


FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK *Inc.* NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 1992



Editorial

In this modern and complex society we are told that our citizens have available to them unprecedented access to information and knowledge. This it is suggested is provided by government departments, newspapers, libraries, radio and T.V. We have FAX's mobile telephones, toll free calls and satellites that provide instant communication. Computer links allow access to volumes of information. A new word has appeared to describe all this- Infoglut.

Yet it is not all that it seems. If we try to obtain information from government departments under FOI it is at once apparent that many topics are not available to the general public. They are 'classified information'. Others are only able in an edited form. Any lengthy documents take the 'free' out of freedom as they attract considerable charges.

An important area where information is severely restricted is the area of science and technology. This is important for its impact on the environment. Two of the leading U.S. scientists today were some years ago actively protesting against U.S. companies producing napalm, defoliants, and tear gas being used in the Vietnam War. One of them became a Nobel prize winner. But today they both own their own biotechnology companies and will not even comment on environmental issues. Many university scientists refuse to give opinions or advice in their special fields fearing loss of grants from industrial companies.

Another area where the environment is concerned involves the activity of the military who employ a large number of scientists. Practically no information is available as it is seen as a threat to national security. We hear nothing about Pine Gap or the North west submarine/satellite installation.

We have limited information about other problems with the potential to have a disastrous effect on the environment. The planning of a new nuclear reactor in or close to a heavily populated area of Sydney has barely been discussed in the media. Nor have we any information about the disposal of current radioactive waste. All we have heard is the problem as it exists in other countries.

Well known environmental activist Helen Caldicott during her election campaign frequently mentioned that she believed that the general public received far too little information concerning important issues including the environment. Perhaps we need to change from an isolationist approach where we discuss all issues as separate simple events with Yes/No answers (Newspapers specialise in poll type surveys). We need to teach children how to access information and how to discard useless data as presented on radio and television. Everyone needs to access primary information and examine it as would a scientist.

"More lives are blasted by secrecy than frankness - aye a thousand times."

"Verily in the midst of life we are in debt."

"The Divine Economy is automatic and very simple: We receive only that which we give."

Olearia lirata

Koala Count '92

Elbert Hubbard (1856-1915)

Well this month we are back to counting our Koala Population once again. What will we see the result to be this year....numbers up, down, stable....come and help us with this most enjoyable regular task. This is of course the biggest annual survey this being the time we see the back young easily visible, therefore this survey gives us very accurate ideas of the true population. As we have been doing this each October for four years the results will begin to show a regular pattern for Koala statisticians.

So...October 25th(Sunday) at 1.00pm. at Pound Bend we will meet to be organised by Brenda Hunter and Head Ranger Ian Roche. Children make great Koala finders so bring the family. We will be divided into groups with a variety of levels of "Walk Difficulty"

Afternoon tea will be Billy Tea, Damper on sticks and sharing the plate of goodies you bring along. Lots of stories (yarns?) around the fire. Enquiries Brenda 379 7307 or

Park 844 2659.....

We need volunteers to make some delicious "slices and cookies" required for feeding our Open Space 2000 visitors and then for the launch of Pat and Mike's book. If you have a special recipe and are happy to donate your fare please contact Marg, Gay or Judy. For those folk who wish to save the planet's frogs remember....NO FISH in your ponds, plenty of bits of log, rocks and vegetation at the waters edge. We have discovered a few extra talents in our Kym Docwra, a regular attendee...she can type up your contributions for the Newsletter....just ask her very politely! (She is a very busy lass at present of course, as she is helping David and Pat search out orchids for the Parks Photographic Collection.)

Well they have it once more....the prized ROADSIDE VERGE OF THE YEAR award. The Boyle family also treasure this small piece of fabulous habitat. We hope to make a plant list this year. Anyway Kerry or John may call at the Market or better still the nursery to receive their prize plants.

Maggie May feels that competition for next years award will be from a revegetated verge. Hearing that Mary Rudd had had her "nature-strip" absolutely denatured to allow services to be connected to blocks opposite we had contributed a couple of boxes of local grasses (seed from the Boyles winner). Eltham Shire is contributing a load of mulch and Mary is inspired indeed. M-M driving out during a downpour passed by and noted a blue raincoat diligently weeding near the fenceline...driving back a couple of hours later the raincoat turned out to be Mary still at it with a crowd of admirers gazing at her efforts. So watch for news of how its proceeding.

DISASTER FOR ONE OF OUR MEMBERS VAL HIMMELREICH OF SEVILLE (IN THE DANDENONGS) HAS BEEN THE LOSS BY FIRE OF HER HOME-AND OF COURSE ALL OF HER BELONGINGS-BECAUSE WE BELIEVE OF SOME FAULTY WIRING. WHAT CAN WE SAY AT THIS STAGE....VAL IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO? VAL WAS AWAY ATTENDING A GRASSES CONFERENCE AND CAME HOME TO.....DISASTER. MORE LATER.

Friends of the Koornong can finally see the shape of "Periwinkle Mountain" at the Car Park and excavated a "creek" at its foot. The mountain is clothed in old carpet and underlay as an attempt at revegetation proceeds. Each "first Wednesday" quite a crowd gathers to work and a learning walk is held afterwards...then a cuppa. We learned that BONESEED is a more recent weed to be found in the Koornong area. We endeavoured to pull it but some is on private land which presents a problem. If you are interested Phone Cathy Willis 844 1841.

Well what can we say about when the big RIVER CLEAN UP CANOE TRIP will take place? When the river is its present raging torrent we are not prepared to risk our valuable members. You know we have plans for you for years and years to come and some of you may never be seen again if we risk your lovely selves...anyway most of those old thongs and dead stubbies require diving equipment to collect at present...SO BE PATIENT. MORE LATER.

