



# FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK Inc. September 1995 NEWSLETTER

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park have reluctantly accepted the resignation of Margaret Burke as Co-ordinator and Ian Burke as Newsletter Editor, as from 27th August 1995. Margaret and Ian have worked hard over the past 8 years to bring the FOWSP group to its present strength. Margaret, with her many talents has broadened the scope of activities and provided many and varied experiences as part of the programme.

Ian has shared his wisdom and philosophy with us as the editor of the newsletter. It cannot have been an easy task to come up with an editorial once a month. We shall miss his writings and those of Elbert Hubbard. Ian also led a team of men who spent many hours building and renovating the Nursery buildings and he kept the sometimes temperamental watering system working efficiently.

We wish them both peace and contentment in their retirement from their duties at FOWSP and look forward to keeping in touch. Friends and members of FOWSP will have an opportunity to thank Margaret and Ian in person at an informal gathering in the near future - Time, Date and Place to be announced.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF FOWSP

Due to these resignations, it has been decided that the AGM of FOWSP should be brought forward. The Secretary ( G. Harris ) has called a meeting to be held on -

Sunday 24th September 1995 at 3 pm

The Folly, Pound Bend Depot, WSP.

The meeting will be followed by afternoon tea.

Please bring a plate to share.

The purpose of this meeting is to accept the annual reports and to elect the committee, who will then elect the Office Bearers for 1995-96. Nominations should be made on the form enclosed and forwarded to FOWSP, P.O. Box 220, Warrandyte, 3113 by Friday 22nd September 1995.

Each family membership is entitled to ONE vote at the AGM, provided the membership is financial. Committee members wishing to be re-elected do not have to be nominated, but there will be several vacancies needing to be filled by new nominations.

### NOMINATION FOR FOWSP COMMITTEE 1995-96.

I, .....

hereby nominate, .....  
to be elected to the FOWSP committee.

Signed.....

I, .....

hereby second the above nomination.

Signed.....

I, \_\_\_\_\_, accept the nomination to the FOWSP committee.

Signed.....

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1994/95

**FRIENDS OF THE WARRANDYTE STATE PARK**  
**AS AT 30/6/95**

OPENING BALANCE	\$ 23,318.04	PAYMENTS	
PLUS RECEIPTS		GENERAL	\$ 4,350.00
MEMBERSHIPS	\$ 1,958.50	TERM DEPOSITS	\$ 15,000.00
DONATIONS	\$ 390.44	PETTY CASH	\$ 50.00
SALES DISCOVER WARRANTYTE	\$ 1,348.56	PHOTOES	\$ 574.71
GRANTS	\$ 12,064.00	NURSERY	\$ 3,699.93
INTEREST	\$ 721.04	LIBRARY	\$ 1,231.01
FUNDRAISING	\$ 948.45	POSTAGE NEWSLETTER	\$ 875.03
GENERAL	\$ 350.00	BANK CHARGES	\$ 65.54
		ADMIN	\$ 2,456.68
		CLOSING BALANCE	\$ 12,794.04
	<u>\$ 41,097.03</u>		<u>\$ 41,097.03</u>

## COMING EVENTS :

SLIDE NIGHT in the Folly - FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd  
"Powerful Owls" with Alan Webster . BBQ B.Y.O tea 6pm

BRISBANE RANGES BUS TRIP - SUNDAY OCTOBER 8th  
Wildflower Walk with the local Friends group - contact Ron Taylor  
9844 4285

First Week of Spring  
September 1995.

Dear Fowspian Friends,

This personal letter will probably be the last formal communication from Margaret and Ian Burke. Many of you may ask "what has happened to FOWSP?" and "why has Margaret Burke resigned as leader of the Friends of the Park?" Well, I can hardly believe this myself! I have had such great friendship and reward from working with you, it seems right that I should say something about these recent stressful times. Ian has joined me in preparing this note.

Over the past few months I have found myself having to try to understand a number of problems that have been unusual for me as co-ordinator. Most of these have been what is known in personnel management circles as 'people problems' and I have been trying to solve these in ways I always did in the past. I tried to solve the problems myself, wishing to avoid involving the membership in this sort of uncomfortable, possibly damaging, activity. I will no doubt reflect on these events and how I handled them now I'm freed from the anguish of the past months. Yet for my trouble I have been forced out. I grieve at this end to eight years of very active involvement.


Several people, including some committee members have found my difficulty at 'getting on' with the Head Ranger unacceptable; have felt that 'getting on' with him should have been a prime consideration and responsibility. This simplistic approach completely ignores personal integrity and other ethical considerations - the very things that helped the group grow and prosper over more than eight years.

I remain comfortable about each of the decisions I made. I think we have succeeded as a group which actually gets things done, (better than anyone expects us to!) involving the wide spectrum of community. A rather gentle lobby force achieving miracles! Of course, this can only happen if the group maintains a high level of independence in principle and in practice. My view is that direct action takes too much energy which can be more productively used achieving task oriented goals. It seems to me that consultation and compromise usually offer better solutions than confrontation. There is little doubt that these days the group is held in high esteem both by authorities and the general community.

'Friends' groups are about people - I hope this remains the continuing emphasis of the group, for to lose this concept could only herald disaster. But times and people change and we go on. Ian and I are going on to new and fulfilling roles and ventures. If a new direction for the Friends seems inevitable...so be it. To all my Friends of Warrandyte State Park I extend my regards and very best wishes for the future.

So dear Fowspians, thank you from Ian and myself..... for all the good times. Our friend Elbert Hubbard should have the final word.

" If you want a friend - be one."



Margaret Burke.

## Thursday Nursery Activities.

10am onwards. Lunch, soup roster. Come and learn how to propagate our indigenous plants. Walk in the afternoon. Learn your way around the Park, identification skills, seed collection, have a marvellous time.

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Friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc.,

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