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# KALORI

*March*  
**1969**



Conservation Society

Lower Blue Mountains

Wildlife

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  
"Bithongabel"  
Lee Road,  
Nth. Springwood, 2777  
Telephone 511545

Secretary

Mr. G. Croghan,  
9 Gwen Crescent  
Warrimoo, 2775.  
Telephone 402.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month in the Springwood Fire Station, commencing 8.00. p.m.



Last meeting was devoted (or should we say abandoned?) to discussion of the proposed fire protection policy submitted by the Committee in last month's issue. The amended policy is in this issue. We should emphasise that the policy is our own, and is meant for the Blue Mountains only.

In this connection, talk is worth nothing unless all of us join or actively support our local Brigade.

Last call for Dinner! Saturday March 29th at the Wanderlight Restaurant, Hawkesbury Lookout, at 7.00 p.m. Tell Mrs. Dark, Lin Paish or me if you are coming before 14th March.

Next meeting - 13th March. Mr. Martin will show slides of his trip to North West N.S.W.

G. Croghan  
Hon. Sec.

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#### WHATEVER HAPPENED TO ARBOR DAY?

Not too many years ago Arbor Day had a place on the calendar of Australian annual celebrations. The day was observed with due ceremony in many towns and most schools, and the trees were planted in parks and school grounds throughout the length and breadth of the Nation.

But gradually these activities ceased, and since 1962, when the Day was last officially celebrated in State schools, Arbor Day has been observed at fewer and fewer schools each year.

But there is a growing feeling among conservationists that Arbor Day should be reorganized, to which end the magnificent story of forestry achievement throughout Australia in recent years, especially that of New South Wales, might be expected to serve as a stimulus.

There is incalculable value in educating public opinion, particularly among today's young people, as to the immense value of forestry to Australia, and towards instilling a love for trees. It has often been said that trees are riches that grow; they are, both for the individual and the Nation.

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## SPRINGWOOD BUSHWALKING CLUB

### MARCH

15th & 16th MINI MINI RANGE  
6.06 p.m. train from Sydney to Mount Victoria - Taxi  
RAY KALTENBACHER Springwood 511-196 (h) 25 miles. M.

22nd & 23rd. FEDERATION REUNION

CANOEING - Emu Plains - Nepean River - Warragamba Junction-  
return - Meet Friday 8 p.m. Emu Plains Hotel. Medium.  
PHIP FOSTER Penrith 25086 (h) Springwood 511554 (b)

29th & 30th CEDAR CREEK

Meet 8 p.m. Friday at Springwood Civic Centre. 30 miles. H.  
NONI STANBOROUGH per Moya Hibbard Springwood 511235 (h).

### APRIL

12th and 13 HALVAS ON CRUISER - at least 15 people required. Details later.  
ADRIAN STANBOROUGH per Moya Hibbard Springwood 511235 (h).

25th, 26th THREE PEAKS - Medlow Gap Medium.  
& 27th RAY KALTENBACHER Springwood 511-196 (h).

### MAY

3rd & 4th NATTAI RIVER - details later  
JOHN SPINNEY Springwood 512415 (h)

10th & 11th CHURCH CREEK CAVES  
Meet Friday 8 p.m. Springwood Civic Centre. 25 miles M+  
RAY KALTENBACHER Springwood 511-196 (h)

17th to CAVING NULLABOR - details later  
June 2nd. ADRIAN STANBOROUGH per Moya Hibbard Springwood 511235 (h)

17th & 18th DAY OR WEEKEND WALK - details later  
PETER VANAMOIS per Karl Bossard Penrith 20712 (h)

24th & 25th DAY OR WEEKEND WALK - details later  
TONY FOSTER Penrith 25086 (h).

31st & DAY OR WEEKEND WALK - details later  
June 1st TONY FOSTER Penrith 25086 (h).

### JUNE

14/15 & 16th DEUA RIVER Meet 8 p.m. Springwood Civic Centre Medium.  
MOYA HIBBARD Springwood 511235 (h).

21st & 22nd WEEKEND WALK - details later  
KEN IGGLETON Springwood 512527 (h).

28th & 29th NATTAI RIVER - details later  
TONY FOSTER Penrith 25086 (h).

ALL VISITORS WELCOME.

WALKS SECRETARY : Peter Vanamois,  
51 Bunbinla Avenue,  
BLAXLAND, 2774.

