

FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE

STATE PARK NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1990



Editorial

In the first half of this century two wars and a world depression left their marks on a young Australia and produced a marked effect on the development of the country, and more so the attitudes to life in general. The quest for Nationhood was very slow to develop. The geographical isolation, and lack of communication with the big world "up there" had noticeable effects on the human psyche. Earlier writers have recorded what they called a massive indifference to the world outside, but more importantly to each other. Norman Lindsay called this the "Voltage of Hostility", and saw it expressed as a suspicion and sometimes contempt for anyone with an academic status.

By the early 1970's many episodes had occurred to challenge our isolation and indifference. The distancing of the country from British influence, the tragedy of Vietnam, and an increasing involvement with Asian countries and the U.S.A. have forced us to make many decisions and value judgements. The threat of war in the Middle East and global concern for the environment mean that we can never again be isolated from the rest of the world. Pick up any book written in the 70's and early 80's that describe the 'Australian way of Life' - there is rarely any mention of environmental concerns at a local or national level. The main emphasis was always on economic growth and material affluence.

The Friends groups in our State have helped to make changes in the way we think. We are able to foster a new sense of community and have the ability to educate and inform people to understand conservation in its relation to the environment. Perhaps one day we will have overcome some of the earlier attitudes of isolation and indifference that are a legacy from our past culture.

"The working for a common cause dilutes the human ego, dissolves village casts makes neighbour with neighbour, and liberates a vast amount of human love, which otherwise would remain hermetically sealed."

Elbert Hubbard.

"If men could only know each other, they would never either idolize or hate."

Elbert Hubbard.

"Co-operation not competition is the life of business.(and the business of life.)"

"Everything is waiting and watching you to see what signal you hoist from within. You attract that which you desire to attract."

STOP PRESS The seventeen Fowspians who took part in the Yarra Clean Up on the 18th Nov. all deserve a front page WELL DONE. Two ute loads of rubbish was collected by canoe - most Friends ending up VERY damp. Phill Honeywood our local M.L.A. accompanied us and we all "bent his ear" over billy-tea and damper at Stane Brae beach after.

Final Family Meeting / BBQ / Concert / Yabby Count / Folly / Fun!

The last Sunday Family meeting of the year is a special occasion where we can all get together and review the years activities, achievements...highs and lows...enjoy one another's company see what a truly marvellous collection of Friends we have. We have all kinds of fun things planned and if you would simply like to admire the Nursery, choose a plant for your garden "wet the Folly roof", have a go at catching the biggest yabby, making Damper, making a new name badge for your self/selves....you will have a great day. But we have more.....

Greg and Joy Hildebrand will perform a special Concert.

We also plan a shared barbeque/picnic (bring along some treats) on the banks of Lake Olive a time to share ideas and aspirations. The formal meeting will be first on the agenda with the election of the Committee for 1991. Please be there at 1pm. The Concert will be between 4 and 6 then Greg and Joy will join us for our "banquet". Those who wish to could count a Koala, race a yabby, admire the orchard plantings and especially the gardens around the office and the folly. All of our local Councillors have been invited....We hope to see all of our members.

Clematis aristata

Koala Count

FAMILY MEETING.....KOALA SURVEY NUMBER THREE.....OCTOBER 28th 1990.

The wind was blowing and the sun was fierce the day we counted the Koala population. Staggering into the Depot 35 exhausted Fowspians, Fowspianmites and Rangers tallied up the Census. We found 20 was the total in the Pound Bend area. All the females had fine healthy large young -mostly on mother's lap. The males all appeared fit and well. Many of the animals were awake-even alert! Looked down at us, all peering up through various binocs etc, and with great disdain simply went back to sleep. Conclusions drawn by ourselves and staff is that our Koala are healthy, breeding well- no sign of Chlamydia - no signs of stress in the population. Most were found in Manna Gums which in turn show no signs of defoliation. We have had a couple of census takers -noteably Anne Warren offer to do a river census of areas we couldn't walk. We plan to make this a biannual activity. Watch for our next date. Thanks to all who participated.

SOCIAL JOTTINGS FROM BUTTERFLY - Three tables have been booked in FOWSP's name for the Drama Group's production of 'Guess who's having an Affair?' at the Mechanic's Institute on Friday night 30 November at 7.30 for 8 pm. Tickets can be collected and paid for from the pharmacy in Yarra Street at \$10 each. Please B.Y.O. drink and a plate for supper to share. We'd love to see you there but hurry because it's going to be a popular night.

While on the subject of the W'dyte Mechanics Hall a substantial refund will be made to FOWSP if we can arrange a block booking for a night at the Follies to be held during the Warrandyte Festival next year in March. The hall holds 100 people and I'm sure if we start enthusing all our friends, relatives, neighbours we can do it! This review is a fun night held at a balmy time of the year and again, watch the newsletter in February for the date so you don't miss out

Local artist, Ron Muller is holding an exhibition and sale of his paintings the weekend of our AGM (24th and 25th November) at his home, 84 The Boulevard and will be open from approximately 11am to 5pm both days. Amongst other things Ron paints Yarra valley landscapes and it could just be a good place to drop in on, on the way to the 'folly'!

