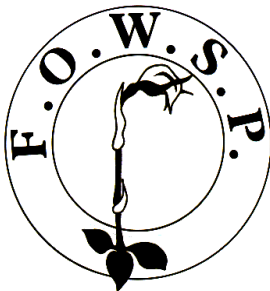


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



Newsletter

Website: www.fowsp.org.au

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

Editor's Corner

IT IS ALWAYS a pleasure to receive input for the newsletter from a new source. In this case the source is Ranger Phil (photo right). Phil has been working with FOWSPians on TAGS for some months and I had the pleasure of meeting him in early September. He puts us into the picture about a revegetation project on Chaim Court near Mullum Mullum Creek p.3. Many thanks Phil, we are eagerly awaiting your future contributions.

FOWSPian Val Polley richly deserves our congratulations. Lyndy tells us why on p. 8.

Ken Crook shares a VNPA walk along the Yarra and thinks back to William Barak, Wurundjeri elder p.9.

On P. 7 find what I have learned about Aboriginal hemp (the stringy not smoking kind).

Turn to p. 2 for a catch up on some of the news from the nursery.

I am buzzing with excitement about a new book I have received on p. 4. It's not hard to guess it is about Australian native bees.

And finally a riddle: "What do Gray's old red underpants have to do with weeding in Frogland . Answer on the email bonus page.

Enjoy this newsletter and send me your conservation activity news and photos.

Linda



Ranger Phil unloading the ute after a TAG at Chaim's Court. See also p. 3

Notice to all FOWSP members:

The AGM will be held on **Sunday 11 November 2018**, 5:00 pm at the Folly.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive annual reports and select the Committee of Management. All positions will be declared open. Nomination forms are available through the secretary at 0415 383328 artur@netspace.net.au.

The meeting will be followed by BYO drinks and nibbles and a BYO everything BBQ. A great chance to relax with Friends. See you there!

**Deadline for November edition newsletter is
Friday 26 October**

contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan editor@fowsp.org.au
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

FOWSP Nursery News

Nursery watering system

The watering system is installed on the frame and functioning well. Special thanks to Kelvin and Jason (photo right) who have seen this project through to completion.

Geography Teachers Association of Victoria (GTAV) Visit Warrandyte State Park Nursery

On Tuesday 28th August, Karen Garth of Eco Adventure Tours brought 24 members of the GTAV to the FOWSP nursery for morning tea. Josh Revell talked to the visitors about the Warrandyte State Park and the nursery. This was part of their round trip from Pound Bend to the Sugarloaf's Winneke Water Treatment Plant. Andrew Kelly, Yarra Riverkeeper was also present and told the group important stories of the Yarra. Thanks to Lyndy for providing the excellent morning tea.



Kelvin and Jason work out how the installed system functions.

Lyndy says, "We were delighted to meet with Karen and her group. They were such interesting people and they had plenty of questions for Josh! Thank you, Karen for the introduction. We have already had one of the teachers contact Josh for further information".

Karen may be contacted on (03) 5962 5115 or lcqkaz@gmail.com for tours to the Winneke Water Treatment Plant at Sugarloaf Reservoir Park as well activities such as Sustainability, Aboriginal land use, biodiversity and water bug watch.

Box Hill TAFE students

Box Hill TAFE Lilydale campus who are studying Conservation Land Management had visited last month to help with planting. They returned later to help with the building of a deer proof fence that is part of a Melbourne Water grant. It is great to have these students here, helping and learning about conservation management.

Some of the propagation activities are slowing down a bit as the unusually dry conditions mean that the planting season will be reduced, with most planting now needing much follow-up watering.



Visitors from the GTAV photo Lyndy

However, there is still plenty for volunteers to do including weeding, tidying up and special projects. Also this will be a good time to get some of the new species signage placed appropriately in Frogland. Let Linda know if you would like to help with this. Both Frogland and the pollinator gardens are looking gorgeous with spring blooming.

Lyndy, Linda and Josh

News from Mullum Mullum Creek area TAGS
By Ranger Phil Rance



Chaim Court revegetation area on previous house site. Photo: Phil Rance

Chaim Court is located near the area of bushland along the Mullum Mullum Creek that was preserved when Eastlink tunnel was built to allow the tollway to avoid running near the creek line.

