



FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1991

Editorial

It has been some months since I started to relate the story of the life of that unusual character Elbert Hubbard. So here is a little more of the saga. Working on a farm after leaving school at the age of 15 years where he was getting a boy's pay and doing a man's job he left and decided to 'go West'. He related... "I became a cowboy; tired of this and went to work in a printing office; was a door to door salesman; then a reporter on a country newspaper; taught at a district school; read Emerson, Carlyle, and Macauley and memorized Shakespeare's Hamlet. Then I worked in a soap factory, became the manager, then partner; evolved an idea for the concern and put it on the track of making millions- knew that it would, but I did not want that; sold out and took several courses at Harvard University. Then I tramped through Europe; wrote two books (couldn't find a publisher); then studied Latin and Greek with a retired minister; became involved in raising trotting horses". Elbert regarded himself as a graduate of the University of Hard Knocks. Notwithstanding Harvard University bestowed upon him a Master of Arts degree. He said that he thought little of this considering he had not earned it! His later career was notable for many great achievements that I will tell of at another time.....

The early years of his development and education were not assisted by a wealthy family or other benefactors. His parents grew up in what was The Great Depression of 1840 that lasted for seven years. His early childhood was witness to the Civil War (1861-65) that was the most devastating event in the nation's history. It was to affect prosperity for a full 20 years.

We often think today that recessions and depressions mean that future generations have no hope, and that is reinforced by environmental problems facing our Earth. From 1770 when economic records were first kept, the world has passed through alternating periods of depression and prosperity. The western world has seen a remarkable advance in the areas of health, scientific achievements that have led to what is called a 'high Standard of living'. The very things that produced the affluence have led to global pollution, species extinction and a dramatic rise in world population and a shrinking food supply to sustain them.

Due to the prevalence of certain attitudes proffered by governments, economists and scientists, we are urged to believe that solutions to 'The Good Life' will soon be found. The media tend to distort and simplify our problems. The role of the individual takes a back seat, with feelings ranging from apathy & resignation to complacency and unfounded optimism.

It was no easier 100 years ago for the individual to lead a fulfilling life than it is today - although the reasons were different. What is not different is the importance of the individual. There needs to be a desire, a hope and faith in oneself to make the most of a life.

" A little more patience, a little more charity for all, a little more devotion, a little more love; less bowing down to the past, and a silent ignoring of pretended authority; a brave look forward to the future, with more faith in our fellows: and the race will be ripe for a great burst of light and life."

E. Hubbard

" The source of power is in human emotion- in human desire. Men get what they work for, and just the measure they work for it. The measure of success is the measure of desire."

E. Hubbard

October Koala Count

Tetratheca ciliat

KOALA COUNT.....SUNDAY OCTOBER 27th.....ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WELCOME.....1.00pm.

Meet at the Depot to group, get your maps, directions and task sheets. According to numbers of Surveyors who come we shall take a census of Koala population and health. This will be the first big count since February and the big bushfire. The whole family can be involved as children make marvellous "spotters". Bring a plate of something to share afterwards when we have afternoon tea in the Folly and swap tales...tall ones (?) and true. No experience is necessary and this is a interesting adventure.

SEE YOU ALL AT POUND BEND, AT THE NURSERY.



Butterfly
Droppings



Butterfly
Droppings



Despite the arctic conditions in the Mechanics Institute the professionalism of the Warrandyte Drama Group won over the audience with their performance of Merchant of Venice last month. Two intervals for a chance to warm our hands on coffee mugs and catch up with friends were welcomed and congratulations to all involved, especially Ian Sherwood for a convincing Shylock and Jock MacNeish for an equally convincing foppish French suitor!

We're meeting at the folly at 8 am on **Sunday 3rd November** for a **French Island Frolic**. There are still a couple seats left on the community bus but we hope a convoy will be heading down to Stoney Point to board the ferry for the trip across, so book anyway! BYO lunch, which will be eaten on the Pinnacles among the native orchids. The cost will be \$20 for those coming on the bus and \$13 (\$10 ferry and \$3 for the island bus) for those meeting us there. We've been told that Cup Weekend is the best time to see the 37 different varieties of native orchids at French Island, the richest area of this unique flora in the world



PARK WATCH.....WE NEED YOUR EYES TC PROTECT YOUR PARK.....PARK WATCH.