FRIENDS OF THE ELTHAM COPPER BUTTERFLY

The group's first working-bee was held on Sunday, September 23 at the Eucalyptus Rd. reserve. Under the guidance of the Ranger, Stephen Anderson, 13 energetic people picked up rubbish, pulled out weeds (mainly Cape Broom) and put in nearly 100 plants of Shiny Cassinia (Cassinia longifolia). These plants were propagated at the Warrandyte State Park nursery from seed collected in Eltham. It was by no means all hard work, as we basked in spring sunshine, discovered many lovely wildflowers and refreshed ourselves with billy tea and chocolate cake. Some of the plants in flower were:

Others

- Blue stars (Chamaescilla corymbosa)
- Running Postman (Kennedia prostrata)
- Pink Bells (Tetratheca ciliata)
- Candles (Stackhousia monogyna)
- Beard heath (Leucopogon virgatus)
- Everlasting, common (Helichrysum apiculatum)
- Early Nancy (Anguillaria dioica)
- Flat Pea (Platylobium formosa)
- Fringe Lily, Twining (Thysanotus patersonii)
- Hovea, common (Hovea heterophylla)
- Purple Coral-pea (Hardenbergia violacea)
- also seen was a small grass yellow Butterfly

Orchids

- Waxlip (Glossodia major)
- Pink Fingers (Caladenia carnea)
- Spider Orchid (Caladenia patersonii)
- Greenhood, blunt (Pterostylis curta)
- , tall (, longifolia)
- Golden Moth (Diuris pedunculata)
- Wallflower or Donkey Orchid (Diuris longifolia)
- Leopard Orchid (Diuris maculata)

The group plans to meet every second month on the fourth Sunday. The next working-bee will be held at the Diosma rd. site on Sunday, November 25th at 10 am. In January, when the Eltham Copper Butterflies will be on the wing, we hope to do a count at both sites.

If you would like to assist the group, contact Stephen Anderson at the Pound Bend office, 844 2659 or Elaine Braby, 439 9015.

GAD'S GANG.....

This is now a well established regional resident's group that is training people in the gentle art of weeding and restoration of areas with indigenous species. The method used is that described by the Bradley sisters. Mark Gardner (now a Park Ranger) is at present working on an area near The Boulevard where there is a particular problem with onion weed. A new method of controlling onion weed is the use of carpet underlay in particularly heavily infested areas has shown a good result. Ron Muller and Chris Cantor are now Mark's permanent assistants. Any FOWSPIANS or local residents are welcome to attend and learn more about this interesting experiment. The group meet on every second Sunday of the month, from 9.30-11.00 am.

Contact MARK GARDNER: ph. 844 3799 for further details.

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Gad's Gang



Eltham Copper Butterfly



Stephen Anderson

Hot House Gossip

Last Newsletter for 1990 so we must do our best to organise all the activities for the summer season. The Thursday activities will not really be affected at all. We have a large number of folk come along and help and of course the plants never take a holiday! Children accompanied by an adult are most welcome.

December/January is a busy time for seed collection. If you walk past a plant wearing a "seed sock" pay only scant attention and please do not laugh....this is our way of catching those elusive essentials. Long ago when we first got going Kim Robinson warned us that huge quantities of seed actually avoided collection by popping on Christmas Day!

An appointment which caused great excitement within the Friends group has been the elevation of Mark Gardner to the Ranger staff. A local resident (third generation) Mark not only has skills and the usual qualifications as required for the job but also a lifetime of special local knowledge. We sincerely congratulate the panel who had the perspicacity to employ him and hope this is the beginning of a long career at Warrandyte State Park.....MARVELLOUS.....

We really are lucky with our Park Staff, but not only staff...Head Ranger Ian Roche is a gem but C. & E. also gets the woman behind the man as well. Gail puts in so much effort through FOWSP she is a great asset (not to mention the Rochette's Karly and Daniel) and recently she had us all worried with her "touch of hay-fever".

Pat Coupar and Gail Roche were our representatives at the Eltham Weed Workshop in November. They promise a report in the first Newsletter for 1991 and a "mini-workshop" in the near future. Gail and Pat found time to chat to our Kim Robinson who was one of the speakers.

well the Folly is up....still needs a few little jobs done....Brick paving for the floor, spouting, a back wall etc. but quite homely as it is.

We provided Warrandyte Primary with plants for their last working-bee, and will continue to be involved with the revegetation of the "old pine plantation". We hope this transformation is a real community effort. Principle Ken Wing-Jan was inspired to send us a cheque to help us with our Library. Committee decided to set this money aside to pay for our "Album"- a photographic record of (ultimately) every species-plant, animal, bird, insect etc. in the Park. We will have it available at every market for you to see/use. Marvellous to see the development of such important community projects.

Group has a bus-trip to Organ-Pipes on November 29th. Ron Golding has organised the community bus. The propagators are off to learn about revegetating areas with Kangaroo Grass. The bus takes 20 and any more people will have to go in private vehicles. Please give Ron your name if you wish to go. A list will be up at the Nursery.

