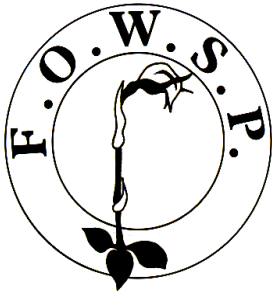


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



Newsletter

Website: www.fowsp.org.au

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113
ABN 9417015665/ACN A0024890C



Editor's corner

I DON'T NEED the Middle Yarra Timelines Calendar to tell me, it is now deep winter. I only need to count the layers of clothing required to keep me comfortable while working at the nursery. One week it was five plus a raincoat.

A note from Gray in Queensland (p.8) reminds me that Pound Bend has not always been as we know it now. This inspired me to look back at some notes on the history of Pound Bend compiled by Ken Crook with acknowledgements to Bruce Bence and Murray Houghton of Warrandyte Historical Society .

The Bend was named after an animal pound that persisted on the corner of the current Everard Drive and Pound Road from 1854 to 1962. The Hutchinson family ran the pound continuously for 103 of its 108 years. During the 1939 bushfires that swept the area, the Hutchinsons and other locals sheltered in the tunnel, along with a wallaby and a couple of possums. The family lost their home and possessions but continued to run the pound from that location until 1962 when it was transferred the pound to the council depot at Blackburn Road.

Gray remembers that in his childhood there were no kangaroos nor koalas at the Bend. In fact nearly all

the larger animals were extinct near Melbourne in the 1920s. The Koalas we now see were released in 1985 (34) and 1988 (35). These koalas all came from the French Island population. According to the DSE management Strategy 2004 "*Unfortunately, the stock used to found the French Island population in about 1898 probably comprised only a few animals, thereby creating a severe genetic bottleneck.*" Does this reduced genetic diversity contribute to problems our koala carers are observing now?

As is usual practice, we have recently removed from our mailing list, anyone whose subs have been outstanding for some time. Since the committee has been a bit slow in doing this in the past, I think we caught a few long term members by surprise. Including at least one committee member who had inadvertently let the due date pass a few months ago. How embarrassing after voting to tighten up on the expired subs! If this has happened to someone you know, please encourage them to get up to date or contact us if there is a reason that they need more time. Please note that the computer now adjusts the list automatically. We really don't want to lose any supporters. P6

Check out the really big planting day with Warrandyte Primary School children- more on p.9.

At the end of a busy June, several FOSWPians joined other MYLN groups to help Michael and Sue Aldred whose 100 acre property, covenanted to preserve its flora and fauna, was burnt on 7 Feb. We helped with weeding, cutting Burgan to use for erosion control (above L) and a little indigenous planting

July and August promise to be equally as busy. In the meantime, enjoy the newsletter and keep sending in contributions for the next edition which is in September, as this one covers two months.

Deadline for September edition newsletter is Friday, 21 August
contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan lindarogan@netspace.net.au
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

Close encounters of a bird kind

By Alwynne Buntine

I HAVE ALWAYS been delighted by the numbers and variety of Australian native birds that visit our gardens in North. Ringwood where I live. Perhaps our proximity to the Mullum Creek may have something to do with it as well.

Over the years, I've kept a list and it's quite long. Some birds, such as a Shining Bronze Cuckoo and a Mistletoe Bird only visited once, but others like the Eastern Spinebill, Spotted and Striated Pardalotes and Gang-Gang Cockatoos are regular visitors. It's amazing how close they'll tolerate my presence. Several weeks ago, on returning home mid afternoon, I slowed to enter my driveway. Noticing an Eastern Spinebill sitting on the fence, I stopped the car and sat there watching, fascinated as four of them flew into my front garden. Two adults and two juveniles. They entertained me for some time, busily flitting from flower to flower on the bushes and hovering under the bell shaped flowers of the Correas, sipping the nectar. I was so close to them, I could even see the red ring around their eyes. All too soon, they finished and move on to the neighbours' garden.



