



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

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF THE A. C. T. Inc.
"A National Park for the National Capital"

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phone 71644. I Schukle -

Monthly Meeting 4th Tuesday of the month - Institute of
Anatomy Lecture Room.

In National Legislative bodies in America, England, Europe and Asia for many decades now, voices have been heard campaigning for conservation.

Their voices have been heard and in U. S. A. for example a nation wide system of National Parks in the true sense of national exist as tangible evidence of their campaign.

In Australia until a few months ago nothing was heard, and no one came forward to champion the cause of conservation.

Now at least two such champions have come forward. In the Senate, Senator Mulvihill (N. S. W.), and in the House of Representatives Mr. Duthie (Wilmot) have advocated Federal Aid for the establishment of National Parks, and the administration of National Parks to be placed under a Federal Body attached to the Dept. of Interior. Senator Mulvihill has also directed attention to the growing export of green turtle meat from West Australia, and other wildlife issues.

The Senator has stated that he approaches the subject from a completely non-party political standpoint. On the other side of the house we read that the Federal Rural Committee of the Liberal Party of Australia has proposed the establishment of National Parks in the arid regions of the Northern Territory. As likewise the General Council of the N. S. W. Graziers' Association, has called for the establishment of National Parks which would provide a haven for the red kangaroo. All this augurs well for the future. May the few be

followed by the many until the lone voices become a sound that no democratically elected government can ignore for long.

UNESCO and Conservation. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, has made many contributions to conservation in various countries around the world. A Unesco mission has recently been helping Ethiopia to plan a campaign for the conservation of nature and natural resources. One member of the mission has been helping to introduce the subject of conservation into school programmes. Two other specialists have been advising the government on setting up a conservation board and bureau and on emergency measures to protect threatened species and sites.

In Peru a meeting of experts was held recently to study the protection of the Vicuna. The Vicuna in common with many other animals is threatened with extinction. It is a ruminant related to the Llama, that roams in herds over the higher mountains in Peru, Bolivia and Equador. Its wool is delicate and soft and, although it is a protected animal, it is estimated that tens of thousands are killed by poachers every year. The meeting counselled the creation of national parks and reserves to protect the surviving herds and the formation of experimental breeding stations.

Let us hope that the Commonwealth Parliament as the responsible government of Australia will realise that Australia itself is the last sanctuary in all the world for types and species of animals and plants that disappeared elsewhere before the dawn of history and by prompt action will save our own fast diminishing nature heritage and not be embarrassed by world organisations needing to step in to show the way.

Recent Outings - October. About 50 members and friends spent an enjoyable day as the guests of our treasurer Mr I. Baird at Weetangera. Much interest was shown in Mr Baird's experiments in wildlife conservation. In the afternoon a walk was taken to the Murrumbidgee river. The party was unsuccessful in efforts to locate a mineralised area, and old mine, but were compensated by observing a large wedge tail eagle's nest with a fledgeling.

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November. On the trip to the Big Hole (Upper Shoalhaven) about 40 members and friends attended. Mist and cloud threatened but no rain fell. After crossing the river the party drove to below the Big Hole, (losing one exhaust pipe on the way). After inspecting the Big Hole, the party drove another two miles over rather better road conditions to within one mile of Chietmore. No fossils were observed despite much searching, but a very varied botanical selection was observed, although there had been recent bushfires in the area.

December. About six cars were present at Michelago for the Tinderry Range trip. A stop was made on the mountain road to observe regeneration of eucalypts and plants which had been affected by the recent drought. At the top the party (mostly) climbed to the nearest peak. Later the party moved to the Queanbeyan River, and walked upstream from the crossing. It was noted that this area has been adversely affected by fires in the past.

January. Owing to ill health of the leader the trip over Australia Day weekend to Kosciusko was dropped as no replacement could be found at short notice.

Please remember, if you are capable of leading a trip to a suitable area, or you have some specialist knowledge, let someone on the Committee know. You can be booked up for any time in the future to suit yourself.

