

# FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK Inc. NEWSLETTER

Editorial

MAY 1992



It seems appropriate for several reasons to conclude the biographical sketch of Elbert Hubbard that started last year. (Oct. 91) The close of the last century saw America and other parts of the world passing through a series of economic recessions with its attendant unemployment particularly affecting young people. Elbert Hubbard had already become as well known as Mark Twain, and lectured across the U.S. on business management, human relations and democratic lifestyles. He also contributed articles to literary magazines and newspapers. But his real passion was to assist young people and not so young to find rewarding and useful occupations. Accordingly he established in a small country town in west New York state what was known as 'The Roycroft Shop'. At East Aurora he attracted people of all ages, few had any special training or expertise. Most were children of farming folk and never had much of an education. They were to learn a wide range of skills concerned with printing, book binding and illuminating. Many had practical experience having come from a farming background. Under guidance many talents were revealed. They engaged in blacksmithing, cabinet making, pottery, and painting. Then a master bookbinder from Europe joined them and he was able to teach them and train many others to become instructors. They produced a monthly newsletter and a magazine and soon had more than 300 people on the payroll. After a short time people were attracted to the centre from near and far. In the space of one year 28000 visitors from nearly every country in the world had been to the Roycroft Shop.

Elbert Hubbard maintained that the failure of many large publishers in the United States at the time was largely due to the cheap and shoddy nature of their mass produced books and magazines. His motto was "Not how cheap but how good." The principle of quality was applied to all the saleable goods produced at The Shop. The workers became skilled enough to build many extensions to the original premises. They were able to introduce to the town the first heating furnace and were among the first to use electricity for lights and natural gas for fuel and power. The centre still exists today in East Aurora conducted by the descendants of Elbert and is called the 'The House of Hubbard'. This most successful enterprise can best be summed up in Elbert Hubbard's own words: "We do our work as well as we can, live one day at a time, and try to be kind."

This month sees the anniversary of the tragic death of Elbert Hubbard when the S.S. Lusitania was sunk by a German U-boat when 1100 people perished. Perhaps there are some interesting parallels between the ideals and philosophy of Elbert Hubbard and those of our Friends group. From a small beginning we have attracted a large following and many people with specialised training and expertise. There has been an increasing involvement with Government departments. A very important event will occur later this year when we will produce our book "Discover Warrandyte". It will be a unique production providing information for local residents and visitors, with a strong theme of environmental conservation. Above all it will be a quality production in all ways; thus we are sure that it will be a success. We are also confident that if Elbert was around today he would be enthusiastic about the excellence of our work.

"Happiness lies in self-forgetfulness."

"It is not art but Heart that wins,  
this wide world over."

Elbert Hubbard  
(1856-1915)

Dichondra repens

Kidney weed



S.S. Lusitania.



## Hot House Gossip

F.O.W.S.P. is a very important group now it is incorporated....it has a Certificate of Incorporation! What do we do with such? Perhaps some wonderful member has an unused and unwanted FRAME we could put it in and hang it up.....well we will ponder on where later. Size of this piece of document is 21 x 21.5cm. Contact a Committee member.

Speaking of Committee Members.....We welcomed our twelfth member Cathy Willis last meeting. She will be a Member without Portfolio for a while...until she just "slips" into a role!

A story to come from the Folk in the Foyer evening....As the weary ladies finished the dish washing and packed the last supper things away Gay Harris was observed carefully folding the Tea-towel, slipping it into a plastic bag, smoothing the package neatly, sighing and putting it into the refrigerator and closing the door. Pat, Iris and Hazel watched without comment..

Then Alison arrived a little later to begin the search for her cloth...took a while for some one to open the door of the fridge and produce the parcel....We are not really that odd!

The Nursery is quite crammed with plants at present BUT once Arbor (two) Weeks are over we hope to have huge numbers in the ground. We are also already planting out the garden area around the Folly. Need lots of helpers each Thursday.....and of course once we are finished planting we'll need you to help with filling up the Nursery for the Spring Plantings.