On the next day, I was enjoying my usual morning walk when I noticed on the footpath many small bunches of leaves and berries in front of my feet, evidence of the presence of cockatoos of some kind. Hearing soft bird calls and rustling in the Coto-neaster bush above my head, I looked up to find myself staring into the face of a female Gang-Gang Cockatoo. I was the one startled. The bird paid me no heed and continued to eat and quietly chatter to the other female and two male cockatoos in the branches with her. I stood there watching for a while thinking how wonderful it was to be so close to a wild bird and not have it fly off in fright. In this instance, it was me who moved off, not the birds.

As I continued my walk, thinking about the birds and my close encounter, with them, I couldn't help feeling how lucky I am to live where I live.

Autumn Leaves

By Alwynne Buntine

I stand in my front garden with leaves around my feet.

They cover the lawn and footpath and spill into the street.

An array of many colours, yellows, browns and red.

On Looking up there's many more the trees have yet to shed.

They remind me of an artists' palette, paints strewn across the ground.

Like a giant canvas lying there waiting to be found.

Some people growl and grumble as they clear the leaves away.

Not me, I feel elated for they brighten up my day.

Coloured leaves spread around, I don't mind the mess at all.

I love this time of year when the leaves begin to fall.



**M
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June

Market Volunteers

Diane & John Baird
Sue Shepherd

Alison Thom

Joan Broadberry

Marjan Kiewert

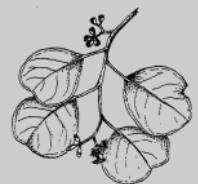
Wolfgang & Marie Krause

Peter Curry (delivery & return of trailer)

Anyone who would like to be rostered on to help with the trailer, even for just one hour, please contact Marie Krause 9712 0498

New members especially welcome,

No experience required.



Making of 'Flora of Warrandyte'

By Pat Coupar

Part Four - The Tiny Annuals

I CAN'T REMEMBER exactly when Ranger, David Van Bockel and I became aware of the existence of the 'tiny annuals', but it was an eye opener in more ways than one.

A plant is classified as annual if it completes its life cycle in one year or less. While there are a small number of larger herbaceous annuals amongst Warrandyte's indigenous flora, for example some species of *Senecio*, *Lobelia* and *Persicaria* - this is the story of the tiny ephemeral dicotyledons, most less than 5 cm in height, that flower briefly in spring, only in favourable conditions, set seed and then die.

It was like discovering a new world of miniature plants that we hadn't known existed before. Many of the 'tiny annuals' belonged to the Daisy family (Asteraceae), but with flowers unlike any daisy we had seen before. Photographing these species was a particular challenge requiring not only a good macro lens but extension rings as well.

A good hand lens is a pre-requisite to study these often overlooked little-known gems. During our survey, as was the case with the orchids, we found there were distinct places where high numbers and diversity of tiny annuals occurred. These were mostly bare exposed areas beside tracks or on dry ridges. Around one particular 'hot spot' on a ridge at Pound Bend, we constructed a rabbit exclusion fence so that we could regularly weed and monitor the site.

A good thing about the tiny annuals was that they were very easy to propagate. This I did in 1998 with five species, collecting seed from various sites in late spring and sowing the seed in trays the following winter. I kept the trays at home so I could watch closely as the little plants grew and flowered. In this way I was able to harvest a substantial quantity of seed without depleting the wild population. After seeding, all plants died. The seed was mixed with sand and sown directly into the Pound Bend exclusion plot with surprising success.

My Favourite Annual

A very difficult decision. In the end I chose the odd one out – the exception to the rule. Unlike the others, this one grows in the damp mud of seasonal wetlands. It is called Small Trigger-plant (*Stylidium despectum*) (above right) and is a close relative of the much larger and more common Grass Trigger-plant (*Stylidium graminifolium*).



David and I were lucky enough to find a small population of this exquisite miniature Trigger-plant growing in mud in a long shallow depression at Black Flat. Incidentally, at the same site we found four other species of tiny annuals that I have not mentioned or included in the following list. These are tufted, grass-like monocotyledons (*Aphelia* spp. and *Centrolepis* spp.) from the Family Centrolepidaceae, none of which had been recorded for the Park before.