A person with a "Handy-man/Mower type trailer has regularly been dumping his load of garden/mowing rubbish, including many "PROBLEM" plants in the Gold Memorial Car-Park. This takes place usually on a Wednesday about 4pm. Park staff would like any information regarding this DUMPING. So Fowspians all, keep your eyes peeled. Park Office 844 2659.

YARRA RIVER CLEAN-UP

The Friends will be participating in Melbourne Water's 1991 River Clean-Up Week with a repeat of our canoe day special activity on Sunday afternoon, November 10th.

This year the Bend-of-Islands Conservation Association, "BICA", is doing a similar clean-up and will join us for a spit-roast tea after our heroic deeds. BICA will scrounge down to Oxley Road in the Bend-of-Isles, we will re-paddle last year's route from that point down to Blue-Tongue Bend (lots of details on the map).

As you can see, Ron Golding will have the community bus on hand to ferry us around. Bring a kit of spare clothing to leave in the bus. Some soft drink should be carried on the day but more serious vintages could be left in the Esky on the bus for later.

Those who need a hire canoe (and we hope heaps come) must book a seat or a boat with Doug (844 2740) or Margaret (844 1060) by the end of the month. A modest fee will apply (\$around \$10-12 last time) but we will try to waive childrens expenses as we have in the past.

We meet at 12.30 at the Jumping Creek car-park. The spit will be roasted at Claire Watson's whose home fronts the River at the famous Arthur's Mistake rapid. It is "on the Friends"; Margaret has promised to pencil any catering notes below.

Doug

THE PLAN NOV 10

the clean up route



FOOD....GLORIOUS....FOOD.....Catering corps will need to know just how large the hungry hordes will be. Claire, Ian, Bill and Elise hope to prepare and cook the perfect joints and viands. Please bring some complimentary salad things to share (or perhaps a cake if that is your "THING" but do let the chefs know you are coming.....844 1060.

from Pat-y-pus Caper

ON SCALY WINGS IN A SOUTHERN SPRING

It doesn't seem possible that something as delicately beautiful as a butterfly, can, on paper-thin wings, fly over a thousand kilometres; but they do. There are several species of butterfly which every year have a large-scale mass migration across rugged and sometimes inhospitable areas of Australia. They rest only briefly during their marathon journey, just long enough to sip at some energy-giving, nectar-rich flowers. Some will inevitably die along the way falling prey to predators or simply being blown off course, but it is a miracle that so many not only survive but appear remarkably fresh.

The Caper White (*Anaphaesis java teutonia*) is a supreme example of a migratory butterfly. Around the end of November or early December huge numbers of these graceful, itinerant butterflies may be observed fluttering only a few metres above ground level. They are frequently encountered on hilltops or wide open spaces, usually flying steadily in a northerly direction. Numbers fluctuate from year to year sometimes reaching immense proportions. If you are fortunate enough to be in the right place at the right time to witness such a mass migration it is a spectacular sight indeed. Hundreds, sometimes thousands of butterflies drift past with wings flapping leisurely, looking rather like scattered petals from some exotic flower that has been plucked by the wind.

The Caper White is by no means an unembellished white butterfly. The upper surface of its wings are a pearly white and have variable amounts of black around the edge, females having a broader black margin than the males. The underside of its wings are also white but with dramatic splashes of deep yellow and inky black and look as if a child has been let loose on them with a paintbrush.

