



FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK NEWSLETTER

September 1993.

EDITORIAL.

In ancient civilisations much was made of myths, and it appeared quite convenient to ascribe good fortune or disasters to a multiplicity of Gods. There was little desire to seek more rational explanations. Nearly all developed countries have a background of myths and illusions that have been perpetuated through many generations. Australia has a history of social myths that are as varied as they are numerous. From the early days of white settlement of the country many myths were created. They usually focussed on a place, a person, a group or event. We had many illusions concerning the aboriginals, seeing them as savages, less than human, a dying race, and a foe to be eliminated. A shameful treatment of them continued well into the 20th century.

Much of the history of outback life seemed to be ignored by a male dominated obsession that gave little reference to women. Housekeeping, child bearing, and education of children were never mentioned in the books written by men. Folklore, illusions, and greed distorted the true history of the early settlers.

As late as the 1890's there was a large group of writers that could be described today as 'radical discontents'. They created myths about "life in the spacious countryside". None of them had ever been outside of a city. (One might suspect that some of their descendants are still active today.)

Many years later, before and after World War Two, political and business leaders promoted and developed myths about the need to allow only British migrants to come to the country. Non English speaking people or Asians would do great harm to our culture, even destroy our British heritage. It would be difficult to imagine many today who would be influenced by such racist concepts.

Yet they are not confined to the past. They are being generated in our high tech educated society. Advertising perpetuates the illusion that we will find eternal happiness from the ownership of material goods. Hence the saying "The man who dies with the most toys wins". Giving in earlier cultures was seen as a virtue. Today we tend to accumulate more than we give away.

Since the days of world empires have all but vanished so have many of our myths and illusions. We need to concentrate on the present, remembering that 'yesterday is but a cancelled cheque, and tomorrow only a promissory note.

"Irony is the cactus plant that sprouts
over the tomb of our dead illusions."

"To repeat an unkind truth is as bad as to invent a lie."

Elbert Hubbard.

"the Two Worlds of Flora....."

.....Friday evening in the Folly.

Flora Anderson promises an evening at the Folly to, intrigue, enlighten, and inspire you. Just what does an ordinary, everyday(?) environmentalist do to change both of her Anglesea and Wonga Park environments? This evenings chat accompanied by slides will have you all bursting to go out there on Sunday and change the environment which we are protecting and preserving on Fourth Hill. So bring along a plate of supper, come well rugged if it is chilly (but the 'pot-belly' will be well stoked) and arrive at Pound Bend at 7.30pm.

FOURTH HILL WILDFLOWER WALK SUNDAY 26TH. 1pm

Ranger Stephen Anderson will take you on a tour of discovery over Fourth Hill to see if you can find all those plants which Flora has inspired you to love and protect. Stephen is also a local expert on the fauna which is there (remember last time - during the Ivy pull, how he introduced some lucky Fowspians to the Powerful Owls?) We will end the walk at the area on Andersons Creek where we pulled all the Ivy and he will guide us to check that no Ivy has sprouted then to plant up the creek bank which needs understorey. Head Ranger Ian Roche will join us over a cuppa and bring us all up to date with changes in the Park etc. Billy Tea and a delicious spread will depend on you all bringing something to share. See you at 1pm at the Car Park in Gold Memorial Drive.

Acacia brownnei

Hot House Gossip

Marg has been unable to crack the whip in her usual fashion whilst recovering from surgery to restore her hearing. She says to watch out now as she will be able to hear ALL those things people whisper.... as well as bird and frog calls! (Mind you she is not at all sure that she really does wish to catch all those dreadful whisperings but the fauna should make up for it!) Many thanks for all the good wishes, and extra help. Pat has been making some rather gruesome discoveries in the shade house of late - a rabbit seemed to have got in, made a meal of some snail pellets as well as pruning the grasses. Next week she came upon the nest bunny had made in the mulch under a pot box, four kits had also gone to meet their maker. Does show how very flimsy parts of the old Nursery is and how very necessary renovation is - five rabbits could have demolished shade house contents in a few days.

We hope any visitors to the Community Centre are admiring the 'back indigenous garden' and also notice the Wonga Vines on the front Verandah posts - these, now in flower are quite magnificent. The splendid array of wattles at the back has been enough to touch the most hardened 'native hater'.

Pat Coupar will be having a rest from her regular column for a while (though she promises some 'specials'). She has written a page every month for almost five years and also does her wonderful column in the 'Diary' - which will continue.

Other changes - A welcome return for our Newsletter will be Flora Anderson's 'Fascinating Facts' - this time she will 'do' all those wonderful feathered friends of hers!