Nursery Procedures will be the subject of a workshop at the Thursday morning session on 22nd Nov. Just a brush up for regulars and if you are new you will see "how, what and why" of our propagation techniques. So think up lots of queries, put yourself in a workshop mode and dont miss it. Pat, Cathy and Marg will run the session.

We are still asking you to look out old wool carpet, jute underlay, granulated plastic and polystyrene beads. Now we also need materials for our Frogland Boardwalk and the renovation of the Nursery. ALL YOU FOWSPIANS WITH RENOVATING SKILLS COME ANY THURSDAY.

We are currently having a raffle to raise funds for a heater/blower for installation into the big Winter Polyhouse the S.E.C. is providing funds for. First prize...An Alison Thom Teapot, milk jug and sugar bowl. Second...Two bottles of Kellybrook Wine. Third....A Fowspian Lily collection. Tickets 50c or 5 for \$2.00.

The Nursery renovations have begun....well almost begun. Planning is being finalised, material ordered, new benches for the work area will arrive in a month, the drainage has already tamed the quagmire and we hope the old poly-houses will be unrecognisable when remodelled and joined by our big friend from the S.E.C. Lots of building works for those members returning from the warmer climates they have been holidaying in. SO.... if you like rebuilding dear old Nurseries....let Ian, Alec, Jim and Co hear from you.... Thursday afternoon walks have been Orchid search, mark, identify and survey missions. Lots of interesting information for David V-B. and Pat C. to process. We will soon begin the 'heavy' seed collection time and walks are popular learning experiences.

'Bobby' Laidler was quick to respond to her letter being published. She sent the report of the Ironbark Workshop which was in the St. Arnaud press along with the photo she took of the tallest Ironbark in the world! All on the notice-board in the folly.

Talk about notice-boards...Maggie was whinging about lack of such at the Frog Freak B.B.Q. to John Hanson. A week and a school garage sale later and John had found and donated the necessary materials to we Fowspians....Many thanks John as sticky tape and Blu-tac just didn't do the job.

Lots for all who visit the Nursery to do at present. When you arrive look for the Work Sheet or Schedule near the work area. A wide variety of tasks and experiments await our workers!

Pat's Page

Orchids and frogs have kept me so busy that I haven't had time for reflections this month. Instead here is a quick quiz. The answers will be hidden by Margaret somewhere in this newsletter.

PLANTS

- 1) What is the lily often referred to as the 'Harbinger of Spring'.
Common or scientific name. (2 POINTS).
- 2) What is a phyllode. (1 POINT). *Acacia non-leaf-modified stem?*
- 3) Name (common or scientific) the nine major eucalypt species that occur in W.S.P. (9 POINTS). *Red, yellow, bundy, tot, macartneyana, rimingalis, radiata, geistlerii, canaliculata, messmate.*
- 4) Mistletoes will only grow on eucalypt trees. True or false. (1 POINT).
- 5) To which group of flowering plants do orchids, lilies and grasses belong. (1 POINT). *monocots*

WEEDS

- 1) Which is the odd one out. Cedar Wattle, Cootamundra Wattle and Myrtle Wattle. (1 POINT).
- 2) Which invasive weed of W.S.P has shiny green leaves, creamy-white flowers, orange berries and is indigenous to eastern Victoria. (1 POINT)
- 3) What is the scientific name for Early Black Wattle and where does it originate. (2 POINTS).

FROGS

- 1) The Banjo (Pobblebonk) frog has suction pads on its fingers and toes that enable it to climb trees. True or false. (1 POINT).
- 2) What does the name 'Limnodynastes' literally mean. (2 POINTS).
- 3) Name (common or scientific) the most commonly heard frog calling during the day in W.S.P. Clue: These frogs have been found in 'amplexus'.
An extra (5 POINTS) if you know what 'amplexus' means. (It is not a remote area of W.S.P.) *Common Brown Froglet. Male - latching female as he fertilises her eggs.*

OTHER ANIMALS

- 1) Name the largest kingfisher in W.S.P. (1 POINT). *Kookaburra*
- 2) Which is the odd one out and why. Platypus, Wombat and Echidna. (1 POINT)
- 3) What is the unusual relationship between ants and the caterpillars of some species of butterfly (eg Common Imperial Blue & Eltham Copper). (2 POINTS). *Ants - seen to guard larvae - actually attracted by sweet substance(?)*

WHO AM I ?

I am of medium height, weight and age. I am a member of FOWSP and often spend thursdays at the nursery offering my assistance, advice and sometimes stirring others with my comments (in the nicest possible way). I shaved off my beard a while ago, but quickly grew another one. With notebook in hand I am frequently heard to enquire "Do you mind if I ask a personal question?"

TOTAL POINTS 32

Answers over leaf....but don't cheat!

Ban.
Olearia lirata

SEPTEMBER FROG FREAK SUNDAY



Well....are you a FROG FREAK....? Those Fowspians who attended the Sunday Family Day on September 27th. were able to expand their horizons in leaps and bounds indeed. Pat and Mike Coupar provided a sound and light programme which was to enable the Fowspians along to absorb so very much information. Ranger Steve Anderson has been a Frog Freak for many years and the three workshop leaders INSPIRED their audience. We may often use superlatives but every one could be used for this wonderful learning experience. Mike pronounced many of us to have gained diplomas, degrees even doctorates....and we enjoyed the jokes..BUT he pointed out it really is possible that the ordinary very interested Frog Freak may be as expert on these little studied, very vulnerable creatures who perhaps are indicating by their disappearance the state of health of our planet, as The Experts. INSPIRED the Coupar/Anderson Frog Freaks are and all of a sudden calls are recognised, proper names used and true concern and understanding for the value of Frogland and other Park wetland projects. The day began with a talk, related to the array of visual aids, books, posters and living examples. Use of Steve and Alistair Traill's tapes and sound equipment showed us the variety of calls among what seems at times a confusing cacophony. Also at this point we realised the importance of learning the calls for identification of species. Next a long caravan of vehicles toured the Parks Wetlands and excitement mounted as we found quite a variety of specimens...eggs, tadpoles, frogs and much of the cacophony truly began to become recognisable as species indicators...WOW!...Lords of the Marsh were all around....Back at the Folly we put all our learning to that point to the passing of the fascinating slide, sound and mystery clues experience Mike skillfully led us through. Well those who attended are all talking about home Frogponds, are purchasing "Frogwatch" books and tapes and have begun filling in the survey sheets(available at the office). We have all gone Frog-bonkers. Those who missed out...Well I've asked for a repeat next year.

