

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

LOCAL WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS continue to delight. Two Platypus under the bridge at Finns Reserve, Blue-tongued Lizards in my neighbour's and sister's gardens and a White-throated Warbler in Bulleen Park. Wow!!!

A warm welcome to Jason Patton who has joined the committee. Jason is working hard for FOWSP on an extraordinary number of projects including the *Flora of Warandyte* on the web which will be launched at the AGM/Christmas BBQ on Tuesday December 1st. (See p2). Very exciting!

If you would like Jason to change your newsletter delivery from snail-mail to e-mail he is more than happy to oblige. Just contact him: jason@parau.com

Also a big welcome back from overseas to nursery manager, Josh Revell.

Last month in my article on Wingan Inlet I mentioned two beautiful Australian native marsupials. The Yellow-bellied and Greater Gliders. Both are large gliding possums. During the last few weeks I came across Mel Coupar's wonderful sketch of the Greater glider (above) and just had to include it this newsletter.

Greater gliders are spectacular creatures, quite widespread, but nocturnal. The gorgeous tail is 46-60 cm long against a body size of 35-45 cm. The Greater Glider's colour varies through shades of grey, brown, black and white. I have even seen a stunning pure white one. I often think that the



Greater Glider would knock the Koala out of the limelight if it was visible during the day. They would be on stamps, calendars, coins, postcards and possibly even the Coat of Arms. Unfortunately not many Australians even know of the Greater Glider's existence.

In this edition on p2, Pat Coupar reflects the hazards gardeners and botanists face. On p3 & 8, we bring you two articles about tranquil local wildlife havens. P4 contains an update on the possum box project undertaken with the help of Bulleen Heights school. Our native bee knowledge is further honed by Linda p7. Several special events are advertised. Ben continues spying on p9 and much more.

After a holiday in the south island of New Zealand. Linda will be back for the combined Dec./Jan. 2010 newsletter. PLEASE continue sending her your articles. Remember the three P's—a Picture, a Page or a Paragraph. We really want to hear from you. For now, best wishes from

Joan Broadberry

Special event dates for your diary:

Thursday 19th Nov.- 11 am. Koala Count & BBQ p6

Sunday 29th Nov.- Proposed joint FOWSP/Strathewan Landcare Group activity p7

Tuesday 1st Dec. - 6 pm. onwards, FOWSP AGM and Christmas Breakup p2

Newsletter crew this month were:

Joan Broadberry, Linda Rogan, Mel Coupar (line drawings), Julie Pryor (collation), Jason Patton (email & web.)

Deadline for combined Dec. 09/Jan. 10 edition newsletter is Friday, 20 November contributions can be e-mailed to [Linda Rogan lindarogan@netspace.net.au](mailto:LindaRogan@netspace.net.au) or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

A conspiracy of plants

By Pat Coupar

I CURSED ALOUD. The pain was sudden, sickeningly sharp and all too familiar. I had been cut and the perpetrator was a plant - a sedge to be more exact. In the process of pulling up a handful of undesirable weedy grass, I must have inadvertently grabbed a leaf of carex sedge. I watched the blood ooze from my finger at an alarming rate.

Carex is not the only sedge capable of inflicting such flesh wounds. Gahnia and Lepidosperma - saw and sword sedges respectively, will do the same. And the mechanism they use is a row of minute glass-like silica spicules situated along the leaf edge. Grass blades - now there's an appropriate word - can also cut finely like paper.

Stemming the flow of blood with a tightly bound tissue, I moved on. So far it had not been a good morning. Earlier, while traipsing through dense vegetation at the river's edge, I had brushed against the dark green serrated leaf of a nettle (*below*). Almost immediately my forearm turned red. Raised white lumps appeared. This nettle is a native and not the same species that grows wild in damp ditches of the English countryside, however, it does have the same stinging properties. The modified hairs on the surface of leaves are hollow and contain poison, the main constituent of which is histamine. It was histamine that stimulated the sensory nerves in my skin and dilated the blood vessels, causing the pain and redness.

My second unpleasant encounter was with a bundle of blackberries. I became snagged. Extricating myself from the clinging canes resulted in a thorn becoming deeply embedded in my thumb that would require some painful digging out when I returned home.