At present Pat C. is working, with David V.B. on a photo collection of every plant species, and its habitat, on the plant species list. This very important work is extremely demanding at this time of the year when so many plants are in flower, often in most difficult to reach places. The photos will be included in a special volume with reference material on each species. (Sadly we are not announcing that it will be a published volume at this point in time!)

Talking about species, one very rare specimen has been discovered by Cathy Willis who is quite excited at her find. It is a *Lissanthe strigosa*, or Peach Heath, and is in an entirely new location to the two previously found in Warrandyte, though none in the State Park. Cathy is now determined to find another specimen IN the Park as she 'has a feeling' it may be Keep in tune for the next announcement!

A wonderful concert is to be held on Sunday Sept. 26th at 2.30pm... a F.O.W.S.P. Family Sunday Meeting Day. All the details are pinned up in the Folly IF you wish to go. Marg and Ian would certainly be there except that they will be up on Fourth Hill. The Chamber Music Concert will include Mozart, Brahms, Mendelssohn and Schumann, performed by many of Warrandytes most talented classical, piano and stringed instrumentalists. Cost will be \$10, \$5 -children or pensioners and proceeds will be used for Louise Joy's 'emergency relief' fund.

F.O.W.S.P. members will all be saddened to hear that Harry Hagen, dear Friend Helga's husband died after a series of operations since their return from an overseas trip. We offer our sympathy and I am sure members will offer any more practical help possible. Helga is a regular Nursery/ Thursday activities member.

Building projects are now moving along at a great pace with Don Cameron and Ian Burke organising extra sessions on the Nursery projects. We have our fencing projects to complete and hopefully we will announce a couple of 'off shoots' very soon - depending on the outcomes of applications for grants from the Melbourne Parks and Waterways Program. All those members who feel inclined to participate in turning the very 'sows ear' Nursery into a beautiful 'silk purse' - using lots of talent and imagination plus a minimal amount of money (this a real challenge!) just front up any Thursday. Other enquiries to Ian or Don 844 2389.

Phill Honeywood, our local Warrandyte M.L.A. has had in mind our grizzles that our fencing grant was 'not enough', and found a sympathetic ear - the Minister for Environment. The Minister, Mark Birrell was impressed with our rabbit exclusion plots and plans for special surveys and protection measures in these orchid 'hot spots' we keep talking about. On Monday Phill met some of the Wildflower Study Group and presented a special grant from Ministerial funds to help us with this project. Three thousand dollars will mean lots of new exclusion plots, and some proper tools for us to use in this special work.

The Hildebrands, just back from their trip to the U.S.A. have plenty of experiences to tell about - including dire warnings of environmental disaster. However Joy was delighted with the wildflowers in Colorado..... one being *Brachyscome diversifolia*! We of course are just so pleased to have them back. Brogil Creek certainly missed Joy!

Acacia dealbata

Adopt a Roadside..... Develop your local habitat.

Stephen Ray is calling upon local residents to 'adopt' their local roadsides, developing them as habitat, especially after the current S.E.C. prunings in Park Orchards and Warrandyte. F.O.W.S.Pians and landowners north of the bridge have been doing this to great effect, with help from Eltham Shire and the S.E.C. F.O.W.S.P. will encourage any such street groups, supplying plants for this type of project and giving as much advice and support as possible. If you wish to see what can be done, have a look at Harris Gully Rd, or on a smaller scale - Brogil Rd. or Osborne Rd.. North Warrandyte.

Phone Stephen Ray 840 9461

FRIENDS OF ONE TREE HILL.

In August a large group of Friends of One Tree Hill met and F.O.O.T.H. became a group in fact and in deed as well as something we have simply talked of for quite some time. Most gratifying was the attendance of almost every adjacent landowner, the others nearby also giving their support to the proper management of this very precious area. Parkcare Officer Fay Valcanis explained the benefits of forming a Friends group and Ranger Ray Jasper explained just what he and his works crew had so far achieved. Ray then led us all down the track, explaining the works done to combat further erosion and damage. Everywhere we noted signs of regeneration and Ray pointed out the specially designed terracing of the old gravel pits - just waiting for some planting up by keen 'Foothies'. ('Before' photos taken now will show just how amazing the changes will be in years to come.) Tonnes of rubbish have been removed, the awful degradation which has threatened this beautiful place seems at a halt. The gates seem almost adequate (we hold our breath) and Ray and his gang seem to have convinced the 'illit - rats' that the signs do mean something and that he is able to book anyone who fails to obey. The fern gully of Happy Valley Creek is at peace as its waters run over the rocks and down into Watsons Creek and thence to Mother Yarra. We were the vanguard of people walking, quietly enjoying sharing the area with the abundant wildlife which call this home. Fowspian visitors helped with some plant identification activities, then back to the Tanks we walked and shared the really amazing spread of afternoon tea.

