

Annual Clean Up Day - Sunday 18 November 1990

Help Clean Up Melbourne from the River

(The second Friends/Warrandyte State Park River Trip)



The Board of Works is organising the second "Bay/Rivers Clean Up Bay" for Metropolitan Melbourne for the 18 November. Last year's Clean Up drew 15,000 people and resulted in 1000 truck loads of rubbish being removed.

The Friends are arranging an afternoon of cleaning up the Yarra by cance for this very day. The Department and our own Rangers are right in there helping once more. We hope a few of the Park staff can come along and help us with some "interps". They also set to cart away the rubbish amongst other things.

Doug Seymour is the contact on this one - he has been unable to hire rafts this time so we pair off into canoes. Everyone gets a buoyancy vest, a paddle and a rubbish bag. It is would help if our rear paddlers have some canoeing experience but we'll give a bit of instruction anyhow. The course will be selected to suit the experience of the party and river/weather conditions. Kids have a great time canoeing - bring a bit of foam cushioning for junior paddlers who want to sit in the middle.

The cost will be \$8.50 per seat (there's no seat in the middle) come assuming you will get wet but hope that you won to Spare dry clothes and something to drink is sensible. We claim a late afternoon tea after the trip so bring something along if you wish.

Numbers have to be known in advance so ring Doug/Non by Wednesday Nov 8th. to book your places. Leave a message on their answering machine if they are not about. They need to know if you are planning to bring your own boat. Every call will be returned before the 8th - to confirm arrangements.

Have a light lunch and meet at the Wonga Park Canoe hire depot in Homestead Road at 12.30 on November the 18th. Everyone welcome.

Doug & Wonnie - 844 2740

An alternative "Activity and Fun-day" for noncanoeists is being planned (at Stane Brae). Both groups will meet up for a picnic to swap stories. Help with the Fun-day will be appreciated. Phone Marg B. 8441060 or Zoe Murphy 844 3397.

STOP PRESS All hope of having some large rafts of for older and younger members is NOT lost. Phone Seymours or Park Office 844 2659 for info.



DSSIER THREE.

After months of searching Nicole was finally tracked down working in the Park workshop. The interview was conducted by your mystery reporter who was disguised as a facially hairless Fowspian.

Nicole was born in Box Hill Hospital Melbourne in 1966. Later she spent two years at Wonga Park Primary, then off to Tintern(East Ringwood) till year 9. After a time at Blackburn Technical School(One of the first girls to attend) she passed Year 10 and ventured into business:— retraining horses and selling them, basically contract work.

Owing to a shrinking market Nicole worked at Vulcan for several months,

but still continued buying and selling horses as a hobby.
Leaving Vulcan Nicole started an apprenticeship in French Polishing.
During this time she also started as a voluntary worker at Warrandyte
State Park. Then she was offered a Construction and Maintenence position
at Ferntree Gully National Park. After two months Nicole started at the
State Park in Warrandyte, under the Youth Guarantee Scheme and completed
the course, which included two days a week at Frankston studying for
a Certificate of Applied Science. Later she travelled around Australia
for two years on a working holiday. This included being a Jillaroo at
Muttaburra in central Queensland, a breakfast cook at Alice Springs,
a contract musterer on a station called Tarlton Downs in the Northern
Territory. The work included driving trucks, graders, horse riding,
fencing, bore maintenence, destruction of rampaging animals.

Nicole returned to Melbourne where she pursued a 'summer crew' job at W.S.P. and was offered a full time job in construction and Maintenence where she has been the last three years.

Nicole has always enjoyed practical subjects having grown up in Wonga Park in a rural setting- 9½ acres requires continuous fencing, stable work,-lots of hands on activity. As Nicolè said, "its an ongoing saga". Personal Interests:

Horse riding.(used to do some show riding), played polo with Lilydale, draughts, fishing- fresh water.(caught spotted trout recently.), camping weekend hiking, swimming, live theatre-like "Barnum", plays guitar, and likes anything from blues to 60's/70's songs. She reached the Venturers, then the Rover level over a 5 year period.