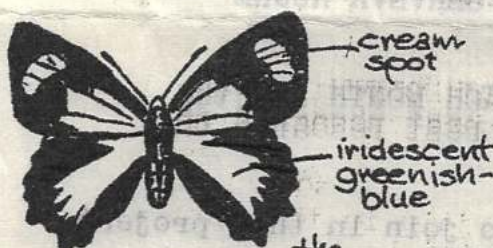




THE GENOVEVA AZURE  
*Ogyris genoveva gela*

text: Keith King  
 illustrations: Don Perrin

On a recent visit to the Grose River, a few members of the Society were treated to our first live view of this spectacular butterfly. Although smaller than some of the showy tropical Swallowtails, it is one of the largest of our Lycaenids, and is one of the most beautiful Australian butterflies.



the  
**GENOVEVA  
 AZURE (female)**

As they spend much of their time resting, with wings folded, on the branches of eucalypts, (such as Yellow Bloodwood which carries its food plant: Mistletoe) they have the undersides of the wings camouflaged; mottled in shades of browns and greys. It is only when in flight that the flashing iridescent upper surfaces are seen. The female insect is the more showy (properly so), having the central areas brilliant metallic greenish-blue, with black margins enclosing a large oval cream spot cutting diagonally across the apex of the forewing. The male is similar

beneath but has the upper surfaces rich deep purple with black margins. It lacks the cream spot of the female. The larvae feed on Mistletoe growing on eucalypts, and as is common among the family are attended by ants; in this case the common Sugar Ant (*Camponotus*). However the association with ants goes a bit further than in the case of the Common Imperial Blue, for the larvae of the *Ogyris* actually shelter in the ants' nest during the day, and are shepherded up to the food plant at night by the guardian ants. The pupae are also found in clusters in the nests of the ants, who destroy the empty cases when the butterflies have emerged.

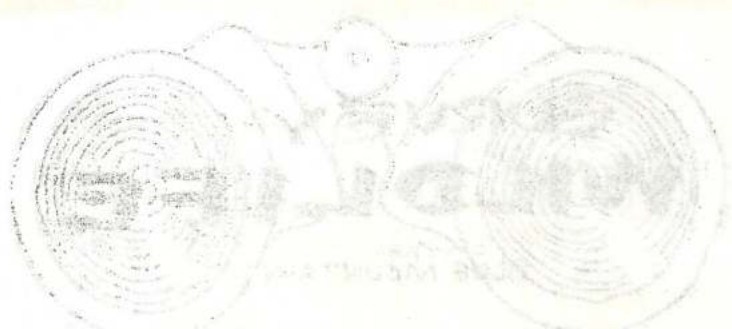
This butterfly is reasonably common but apparently is not often seen. I believe this can be explained by their habit of flying fast and high around the tops of the trees where the food plant grows, and also by their flights which appear to be of short duration, with long resting periods on the branches.

### *for the scientifically minded -*

The genus *Ogyris* contains 13 species, several of which have developed sub species. *Genoveva* has five. They range right throughout Australia, and the larvae are Mistletoe feeders with the exception of possibly two species. *Ogyris* belongs to the family Lycaenidae, (Blues, Coppers, Hairstreaks, Jewels, and Azures).

PHONE 511034 after 5pm or 511545, for reports of WILDLIFE





### MESSAGE to STUDENTS

Each month we survey one local species of wildlife.  
**SURVEY: WILDLIFE**, this month deals with one of our  
most beautiful butterflies; the **GENVEVA AZURE**  
(*Ogyris genoveva*).

A BOOK ON WILDLIFE IS AWARDED EACH MONTH for the  
student judged to have done the best research on  
the topic.

This month pupils who wish to join in this project  
should find out all they can about:

"Feeding Habits of Butterflies and Their Larvae"

Send the information with a note on its source to:

The Editor,  
"Schools Project",  
Lower Blue Mountains  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
8 Springwood Ave,  
SPRINGWOOD 2777 NSW.



Discussion and Draft of a Fire Protection Policy

(Notes with respect to each clause are included to amplify the basic idea of each section).

Clause I. Access must be provided to all parts of the Blue Mountains - access will need to range from tanker roads to walking trails depending on topography and fire potential. In dangerous areas access trails might be 1 mile apart, in safer areas 3-4 miles.