On Sunday Sept. 19th at 2pm. the next Friends of One Tree Hill meeting will take place with special guest botanist DAVID CAMERON to guide us.

David is a wonderful guide and speaker and F.O.W.S.Pians always find a walk with him most exciting and illuminating. We will no doubt find any number of botanical treasures with David, and he will add his advice regarding the direction in which F.O.O.T.H. should proceed to repair the ravages if time.

Back at the Tanks area a fabulous afternoon tea will be shared by all. (Don't forget to bring your contribution.)

Diane will explain the work she is doing at F.O.W.S.P.'s Nursery to provide true indigenous plants for the necessary replanting of the old gravel pits. The required meeting for election of Office Bearers for the F.O.O.T.H. Committee, adoption of constitution etc will be as quick and informal as possible, under Fays direction.

WORKING BEE ... On Sunday, 24/10/93, Friends are moving their activities to 142 Rossmoyne Street, Thornbury (phone 480 0609) to bring a little of the Warrandyte bushland to Eleanor Lancaster's garden. Eleanor attends FOWSP meetings regularly, has been an eager participant in pulling exotic weeds from our parks and now is a FOWSPAN in desperate need of some return help. We need volunteers with trailers and garden tools to remove unwanted rubbish from her front and back yards and revegetate some areas with indigenous plants from our nursery. We'll meet at 1pm at her place and Eleanor will provide barbeque facilities and scrumptious Brunswick-style salads on her back deck, for all the workers afterwards. Phone Gay on 844 1448 for further details or just turn up at Eleanor's house with BYO meat and drinks and have a fun and action packed afternoon.

FLORA OF MELBOURNE. 2nd. Edition.

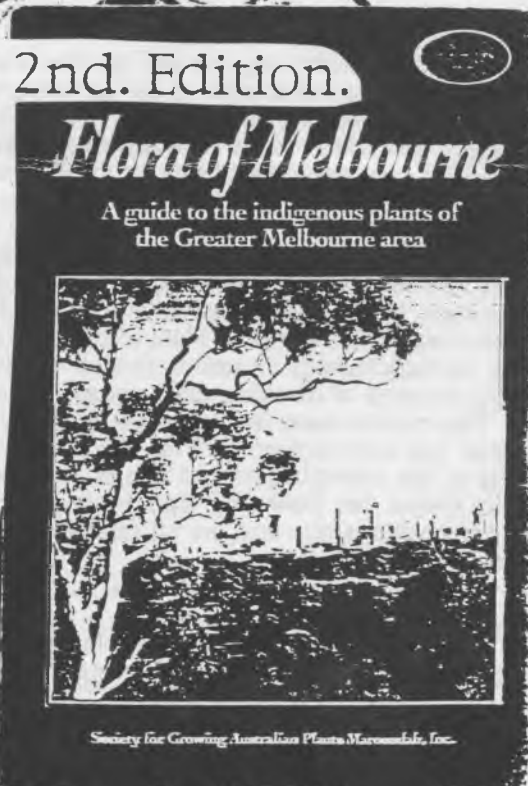
This book which has become 'the Bible' for all who are interested in indigenous plants is now available. It has been revised, slightly enlarged and now has a green cover and a higher price. Many members have been waiting eagerly for the new edition, as the previous one has been unobtainable for some time.

If you want a copy and would like to have Flora Anderson get it for you as a 'bulk order' please put your name on the list on the Nursery notice board, or phone Flora on 722 1776.

Don't forget that our own 'Discover Warrandyte' is also available for members at the special price of \$12.00. It is just the thing for Christmas presents, and is not aimed at those folk who live in Warrandyte alone.

Cards by Melanie Coupar have been made up into sets of four, tied with pretty gift ribbon. See them at the Park or the Market.

Acacia genistifolia



PARKCARE

Spring fever has arrived with much happening in parks around Melbourne. Yes Spring is a time for wonderful displays of wildflowers, but with all the rain we have been having its also a time to...PULL WEEDS. Weeds such as Ivy, Cape Broom and Angled Onion are in there prime for pulling with the soil moist enough to allow a clean, quick removal. So if you have noticed those environmental weeds lurking around your backyard ready to make there way into valuable bushland get them now before they set seed. The Middle Yarra Weed Kit is available from the park office to help you do so.

Need more inspiration? There are plenty of activities, seminars and workshops coming up. These are listed below:

September - all month is Spring Planting Month. There are various parks and reserve running planting activities through out Melbourne. If you would like to participate call the Hotline on :(008)806 555 for more information.

