



FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK NEWSLETTER

September

With the arrival of Spring (the sap rising and all that !) we are all increasing our interests in the doings of the Friends Group.

Following a most successful launch of the draft plan for the W S Park, we have initiated some of the ideas for change in the activities of the Friends. A good start has been made with the introduction of a propagation group under the guidance of Kim. She has been teaching us the mysteries of seed collection, pottings of seedlings, and plant identification. Many people are enthusiastic about this new happening. It is now a regular event each Thursday.

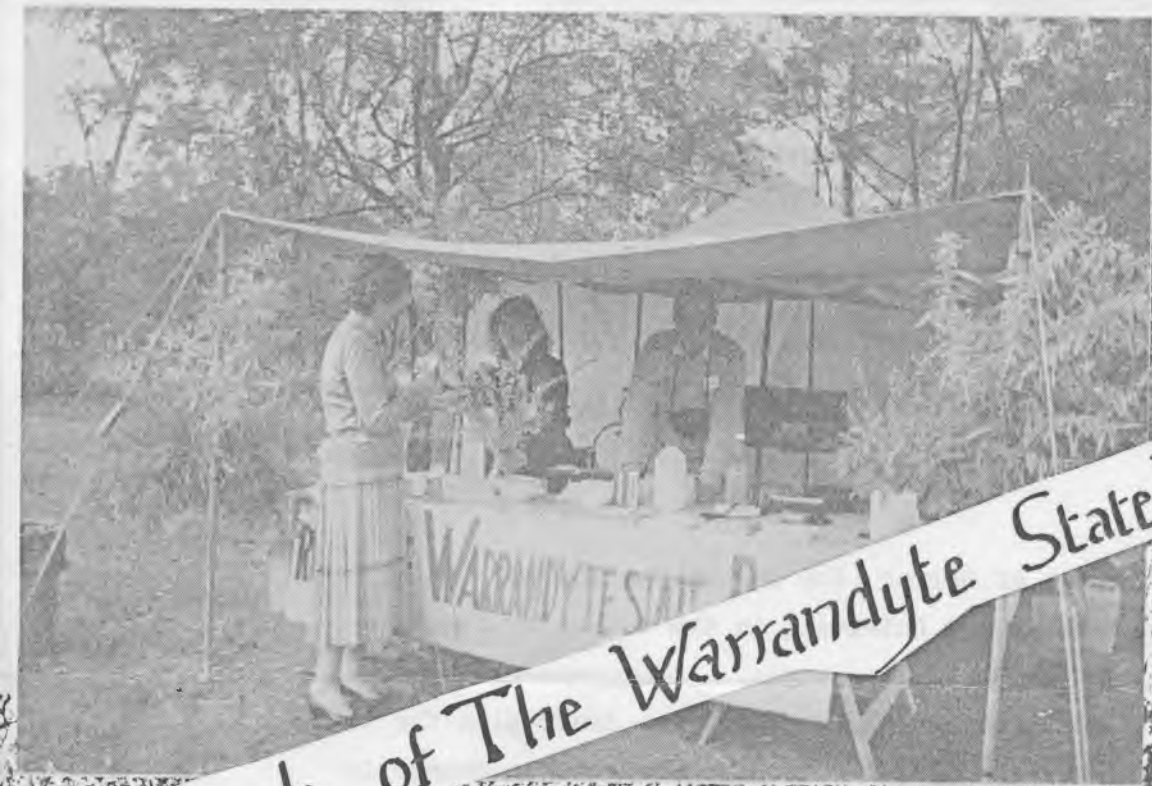
Discussion with members recently has led to the search for a suitable auto-tent and trestle for use at regular meetings, and also at the market site each month. To this end we have applied to the Community Market Committee, who hopefully will provide the finance necessary. A tent and a table will help to advertise the Group to the locals and visitors, display our plants and literature, and attract new members.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Ann Warren who allowed us to borrow her tent for the launching day, and on the occasion of our barbeque.

At the launch, the tent allowed us to provide afternoon teas to the many visitors, and attract much interest to the Friends group. A very special thanks to Val Polley for all the interest and hard work she contributed to this end.

We have established a close liason with our own Rangers, and hope in the future to develop some new projects and activities in 1989. Input from members has started and we urge you to write or phone NOW - We have deferred applying to C.F.&L. for a financial grant for a specific project this year, as we wish to canvass the members for their ideas on this matter.