~ On Professor's Hill.

David Cameron

Professors Hill weeding morning was a great success with sixteen adult weeders plus little Chris. Many bags of weeds were pulled including much onion weed from the lightly infested areas adjoining the track. A huge pile of woody weeds was piled up for Mark Gardner to organise for collection. Over a quite marvellous morning tea which Shirley and Joy organised David gave us a chat about his view of those weeds from highest priority removal back to least problem. Our old friend Cape or Montpellier Broom received the Number One Enemy award. We plan a woody weed walk one Thursday afternoon later on. David Cameron was delighted with the morning and thanked all of those (all Fowspians save one!) who helped.

David showed me a copy of a book which he has spent a great deal of time contributing to and I felt many Fowspians may be interested in purchasing for their libraries. Details I include here.

Monash Publications in Geography Number 41.

"Victoria's Rainforests:

Perspectives on Definition, Classification and Management."

Edited by Peter Gell and David Mercer.

Proceedings of the Victorian Rainforest Symposium held at the McCoy Hall, State Museum of Victoria, 17th. November 1991.

-available from Monash Department of Geography and Environmental Science OR from David Cameron (phone 437 1918)

Volume includes contributions by David Cameron and David Bellamy.

The next meeting of the Professors Hill Mob will be in Autumn next year for the planting of several threatened or extinct riparian plants.(in the gully at the foot of P.H.) Watch the Newsletter in about April.

1) False. It is a burrowing frog.	1) Nettle Nettle. It is indigenous to Wandandye, the others are weeds.
2) Lord of the Marsh.	2) Sweet Pittosporum
3) Common Eastern Froglet (Ranidella signifera). Amphibian is the name given to the mating position of frogs.	3) Acaia decurrens. Indigenous to NSW around Sydney.
OTHER ANIMALS	
1) The koobucra.	4) False. In Wandandye mistletoes also grow on wattles, in other areas they can be found on sheoaks.
2) Numbat. It is not a monotreme (an animal that lays eggs and suckles its young).	5) The monocorydon.
3) It is a mutually beneficial relationship. The ant provides the caterpillar with protection from predators and in return receives a sugary secretion from glands on the caterpillar's body.	
WHO AM I?	
The mystery reporter (B.C.)	

THE ANSWERS

PLANTS



FLYING COLOURS

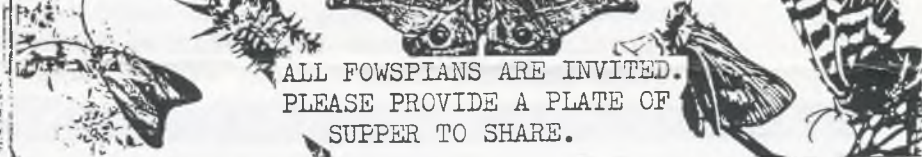
Common caterpillars, butterflies and



We're very proud of Pat and Mike Coupar whose first book Flying Colours has just been released. To celebrate, a book launch will be held on Friday evening 30 October at 7.30pm at the Community Centre foyer in Yarra Street. Drinks will be served followed by an introduction by Dr Tim New from the Zoology Department at La Trobe University, whose speciality is butterflies. After a response from the Coupars, supper will follow. For those members who haven't yet seen the advance copy, this delightful book follows the metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly or moth. A hardcover book with beautiful colour illustrations it is an essential companion for collectors and amateur naturalists, listing common species with a wealth of identification details. Books can be ordered on the night. RSVP - Gay Harris, 8441448



ALL FOWSPIANS ARE INVITED.
PLEASE PROVIDE A PLATE OF
SUPPER TO SHARE.



DEBBY'S NEST BOX NEWS

The nest box program is no longer 'New News' to the Fowspian members.....But the exciting NEW NEWS is that strange appendages have now started to appear in the trees around the Folly and at the bottom of the old Orchard area, near the river.

SO WHAT ARE THE AIMS OF THIS PROJECT OF OURS.....???

- * 1. To increase habitat for indigenous birds and animals, especially in the areas which need more shelter, such as young forest areas that have not had the chance for the trees to naturally form suitable hollows.
- * 2. To supply breeding areas for our indigenous birds and animals.

To date the Friends have constructed a total of 20 different nest boxes. These are to increase housing for species in the areas near-by...pardalotes, possums (both large and small), rosellas, and owlet-nightjars. Next on the list to be constructed include bat boxes, antichinus and brush-tailed phascogale. (Tuan) boxes.

Many people have been very willing, even eager, to give advice and suggestions, and if it were not for them the nest box program would not be up and running. So thanks must be given to the Lions Club who donated the \$200 to start the project. Also to Steve Anderson and David Van Bockel (W.S.P. rangers) Patrick Fricker (Yarra Valley Met Park Senior Ranger) Neal Tessier and Ken MacMahon (F.O.W.S.P.) Not to be forgotten of course, are the many Fowspian members who worked so hard to actually build all those boxes.