A. C. T. Anti-Litter Campaign - The National Council of Women is sponsoring again this year during the summer months an anti-litter campaign. Any of our members who feel they wish to contribute their services, or have some suitable publicity material they wish to pass on, can contact the President or Secretary who will give them a list of contacts.

Contributions to the Bulletin. Remember these are always welcome articles, snippets, drawings, cartoons, letters or suggestions for future improvements.

Publications - "A Field List of the Birds of Canberra and District" This excellent pocket size booklet has been published last month by the A. C. T. Branch of the R. A. O. U. It is selling in local bookshops at only 30 cents and should prove a very handy booklet to have on our outings.

1965-1966 Subs.

Subs sur 1965-6 - 66-7.
23/8/66!! £6

5.

New Financial Year began July 1st, 1965.

Bulletin Vol. 3 No. 4 (Aug/Sept. 1965) - Subs paid during July
acknowledged.

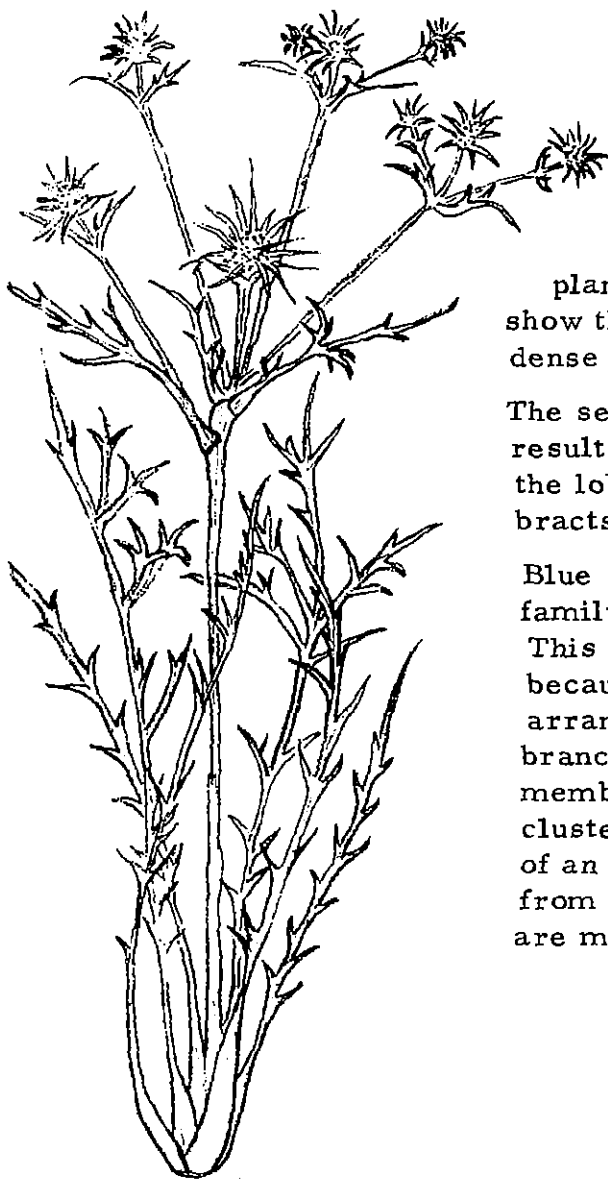
" Vol. 3 No. 5 (Oct/Nov. 1965) - No subs acknowledged.

Subs paid to January 12, 1966.