Favorite saying: "Shudders".

Personal Statistics : Height -not known.

Hair : Brown. Eyes : Hazel Hasn't met Mr. Right yet.

Aim in life: To buy a piece of land, open bushland similar to Warrandyte, say a small holding of several hundred acres. have a mud

home.
Food; Likes Italian and Indian.

Courses completed: Chainsaw instructors Course: First Aid Course: Four wheel drive course: Heavy truck licence. (studying for a tractor licence.)
The interview concluded when Nicole had to rush off to Maribyrnong to pick



Hot House Gossip

Elusive member Fred Wilson has been proving an asset beyond price of late. After our demonstration of the new Hamilton Tree Planter, Fred decided to take one of our pots home and have a bit of a "fiddle around" (it seems Fred is one of those people who "knows a bit and knows the odd place around where he can often collect bits and pieces for re-use") really surprised us with our "Wilson Tree Planter" though. It is a beautiful job, can be inspected and tried out on any Thursday and we are all (Friends and Park staff) very delighted with the help.

When hearing of our need for hair underlay Fred has also been able to supply us with quite a large amount. He told us his wife advised caution as she was SURE we wouldn't want ALL that old junk! Well as we are using it as an alternative to plastic weedmat for tree plantings and also as an experimental adjunct to weed control. programmes we sincerely doubt ever having TOO MUCH. We really value the help Fred is giving and would be pleased to use Any NATURAL FIERE underlay or carpet.

It was fantastic to see the collection of rabbit-guards (already being put into use orshould we say RE-USE!) The Fowspianmites "counted" them and estimates ranged from "Ninety-hundred, I think" to "Ummm...a real lot!" to about two thousand. So once again - amarvellous effort.

The way Friends and Community is interacting and co-operating is indeed gratifying. Harry Heaths our local supermarket, is really being as involved and supportive as were local businesses in "the good old days". They approached us to offer soft-drinks, bickies and a lending hand during our efforts to "Green" the townscape. Management have promised similar refreshments for any other tree plantings etc. and are interested in what we are all about. Andrew Burns and Andrew Walters (Manager and Assistant) are to visit the nursery next week (Thurs).

And whilst we are on it...Harry Heaths are providing a Hamper for us to raffle for Christmas. Gail Roche will be in charge. We will have tickets for sale at the market stall and at all of our meetings. If you would like to take some tickets for selling to friends, neighbours or relations just see Gail or a committee member.

Received a warm letter of thanks from C.O.D.A.T. thanking us for help with Townscape Tree Plant. Many many thanks to all of the Fowspians involved. Jane Marriot was last heard as she flew off on her annual holidays, saying that this was only the first of many. We all like the feeling that communication and community involvment are high on Councils priorities— long may it be that way.

Nice little snippet for long time members. Our special "old" friend Ranger Kim Robinson was married (on the day of the League Grandfinal) We met Fiance Tony a few times just before Kim got that very important job as Weed Officer. We would love to have Kim and Tony come to our Christmas Do....after the A.G.M. (Nov.) Kim was the ranger who really inspired us to take on the Park Nursery and gave us much "tender loving conning" as well as training. OUR LOVE.

The call for helpers in many areas has been magnificently met of late. Joan MacMahon has begun making carry and shopping bags from used calico flour sacks donated by Peter at the local Health Food Store. We will sell these at the Market and they will contain a collection of "Green -information as well, plus free seed, a plant voucher from FOWSP. Would make a great present for new or old locals. We plan also to have free bagged collections but these will be in brown paper bags. Any ideas for inclusions, offers of help organising these or general offers see Marg Burke or contact Joan MacMahon 45 2977. Any more calico bags?

FOLLY FEVER HAS HIT. At last the Folly looks like a building. Builders Barry and John Geusthuizen' have all the main frame and roof up. We are waiting for the roofing iron at present. It seems that a floor will also be down by Christmas. All those who promised help please see Ian, Alec or Tim at the next meeting (Koala Count)

We are puttig together a few more proposals for grants. Most immediate needs are for more tree guards. It seems a remarkable year for rabbits: Our book is in the pipeline as well.