Market Stall next year will be really up graded. The plans to have new noticeboards, display "Warrandyte Wild-Life Watch" plenty of plants for the plant exchange-a-pot scheme, free seed and our Gould League ordering scheme are developing. We will show you all about it at the December Market.

The Raffle of the beautiful hamper provided by Harry Heath's (with some generous membership supplementation) 2nd Prize from Kellybrook Winery and a Plant Collection of Friends Plants is going well. If you have not bought a ticket or sold some to your friends or family see Gail Roche (722 1926) or the Nursery Group. The winners will be drawn at the November 25th meeting.

The Library at the depot is growing. Several books we would like are out of print. We will list these later but should you have any suitable we would be delighted to inscribe your name as donor if you would like to contribute. See Pat, David, Stephen or Mark for assistance. Any books about Plants, animals, birds, insects, spiders, natural science, Parks etc, etc, etc.....

This Newsletter has the first article about the plant list up-dating being done by Pat and Gretna with the help also of David Van Bockel, Doug Seymour, local expert Arthur Williamson. This is really exciting and will be complemented by Olive Walters pressed flower collection, Mike and Pat Coupar's slides and photographs. The walks Pat leads each Thursday allow all of us to help and also learn.

The Burke's went to visit Mrs Frogmouth and family last week. They had heard how exposed to all the elements she, her offspring and Mr. F. were. She didn't seem to mind them admiring her feats of balance at all. But they shuddered to think how dearly all must have to hold fast during hail and wind storms. Of course the Tindale family all give the F's much moral support.

This will arrive in letter boxes just after our river clean-up canoe trip etc. Hear about our hard work and bravery at the Nov. 25th meeting. This meeting is in co-operation with the Board of Works River and Bayside clean-up. Thanks to all the participants.

Good to have Bill Roxburgh back at the pot-scrubbing of a Thursday. Whilst the building tasks are happening a rather sexist division of labour seems to occur- missed you Bill.

The Paper press and deckle which Graham Madeley has built have been delivered! If you have been waiting for this activity to begin.....it is off and running. Graham has been finding all about the craft and he and Gail propose to get going right away. Phone Gail for more information

Harry Heath's have been true to their promises and we have been visited by Manager and Asst. Manager with loads of "re-cyclables". They promise support for all of our Working Bees, activities, displays etc. (Gave us the lovely Hamper to raffle!) Trouble is when management rolls up we shall have to pop on a badge as both Andrews look so alike. Badges will have to emphasise surnames...Walters or Burns. Hope they both come to the next Sunday Meeting to try it out.

on 722 1926.

A word from David

PLANTS, BIRDS 'N THINGS

DIRECT SEEDING IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN AT WARRANDYTE STATE PARK. Firstly, Matt Le Duc (Senior Ranger at Organ Pipes National Park) will be talking to the propagating group on Thursday 29th November at Organ Pipes N.P. He will be explaining the technique involved and showing the group the work that has been done there with Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*). This is a follow up to Kieth Mc Dougall's talk and notes. (Further details - about excursion in 'Hothouse Gossip').

Secondly, over summer we will be trying this technique out at W.S.P. also with Kangaroo Grass. Our proposal is to have a working bee where the whole job will be done in one day. The actual day will depend on when the seed ripens (which varies with the weather), but will be between Boxing Day and the first week of January. ANY VOLUNTEERS for this day, please register your interest and availability to me at the park office (844 2659). Tasks will involve raking up and bagging the grass, then spreading it out at a different location.

PLANT LIST:..

The updated, revised, revamped (call it what you like) plant list for W.S.P. has emerged from Doug Seymour's computer, in its first draft stage. It was soon sent back to incorporate all the updates in plant botanical names that have occurred since Arthur first compiled the list in 1980. So Doug is back with his computer typing away, asking himself if it is all worth it. YES, we all say!?!

As for plants in the field, it's all happening. A number of people have been surveying the park and have had their efforts rewarded by the discovery of some new and interesting plants. Arthur has re-located (after 10 years) the local form of Rosemary Grevillea (now known as *Grevillea glabella*); and from what was once two populations of around six plants each, only one small isolated individual was left. One of the populations used to occur at the Nelson Rd clearing site!! Other highlights have been Elderberry Panax (*Polyscias sambucifolius*) on a steep, dry northerly slope, Musk Daisy-bush (*Olearia argophylla*), Pale-fruit Ballart (*Exocarpus strictus*) and another occurrence of Wonga Vine (*Pandorea pandorana*) which Judy Thomson casually pointed out on one of the walks (Brownie points for you Judy).

Interesting animal/bird sightings in the park lately have been: Rufous Fantail, Red-bellied Black Snake, Sacred Kingfisher, Platypus and Tuan (Brush Tailed Phascogale).

All the best over the summer period and I look forward to seeing those of you who can make it to the Thursday Propagating Group.