Now I am calling on all of the Fowspian members who would like to have a part in this exciting project as it continues. Please watch for advertised dates for further Construction activities plus the interesting task of putting the boxes into place. We will also have monitoring sessions to measure the 'ins and outs' (and to remove unwanted lodgers!) and to survey successes and requirements for the future.

SEE YOU SOON.....P.S. We are still after any scrap wood, materials, or hollow logs for that matter!



THESE BATS WERE TRAPPED DURING BAT SURVEYS...DO THEY NEED A BOX?



Butterfly Droppings



WARRANDYTE

There are a number of interesting courses being held in the Community Centre, such as Yoga, Massage, Craft and Personal Development. Information may be obtained from the Neighbourhood House.

Drop in between 10am and 2pm Mon-Thurs or phone 844 1839

W.M.I.A.&A.Inc. invite you all to the 37th. Annual Exhibition of Art, Craft, Pottery and Painting at the Mechanics Institute Hall. The opening evening includes drinks, nibbles as well as a splendid array of exhibits...8.15pm. Also open on Sat - 10am till 5.30pm, Sun. 11am. till 5.30pm.

If you are interested in trying Pottery Marj Beecham has vacancies in the Pottery Workshops each Tuesday and Wednesday. Phone her with enquiries 844 3206.

DONCASTER

I am wondering if anyone is interested in Ballroom Dancing on Thursday evenings (12th November, 10th December) at the Athenaeum Hall near Church Rd. It starts at 8pm., the "Metronome Dance Band" supplies the music and it supports Templestowe Palliative Care Inc. Enquiries could come to me Shirley Mandemaker 844 1895 - perhaps we could try a few steps together after our day at the Nursery (OR WORK!)

Friends of Warrandyte State Park invite you to a fantastic, marvellous, wonderful, fun evening.....OUR BUSH DANCE! It will be on November 20th in the Warrandyte Community Centre Hall. Our own absolutely unparalleled HILDEBRAND BUSH BAND...with guest fiddler O'LEARY. So if you have enjoyed any of our previous musical treats DON'T MISS THIS!

ADMISSION will be \$5.00 Adults, \$2.00 Children or \$12.00 a Family - Tickets at the Door. SUPPER.....Bring a plate of something lovely to share....Tea and Coffee available

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR THE BEST COLONIAL COSTUMES. Enquiries Joy Hildebrand 844 2638.

We hope all the other groups in town come and share a "Friendly" evening with us so tell all your friends and neighbours.



Hello!

Local Bushland,
Warrandyte, Wonga Park Areas

Even though we live in your backyard you have probably never seen us. We often appear as cover photos in books and brochures and as "cuties" on nature programs. BUT we need your help. We don't need money - we need trees, OLD trees where we can build our nests. Even DEAD trees will do. We are small and don't need big hollows.

We need lots of trees because we like to glide from one tree to the next without touching the ground where life can be very dangerous for us. In the summer we eat lots of insects and so keep the trees around us healthier. In the winter, when insects are hard to find we eat wattle (acacia)resins as well. Like the Imperial Blue butterflies we like the Black Wattles the best. We like the nectar from Eucalypt blossoms when we find them (and any other sweet foods which is why we are called Sugar Gliders!)

We don't always stay in the same nest tree - we have several hollows so we can move around a bit. We line nests with green gum leaves. Sometimes you may see a leaf or two sticking out of a small hollow - this may well be one of our homes.

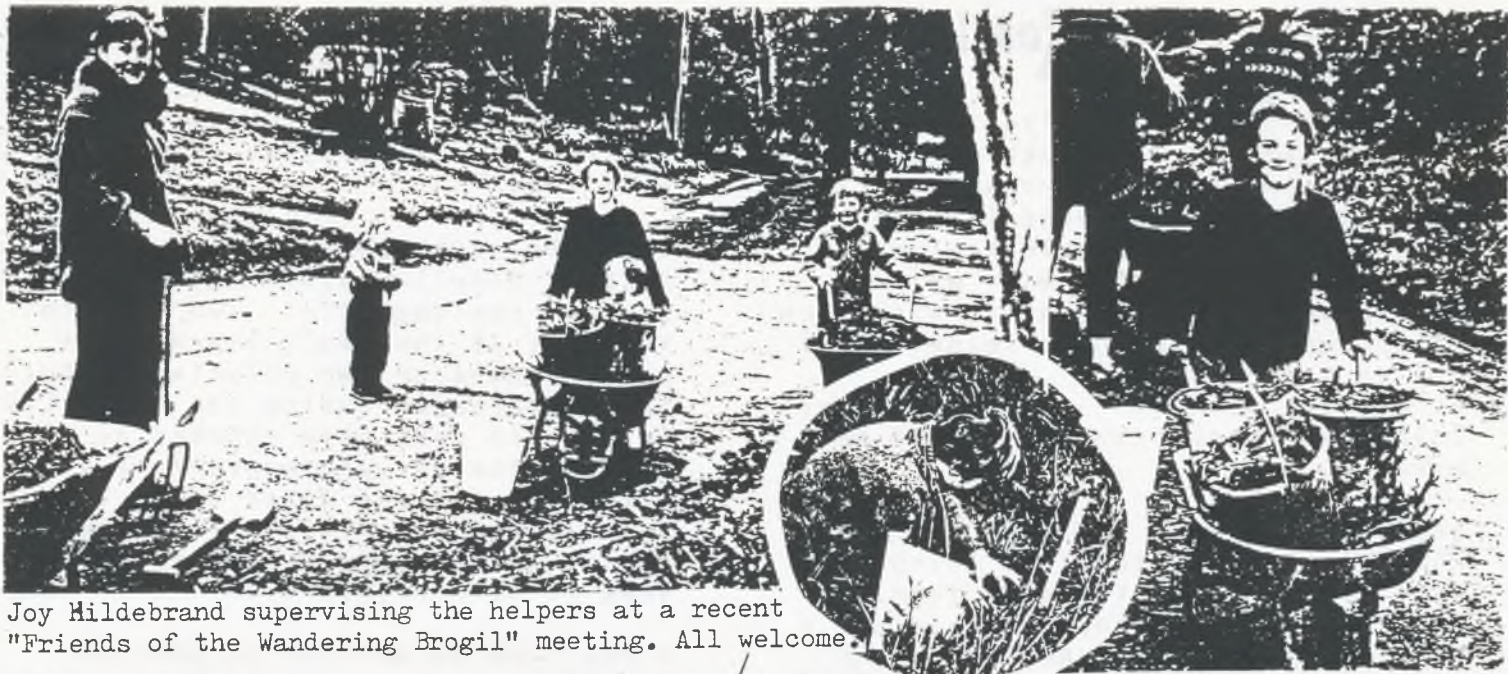
Some human friends have noticed our nests. They bring their friends by to sit quietly and watch us come and go at night. They like to watch us glide from tree to tree. (We don't mind that audience!) Those humans are planting more indigenous eucalypts and acacias for us and others of our bushland friends.