Marg and Iris Davies have decided to have a try for the Osborne Rd. revegetation of roadside verge awards. They have begun replanting outside No 22 - 26. They hope this is contagious and that Osborne Roadsides becomes marvellous habitat. Enquiries?...844 1060

We have also begun the revegetation under power-lines in Glynns Rd. This is a joint project between us, Melbourne Water, Eltham Council AND the S.E.C. We hope this will be the sign of a complete change of policy by the S.E.C. Alan Noy called a roadside planning conference last Tuesday and F.O.W.S.P. will plant the first group of shrubs Thursday May 7th. Other sites which were devastated by the "Loppings" will follow. We hope to offer any people interested to re-vegetate their nature-strips. Enquire....Committee members.

We now have a new Membership Secretary. Doug Seymour's old computer PLUS membership floppy disk are about to go and live with his father-in-law Ron Golding. So Ron is not only F.O.W.S.P. bus driver extraordinaire BUT also HE WHO MUST SEE THAT \$10 next to your name. Seriously.....membership at \$10 is so very little for what you get and we must insist that accounts are paid. (preferably before I have to go to lots of trouble manually adding said slip) Ron promises to be DEADLY and we don't like losing dear Friends.....xxxxx If you add a donation- many thanks.

Arbor Weeks News in the next Newsletter. Hope we have lots of volunteers for assistants.... we have St. Annes School to add to the timetable this year. May 11th to May 22nd.

We will have a visit from the Open Space 2000 people on Thursday 28th May, at the Nursery. We have offered Ross Young a cuppa several times and this time we will be able to show them all just what F.O.W.S.P. is all about. The visit is to present us with a \$2000 boost to our book fund! This will be presented by the head of Open Space 2000 - Geoff Vincent.

A P.S. to the item on S.E.C. We were delighted to have John Ward and Richard Jansen (not Julian! visit the Nursery the Thursday before Arbor Week. They saw our set-up and admired our enthusiasm and possibilities of a complete change of approach to Warrandyte- by the Lopping crews is assured. That afternoon the first of the revegetation using Indigenous-Fire Retardant plants of suitable height began. Patrick Fricker (Melb. Water) supplied Rabbit Guards and mulch...Fowspians the plants and labour, S.E.C. promise to pay for plants and supply logs(poles) and other items. Next work day will be late May - after Arbor Weeks (2). Enquiries Joy Hildebrand.

MECHANICS INSTITUTE.....COMMUNITY CENTRE.....GARDENING DAY....WITH MECHANICS FOLK.

WHEN..Tuesday 26th. May. Bring a picnic afternoon tea, tools etc. We will help spread plants all along the main thoroughfare! Meet the Mechanics Institute Members for a joint working-bee. We will do some maintenance work on the Indigenous section of the Community Centre (all the back - remember?). See lots of you there.....Marg and Bev.

BOOK...BOOK...BOOK...BOOK...Joan and Ken MacMahon are hard at work with the final editing of "Discover Warrandyte", Zoe Murphy with layout and Robyn Carter with the last of the graphics i.e. maps. Pat Coupar has gathered quotes, we all have followed up all avenues of funding and a couple of thousand is all we need. Marketing will remain a local thing, at least at first with the Diary giving us lots of enthusiastic support.

## Rock Breaking ~ Paradise Making

The skills our track makers acquired at Kinglake really did NOT help prepare for the task on the track between Sandy Bay and Blue Tongue Bend. Rock breaking was no joke! Val and Graeme Riddell had prepared however and all the appropriate tools, advice on technique and friendly encouragement were at hand.....thanks Riddell brothers.....Ian Roche declared it an A1 job. The less intrepid decided to join Pat Coupars team with the "easy" job...planting up near the Car Park area. That ground must be the most rock-hard compacted piece of territory in all Warrandyte!...so the tree planters were also tired but happy when they had put in 120 or so of our nursery's best. Well we all felt we'd made a step towards making this beautiful part of the park truly more a Paradise and all of us had broken more than a rock or two when we all enjoyed the afternoon-tea we'd brought to share. Well done Fowspians.



