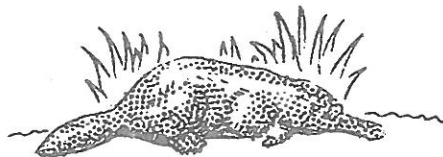


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Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club

Quarterly News.

No I.

July 1937.

INTRODUCTION.

For a number of years we have been unable to publish our magazine owing to lack of funds, and to meet in part this long felt want, the executive committee has decided to issue a Quarterly News Sheet. By its publication it is hoped that members may be kept in closer touch with one another, and with the club activities in general. The editor will be glad to receive short articles and notes for publication from senior and junior members, these should be sent to the Editor C/- Sargison's, 21 Elizabeth Street, Hobart. This News Sheet is free to all members, and will be issued in the first week of the following months:- January, April, July, October.

The primary function of our Club is the encouragement of Nature Study, and the collection, preservation, and systematic classification of specimens. There are several ways in which members can help: Be an active collector, keep Nature Notes, attend the club lectures, assist the juniors, and recruit new members. None of us are trained scientists, therefore no member need feel that he or she, being only an amateur, is incapable of helping; we are all amateurs out to learn as much as we can about the wonderful things of Nature, especially those things connected with our own State.

FORMATION OF DEVONPORT BRANCH.

We are pleased to be able to report the formation of a Field Naturalists' Club in Devonport.

This Club has been affiliated with ours, and we wish it every success. Mr. L.A. Atkinson was elected President, and Mr. D.M. White, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer. We look forward to receiving reports of the Club activities for publication, and will welcome exchange of nature notes with its members.

JUNIOR BRANCH.

Any junior who is willing to give a talk to the juniors is asked to let the Secretary know as soon as possible, giving the subject of the proposed talk and if it is to be illustrated. Now is your chance Juniors, what about a talk on your collection, or your rambles through the bush? You can bring specimens to illustrate it, or show drawings or slides.

COMPETITION open to all juniors (under 18). A Prize of 10/- is offered by the President for the best essay (not more than 300 words), subject: "Why I became a Field Naturalist". Entries to be sent in by September 1st, to the Editor, C/- Sargison's, 21 Elizabeth Street, Hobart. Write your name and address at the end of the essay, and write in ink.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Under this heading we publish members' notes and queries. Last January I found a specimen of that quaint little plant *Eryngium vesiculosum* near the War Memorial on the Domain. It is the only one I have seen although it is said to be common. The whole plant was of a pastel blue shade. According to Rodway's Tasmanian Flora, page 66, it is common in marshy situations. *Eryngium billardieri* is found in Kashmire, India, but is usually larger than our plant. D.C.P.

Mr. N. Michael, The Rectory, Boonah,
S. Queensland, would like to exchange botanical
specimens with collectors in Tasmania. Please
write direct to him.

NOTICE.

Back numbers of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists
Magazine are required by the Secretary.

BIRD WATCHERS WANTED.

We live in a world surrounded by wild animals of
all kinds, but they are seldom seen because their
protective habits and colouration tend to keep them
out of sight, thus we know little about them. In
order to find out as much as possible, careful observers
are required to watch, record, and check all the year
round. Annual reports of these watchers are forwarded
to a central office to be mapped and analysed. This
ecological work is a very big and important task and
it is not possible to do more than concentrate on
particular animals. A Biological Survey has recently
been commenced in this State and Field Naturalists can
give valuable help by taking on the study of birds.

We want Bird Watchers, each undertaking observation
in his or her own district. The necessary equipment
is field glasses, a book of reference to help in identif-
ication, and note books. If any of our members will be
good enough to help in their spare time the Hon. Sec.
will supply them with full details of this fascinating
and useful work.

MEETINGS.

- July: Nil.
- August 12th: 8 p.m. at the Museum, Hobart.
Dr. J. Pearson, on "Deep Sea Fish".
Supper will be provided after Lecture.
- August 13th: 7.30 at the Museum, Hobart.
Mr. W. Cunningham will demonstrate the mounting of birds, etc. to Juniors.
- Sept. 10th: 7.30 at the Museum, Hobart.
Mr. J. W. Evans, Gov. Entomologist; third talk to Juniors on "An Introduction to Biology".
- Oct. 1st: 7.30 at the Museum, Hobart.
Dr. Arndell Lewis will talk to juniors on Geology.

MEMBERSHIP.

At present we have seventy-six Senior Members in the Club, eight of these joined since February, and 20 Junior Members.

Annual Subscription for Adults is 5/-,
" " " Juniors 2/6.

Copies of the Guide to Collecting may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Price 3d. ea.
