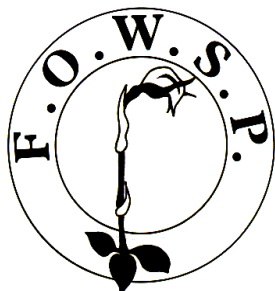


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



Newsletter

Website: www.fowsp.org.au

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113
ABN 94170156655/ACN A0024890C

Editor's corner

THE DAY WAS CHILL but our wishes were warm as FOWSP presented Jodie Davis with a baby shower gift at the folly on her second last day of work "before baby". See more photos on the website photo gallery, under nursery.

This month seems to have been one of expressing appreciation. Josh has chalked up his ten year milestone with the FOWSP nursery, and posed for a rare photo to mark the occasion—see p3.

Julie Pryor has written FOWSP a letter of thanks for the donations of possum boxes and pouches. She would also like some more help in distributing them— p4.

Speaking of help. First see Nursery revamp, top of p.4. Also we are still in need of one or two volunteers to co-ordinate the monthly market trailer roster. For further details see p4. We can promise you that becoming more involved with FOWSP will be a positive experience. You will get to know friendly like-minded folk while at the same time helping to care for the long suffering local environment. So how about it?

Pat and Mike Coupar are soon to be heading north; including a second, more leisurely trip, to Cape York. We wish them *bon voyage*. In this issue on page 2, Pat has contributed a third instalment in her series, *Making of the Flora of Warrandyte*.



Photo: Artur Muchow

A gift for Jodie and baby

This month Joan, Steven, and Linda (separately) have been bird-watching (pages 3, 7 & 10).

The times we live in, with drought and fire, make it inevitable that some contributions will be about loss. On page 8 Linda writes about the butterfly orchids of King Lake National Park and one of their host plants, Prickly Coprosma. In Julie's Koala Shelter report, also p8, we read stories of some of the animals that have recently come into her care.

Lastly on p11, Jan Falconer brings us up to date on all the nursery goss.

Don't forget to inundate Linda's in-box will your contributions for the July Newsletter. *Joan n Linda*

Deadline for July/Aug edition newsletter is Friday, 26 June
contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan lindarogan@netspace.net.au
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

Making of 'Flora of Warrandyte'

By Pat Coupar

Part Three - The Ferns

BY THE END of our study of Warrandyte's flora, Ranger, David Van Bockel and I had recorded a total of 27 species of ferns – 19 had not been listed before. This is a remarkably high number for a small Park (around 600 hectares) of predominantly dry sclerophyll forest. Many of the species, however, were in very low numbers, in one case just a single plant was found.

Most of the ferns were located in gullies, on creek and river banks and on sheltered slopes. Three species of Rock-fern (*Cheilanthes* spp.) were found on exposed cliff escarpments. As with all the unconfirmed and new records for the Park, we collected and pressed a specimen of each including roots, rhizomes, young and old fronds and, where possible, fertile fronds. It was important to photograph, in close up, the spore pattern of each species as this is a valuable aid to identification.

It would appear that, in the past, ferns were considerably more abundant in the Park than they are today. Historically, Rough Tree-ferns (*Cyathea australis*) were once common along Wildcat Gully in Fourth Hill Reserve, but during the 1960's and 70's many were removed illegally. This is despite the fact that unlike like Soft Tree-ferns (*Dicksonia antarctica*), Rough Tree-ferns will not survive if cut through the trunk and planted out - they need the root ball with them to survive and, as such, those cut out would have just died in someone's garden.

Of the 27 species recorded, 11 were classified as endangered in the local region, a further six vulnerable and only 11 secure - although these figures may have changed for the worse in the decade of drought since our survey finished.

It is worth noting that botanist David Cameron pointed out to us that some ferns come and go in the environment, depending on the seasons. For example, Rough Tree Ferns, in an area like Warrandyte, seem to appear and disappear depending on how wet the seasons are. Spores are floating through the air each season (from far away) and if they find a suitable wet 'alcove' of exposed soil (often around the base of a fallen tree) they will germinate and grow until another dry year causes them to die off. Therefore, some ferns are not RARE in the sense that other plants are RARE, they simply reflect the amount of moisture in the environment at any given time. In these drought

years, they die off, in wetter seasons they reappear. Consequently they don't need active conservation measures like other plants.