# Open Day at The Nursery May Family Sunday Meeting

NURSERY.....SUNDAY.....COME ALL AND SEE WHY WE THURSDAY MOB GET "HOOKED".....NURSERY DAY.

This is usually the most popular Fowspian activity day each year. We have lots and lots to do. Work will be at the Nursery and also in the new gardens around the Folly. After Arbor Week our stocks will need replenishing. Those people who like to have a try at the Thursday activities will be able to experience many of these, but we will begin the planting in the gardens designed by Pat Coupar and Bev Hanson. We will have sections on "Butterfly/moth Food Plants, Rare and precious stock plants, Aborigine food and medicinal plants and lots more. Pat Coupar and Olive Walters will organise this. We will have work groups learning about our "Coups" and new areas will be direct seeded....Neal Tessier will tell you all about work to date. We have many tasks for Nursery Maintenance and if you have been "meaning to check all this out" this will be your golden opportunity. Bring the family...Ross Coupar will be organising a Yabby Survey (we have the world's most surveyed yabbies!)...Fowspianmites favourite afternoon we think. We will have Billy Tea and Damper on a Stick going all day and bring some meat and a salad to share for a barbeque tea. NOT TO BE MISSED.....BOOK DISPLAY "DISCOVER WARRANDYTE"

Take care.....one afternoon of Nursery Activities is a very exciting and satisfying experience.

EVERY ONE GETS A PLANT TO TAKE TO PUT IN THEIR GARDEN.

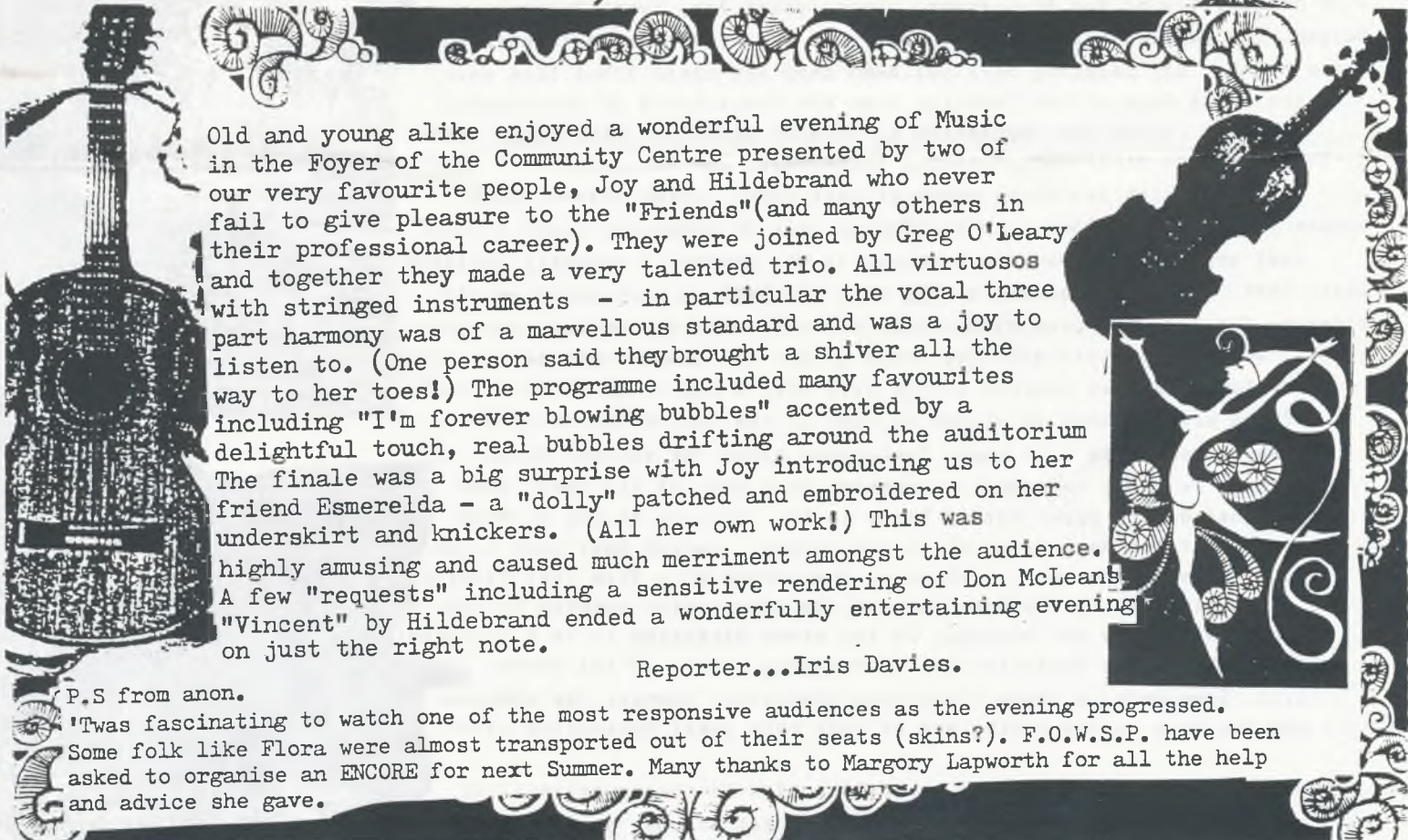
WHEN.....SUNDAY MAY 31st.....TIME.....1.00pm.....Bring gloves, tools, B.B.Q food etc..Smiles.

