



# FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK Inc.

April 1995  
NEWSLETTER

## Editorial

Over a number of years environmentalists have often been the subject of criticism in that they have a pessimistic outlook for the future of the human race. To this is added the thought that 'greenies' have a boring concern with the same subjects e.g. population explosion, air pollution, water quality and bio diversity of flora and fauna. When it comes to economists they are hooked on G.D.P., growth and capital gain as the salvation of the world. One difference is that economists are an optimistic lot most of the time. But there is nothing wrong with repetition to get your message across - ask any advertising business!

If we go back to earliest times, factors of prices, wages etc. were not relevant - production was centred on the household - almost a totally agricultural society. The concept *price control* was not necessary, and there were slaves who did not require a wages theory. There were no economists. Following the era of merchants and the discovery of precious metals, the great merchants were not worried about governments, they were the government. The relatively small population of the earth and standards of living, for most people (clothing food shelter) presented no great problem and did not give rise to any environment groups.

If we skip the industrial revolution, numerous wars and a few hundred years, we now find that economists and conservation groups well and truly established.

Economics is now a dominant part of our lives, but the true ecological cost of our economics is never recognised. We are told we need continued economic growth to afford a clean environment. So we rip up great areas of the planet, in order to keep growing, even though this conflicts with a fundamental rule of economics - you don't spend all your capital if you want to avoid bankruptcy. Our society and government are driven by economic imperatives. We measure success and progress by economic indicators. Pre occupation with economic growth has blinded us to an important truth - economics itself is leading us along a very destructive path. Economists consider the environment essentially limitless, self renewing, and free. As Paul Ehrlich remarked, "Economists are one of the last groups of professionals on earth who still believe in perpetual motion machines."

"Experience is the name that everyone gives to their mistakes."

Oscar Wilde.

"Are we teaching children to adopt the habits and lifestyle that we learnt from our parents and teachers."

Al Gore. U.S. Vice President.

"If all the economists in the world were laid end to end they would all point in different directions."

Anon.

## WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL March 25th & 26th

Warrandyte Festival Weekend is here again and we have lots of things going on. There was not any organiser for a float so we will instead have our banner followed by any children who wish to dress up as Warrandyte Animals, Birds, Reptiles, Plants or whatever. We do need a leader for the group - see Margaret Burke.

The area allotted will be the same as last year, down near the gazebos from path to river. We will have our tent, market stall, various displays and Val Polley is lending her special Display umbrella. Any ideas for extra display please contact the committee.

Betty Oke is organising a roster for manning the display site, the billy tea & damper on sticks, and we will have plant potting, the Wattle Fairy (ring Shirley on 844 1895 if you would like to be a Wattle Fairy helper). We would love to have an Animal/Bird box display with boxes being made if one of you volunteers to organise this. A wetland display is planned and any other ideas will be considered - see Marg, Pat, Ron, or other committee. Sunday we will all get together for our traditional Fish 'n Chips round the billy tea fire.

## Hot House Gossip

Clean-up Australia day was a bit tricky for our Debby Parker who was the organiser. After lots of planning, phone calls, there was a definite insufficiency of craft and she and boyfriend Simon launched all, then had to set off for home - no canoe for them! We just cannot afford \$35 for hire. Next year she suggests an alternative track clean up - ideas?? contact Debby or the Park Office.

Work is well underway on the new tracks down to the beach at the Koornong. Erosion had caused a big problem and two large Eucalypts have been teetering over the bank. Friends of Koornong were most excited when Matt announced this project as it was way out of their league! Of course they enjoyed the guided tour with Brian Ward on their last meeting day and look forward to replanting these new sections which will blend in very quickly.

The Koornong group have done amazing things over the three years they have been going. If you wish to see just what they have achieved, you are very welcome to attend any 'first Wednesday' at 10am. They promise an interesting year. The Green task force begin work with the group this month and Ivy removal will take another huge leap forward. Gradually emerging from under the ivy is an old badminton court. How many members can give Cathy history of this area - contact her on 844 1841.