Rare and Remarkable

Kangaroo Fern (*Microsorium pustulatum*) is an epiphytic or lithophytic fern of wetter forests. There



is, however, an historical record of this species growing on the trunk of a Rough Tree-fern at Wildcat Gully in the 1970's, but it had either died or been removed long before our study began.

Remarkably and unexpectedly we came across a single occurrence of this species growing on a branch of a White Crack Willow (*Salix* sp.) at The Island – a small block of the Park located within a large loop of the river at the eastern end of Yarra Street. Photos of the Kangaroo Fern on the White Crack Willow, from the Flora of Warrandyte are above.

A section of the creeping rhizome was brought back to the nursery where it grew quite well. It was eventually transferred to a hollow log in 'Frogland' and although it survived for a while, the fern has since died. The original plant was lost when the Willow was cut down and burnt. Although it would be expected to turn up in wetter years again, with so much of the wet forest of Kinglake burnt, the source for spores of this fern would be much restricted now.

Next month: The Tiny Annuals

Of Red rumps and snake necks By Joan Broadberry

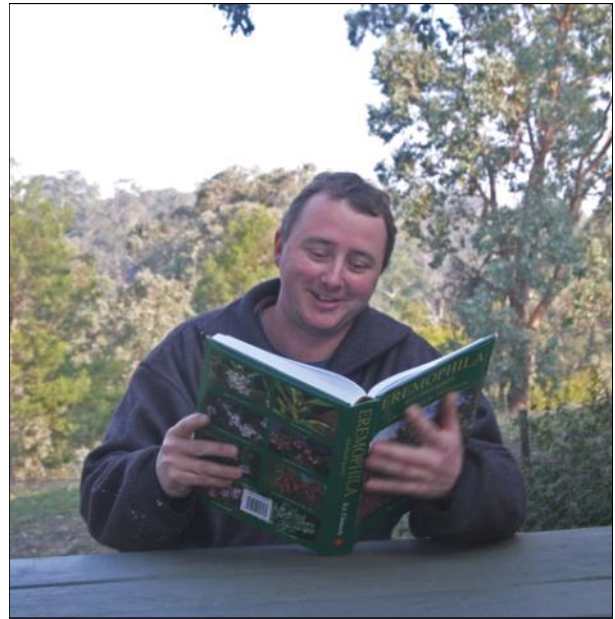
HAD A WONDERFUL bird sighting near my home in Templestowe early in May. I occasionally see a few pairs of Red-rumped or grass parrots feeding in the nearby park or on the nature strip. They are inconspicuous birds that I generally note and walk past. However, this day I saw a flock of over 60 perched on the powerlines. Such a large number caught my attention. I watched them for a while. They were resting and preening. A pied currawaong swooped and the flock took off and flew a few circles in formation. The parrot's contact calls were twittery and high pitched, a little like a flock of budgies. In fact the flight pattern also reminded me of budgies, especially the way they kept tightly together and fanned their tail feathers as they came in to land.

I thought the birds would disappear, but the group slowed and headed down. This time they perched in the branches of a small autumn tree which had already lost its leaves. The crimson rumps, bright green feathers and golden chests of the males angled towards the sun. I immediately thought of Christmas decorations.

Nearly all the parrots were perched in male/female couples, indicating a strong pair bond. The female's plumage is a demure, muted olive green. The birds relaxed and I tuned into their soft, sweet chatter. How marvelous that such a first class bird-watching experience could happen in my street. The Red-rumped parrot seems to have benefited from the lawns of our city. Thank goodness something has.

I was treated to a second lovely bird sighting on one of Ken Crook's VNPA walks later in the month. We had almost completed the Mt. Lofty circuit and had a clear view of the Yarra River as we headed back to the cars. A large group of canoeists, primary school children in bright red boats, appeared around a bend. We stopped and I noticed a handsome, glossy-black male Darter sitting on a stump near the closest bank. The bird had also seen the canoeists. Its long supple neck twisted back and forth, using the stump as partial cover. It was nervously trying to decide whether it was in danger or not. We observed its sinuous head and neck movements as it played peek-a-boo around the stump, for a good few minutes. No wonder the Darter is named the snake bird!

As with the parrots, Darters seem to have done well in the Yarra Valley. I seldom walk along the river now without seeing at least one, although years ago I cannot remember a single sighting.