David Van Bockel

I hope that you weren't left too long up in the air with *Eucalyptus goniocalyx*, (Long-leaved Box) and that you were able to work out for yourselves that the angle (gon) refers to the vertical ridges on the seed cases (capsules).

By the way, a Box is the Eucalyptus that hangs onto its Bark. A "Gum" sheds its bark in long strips.

Now to the Acacias (Wattles).

You will hear people talking about phyllodes of Acacias when you think that they should be talking about leaves. Some acacias have the awkward (for us) habit of producing leaves only in their juvenile stages, and thereafter going in for phyllodes for foliage.

The one you will know best is the Blackwood whose early "ferny" foliage is a true leaf, but a mature tree has flattened foliage or phyllodes which are really modified stalks (petioles). Sometimes these phyllodes are rounded in cross-section (terete) as in *Acacia brownii*. In Western Australia there's an Acacia with very large phyllodes, 20 - 45 cm long. Not surprisingly it is called the Elephant Ear Wattle. By way of contrast our dear little Gold Dust Wattle (*A. acinacea*) has tiny oblong or oval phyllodes, about 0.5 x 1 cm. The name acinacea means dagger-like referring to the phyllodes' re-curving point. (pointing downwards or backwards.)

Just one more wattle - *Acacia aculeatissima*. (Thin-leaf wattle). Any Spanish word ending in -issima means very or very much so, and aculeate means prickly or pointed. *Acacia aculeatissima* you will find a very prickly little shrub indeed.

Two of our Warrandyte wattles keep their ferny true leaves all their lives. *Acacia dealbata* (Silver wattle) and *Acacia mearnsii* (Black wattle)... but moer about them later.

Dr Gretna Weste has suggested that I write up for the Newsletter the plants she and Pat Coupar see on their Friday jaunts. I shall be pleased to do this for forthcoming Newsletters.

PROE
P-TORIA
G-TROUINANEET
GRUUS

Acacia
Acinacea

1990..... A Year in Review.....

Membership of FOWSP last year had grown thus requiring a set of rules-our constitution. This year the Friends continued to grow and within our rules framework we expanded in very many other ways. Once the very few did all the tasks. Oh dear! we had none that could be labelled 'experts'.

The adults within the group are all now taking a share of all the tasks/responsibilities. With development of talents and expertise, I would hope all members are able to see the importance and relevance of their contributions. Sometimes people join saying, "of course I know nothing about..." or "I am no Greenie", and lo and behold they discover they do have talents or opinions or they are motivating forces who can become so very important in our group. They are often surprised at their own achievements. We must not forget the children who join in with their parents in many of our activities-I still hope to see a Council of Youngers who can contribute as well as learn. They are often augmented at times by the schools who help with plantings, and we in turn are involved with projects at the schools and kindergartens.

The general community no longer sees us as a "fringe" group- as they join, find out about what we do, and see that the State Park IS Warrandyte, and that one day that all residents of Warrandyte will become Fowspians.

In practical ways this year we have seen much development. Our consultative role with the Park staff has increased greatly over the past two years, due in no small part to the effort and enthusiasm of head Ranger Ian Roche.

It has been a wonderful year- with general expansion of activities. The Festival was a highlight. We even won a section of the Float Procession and many members joined at the Market. Animal surveys were well attended, -Koala and Kangaroo. Arbour Week and World Environment Week meant the nursery was almost emptied by local schools and our members. This year we have had several slide night/walk weekend activities with the help of Pat and Mike Coupar, marvellous learning experiences for all. We had several visits- to the Healesville Sanctuary, CODAT nursery and we have trips planned to Organ Pipes and several other Parks in the near future.

We had a special concentration on English Ivy as our weed of the year for 1990, with wonderful results. Other weeding days/groups- especially regional groups have blossomed. Gad's Gang is especially well attended.

Running the Nursery is a special joy for people on Thursdays. Some folk even schedule their RDO's in order to visit! We produced a huge variety of plants - from the tiniest wildflowers, through grasses, shrubs and all the Acacias and Eucalypts. The Nursery itself has been restored and renovated- polyhouses revamped and new watering systems installed. An outside hardening off area has been built and the shadehouse and work area refitted. Gardens surround the site and a curving set of steps are being made. Nursery activity led to the need for an updated plant list, and this has inspired walks every Thursday, with Pat Coupar.

We applied for a grant to build our "Folly" (a multi-purpose shelter) and the main structure awaits your inspection. A brick floor is the next step.

Craft group is to be set up-paper making our first experiment. Hope this can be done in the evenings as pupils and working folk wish to participate. We like to see re-cycling in practice.

In other ways we have been both watchful and active. The illegal clearing of property in Nelson Rd., and the current problems of C.&E funding are cases in point. We shall continue to direct our efforts towards protecting our Park. We have worked on several common projects with the Board of Works.

The development of the library for FOWSP/Park staff is a really worthwhile project. My heart is gladdened by the wonderful community involvement which FOWSP has these days and hope this continues to grow and develop. My thanks to all FOWSP members and our dedicated Committee and the Park staff.