Green Task Force activities begin this week with one group at the Koornong back at the Ivy. Cathy and her members are working with them to help develop interest in the team. This ivy removal was a project Friends of Koornong felt beyond the group two years ago and now they see it as possible to have under control this year!

Green Task Forces are working on a number of the 'Meandering Yarra' projects during the next two and a half months. We will have a report on the Fowspian/

GTF achievements in the next couple of newsletters.

The Sunday family activity during February was highlighted with the discovery of the Powerful Owl youngster solemnly watching our activities. This is only one of the pair reared this season - I suppose all those rabbits ARE helping P.O. parents!

Rabbits however are being targetted by the residents (Landcare Group areas) of Osborne Peninsula and the Pigeon Bank Creek. Ray Jasper has been training the locals all up to perform with 'special' carrots. Rabbits removal has been the object in large sections of the Park and adjoining properties with Ray organising a 'joint' approach. We will let you know how it all goes..... certainly we won't drop 'rabbit guards' at this point of time!

A 'Hamilton Road Chapter' of the Osborne Peninsula Landcare may be forming! Wow, the area will blossom with indigenous beauty! Elise Berry and Trudy Brentnall are discussing the practicalities.

Willow drilling and filling has been maintained every Thursday afternoon for the last month and the Park also has contractors working. The difference between Pigeon Bank and the Bridge will be very evident by next summer. We have had many remarks, complaints, suggestions that we are 'philistines' etc but any people with doubts please check some of the vast root/silt mats exposed where we have been successful. If we hope to manage the Platypus habitat through the town we are afraid the willow 'frills' along our river must go.... not to mention lots of other habitat. So if you like painting pictures of the willows - maybe you will just have to develop an eye for Manna Gums and Silver Wattle. The river needs them!

Pat Coupar, Cathy Willis and Peter Ayre, the trainee Conservation Officer from Nillumbik, spent one Friday mapping all the willows

from Bouchiers Lane down uncharted waters then on through the previously mapped area to the Bridge. Now really accurately plotted, we will be able to systematically remove them all (??) Pat has written an article for the Warrandyte Diary which we will publish in here next month.

Melbourne Water have been in touch as well. They are offering help with our willow project. Describing willows as 'creeping cancer along the river' Gordon Davies and our good friend Roger Lord have offered help with what we are doing. Gordon says Melbourne Water plan a big project at the Island. We will organise some lunch time Thursday speakers.

The Fowspian building at the Park is going great guns at present. The storage area in the Nursery is taking shape, with walls about to go in. A storage cupboard, properly insulated will be installed and at long last we will be able to keep seed well organised and at the correct temperature and humidity. Tools and nursery requisites will stay nice and tidy. The roof with panels of plastic sheeting makes it all light and the spacious plan makes work a dream.

The boardwalk in Frogland is also almost finished and the next stage of weed control and planting is about to begin.

Story phoned through by Osborne Landcare member Ruth Rankin..."My son Adam arrived home from work the other night pretty excited. Swore that on his way down Osborne Rd he saw a big fox run across 'the turn around' with a crushed Vic Bitter Can in its mouth." Ruth says he's a conscientious P plater who hadn't had even a sniff of Vic Bitter himself! Well will that be how hungry the foxes get after rabbit eradication?

Hope you all like the 'Wattle Fairy' back in the papers. Somehow Shirley just attracts all the photographers. Hope some of you come along and help painting as two day stints get a bit wearysome.

# Camping trip to Phillip Island in April.

The visit by the Fowspian campers to the Rhyll Inlet is to take place from Friday 7th to Wed. 13th April (or part thereof), during the non Easter part of the next School holidays. We will use the old Depot site as our camping ground with the actual Works Depot Shed as our meals/relaxation zone. Members will site tents / vans etc around this and Ian Roche has organised showers and toilets. Mick and Gail are organising an itinerary including a night out at Taylors Restuarant where Gail works, special visits to the various environmental areas; we will go off to meet the Friends of the Koala and will have a trip over to Churchill Island and meet the Friends group there - the Roches will have it all organised and a printed itinerary will soon be available. Please let Margaret Burke know if you plan to come so we can estimate numbers. Ian, Gail, Danny and Karly Roche are all looking very much forward to the visit as are we Fowspians. Details and maps may be obtained any Thursday, and at the Friends Tent at the Warrandyte Festival.