FOWSP thanks Josh

It has been more than ten years since Josh accepted the challenging role of nursery manager. His work is greatly appreciated by volunteers and the committee. FOWSP recognised this contribution with presentation of a book and a certificate with the following inscription:

*Ten Year
Certificate of Excellence*

Josh Revell

For providing consistently high levels of customer service to attract and retain clientele and volunteers through environmentally sustainable practices, deserving of special recognition.

Many Thanks

May

Market Volunteers

Marion Thomson

Lindy Gilbert

Ken Crook

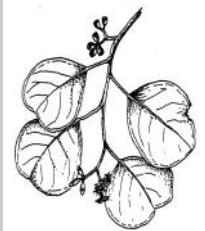
Joan Broadberry

Mark & Margaret Hassell

Wolfgang & Marie Krause

Peter Curry (delivery & return of trailer)

Anyone who would like to be rostered on to help with the trailer, even for just one hour, please contact Marie Krause 9712 0498
*New members especially welcome,
No experience required.*



Letter to FOWSP from Julie Pryor.**The koala shelter, Wonga Park**

16/04/09

Keri and I would like to thank all FOWSP members who have helped us with donations of linen and to those members who are giving up their time to build possum boxes for us.

For those who do not know what we are doing, 8500 pouches have been sewn for kangaroos, wallabies, wombats and possums and the Thursday Friends group are still building possum boxes. All of these items are being sent out to the wildlife shelters in Victoria who need them for their animals. We have been able to get supplies out to shelters in Beechworth, Myrtleford, Kilmore, Foster (all in bushfire areas) and many other areas around Victoria. Possum boxes are always needed as when a possum has been rehabilitated they usually are paired up and released with their own home.

Unfortunately, we do not have the capacity to deliver possum boxes so they must be picked up by the people who run the regional shelters. **If anyone is traveling in the direction of Mildura, Bendigo, Apollo Bay, Albury, Bright or any other country area, please let us know if you are able to deliver any possum boxes or pouches. Ring Keri on 97221570 or Julie on 97221117.**

Once again thank you very much for all your help.



Market Trailer Coordinator Urgently needed

This could be shared by two people to allow for holidays.

Duties include:

- Arrange a monthly roster of helpers for the trailer Marie has a list of her ongoing helpers and would continue to provide back-up.
- Liaise with the committee and treasurer re trailer activities

This is not an onerous task as is **not** essential to attend the market each month.

Delivery and pick of the trailer is capably handled by Peter Curry

If interested please contact Linda Rogan at 9435 5806 for more information

SOS- wanted for the nursery revamp

We are meeting with architect Diana Kateriannis in late May and early June to formulate plans to improve the nursery. We need

- The advice of someone with expertise in Occupational Health and Safety
- A portable office/shed that could be donated or acquired for minimal cost
- Someone with expertise in irrigation systems to help improve our efficiency
- To know about any other needs and or resources from members that can be fitted into our planning.

A Mobile Team- By Pat Coupar

Last month the Thursday morning timber cutter team were out once again traversing the steep south-east slopes of Pound Bend ridge. For a couple of years Fowspian Gray Arden had been literally chipping away at the swathe of woody weeds on his own. Recently he enlisted the help of some eager Fowspians and ranger Gemma.

Armed with loppers, dabbers, a bow saw and mattock (and mobile phones) five of us set off up the hill behind the ranger's office. Our target was Sweet Pittosporum, Cotoneaster and Hawthorn in varying stages of growth, from large old trees to young seedlings. Before long we encountered a patch of the highly invasive Cape Ivy (*Delairea odorata*) which we pulled and hung in trees. Despite its name, which refers to the shape of its leaves, this South African climber belongs to the Daisy Family.

Apart from the 'woodies' the only other major weed here is Bridal Creeper – often erroneously called Smilax. However, the slope is littered with many dead indigenous trees and shrubs – most notably Victorian Christmas-bush, as well, of course, the dead carcasses of the 'woodies'. This site (and the FOWSP team) is crying out for an ecological burn to rejuvenate the bush in this section of Pound Bend. A burn would also make access for Bridal Creeper eradication much easier. According to Gray there hasn't been a fire here since the 1960's.

It was approaching midday and we were scrambling back up the slope to the track when Gray noticed his phone was missing. I tried ringing his number on my mobile but to no avail. It was near impossible to retrace our steps as we had been up, down and across the slope several times. Then, as we were nearing the start of our morning's work, on my third attempt, Ken heard a ring tone coming from a dense thicket below. This led Gray back to a tangled mass of Honeysuckle he had been tackling earlier. Sure enough there was the phone. Not long after its retrieval the phone gave a warning beep indicating low battery. We had found it just in time.