Maureen Burke

ROCHE REPORT

This Friends group seems to have endless demands placed upon it, from the supply of plants to all and sundry to the protection of this park (and others) from the ravages of corporate takeovers.

Well there's more!

What are you doing over January?

I am interested in anyone who feels they would like to assist with our summer interpretative program. We will be employing a seasonal person but they cannot do it all themselves. You could become involved in gold walks, overnight camps, environmental games, bird walks, spotlight walks, Koala surveys or Raft trips.

Speaking of raft trips, in order to run worthwhile informative and safe raft trips, I need people familiar with the river environment and with some experience in canoeing to assist our rafting tours as "Raft Masters". You will need to be available mid week over January - Anyone interested in any of the above please ring David Van Bockel or myself (844 2659) so we can plan our program.

Our activities will be fun for everyone whilst imparting to all participants an appreciation for the natural environment.

Clematis aristata.

ANOTHER PARK EXPOSE -
Mark Andrew GARDNER

Age 32, male, born in Victoria (the hospital Mark was born in has since been closed).
Lives with Kylie and Oki (5 plus years old) and Lachlan (2 plus year old) and Simon the cat, in the rural suburb of Warrandyte.

After six years at State School No. 12 (Warrandyte), Mark attended Blackburn Technical School (then boys only) where he completed year 10 and then passed year 11 at Box Hill Technical School. He commenced and successfully completed an electrical-mechanics apprenticeship at Cadbury-Schweppes, then branched out into sub-contract work "all over town".

For about eight years Mark took any work he could, including heavy labouring and "grabbing any ride interstate", - an ardent desire to travel. (Queensland 6 times, N.S.W. 3 times, Perth, Adelaide, "Alice" - "been as far north as Darwin", "done the coast of Queensland including Surfers" and spent two years living "the alternative lifestyle" in New South Wales.

When 28 years old Mark returned to Melbourne and to study Horticulture at the Victorian College of Horticulture, Burnley. After three years part time study (at least two nights a week and some college day work) he gained an Advanced Certificate in Horticulture. During this study time Mark worked landscaping, as a nursery hand, "fathering", timber yard hand etc.

In 1989, after 12 months as a "volunteer" with F.O.W.S.P., Mark became a Construction and Maintenance worker (C & M3). Now, after 15 months working hard as a "C & M" he has become a seconded Technical Assistant, Grade One (in common terms - an 'acting' Ranger).

He has completed a Chainsaw course, a Road Construction and Concreting course and has a Heavy Truck licence.

Hobbies

- Gardening and plant production. Mark used to grow local native plants and sell them at the Warrandyte market.
- Bushwalking, "Feathertop", Little Desert, Grampians, King Valley, Queensland rain forests etc.
- Motor cycle riding/racing - won lots of trophies (and scars?)
- Built a cottage.
- Reads text-books and some Australian history.
- Doesn't watch much T.V.
- When younger was in the Cubs and Scouts, did Judo from the age of 8 years old, was a participant in Little Athletics.

Interests and Preferences

"Collingwood" is a family tradition, but Mark is not an avid football follower.

Doesn't gamble.

His main interests are learning about the environment. He believes the environment needs a hand to maintain what there is of it now, and to stop it being destroyed any further.

He believes that planting should enable remnant parts of the bush to grow bigger.

Favourite activity with his kids - walking, gardening, swimming in the river, reading.

Favourite food of the moment - scallops in garlic sauce as an entrée to Moreton Bay Bugs.

Favourite non-alcoholic drink - black, weak tea.

Favourite alcoholic drink - vodka and tonic.

Favourite film - "Bliss"

Favourite recent book - was the story of an aboriginal warrior in Sydney's early white settlement days.

(One) favourite saying - Oo-Aye!

Vital Statistics

Height 173 cm (5' 8") Weight 64 kilo (about 9 1/2 stone)

Eye colour Blue (bloodshot?) No major health impediments - all his own teeth.

This interview had to be concluded because Mark had to go out on patrol.

- Your moustached mystery reporter

ALL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE FOR 1991. PLEASE PAY EARLY, ALL DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.

The Committee have decided to keep the subscription at \$10 per annum, per family. This must be the cheapest membership imaginable, but we wish it to be easily affordable. The treasury must however meet so many demands- postage, printing(not a big problem at present thanks to a few very generous benefactors) the library, the extra's for the Folly, tools, subsidising seminar attendance, and many, many, little extra's. We really appreciate any extra support from those who can afford to be generous. Members are able to enquire about available plants which are in excess of the Parks needs, we do not charge for these. Enq. Margaret Burke or Pat Coupar or to David Van Bockel.

*Goodenia
Orata*

Legendary Lee's Book Review

The LORAX

We wonder if the inimitable Dr. Seuss was hearing distant approaching bulldozers when he sat down 20 or more years ago and wrote The Lorax. Perhaps the good doctor was merely ahead of his time, as he was when he revolutionised kids' books.