## *V.N.P.A. Friends Network Conference*

A group of four members attended the Network Conference 'Friends Count' on the Labor Day weekend. They were Marg and Ian Burke, Kym Docwra and Diane Silveri. The conference was at 'Kangarooie' between the Otway Ranges National Park and Port Campbell National Park.

The three days and evenings were incredibly busy with a wide variety of addresses (including the opening by the Minister, Mark Birrell), reports, workshops, forums and finally the Biennial General Meeting and conference summation by Don Saunders. Saturday late evening we visited the Melba Gully State Park to see the glowworms. Sunday afternoon we were able to choose a guided walk. Fowspians all chose a Koorie Tour of Port Campbell National Park to see many of the things the masses of tourists miss and are currently endangering. (There is actually a midden in the carpark!) We were each able to attend two workshops including one by Leon Costermans which showed how one used the new little plant identification book.

We met and exchanged ideas with many members of other Friends Groups, developing friendships and contacts which are invaluable to FOWSP and the other groups. We bought a selection of books for the Fowspian library, swapped many stories and ideas, raised the problem of proportions of grant money lost to Sales Tax and had a display of Fowspian activities to share. Kym arranged to invite Leon Costermans with his Friends of Langwarrin (along with Scott Coutts who built our original Nursery) to visit our Nursery in 1996.

We hope to have a large number of you attend the 1996 one day seminar (the Conference is held only each second year) as our affiliation with the VNPA is extremely important to the 'Friends' movement. Ask Kym, Diane or the Burkes for more information about the conference. Any people interested in going to the 1997 Conference should let Marg Burke know as early as possible.

## APRIL ACTIVITIES

Whipstick Gully Opening will take place in early April - definite dates to be available at any Fowsp activity, Market or Nursery day. We will be putting on hot scones and jam and cream for the visitors. The Minister, Mark Birrell will open the Poppet and walkway and admire our beautiful plantings. So keep scone making practice up as Fowspians are 'doing' the afternoon tea. Volunteers please give your name to Cecilia le Duc.

The April 30th Family Sunday activity will be something unusual - Autumn Koala surveying. We plan to begin collecting data from this time of the year to add to our collection. More details next Newsletter will come from our Koala survey organiser, Brenda Hunter.

The other thing we will do however is have an Auction of Plants. We have some fabulous excess stock AND we need some special funding.

This will be used to pay Graham Lorrimer finish off his work with Pat Coupar and David Van Bockel (Graham has greatly reduced his charge for us). Then we will have all the plants on our list formally verified. This could take years and years 'through the system' and we have so much forward planning and exciting projects ready to go - not least Pat's Photo Collection!

So if you want fantastic mixed boxes of plants for your block or some of the advanced specimens or mixed wildflower garden pots, come along on the last Sunday in April.

(All regular workers at the Nursery will have been given a box of plants previously - see Marg Burke, any Thursday.)



## a letter from Pat and Graham Madeley.....

*We are publishing this letter from Pat (and Graham) Madeley, long time, very active members of FOWSP. They moved down to their block in the wilds of Callignee in Gippsland's Strzeleckis..... Last years adventures were a lot less settling with 'builder' problems, and horrors of living in a tiny caravan all winter!! This sounds a much more settled pair.....*

28th Feb '95

Dear Marg, Ian and Fowspians,

I am enclosing a copy of the third Newsletter of our Friends of Tarra Bulga National Park for you to display in the Folly. (Noticeboard).....