The Chaim Court house (in the area that is now parkland), was demolished in June this year. The surrounding bush represents one of the best stands of Valley Heathy Forest which is a regionally endangered Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC). There are numerous locally rare plants in the surrounding bushland including *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa* (Mealy/Silver-Leaf Stringybark), *Hibbertia empetrifolia* (Tangled Guinea-flower), *Persoonia juniperina* (Prickly Geebung), *Daviesia latifolia* (Hop Bitter-pea), *Wahlenbergia luteola* (Yellowish Bluebell) which is now extinct in the Warrandyte State Park (except for the FOWSP nursery!) and the endangered *Platylobium infecundum* (Famine Flat-pea).

With the house gone and a clean canvas, we saw this as a great opportunity for revegetation with the assistance of FOWSP and the Thursday Activity Group. So far we have installed several hundred *Themeda triandra*, *Acacia brownii* and *Acacia stictophylla* (VROT listed and recently extinct from the bushland here).

Next planting season, we aim to plant the remaining area out with a focus on the rarities: *Eucalyptus cephalocarpa*, *Daviesia latifolia* and *Acacias aculeatissima* (Snake Wattle) and *myrtifolia* (Myrtle Wattle).



Photos from Flora of Warrandyte and taken at Jumping Creek prior to 1999

Long awaited *A guide to Native Bees of Australia*



A GUIDE TO NATIVE BEES OF AUSTRALIA

TERRY HOUSTON



I am absolutely buzzing about Terry Houston's new guidebook to the native bees of Australia. It is loaded with information and beautifully illustrated. I'm pleased to say some of my photos have been included.

This is the first book to give an overview at least to the generic level of all 1546 named species of the native bees in this country. Like most native bee enthusiasts in Australia I had been waiting for this book to become a reality for many years. Terry's recent retirement after 34 years as Curator of Insects at the Western Australian Museum, Perth and after 50 years of studying native bees, probably helped to free his time to finish this book.

I found the book to be loaded with information about bee sociality and behaviour that was new to me. Part 1 covered these topics and much more in 22 sections, each of which answer some of my bee questions. I found it a fascinating read.

As Ken Walker said in his review for the *Victorian Entomologist*: "Part 2 is an identification guide to the five Families and 58 genera of Australian native bees – although many of the common and unusual species are discussed and illustrated. A unique aspect of this book is the "key" to the five bee Families as it is not in the usual dichotomous

key format but rather is spread across two pages in a 12 characters x five Family matrix. The benefit of such a character/Family matrix is that the reader can directly compare the same character across all five Families at the same time. The reader can also choose the character(s) they are most comfortable and confident to use. Even getting to Family level identification provides so much information about your bee."

There are some sections in part 2, such as the dichotomous keys to genera, which may require examining the specimen under a microscope. Even for those of us who without such access, there is still much of interest here. This includes wonderful photo images of detailed characteristics, fascinating information about each genus and some of the unusual species. Perhaps most notable to me is *Euhesma tubulifera*. This is a West Australian bee that feeds only on *Calothamnus* (one sided bottle-brush). It feeds through a palpal tube, an enormous drinking straw, nearly as long as the bee itself. It is especially memorable to me, as I was lucky enough to catch a photo of this bee as it was feeding p. 61.

Anyone with an interest in insects whether casual or scientific will find much of interest in this book which has been added to the FOWSP library. Library reference number: IS720

Linda

TAGS (Thursday activity groups)

TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.00 am for a 9.15 am 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

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.