As we walked back a much relieved Gray told us an amazing story of when the same phone had gone missing on a train to Albury about a year ago. But if you want to hear that one you'll have to ask Gray himself!

FOWSP Committee 2009

Martyn Hiley	9844 4547	Membership/ FOWSP contact
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer
Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter Coordinator
Joan Broadberry	9846 1218	Newsletter
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary
Cathy Willis	0418 142297	
Gray Ardern	0418 190261	Website: www.fowsp.org.au

Other FOWSP contacts

<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell 0408 317327
<u>Park Office</u>	9844 2659
<u>Market Coordinator</u>	Marie Krause 9712 0498
<u>Wildlife Rescue</u>	Adriana Simmonds 9722 2908
<u>Koala Rescue</u>	Julie Pryor 9722 1117
<u>Librarian</u>	Judy Green 9844 2096

Thursday Activity Group (TAG)

The Thursday Activity Group is co-ordinated by Ranger Jodie Davis and FOWSP members JOIN US on the first Thursday of the month from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Either meet at the depot (sharp at 9.30 am), or on site. LEARN some vegetation management skills and help improve some special sites in the Park. Just tag along with the Thursday Activity Group (TAG). Activities are cancelled on Total Fire ban Days

- June 4** Pound Bend Planting at Boys Road with Kylie and Juz & students from Warrandyte Primary School
July 2 Yanakie Planting with Kylie and Conrad and Telstra.
August 6 Osborne Road Planting with Osborne Road Landcare

For more information contact either Ranger on 9844 2659 or Martyn 9844 4547



Anderson Creek Landcare

- Sunday 21 June** Planting day
Saturday the 25 July Planting day

Also note : 3rd Thursday of the month Anderson Creek Landcare Group activities



Manningham City Council Environment Seminars 2009

Held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at 7.30 pm at South Warrandyte Hall, 66-68 Hall Rd,
 Sth Warrandyte (Mel ref. 35 J8)

- June 3** **Invasive Ants** with Kirsti Abbott, Monash University
July 1 **Saving the Macquarie Perch** with Tim Curmi,
 Vice President Native Fish Australia (Vic)



Seminars are FREE. No bookings required
Supper provided

FOWSP THURSDAY PROGRAM

We meet for propagation and other nursery activities every Thursday morning at 9.30 am at the Warrandyte State Park depot, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10), unless otherwise stated below. Propagation takes place from 9.30 am to 12.30 midday.

No prior experience necessary -

There is always someone available to show you the ropes.

NURSERY OPENING HOURS

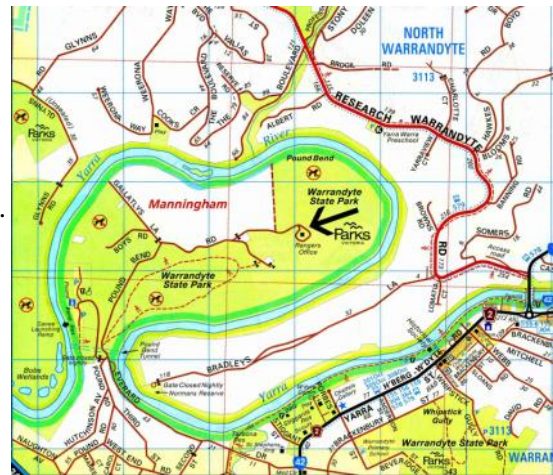
The nursery is open for plant sales (by donation) every Thursday.
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and the first Sunday of each month
2 pm to 4 pm.

**Nursery is closed to customers and volunteers
on Total Fire Ban Days**

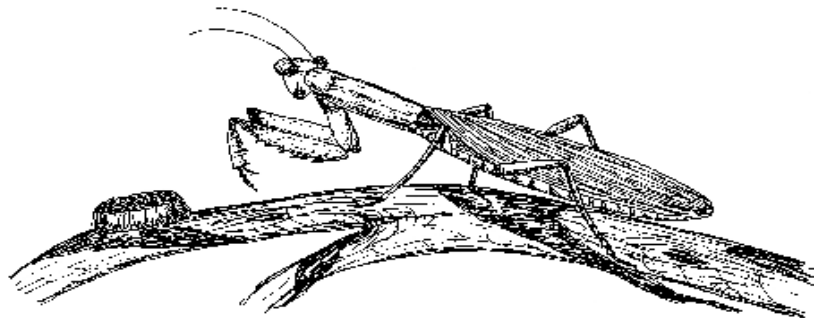
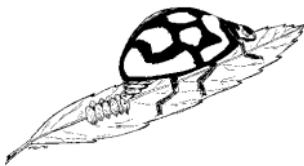
NEW PRICES

Members \$1.00

Non-members \$1.50 .