During our study we found 15 new records of 'tiny annuals' for the Park – an indication of just how overlooked this group of plants are. For the purpose of this article only, I have restricted the list of 'tiny annuals' to those species of dicotyledons that grow to a height of less than 5 cm in Warrandyte. Some of these may grow taller in other areas where conditions may be more favourable.

Tiny Annuals recorded for Warrandyte and District between 1990 and 1999

Small Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle callicarpa*)
 Yellow Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle foveolata*)
 Rayless Daisy (*Brachyscome perspusilla*)
 Moss Sunray (*Hyalosperma demissum*)
 Tiny Cudweed (*Gnaphalium indutum*)
 Grass Cushion (*Isoetopsis graminifolia*)
 Soft Millotia (*Millotia tenuifolia*)
 Small Wrinklewort (*Siloxerus multiflorus*)
 Spoon Cudweed (*Stuartina muelleri*)
 Common Sunray (*Triptilodiscus pygmaeus*)
 Austral Forget-me-not (*Myosotis australe*)
 Annual Bluebell (*Wahlenbergia gracilentia*)
 Rayless Starwort (*Stellaria multiflora*)
 Stalked Crassula (*Crassula closiana*)
 Purple Crassula (*Crassula peduncularis*)
 Wiry Mitrewort (*Phyllangium divergens*)
 Pink Purslane (*Calandrinia calyptrata*)
 Ferny Small-flower Buttercup (*Ranunculus pumilio* var. *pumilio*)
 Annual Buttercup (*Ranunculus sessiliflorus* var. *sessiliflorus*)
 Hairy Stylewort (*Levenhookia dubia*)
 Slender Stylewort (*Levenhookia sonderi*)
 Small Trigger-plant (*Stylidium despectum*)

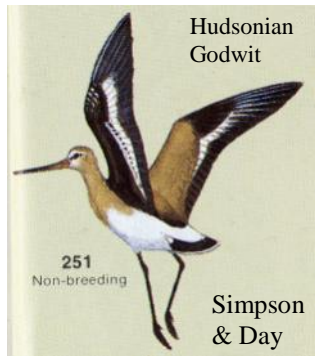
Next September: Rare and Endangered



The Little Twitch. By Joan Broadberry

TWITCHING is a term used amongst birdwatchers to describe the activity of seeking out bird species not previously seen. This allows one to ‘tick’ them on ones ‘life-list’, (the list of all bird species seen over time. The terms ‘twitch’ and ‘tick’ do not mean ones face or body suffers an unfortunate involuntary movement. Rather the twitch is internal, the leap of joy when the desired quarry is finally sighted and identified. The website ‘Birdline Victoria’* is gold to modern twitching. Birdline posts details of recent sightings of rare or interesting birds, often with photographs. Being a keen birdwatcher with twitching tendencies, I check it nearly every day.

In the last few weeks there has been a very exciting posting. A Hudsonian godwit had been spotted on the sand flats at the mouth of Laverton Creek Altona. This is a medium-sized wading bird which breeds from Alaska to Hudson’s Bay Canada and normally winters in South America. It has only ever been sighted as a vagrant in Australia. The identification is tricky, as with



most waders. In essence, the Hudsonian godwit has to be distinguished from its cousin the Bar-tailed godwit which is common. For this ID the bird needs to fly so that its underwing and rump can be seen.

Last weekend I determined to twitch the Hudsonian Godwit. Lots of homework was needed for the identification. The birdline photos (see below) proved invaluable. My sister was recruited as company. I also checked the tides, as it is best to go when the tidal flats are exposed. We set off early in the day with a positive attitude, but also with the knowledge of many past twitching expeditions on which we had dipped. In birding jargon, not to see the desired bird is ‘dipping’. Dipping is a horrible, resulting in feelings of gloom and desperation and necessitating many return excursions.