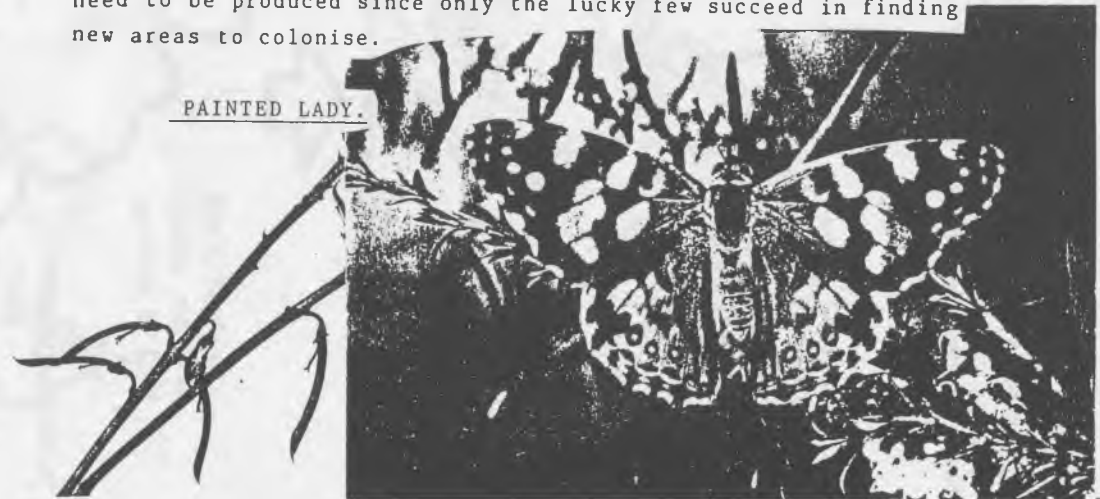
The caterpillars of the Caper White, as its name implies, feed on Native Caper (*Capparis* spp.) which is found throughout the savannah woodlands of Australia. In some instances the caterpillars may be so abundant that they cause serious defoliation of the bushes. Native Caper is not indigenous to Victoria (that is it does not occur naturally). However, if it is planted in gardens or parks then the caterpillars may seek out the bushes and lay their eggs in clusters on the young leaves.

The Australian Painted Lady (*Vanessa kershawi*) is another widespread, migratory butterfly which can be observed as early as August, but is far more prevalent a month or two later making its annual journey southwards. It is a deep, rich orange-brown colour with dramatic black and white markings on the upper surface of its wings. The underside is a lighter, mottled brown colour and when the butterfly alights on the ground with wings closed, it is cleverly camouflaged amongst the leaf litter and debris. The caterpillars of this common, but nevertheless extremely attractive butterfly eat the leaves of native everlasting (*Helichrysum* spp.), and are equally content feeding on Cape Weed (*Arctotheca callendula*). This plant which originally came from South Africa has become a widespread agricultural weed of paddocks and roadsides.

The Australian Painted Lady belongs to the Family NYMPHALIDAE (Browns, Tigers, Crows, and Nymphs) along with the Meadow Argus (*Junonia villida*) a similar looking butterfly, but with circular markings of orange and blue on its brown wings. Both species may be seen flying together during these springtime, migratory traverses.

There is a great deal that we still do not understand about butterfly migration. For instance, why do some species have this instinctive urge to converge en masse and fly such tremendous distances? We do know that such flights move in a purposeful direction which is aided, but not governed by the wind. One suggestion is that the migration is a strategy to extend their range as far as possible. However, the price that the species pays is high in terms of the sheer number of individuals that need to be produced since only the lucky few succeed in finding new areas to colonise.

PAINTED LADY.



Hot House Gossip

Welcome to all the new members who have joined in the last few months. Quite a large number of families used the opportunity of the Warrandyte Primary School Spring Garden Fair to find out all about joining. We hope to see those folk become involved in activities in the next months. We certainly have a lot of things to choose from.

Some Members will have received an account notice with this newsletter. We hope to get a rapid response as budgets need to be planned with the programme for 1992.

Have you all admired the extended hardening off area at the Nursery? If you have you no doubt drooled over the beautiful wire gate which Neal Tessier donated....and thought it a remarkable "Heritage" touch to our wee plants haven. We have no intention of auctioning it off.....!!

The last couple of Newsletters have generated quite a few letters to the editor. This gives the editor, Ian Burke, encouragement to continue to develop a few ideas. He does really get grumpy without a little such stimulation. We are pleased the Newsletter is enjoyed by those people who make the effort to tell us so!

The Diary story about chemical storage in Warrandyte set us thinking. Certainly the Friends would be opposed to any such decisions by the Government or by the Department. We would be calling all our energies to change such foolish ideas. I'm sure the great majority of Fowspians would join me...perhaps we could all have chained ourselves to the blackened tree trunks! Seriously we would expect that HeadOffice would involve us in much consultation over such an issue.