Thurs	4 Oct	9:00-12:00	Walert Creek	Weeding and planting	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	18 Oct	9:00-12:00	St Andrews	Maintenance	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	1 Nov	9:00-12:00	Whipstick Gully	Weeding	Difficult	FOWSP
Thurs	15 Nov	9:00-12:00	Walert Creek	Maintenance	Moderate	FOWSP

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 2018			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	Nursery Manager	Josh Revell
			Nursery Phone	0408 317 327
			email nursery@fowsp.org.au	
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer and Membership	Park Office	03 8427 2132
Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter editor	Newsletter assist and Librarian	
	editor@fowsp.org.au		Gloria Moore	0402 285005
Annette Lion	0414-249-729	Facebook Coordinator	Wildlife Rescue	Adriana Simmonds
				9722 2908
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		Market Trailer	Jan Falconer
				9844 1226 or 0419 872 096
			email trailer@fowsp.org.au	
Joy Hick	0418 573916		Manningham Council Rep	
			Cathy Willis	0427 660 651
Carolyn Noel	0409 901441		Webmaster	
			Jason Patton	0402 121838
			jason@parau.com	
Kelvin Watkins	0488 039 774		Website: www.fowsp.org.au	
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647		FOWSP general enquiry number 1300 764 422	
	legality@bigpond.com			

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,
Proof-readers: Gloria Moore and Peter Rogan

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 9 October 2018

Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars



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

Many of the seminars will be complemented with field trips to allow broader education on the topics. Bookings are not required for the evening seminars; however, bookings are essential for the field trips. Due to the popularity of field trips, bookings are limited to two field trips per person for the series. Attendance is required for the corresponding seminar to be eligible to attend and keep your booking for field trips.

Seminar Venue: River View Room, The Grand Hotel, Warrandyte

Time: Please arrive at 7.20pm for a 7.30pm start

Enquiries: 9840 9326

Wednesday 3 October 7:30 Imported geological material in natural areas – impacts and management

Imported geological material is an emerging critical issue in maintaining natural areas. Foreign geomaterial is not consistent with site geology, geomorphology, soils and hydrology. Join Dr Jeff Yugovic who will review case studies, discuss alternatives and propose management guidelines

Please note the seminars and field trips will be cancelled in the event of extreme weather, including a Total Fire Ban or Code Red Fire Danger Day.

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.

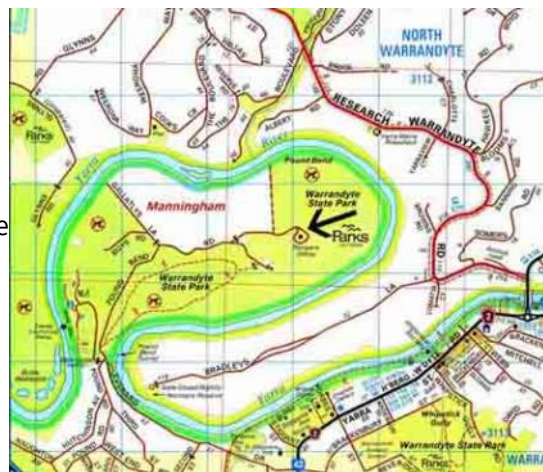
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 2pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) April to November only.

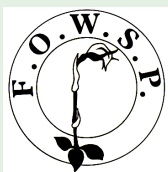
Closed Christmas and New Years days.

Also closed to customers and volunteers on days of severe weather and on Total Fire Ban Days

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



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FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks



This series of nature walks will explore various sections of the natural areas of Manningham. Each walk is paced to allow participants to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of the area. Bookings are essential as places are limited. Bookings will open two months before the walk date.

The meeting point for each nature walk will be provided at the time of your booking. All walk durations are approximate.

Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack.

9:30 am Thursday 25 October Bucks Reserve, White's Orchard and the Mullum Mullum Creek Explore this lesser known section of the Mullum habitat corridor including the wild, west facing slopes east of the creek. Note: there will be some off track walking to connect between tracks.

Distance: 4 km **Time:** 2.5 hrs **Rating:** Difficult

9:30 am Thursday 22 November Jumping Creek to Warrandyte Bridge

We follow the river downstream, over the escarpment and then onto alluvial flats, through an old orchard and past some gold mining heritage.