.....we are still in there fighting and at the moment the Friends are manning the visitors centre all the time. We will continue to do that until the end of April and then the centre will be open during School & Public Holidays and weekends. It has been a very enjoyable experience for most of the volunteers. We have 2768 visitors in January and they came from 22 different countries, plus every state and territory in Australia. We give out information at the centre, sell posters and publications, help people read maps and encourage tourism in the area. I had one group of people (The Provincial Surgeons of Australia) who came to the Centre to make sure that we would open when they were planning a trip and I also organised for them to go over to the Walhalla Post Office.

As you see we are all planning to go to Morwell National Park next month. We still don't know whether we will need our own Nursery. Apparently the Park doesn't need much more revegetating. The prisoners at Won Wron grow plants for the park and also provide a lot of labour. It might be better for us to join Morwell's Nursery for the small amount of plants that we need to grow.

We are having a stall at the Tarra Festival and I am organising the stall (*Shades of Warrandyte!*) A few Friends want us to take part in the procession but I am absolutely hopeless at anything artistic and unfortunately we don't have a Gail or Shirley in the group. Perhaps next year when we have a bit more time to plan.

Work on our house progresses slowly. We are gradually painting the outside, we will never finish by winter though....

Both Russell(son) and I crashed our cars on gravel roads last month. Mine will be off the road for at least 6 weeks, but Russell's only took 5 days to fix. A bit difficult living out here with no car! Russell has been working with DCNR at Swift's Creek quite a bit in the last 13 weeks. What magnificent scenery in that part of the country. I had never been there before. Russell took us 4 Wheel Driving several times on the top of the mountains and it was absolutely magnificent. We stayed free of charge in one of the Department's caravans at the depot, so all in all that was one of the better experiences without the car! We probably wouldn't have gone there without our vehicle.

Graham's youngest daughter, Katy, came out to see us just before Christmas. She arrived stating that she loved home in the S.E. of England (yuk!) and adored the 'buzz' of London. (Graham said he didn't feel any 'buzz' all the years he worked there, he just absolutely hated the noise and smell!) Anyway in three weeks she absolutely changed and was in floods of tears the night before she went as she loved Australia and didn't want to return to England. In her first letter after she arrived back she complained of 'homesickness' for Australia. She is now trying to get a work permit so she can return, perhaps meet a nice Australian, get married and remain for good.

Don't think there is much more news. One day will come and see you all of a Thursday and I hope that some of you will come and see me up in the Strzeleckis.

All the best for 1995, sincerely.....Pat and Graham.

## WHIPSTICK GULLY

The Minister for Conservation & Environment Mark Birrell will be visiting Warrandyte in early April to open the Whipstick Gully Walk. The Friends have been heavily involved in the gradual development of the site including Marg and Pat on the planning team. We have had numerous planting days as the area has been developed and Ron Taylor, (Friends of Stane Brae) built the Poppet Head Information Shelter. Georgie Waterman designed the walks and information.

The date will be announced in the next week or two and Fowspians will be helping with an afternoon tea. Check at the Nursery/Folly for dates and see Cecilia and Margaret B for arrangements.

Thursday afternoon activities will centre on plantings and walks in this area later this month.

# STAR GAZER'S CORNER

Western culture associate the colour red with anger and blood, as seen in war. It's no wonder the ancient Romans named the 'wandering' red celestial body, Mars, after the Roman God of War. The two satellites which orbit Mars were named after those two attendants of the God of War, Phobos (fear) and Diemos (flight).

The fiery red planet appears brighter and larger than it has any time in the last two years, during the months of January through to March. This apparent brightness is because it was at *opposition* on February 15th 1995. Opposition is when a superior planet is positioned exactly opposite the Sun in the sky, as seen from the Earth. Thus it is best placed for observation!

To locate Mars, look towards the north, for the brightest red celestial object, about 40 degrees above the horizon at 9.00 pm.