PLEASE DON'T CUT DOWN ANY MORE OF OUR TREES!

FROM

Sugar Gliders everywhere.





Joy Hildebrand supervising the helpers at a recent "Friends of the Wandering Brogil" meeting. All welcome.

Fascinating facts from Flora

A LITTLE JOY, A LITTLE GLUME



Danthonia spp ... Wallaby Grasses

After Etienne Danthoine, French botanist, of Marseilles.

Microlaena stipoides ... Weeping Grass

Greek, mikros, small. The name of this widespread grass refers to the minute glumes, 1mm long and means small cloak. A charmingly poetic touch. Glumes are the empty bracts at the base of a grass spikelet. stipoides means like a Stipa (Spear Grass)

Poa spp ... Tussock Grasses

The Greek for grass is poa.

Stipa spp ... Spear-grasses

From a Greek word for the course part of Flax. (Gk stupe, oakum or hemp) Alludes to the use of Stipa tenacissima (Esparto Grass, of southern Europe) grown for its fibre used in paper making.

Themeda triandra ... Kangaroo Grass

Formerly known as T. australis, now recognized as the same species as the African and Asian T. triandra.

From an Arabic root, themed, depressions where water lies after rain and dries up in summer. Refers to the habitat of this grass.

Greek treis (Latin tri) = three.

andros, man or male (Greek)

May refer to the composition of the spikelets.

And finally a special request from Joy.

Alternanthera denticulata ... Lesser Joy Weed

From Latin alternans = alternating

anthera = anther ... referring to the fact that filaments without anthers often alternate with fertile stamens. Often there are only 2 or 3 filaments with anthers. A stamen = a filament + an anther. The anther contains the pollen.

As for the common name Joy, I haven't been able to find out its origin. But I do know that at certain times of the year the leaves are a pretty red colour. So we are at liberty to draw our own conclusions.

Are there Greater Joyweeds? No, but there is a Common Joy Weed.

Which Grass is which?

Rosella Diary

September 17th. 1991.

A pair of Eastern Rosellas examined our ceiling space through an east facing hole under the verandah. The distance from the ground is about three metres. . . . male kept watch from nearby telephone wire while female went inside. Contact with each other was by a two note chime (Major 6th in Key of F) After five minutes - male joined her inside and parrot murmurs could be heard.

September 25th.

Male Rosella calling from telephone wire - same two note call. Female flew out from nest and both joined a small flock in trees nearby. Other typical rosella calls heard - mostly "Pink pink!"

BY-

October 10th.

Female Rosella spending most of the day in the nest. Male calls her out to feed two or three times during the day. They must return quietly as they were never observed returning.

October 25th.

BABY PARROT MURMURS HEARD IN CEILING!

BY-

November 1st.

Baby noises much louder.

November 15th.

A third Rosella visited ours - escorted away without any aggression. Both male and female now entering nest. Fluttering noises heard in ceiling frequently

November 21st.

Young Rosella in doorway of nest - leaning out and calling and answering parents in nearby trees. Baby seen in doorway while female inside feeding others

BY

November 28th.

No further noises from nest. . . at least two young Rosellas successfully launched

December 3rd. - February 1st 1992

Female rosella seen and heard in nest occasionally. Male usually close by. No further offspring produced. Small flock of 6 - 8 Rosellas seen in area most days

September 20th 1992.

Pair of Rosellas again seen and heard in same nesting site. Too soon to know yet if they will repeat last years behaviour. We reluctantly built in the verandah during the summer but left their nest hole exposed as before. The outside appearance is different and may deter them. They carefully inspected a nesting box we put up in a nearby tree for them but seem to have rejected it.

I can find no mention of Eastern Rosellas using houses as nest sites. They are quite nervous and wary of humans compared to the other parrots around us.