Distance: 3.5kms **Time:** 3hrs **Rating:** Difficult (some sections of steep, narrow, rocky foot track)

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 can be made online and are essential as places are limited. Bookings open 2 months before the walk date. www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks

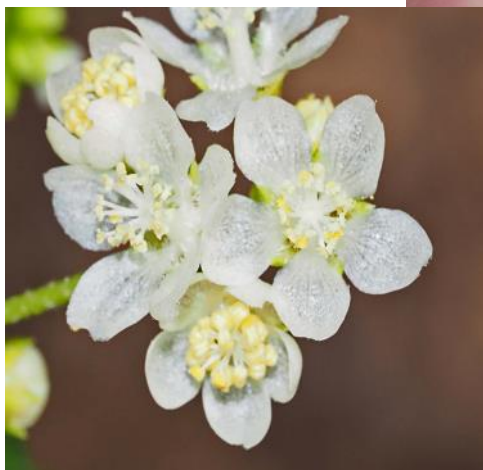
The meeting place will be provided at the time of booking.

Please note that nature walks will be cancelled on a day of Total Fire Ban or extreme weather warning as Parks Victoria will close all local parks.

Featured plant from Frogland: *Gynatrix pulchella* Aboriginal hemp

This species was amongst those planted in the 1990s and indigenous in the Pound Bend area but it had not been evident in Frogland in recent years. However this year a large number of seedlings have grown indicating the viable seeds were present in the soil.

Being dioecious, male and female flowers occur on separate plants. These are currently in bloom and several shrubs of both sexes are present so there should be a good replenishing of the seed bank in Frogland this year. The male flowers are more than twice the size of the female and make a much more impressive show. The seed



(Above) twigs with male and female flowers held side by side to compare size. (Left) male flowers (below) female flower

which is brown and about the size of a mustard seed ripens on female plants in mid summer. This seed is encased in a rough "pod" about 3-4 mm diameter that should be removed before sowing the seed. It is suggested that a breathing mask be

worn while rubbing the seed pods between the hands to free the seeds.

Aborigines made string from its bark and/or the stems which yield copious fine fibre. I'm told that this was used for many things including string bags.

Linda



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 4th August 2018
**John Baird, Lisa Jenkins, Lee and Graham Deacon, Robyn Gillespie,
Christine Andell, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook**

Special thanks to **Kelvin Watkins** 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
please contact Jan Falconer 0419 872 096 email trailer@fowsp.org.au
First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.

Next market dates are: Saturdays 6 October, 3 November 2018



CONGRATULATIONS VAL POLLEY, OAM

VAL POLLEY is a well known Warrandyte personality. Larger than life and full of fun, she has had an enormous influence on the Warrandyte we know and love. In the background, she is constantly fighting battles to prevent the Green Wedge becoming just another suburb. What we have is unique – lovely trees, natural parks, protected flora and fauna, the beautiful unspoiled Yarra River – and all this so close to the city of Melbourne. Like Val, we all need to be constantly vigilant and protect our wonderful Warrandyte from over development.

Dick Davies of the Warrandyte Community Association, with the help of others, wrote the words to nominate Val for the Order of Australia Medal in 2015, and I am pleased to say that she received the medal in June of this year.

The Order of Australia is an order of chivalry established on 14 February 1975 by Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia, to recognise Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or meritorious service.

Val received the OAM for her "services to the Warrandyte community". Val modestly prevented all the details of the Award being released to the press.

I also learned that Val has a Centenary Medal, which is for her contribution made to Australian society.

Designed by Balarinji, Sydney, the medal features a seven-pointed Commonwealth Star representing the six Australian states, with the seventh point representing Australia's territories (below).

At the centre of the star is an Indigenous styling of Aboriginal traditions at the heart of the continent. Around the rim are 100 dots depicting 100 years of federation.

The colours in the ribbon are crimson, which represents federation, and blue and gold for the beginning of the 21st century. The seven gold and red lines signify the states' pathways to federation.
(<https://www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour/centenary-medal>)

Congratulations Val on your well-earned recognition.

Lyndy Gilbert

(Words and photos)

For our newer members who may not be aware, Val is a long term FOWSPian, from the earliest meeting in 1982. For a sense of her FOWSP history and indeed the history of FOWSP it is worth a quick read of her presentation at the FOWSP 30th anniversary celebration on the FOWSP website:

http://fowsp.org.au/docs/News_2012/30_10_Dec.pdf

Editor



Val Polley OAM awarded for Services to the Warrandyte community



Val's Centenary Medal

Vale Ray Kruger 07/02/1931-25/09/2018

Our thoughts are with the family of Ray Kruger who passed away on 25 September.