N. M. = New Member

<u>30/- Families</u>	<u>Mr. £1</u>	<u>Misses £1</u>
King	Tait	Sexton
Longstaff	Green	Copley (N. M.)
Tredinrick	Carnahan	Costell-Brown (N. M.)
White (Sir F & Lady)	Upton Tayson	Barrow Henry
Nicholson	Horne (N. M.)	Watt
Story	Day	Green
Harrison (N. M.)	S. J. Wilson	Bender (N. M.)
Hurrell	Adams (N. M.)	Burbidge
B. P. Moore	Bambrick	Long
McDonald	Menowy (N. M.)	Rowan
Raggatt (Sir H & Lady)	Mitchell (N. M.) Schodde	Walker Greenhalgh
McLean		
Baker		
Knox (N. M.)		
Adams		
Reyenga		
Bagnall		
Veever (N. M.)		
Whitrod		
Monahan		
Crawford		
Baird		
Greenish		
C. W. E. Moore		
Costin		
Doing		

Note:- This will be the last Bulletin sent to those persons whose names have not appeared in subscription acknowledgements during the period following July 1st, 1965, to the present.

EYES OR NO EYES NO. 16

Blue Devil which has the botanical name Eryngium rostratum is common around Canberra in mid-summer. In some places the plants may be so numerous that they seem to colour the grasses they grow with.

The blue colour tinges the whole plant but close examination will show that the tiny flowers in their dense heads also have bright blue petals

The second part of the common name results from the sharp spiny points on the lobes of the leaves and of the stiff bracts projecting from the flower heads

Blue Devil belongs to the same plant family as do Parsley and Parsnip. This is the Umbelliferae so-called because of the "umbellate" arrangement of the flowers in a branched inflorescence. In some members of the family the flower clusters are on stalks like the ribs of an umbrella but as you can see from the rough sketch the branches are more irregular in Blue Devil.

N. T. B.

MEETINGS

7.

February Joint Meeting

Ecological Society of Aust. Canberra Group - National
Parks Association of the A. C. T.

Date : Monday 7th February 1966, 8 p. m.

Place : Lecture Room No.1 Former Australian Forestry
 School, Banks Street, Yarralumla.

Feature : Mr. R. Margules, Assistant Director Parks and
 Gardens Section, Canberra will speak on
 "The Role of Outdoor Recreation and National
 Parks in the Modern Community".

February Regular Meeting

Date : Tuesday 22nd February 1966, 8 p. m.

Place : Institute of Anatomy

Feature : Mr. J. McKean of Division of Wildlife Research
 C. S. I. R. O. will address us on "Bats of the A. C. T."

March

Date : Tuesday 22nd March, 1966 8 p. m.

Place : Institute of Anatomy

Feature : Mr. J. Mulvaney, Archaeological Dept., A. N. U.
 will give an illustrated address on "The Public
 and Preservation of Aboriginal Pre History".

8.

OUTINGS

February

Date : Saturday, Sunday 26th & 27th February, 1966.
Place : Mt. Franklin.

It is proposed to hold an "At Home" social evening on Saturday 26th at the Canberra Alpine Club Chalet. Prior to this there will be an afternoon trip (meeting 3 p.m. Chalet) for map reading. Sunday trip (meeting 9.30 a.m. Chalet).

Leaders : N. Burbidge, R. Story, J. Webb.

There will be a \$1 charge for accomodation, bring own sleeping bags, food, etc. Members can arrive at any time and whereabouts of parties can be found by consulting notices of trips left at Chalet.

March

WORK PARTY

Date : Sunday 27th March, 1966
Place : Gibraltar Falls
Time : 10 a.m.

Where : Junction of Corin Dam road and Tharwa-Paddy's River Road. Proceed Cooma Rd., Tharwa turn-off, Point Hut Crossing, (only if one foot or less on gauge) otherwise Tharwa, then right on Tidbinbilla Road, wait at junction. Alternative Route - Cotter River, Paddy's River, Tidbinbilla, past Tracking Station turn off, Corin Dam road junction.

It is proposed to hold a work party in place of the outing.

Object : Construction of access walking tracks to prevent further damage to native flora in this area.

Required if available : Shovels, picks, bars, axes, rakes, secateurs

A start only will be made on these tracks, and members can choose their own level of activity and time spent on the job. For example, women and children may like to prune back bushes encroaching on the track line.