP IN HEAPS.'  
THE GRANDEST OF DELUSIONS SINCE THE DAYS OF KING CANUTE  
IS ELICITING HYSTERICS FROM EACH BUG AND BIRD AND BRUTE,  
THERE ARE MURMURS IN THE MOUNTAINS AND SOFT ACROSS THE RANGE  
DRIFTS A CHILLY PREMONITION OF THE ICY WINDS OF CHANGE.  
'SOUND A BUGLE AT WAIOURU - PRISE THE ARMY FROM ITS TANKS,  
WITH POWER SAWS FOR THE OFFICERS AND AXES FOR THE RANKS:  
CALL OUT ALL THE PRISONERS - BETTER GRAB THE WARDERS TOO -  
BUY SHOVELS, SPADES AND GRUBBERS AND WHATEVER ELSE YOU DO  
GET SOME HORMONE SPRAYS AND TRACTORS AND A FLEET OF MOTOR SCYTHES,  
AND MOBILISE THE RANGERS, AND THEIR CHILDREN, AND THEIR WIVES  
FOR THE TONGARIRO CREEPER ALIAS CONTORTA PINE  
IS MARCHING ACROSS THE FOOTHILLS AND WE HAVE TO DRAW THE LINE  
AT SUCH ALIEN INVADERS ON OUR LOVELY TUSsock PLOT -  
VOLCANIC SCREE'S INDIGENOUS - AND LODGEPOLE PINE IS NOT,  
AND SNOW CLAD TREES OFFEND US - THANK GOD WE'RE MEN OF TASTE  
ESPECIALLY ON A SKI-RUN - SO OUR CONSCIENCES ARE CHASTE :  
GOD DEFEND NEW ZEALAND ! BY LORD HARRY AND SAINT JOE  
WE'LL FIX THESE THRICE-DAMNED PINE TREES - IF WE DON'T RUN OUT OF DOUGH.  
THE PLAINS ABOUT THE CHATEAU ARE BOTH BATTLE-SCARRED AND BENT  
BUT WE'RE ROOTING OUT THE LODGEPOLE WITH AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT!"

- "EMDEE"



## ACTIVITIES FOR 1968

Field trips are generally held on the Sunday following the monthly meeting. Final details of meeting times etc. will be given by the leader of each trip to the meeting immediately before the trip, and will be published in Kalori.

August 11th. Sassafras Gully. Leader D.Perrin, phone 512078.  
August 17th. Wwntworth Falls. Kat. and Dist.W.C.S. Hut.  
Sept. 14th. North Springwood Show.  
Sept. 15th. Heathcote Primitive Reserve.G.Croghan,Warrimoo 402.  
Oct. 13th. Barren Grounds. Leader J. Ferguson.  
Nov. 17th. Newnes State Forest.

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## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Treasurer,  
Mr. P. Gregory,  
115 Grose Road,  
Faulconbridge.2776.

Enclosed please find the sum of \$        to cover one years membership\*

Name in full .....

Address in full .....

Occupation .....

\*Individuals \$2.00 annually or \$20.00 Life.

Associates \$1.00 annually.

Junior 30 cents annually.