



URIMBIRRA

Monthly newsletter

President: Kath Truscott
P. O. Box 368
CHINCHILLA Q 4413
Phone: (07)4668 9054

Secretary: Leigh Plant
P. O. Box 368
CHINCHILLA Q 4413

Treasurer: Heather
Mason
P. O. Box 368
CHINCHILLA Q 4413

MEMBER OF THE
AUSTRALIAN
NATURALISTS'
NETWORK



Urimbirra is an Aboriginal word meaning 'to take care of' or 'to preserve'.

Volume 52 Number 8 August 2018

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NEXT DEADLINE FOR URIMBIRRA CONTRIBUTIONS: SUNDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2018

Emailed contributions should be sent as attachments in JPEG and/or
Word, please, not PDF or other format.

EMAIL for Urimbirra material. Send to Frank Truscott - mongrove@bigpond.com
Posted: Frank Truscott, 414 Dahlers Road, CHINCHILLA 4413. Phone: 46689054

Our web site: <http://www.chinchillanaturalists.com.au>

DISCLAIMER

Urimbirra is the journal of the Chinchilla Field Naturalists Club Inc. The authors of the material used in it seek to maintain the highest standards of accuracy, but if inaccuracies occur, every endeavour will be made to correct them in future editions. With the exception of official club notices, all other material in Urimbirra represents the views, opinions and records of contributing members. Such material is edited as little as possible in an effort to encourage members to contribute. The onus is placed on members to voluntarily edit and cross-check their own material, thereby easing the burden on the Publication Officer.

BARAKULA DRIVE - JULY 21, 2018

By Frank Truscott



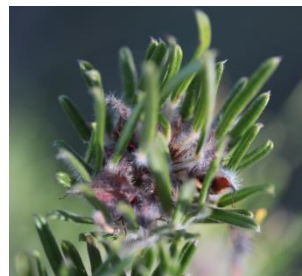
Two vehicles left Truscott's place just after 1 p.m. for a quick look at the state of the wildflowers at the two *Acacia handonis* sites in Barakula. Because of the dry weather, the only things flowering with any vigour were some of the Eucalypts along the Auburn Road. Several apiary sites were occupied by large numbers of bee boxes. Some *A. handonis* (Right) was flowering beside the road on the main hill and *A. juncifolia* (Left) was just starting to flower. *Dodonaea filifolia* was sporting attractive red fruit (Below left). Some *Boronia bipinnata* was flowering as well, but the flowers were very small. Two regulars on the top of the hill, *Astrotricha biddulphiana*



and *Notalaea pungens* showed no sign of flowers or buds while *Lomandra multiflora* still carried many old flower spikes. *Exocarpos cupressiformis* (Right below) is quite a common plant in the area. *Chorizema parviflorum* (Below Centre Left) was growing well but wasn't in bud or flower but the red buds of *Melichrus erubescens* (Below Centre Right) were quite showy.



Moving on from Handonis Hill we had a short stop at the small dam at the corner of Burncluth and Athlone Roads. The bird highlight was a group of Scarlet Honeyeaters. On the top of the second *Acacia handonis* hill a few *A. handonis* were flowering by the side of the track. *Acacia leichhardtii* (Right) grows there as well but was not flowering. *Melichrus erubescens* was growing there, too as was a sprawling plant about knee high that looked like *Aotus subglauca* var. *filiformis* although was a sterile specimen. *Leucopogon biflorus* (Below Left) was in bud and *Pultenaea petiolaris* (Below Right) had just finished flowering. Flaky-barked Tea-Tree *Leptospermum lamellatum*, *Keraudrenia collina* (now a *Seringia*) and *Grevillea longistyla* also grow at the site but were all sterile.



We returned to Truscott's place and had pizza for tea. It was also a good night for astronomy, so the telescope was unearthed and beanies and cardies donned – it was a cold night, to be followed by a decent frost. Highlights were Mars, Saturn, Jupiter and Venus with the moon nearly four days past first quarter and very close to Jupiter. The map below shows what we looked at through a five inch reflector. Venus was

very bright and we could see some bands on Jupiter and two of its moons. Our moon was just past first quarter and perfect for seeing its topography along the terminator, the line between light and shadow. Mars, (RIGHT) was a very close to opposition, which means that it is placed as shown in the illustration (BELOW) and, therefore, is very bright and red. We also saw Antares, a bright, red star in the constellation Scorpius, not far above the Moon and Saturn. The Museum of Applied Arts and Science website (<https://maas.museum/observations/2016/04/08/ares-mars-antares-in-april-may-2016/>) had this to say about Mars and Antares which are similarly coloured and generally of similar brightness:

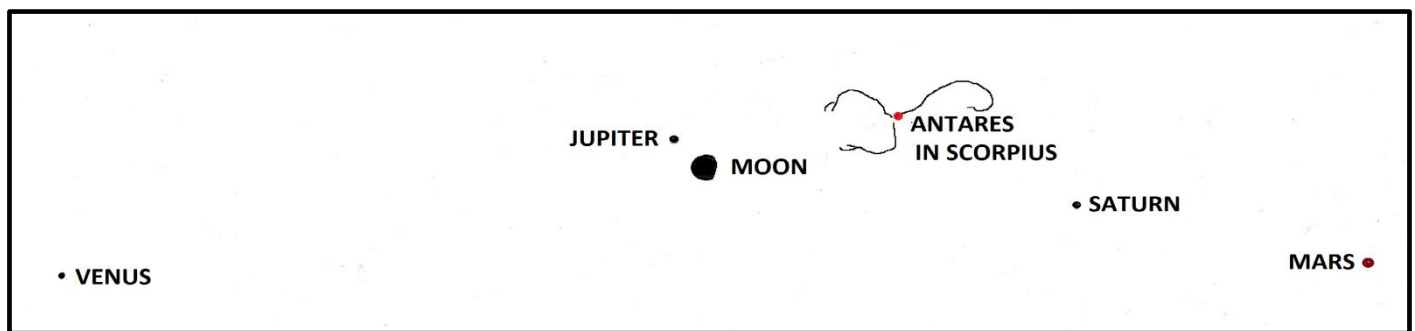


“The red planet has been connected with the Roman god of war, or Mars, within European cultures for about two millennia. Mars is the Latinised version



of the equivalent classical Greek god of war — Ares. The Greeks similarly connected their god of war with the red planet and the star name Ant-ares therefore means the “rival of” or “equal of” Ares. Mars frequently passes close-by to Antares...”

The other big highlight of the night was Saturn (LEFT). The ring system was clearly visible, as was the Cassini Division, a clear gap in the rings.



MANAGEMENT MEETING MINUTES JULY 2018

Date: 20th July 2018

Venue: CWA Rooms Chinchilla

Time: 6.30 pm

Present: K and F Truscott, L. Plant, D. Kanowski, J. Mason, Visitor – P. Fawcett

Apologies: B and H Rennick, H. Mason

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by L. Plant. F. Truscott moved that the minutes be accepted as a true and correct record. Seconded by J. MasonCarried

Business Arising:

- Leigh following up completion of the ATO form with Denver Kanowski’s assistance.
- Thank you letter and photos sent via email to the Humphrys family.
- Painting has commenced in CWA rooms but small library room still to be completed.

Correspondence:

Inward:

- Newsletters
- Invoice from Axiom Insurance
- Domain Name Invoice
- Qld Naturalists’ Club Inc letter re 2018 Natural History Award.

Outward:

- Thank you letter to the Humphrys Family L. Plant moved that the inward correspondence be accepted and the outward endorsed. Seconded by D. Kanowski.....Carried

Treasurer’s Report:

Due to Heather Mason being away there is no report for the meeting.

General Business

Program

- 17th August General Meeting 7.30pm
 CWA Rooms Chinchilla
 PNG Trip – Denver Kanowski and his sister Judith.
- 25th August Outing – Welsh’s Road - Gurulmundi Drive. Meet at the Chinchilla Tourist
 Information Centre at 8.00am – Leader Frank Truscott
- 1st September Rare Wattle Outing - Goranba Lane – Leader Len Hubbard
- 5th September Management Meeting 5.00pm – Truscott Residence
 No September Outing
- 19th October General Meeting 7.30pm
 CWA Rooms Chinchilla
 Ecuador – Frank and Kath Truscott
- October Outing Denver Kanowski investigating possible outing.
- 17th November 2018 Break Up BBQ – Mason Residence
 Management Meeting – 3.30pm
 General Meeting – 5.00pm
 BBQ – BYO Meat and drinks - Salad and Dessert to share.
- 19th, 20th & 21st
 January 2019 Outing - Bunya Mountains
 Management Meeting and General Meeting
 Invitation to be extended to Toowoomba Naturalists and Bunya Mountains Natural
 History Association to join the club for the outing.
- Meeting Closed** 7.20pm

CLUB NOTICES

August 17 7.30pm General meeting – CWA rooms. Guest speaker: Denver Kanowski with his Papua-New Guinea presentation.

August 18 Hookwood Road to Waaje and return by Roche Creek Road and Wandoan. Meet at Chinchilla TIC at 8 a.m. Meet Pam in Miles at 8.30 a.m.

LEN HUBBARD’S RARE WATTLE OUTING

September 1st - 2nd

To get the best display time of acacias during dry times is very difficult. They appear to be later this year.

- A. Acacia leiocalyx often starts to bloom in late April. Last week 4th June, found one tree with two tails.
- B. All other species well budded.
- C. This outing is not so much as to see every wattle that grows here but to look at a few rarer species that persist in this area e.g. long phyllode variety of A. rigens, A. lauta and A. lineata.
- D. SATURDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER: Meet at the park in KOGAN 9.00 a.m. To Goranba Lane, Tara, Crossroads, Chinchilla. Full day trip.
- E. SUNDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER: Meet at the Tourist Information Centre Chinchilla at 8.30 am. To Nudley Forestry, Ballon, Chinchilla. Full day trip.
- F. Those who wish to get back to Brisbane Sunday afternoon can exit Nudley Forestry earlier in the afternoon via Jandowae and Dalby.
- G. CONTACT: Len, Joan Hubbard. 07 46627065.

September 5 Management meeting at Truscott’s place 5 p.m.

NO SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING OR OUTING - the 2018 ANN get-together is on in Victoria.

October 19 Meeting - CWA rooms at 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Truscotts’ Ecuador photos

October/November. Spicers “Hidden Vale” near Grandchester as a possible outing.

November 17 Break up. Venue: John and Heather Mason’s place. Management meeting at 3.30 p.m. and General Meeting and BBQ at 5 p.m.

January 19, 20, 21. Bunya Mountains. We will invite Bunya NHA members and Toowoomba Nats.