Mars is a rocky planet much like the earth, covered with a thick powdery reddish soil (hence the red colour). Sometimes winds reach speeds up to 200 kilometres per hour, causing violent dust storms covering huge areas of the planet. Probably the highest volcano in the solar system is found on Mars. It is *Olympus Mons*, and is 24 Kilometres high! The most striking features of the Martian surface are the white polar caps which may be seen with a small telescope.

## Numerical Facts about Mars.

Distance from the sun -

Average 222,940,000 Km

Size -

6787 km. diameter

Length of Mars' day -

Equals Earth - 24 hr 39 mins

Position in Solar System -

One beyond Earth in Solar System

**HAPPY STARGAZING - S.G.**

## *Friends of One Tree Hill.*

The Friends of One Tree Hill activities are held consistently on the third Sunday of each month. The April activity falls due on Easter Sunday April the 16th at 3pm. Your friends and family are welcome to join in. The activity is 'Weeding as we Walk' starting at the Tank on One Tree Hill Road, Smiths Gully side. (Melway Ref. 265 D:6) Wear good walking shoes so that we can peruse the steeper slopes.

The Ranger, Ray Jasper, is detailing DCNR's proposal regarding the re-opening of the One Tree Hill Mine, as put to the Minister for Energy and Minerals.

Bring along all those excess chocolates and sweeties to share for the afternoon (also something for afternoon tea!).

*Diane Silveri.*

## Matt's Memo

Things are moving along nicely at present, Whipstick Gully Project is nearing completion and contractors are working along the river, targeting willows and blackberries. This work complements the great work done by FOWSP to date. Melbourne Water have commented on the improvement and neighbours have been generally supportive. Paul Hay and Ray Jasper have been busy with the Good Neighbour Program focusing on rabbits at the moment. A great response from land holders around the Common with over 40 people attending the Rabbit Meeting. There was a good response on the north side as well. Pigeon Bank Creek and Osborne Landcare groups are both participating in rabbit eradication programs. Congratulations to the Friends of Pound Bend Tunnel, F.O. Stane Brae and F.O. Endeavour Bank for successful grant applications for project funding. Stephen is busy preparing his Parkcare Report and organising the program for the coming year. It's a great challenge ahead of us to maintain that commitment to all the sub-groups. The Area Management Team met at Warrandyte recently and were impressed by what they saw right through from Warrandyte State Park, the 'Link' lands to Kinglake National Park.

Young Leo Spoor has left us to return to private industry and Doug Cordell is on Long Service Leave. Paul and Jo are to be wed soon and are moving to Currajong and greener pastures. The new trainees have settled in and out with Maree staying on and Robert going to a new situation. We also said welcome to Kaye who is looking after 'Land For Wildlife' whilst Virginia is away.

**Matt.**

# MYSTERY REPORTER

Formal Interview - On a rainy day at the Pound Bend Depot, Thursday 3rd November 1994.

Photograph - Circa, morning of Australia Day 1995

"The vet from Wonga Park rang to say he had a Tawny Frogmouth." (excerpt from a confidential conversation between Matt le Duc and Cecilia.)

Who, do you ask, is Cecilia?....

**Cecilia Antoinette 'Teresa' le Duc Spoor** (nee Spoor!) was born in Vught, Holland in 1952. At the age of 12 months her parents (Cecilia & Egidius) came to Melbourne, Australia - Cecilia, five brothers and two sisters needed more accessible education and training.

Following Primary Education at mainly 'Our Ladies' Eltham; "Se-al", "Sis" or Cecilia (whichever name suits) went on to Eltham High School completing Year 9. Not wanting to stay at school longer, Cecilia worked in a Supermarket, then completed a hairdressing apprenticeship and worked in her Father's salon.

After the shop closed, Cecilia married and she fled to North Fitzroy, working at places including Melbourne Surf Shop, a duty free shop, ("an interesting job!") a jewellery shop and the Garden Nursery, Research.

Note - Before deep in-depth (!!!) about Cecilia meeting Matthew (you know - the Head Ranger) a few vital statistics.