This was not to be one of those days. We found the location easily, walked down to the shore and almost immediately spotted a little group of three Godwits feeding. The homework paid off and the obliging bird flew up three times, thus giving us the necessary peek at its undies for the ID. Euphoria, a tick!!! I am sure this was a better high than that given by any mind-altering substance. Twitching is not often this easy. The birds flew off after a few minutes, reinforcing the knowledge of how fortunate we had been.



Photo with permission from David Stowe

The ultimate twitcher is Melbourne comedy writer, Sean Dooley. In 2002 Sean set out to break the Australian birding record and attempt to see, (twitch), 721 species in one year. A mighty effort indeed! His very funny and readable book, *The Big Twitch*, is the story of his travels and many adventures. Very few of us are in the same league as Sean, hence my title.

* type “birdline Victoria” into Google



Market Trailer Coordinator Still Urgently needed

This could be shared by two people to allow for holidays.

Duties include:

- Arrange a monthly roster of helpers for the trailer Marie has a list of her ongoing helpers and would continue to provide back-up.
- Liaise with the committee and treasurer re trailer activities

This is not an onerous task as is **not** essential to attend the market each month.

Delivery and pick of the trailer is capably handled by Peter Curry

If interested please contact a committee member for more information

FOWSP Committee 2009

Martyn Hiley	9844 4547	Membership/ FOWSP contact
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer
Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter Coordinator
Joan Broadberry	9846 1218	Newsletter
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary
Cathy Willis	0418 142297	
Gray Ardern	0418 190261	Website: www.fowsp.org.au

Other FOWSP contacts

<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell 0408 317327
<u>Park Office</u>	9844 2659
<u>Market Coordinator</u>	Marie Krause 9712 0498
<u>Wildlife Rescue</u>	Adriana Simmonds 9722 2908
<u>Koala Rescue</u>	Julie Pryor 9722 1117
<u>Librarian</u>	Judy Green 9844 2096

Thursday Activity Group (TAG)

The Thursday Activity Group is co-ordinated by Ranger and FOWSP members. JOIN US on the first Thursday of the month from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Either meet at the depot (sharp at 9.30 am), or on site. LEARN some vegetation management skills and help improve some special sites in the Park. Just tag along with the Thursday Activity Group (TAG). Activities are cancelled on Total Fire ban Days

July 30 Anderson's Creek (fifth Thursday)	Grant Planting with ACCA
August 6 Osborne Road	Planting with Osborne Road Landcare Group.
September 3 Timber/Fourth Hill	Post fire woody weed control with Dave Van Bockel

For more information contact the ranger on 9844 2659 or Martyn on 9844 4547

Also note: 3rd Thursday of the month Anderson Creek Landcare Group activities

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars 2009

Held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at 7.30 pm at South Warrandyte Hall, 66-68 Hall Rd, Sth Warrandyte (Mel ref. 35 J8)

- August 12** The botany of Yunnan with Barry Stagoll (note 2nd Wednesday)
- September 2** Saving the Macquarie Perch with Tim Curmi, Vice President Native Fish Australia (Vic)
- October 7** Koala Management in SE Australia with Dr Kath Handasyde, Melbourne University

Seminars are FREE. No bookings required

Supper provided



MANNINGHAM
BALANCE OF CITY AND COUNTRY

Selections from Nillumbik Shire Council Environmental Events

Sunday 2 August Plant a tree for our world – National Tree Day 2009

Time: 10 am-12 noon, followed by a barbeque until 1pm.

Meeting point: Fergusons Paddock (west bank of the Diamond Creek), 14 Arthurs Creek Road, Hurstbridge (Melway 185 J8): Bring gloves, a hat and wear sunscreen.

For more information: contact Tim Krasevac, Environmental Works Officer, on 9433 3715.

**Saturday 29 August Designing and maintaining a native garden**

10 am-12 noon Venue: Edendale Farm, Gastons Road, Eltham (Melway 22 A1)

Bookings: Georgia Ramsey, Environment and Strategic Planning, on 9433 3210

FOWSP THURSDAY PROGRAM

We meet for propagation and other nursery activities every Thursday morning at 9.30 am at the Warrandyte State Park depot, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10), unless otherwise stated below. Propagation takes place from 9.30 am to 12.30 midday.

