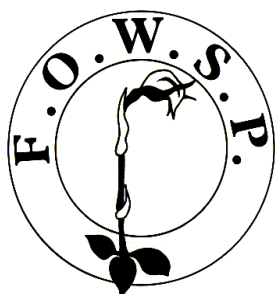


# Friends of Warrandyte State Park



## Newsletter

Website: [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au)

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113  
 ABN 94170156655/Incorporation No. A0024890C

### Editors Corner

IF MY VOICE sounds distant it is because I am putting this newsletter together while travelling in WA, thanks to my informants back home and the wonders of technology.

In addition to Carol's un-birthday (right), several birthdays were celebrated in winter including Lyndy's, Jason's, Ben's and Marion's 92nd. Sorry to have missed them and I think we need an additional social photographer for times when I am away. Let me know if you are interested.

The TAGs have been active and varied over the winter months. See Gray's report on page 2 and Janaya's on page 8.

We have a special treat on page 3 with a story about Pardalotes from Kim Tarpey; sad with a happy ending and a resultant beautiful work of art from Jo Miles.

Many exciting events are noted on pp.4-6. Daisies are on offer on page 7.

A new face around the nursery is Michelle. Meet her on page 9.



Carol shows surprise at the candelabra on her un-birthday cake. She was honoured in June because her birthday falls within the Christmas holiday season when the nursery is closed.

On the same page a bit of adventure on the Outback Way.

You will find I have filled the email bonus page with photos from our travels west such as the bee on the left. I hear spring is arriving so will hurry back soon. *Linda*



**Deadline for October 2015 edition newsletter is  
 Friday 26th September 2015**

contributions can be emailed to [LindaRogan\\_editor@fowsp.org.au](mailto:LindaRogan_editor@fowsp.org.au)  
 or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

## TAG with Cam and Bernie at Buttermans Track by Gray Ardern

IT WAS JULY AND ONE OF THE COLDEST days of the year, but there was a good turnout of keen workers. Graham found a red-back spider when he was looking for a matching pair of gloves 'You had a kookaburra attack me last week, and this week a red-back! What next?'



Carol's photos left and above show the tall stakes and guards needed to protect from deer browsing.

The two species we planted were *Acacia uninervia* [formerly a subspecies of *A. leprosa*] and *Leptospermum scoparium* formerly *L. continentale*.

Deer browsing is so intense at this site that we had to use very tall guards to protect our plants. Incidentally I saw a rather muddy, ugly deer at Boys

Rd that same morning - nothing like Bambi, I'm afraid!

Every time we thought we had finished planting all the tube-stock Cam spirited up yet another 50 to put in. Where had he hidden them?

What with the hard work and cold, we all fell upon Lyndy's substantial and imaginative refreshments; quickly polishing off the lot.

In response to the editor's query about TAGs in August Gray added these comments on **Hochkins Ridge**:

Weedy wattles were the target, but there were also hundreds of *Pittosporum undulatum* - so many that we deferred morning tea until after midday.

Lyndy had excelled herself (again)- the sandwiches, baked things and fruit were fantastic, and not a crumb went uneaten. There was a satisfying sense of having achieved a lot, which contributed to the mood of high good humour as we demolished Lyndy's provisions.

Hochkins Reserve is a green gem amid suburban sprawl - small by Warrandyte standards, but that just made us all the more appreciative of the huge expanse of bush we enjoy in Warrandyte!



Workers at Hochkins Ridge in August. That's Graham in the middle still smiling but perhaps wondering what will come next after kookaburra attack and redback in the glove box. Photo by Janaya

## A Pardalote Story by Kim Tarpey

IT COULD HAPPEN TO ANY OF US. A pile of soil had to be shifted after excavations following an extension to a deck.

Jo's husband was digging and digging hard, barrowing away that pile of dirt that had sat there for a couple of months.

As he was working, two little birds were flittering around his spade and he wondered why?

He found out too late, uncovering the pardalote chick in its little lined nest at the end of a tunnel.

The bird that had made its nest in a pile of dirt was completely unfamiliar to them; Jo and her husband were astonished and regretful.



The parent birds were attentive but the exposed chick died overnight. The sad event prompted an investigation into pardalotes and Jo created this lovely watercolour (above)

Pardalote nest entrances are often seen on roadside cuttings and are vulnerable to interference when roads are widened. Last year, locally, old gold diggings were filled making way for a fire track. The vertical clay walls of the shafts hosted the little entrance holes.