Our book is gradually coming together and funding is the next issue. Many thanks for all contributions. All funds raised will go towards publishing costs. Editorial Committee are happy to consider all avenues. Contact Mike Coupar...844 1650.

A Work Experience Devotee of W.S.P. Kym Docwra, has written and photocopied a book about Warrandyte. She has done this as an assignment for her V.C.E. studies and has very kindly given us a copy for the Park library. It is a really useful collection of information and we expect people will enjoy borrowing it for their education and enjoyment. Many thanks Kym.

Pat and David have produced a leaflet on the marvellous "Ground Flora Management Symposium" which a number of Fowspians went to. We learnt so much, and full notes will become available but if you would like one of OUR leaflets see Marg or get one from the Market Stall.

We have an expanding collection of "hand outs" ranging from "Indigidytes" and "Bradley Method" to plant lists and Nesting Box Plans. We are charging \$2.00 to cover costs. Glen Jameson has produced a big stack of "Indigidytes" (for use by local gardeners) and once collated/stapled all those who want extra copies will just have to ask. Thanks Glen.

Zoe Murphy has begun the task of "making up" our hand made paper. We now have lovely little gift sets, cards etc. to purchase. A couple of people have expressed interest in getting back to our recycled paper making. Volunteers please see Zoe or Marg Burke.

Hope that all members who wish to buy pottery or need an electrician remember the help given by Andrew Thomson 844 1590 and Alison Thom (Stall at Market).

Ideas for meetings/projects for 1992 should be given, preferably on paper, to Marg or Ian Burke (or any Committee Member) or left with Ian Roche before the next Committee Meeting...Tues 22nd.

Nursery is being constantly "topped-up" and we still have an excess of stock. Therefore people wishing to purchase things for gardens are able to at \$20.00 for a mixed box. Contact Pat Coupar or Marg Burke.

Hope the roadside verge competition elicits much response from All Fowspians for next year. If you wish to enter yours, take a "before" photo or get Mark Gardner, Pat Coupar, or an "expert" to advise you then nominate by next July. Prize....Glory, Notoriety, Fame.....and a box of plant plants. Marg and Iris are trying....despite the S. E. C.

By public demand, the Allegorical Play performed last month will have a repeat performance at the November Revels. We will need plenty of Fowspianmites to build those walls!

Ben and Neal are organising a special competition/raffle thing with the large "specimen plants" as prizes. These beautiful mature trees and shrubs have considerable monetary value as well as desirability for your garden...so stay tuned for details.

Busy, Busy, Busy



Fascinating Facts From Flora

A pot-pourri of peas, clandestine affairs, adventurers, Welshmen, and soy sauce.

Pat has ten peas on her list of plants propagated at the Pound bend Nursery and it's time F.F.F.F. paid attention to them.

1. *Bossiaea prostrata* - Creeping Bossiaea
Named after Bossieu de la Martinière who was the botanist with the ill-fated French scientific expedition lead by Comte de la Perouse, which sailed into Sydney Harbour in February 1788 just three weeks after Governor Phillip's arrival. Imagine the surprise on both sides! Both ships, the *Astrolabe* and *La Boussole*, remained two weeks exploring the northern shores of Botany Bay before sailing off into oblivion. The wreckage was not discovered until forty years later, off Santa Cruz, New Hebrides.
prostrata = trailing on the ground.

2. *Daviesia leptophylla* - Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea
Named after Rev. Hugh Davies 1739-1821, author of "Welsh Botany". He lived in Wales all his life.
leptos = slender.

3. *Dillwynia cinerascens* - Grey Parrot-pea.
After Lewis Weston Dillwyn 1778-1855, another Welshman who spent most of his life in Swansea, Wales where owned a pottery. He was a competent botanist.
cinerascens = becoming ash-grey (as in cinders I suppose)

4. *Glycine clandestina* - Twining Glycine
Greek *glykys* = sweet. The leaves and roots of some species are sweet. Oil from the Asian species *Glycine max* (Soya Bean) is used to make soy sauce.
clandestina = bearing hidden, invisible flowers.
In N.S.W. *Glycine clandestina* is called Lovers' Twine. Are they thinking of clandestine trysting places?
Not to be confused with the Love Creeper (*Comesperma volubile*)