No prior experience necessary -

There is always someone available to show you the ropes.

NURSERY OPENING HOURS

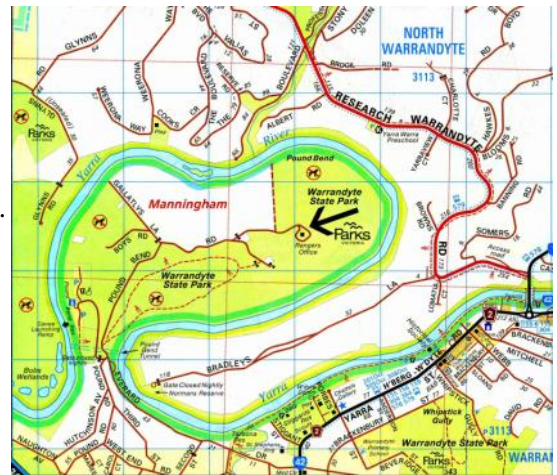
The nursery is open for plant sales (by donation) every Thursday. 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and the first Sunday of each month 2 pm to 4 pm.

Nursery is closed to customers and volunteers on Total Fire Ban Days


NEW PRICES

Members \$1.00

Non-members \$1.50 .



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HAVE YOU paid your dues for 2009?

Newsletters will cease for those more than 60 days overdue. We don't want to lose you so please check. Membership is \$20 per family or \$10 concession and can be paid by mail, direct deposit (if your contact details are unchanged) or at the nursery on Thursday morning. **FOWSP treasurer, P.O. Box 220 Warrandyte 3113** Direct deposit details BSB 633-108. Account: 136406907. Account name: friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc. Identify yourself by surname

Due dates appear on the **label of each printed newsletter**. You will be notified by email for email copies but if you think you might have missed email notification please check with Martyn as follows: martyn@hiley.cx or through the contact form on our website www.fowsp.org.au

Thursday Walks 2009

If the weather is suitable and there is enough interest, walks may be held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1 pm after lunch. Meet at the nursery, Pound Bend Rangers depot, Pound Bend Rd, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10). Walks will last approximately 2 hours. No need to book, but remember there is no definite program for these walks. **Enquiries to Josh Revell 0408 317327**

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of FOWSP

Frogland

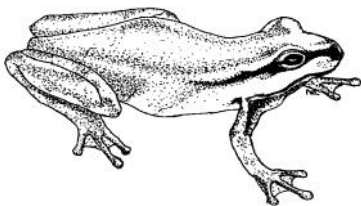
By Linda Rogan

IN 1993 PAT COUPAR along with some keen Friends group members, decided to create a wetland. A “wet, boggy area” downhill from the Pound Bend Nursery was the perfect place. At the time this area was receiving the storm water runoff as well as runoff from the nursery watering system.

Pat Coupar’s article “Frogland” in a 1993 newsletter describes how the dam was bulldozed, banks were moulded, and clean straw was added in the water. The straw sank over two weeks and as it started to rot provided a source of food for aquatic organisms, as well as protection. Huge hollow logs were placed in and around the dam, providing even more habitat. With the addition of appropriate wetland plants, Frogland was born. Pat reports that this was an immediate success as within a short time she observed a pair of breeding frogs in the small dam. At least five species of frog have been heard or seen in Frogland and adjacent areas since that time.

That was 16 years ago, and as with all of nature, some things have changed. The biggest change for Frogland is that with improved drainage works, much of the runoff water now goes directly into the larger dam beside the Folly. The changed drainage, the years of drought, plus attempts to improve water efficiency around the nursery, have meant that Frogland is now an ephemeral wetland. Ongoing efforts are required to control weeds in the area by burns, hand weeding and occasional spraying. It looks in need of a bit of care right now. Would someone like to take this on as their Thursday project?