Launch of The Warrantyte State Park Plan





Ian's Action

"Onion-weed pull" - what a great day. Plenty of rain beforehand, to make the ground nice and soft, and, as usual, bags and bags of the dreaded weed pulled out. I'm sure the children enjoyed the day as well, helping with the work, mud-puddling, and getting soaked in the creek. 21 adults turned up, and it was great to see the children of our families there as well.

The day began rather latish with a freebie of a B.B.Q.; as our guest speaker had to leave rather early, his talk was next on the agenda. Gary Presland, formerly of the Victorian Archaeological Survey group and now Manager of the Police Department Historical Unit, spoke at length of the tribes and their districts in Victoria. He told us of the tribal laws relating to marriage, and dispelled myths concerning aboriginal living conditions. Their food was 60-70% plants, gathered by women, and in such a supply that it normally took 3-4 hours a day to gather. He also told us their stay in one area could be for 5-6 weeks, especially when it was a time for group get-togethers, corroborees, and the like. Doug Seymour thanked our speaker, and rather later than anticipated, we all donned gloves and got going on the day's work.

Those who had attended previous "pulls" were delighted to see maidenhair ferns growing in such profusion again. Let's hope this year's effort will see such a reward.

The day finished with billy tea and a scrumptious afternoon tea - keep up the good work folks. Badges certainly make it easier for friendly chatter. Thanks to Margaret and Ian for this innovation.

NEXT MEETING :

We are pulling Broome so bring your gloves and a few simple hand tools to help 'do a Bradley'. Meet us all at the top of the hill Tunnel St., Fourth Hill. Bring a sandwich or some small sustenance. Once we plan our action we will no doubt clear a mountain of the weed, then Cam Beardsal has promised to show us the local orchids in bloom. - a real treat for us all. Afternoon tea is to be our scones, left over from the Management Plan launch. All FOWSPIANMITES who join us and have a pull might earn a 'hand brand'. See you at 12 noon. Enquiries 844 1060 Marg or Ian.

Propagation Work Groups

Well we certainly moved on this one! Chris Worrell 'started us' going and amazing progress has been made. Kim Robinson has now dedicated all of her Thursdays to this project. We meet 10am. at the depot, and so far we have learned at least enough to know the importance and rewards of propagating the locals. So far we have learnt 'the where's and hows of what not to do!- Practical info on which soil mixes are which, and how to scrub up. Lots of 'potting on' and 'pricking out' of seedlings has made a large impression on the shade house. Kim is able to inspire us to great heights, and her nursery experience is invaluable. A very keen group went by bumpy 4WD to search for *Casuarina Littoralis*, but without success. However Kim had us identifying so many *Indidytyes* our brains were dancing with visions of gumnuts! We eventually found some seed with a little help from our intrepid leader, and there will be a sowing of these later this month.

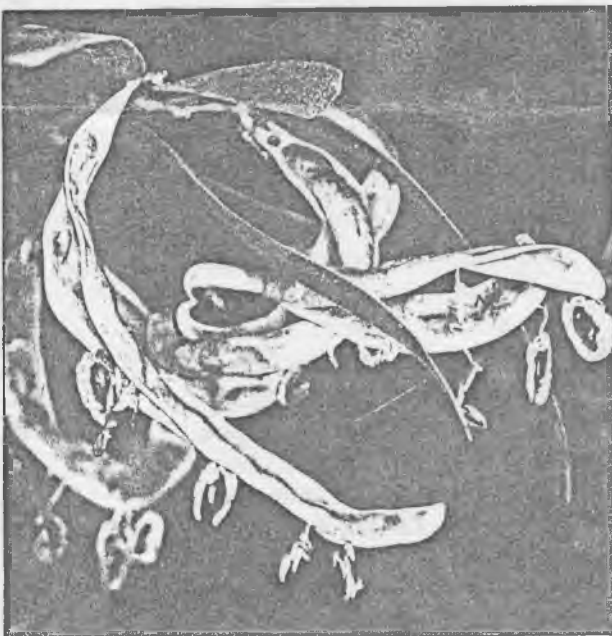
The following meeting we were sowing Wonga Vine and Clematis as well as Eucalyptus. This group is very enthusiastic and several of them are plant sitting in their patches of bush (or backyards) .

Others are keen to set up Saturday groups, and a leader of such a group is sought,- perhaps a once a month group.