Thurs 16th Sept. 9am-1pm. Roadside Management Information Day, organised by the Victorian Roadside Conservation Committee, Greening Australia and City of Whittlesea. Contact: Kim Robinson 654 1800 or Kerry Wailes 217 2279.

Fri 5th. Nov. Urban Development and the Environment Forum. 9am-4pm. Organised by the Victorian Association for Environmental Education (VAEE), a one day forum with speakers and workshops on topics including: waste management, transport, Open Space, Greenhouse and solutions. For more information contact 428 9812.

6-9 Dec. Australian Network for Plant Conservation Conference (Hobart). Topics include national endangered species collection and database, seedbanks and other germplasm storage, recovery of threatened plants, management of genetic diversity, priorities for conservation and exention into the community. More details; Aust.Nat.Botanical Gardens. P.O.Box 1777. Canberra 2601.(06) 250 0522.

And finally..ParkCare will be exhibiting a display at the Royal Melbourne Show this year. The theme is "Rebuilding Victoria" The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources will use the display to highlight the efforts of community groups in land and park management. ParkCare will be setting up a display, and will have some genuine volunteers there to talk to people (thank you to Kym, Pat, Anna and Debbie for volunteering your time). So if you at The Show, drop in and see what you fellow "Friends" are doing.

Fay Valcanis
ParkCare Officer



WATTLE WALK.....

...August Sunday Meeting.

Well what a wonderful day we had for the 'Wattle Walk' and fencing 'experience'. It was mild and sunny and a large crowd met at the car park half way up the Timber Reserve. Pat Coupar began her walk with a look at the fence on Fourth Hill which went up last year. We all tip-toed across from the track taking great care not to stand on any emerging orchids. The inside of the fenced area seemed to have a much denser vegetation with a greater variety of species - though it is too early to say if it has encompassed a huge and varied orchid community. We are all trying to learn 'orchid leaves' this year..... knowing they are so very varied and variable! (Still we are all improving under Pat and David's patient tuition.) Next we walked across to the Timber Reserve, looking and learning the wonderful display of Acacia species. We and joined the 'early birds' who had already begun the fence - a five sided affair about -metres in circumference and then decided which tasks to take. Most of the women elected to go with Pat on a hunt for woody weeds [which we ringbarked] or smilax [which we dug up and carted out in our buckets] - we were actually accused of dividing tasks up along very traditional lines but that was accidental ~~we~~ are sure. The mostly male fencing crew worked like slaves and achieved much, so another orchid 'hot spot' has been protected from the dreaded rabbit. We all got together and admired the fence, looking at the emerging orchid leaves and speculating about just what they are..... one visitor actually found one flowering, *Caladenia praecox*, an exciting find. Our afternoon tea was the usual scrumptious mix and we all enjoyed chatting and reflecting upon the days accomplishments.

Wonga Park replanting.....Walk with Owen Gooding.

When: Oct. 3/1pm. Where: Launderers Ave (Mel.24.G:L) Meet the new Conservation Officer for Lillydale, Owen Gooding, at a special walk and revegetation afternoon. This is organised with our friends the Wonga Park Conservation Soc. and will replant an area under powerlines, so the S.E.C. is a sponsor. Owen will be explaining the value of this lovely little bushland remnant and will help the locals to preserve this precious habitat. Join him afterwards for a cuppa, and hear of future plans for Lillydale areas.

David Van Bockel's Thursday Afternoon 'Doings'.

David sets out from the Folly every Thursday after lunch to lead Fowspians on a tour of discovery, education and to complete a small project in a different area of the Park each week. Those who wish to participate must be ready to set out at 1.15pm. Afternoon tea with the group, to reflect on the afternoons activities, is a pleasant conclusion to a wonderful experience. If you wish to learn whilst achieving, you are most welcome to join in. This month our program is.....

September 16- To be announced. Will be a search for plant species likely to be flowering. Meet at Folly 1.15pm.

September 23- Meet at Tindals Rd. Reserve. Kym Docwra to guide us around. Our objective will be (1) to locate plant species in the reserve that we have unconfirmed records for the State Park.

(2) To see the results of revegetation and weeding carried out by 'Save the Bush' employed by C.O.D.A.T.

September 30- Meet at the Main car park in Koornong Cres. Three quarters of an hour weeding of the Ivy patch. Survey Walk with Friends of Koornong.

October 7- Meeting Trish Qualtrough & Ruth Rankin of Osborne Peninsula Landcare for a walk around the strip of State Park, accessible from their properties. Plant identification, weed listing.

October 14- To be announced. Another search for a flowering plant species. Meet at the Folly at 1.15pm.