The relaxing stroll by the river, intended as an antidote to a stressful week, was turning into a botanical nightmare. The plants were conspiring against me. Or so it seemed. In reality I had run into a number of defences developed by the plants to stop animals from eating them. Thorns, spines, needles and silica blades are adequate mechanical deterrents, but the plants' most lethal weapon is chemical. Various poisonous compounds of bitter alkaloids, irritant acids, tannins, oils, saponins and glycosides are manufactured and stored by the plant in its leaves, seed pods, berries, bulbs and flowers. A single oleander flower contains enough poison to make a child seriously ill.

Poisonous plants abound in Warrandyte's gardens. The sticky milky sap of the all too popular agapanthus can cause mouth ulcers; daffodil bulbs, if eaten, result in gastro-enteritis and convulsions; daphne, primula and philodendron leaves all contain poisonous compounds, as do the pods of wisteria and the kernels of apricots.

Environmental weeds, like ivy, broom, honeysuckle and ragwort, found in bushland around Warrandyte, are all toxic in one way or another. And some of Warrandyte's indigenous species, although not deadly, should also be treated with caution. Among those under suspicion are the scrambling clematis, ground-hugging pratia, native buttercups and lobelia, while the succulent, paradoxically sweet blue berries of flax-lilies are also regarded as potentially poisonous.

Careful handling and simply being aware will keep most adults safe. Those most at risk are infants and inquisitive children. Yet not all plant toxins are bad. In fact a great many drugs are derived from naturally occurring products: take digitalis, the heart drug, for example, it is obtained from foxgloves; ephedrine - a common compound of cold and flu tablets comes from a small primitive Chinese plant and morphine, the most effective of all analgesics is extracted from the opium poppy. Poisoning is often a matter of how much. Get the dose right and a potential poison can be a life-saving medicine, while the reverse is also true.

For the first time that morning I noticed a tingling in my nose and my eyes were starting to itch - the first symptoms of hay fever, an allergic reaction to microscopic pollen grains. Wrapped in thoughts of dangerous mechanical and chemical devices, I had forgotten the misery grasses and other flowering plants can deliver to sufferers at this time of year.

I had been stung, stabbed, cut and now this. The conspiracy of plants was too much. I turned for home.

Footnote: Recommended reading "Some plants are poisonous" by Sally Wilson. Published by Reed books, Vic. (1997)

First published in the Warrandyte Diary Nov. 1999

FOWSP AGM & Christmas breakup BBQ

-including the launch of the wonderful *Flora of Warrandyte* on line. *Formalities will be kept to the minimum, festivities to the maximum.*

WHEN: Tuesday 1st Dec from 6 pm

WHERE: at The Folly by the Nursery at the end of Pound Bend Road. See map p6.

BYO everything, salad/sweets to share.
Everybody welcome -see you there!!!

Candlebark- my favourite walk

by Joan Broadberry

TAKE A STROLL WITH ME on a summer evening at dusk. We will hear the raucous cries of parrots, cockatoos and water-birds as they fly down for a last drink. We are almost certain to see kangaroos, wombats, possums, tawny frogmouths and micro-bats. If we are patient and have sharp eyes we may observe sugar gliders. If we are very lucky, we could even glimpse a platypus or a rakali*. This peaceful place is not in some remote, hidden valley, but a mere two minutes from my home in Templestowe. It is *Candlebark Park*. Come and experience it with me.

I'll meet you in the carpark on the east side of Fitzsimons Lane Bridge. (Melway reference 21G12) The cares of the day recede as the dying sun reflects off the darkening water. For the first kilometre there is a choice of tracks, either following the Yarra River or using the main Yarra Trail. Which shall we take? I prefer the river path where we can catch glimpses of the water. A mob of kangaroos, including a huge male, startle us as they bound into the bush, some distance ahead. We soon arrive at a narrow footbridge arching across the river. This is a great place to stop, relax and tune our eyes and ears to the sights and sounds of the night. As darkness falls we scan the river for the "v-shaped" wake of the platypus or the soft splash and white tail-tip that gives away the rakali. Suddenly we



become aware of three large birds perched on a limb just above us. These birds are alert, ready to hunt, not in their daytime camouflage pose. A Six yellow eyes peer down for a moment before the frogmouths disappear silently into the twilight.

