



FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK NEWSLETTER

EDITORIAL

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

1989

Despite tremendous advances in science and technology in the last 100 years, there is still a tendency to cherish and perpetuate illusions about the society and world in which we live. Hopefully we can discard some of these false perceptions of reality.

The main important environmental areas to be addressed are population change, pollution, water supplies, food production, and forest reserves. Some illusions we can look at are;

1. The quality of life is enhanced and improved by increased growth, productivity and consumption. The above mentioned factors in the environment are having warning signs that we ignore at our peril. Still this illusion is constantly promoted by economists, politicians, and the media.
2. Science will soon solve most of our environmental problems. Science has discovered far less about natural phenomena than is generally realised. Only a little more than 5% of all estimated flora and fauna have been investigated. Discoveries are not made in a linear fashion, but in isolated events, and often by people working in an unrelated field. Also the bulk of top scientists work in the fields of the military and private enterprise. Their results are classified and not available to the general public. The fragmented additions to the understanding of any actions in the environment often take so long that much damage can result, eg. the relatively recent discovery of biomagnification.
3. Nature will replenish natural resources no matter how much we consume. This was true for the bulk of time that man has been on the planet. But in the last 100 years the balance has changed. Increasing population longevity, loss of natural resources and other environmental hazards have changed all that.
4. Public awareness and understanding of our problems can be achieved by many more programs of science on radio, television and other media. In practice this is also an illusion where it has been tried. There is such a heavy load of information already thrust on the eyes and ears of the public they tend to turn off mentally and only retain small items of information, mixed up with a bundle of advertisements. The producers and broadcasters of many science shows have little or no scientific background. What has this to do with the FOWSP? Well quite a bit really. It is our responsibility to help educate our children. It is too late to introduce science at secondary and university levels. By that time people have been conditioned to a lifestyle often incorporating illusions about science. The Friends group is always pleased to see lots of children at meetings. Parents can also be active in helping to change teaching patterns at the primary school level.

"Truth is that which serves us best in expressing our lives. A rotting log is truth to a violet; while sand is truth to a cactus."

"Truth lies at the end of a circle."

"The only way to keep your education is to give it away."

CALENDAR...

- November 26th. A.G.M. Last Sunday Family meeting for the year. Meeting 12noon. Once Meeting Procedures are over we will have a Special afternoon for all. FOWSPIAN activities will be our Second Yabby Survey. Myles Seymour and his assistants will give expert tuition in Capture Techniques, handling etc!!! All the yabbies will be counted, studied, tagged(?) and finally set free to multiply- back in "Yarra Jack" territory. After all the eats etc. Greg and Joy Hildebrand will perform a special "Twilight Concert"
- December 2nd Last Market of the year at Stiggants Reserve. Don't miss as it is to be followed by THE WELFOWSPIAN EVENT. This will be a joint B.Y.O. Banquet. Enquiries Committee.
- December 7th Thursday Evening Joint Evening Lecture with Yarra Yarra S.G.A.P. DAVID CAMERON..lecture and slides ..GRASSES.
- December 10th. Field Study associated with David Cameron's lecture. 10am. Sunday Identification Walk on Professors Hill. Bring Lunch. P.M. Collection of Specimen Grasses at Andersons Cr. Streamside Reserve.
- December 10th Raft Trip..CANCELLED..River is too high and fast at Present. We wish to be effective "DECONTAMINATORS" etc. and the organisers have POSTPONED the day until late January. Don't fret it will happen.....!

Next Newsletter...mid-January
Deadline JANUARY 6th 1990!

PROPAGATION GROUP.....EVERY THURSDAY....10am. Pound Bend Depot.

Will continue as usual all Christmas and School holiday period. Children welcome when accompanied by parent. Bring a cut lunch. Afternoons we will be out surveying, collecting seed, learning to identify plants etc.

Time to set some rules.

7

ADMINISTRATION BY THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Draft Constitution to be discussed at our AGM.

A couple of months back I wrote that the committee thought it "was time to set some rules" because a few of us thought we should take the opportunity these good times in the history of the Friends has given us to adopt a constitution which might help if problems arise in the future. The response from members was very encouraging - absolute silence. Any other reaction would have indicated worry about the organisation. So encouraged, your committee commissioned me to dust off the references I used to prepare the constitution used to incorporate the Environment League and prepare a draft. Fellow member Helen Fraser made the task easier by typing up the first draft from the various sources.

The Friends are in the fortunate position of not having to incorporate as we enjoy equivalent protection under the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act. The draft to be presented is standard stuff, similar to the MEL and also that used by the Friends of the Morwell State Park except some additional clauses specifying the powers and duties of the committee to cover matters otherwise covered by the Associations Incorporations Act.

We then worked out what it would cost to circulate the 8 page draft to members prior to our next meeting (AGM). As it would have cost some \$120.00 we could not reasonably afford I am offering to send a complete copy to anyone with a real interest - call 844 2740. There will be copies available at the meeting of course. The clauses in the constitution cover:

Objectives

Powers

Membership (registration, expulsion & appeal, etc.)