ENQUIRIES PAT COUPAR, OLIVE WALTERS, MARG BURKE.

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY ACTIVITY

Think Globally - Act Locally.....Fowspians will join with Warrandyte Environment League, and Friends of Mullum Mullum Creek to be the guests of the Friends of Yarra Valley Metropolitan Park to visit the junction of the Mullum Mullum Ck. and the Yarra River at PADDLES RESERVE. We will have the opportunity to get to know this threatened section of local public land (C.O.D.A.T. wish to develop it as a Golf Course!) and also have a joint project with our local environmentalists. B.Y.O. as required (check with Committee later in month)

WHEN.....Saturday June 6th TIME.....2pm - 5pm.



Old and young alike enjoyed a wonderful evening of Music in the Foyer of the Community Centre presented by two of our very favourite people, Joy and Hildebrand who never fail to give pleasure to the "Friends"(and many others in their professional career). They were joined by Greg O'Leary and together they made a very talented trio. All virtuosos with stringed instruments - in particular the vocal three part harmony was of a marvellous standard and was a joy to listen to. (One person said they brought a shiver all the way to her toes!) The programme included many favourites including "I'm forever blowing bubbles" accented by a delightful touch, real bubbles drifting around the auditorium. The finale was a big surprise with Joy introducing us to her friend Esmerelda - a "dolly" patched and embroidered on her underskirt and knickers. (All her own work!) This was highly amusing and caused much merriment amongst the audience. A few "requests" including a sensitive rendering of Don McLeans "Vincent" by Hildebrand ended a wonderfully entertaining evening on just the right note.

Reporter...Iris Davies.

P.S from anon.

'Twas fascinating to watch one of the most responsive audiences as the evening progressed. Some folk like Flora were almost transported out of their seats (skins?). F.O.W.S.P. have been asked to organise an ENCORE for next Summer. Many thanks to Margory Lapworth for all the help and advice she gave.





## FROM WILLOWS TO WILDERNESS

by  
Pat Coupar

# Reflections



Tucked away in the far north-east corner of Victoria lies a land of dramatic contrast. The broad valleys of the Kiewa and Mitta Mitta rivers, and the alluvial flats of the Upper Murray, have been cleared of native vegetation to provide lush pastures for dairy and beef cattle. But just a stones throw from these fertile farmlands rise rugged mountains with steep densely forested slopes, cascading waterfalls and massive, precipitous rock faces.