Up to last summer I regularly had a visit from a group of pardalotes, feasting on the lerp apparent on next doors mahogany gum. With a branch hanging over our deck we had a birds eye view of this yearly event.

I cant help but wonder if the absence of this little group of foragers was due to the demise of the mine shafts that had been there since the late 1800's.

I noticed but one pardalote last summer, flitting around with a group of yellow rumped thorn bills that came to our garden to bathe.

On the positive side I know of someone thrusting a fencing bar into a clay bank on his property making potential pardalote holes and the little birds obligingly moved in.



Annual Biodiversity Symposium 2015  
**'Impacts on Biodiversity During the Anthropocene'**  
 Venue: FNCV Hall, 1 Gardenia St, Blackburn

Sat 12 Sept & Sun 13 Sept 9.30am - 4.30pm

For more information or to register, contact:  
 Max Campbell 0409 143 538  
 FNCV Office 03 9877 9860 [www.fncv.org.au](http://www.fncv.org.au)

Sustainable Gardening Australia invites you to master classes  
**HOME IS WHERE THE NEST BOX IS**

Are you interested in finding out why it is becoming increasingly important to provide nesting boxes for native birds and wildlife?



SGA is running a two part Master Class about Nesting Boxes.

- Master Class 1 - Discovery - The what, why, where, when and how of nesting boxes
- Master Class 2 - Discovery + Construction - As per Master Class 1 plus the construction of a plywood nest box kit to take home and install

**Venue:** Edendale Community Environmental Farm - 30 Gastons Road, Eltham VIC 3095

**When:** Sunday 13th September 2015

**Time:**

- Master Class 1 - Discovery - 10:30am to 12:00pm
- Master Class 2 - Discovery + Construction - 10:30am to 2:30pm

**Cost:**

- Master Class 1 - Discovery - \$30 + booking fee
- Master Class 2 - Discovery + Construction - \$105 + booking fee (includes a nesting box valued at \$55)
- **Discounts** - Bring-a-Friend discounts apply for 2 or more bookings of the same Master Class when the bookings are made in the same transaction.

For more information or to make a booking go to the [SGA Website](#)

**TAGS** (Thursday activity groups)

**TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.00 am for a 9.15 pm departure. . Please remember to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather, and please bring your own filled water bottle. Contact number: 0408 317 327**

<b>Thurs</b>	3rd Sept	9am-12noon	KoornongReserve	Woody Weeding	FOWSP	Difficult
<b>Thurs</b>	17th Sept	9am-12noon	Northern Reserve	Wildflower walk	FOWSP	Difficult
<b>Thurs.</b>	1st Oct	9am-12 noon	Sugarloaf or Candlebark	Maintenance	FOWSP	Moderate

**Difficulty ratings:**

**Easy:** Even terrain, some light lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Few tripping hazards.

**Moderate:** Uneven terrain, light to heavy lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Tripping hazards present.

**Difficult:** Steep terrain, light to heavy lifting, working in over-grown areas and lots of bending. Many tripping hazards and slippery surfaces present.

Check the website for any changes at <http://fowsp.org.au/activities.php>

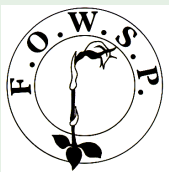
**Please note TAGS and activities will be cancelled on Total Fire Ban days or when weather conditions are deemed hazardous.**

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2015			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell
			<u>Nursery Phone</u>	0408 317 327
				nursery@fowsp.org.au
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editor@fowsp.org.au				9846 1218
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jason@parau.com				9722 2908
Cathy Willis	0427 660 651		<u>Koala Rescue</u>	Julie Pryor
				0417587798
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		<u>Librarian</u>	Judy Green
				9844 2096
Caitriona Young	9844 2842	Minute Secretary	<u>Market Trailer</u>	Caitriona Young
				9844 2842/0411478410
				thefouryoungones@yahoo.co.uk
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				0414-249-729
Kelvin Watkins	0488 039 774			
Sarah Qualtrough	0431 268 344		Website:	www.fowsp.org.au

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

**Newsletter Team this month:** Linda Rogan, Peter Rogan  
Mel Coupar (Line drawings)

**Next Committee Meeting**  
**Date:** Tuesday 8th September  
**Venue:** Education Centre, Pound Bend  
**Time:** 19:30 pm sharp



## FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks

Leader: Cathy Willis



Each walk is paced to allow participants to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of the area. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack. All distances and finishing times are approximate.