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Sunday Walks 2009

This educational series of interpretive nature walks takes you into some of Manningham’s most inspiring and interesting bushland. All walks are free but **bookings are essential** as places are limited. Each one commences at 10.15 am. It is important to note that walk lengths and difficulties vary, and times and distances are an estimate only. Appropriate shoes, hat and clothing, and a water bottle are required, as is food on longer walks.

June 7 Mt Lofty with Ant Owen, well known local environmental consultant and naturalist

Future walks and activities may not be on the first Sunday but will be advertised either in the newsletter or on fowsp.org.au

Bookings: Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348 or email eepadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au

Thursday Walks 2009

If the weather is suitable and there is enough interest, walks may be held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1 pm after lunch. Meet at the nursery, Pound Bend Rangers depot, Pound Bend Rd, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10). Walks will last approximately 2 hours. No need to book, but remember there is no definite program for these walks. **Enquiries to Josh Revell 0408 317327**

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of FOWSP

Comical Kookaburra

By Steven Katsineris



OUR YARD and the surrounding area is the territory of a pair of resident Kookaburras. While observing these birds and their young, my family and I have witnessed some pretty amusing and sometimes quite comical incidences.

On one occasion in early 2007, I saw an adult Kookaburra pushing a tennis ball with its beak. The ball rolled around and around the yard and the bird kept running after it for a rather a long time.

On a different day I saw a Kookaburra on the fence with something rounded, large and grey in its beak. It was banging the object, which I assumed was an animal it had caught, against the fence. I thought that the Kookaburra was probably trying to soften it up to eat.

I walked closer to get a better look and was surprised to see the object was an old tennis ball. As I watched the Kookaburra banging the tennis ball against the fence, the ball sprung out of its mouth and fell onto the ground. A Pied Currawong that had been intently watching all this from a short distance away made a dash for the tennis ball, but the Kookaburra was faster; chased the Currawong away and retrieved the ball. After a few more failed attempts to make the tennis ball tender and flatter for consumption, it gave up and dropped it. The hapless Kookaburra then flew to a branch of a tree and perched there to look for new prey. Fortunately, for the Kookaburra there is plenty of real food to catch in our garden.

Another day while I was gazing out the window into the garden, I noticed a Kookaburra on the ground. It didn't seem to have caught a skink or any other prey, but was just standing there looking around. A Pied Currawong flew down and landed on the ground a short distance away and startled the Kookaburra.

A plastic bucket that I use in the garden was located between them. They looked at each other for a moment and then the Kookaburra flapped its wings, flew up and landed on the edge of the bucket. This frightened the Currawong and it took flight. Unfortunately for the Kookaburra though, the bucket tipped up and fell over on top of it, trapping it inside. Although this was a very funny incident, it must have been distressing for the poor Kookaburra. My son, Andreas, ran out and released the Kookaburra.

One other time, my daughter Sian was a bit surprised to see a Kookaburra attacking a dark blue and black softball bat in the garden. The children had left it on the ground and to the Kookaburra it must have

News from the Committee

- Planning for nursery improvements continue, members wishing to have input should contact a committee member.
- FOWSP will assist Osbourne Road Landcare planting on August 6
- It was agreed that for the next Parks Vic. grant we will continue the Boys Road planting onto the ridge and include removal of Bridal Creeper as part of the site preparation.