All members are welcome any Thursday, 10am. BYO Lunch - Stay for an hour or all afternoon if you wish..... Enquiries.Marg 844 1060, or the Rangers Office....8442659.

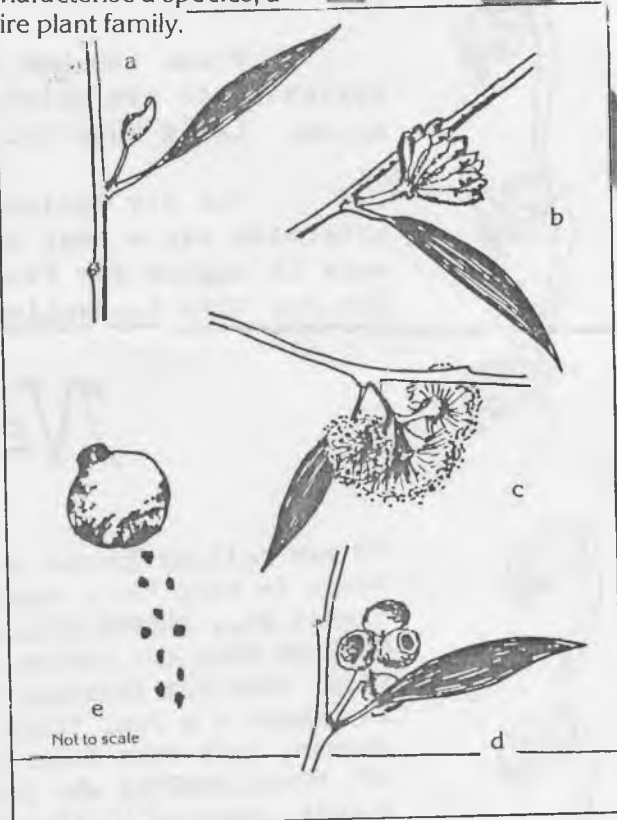
Seed development

Described simply, trees reproduce either by flowers, for example eucalypts and wattles, or by cones, for example cypresses and pines. Many types of flowers and cones are found, and a particular type may characterise a species, a genus or even an entire plant family.



Many wattles produce large quantities of seeds which are easy to collect. Shown here are pods and seeds of the black wattle (*Acacia melanoxylon*).

Murray Fagg, Australian National Botanic Gardens



Eucalyptus produce and scatter seeds.

- (a) Very young cluster of flower buds
- (b) Cluster of developing flower buds
- (c) Flowers, creamy white
- (d) Fruits, commonly called gumnuts, containing ripe seeds
- (e) Dry fruit scattering seeds; empty fruits often remain on the tree for some time.

Source: Boland, D.J. and others (1980). *Eucalyptus seed*. CSIRO, Melbourne.

NOXIOUS

Shrub: Up to 3m
Flowers: Yellow, pea like, Winter — Spring.
Fruit: Dark brown, silky pod with 5-8 seeds.

Cape Broom

Genista monspessulana

Also a heavy seeder, **cape broom** is an aggressive invader of higher rainfall areas. It is particularly bad around Seville and Mt. Dandenong where it is common on creek banks and roadsides. Its seeds are spread by vehicles, stock or on clothing. Like many other weeds this perennial occurs also on neglected agricultural land. It often has a weeping habit.

Mechanical control

Isolated clumps and seedlings should be gently pulled out and then burnt. Larger bushes should be cut and their stumps poisoned.

Cape broom is relatively easy to eradicate on farms, where it can be slashed and the ground 'ripped'. Make sure you don't confuse this weed with the native **golden tip** (*Goodia lotifolia*) or with some of our other native peas.

Chemical control alternatives are available.



Next Year



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The annual membership of F.O.W.S.P. for 1989 has been set at \$10.00 per family. The small increase is unavoidable due to rising costs.

- Mammal Survey Work.-- Koala Count
- Work to upgrade Stane Brae Beach area as a special project.
- Different Leaders to organise each monthly meeting.
- Development of Propagation Groups
Collection of seeds
- Speaker to talk about onion weed control - other options.
- Making Weed lists/ Charts
- Continuation of close relationship with Park staff.
- Development of orchard area -Pound Bend.
- Planting of trees at conclusion of each meeting, especially by children.
- Visits to other Friends groups
- Return visit to Morwell to see Benny's Creek
- Development of 'Indidydytes' to include pictures/ line drawings.