Although dry in summer, this wetland is still important as habitat for frogs and other small critters including (at times) a Tiger and a Brown Snake. Within the nursery itself baths for aquatic plants now offer breeding space for Ewing’s Tree Frog and the other species can breed in the Folly Dam. The nursery and surrounds, including Frogland are home to the following frogs:



Ewing’s Tree Frog
Litoria ewingi
(sometimes found in our cuppa cupboard) (left)

Peron’s Tree Frog
(aka Maniacal

- Cackle Frog) *Litoria peronii* (his call has startled me from the woodpile near the BBQ.)
- Eastern Pobblebonk, *Limnodynastes dumerili*
- Spotted Marsh Frog *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*
- Eastern Common Froglet *Crinia signifera*

News from the Committee

FOWSP will assist the following

- The purchase of Strathewen Landcare Group trailer as below
- Work day for St Andrews covenanted property organised through MYLN
- Planting Day for Osborne Road on August 6

- A wireless broadband connection has been purchased for the nursery to assist with orders and receipts.
- We are still seeking a person or people to take on the organising of the FOWSP trailer roster for market days. (see p4)
- Plans for improving the nursery are progressing

Rangers’ Report

- Conrad discussed the opportunity of assisting the Strathewen Landcare Group with replacing their trailer and some of their tools, that were burnt during the fires on February 7th. .
- Large rocks are going to be used to replace the rotting logs around the Jumping Creek Picnic Area Carpark in the coming weeks.
- Automatic Gates have been installed at the front entrance to the Sugarloaf Reservoir, which will eliminate the need for Rangers to open and close each day.
- Black Flat burn was completed in May. Restoration works to the Hills Birch Miners Cottage in Christmas Hills continues.

Future Committee Meetings

Dates: Tuesday July 14th/ August 11th 2009

Venue: Ranger Station, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

Plants significant to the nursery growing in Frogland include the following:

- Elderberry *Panax Polyscias sambucifolius*
- Austral Storks-bill *Pelagodium australe*
- Swamp Goodenia *Goodenia humilis*
- Forest Germander *Teucrium corymbosum*
- Prickfoot *Eryngium vesciculosum*
- River Tea-tree *Leptospermum obovatum*
- Tassel Sedge *Carex fascicularis*
- Carex brownii*



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

When I was a little boy I would hear Wagners' truck struggling up Pound Road very early in the morning, taking produce to the Victoria Market from their orchard and farm which then comprised the relatively fertile Northern end of Pound Bend.

The farm-house is now occupied by Jane and Sharon, and is an important example of a genre of vernacular architecture that has almost disappeared – Warrandyte Jerry-built. The kernel of the house was added to as the family grew and as money for expansion came to hand. The Wagners' apples, pears, and stone-fruits were so delicious that I can 'taste' them in memory to this day. Old Mrs Wagner bred varieties of chooks that have sadly gone the way of those delicious varieties of fruit. It was a treat to be allowed to accompany my mother when she bought chicks or fertile eggs from the formidable but kind old lady, because in the season I would be allowed to help myself to tasty windfalls – not that anything went to waste on that tight ship!

Those were the days before children were wrapped in cotton-wool: we were all allowed to play unsupervised at the Tunnel, whether we could swim or not. Every hot day saw dozens of children swimming and playing there – of course no child today would be considered to have the brains to be able to keep out of trouble!

At a slightly later date, Ian Harris [who lived in one of the Pound Bend Rd houses that was demolished after acquisition of the land for the Park] would bring his guitar down, and we would all sing our hearts out. Later again, a bloke would occasionally display himself in a manner that would excite hysteria these days. We would just say 'that's just silly old Mr B - don't look, you'll only encourage him'. Far from being traumatized, nobody could have cared less.

At Pound Bend Reserve there was no formalized car-park, and cars used a network of wheel-ruts to gain access to various secluded spots. Some Saturday nights all of those spots were occupied, so the 'overflow' had to make use of the few level spots on the ridge. One Shire Councillor was so outraged by this that he had huge blocks of stone from the quarry at Mullum Creek placed to block the track. Those rocks can still be seen, but they have been moved to admit Parks vehicles.

In those days dogs roamed freely on Pound Bend, so you never saw any wallabies or kangaroos. Nor were there any koalas to be seen.