DISCOVER YOUR ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM SHIRE OF ELTHAM - 1993 - 4.

Marriane Henderson, Shire of Eltham's Land Protection Officer, is inviting all Fowspians to participate in the series of environmental workshops to increase your knowledge and understanding of local environmental values. The sessions are free (wonderful) and include a wide variety of topics. (One which I note and feel will be of great interest is the Rabbit Control Workshop. This is to be aimed at the ordinary small landholder!) Sessions are spread between now and March, topics include -

Intro. to Environmental Rehabilitation (Oct 3)

How to compost correctly (Nov 21)

Grass I.D. for beginners. (Feb 6)

Seed Collection & Propagation (Feb 20)

Rabbit Control (March)

Wildflower Walk (Oct.23)

Bats (Jan - Feb 94)

Bird Walk (March)

Spotlighting (March)

These sessions are to be aimed at informing in a leisurely, informal way and where possible supplementary information will be provided. We have more information at the Folly and can supply copies any Thursday - early booking would be greatly appreciated. If you want more information please phone Marianne at the Eltham Offices on 439 9352 or 430 1145.

Acacia genistifolia

Friends of the Koornong News.

Friends of the Koornong has been very busy, having weathered their second winter and looks forward to the reward of spring flowers on the mound....once Periwinkle Hill. Activity slowed over winter, July meeting a complete wash-out. August however was very productive, with David helping out with two Thursday afternoon projects to help with the covering of a new area along the river track where private properties abut the Park. Lots more Ivy has been pulled and indigedytes freed from the suffocating weeds. We have a big pile of woodshavings to move down to the carpeted area, (thanks to David and the Thurs. people this is well underway) and any Fowspians who would like to join us, could feel so much being achieved there (First Weds. at 10am.) - amazing what can be done by many hands in an hour or so.

We had been invited to take part in the Water Quality Testing Program, under the guidance of Eltham Shires Environment Officer, Pat Vaughan. Jamie Bolton will be organising monthly proceedings, with back-up from Cathy Willis, and Linda Bromilow (Friends of Pigeon Bank Creek). They will be part of the North Riding network with Friends of Stony Creek and Friends of the Wandering Brogil. The group congratulates the formation of Osborne Peninsula Landcare and looks forward to a long and happy association with a healthy and productive interchange of ideas, and resources.

It is a great time to get to really know a few local plants as so many are flowering and are so easy to spot. Predominant colours are yellow and purple. Some to look for are Gold Dust Wattle [*Acacia acinacea*], Golden Wattle [*Acacia pycnantha*], Prickly Moses [*Acacia verticillata*], False Sarsparilla [*Hardenbergia violacea*], Austral Indigo [*Indigofera australis*], Pink Bells [*Tetratheca ciliata*],....just a small sample, we haven't touched the lilies and orchids!

***** Extra Spring Meeting - All welcome! ***** Wednesday
15th Sept....our plants on the mound are growing beautifully, but so are the weeds.
So, a special day to tidy up the mound. Keith is also celebrating his 3rd Birthday (again)!!!

THE MYSTERY REPORTER.

The legions of secret admirers of my reports will recall that F.O.W.S.P. and W.S.P. were being 'litmus papered' to detect conspiratorial activities, any conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline, or, any activities leading to an appropriate reading of the Riot Act.

Numerous 'cells' have sprung up....Gads Gang, and at least eight Friends of — 'Wandering Brogil', Bradleys Bush, Koornong, Forth Hill, Timber Reserve, Pigeon Bank Creek, Goat Track and Tindals Wildflower Reserve..... and Landcare Activists.

Now steady your nerves as you read this interview with the PRESIDENT of the NORTH WARRANDYTE (Osborne Peninsula) LANDCARE GROUP!

"Can you hear the frogs?" said the interviewee Margaret Karen Dimech to her son Keith John as we sat in the Folly. Disguised as a mother, Margaret is known to have worked as a medical scientist (B. App Sc - R.M.I.T.).

Born in 1961 at the Sacred Heart Hospital, Moreland, Victoria. Margaret grew up in Wattle Glen attending Sacred Heart Primary School at Diamond Creek, then completed H.S.C. at the Catholic Ladies College. Two years full time study at R.M.I.T., followed by two years part - time took place and Margaret worked at the Royal Childrens Hospital, Parkville, as a trainee in gastroenterology, "lots of poo and bits and pieces, biopsies etc.

About 'then' Margaret met Wayne and two years later changed her surname from Jose to Dimech. Margaret claims she is a contradiction! Feminist tendencies - happily married at a young age and having three children before she was thirty. Took a year off "Med. Tech." and worked on school camps with the Christian Brothers - then returned to work and study. Didn't join the clubs at R.M.I.T., (didn't have the money) - went to the pub (The Oxford) and had one beer only - "whatever came out of the tap."