We hurry on to reach a secret corner before the last light fades. Shushh, we must be completely quiet. A few minutes pass. It is so still that every tiny sound is audible. Small shapes zoom out of the darkness. I know they are micro-bats without actually seeing them. We wait. Mosquitoes buzz. What's that? A faint rustle. A sugar glider emerges from its roosting hollow and climbs quickly up a bare branch leaning over the path. It stops for a few seconds and preens. There is another and still another behind it. Suddenly one leaps, a second, then a third. We get a brief view of dark rectangles silhouetted against the western sky. A few soft thuds as they land and we have lost the family in the thick wattles.

Using our torches on the uneven surface, we continue. A ringtail possum sitting on the boardwalk rail is caught for a moment in our light. Reaching the end of the walk, we again stop and listen before turning around. The crunch of a large animal's footsteps sounds just below us. I lean over the edge and my torch picks up a fat wombat, seemingly oblivious to our presence, foraging among the tussocks. We walk back slowly, enjoying the feel of the night air. A few cockatoos are still screeching over roosting places. A late kookaburra chorus rings out. The off-

white gravel of the trail is easy to follow in the moonlight. We breathe in the scents of mint from Christmas Bush, and of eucalyptus from River Red Gums that could be as much as 500 years old.



Time is so fleeting, such evenings so special and these place, sadly, so rare.

*An alternative name for the water-rat.

Debbie Bettenay has been exploring the Park, and reports a great year for the rare orchid *Caladenia oenochila*., the Wine-lipped spider. Her photo below is of a group of nine. A close-up is on p11— electronic version. *Thanks Debbie!*



HONORARY AUDITOR URGENTLY NEEDED

Fowsp is a small organisation. We need a person competent in accounting, (no need to be a qualified auditor), to spend a little time checking our annual accounts which are due to be presented to the AGM on 1st December 2009

We promise this is NOT an onerous or time consuming task. Please can you help us, or do you know someone who might?

Contact Lyndy Gilbert (treasurer) on
9844 0106

Bulleen Heights/FOWSP

In co-operation with the wider community Artur Munchow

On 7th of September students and their teachers from Bulleen Heights School, delivered 29 beautifully finished nest boxes to FOWSP. Bulleen Heights received a grant to pay for the material and the Friends bought and cut it to size. The students assembled and painted the boxes. On the day they were happy to come along and unload their treasures which will be used in the future to shelter possums.

Some of the students were keen to put the boxes up, but rain stopped us from doing it. Wildlife shelter carers will be delighted to receive these wonderfully painted houses. We would like to thank the students most warmly for their fine effort. We hope to repeat this teamwork in the future.



THANK YOU MARIE & WOLFGANG

During the morning tea break at the nursery in mid-October we paused to say a formal “thank you” to Marie and Wolfgang Krause who have taken care of the market trailer and organized the monthly roster for nine years.

Artur represented FOWSP with a few well spoken words. Marie then received a card and gift token—a small acknowledgement of a task well done.

The continued presence of the trailer in the wider community each month is important—in fact Artur himself came to FOWSP through the trailer. A lovely circle was joined as he gave the presentation to Marie.

A surprise was a beautiful cake decorated by Lyndy. She has supplied the recipe and unfortunately we have no room for it this month. We will try to put it on the web. Many thanks to Annette for the photos. *Another photo, p11 electronic version.*



Fantastic new book - *OSBORNE PENINSULAR*

The North Warrandyte Osborne Peninsular Landcare Group Inc. have lovingly prepared a magnificent publication containing 40 pages of stunning colour photographs and compelling text. The name is simply *Osborne Peninsular*.

Osborne Peninsular is a book packed with historical, social and environmental treasure.

Section headings are: The Yarra River, Osborne Peninsular; The Golden Age; North Warrandyte; The Osborne Legacy; The Last Osborne; Stonygrad; The Koor-nong Experimental School; Osborne Peninsular Landcare; Flora of the Osborne Peninsular.

The book’s main appeal will be to Warrandyte locals, but its outstanding quality and beauty will surely bring in a wider readership. An absolute gem at \$15.

Contact Annette at the nursery or Osborne Peninsular Landcare Group, PO Box 221 Warrandyte.

Phone 984 44438.