Rangers Report

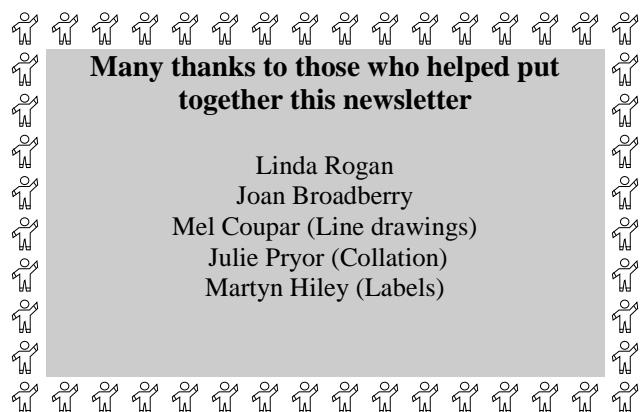
- The annual Brush Tailed Phascogale Trapping Program was run in early May. Only one animal was caught this year (on One Tree Hill.) 50% of the trap sites were burnt or affected by the recent fires.
- The Black Flat burn was completed on May 6th May, and met the Burn Plan objectives.
- Dave Moore has been extended till the 19th June, to backfill staff that are assisting the Kingleake Rangers.
- A heartfelt thanks to FOWSP for purchasing books for the Rangers who lost their houses and therefore, their beloved Environmental Reference Books in the recent fires. Eight Rangers from across the state lost their houses, and it is a wonderful contribution from FOWSP to assist these staff.

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday June 9, 2009

Venue: Ranger Station, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp



Many thanks to those who helped put together this newsletter

 Linda Rogan
 Joan Broadberry
 Mel Coupar (Line drawings)
 Julie Pryor (Collation)
 Martyn Hiley (Labels)

looked like a snake. The Kookaburra pecked at it hard and grabbed it and shook it for a while. Then it stopped and stood looking at it for a moment. The poor Kookaburra then gave up trying to kill the bat and flew back to its perch in a nearby Gum tree to watch for other prey. Sian managed to take some photos of this incident to show the family. These days I tell the children to be mindful about what toys and things they leave lying around in the yard.

Prickly Coprosma Challenge

By Linda Rogan

NATIVE CURRANT is another name for Prickly Coprosma, *Coprosma quadrifida*. It has shiny red berries in summer with one or two seeds “big enough to be spat out”. These berries were used by early settlers in their puddings and are an important food for native birds.



Coprosma quadrifida is also an important host plant for the Butterfly Orchid, *Sarcocochilus australis* (pictured below). This orchid is a twig epiphyte and in Kinglake its hosts were the Musk Daisy-bush *Olearia Argophylla* and more commonly *C. quadrifida*. While the hosts are wide spread, the orchid grows only in cool temperate rainforest in damp shaded gullies and is locally rare. The gullies where they were known to occur in Kinglake National Park have been severely burnt and all orchids lost. Unfortunately another population near Melbourne was also burnt this year

The Butterfly Orchids have been difficult to establish either from flask or from orchids rescued when they have fallen from their host plant. It is believed that healthy live hosts are required for the orchid to thrive. There may be some fungal assisted transfer of nutrient from the host. The presence of moss cover on the host may also be significant. (Raymond Tremblay 2006)

A survey in Kinglake NP by Raymond Tremblay as part of a study in 2006 counted 154 individuals on a random walk on the slopes of the creek. It was estimated the total population would have been less than 500. This population would already have been at risk due to a limited gene pool and with a low likelihood of significant gene flow with other populations.



Photo by Eddie Sabljak

Last year, Randall Robinson collected a dead limb of *Olearia argophylla* with a few of the butterfly orchid appended. Cam Beardsall, Josh Revell and Dick Thompson will be coordinating the

Shelter Report - Sad Stories

By Julie Pryor

My shelter has had eight koalas into care so far this year. Unfortunately many of their stories are sad.

A female koala came into care from Ballarat. She was picked up by a motorist and taken to Essendon Vet. Clinic. They called me to pick her up. She then travelled to Wonga Park only to be put down because she had a broken leg and a broken pelvis. These injuries may have healed but the animal would have been in a lot of pain for a long time.

My first fire victim came in from Whittlesea; she had burns around her face that were not too bad. However, as we found with the fires in Warrnambool two years ago, burns take time to appear. Two days later, her tongue started to swell and bleed. When her nose started to bleed it became necessary to euthanize her.

I received a call from the Kilmore Shelter asking if I could take three koalas. A neighbour drove to Kilmore to pick up three boys.

The first showed signs of trouble several days after arrival and had to be put down.

The second boy was due to go home but three days before he was to go he took sick, he is still with us, he weighs 10.4 kilo now, and he is very thin, so he must have been a very big boy to start with, and we have found he has a spot on his lung. Healesville Sanctuary are investigating what the problem may be, as yet no results. All blood results have been normal.