Currawong Park are having a Spring Fair and asked us to help. Trouble was it is to be held on the same day as our Christmas break-up A.G.M. and Concert. We do wish them luck and regret the coincidence of dates.

Market Stall improvements are slowly progressing. Lots to do and we need more helpers. We will thopefully have a much more exciting stall very soon. Still need more volunteers for the roster.

At the nursery the building committee are continuing the transformation. The rabbit-proof hardening off area is underway and Alec, Ron and Ian had lots of plumbing "bits" sorted out. They assure us that the sprinklers are "next Thursdays project!". And the steps sweeping up from the car-park area are positively "Grand Staircase" proportions.

Margaret Burke had a friend, Rosalind Gillespie, staying with her and Ian. Rosalind came down from Sydney to collect an A.F.I. award for her film Handmaidens and Battleaxes., and doesn't really enjoy staying in hotels. Expressing some interest in "what goes on at the nursery" was enough. Next morning Ros found herself (on a cold miserable morn) down at the depot, rain pouring onto the "shelter" with her hands in the pot-washing tub, the centre of the "propagation gossip group." She sends regards to all and promises that the collection of plants which kept her company on the trip back will remind her of a very different morning. She even said she would return!

Friends of the Eltham Copper Butterfly have their next meeting on the morning of November 21st. All Fowspians are very welcome to come along and help Stephen Anderson and his group. If you want more information phone Stephen at the Warrandyte Park Office 844 2659.

Mark and his weeders had a great morning on Oct. 14th. despite some of their efforts having been vandalised. Gad's gang had grown because of the interest generated by our last Family Sunday Meeting. Still the mess was fixed up (with lots of "DIRF" mutterings) and the efforts of the group are becoming most obvious. Mark has some interesting theories on weed suppression and we are trying to "field test" them. More later. Next meeting will be Sun. Nov. 11th 9-11am.



Banjo Patterson's Mulga Bill would have envied the cycling skills exhibited on Sunday 7 October when some of the Friends joined in the WEL Great Bike Ride to Winneke Dam, well organized and ably led by John and Kerry Boyle. Margaret and lan Burke drove the support vehicles which were fuller on the return journey after a two hour ride ('only a few small hills' said John) and a barbeque lunch at the reservoir. Good effort Shirley M. and was that a gravel rash I noticed on Anna Schurman's face this week?

Foundations down, Frame is up!



Margaret has asked me to write an occasional article for you to store away in your cupboard of useless information.

She was inspired by the joy of a well loved Fowspian when he learned that decussate foliage, (eg. in Pimeleas) means that each pair of opposite leaves is at right angles to the next pair. When seen from above the pattern is in the form of a cross.

Well then, for what its worth I have dipped into much literature and I offer you this. I promise that only W.S.P. plants will be referred to; ie. the ones that we are propagating so that you can check up on them in the shadehouse. First the Eucalypts - 'eukalyptos' means well covered. The cap or operculum covers the stamens in the buds of all eucalypts.

The species that we are propagating are:

E. obliqua - Messmate. Oblique = angled or asymmetrical and refers to the base of the leaf blade.

E.macrorhynca - Red Stringybark

macrorhynca = large beak - look at the fruit.

E. polyanthemos - Red Box. poly = many, antheros = flowering

E viminalis - Manna Gum. viminalis = with long flexible twigs.

E. rubida - Candlebark. rubiginous = rust colored or red colored bark.

E. ovata - Swamp Gum. ovate = elliptical shape of the leaves.

E. goniocalyx - Long Leaved Box. gon = angle

E. Melliodora - Yellow Box. mel, mellis = honey scented

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Melanies Badge Designs .