There was a lot of dumped rubbish – a little of it is still evident, but freelance FOWSPians are gradually removing even that sordid remainder. There were lots more weeds too – memorably the blackberries, from which we used to pick bilberries [and even kerosene-tins] full of



luscious fruit – likewise the cherry-plums.

Some things have been sadly lost, but the Pound Bend of today has become a wonderland that few of us could have imagined in those dear dead days!

I could go on and on, but it is nearly wine-o'clock, and two Riflebirds (Victoria's) are ripping into an abandoned green-ant nest - an irresistible verandah-view to enjoy with a beaker of embalming fluid....

Happy days
Gray (from Kuranda)



Dear Editor,
(Climate Change and Bushfires).

I write in response to recent letters about fuel loads and control burning in the local newspapers. These measures are only one small element of confronting the threat of firestorms. They are by themselves though, not a lasting solution to the dry and hot climatic conditions we are experiencing and do not address the real problems we are facing.

If there is not swift action by councils, the state and federal governments to tackle the real causes of these devastating droughts and firestorms in southeastern Australia, environmental degradation and rapid climate change, then we will continue to suffer from these disasters. And the consequences of inaction on real solutions will see the intensification and expansion of the problems for which no part of Australia will be immune. This is a national problem that requires national and global solutions, not half measures and backyard remedies.

While the actions of individuals are to be encouraged and often do make a difference in many situations, local actions by themselves are not enough in this situation. If councils and governments do not act resolutely and urgently, it will be their inaction that in reality will make peoples lives more dangerous.

Steven Katsineris, June 2009.



Many thanks to those who helped put together this newsletter

 Linda Rogan
 Joan Broadberry
 Mel Coupar (Line drawings)
 Julie Pryor (Collation)
 Martyn Hiley (Labels)

“I SPY”

By J.F.



WELCOME TO A NEW LITTLE RANGER

Congratulations to Ranger Jodie Davis, and her husband, on the safe arrival of their baby daughter, Lily Grace, on Wednesday 24th June. Lily weighed in at 7lb 14oz. Mother and baby are reported to be doing well.

ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT FOR JUNE T.A.G.



On Thursday 4th June, the Boys Road area of Pound Bend came alive with the sounds of 50 enthusiastic grade 3 and 4 Warrandyte Primary School children who were assisting in a “planting out” exercise. Under the direction of Ranger Dave Moore, the children were assigned in groups to FOWSP volunteers or Rangers, to be shown the ropes. Once shown what to do most of the children required very little assistance. They took on their mission with gusto and as a result a large area was soon spotted with plastic protectors covering new plants. At lunchtime the children and volunteers were rewarded with a sausage sizzle prepared by the Rangers. It was wonderful to see such enthusiasm from the children, many of whom asked if they could come back to see how “their plants” were doing.



NEW FACES AT THE NURSERY

A big welcome to the following people who have joined the Thursday morning group in the last month:

Rob Littlewood – who was a FOWSP member some years ago prior to moving to NSW. Now that he’s back and rejoined, he’s been very busy each Thursday keeping the “prickers” supplied with filled pots.

Vicki, who responded to a call for assistance for the Boys Road planting, that she found on the Parks Victoria Website. Vicki liked what she saw on the day, and has now joined FOWSP and become a Thursday morning regular.

Paul Stokes, from Mount Waverley, who was impressed by the FOWSP Website and came along to see how things work at the Nursery. He intends to keep coming on a fortnightly basis.

John McCarthy, who is involved in the Manningham Land Care Group and heard about FOWSP through them. He hopes to learn more about indigenous plants so that he can make improvements to his Warrandyte garden.

NESTING BOX NEWS

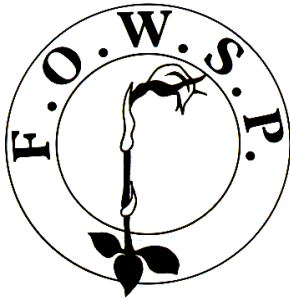
After a temporary lull in operations, Thursday mornings at the Nursery are once again filled with the sounds of sawing, drilling and hammering, emanating from the Folly. Artur, Noel, and Lee, often joined by others, have so far turned out 96 boxes, mostly for use at the Refuge, but some are to meet orders from members. As well as boxes for possums, there are also different sized boxes for many other animals and birds including sugar gliders, pardalotes, lorikeets and rosellas.