Whatever, The Lorax is a remarkable piece of work whose message is far more meaningful today than when it was published in 1971. Quite apart from being a genius in the field of beginner's literature Dr. Seuss was a considerable prophet. At some stage in the past two decades, you may have bought this book for your kids, read it to them and marvelled at the text, the illustrations and the philosophy. Chances are you have not opened it since. Please do. You are never too old for The Lorax. Remember The Lorax himself? He's the trustee of a particular Utopia where Truffula Trees abound, Brown Bar-ba-loots frolic in their shade Swomee-Swans sing and Humming Fish splash in their rippulous pond. Things happen very quickly when the Once-ler, the involuntary villain of the piece, rolls in on his wagon and immediately recognises the Truffulas as a source of raw material for the Thneed.....

"It's a shirt. It's a sock. It's a glove. It's a hat.

"But it has other uses. Yes, far beyond that."

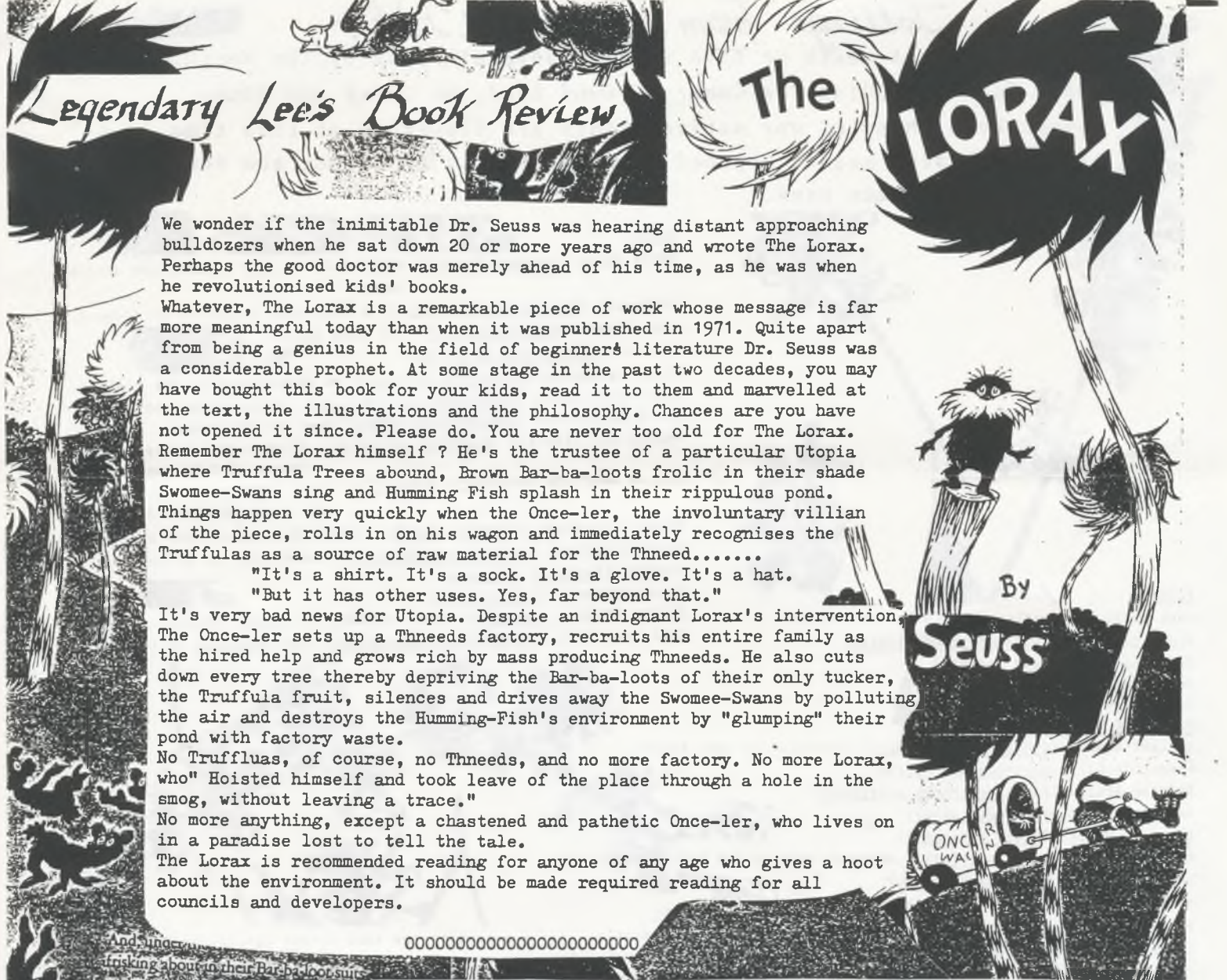
It's very bad news for Utopia. Despite an indignant Lorax's intervention, The Once-ler sets up a Thneeds factory, recruits his entire family as the hired help and grows rich by mass producing Thneeds. He also cuts down every tree thereby depriving the Bar-ba-loots of their only tucker, the Truffula fruit, silences and drives away the Swomee-Swans by polluting the air and destroys the Humming-Fish's environment by "glumping" their pond with factory waste.