We have visited this region on several occasions, but always in early summer. Perhaps it was because this trip was made in autumn that the difference between the two landscapes seemed so dramatic. The willows that line the creeks and rivers had turned gold with the season. Likewise the poplars that line the streets and highways. These tall elegant trees looked like rows of giant candles glowing in the autumn sun. I don't deny the beauty of these trees, but this is Australia not Europe and they simply do not belong here.

The valleys and small towns of the area attract a large number of visitors. Many come at this time of the year particularly to see these autumn colours. The attraction of the mountains, however, is their very inaccessibility. The imposing bulk of Burrowa-Pine Mountain is only for the adventurous. The two mountains which are linked by a narrow corridor were declared a National Park in 1978, and now much of the 18,000 hectares has been recommended by the Land Conservation Council as a wilderness region.

The vegetation here is of great interest, and several rare and endangered plants occur on the rocky slopes of Pine Mountain. On the foothills of Mt. Burrowa the vegetation is not unlike that of Warrandyte with communities of Red Stringybark, Long-leaved Box, Sweet Bursaria and Borgan. The Candlebarks, however, that grow in the deeper soils have pure white trunks, all dangling bark has been shed and these trees look more like the Ghost Gums of the Interior than the Candlebarks of Warrandyte.

In other places the vegetation is totally different with large stands of Black Cypress-pines and scattered Kurrajongs. The Kurrajong is a handsome tree, but with its dense crown of dark green, shiny leaves would appear to be more at home in a rainforest than on these dry rocky slopes.

Just west of Burrowa-Pine Mountain is Mt. Lawson, a recently declared State Park. There are contrasts here too: the Park is surrounded on all sides by farmland and pine plantations criss-crossed by numerous forestry tracks, but the mountain with its steep gorges and granite-bouldered peaks is undeveloped and has limited access with only a few rough vehicle tracks.

There are a number of places to camp in the region including one or two small campsites with basic facilities along the eastern margin of Burrowa. We chose to camp in a reserve just east of the small town of Walwa, beside the Upper Murray River in the towering shadow of Pine Mountain. The river here is still in its infancy, having only just begun its 2,600 kilometre journey to the sea. Downstream this free fast-flowing river is constrained by the Hume dam and its clear water tainted by the sewage towns of Albury and Wodonga. In the other direction it is a different scene: the skyline is dominated by the brooding ranges of the Snowy Mountains. Somewhere in those cloud-hung mountains, amongst the sphagnum bogs and boulders is the birthplace of this once great Australian river.

Andrew Brookes writing about the Australian Alps in the magazine 'Wild' said: "It seems the wild places are easier to get to, but harder to find".





# Fascinating facts from Flora

THE SCOTTISH CONNECTION

BACK ON THE TRACK WITH LILIES & A BAD SMELL

Brunonia australis ... Blue Pincushion

Named after Robert Brown, a latinized form from brunonis, 'of brown'. Probably the most famous name of all British botanists who described the Australian flora. Robert Brown was born in Montrose, Scotland in 1773 and died in London in 1858. He was therefore a contemporary of the ill-fated F.W. Seiber. Brown was the botanist with Flinders on the 'Investigator'. He made huge collections, and also had time to be Sir Joseph Banks' librarian. He is honoured also by numerous other Australian plants with the specific epithet brownii and browniana.

australis = southern

Arthropodium milleflorum ... Pale Vanilla Lily

You have just got used to the fact that the River Bottlebrush is now Callistemon sieberi. Now you are asked to remember that the Chocolate Lily, formerly Dichopogon strictus, is now Arthropodium strictum, which puts it in the same genus as the Pale Vanilla Lily, Arthropodium milleflorum.