Coupar Corner

THE HUNTSMAN

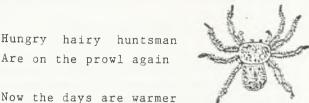
Poem by Pat

Drawing by Ross









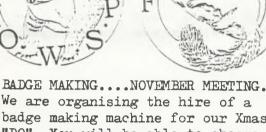




When it's pouring down with rain

They sneak inside for

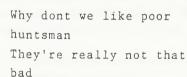
shelter
As they search for food at night



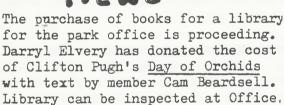


But their hairy legs and bodies Give us humans such a fright

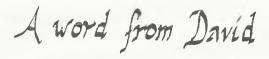
We are organising the hire of a badge making machine for our Xmas "DO". You will be able to choose one of Mel's designs, add your name (or have it beautifully done by Ian), even colour it in! Glenn's metal ones can possibly be ordered at the same time!



PARK LIBRARY NEWS



They help keep down the mozzies
And for that we should be glad



PLANTS, BIRDS 'N THINGS

A big thanks to those who are able to make it along on Thursdays to the propagating group. The nursery is filling up quickly and looking great. We'll have an awesome task of planting by next Autumn.

A small dedicated group of people have been venturing out into the park most Thursday afternoons, and we have been rewarded with all sorts of treats. From colorful insects with scientific names that we can't pronounce, to intricate orchids where you need a hand lense to truly appreciate the fine details. Many birds have been flying around and calling lately; we witnessed a large Bird of Prey being continually harassed by several Ravens and not until it was out of their territory did they leave it alone. We've also been learning the names to lots of plants, and have even found a few new ones to add to the park list. (more about those next newsletter).

Wildflowers to take note of at the moment are the Lilies. They are appearing in a whole range of colors and sizes, the main colors are white, yellow, purple and blue. The Early Nancies are just about finished but Twining Fringe-Lily, Flax-Lily, Bulbine Lily, Milkmaids and Chocolate Lilies are all coming in to bloom. You'll need to get out in the next couple of weeks to see them though, as most are short-lived flowers.

Thanks to those who brought the seed punnets in, they're being put to use already.



The Seymour family has just returned from travelling through the America and south-west Canada. Before they headed off Ian invited Myles and Huon to put together a story on the environment as Americans see it ... here is their story.

Come see our Park ... I'll drive you there in my Cadillac

Myles

Myles & Huon Seymour

Our family recently travelled to America to see some of their beautiful national parks and to visit relations in New York. Disneyland was pretty good too.

We had a great time in America — everyone was nice and the parks — Rockies, Grand Canyon, Walden Pond in Massachusetts, Sequoia and Yosemite in California were fabulous.

We first started to think about pollution when we walked up the Columbia Glacier in Alberta, Canada. From the car-park for a half mile to the foot of the Glacier there is a line of markers showing how the glacier has shrunk in the last 20 years. The Parks Service has a big information board talking about the Greenhouse Effect and asking the question "will the glacier keep shrinking or will we have another Ice Age?"

There are 17 Americans for every Australian - in a country the same size. Smog covers every part of the country for at least some of the day. The Grand Canyon has three clear days a year. On all other days a blue haze fills this mighty Canyon.

We climbed out of the Canyon quite certain about it being one of "the seven wonders". It is interesting how there are damp areas a part way up the 4000 foot cliffs on the dry south side rim. The Rangers told us about these micro-climate areas and we could see giant cypress trees growing on a ledge where a bend in the canyon wall gathered moist air.

We went to Tijuana (Mexico) for a day - I think mum and dad thought we should see how the other half lives or something! There are hundreds of beggars in the streets and lots of desperate shop-keepers. The city smells really foul. The border into the USA is like a prison camp wall because thousands of Mexicans try to sneak over the border every night.