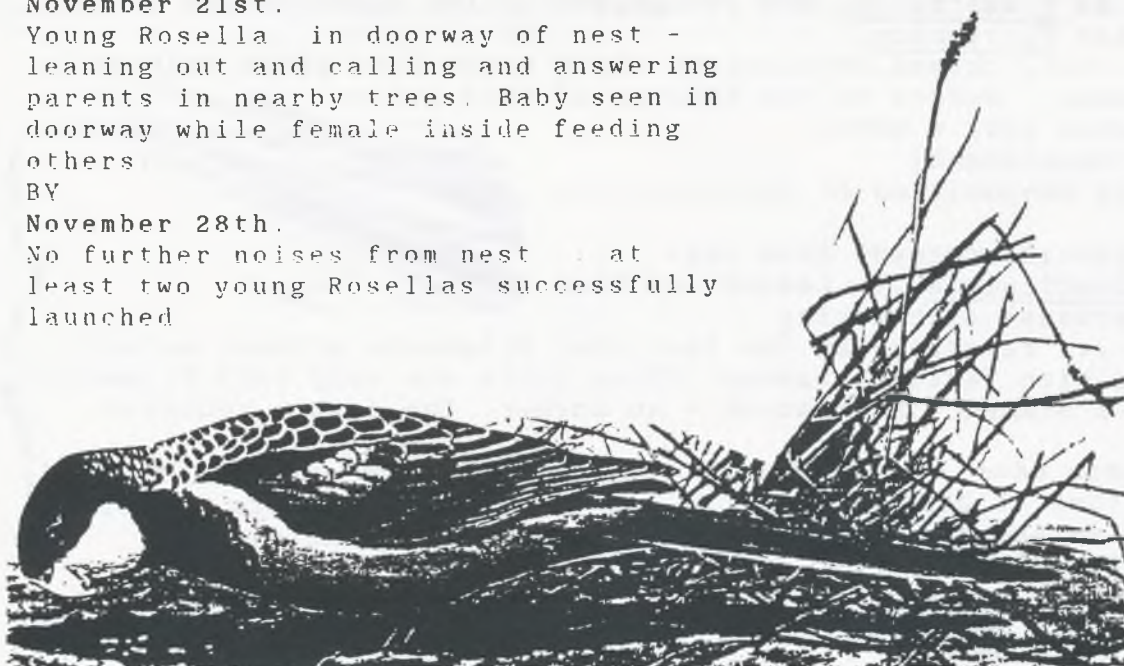
Nesting hollows appear scarce in this area. One large prime site was used by a pair of Boobook Owls last year who solved the problem by evicting a pair of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos and eating their babies!

Footnote.

A pair of Eastern Rosellas inspected a hole in a disused fan casing at Lillydale Shire Offices early in September.

Mike Dixon is providing them with a nesting box and will be anxiously awaiting developments along with the immunization team.

Joy Hildebrand.



There are a number of workshops currently running in Warrandyte, Doncaster and Eltham on bushland areas and how to care for them. Those interested are advised to book in ahead to avoid missing out. Most workshops are free, unless otherwise stated.



From Wattles to Weeds - getting to know the Warrandyte Bushland.

Three workshops aimed at identifying native plants, identifying and controlling environmental weeds and simple bush regeneration.

Oct 22nd to Nov 5th

Thursdays 7-9:30pm

Enquiries: Fay Valcanis, 844 2659

Bookings: Community Centre 844 1839

Cost : FREE

Saving Our Bushland

Environmental seminar which will discuss environmental issues relating to the management of bushland. Presented by The City of Doncaster and Templestowe.

Saturday 24th October

10 am to 4pm.

Enquiries/bookings: Tim Rowe, 8409300

Cost : FREE

Discover Your Environment

Presented by the Shire of Eltham

Oct 25th: Local Orchids and Wildflowers

Nov/Dec : How To Compost Correctly

Dec/Jan : Bats

Feb 7th : Grass Identification

Feb 28th: Seed Collection and Propagation

Mar 21st: Birds and Other Animals

Bookings: Marrienne Henderson,

439 9352 or 430 1145

Cost : FREE

Dandenong Ranges National Park- ParkCare Spring Workshops

Please note workshops are \$5:00 (except nest box construction \$15.00).

Oct 10th : Herbicide Safety and Use for Volunteer Bush Regenerators. 11am-4.30pm FREE

Oct 13th : Plant Identification in Mountain Ash Forest. 1.30pm-4.30pm

Oct 24th : Vegetation Communities on the Western Face. 1.30pm-4.30pm

Nov 1st : Nest Box Construction. 1.30-4.30pm

Nov 15th : Ethics and Practice of Seed Collection. 1.30-4.30pm.

Bookings : 755 2726



Correa reflexa

(Common Correa)

EARLY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE. Will all contributors to the November Newsletter please note that we need to get this copy out early therefore deadline is 1st of November...before Melbourne Cup Day. This will be the final newsletter for 1992 and we like it to be a great issue. NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER ISSUE..NOVEMBER 1st.

MYSTERY REPORTER

Disguised as a garden gnome (Thanks Joy) your mystery reporter was able to return to the fold and interview Graham David Grant, here at Warrandyte State Park as a Priority Victoria, Construction and Maintenance worker, Category A.

When first detected he was seen some weeks ago (ably assisted by Nick) standing in the tray of a 4x4 Navara Nissan Ute after placing excess sandy silt (from Jumping Creek) at the North-West corner of the "Folly". All this was being overseen by Jim.

Graham started here on the 4th of May 1992 and will continue into 1993, ie one year, but he hopes to be here "forever".

Six weeks later (8/10/92) the interview was continued when Graham was tracked down in the workshop, working with Mark G. cutting timber for the viewing platform at Jumping Creek. The platform is intended for disabled persons so they can get a good view of the Yarra River (wheelchair access).

Under intense pressure Graham admitted that:-

-he supported the West Coast Eagles and the Broncos (Rugby League in Queensland)

-sports/hobbies. he claims he has only one "get into the bush whenever I can"

-he was and still is a deer hunter. He's shot 5 in the last 2 years, Victorian Alps. He says there are six species in Australia, Sambar, Hog, Fallow, Rusa, Red, and Chital. None are native. The "Victorian" species is Sambar. The deer do very little damage, they do like spuds.

Graham came to Victoria in 1972, left Queensland due to "wander-lust". Has travelled all the Eastern States. Has a picture of Tiger Quolls taken "on" the Burdekin River, Queensland.