Margaret worked at Box Hill Hospital. 'Histology or Anatomical Pathology'.....Note the interview was constantly disrupted by Margaret rushing off to make sure Keith didn't vanish into the dam!

In 1984 Brendan Michael was born, then in '86 Margaret Clare arrived, followed by Keith in 1990. During this time Margaret worked at 'Dorevitches microbiology, Macclouds, pathology in haematology, Regional, histology, Melbourne Pathology, histology and Gribbles "where I now work part - time."

A keen attendee at F.O.W.S.P. activities when she can, Margaret admits that her interest in Bush Care was triggered when she moved into Osborne Rd. and 'encountered' Margaret Burke (an oft. named 'superinducer' - M.R.). Margaret Dimech started weeding with the Koornong group led by Cathy Willis, and moved to further involvement with THE COMMITTEE, and is currently titled 'Folly Manager' (the mind staggers).

Question. "Who was the person who most influenced you in your life?"

Answer. "No one much, really. There were too many influences. I came from a big family - five kids, three brothers and a sister."

CRYPTICS- B. App. Sc. - Bachelor of Applied Science.

F.O.W.S.P. - a suspect organisation.
H. Sc. - Higher School Certificate.

M.R. - a pneumatic scribe.
R.M.I.T. - Royal Melbourne

Institute of Technology.

T.V. - Television.

W.S.P. - Where Suspicions Proliferate. (?)

Question. "What are your ambitions for now, and for when the children are grown?"

Answer "I haven't got any ambitions really - TO SURVIVE PARENTHOOD!"

Vital Statistics. Height, five feet one and a half, brown eyes, weighs under 50 kilograms, "varied a bit over the last few years - having children!" Teeth? "Full of fillings". Doesn't wear glasses or hearing aid, won't admit to any blemishes or defects. Shoe size - 6 1/2, hair colour - brown.

Margaret likes going to the football - supports Collingwood - "with my Mum and sister. I love the Cricket, (follows Australia) and I watch the Olympics etc. I was obviously hopeless at sport, pathetic, humiliated. I was second reserve in the school netball team (B team) out of 12 grade 6 girls."

Hobbies Number One Reading - "just garbage - murder mysteries, Georgette Heyer...."

Number Two...."sewing - kids clothes - nothing interesting."

Number Three...."learning to grow things - didn't know till I started here at F.O.W.S.P."

Number Four. "The Age cryptic crosswords - with varying success."

Number Five. "Tried to learn the piano in the last few years - reached Grade 2 - can't afford any more lessons 'cause I'm paying for my Kids music lessons first."

"I've got plenty of 70's records and tapes. 'Status Quo', 'Led Zeppelin', Bob Dylan, Billy Joel."

Favourite Musical Instrument (To listen to) - "the piano, or the saxophone."

Favourite Food? "chocolate, chocolate...."

Favourite filling? "Just straight, plain Cadbury milk chocolate....or with nuts in it."

Favourite 'others'. "I enjoyed watching the film 'Death in Brunswick', 'Strictly Ballroom' is my favourite, I like all the 'Star War' movies.

Drinks - beer and water.

Real Food/s. "My Mother-in-law's Maltese Ravioli."

Australian bush, plant, animal. "I like them all.....I like orchids 'cos I found some at home."

Clothes. "I like dressing-up, going to work is a pleasure 'cos you get out of your 'grotty' clothes"

T.V. - "...Derrick, Northern Exposure, footy replays when Collingwood plays."

Actor. Harrison Ford.

Question - "What pips you the most?"

Answer - "Racism, sexism, nasty generalisations about people."

Question - ".....criminal activities?"

Answer - "I think I've had one parking ticket. I might have had two. Hm...possibly jaywalking."

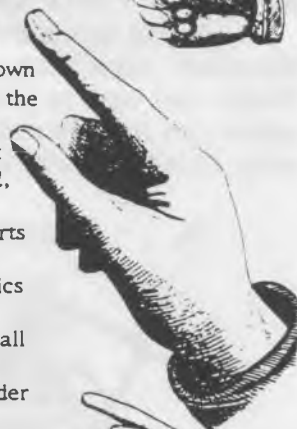
Other influences in Margaret's life? At age four her parents house burnt down.-"I didn't do it!" Margaret drives a two litre Ford Telstar.

Final comment by Margaret- "You haven't mentioned Wayne much, HE is the most important person in my life. He's a medical scientist as well, microbiology at the Royal Melbourne Hospital,he's my husband!" (P.S. from M.R. - Margaret's favourite HEALTHY food is muesli, and fresh bread from the Bakery in Warrandyte.)