No Truffluas, of course, no Thneeds, and no more factory. No more Lorax, who" Hoisted himself and took leave of the place through a hole in the smog, without leaving a trace."

No more anything, except a chastened and pathetic Once-ler, who lives on in a paradise lost to tell the tale.

The Lorax is recommended reading for anyone of any age who gives a hoot about the environment. It should be made required reading for all councils and developers.

By
Seuss



0000000000000000000000000000000000

And under
trisking about in their Bar-ba-loot suits
as they played in the shade under a Truff

Dear Mr Crabb,

A copy of a letter to the Minister for Conservation/Environment expressing our very serious concern regarding proposals to have the Board of Works take over management of all Dept. Conservation & Environment Parks.

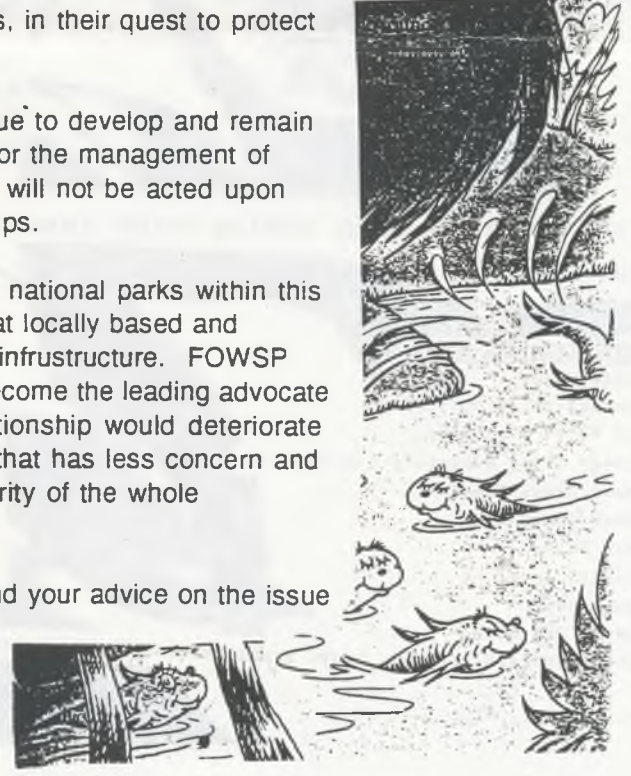
Friends of Warrandyte State Park have always appreciated the support of the Minister and the Department of Conservation and Environment over the past ten years, in their quest to protect and manage our endangered environment.

Our group is most anxious that its working arrangement should continue to develop and remain effective. Further, we seek your assurance that any study of options for the management of Warrandyte State Park (recently rumoured to be the Board of Works) will not be acted upon without proper consultation with interested staff and community groups.

In seeking this assurance (and we include all metropolitan, state and national parks within this concern) we remind the government and departmental management that locally based and volunteer groups are now recognised as an important element in the infrastructure. FOWSP have worked closely with DCE staff at Warrandyte and the group has become the leading advocate for the park within the district. We feel that this close working relationship would deteriorate if reallocation of responsibility is made to an alternative management that has less concern and expertise in conservation. As a result we feel it could place the integrity of the whole state/national park network at risk.

We would hope to have the opportunity to be involved in any review and your advice on the issue in general would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



Jottings from Greta & Pat.

During the past month we have visited several areas of the Warrandyte State Park including The Common, Pound Bend, Mt Lofty and Blue-tongue Bend. Many of our native plants are flowering at this time of year. Listed below, grouped together simply by colour are some of the more common ones.

WHITE

Early Nancy (wurmbea dioica) small lily of open forest, now setting seed.

Milkmaids (Burchardia umbellata) a lily with a cluster of flowers.

Rice Flower (Pimelea humilis) in open forest.

Candles (Stackhousia monogyna)

Musky Caladenia (Caladenia gracilis) an orchid seen on The Common.

Small Poranthera (Poranthera microphylla) sprawling ground cover.

Small Grass-tree (Xanthorrhoea minor) seen on The Common.

Australian Clematis (Clematis aristata) climber in damp areas common at Gold Memorial.

Native Hemp Bush (Gynatrix pulchella) long heart-shaped leaves, near the river at Pound Bend.

Snowy Daisy-bush (Olearia lirata) shady, damp areas. Now setting seed.

Swamp Paperbark (Melaleuca ericifolia) near river at Mt Lofty.

Dogwood (Cassinia aculeata)

Shiny Cassinia (C. longifolia)

Burgan (Kunzea ericoides) just starting to flower. Abundant.

Christmas Bush (Prostanthera lasianthos) just starting to flower.

PINK

Pink Bells (Tetratheca ciliata) open forest.

Grass Trigger (Stylidium graminifolium)

Tall Sundew (Drosera peltata)

Native Geranium (geranium sp.)

Pink Fingers (Caladenia carnea)

PURPLE OR BLUE

Austral Indigo (Indigofera australis) scattered in open forest.