5. *Hardenbergia violacea* - Purple Coral-pea
Named after Franziska von Hardenberg, sister of Baron Carl von Hugel 1795-1870 Austrian patron of horticulture. He travelled to the Philippines and Western Australia collecting plants and it was Franziska's job to see to the preservation of these specimens. We can only presume that she travelled with her brother to do this. The Baron's son came to Australia in 1874. He collected birds while staying at Olinda in the Dandenongs.
violacea = violet coloured

6. *Hovea linearis* - Common Hovea
After Anton Pantaleon Hove, a Polish botanist from Warsaw who travelled to W. Africa, India, and Russia collecting for Sir Joseph Banks and Kew Gardens.
linearis = narrow

7. *Indigofera australis* - Australian Indigo
Neo-latin for indigo-bearing because two tropical species are the plants from which indigo dyes are obtained. A deep violet-blue colour.

8. *Kennedia prostrata* - Running Postman
After John Kennedy, 1759-1842, London nurseryman who wrote botanical descriptions in the "Botanists Repository"
No connection at all with a Postman unless we could call a letterbox a repository.

9. *Platylobium obtusangulum* - Common Flat-pea
Greek *platys* = flat and *lobos* = a pod from the shape of the fruits. The pods are flat and oblong.
The specific name refers to the obtuse angle of the apex of the leaf.

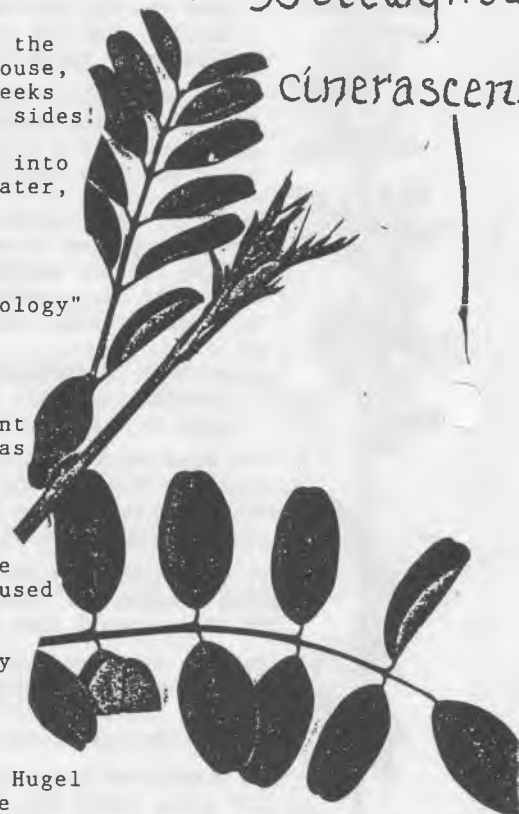
10. *Pultenaea gunnii* - Golden Bush-pea
Named after Richard Pulteney 1730-1801, an English botanist-surgeon who practised his profession at Leicester and then in Dorset. He left an unpublished manuscript "Flora Anglica"
Robert Campbell Gunn was a Tasmanian botanist.

An idea for a heading for the next fascinating facts has occurred to me.

MYSTERY REPORTER MYSTIFIED OR THE CASE OF THE MISSING BLANKET LEAF



Dillwynia
cinerascens



Just a few thoughts after reading the editorial of the September FOWSP Newsletter regarding the Manning Clark Quote that 'the reverence for life ought to be the main point of debate about the environment, and not the economic arguments.

It appears to be an approach that could be developed further to some advantage at the local level. Too often the economic arguments are counter-productive anyhow. Few seem interested in the long-term effects of our actions on the planet, and many of the uncommitted have difficulty in relating fully to the natural environment. All too often the every-day emphasis on the attainment of material culture and the latest creature comforts tends to ensure that the natural world around us assumes only secondary importance.

In order to correct that imbalance, I believe we could somehow win over the hearts and minds of the community by drawing upon some of the concepts contained within the language and recorded experiences of the past. In much the same fashion as your organization is able to develop deeper insights into say our indigenous flora by interpretation of descriptive information contained within their botanical nomenclature, so also should we be able to peel back layer after layer of meaning from the historical record in order to build up a more meaningful relationship with other aspects of our natural environment.