He has worked in Queensland, Victoria, N.S.W., 2 years in New Zealand and a year in New Guinea. He worked in the Building Trades, has been a kangaroo shooter for a while, "I got sick of killing joeys so I gave it away, I couldn't hack that"; worked in shearing sheds, and been an undertaker's assistant at Cloncurry.

Graham was born in Townsville, 28/5/44, went to Hermit Park Primary then Townsville High School and Technical College, (he won an RSL bursary in primary school). After obtaining his Junior Certificate he did an apprenticeship (carpentry) with Jack Harvey & Sons, then Collin Dawes (in Cloncurry). When he finished he went "'roo shooting, couldn't wait to make the big adventure".

Favourite Food:- venison, tastes like lean beef, no fat

Favourite Drink:- used to like Hore-Hound Beer but now

likes home-brewed beer-Coopers Lager.

Favourite T.V. Show:- "Bush Tucker Man"

Favourite Film Star/Actor:- "Bush Tucker Man"

What "pips" you?:- "listening to Victorian's bleat

about the weather"

Enjoys Reading:- "If I'm camping and got nothing to do

I'll read the jam labels".

Graham has been seen to "roll his own" -Drum Mild. An unnamed source commented that "Graham is a

perfectionist, gets on well with everyone, a good tongue-wager, and a story teller.

Pets at home (Blackburn North) are a poodle and a red heeler.

Graham wears glasses and had broken ribs once (claims he was kicked by a rabbit). He wears a beard and moustasche (someone claimed that he is balding!) Married to Carol, Graham has two children, Timothy- very good with his hands and designing things, and Megan (who was Dux of Form Seven last year); both are at Blackburn Tech.

On Graham's last holiday he went to see his folks in Queensland, he drives a white MAZDA E1800 van, when camping he uses a "swag" tent.

Question:- What do you think of the Park etc.?

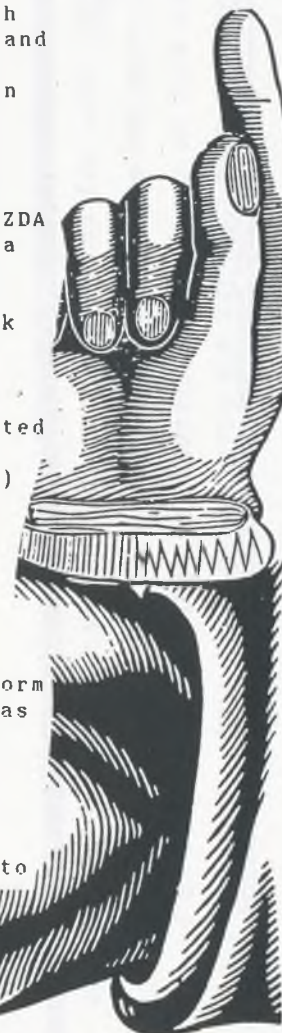
Answer:- "This joint is so (expletive removed) good,

people are interested in what they are doing.

It (and the people) are a wealth of

information, eg, advice on which are the best books for bird-watching.

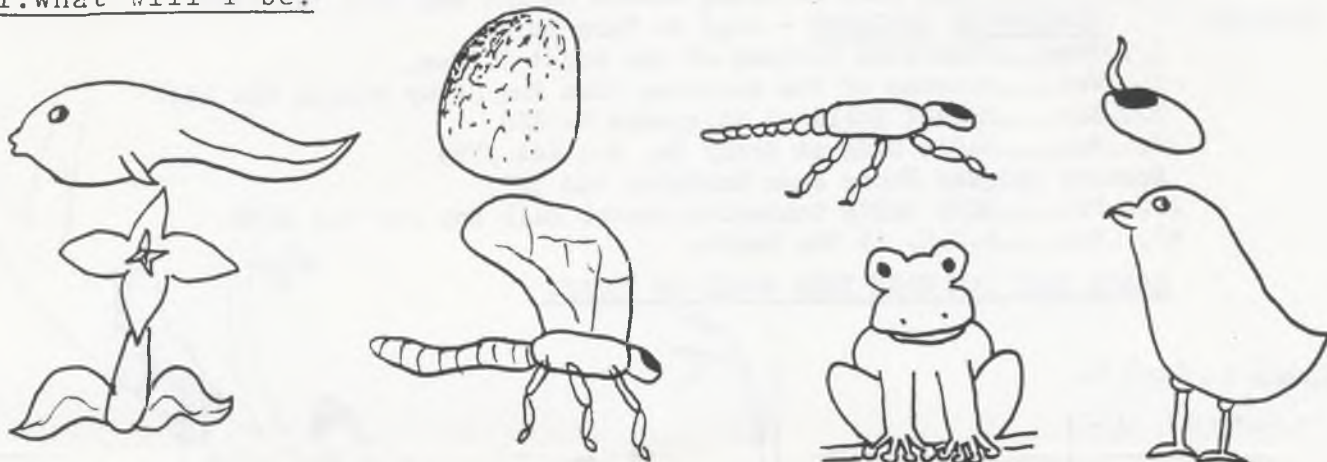
And so as the rain set in, Graham continued with the "platform preparation" and the interview was ended (except for the viewing of his photographs of his family, camping, home, and places he'd helped build). Sated with information your mystery reporter retreated to hide.