Weight - 65 Kilograms, Height 5'7"

Hair Colour(s) - "mousey, going grey"

Build "medium build"

Ears pierced, "twice"

Eye Colour blue-green

Shoes -size 8 and a half

Favourite Food and Drink "Sweet wine and a drop of Port and Whisky, Roast Lamb. I love nibbling at a party, savouries and things."

Favourite Saying (One of) "Every cloud has a silver lining."

Favourite films, Books, Actors & Actresses Fiction, eg 'Star Trek', the Exorcist (book) Steve McQueen, Robert Redford, Harrison Ford, Mel Gibson, Audrey Hepburn, Spencer Tracey - "all the old stars" James Stewart, Katherine Hepburn.

Cecilia met "Matt" at Marlo while he was doing "an interps thing- entitled 'Faces of the Night!' We both caught each others eye!" After 14/15 months they married, moved to Horsham. then returned to Horsham. Ethan was then born on 29th October 1991.

Cecilia used to play Netball, tried water-skiing (ask about the enema!), would still like to play golf, likes tennis, snow skiing; her ambition is to learn to drive a semi-trailer, likes driving - only has one speeding 'conviction'.

Hobbies "I enjoy walking - like to get lost in the bush and sit and think. Fishing, camping every year - more if I can-, Wilson's Promontory - a special hut." (Ask about the mouse and the muesli bar - more will *not* be revealed - MR)

"Like craft work, knitting, crocheting, lampshades,

pottery - should get my pottery wheel going again - do all the family hair cutting, cross stitch, like to learn tatting and quilting."

Favourite Clothes "comfortable fitting clothes, but if I go out I like short dresses."

Criminal Activities Recalls throwing paper sputniks around the classrooms. Wears a pair of 'market' Reebok sunglasses. Did run a red light....

Major operations Appendix out, skin graft "due to burns when I electrified myself as a child."

Cecilia drives a red Mazda 626, 1979 Model, has backed into a gate at the 'Prom', and also a bollard at Organ Pipes.

Question "Who most influenced you in your life?"

Answer "My mum probably"

Question "What annoys you most?"

Answer ""Being ignored by Ethan at times."

Question "What's your favourite plant and animal?"

Answer "Love koalas, and watching kangaroos, wouldn't mind owning a 'big cat' - lion or tiger or something.

Music "tried guitar once, would have loved to learn to play the piano." Likes Janis Ian - singer, and Alan Parsons - sings, instrumentals. Also ZZ Top (Rock Music) and Queen too.

Travel Course "I wanted to get into a travel agency so I did it on an expensive night time course, job allegedly guaranteed - but not so!!"

Places Cecilia has been to the Blue Mountains, Tasmania, Perth, Sydney - a fleeting day trip, Brimbank - 18 months, Cape Conran, Organ Pipes National Park (4 years), - "my favourite place is sitting on the rocks, looking out at the Ocean".

Question What would you most like to see done for the environment?

Answer "I might think about that a bit.... Something for all the starving children of the world. Stop putting in too many houses (too) close together."

Cecilia is of course on the FOWSP Committee in the capacity of Social Secretary.

STOP PRESS Neal Tessier is next on the interview list, but is proving difficult to catch.



## Continuing.....*The Coupe*.....

And since May, 1994??

Read on . . . . .

Park Staff carpeted and mulched the central area in between the perimeter corridors of plants in preparation for 1994 plantings. Arbor Week had been postponed because of the dry winter but at last some rain fell and the children arrived. Under the guidance of Rangers, the children planted hundreds of little Hop Goodenias (*Goodenia Ovata*) and Ivy-leaved Violets (*Viola hederaceae*). When Neal and I arrived on the next Thursday, the mulch was enlivened with lots of little green plants all enjoying the sun. Meanwhile Neal and I had been rejoicing in all the little birds around the Coupe during Winter and the early Spring. Flame Robins, Yellow-rumped Thornbills, Wrens, Willy Wagtails and Fly Catchers flew in and out of our growing trees. We even had a Blue-tongued Lizard to eat the snails and lots of Grass-blue butterflies. Saw-fly caterpillars and other larvae arrived to feed on our delicious new Eucalyptus leaves.