PROJECT PLATYPUS PLANTOUT

Project Platypus is a Wimmera based group that coordinates the work of a number of local Land Care Groups. Each year the group chooses a property deserving of assistance with a major revegetation program, and invites interested people to attend. This year’s “plantout” will be the tenth anniversary of the event. It will take place on the weekend of 18th and 19th of July. Fred will be attending. He says the Plantout is a well organised weekend event, with meals and entertainment provided. If you would like to lend your support, phone Fred for further information 9437 2233.

TV FAME FOR WARRANDYTE STATE PARK

In mid June the area around the Ranger’s station was invaded by the cast, crew and multiple vehicles required for the filming of an episode of Rush. This Australian based detective series will be shown on Channel 10 later this year.



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P.O. Box 220 **Warrandyte, 3113**

The Fringed Helmet-orchid *Corybas fimbriatus*



Rare in the Melbourne area and uncommon in Victoria, this little jewel can be found in mossy protected areas within the WSP. It is a colony former that produces more than one tuber per year. Large patches of the shiny green leaves can be found after the flowers have finished. Like most terrestrial orchids, it dies down in summer, leaving only the underground tubers.
Like magic, they reappear after Autumn rains. **Linda Rogan**

PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE

FOWSP Membership Renewal Form

Name

Address

.....

Telephone no. Email

Membership (family) \$20
Concession \$10
Newsletter by email (tick box)

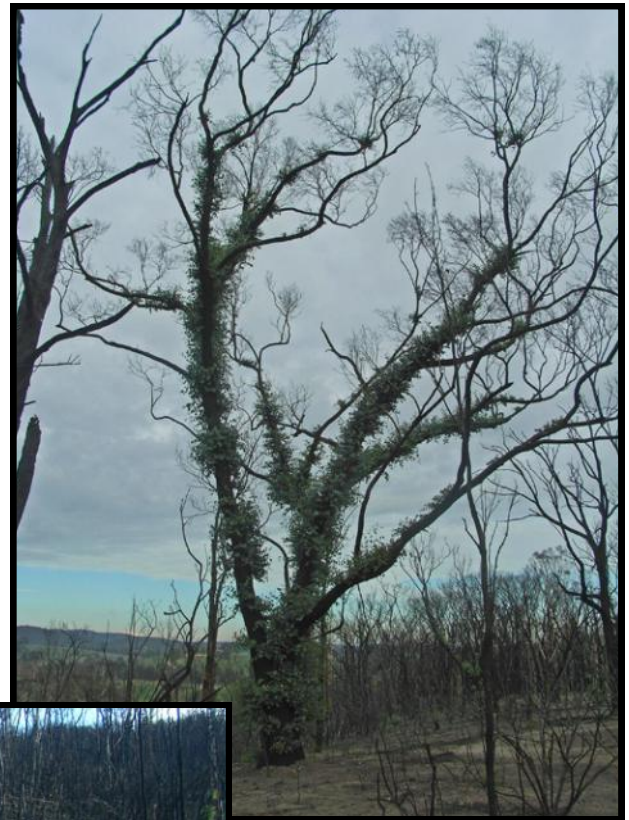
Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or existing members with unchanged contact details can use direct deposit. Details: BSB 633-108. Account: 136406907. Account name: friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc. Identify yourself by surname

Email photo bonus



Cathy Willis sent in these three photos and the one on the front of the newsletter from the Aldred property where FOWSP and MYLN members worked on 27 June.

Acacia regrowth (above) Eucalyptus epicormic shoots (R)
Burgan cut for erosion control (below)



Correa glabra Terrick Terrick, Victoria
June 2009

Photo by Linda Rogan

Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available)
you email them as follows:
lindarogan@netspace.net.au

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