Next months interogee has not yet been selected. Many names are circled, few are chosen, the pen of the M.R. flows slowly but exceedingly fine.

More clues to the M.R.'s identity.

1. Reads the Monday and Thursday 'Age'.
2. Gave up smoking at the age of fourteen years.
3. Tasted first beer at the 'Alpine Retreat' (at age sixteen).
4. Has played chess, draughts, Ludo, 'Rickety Kate', euchre, Five hundred, poker, 'Snakes and Ladders', patience, Fish, Snatch, Polish Rummy, War, Strip Jack Naked, 'Monopoly', Twenty-one, noughts and crosses, join the dots, Salvo, tunnel ball, volley ball, tennis.....etc.



Fern Spot

3. Three small creeping ferns

by: Keith Vagg

Adiantum aethiopicum Common Maidenhair

Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia Rock Fern

Lindsaea linearis Screw Fern

These three ferns are small and delicate, growing to a height of about 30cm. They spread by extending the rhizome (the underground stem from which both the roots and fronds grow) to form colonies. Two of these ferns: Common Maidenhair and Rock Fern, belong to the same family. Common Maidenhair has a long rhizome which allows it to spread further than the others and is a familiar sight around Warrandyte. The other two are less common.

These ferns are rarely, if ever, seen growing together because each has unique requirements in terms of soil and nutrients, however, any of these may be seen growing in full sunlight.

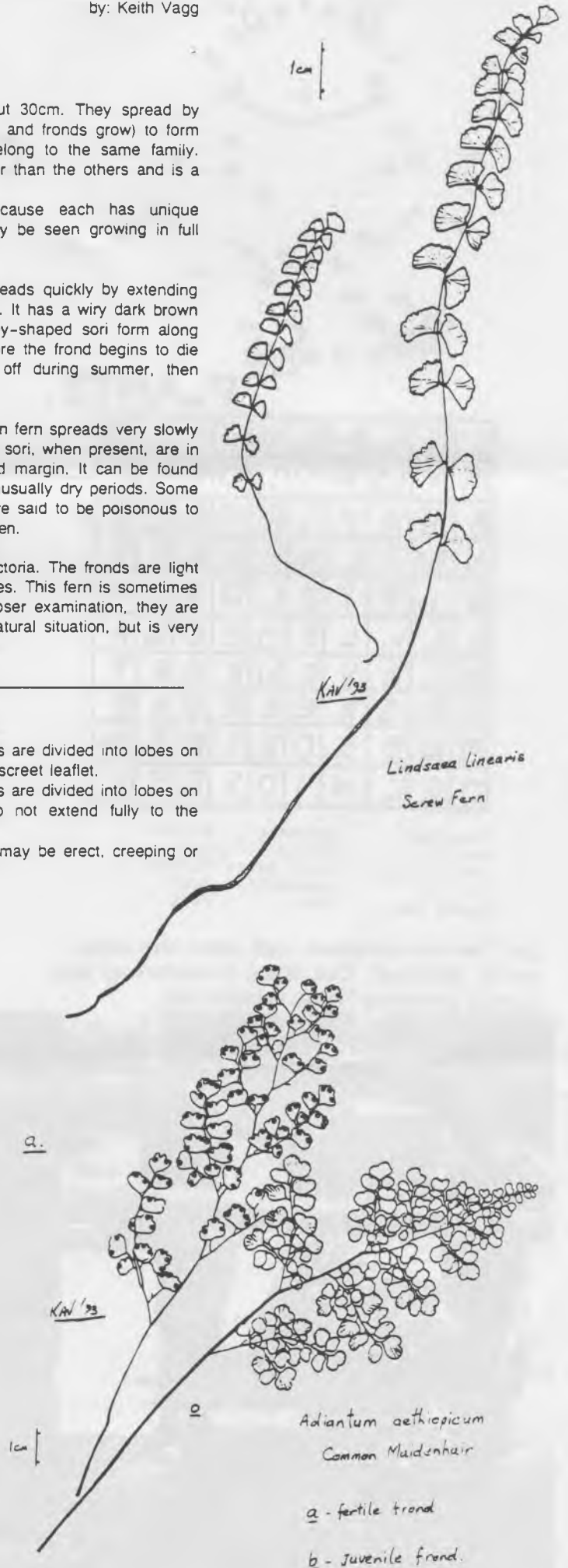
Common Maidenhair *Adiantum aethiopicum* - This delicate fern spreads quickly by extending its rhizome underground and forming a tuft of fronds at intervals along it. It has a wiry dark brown rachis which becomes brittle as the frond matures. Three to five kidney-shaped sori form along the outer edges of the pinules and these release spore in summer, before the frond begins to die from the heat of the sun. Some colonies appear to completely die off during summer, then producing new light-green fronds when the ground again becomes moist.