**9:30 am Thursday 24th September 2015 . Hochkins Ridge** This reserve is just under 20 hectares in size, yet contains an amazing 250 plant species including 39 orchids and 13 wattles. This is the peak of wildflower season, perfect timing for a visit. **Distance:** 3 km **Time:** 2.5 hrs **Rating:** Difficult

**Ratings:**

**Easy** – Flat or undulating well formed tracks/paths with low tripping hazards.

**Moderate** – May include some moderately steep or narrow sections or have higher tripping hazards.

**Difficult** – Includes steep and/or narrow sections, slippery sections, or high tripping hazards.

**Bookings are essential as places are limited. Bookings open 2 months before the walk date.** Meeting points will be provided at the time of booking, to book call 9840 9124 or email

[eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au)

Download the schedule through **March 2016** on <http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/walks-and-seminars> or pick up a copy at the FOWSP nursery.

## 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 every Thursday.

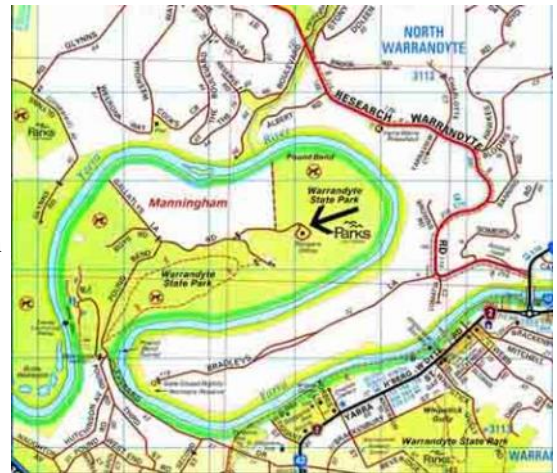
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 1pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) and the first Sunday of each month

2 pm to 4 pm.

**Closed Christmas and New Years day.**

**Closed to customers and volunteers on days of severe weather and on Total Fire Ban Days**



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**Prices:** Members \$2.00      Non-members \$2.50

## Manningham City Council Environment Seminars



The Environmental Seminars are held on the first Wednesday of the month.

Many of the seminars will be complemented with field sessions to facilitate broader education on the topics. No bookings are required for the evening talks; however, RSVPs must be provided for the field sessions. Due to popularity of the field trips, bookings are limited to 3 field trips per person. Bookings open now. You must attend the corresponding seminar to keep your field trip booking.

**Venue:** Bull and Bush Room at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Enquiries:** For more information, please phone Lyn Meredith on 9840 9326.

### **Wednesday 2nd September Australian Native Fish** presented by Tim Curmi

This talk will introduce you to Australian native fish with a focus on the endangered Macquarie perch, fish of the Yarra River and touch on Ovens River fish population protection. Tim Curmi is a freshwater ecologist and president of Native Fish Australia (Victoria) with extensive experience with Macquarie perch recovery projects and river ecology improvement projects.

### **Friday 4th September FIELD TRIP** 7am-9am

Tim will lead a walk along the Yarra River to a Macquarie perch monitoring site and discuss river habitat ideal for the population to increase and its survival. Fishnets, with fisheries and ethics permits, will be used to assist in this monitoring activity. **BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL AS PLACES ARE LIMITED.**

### **Wednesday 7th October Introduction to Australian Native Bees** presented by Jess Baumann

This seminar will focus on Australia's unique bee fauna, comprised of about 1,700 species that are mostly solitary and do not form hives. In greater Melbourne alone, 150 different species can be found. Learn about what they look like, where they live and their social behaviours, and find out how to encourage them into your garden and become involved in citizen science. Jess Baumann is part of Melbourne University's Green Infrastructure Research Group which is doing work on native bee populations in urban areas.

**Get your daisies now!**



This month we have a range of daisies available at the nursery. According to Flora Of Warrandyte they are all considered locally vulnerable or endangered.

They are found in a variety of habitats in Warrandyte State Park and roadside reserves. Most being suited to dry sunny areas once established.

After giving a wonderful floral display they may die back to root stock over summer and emerge again the following autumn. They are also food plants for native bees, hoverflies and butterflies.