For instance, take the name of the district - 'Warrandyte'. It first appeared in the historical record in 1840 when James Dawson named his Run 'The Warrandyte Cattle Station'; Later the town of Anderson Creek assumed the name. I have read somewhere that it derives from two Aboriginal words - 'Warren' meaning 'to throw' and 'dyte' meaning 'the thing thrown at'. That translation has always seemed to me to convey very little of the Aboriginal intent of the word. Surely there must have been more to it than just that. All that translation does at present as it stands is raise the further question of 'who is throwing what, and for what purpose is it being thrown?'.
(

One day, many years ago whilst walking along the river, I found myself in the small gorge where Brushy Creek enters the Yarra. Despite the very evident non-indigenous vegetation and the large accumulation of litter derived from our throw-away society, I somehow felt overwhelmed by a feeling of reverence for the place. I felt myself transported back into a world peopled by countless generations of Aboriginal people using that small chasm to commune with their Dreamtime Spirits.

Some years later whilst going through the Howitt Papers, I came across a letter written in 1887 by Joseph Shaw to Alfred Howitt. Howitt had previously written to Shaw (who was the Superintendent of the Corranderrk Aboriginal Reserve) asking for information about

Aboriginal culture. Shaw's most reliable informant at the time was William Barak, the last of the full-blood Wurrundjeri Elders. Howitt had come to the realization that the accumulated knowledge of an entire people was rapidly disappearing from the world, and was desperately seeking to collect what remained of it for posterity. The letter in part reads:

What is the legend about Buk-ker-til-lible, a hole or chasm in Ai-narneian or Brushy Creek running into the Yarra. It is said that Bunjil threw a star down to punish people, and made the hole.

It was only recently that it struck me like a bolt out of the blue that there could be a connection between that Dreamtime legend and the word 'Warrandyte'. Most Aboriginal names for features in the landscape derive from Dreamtime Stories. The most important Dreamtime Being of the Wurrundjeri was Bunjil the 'All-Father' who together with his sons and wives is said to have created the Wurrundjeri world of the Yarra Valley. In his physical form, he was 'Bunjil the Eaglehawk' (Wedge-tailed Eagle). However, after completing his many creative acts in the Dreamtime, Bunjil went up into the sky, (Tharingbek) where as the star Altair he can be seen, ever-watchful that his people obey the tribal lore.

If, as I believe, that is the correct interpretation of the myth, then the meaning to be conveyed by the name 'Warrandyte' must be 'the place where Bunjil threw down the star'. That belief is further strengthened by the fact that the slab home of Dawson's neighbours and associates, the Selbys, stood close by to the gorge. There can be no question of Dawson having mistakenly used the name. His credentials as a friend of the Aborigines are impeccable, and years later he completed his major work, The Australian Aborigines, which included a vocabulary of their language.

In the light of the above information, I would suggest that there is a good case for those who seek to develop closer ties with their natural environment, to devote some of their energies towards ensuring that the site from which their community derives its name be restored and protected from further degradation. That of course can only be done with the blessing of, and in association with the present day Aboriginal Elders, who themselves are currently struggling to come to terms with their Aboriginality in a world dominated by economic arguments, a world which largely sees their culture and the natural environment as of only secondary importance.

I would appreciate any comments you may have as to the concept.