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Ideas you might like to add

Profile of a Ranger

Introducing another Iain (spelt so because of his Scottish ancestry).

Iain Marshall was originally from Melbourne. Adventure called, and Iain joined the labouring force at Ayers Rock with the Northern Territory National Parks Authority, with a 12 month stay in mind. 15 years later, and with experience as a Ranger at Ayers Rock (Uluru N.P.), Ormiston Gorge N.P., Katherine Gorge N.P. and living at the Yulara Tourist Village, Iain, his wife Anna and children Tara 8 and Joanna 5, have returned "home" to Melbourne where Iain has taken up a position as a T.A.II ranger in Warrandyte.

When people find out the Marshalls lived in the Northern Territory they ask, "why on earth are you living in Warrandyte?" - quite obvious to FOWSPIANS! Iain says that on some cold, rainy days, he wonders himself. However, children's education, social reasons and career changes, were some of the reasons for his dramatic climatic change.

Iain has enjoyed his first 10 months at W.S.P., particularly now that we have a new draft plan of management. He knows that all of the staff are looking forward to implementing some of the management objectives. Another aspect of work at W.S.P. he has enjoyed is working with the "Friends" group; In the Northern Territory Parks are generally so isolated that there is no such organisation available. He says its a pleasure to work with the "FOWSPIANS" and re-assuring to know that we have such a concerned local community working with the Park and staff.

FOWSPIANS have also found it a pleasure to work with Iain - welcome to our midst.

VICTORIAN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION CALENDAR - 1989

This sought after desk calendar is now available. For us to obtain these at a discount price we must purchase a bulk order. If you are interested in purchasing, could you please indicate the number required, and return the slip below;

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

P/Code.....

VNPA DESK CALENDAR- NUMBER REQ'D.....

(Approx. cost \$12.00)

FRIENDS OF THE CURRAWONG PARK.....Spring Celebration.

The Friends of Currawong Park are having a special family day at Currawong Park in Reynolds Rd., East Doncaster. This is on Sunday October 16th. from 10am -4pm. There will be craft stalls bush cooking, guided bush walks, raffles, plant stalls, artists at work, badge making, and other entertainments. The admission charge is \$2.00 single and \$5.00 family. Proceeds of sales will be used to help look after the park.

Enquiries : Paul - 842 7279 Pat - 850 8829

F.O.W.S.P. COMMITTEE

IAN BURKE	844 1060	GAIL ROCHE	722 1926
MARGARET BURKE	844 1060	VAL POLLEY	844 3086
MARGARET FISHLEY	844 3476	DOUG SEYMOUR	844 2740

GLEN JAMESON 8442395 ...SOON!

Badges.

F.O.W.S.P.I.A.N. Badge Box

Margaret Fishley- Keeper of the F.B.B. will be away for the September meeting but Marg and Ian Burke will have the box. Don't forget to get labelled. Donation of \$1.00 to cover cost; Remember the badge must be returned to the box each time. (or else ???)

New Members

Joan Ragg
 Derek and Kerry Fairley and Family
 Phill, Sue, and Tom King
 Ann Warren and Family
 Richard and Ann Barnes
 Jeanette and Lindsay Moody and Family

Market Stall



I/W E WISH TO BECOME A FRIEND OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK & ENCLOSE \$5.00 for 1988 MEMBERSHIP FEE. (Renewable 89)

NAME..... TELEPHONE.....
 ADDRESS..... POST TO BOX 220 844 1060
POSTCODE..... WARRANDYTE 3113 (ENQUIRIES - IAN BURKE)

Coming
Up

OCTOBER 30 - WHIPPER SNIP & WEED TAROONA AVE PLANTINGS... CORNER OF
TAROONA AVE. & EVERARD DVE.

SEPTEMBER 25 - BROOME PULL...TUNNEL ST, FOURTH HILL... ORCHID WALK
LED BY CAM BEARDSAL...

NOVEMBER 27 - A.G.M. ... B.B.Q.... STANE BRAE... JUMPING CREEK CAR PARK

PROPAGATION GROUPS - 10 am. Thursdays, each week

WARRANTYTE COMMUNITY MARKET - First Saturday each month. Stiggants Reserve.

P.S. Do hope all is well with you and your family
Olive. I spoke to your daughter who told me your
mother had had problems since surgery. Our thoughts
with you both. See you soon. *abang.*



P.O. BOX 220 WARRANDYTE 3115 VICTORIA