In fact some trees had a hard time for a while, suffering caterpillar attacks and then burning by the severe frosts of last winter. They are now flourishing again. So are the children's plants which struggled for a while in the heat but now look fit and lustrous again. The seed sown at Arbor Day are starting to germinate. This is quite exciting.

The final planting in 1994 was of Wattles and Eucalypts along the North Side. This was done by the Park Staff to protect the Goodenias there, which are very much exposed to the weather. These were planted under the carpet and mulch instead of into it, to protect the young roots through the hot Summer. We are looking forward to the next years work which we expect will finish the carpet laying and mulching of all the enclosed area. Perhaps you will be able to join us?

Thanks to David Van Bockel who is our general guide and to Pat Coupar who suggests suitable plants for particular purposes and to all the Nursery Volunteers who keep the plants coming on for the coupe and all the other Warrandyte State Park places.

*Elizabeth Sevier.*

### FOWSP THURSDAY PM ACTIVITIES.....by David Van Bockel.

16 March	Visit Mt. Lofty to inspect the exclusion plots where plants we are busy propagating will end up. Meet Roger Lord from Melb. Water	- Maree K.
23 March	Whipstick Gully plantings, preparation for the 'Opening'	-Maree & David
30 March	As for above.	-Maree & David
6 April	General Walk - to be announced	-Maree Kirkpatrick
13 April	Activities Depot/ Frogland/ Coupe Endeavour Bank. Plant ID weeding, planting.	-Maree Kirkpatrick
20 April	As for above.	-David Van Bockel

### Clean Up Australia Day, March 5th 1pm. Canoe Trip.

The Clean Up Australia Day was enjoyed by most of the people who participated. Several members however were unable to join in because of the lack of vessels. (All hire craft were simply too expensive to expand the flotilla!)

Our Community Liaison Ranger Maree Kirkpatrick was the staff organiser. She had an interesting introduction to canoeing as Ron Taylor's partner. Just before Norman's Reserve they met with a nice low tree and 'ducking' it led to that other kind of ducking, caused them to lose all the rubbish (which was retrieved) and have to dive for Maree's purse and all the security keys to the Park. People on the banks were noted to be very unco-operative and even ignored requests to help. The amount of rubbish was much reduced on other years experience and the Yarra ended up clean as a whistle! In general one person said "It was a really boring old trip!" Hmmm!

Next Year we will have a more organised clean up along the walking tracks as well. If you have a canoe or kayak and would like to join in next March please put it down on a 'forward planning guide' and do give Debby Parker your name.



# Fossicking Ross & friends

## ANIMAL WORDSEARCH

Find the words and then write the letters which are left.

Fly  
Eekidna  
Eel  
Owl  
Rat  
Frog  
Fish  
Bat  
Tadpole  
Possum  
Koala  
Duck

Cat  
Turtle  
Wombat  
Ant  
Ibis  
Cod  
Hen  
Slug  
Yabby

Write down the remaining letters  
here -----

Y	A	B	B	Y	E	P	R	A	T
Y	I	B	I	O	K	O	A	L	A
U	H	A	V	F	I	S	H	E	D
F	I	C	N	T	D	S	I	E	P
S	H	A	T	U	N	U	E	D	O
T	H	T	A	R	A	M	C	W	L
E	F	O	B	T	A	W	L	K	E
O	R	R	M	L	N	C	O	D	F
D	S	E	O	E	T	B	A	T	L
A	C	H	W	G	S	L	U	G	Y

### Riddle-me-ree

Q. What is the strongest animal in the world?  
A. A snail, because he carries a house on his back.

Q. Where do you go to weigh a whale?  
A. A whaleweigh station.



Which bird will you find when  
you join these dots.

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Platypus and echnida eating bugs.  
Rob H. Age 7