Chocolate Lily (Dichopogon strictus)

Twining Fringe-lily (Thysanotus patersonii)

Wax-lip Orchid (Glossodia major)

Ivy-leaf Violet (viola hederacea)

Purple Violet (V. betonicifolia) uncommon seen on 4th Hill

Love Creeper (Comesperma volubile)

Black-anther Flax-lily (Dianella revoluta)

Bluebell (Wahlenbergia sp.)

Kangaroo Apple (Solanum aviculare)

YELLOW

Black Wattle (Acacia mearnsii) the last of our wattles to flower.

Hop Goodenia (Goodenia ovata) common along roadsides and in damp areas.

Golden Bush-pea (Pultenaea gunnii) abundant on 4th Hill, now setting seed.

Grey Parrot-pea (dillwynia cinerescens) also finished flowering.

Pomaderris (Pomaderris spp.) three species all in flower near the river at Black Flat.

Native Everlastings (Helichrysum spp.) several species in open forest on 4th Hill and The Common.

Yam Daisy (Microseris scapigera)

Bulbine Lily (Bulbine bulbosa) in open forest.

Climbing Apple-berry (Billardiera scandens) bell-like greenish flowers.

Yellow Rush-lily (Tricoryne elatior)

We have also been seeing more insects now that the weather warming up.

BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

Painted Lady

Imperial white butterfly

Wood White butterfly

Cabbage White butterfly (introduced)

Common Grass Blue

Common Dusky Blue

Caper White

Forester moth

Bagpie moth

Emperor Gum moth

Several species of small brown grass moths and geometrids

OTHER INSECTS

Dragonflies they hold their wings open flat at rest

Danselflies they hold their wings together at rest

leaf beetle larvae doing considerable damage to wattles particularly

Black Wattle (Acacia mearnsii)

Cuckoo spit the young nymphs of a sap-sucking bug.

Several other species of plant bugs.

Ant activity many new ant mounds especially near tree roots.

Eucaalyptus radiata in flower.

Percy Possum's Picture Parade

RYAN

COLOURING PAGE

PLATYPUS

Percy is eating some fruit.

A Honeyeater.

FOUR-FINGER SKINK
KOALA

Help us count the Eastern Grey Kangaroo as they graze on January 12th. We have all plans and maps organised, special Star-gazing afterwards. Bring a Picnic Tea. Details Park Office 844 2659.

Tasmanian Devil.

GREY KANGAROO

Possum

ECHIDNA

Megan

Ryan and Megan have made a colouring page. If you would like to have a picture in our Newsletter give it to Margaret Burke or send it to P.O.Box 220 W'dyte 3113

Family Subscription \$10

Donation to help cover costs.....

Please fill in the membership details and send with a cheque to P.O. Box 220 Warrandyte

Membership entitles you to a Free Indigenous plant at each Market and to also be able to join in all of our activities.

DETAILS OF MEMBERS....

Names of all family members.....
.....

Please include children's ages and special interests.

Address.....

.....P.C.....

Telephone.....

Suggestions you may have.....
.....

★ 1991 NOW DUE ★

Several Fowspian Teenagers are preparing to organise Yabby survey training on Thursdays at the Dam. If your parent is helping at the Nursery bring along your Yabby kit and learn the latest techniques.

Very exciting "interps" programme this January. Check details with office 844 2659.

HELP US TO COLLECT THESE TO REUSE.

POLYSTYRENE FRUIT BOXES.....For the Nursery.
 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 mat.

DATES FOR THE CALENDAR

November 25th.....A.G.M./CONCERT/FUN-DAY/BBQ.
 November 29th.....Trip to Organ-Pipes. Grasses talk.
 December 27th.....Orchid Workshop-Garry McKelvie.
 January 12th.....Kangaroo Count/Star Gazing-Slide Show.
 Every Thursday- Activities as usual, Bring Lunch.

BOOKS FOR THE PARK LIBRARY

See Social Jottings.

VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO GERALD KEARNEY FOR HIS GENEROUS HELP WITH PRINTING NEWSLETTER + SUPPLY OF MASONITE FOR REWINE OF SKIPMOYLE HUT.

Committee

Margaret Burke	Co-ordinator	844 1060	*
Ian Burke	Editor	"	
Doug Seymour	Secretary	844 2740	
Anne Bedford	Asst. Secret.	438 3216	
Gail Roche	Craft	722 1926	
Olive Walters		846 4729	
Judy Thomson	Treasurer	844 1590	
Mark Gardner	Group Adviser	844 3799	
Gay Harris	Social Sec	844 1448	
Alec Manson		844 2557	
New Committee Member			
Pat Coupar		844 1650	

Star Gazing after a Kangaroo Count..... ???

When..... January 12th
 Friday Evening.... Bring a Picnic Tea. First we will count the Eastern Greys as they graze. Then Jim Archbold will arrange showing wonderful N. A. S. A. slides THEN We all go off star gazing! Meet at 7pm at Stone Brae Phone Depot: 844 2659 to check the details.

Kunzea ericoides

P.O. Box 220 *
 Warrandyte 3113



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