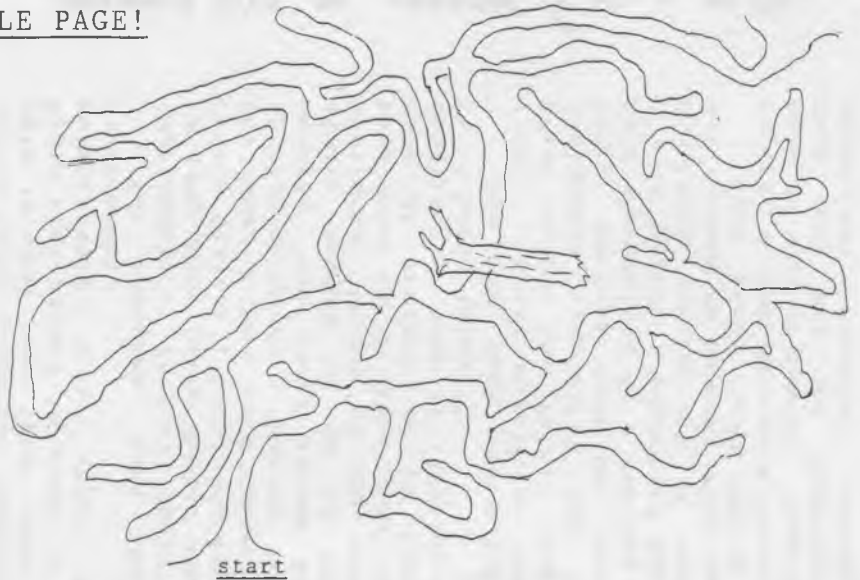
Yours Sincerely,

Mick Woiwod
Mick Woiwod.

'Fossicking Ross & Percy Poss'



PUZZLE PAGE!



Can you help Wally the wombat home.
(You can't cross logs or go off the track.)

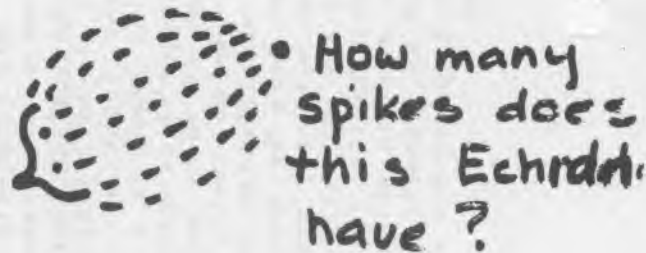
from a big e'kid'na:

how many spikes
does this echnidna
have?



Draw in the missing ant legs.....

From a big E'kid'na -



How many
spikes does
this Echidna
have?

Draw in the
missing parts of the
ant....

Please fill in the membership details and send with a cheque to P.O. Box 220
Warrandyte

Membership entitles you to a Free Indigenous plant at each
Market and to also be able to join in all of our activities

DETAILS OF MEMBERS....

Names of all family members.....

Please include children's
ages and special interests

Address.....

Family Subscription \$10

.....P.C.....

Telephone.....

Suggestions you may have..... Donation to help cover costs.....

Warrandyte
Environment
League

Public Meeting
& Annual General Meeting

URBAN ENCROACHMENT (Doncastration)

The end of the Warrandyte we know and love?

What are appropriate types of buildings for Warrandyte? What are the options? The ethics of development. Swimming Pools? Tennis courts?

Guest Speakers:

Val Polley - Warrandyte Ward Councillor, Mayor CODAT.
Rob Marshall - Eltham North Riding Councillor
Alan King - Warrandyte Advisory Council
Bob Winters - Environmental Consultant.

Warrandyte Community Centre
Friday 1st Nov AGM 7:30 pm Meeting 8:00pm
Supper Available
Further Information: Greg Stroot 844 3459

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Dates for the Calendar

October 27th. Sun.....Koala Survey
 November 3rd. Sun.....Trip to visit French Island.
 10th Sun.....River Clean-up with Bend of Islands Conservator
 (Spring Clean Activ.) by canoe.
 24th Sun.....A.G.M. Fun Day, B.B.Q., Concert.

Gad's Gang at Stoney Creek.....Sunday 9.30am. Nov 10th, Dec 8th.

EVERY THURSDAY (School Hols INCLUDED) Nursery Activities at Pound Bend
 10am till about 4pm. Bring lunch Includes walks etc.

Nov. 2nd and Dec 7th. Sat.....Warrandyte Community Market Information Stall



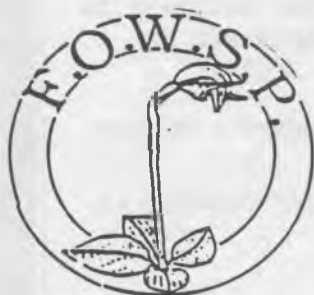
Olearia lirata

Koala Mum and Baby.
 Ryan

P.O. Box 220, Warrandyte

COMMITTEE

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| Margaret Burke.....Co-ordinator..844 1060 | Ian Burke.....Editor.....844 1060 |
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