The Chapel funeral of Reinhard (Ray) Kruger will be held at Tobin Brothers Seasons of Life Chapel, 331 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood on MONDAY (1st October 2018) at 10.00 am.

The Funeral will leave at the conclusion of the service for burial at Andersons Creek Cemetery, 11 Blair St, Warrandyte.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Friends of Warrandyte State Park.
Donation envelopes will be available at the Chapel

POUND BEND WALK and a story of William Barak Thursday 16 August

Ken Crook (a member of FOWSP), led a walk for the Victorian National Parks Association from the FOWSP Nursery. A crackling fire greeted the travellers in the Folly - one had come all the way from Mt Eliza and another two from St Kilda, so they appreciated the warmth.

Josh, the nursery manager, conducted a tour of the nursery, including the Pollinator Garden (Carolyn Noel assisting here) and Frogland. He also explained the new nursery watering frame which will be netted to prevent damage by birds, kangaroos and deer which are numerous in the park.

The planned walk meandered along the Yarra River and looped around Pound Bend in Warrandyte. The wattles were at their best in August, covered in fluffy yellow balls. Ken's talk was a mix of current FOWSP Nursery news, plant and bird identification and historical facts about the Wurundjeri Clan (Yarra tribe). (This included the melancholy tale about William Barak below.) Ken pointed out the work that FOWSP had done over the years. Kangaroos were clearly seen in all directions.

Attendees were delighted with the walk and peppered Ken with questions. Luncheon was under the gum trees at Pound Bend Reserve and afternoon tea at Beasleys Tea House. The weather, whilst overcast, held and the rain conveniently came down about an hour after all had a cup of tea.

Ken's next walk will include Military History, with a visit to the Shrine of Remembrance Galleries and Courtyards as well as the Royal Botanic Gardens, on Friday 5th October. The visit will include the Plant Craft Cottage. The walk will cover 7 rest houses and we will challenge ourselves with over 300 steps up and down the Shrine. Further details are available from Ken on 9844 0106.



The artist William Barak, circa 1889.
(Image: courtesy of the State Library of Victoria (H91.258).)

WILLIAM BARAK (1824-1903)

William Barak, the Elder Statesman of the Wurundjeri, is recorded as having said:

“Once my people were as many as the leaves of the gum trees, but now only one old man left. Soon, the white man can have it all.”

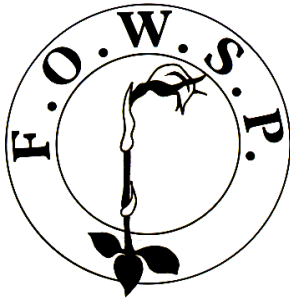
Then, before he died: “Old man going away when the wattles bloom – my father died when the wattles came and I go too.”

Barak died on 15 August 1903 when the silver wattles along the Yarra were in blossom.

Many thanks to Ken for this information



Acacia delbata (Silver Wattle)
Photo credit: Flora of Warrandyte
Photo taken in: Pound Bend
Refresh screen (F5) to move our Logo.



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Cuckoo Wasp likely *Chrysis* sp.

This shiny green wasp is an early sign of activity in my bee posts. It was seen the same day as the first of my resin bees were seen in flight.

Being cuckoos, these wasps lay their eggs in the nest of other wasps or native bees. The fact that this one is frequently seen on my bee posts makes me wonder whether or not the resin bees are its hosts. I haven't been able to confirm this however.

Whatever the host is, the *Chrysis* wasp larvae hatch out and feed directly on the host larvae or on the food that has been stored. Either way the host larvae will not survive. This means that *Chrysis* is a parasitoid.

Linda

October 2018 Vol. 36 no. 8

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 with the option of direct deposit payment.

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

Email photo bonus page



Answer to editor's question: They mark the spot where weedy gladioli have been dug out in past years. This year only a few were found. Bulbs and location shown in photo above. Are we winning or is it only reduced due to the drought?

Right lovely display of orchids and *Platylobium*. Many of these small red flies were on this *Pomaderris*. (below)



Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available) if you email them as follows:
editor@fowsp.org.au



Goodia lotifolia blooming in Frogland. This plant is an early season attractor of native bees.