Arthropodium is derived from the Greek arthron, joint (as is arthritis) and podos, foot, referring to the jointed flower stalks.

milleflorum = thousand flowers.

Dichondra repens ... Kidney-weed

The common name obviously comes from the reniform (kidney-shaped) leaves. but the scientific name is a little harder to see because it involves carpels, the microscopic female reproductive organs of the plant.

Greek di, two. chondros a grain ... because of the double carpels.

Coprosma quadrifida ... Prickly Currant-bush

Greek kopros, dung  
osme, smell .... alluding to the fetid smell of many species when bruised.

Those who cultivate the N.Z. relative Coprosma lucida (Mirror Bush or Shiny Coprosma) are, I suspect, blissfully unaware of this fascinating fact.

quadrifida = cleft halfway into four segments. But just exactly what it is that is thus divided I am not too sure of. Could there possibly be four carpels?

Please let me know if you can shed some light for 'Fascinating Facts'

## PARKCARE TIMETABLE.

9th May...Fourth Hill/ Andersons Creek.  
17th May...Stoney Creek..Walk led by Mark Gardner.  
19th May...Fourth Hill/ Whipstick Gully  
Coming up.....Goat Track meeting  
Hutchinson Lane

## SPOTLIGHT WALKS.....JOIN ME.

All Parkcare areas will be having Spotlight Walks. Letterbox drops will advertise these to the various community groups. Several more offshoot revegetation groups are emerging as we show the value to people who attend Walk and Talks etc.

## COMMUNITY CENTRE GET TOGETHER.

Please note June 10th on your calendars. That night at the Community Centre Yarra Street I will be having a community meeting for us all to get together and swap experiences, ideas, and suggestions to make Parkcare the Warrandytian thing to be involved in.

See you at your next meeting

Fay

Fay Valcanis  
Parkcare Officer.

**PARKCARE**





# Butterfly Droppings



Our trip to Kinglake involved making a new track at the top of a rain-forest slope for access to the newly-sited parking and B.B.Q. area, for which they have a grant. It was pointed out by the F.O.L. & K. that the Musk Daisy Bush-*Argemone* quickly colonizes clearings in the rain-forest. There were large trees in the area - notably Mountain Grey Gum-*Euc. cypellocarpa*.

After a delicious B.B.Q. lunch we were bussed along steep roads full of potholes to visit other places of interest. The Wombelano Falls were a typical beautiful spot. Then the twisted branches of the *Hakea* forest produced an almost primeval effect. On 26th. April our track maintenance chain-gangs set to with a will and greatly improved the walking track along Jumping Creek. Another party did some planting around Sandy Bay. .... Both were very different terrain to lush Kinglake.

Next Night out at the Mechanics Institute Hall..... "AWAY" directed by Doug McManus.  
Late June - Early July. More specific news next Newsletter. Enquiries Shirley Mandemaker.



AT WORK IN THE DIRECT SEEDING AREA OF THE ORCHARD.....David Van Bockel, Ian Burke and Ben Gotlib enjoying a morning working hard (?) at keeping weed encroachment at bay. The direct seeding has been a successful and VERY interesting experiment. Alison Thom is also working hard....to involved to be distracted. We are planning to do much more this year and invite those who are interested in helping to come along each Thursday 10am.

Joan MacMahon sent this to the Editor. It is a dedication at the beginning of Bill Molyneux book "Bush Journeys".  
(It is not clear who wrote it.)

Abide quietly with it,  
and the land will share with you  
the secrets of its rhythm.