The third boy has gone home, the shelter found several valleys which were untouched by the fires and he was to be released back there.

Editor: Koalas were virtually extinct in the Melbourne area by the 1920s. They were reintroduced to WSP in 1987 (10-20 individuals) and early 1990s (less than 20) Koalas, from a population on French Island

effort to re-establish these rescued plants on living hosts including the nursery grown Coprosma shown above One of the challenges will be finding an appropriate environment for growing them as the FOWSP nursery will not be suitable, especially in summer. The good news is that some of the host plants are shooting from the base. The hope is that one day the Butterfly Orchids of Kinglake will be seen again in the wild.

“I SPY”

By JF



RECOGNITION OF JOSH

At morning tea on May 21 Martyn Hiley made a presentation to Josh Revell, who has now been the nursery manager for ten years. Martyn praised Josh's nursery skills and knowledge, as well as his skills as a people manager. Martyn said he believed the continuation of FOWSP as a highly successful and productive group was in large part due to Josh's input. Everyone present warmly endorsed these remarks. Josh was then presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, a book and a bonus. (see photo p3.)

“STOP” - SAYS MEL

Part of the success of FOWSP can be seen in action on Thursday mornings. On several occasions recently the combined efforts of many hands “pricking out” have been met by Mel throwing her arms in the air and saying loudly, “Please – no more – there is simply no more room”. How many other volunteer groups do you know where there are so many enthusiastic people? I agree with Martyn that there is something very special about FOWSP as an organisation.

MAKING CHANGES

Lee and Don recently spent a busy Thursday morning, weeding, raking and rearranging the tables in the space next to the “potting up” area. This is part of a general clean up of that area, which now looks much tidier as a result of their efforts.

NEW FACES AT THE NURSERY

Doerte Drews, who has a Diploma of Horticulture, and hails from Healesville, has used some time off from work to join the ranks of Thursday volunteers. Doerte has been a FOWSP member for some time and is pleased to have the opportunity of learning how the nursery operates.

Cheryl Mutch is a new FOWSP member who lives in Eltham. Another ex-nurse, she has nursery experience but is new to the world of indigenous plants.

NORTH WITH THE NOMADS

Thursday morning regular John Blake, with wife Fay, has set off in his caravan bound for Kununurra. He won't be back until September, by which time the southern winter woes (hopefully wet) are over.

Also heading north, up the Newell, very shortly, on an extended holiday, will be Mike and Pat Couper.

Olive has postponed her normal north-going as she awaits the arrival of three small grandchildren (together with their parents) from Tasmania on an extended visit.

WORKING WITH THE RANGERS

Under the guidance of Gemma Crawford, on her last day as a Summer Ranger, the May Thursday Activity Group headed to One Tree Hill to tackle a large stand of roadside agapanthus. It was amazing to see how quickly a small group of willing workers can make a major difference. The large pile of grubbed agapanthus that soon accumulated was a joy to behold.

Many members attended a bar-b-que lunch after normal activities on May 21 to farewell Ranger Jodie Davis before her maternity leave. Linda thanked Jodie for being such a pleasant and co-operative person to work with, before making a presentation of a “shower” gift. Everyone joined Linda in wishing Jodie well for the future. Jodie assured everyone that she would be back before too long.
(Photos below and front page)



HE'S STILL AROUND

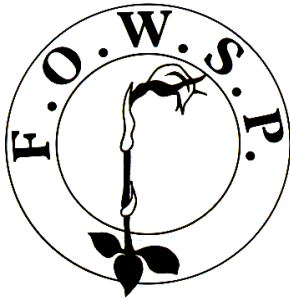
In case you are missing Ben's input in this column, here's his latest to keep you going.

Ben – “I think I have swine flu”

Listener – “Sorry to hear that”

Ben – “Don't worry, I'll be OK, I have the “oinkment”!!”





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Eastern Yellow Robin
By Linda Rogan

This friendly bird is found in the east and south-east of the Australian mainland., especially along the coast. It can extend quite far inland in summer, returning to the coast in winter. Breeding takes place July to January with both parents, and sometimes family members, helping to rear the young. This "perch and pounce" hunter used our tent rope at Croajingalong as it's perching point.

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Adriana and a joey Photos by Mike Coupar

Callibrocon sp. from
the wasp family
Braconidae at
Croajingalong May 2009

Photo by Linda Rogan



Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available) if you email them as follows:
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