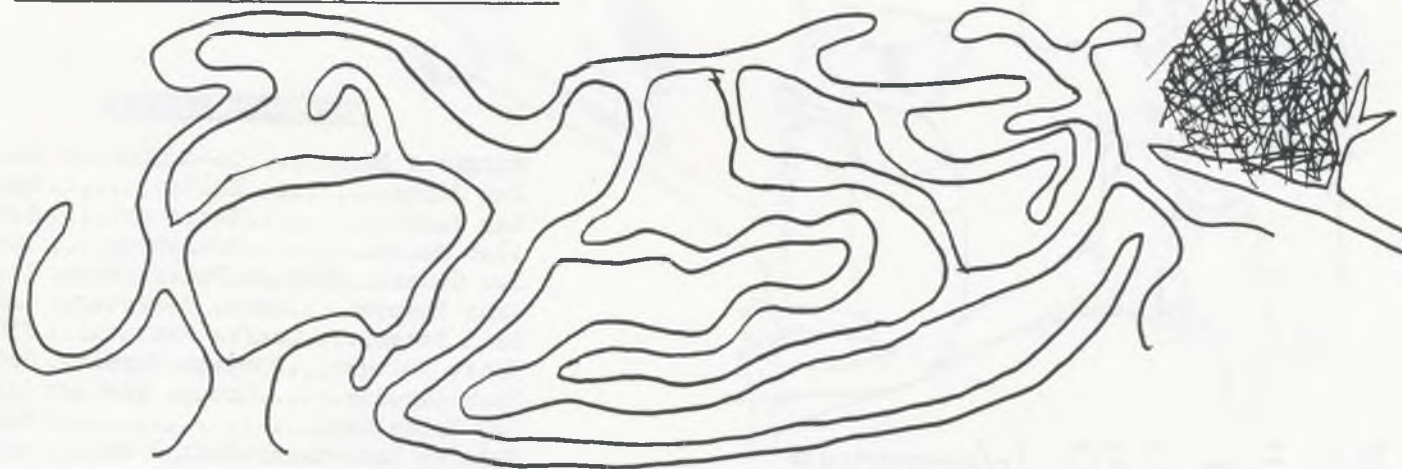
'Fossicking Ross & Percy Pass'

PUZZLE PAGE

1. What will I be.



2. Help Peter the possum home.



3. Food chain.

(The first one is done for you.)

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|--------|
| 1. Grass | Cow | man. |
| 2. Insects | S__d__ | Bird. |
| 3. Plant | Ant | _ch__a |
| 4. Tadpole | _i__ | Heron. |
| 5. _n__l | Lizard | Dog. |
| 6. Leaf | C__p__l__ | Bird. |

3. 1.-, 2. Spider, 3. Echidna, 4. Fish, 5. Snail, 6. Caterpillar.

Answers: 1. Tadpole-Frog, Egg-Chicken, Nudie-Dragonfly, Seed Flower.

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 INC.

Every Thursday.....Nursery Activities am. Walk pm.
 Every Saturday.....Friends of the Wandering Brogil. Enq Joy 844 2638
 October 22...Thurs. 10am Nursery Workshop.

25...Sun.... 1pm KOALA COUNT

27...Tues....O.S.A.C. visit

30...Fri....Launch of "Flying Colours"

31...Sat....Wonga Park Shopping Centre Market Enq Gail 722 1926

November 1 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - Copy to Marg Burke.

3...Tues....Committee Meeting at the Depot 7.30pm.

4...Wed....Friends of the Koornong 10am Enq Cathy Willis 844 1841

7...Sat....Market Stall at Stiggants 9-1230

8...Sun....Gad's Gang at Stony Ck. Enq 844 3799

Bradley Brigade Phone Joan MacMahon 844 3213

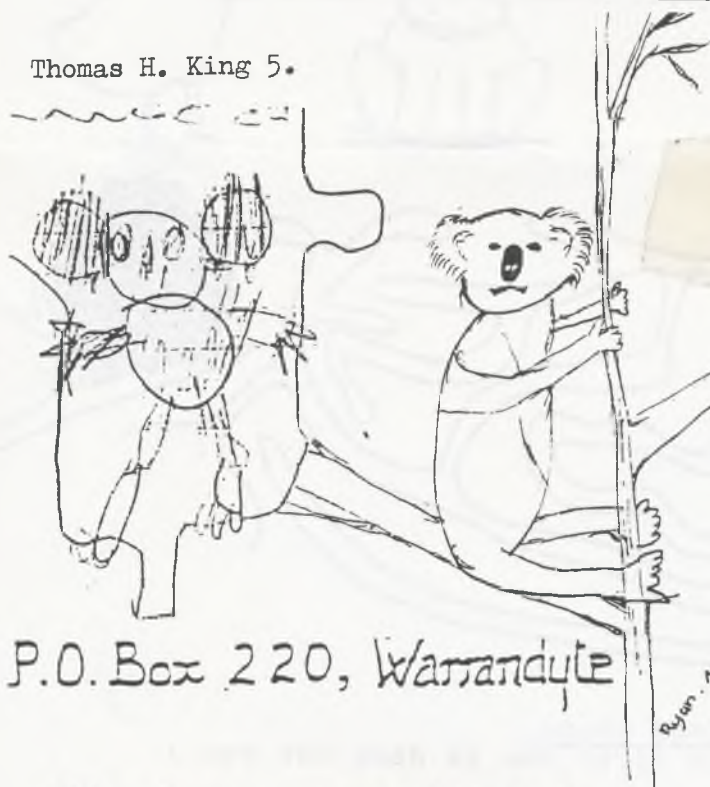
20...Fri....BUSH DANCE Community Centre Hall Enq Joy 844 2638

29...Sun....A.G.M. At the Depot.

KIDS MAKE GREAT KOALA
 COUNTERS. HAVE A SPECIAL
 FAMILY KOALA DAY OCT. 25

CHECK THAT YOU HAVE THEM NOTED ON YOURS!

Thomas H. King 5.



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Ian Burke.....Editor.....	844 1060
Gay Harris.....Secretary....	844 1448
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P.O. Box 220, Warrandyte

Pandorea pandorana



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