Care not for it,  
but only for what you may take from it,  
and the rhythm will  
will falter and die





# 'Fossicking Ross & Percy Poss'

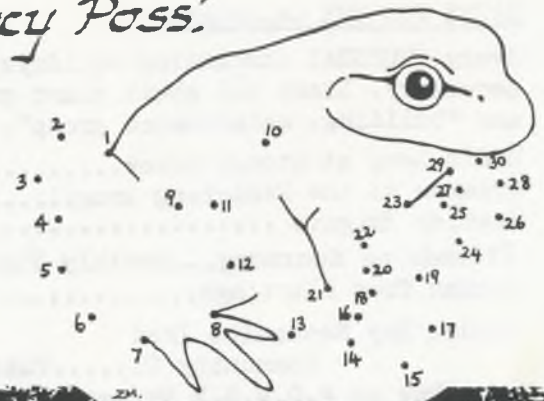
A nice surprise was in my letterbox this month.  
I would love to hear from any of you Fowspianmites,  
or frogs, or any of our readers. Thankyou Pinky.

## SWAMP SONG

THE FROG WITH THE SWEETEST SONG.  
THAT WILL SING OUT LOVELY AND LONG,  
BUT ONLY WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT,  
WE WILL NEVER KNOW.

by Pinky Pobblebonk  
100 Lollipop Swamp  
MUDVILLE.....

Put Pinky Pobblebonk in  
this Billabong. Draw some  
other creatures who would  
share her home.



Can you spot the Tiger-snake  
Jan photographed? Draw a  
picture of a snake you  
have seen. You can copy  
a picture from a book.



Ross and Percy would love to hear from any of the Fowspianmites with a story or a picture  
puzzle, joke or game to share with us all. Write to them care of P.O. Box 220 Warrandyte 3113

MEMBERSHIP...RENEWAL(OR NEW MEMBERS WISHING TO JOIN.)

SEND WITH CHEQUE TO P.O.Box 220,  
WARRANDYTE  
Vic. 3113.

Details of Members

Names (all of family + ages of children).....

Any special interests?

Address.....Family Subscription/

Single \$10.00

Telephone No.....

Any suggestions.....Donation.....

FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK INCORPORATED



## DATES FOR THE CALENDAR.

Every THURSDAY (including holidays) 10am. at the Nursery. Bring lunch-all welcome- no experience necessary. Learn all about plant propagation/running an Indigenous Nursery. Also paper-making, and "building, maintenance group".

Gad's Gang at Stoney Creek.....Second Sundays 9.30am. 844 3799  
 Friends of the Wandering Brogil.....Every Saturday 9am 844 2638  
 Bradley Brigade .....to be announced 844 2659  
 Friends of Koornung...monthly First Wednesdays 10am.....844 1841  
 Autumn Tree Plantings.....Weekly-Thursdays

Garden Day Mechanics Inst

Community C.....Tues.1.30....MAY 26th.  
 Open Day at F.O.W.S.P.Nursery..Sun.1.00....MAY 31st.  
 Market Stall..Stiggants.....Sat.9-12.30.JUNE 6th.  
 World Env. Day Paddles Res.....Sat. 2-5....JUNE 6th.  
 Parkcare Meeting Community Cen.Tues..8pm....JUNE 10th.



The Friends float was quite crowded with Fowspians and the Yarra Yarra Dancers as it made its way past the old Op Shop building in Yarra St.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Margaret Burke.....Co-ordinator 844 1060  
 Margaret Burke.....Editor..... 844 1060  
 Gay Harris.....Secretary.... 844 1448  
 Alice Watson.....Treasurer.... 844 2557  
 Pat Cowpar..Propagn.Publication. 844 1650  
 Judy Nicholson....Asst. Secretary. 844 1590  
 Gail Roche.....Crafts Festival.. 722 1926  
 Olive Walters...Propagn.Nursery. 846 4729  
 Mark Gardner.....Groups Advisor 844 3799  
 Joy Hildebrand..... 844 2638  
 Shirley Mandemaker.Social Sec... 844 1895  
 Cathy Willis.....844 1841



P.O. Box 220, Warrandyte



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 PUBLICATION No.VEH 90 6982  
 If undeliverable return to  
 Friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc.  
 P.O. Box 220,  
 WARRANDYTE 3113.

SURFACE  
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POSTAGE  
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*Dichondra repens*