(Notes: The desirability of having access to and through primitive areas was discussed and the conclusion was reached that the National Park Trust be asked to eliminate any proposed trails within primitive areas as determined by the management plan and that the construction of access trails take into consideration that fire prevention must be appropriate to the designated use of various areas. The principle of "compartmentation" resulting from the construction of fire trails was considered excellent).

Clause II. Provision must be made to close fire trails to all vehicular traffic except Fire Fighting Units.

(Notes: It is an established fact that people are the major source of the initiation of Bush Fires and access trails will make fires deep in the bush more probable - similarly access trails will encourage undesirable elements to enter deeper into the National Park with attendant vandalism, despoilation, pollution and plain misuse).

Clause III. In times of high fire danger certain parts of the Park should be closed completely.

Clause IV. A buffer zone to be created around settlements. The most dangerous areas to be control burnt when the fuel content exceeds 4 tons/acre. Burns to avoid unnecessary loss to wildlife by taking account of flowering, seeding and nesting time.

(Note: This clause received the most attention and discussion. It was agreed that the general nature of our bushland was such that we would always have fires. Accepting this fact two members proposed that fire breaks should be burnt (1) over extensive areas near settlement, and (2) in one mile strips approximately one mile apart (governed by topography) from the Warragamba to the Colo.

Both these proposals were discarded for reasons (a) the breaks so created would do infinitely more damage to natural elements than a wild fire would do, (b) the cost of implementing this form of control would be prohibitive, coupled with the probable danger that the burns would get out of control,



(c) no real benefit would be derived from this protection from fires originating within the settled areas.

It was agreed that fire control measures for settled areas and the National Park should be approached in separate methods. Control burns for protection of settlement should only be initiated on North to West ridge tops and slopes, and these be only of a depth of up to five chains - other boundaries to be controlled from access trails and "trittered" areas.

The question of the use of exotic plantations and belts of uninflamable exotics as a method of control was raised but it was decided that this method would require more investigation.

It was agreed that fire control measures within the Park should be aimed at a minimum disturbance of natural ecology and to rely on access trails and compartmentation to contain outbreaks).

Clause V. Where a buffer zone is not burnt a break should be established between Residential and Bush areas, consisting of an access trail and an area of reduced fuel capacity.

Clause VI. When a fire is spotted, control measures be taken by highly mobile initial suppression forces.

(Note: The effectiveness of this initial suppression forces depends largely on the availability of access).

Clause VII. Fires should be contained within compartments formed by access trails. All efforts must be made to prevent the spread of fire into other compartments.

(Note: This is a basic tenet of fire fighting and in itself needs no amplification - it was agreed, however, that the containment of a fire within a settled area preventing its escape to the bushland was highly important).

Clause VIII. Maximum penalties should be demanded for violations of the relevant Acts and Ordinances.

(Note: Greater publicity with regard to fire danger should be implemented, particularly in the form of warning signs along the roadside i.e. Fire Danger Index's: "Smokey" quotations etc.).

(General Note: It was stated that damage to wildlife and natural resources was greater through the encroachment of settlement than through the agency of fire.

It was suggested that the burning of various areas could be utilised in the manipulation of communities and that further information and investigation be carried out with this in mind.

Emphasis was placed on the fact that the function of this



Society was in the protection of Natural Resources rather than settled areas and that Fire Prevention methods within the National Park and Reserve Areas should only be carried out after consultation with experienced Fire Control Officers of the various State and Federal Departments and not to rely wholly on local members who are inclined to be biased on the side of protection of only the residential areas).

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Treasurer,  
Mrs. J. Park,  
"Hillside",  
Hillside Ave.,  
Village Heights, Ohio

Enclosed please find the sum of \$10.00 to cover one year's membership

Name in full.....  
Address in full.....  
Occupation.....  
\*Individuals \$5.00 annually or \$20.00 life.  
Associates \$1.00 annually - description to follow  
Ladies \$3.00 annually  
Total \$10.00 annually



# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Treasurer,  
Mrs D. Dark,  
"Nimaloola",  
Russell Ave.,  
Valley Heights, 2777.

Enclosed please find the sum of \$ 100.00 to cover one years membership\*

Name in full.....

Address in full.....

Occupation.....

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

Associates \$1.00 annually - Subscription to Kalori

Junior 30 cents annually

Family \$3.00 annually.