We felt pretty bad about the future of our planet because much of the world is getting is getting to be like this. But despite their troubles there was still a lot of music in the streets. 女女女女女 女

HUON

Myles and I have kept diaries of our trip to America and I see that Canadian bears must be smarter than American bears. It is forbidden to feed the animals in any US or Canadian Park so they all have bear-proof rubbish bins. Mear Banff in Canada the bins have a sloping open-up top that can only be lifted if you press a lever up with your thumb. American bears can't work out a much simpler bin - just a flap needs to be pressed back on their bins.

To look after the Parks with so many people visiting, the American Parks Service run small shuttle buses to take people around the accommodation villages and to favourite spots. People are told to leave their cars behind. Americans visiting the Parks always ask you what you think. I think they are proud of their parks and so they should be.

Australia is lucky that it is a younger country and it still has a chance to keep more wilderness areas. Every American I met wanted to come to Australia but they won't come if there is nothing to see.

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It's interesting to read the boys notes after the visit. In some regards they have been more observant than their parents.

Generally speaking, more Americans seem to have faith in their technical ability to solve environmental problems than "the average Australian".

We were pleased to catch up with some members of the Sierra Club during the last week of our stay. Many Friends know of this elder brother of our own Wilderness Society. The Club was started by John Muir (Yosemite fame) and others and now has chapters all over the U.S.

The Napa group, which our friends the Niemanns support, is campaigning for vegetation conservation controls to limit the destructive spread of vineyard establishment out of the valley into the surrounding hills. The problems are the same and it was wonderful to be able to compare notes with like-minded people.

We enjoyed catching up with lan's long time friend Bill Price at his home in California. Like many Friends we met Bill when he visited Australia in February. Bill put us in touch with many of his own friends; he sends best wishes to FOWSPIANS one and all.

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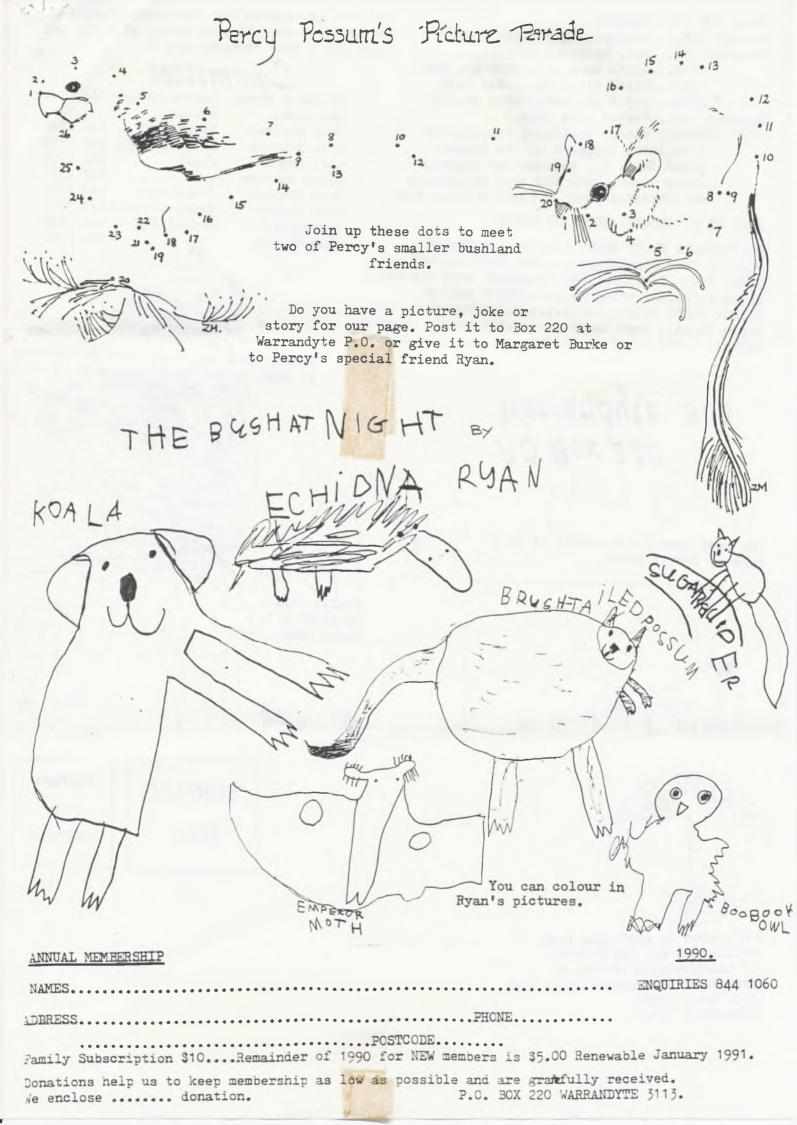
Double Feature Weekend Our Double Feature weekend meeting was of course another real treat as expected. The spirit of Skip Moyle must trully be estatic. His old hut looked warm and inviting for the slide evening. The Coupar Family of course rose to the occasion with a fascinating look at our environment through the lens of Mikes Camera, and with fabulous facts and annecdotes to enthrall us all. The evening was followed up by a walk led by Mike and Pat through (or rather up) Professor's Hill Wildflower sanctuary. As usual Mike stole the scene by dancing through "fields of flowers" with a gigantic bufterfly net catching "specimens" so we could all truly learn to identify a moth from a butterfly! The Flora present on the hill was a usual EREATHTAKING and all the Coupar Family are a fund of knowledge. Mike has a request for us all....we must find out the history of Skip Moyle and his hut and we must all grow insect food plants (esp. Butterfly & Moth species) in our gardens.