The species available are

- Leucochrysum albicans* var. *Albicans* (pictured above)
- Brachyscome diversifolia*                      *Xerochrysum viscosum*
- Brachyscome multifida*                        *Craspedia variabilis*



*Vittadinia muelleri* (above)

Collect the seed to scatter in April or let it drop and be surprised where new plants pop up next year.

See you at the nursery *Cathy*

**FOWSP MARKET TRAILER**

Thanks to those who helped out in July 4th and August 1st

Diane and John Baird, Sybille Ims, Alison Thom, Jan Smids,  
Lyn Moore, Lee and Graham Deacon,  
Geoff Cranston, Caitriona and John Young



**And to Sybille Ims, Jan Falconer and John Young** who transported the market trailer.

The Warrandyte market is held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve. Volunteers are rostered in pairs to (man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

If you are interested in being on the market roster for the future  
please contact **Caitriona Young 9844 2842/0411478410**  
*thefouryoungones@yahoo.co.uk*

*First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.*

**Future market dates are:** *Saturday September 5th, October 3rd*

## A fascinating TAG at Morrison's on 20th August by Janaya



The group listens in rapt attention as Cam explains some of the intricacies of the recovery project for *Caladenia rosella* before pollinating one of the orchids. Photo Janaya

THE WEATHER stayed dry though a little cool in the morning when a number of volunteers, some regulars and some newbies, journeyed to Morrison's Reserve. Also along for the day was Kate from Park Vic's communications team. She is working on a project on threatened species.

Climbing through the fence, the group carefully followed Campbell's guidance through to the many protected species of orchids. Some of these were ready to be pollinated.

Cam told us the intricate story of the bees and the orchids. There is a complex intercon-

connected relationship between *Caladenia rosella*, the bee (*Leioproctus* species), and a significant acacia.

The carefully managed hand pollination is part of an integrated recovery project for this orchid. This involves the Botanic Gardens and the conservation group of the Australian Native Orchid Society amongst others. The nearby Wine-lip *Caladenia eonochila* have a relationship involving wasps and a grass species.

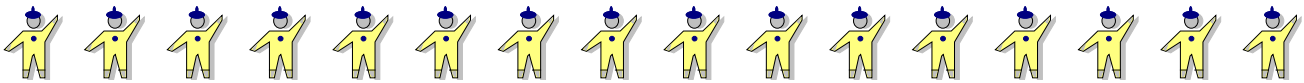
After listening intently the group continued down the hill to meet uncle Dave Wandin and the Narrap team. The group heard how the Wurundjeri share a connection to country and how they are reconnecting their relationship with the environment through the eel trap project. The project has allowed Wurundjeri and Parks Vic to work in partnership developing plots for the growing and harvesting of traditional bush tucker and medicinal plants, recreating the eel trap and educating and welcoming others to the meeting place.

We shared a very late morning tea and ran out of time to do some planting. However the group was treated to Cam's further explanation of the important work throughout the park, of maintaining the fences that protect the threatened species from browsing animals, including an increasing number of deer.



*Caladenia rosella* photo with permission from Colin and Mischa Rowan





## Welcome our new nursery assistant Michelle!



In June the committee decided we needed to find a new staff member. Annette was heading off to visit family in Russia and Germany, and Sarah going on safari to Africa. No backups available for Kay and Josh. While Annette is back in the fold, Sarah will only return briefly before moving on to new adventures.

Staff at the FOWSP Nursery are all casual and part time, but require special skills. Plant identification and horticultural knowledge of course, but so much more. Basics are computer skills and first aid. But also understanding volunteering and making sure volunteer work is varied and fun; keeping quality control at the fore; making sure there is always a good range of stock; being able to recommend the right plant for a customer's needs and ensuring there is always a good range available.

We targeted our advertising through local community networks and received twenty applications. A sub-committee narrowed these down to a top four to interview. The interview panel consisted of nursery manager Josh, committee member Jason, and the very first (volunteer) nursery assistant Mel.

They were all good candidates, but the panel was unanimous that Michelle Tumino was their first choice. Michelle has been a volunteer with St Andrews Landcare and knows the local flora and conditions, worked with the State Botanist, worked in customer service and at a nursery. She has been at the nursery the last two Thursdays and has hit the ground running. Please say hi to Michelle next time you visit the nursery and make her welcome.