Conduct of Meetings

Election Of Members Of The Committee Of Management (see below)

Administration By The Committee Of Management

Proceedings Of Committee

Duties Of Officers Of The Friends (see below)

Finance And Property

Alteration Of Rules

Winding Up

Some of the custom made clauses are as follows:

OBJECTIVE

3. The objectives of The Friends are to:

- (i) To provide support for, and foster public awareness of the Park.
- (ii) To assist the Park with special projects, as agreed with the Ranger-in-Charge.
- (iii) To bring into contact and provide a forum for people with a mutual interest in the Park.
- (iv) Develop the Friends organisation by arranging outings and activities for the education and enjoyment of members and their families.
- (v) Engage in activities which are ancillary to objectives 1 to 4.
- (vi) Support the effective management of flora and fauna in Victoria.

The draft is commended to members for adoption at the AGM.

Doug Seymour

7.1

The affairs of The Friends shall be managed by a Committee of Management constituted as provided in Rules 6 and 7 herein.

7.2

Appointment of Office Bearers - At the Annual General Meeting or at the first meeting of the Committee after the Annual General Meeting, the Committee shall select from its numbers:

(i) A Co-ordinator

(ii) A Secretary

(iii) A Treasurer-Membership Officer; and

(iv) A Newsletter Editor

A nomination of a candidate for election under this clause is not valid if that candidate has been elected to another office at the same election.

7.3

Powers - the Committee:-

7.3.1

Except as herein provided and subject to the direction of the association in general meeting, the Committee shall have full power to control, use and apply all property of the association and to conduct and manage the affairs of THE FRIENDS in the furtherance of its objects in any manner it deems necessary.

7.3.2

In particular, it shall be the duty of Committee to:

i) Ensure the proper financial administration of the THE FRIENDS;

ii) Call such meetings as required herein;

iii) Establish and run an annual program of activities as required herein;

iv) Subject to the direction by the THE FRIENDS in general meeting and as generally required herein, to administer property to further the objectives of the THE FRIENDS.

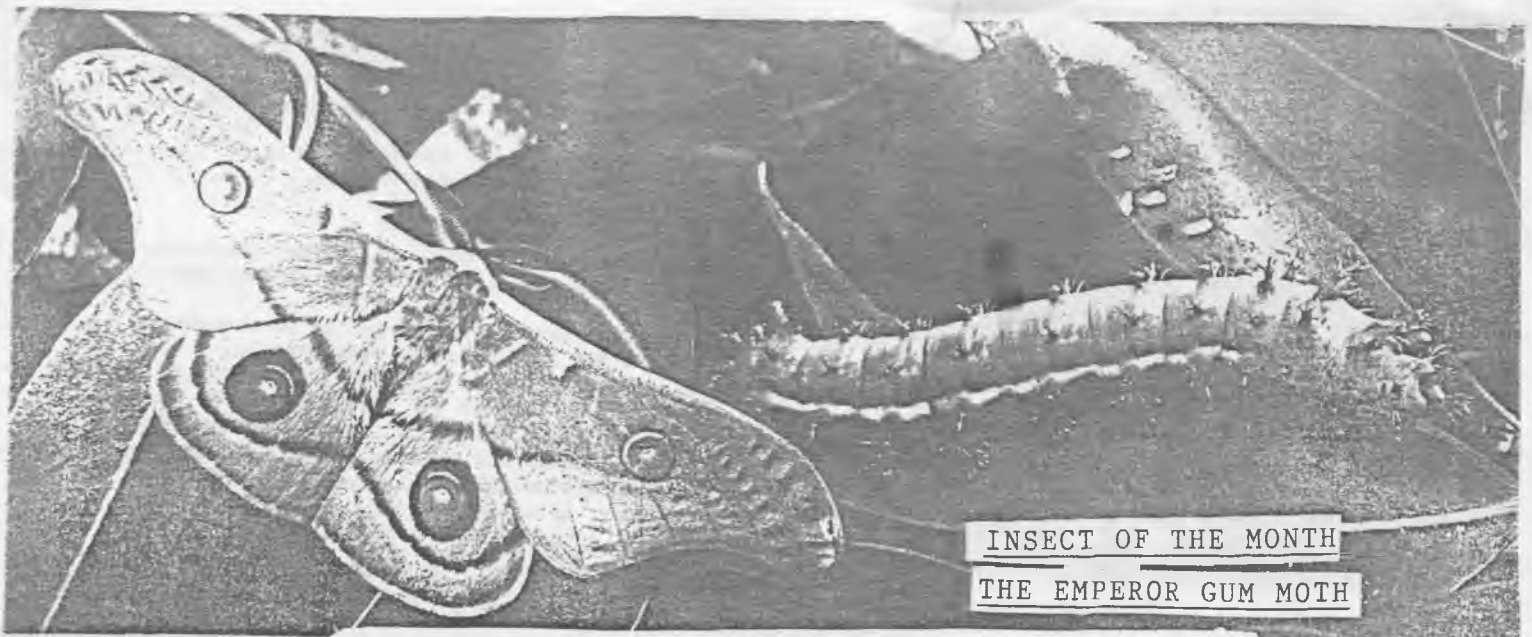
7.6 Duties of Officers of The Friends

7.6.1 Co-ordinator

The Co-ordinator shall:

- (i) Act as chairman and undertake the duties of president of The Friends
- (ii) Manage the business and the program of the Friends in accordance with these rules and generally act to further the objectives of the Friends.
- (iii) Require the committee to prepare a draft program of activities within 60 days of the start of each calendar year, and negotiate agreement on a program of activities with the Ranger-in-Charge, Warrandyte State Park;
- (iv) may vary the program as circumstances require
- (v) shall monitor the conduct of the program, ensuring that all members attending on a program day are given an opportunity to gather together for at least some of the program time.

7.6.2 Secretary



INSECT OF THE MONTH

THE EMPEROR GUM MOTH

One of the largest moths in Australia and certainly one of the most dramatic and well-known in our area, is the Emperor Gum Moth (*Antheraea eucalypti*) belonging to the Family Saturniidae. Like the majority of moths it flies at night and is attracted to outside lights, particularly the fluorescent kind.

This impressive moth flies throughout Eastern Australia during the warmer months of the year. It has a wingspan of about 125mm, the females are somewhat larger than the males. The moth is light brown in color with a stout hairy body. Each forewing has a pale pink eye-spot and on each hindwing there is a larger more striking orange eye-spot ringed in black. These are part of the moths defense by fooling birds and other predators into believing that they are very much bigger than they really are.

Apart from the size, another feature that distinguishes the sexes is the antennae, those of the male are large and feather-like and they are used to pick up the scent or pheromone, as it is called, of the female. The antennae of the female are more simple and thread-like.

After mating the female moth lays her eggs either singly or in small groups attached to the leaves of Eucalyptus trees. The caterpillars of the Emperor Gum Moth are just as well-known as the adult moth. They are often seen on young trees, feeding on the succulent new leaves (a bit of natural pruning doesn't do the tree any harm). It is a superb caterpillar bluish-green in color with a pale yellow stripe along each side. It has short red and blue bristles in tufts over the body and although they look like stinging spines they are in fact completely harmless to touch. They must however be unpleasant to birds and other predators because the caterpillars can be found feeding openly in the daytime.

When it is ready to pupate, the caterpillar begins to change color to a dull purple and will often ejects its body contents before spinning a tough oval cocoon attached to a branch or bark. Pupation may last for several months or even years. It is difficult to imagine how the adult moth could emerge through the hard shell of the cocoon, but when the time is right it secretes a fluid which softens one end of the silk cocoon. It is then able to cut its way out using a sharp thorn-like projection situated at the base of each forewing. Like a butterfly, the moth needs to hang for a while to let its crumpled wings expand as "blood" is pumped into them. Once the wings have hardened, the moth is then ready to take flight and to search for a mate, all under the cover of darkness.

by Pat Coupar.

Committee Meeting this Tues. set the 1990 Membership Subscription at \$10.00 for a family. This is no increase on 1989. The costs of producing the newsletter will not actually be covered by this sum but we have had several fund "boosts". and we wish to remain easily affordable. With eleven newsletters a year and entitlement to a Plant to Befriend at each Market, not to mention association with a wonderful group of "Friends Indeed", we hope all members are satisfied. Subscriptions for 1990 may be sent as soon as you wish.

Eucalyptus
Polyanthemos

1989 Committee:

IAN BURKE 8441060
MARGARET BURKE 8441060
MARGARET FISHER 844 3476
OLIVE WALTERS 846 4729
TERRY OAKLEY 876 4758
KEITH THOMSON 8441590

GAIL ROCHE 722 1926
VAL POLLEY 8443086
DOUG SEYMOUR 8442740
ANNE BEDFORD 438 3216
ELIMA ANGUS 844 2230
MARK GARDNER 844 3799

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

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ENQUIRIES 8441060

PARK OFFICE 844 2659

Subscription \$10.00 Donation

PHONE NUMBER



Regional Groups.

1st Sundays of each month....Stoney Creek Regeneration Team.
Contact Leader Mark Gardner...844 3799
2nd Sundays of each month....Bradley Brigade meet at Normans
Reserve....Contact Ellma Angus...844 2230
Webb St. Weeders....Programme being developed.
Contact Person Phill Johnstone...844
Osborne Rd Group.Programme being developed.
Contact Fred Jungwirth 844
John Boyle 844 3120

Ideas and requests to form other regional, street or special
sub groups should be submitted to the Friends through the
committee.

Planning for appropriate propagation of plants to revegetate
these areas and the other Park areas is very important. The
people to contact are...Pat Coupar 844 1650 Olive Walters 846 4729
...Ben Gotlib 876 2348 Marg Burke 844 1060.

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