FOWSP Committee 2009

Martyn Hiley	9844 4547	Membership/ FOWSP contact
Lyndy Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer
Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter Coordinator
Joan Broadberry	9846 1218	Newsletter/Market co-ordinator
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary
Cathy Willis	0418 142297	
Gray Ardern	0418 190261	
Jason Patton	0402 121838	Webmaster
	jason@parau.com	

Other FOWSP contacts

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

Website: fowsp.org.au**Thursday Activity Group (TAG)**

The Thursday Activity Group is co-ordinated by one of the rangers and a FOWSP member. 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

TAG activities may change due to priorities of the season so check before heading directly to the site.

November 6th: Rifle Range- Fence Removal—Aiden O'Demsey.

December 3rd: Rifle Range- Pittosporum removal.

For more information contact either the rangers on 9844 2659 or Martyn 9844 4547

Also note: Third 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., South Warrandyte (Mel ref. 35 J8)

Wednesday November 4th- Hawksbill Turtles of the far-north Barrier Reef, with Robert Bender

Wednesday December 2nd- Bell Miner and associated Eucalyptus dieback with Amanda Dare PhD.

Seminars are FREE. No bookings required Super provided

Also Friday 20th November 8.30—11 pm. Join the Astronomical Society of Victoria at a stargazing evening in Westerfolds Park, Fitzsimons Lane. Bring a torch covered with red cellophane and warm clothing. Mel Ref 33F2. **Bookings essential. Manningham City Council 9840 9348**

**Selections from Nillumbik Shire Council Environmental Events**

Bookings: Georgia Ramsey, Environment and Strategic Planning 9433 3210

Thursday 19th November 7 pm—8.30 pm. Create a water efficient Home and Garden. Reminder, bring your old showerheads for replacement with free water efficient ones.

Edendale Farm, Gastons Rd. Eltham Mel 22A1. **Bookings essential**

**Thursday Walks from the Nursery**

If the weather is suitable and there is enough interest, walks may be held on the 4th Thursday of the month at 1 pm after lunch. Meet at the nursery, Pound Bend Rangers depot, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10). Walks will last approximately 2 hours. No need to book, however, there is no definite program for these walks. **Enquiries to Josh Revell 0408 317327**

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.*

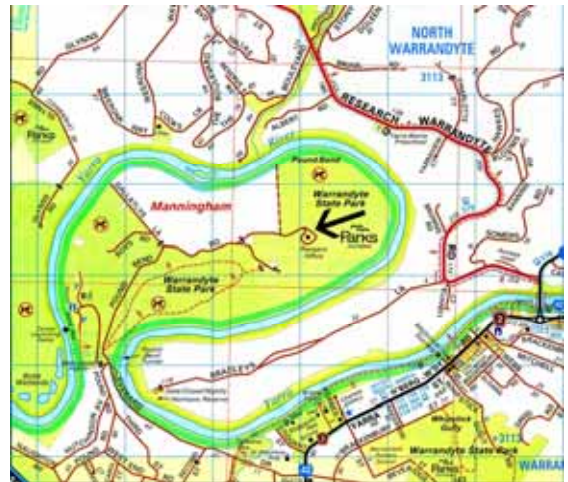
NURSERY OPENING HOURS

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, *usually the day after the
Warrandyte market* - 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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HAVE YOU CONSIDERED JOINING THE 2010 FOWSP COMMITTEE?


With the AGM coming up at the beginning of December we need FOWSP members to seriously consider joining the committee. No special skills are required, just a desire to work for the improvement of the Park. We can promise you the company of like-minded people and a great deal of satisfaction and fun along the way. "Many hands make light work." So how about it? If you are not sure, come along and try us out. Phone or email any committee member- p5.

ANNUAL KOALA COUNT

Volunteers needed for the yearly koala count on **Thursday 19th November**.

Meet at the nursery to start the count about 11 am. **BBQ lunch supplied afterwards**. This year we are depending solely on volunteers so do come and join in with us.

Please register with **Fred Rich** on **9437 2233** or **0429434166** for organizational and catering purposes.




FOWSP

October

Market Volunteers

Diana & John Baird
Marian Thomson
Alison Thom
Kelly Wooster
Joan Broadberry
Linda Gilbert & Ken Crook
Peter Curry (delivery & return of trailer)



Market dates for this year are Saturdays **November 1st & December 6th**. There is also a market on December 20th but without the FOWP trailer.

If you could help out between 9.30 and 11.30 am on either of those dates please email Joan Broadberry: joan.broadberry@optusnet.com.au or ring anytime on **9846 1218**.