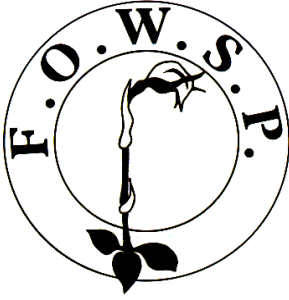
Cathy



## The Outback Way and disappointment at Lasseter's Cave



Peter and I decided to take the shortcut from Yulara, NT to Leonora WA and avoid one more crossing of the Nullarbor. All was going exceedingly well in our new BT50 that seemed to be taking the very rough road from Yulara to Docker River quite well. That is until we stopped at Lasseter's Cave (above left) near the NT-WA border. Here we discovered our back window on the canopy had been shattered (a stone bouncing of the caravan) and that all the water from the caravan had leaked out due to a fractured tank. At Warakurna Roadhouse Peter repaired on the window with cardboard and silver tape (a whole roll!). We travelled on the next day with some trepidation. All was well however as the quality of the unsealed roads improved greatly once we crossed the border into WA; Peter made a temporary repair to the water tank; the window was replaced 3 weeks later at Karratha; wildflowers were blooming and Dawson's Burrowing Bees were buzzing in the Gascoyne (see Nature article in Warrandyte Diary); and with luck the FOWSP newsletter will be completed before we head east and lose email contact. More photos from the trip on the email bonus page. *Linda*



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*Neopasiphae species Native Colletid Bee*

This distinctive bee with unique yellow markings is found only in Western Australia. I found that there was one or more roosting inside each of the White Straw Flowers (daisies) near our camp at Charles Darwin Reserve near Perenjori. I am keen to find out more about this bee including the purpose of the large white segment on the hind leg. Always more questions than answers it seems TO ME.

LINDA

**September 2015 Vol.33 no. 7**

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

**FOWSP Membership Renewal Form**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone no. ....

Email .....

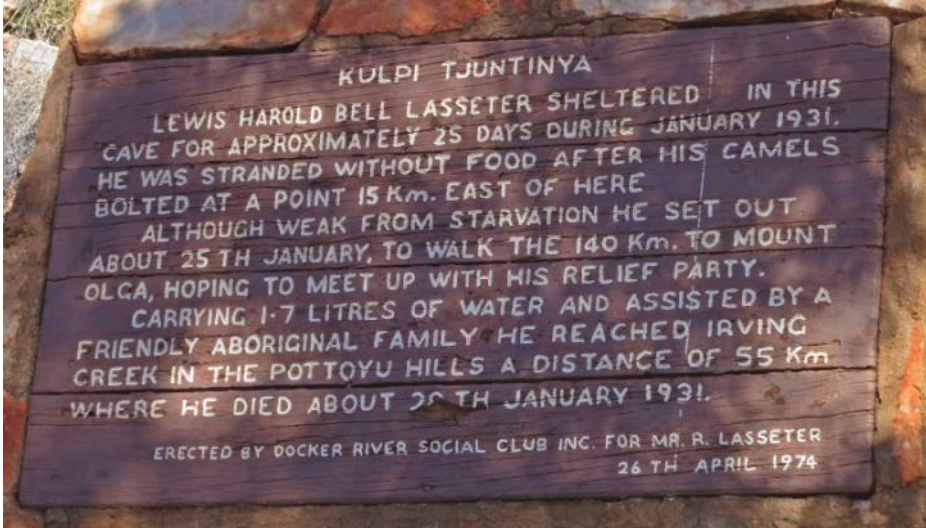
Membership (family)    \$30  
 Concession                \$15

Newsletter by email  (tick box)

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au) with the option of direct deposit payment.

*This newsletter is printed on recycled paper*

**Email photo bonus page**



The sad story around Lasseter’s Cave. Our story of this spot is on page 9.

Linda, looking for bees of course.



Dawson’s Burrowing Bees were found in great numbers and many locations including Mt Augustus and Kennedy Range NP. For more on this story see Warrandyte Diary for September. Above is a female digging a new burrow (L) in flight (center) and some late emerging males battling for mating rights (R).

The photo right below shows one on many bees photographed on a single pink flowering Hakea.

We could smell the strong floral aroma that was luring the bees in.

The large one pictured has been identified as *Trichocolletes chrysosomatus*, a new bee for me.



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