The walk had been preceded by a working bee at Stoney Creek with Mark Gardner giving us an informative and entertaining talk. If you wish to really learn how to "Do a Bradley" on the bush just come along and be trained at his next regular meeting.

We finished up the day walking to Shirley Mandemakers block behind Prof. Hill, took awalk around to admire the way she hopes to protect her bush, then had a cuppa at the caravan she is living in at present—then went home to a well earned rest!

Craft Corner

CRAFT CORNER - Graham Madley has offered to build a paper press for the Friends' group so the plans are with him at the moment and as soon as he has completed it we will inform you of our next move.



Editors ap ologise for the crammed edition. We DATES FOR THE CALENDAR. October 28th., Sunday...1pm. KOALA COUNT. do try to print all copy which will fit and this was a true "bumper crop." November 3rd...Sat. Market.Roster..... 11th...Gad's Gang at Stoney Cr. 9am. 18th...River Clean Up....\$44 2470. 25th...A.G.M./Concert/Yabby Survey Co-ordinator 844 1060 Margaret Burke December 1st...Market (pre Xmas.)
EVERY THURSDAY (incl. Holidays) Propagation Ian Burke Editor Secretary 844 2740 Doug Seymour & building projects at the Nursery Anne Bedford Asst. Secret. 438 3216 Pound Bend. All welcome 10am onwards 722 1926 Gail Roche Craft Bring lunch. Walk for seed collection 846 4729 Olive Walters or identification of Flora & Fauna P.M. 844 1590 Judy Thomson Treasurer Group Adviser 844 3799 Mark Gardner HELP US TO COLLECT THESE TO REUSE. Social Sec 844 1448 Gay Harris 844 2557 POLYSTYRENE FRUIT BOXES For the Nursery. Alec Manson Plastic Film Cannisters....For Seed Collection PANTY HOSE (feet) For "bagging" seed capsules. Paper-different colours.....Paper making. CALICO FLOUR BAGS......Carry/shopping bags. Large Plastic Seed Trays......For ground covers. NATURAL FIBRE FLOOR COVERINGS..... For weed make Georgie and her daddy, Stan Andrew, like to walk in the bush looking for Koalas. Wartandyte 5115 PO Box 220 by Karly The best home for a rabbit is in a cage or rabbit hutch. Koalas like to live in Manna Gums. POSTAGE SURFACE PAID MAIL AUSTRALIA Registered by Australia Post Publication No. VEH 90 6982 If undeliverable return to Friends of Warrandyte State Park

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