Rock Fern *Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia* - This small, lacy, bright green fern spreads very slowly and has developed an ability to survive where other ferns would not. The sori, when present, are in patches along the edges of the pinules and well protected by the folded margin. It can be found growing amongst rocks, often exposed to full sunlight, and can survive unusually dry periods. Some members of this genus grow inland in very dry conditions. The fronds are said to be poisonous to animals, but in spite of this are a delicacy for snails, if growing in the garden.

Screw Fern *Lindsaea linearis* - one of three ferns in this genus in Victoria. The fronds are light green, erect, and fertile fronds are markedly different from the sterile ones. This fern is sometimes confused with *Asplenium flabellifolium* the Necklace Fern, however on closer examination, they are quite different. It prefers heathland and open forest and is hardy in its natural situation, but is very difficult to establish in a garden.

Some Fern Terms

- bipinnate** the rachis is divided to form a secondary rachis. Fronds are divided into lobes on either side of the secondary rachis. Each lobe forms a discrete leaflet.
- bipinnatifid** the rachis is divided to form a secondary rachis. Fronds are divided into lobes on either side of the secondary rachis. The divisions do not extend fully to the rachis.
- rhizome** the rootstem of a fern from which the fronds arise. This may be erect, creeping or prostrate and is often subterranean.



Join the Dots & Color me.



PLANTS.

E	U	C	A	L	Y	P	T	S	M
M	X	W	A	P	L	O	B	W	E
A	H	A	K	I	A	M	D	O	S
N	W	T	L	N	F	A	G	R	S
N	I	T	I	E	L	D	X	D	M
A	L	L	S	O	E	O	G	A	
G	L	E	Y	E	W	R	B	R	T
U	O	S	K	E	E	R	D	A	E
M	W	E	E	O	R	I	E	S	O
O	R	C	H	I	D	S	R	S	C

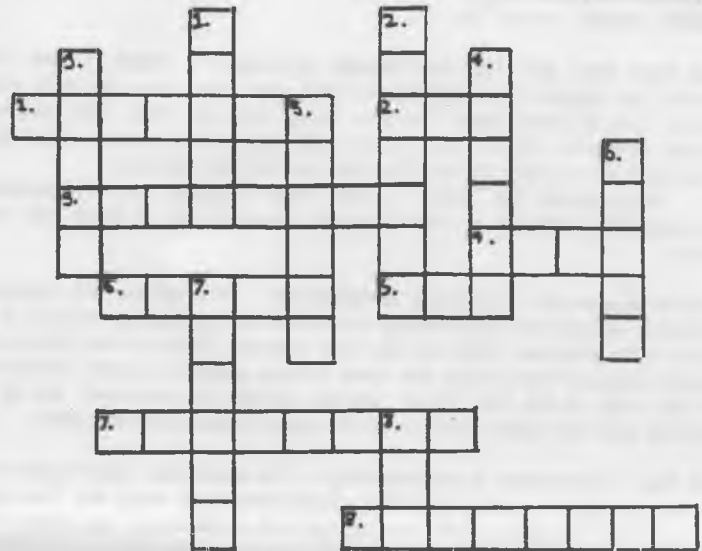
Eucalypt
Wattle
Hakia
Red Box
Manna Gum

Messmate
Orchid
Sword grass
Pomaderris
Pine

Willow
Lily
Flower
Seed
Weed

Fossicking Ross & Percy Foss

ANIMAL CROSS-WORD.



CLUES:

- Across 1. ----- are the closest relative to Koalas.
- Down 1. I don't have legs so keep out of my way.
2. I am a bird which would often be found on a farm.
2. I have spines and eat ants.
3. I am also a bird, but I do not tell the truth.
3. I live in a tree.
4. I have four legs and I live in and by the sea.
4. All of us have six legs.
5. I am a big bird of prey and some of my friends have a wedge on their tails.
5. Most people don't like me or my friends.
6. I am very small.
6. I live in dams and rivers and have claws.
7. I am quite a big animal which hops.
7. I am a very big lizard and I can also climb trees.
8. I have a bill and live in a riverbank.
8. I am a very wise bird.

Jim Turner sits down and views the wires being 'strained'. Our fence is underway and should just keep those rabbits out.



The marvellous 'Poly-Folly' looks good enough for human habitation. Two rangers (un-named) reckon it's better than some of the Park houses! Here Don Cameron makes a careful adjustment.