New volunteers welcome—no knowledge assumed.

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

Hurstbridge- The Island

Steven Katsineris Sept. 2009

CLOSE TO THE TOWN CENTRE of Hurstbridge is an area of bushland known as The Island. The Island is approximately 130 metres by 170 metres in size. It is surrounded on one side by the Diamond Creek and on the other sides by a small swamp and two little creeks that run into the Diamond Creek. These two smaller creeks are dry in summer and even when flowing are usually only shallow. But the wet gullies, thick scrub and its position keep The Island a fairly concealed and inaccessible spot.

On The Island the vegetation is diverse, with a mixture of native and exotic species. Some areas are thickly vegetated, mostly by Blackberries and other weeds, but there are other areas of dense native scrubland, mostly in the gullies along the banks of the creeks. The Island also contains remnant indigenous woodland.

A large number of young Black Wattles grow in the middle of The Island, with few large dead ones scattered about. There are also about ninety large Manna Gums. Some huge, old ones with hollows. These are very important for wildlife, because many birds require hollows to nest in and possums and gliders need them to live in. Amongst the native shrubs growing there are Kangaroo Apple (*below*), Hop Goodenia, Twigg Daisy- Bush, Tree Violets and some native grasses.



Unfortunately, many of the ground covers and under-storey plants growing on The Island are common weeds. Among the exotic plants are Blue Periwinkle, Bridal Creeper, English Ivy, Angled Onion and Wandering Creeper. There are also a few Plum Trees. The local environmental group, Friends of Diamond Creek, I believe, has plans to eventually rid The Island of

these weeds, returning the area to more like its natural state. Much planting has already been done on the creek embankments opposite The Island.

Although The Island is very close to the centre of Hurstbridge, being cut off much of the year and being away from walking tracks it is seldom visited by residents. With its less accessible location and being mostly undisturbed by people, it is a tranquil place and home to a variety of local wildlife. This includes a colony of Common Wombats, with several disused and five active burrows. This means there could be six or more Wombats there. Some burrows are in the high embankments of the creek, while others are on the island proper. A few are partially hidden in amongst Blackberry patches, including two at the base of a big Manna Gum. The Wombats living on The Island probably forage further afield as there are excellent, easily accessible grassy areas nearby. Despite the Diamond Creek blocking one side of The Island, Wom-

bats have access to the surrounding areas across the other little creeks and swamps that are either dry or are low even when water is running.

As well as Wombats, there are other nocturnal mammals on The Island. The hollow trees provide homes for possums and gliders and Ring-tailed Possum nests can be observed in some of them. There are also Black Wallabies and Rabbits living on and around the area.

There are many bird species living on or visiting The Island, including Scrub Wrens, Noisy Miners, Rainbow Lorikeets, Grey Butcherbirds, Magpie Larks, Eastern Rosellas, Crimson Rosellas, Common Bronzewing, Magpies, Galahs, (*below*) Little Wattlebirds, Currawongs, Kookaburras and Wood Ducks.

The Scrub Wrens and other small birds are most abundant in the denser undergrowth in the gullies, alongside the creek. Galahs, Wood Ducks and Eastern Rosellas nest in the larger hollows in the Manna Gums. The Island is part of the territory of a pair of Powerful Owls that nest nearby. Powerful Owls require a large area of suitable habitat and adequate prey. The presence of plenty of possums and rabbits make The Island and the surrounding area ideal for them.



The Island is a quiet, peaceful haven just a couple of minutes walking distance from the centre of Hurstbridge. It is also a stone's throw from the main road, yet it is a world away, a small hidden area that is secluded and seldom noticed or visited. A bushland location within a township boundary is a sanctuary providing vital habitat for local native wildlife. Hopefully, it will remain undisturbed, except for the future efforts to restore and enhance its natural environment to its former, original splendor.

Forthcoming local School Poster Competition

Your water, your future

Lyndy has emailed: "I am pleased to say that we have been granted \$1600 by the Bendigo Bank for the forthcoming school poster competition 'Your water, your future'. I met with Karin, Assistant to the Bendigo Board on Wednesday. She is very excited with the competition and gave me a few clues as to how to make it more appealing to kids as she has two young girls.

FOWSP will be presented with a certificate on Wed. 18th November at the Bendigo Bank's AGM and we will be added to the list of recipients on the Bank's newsletter.

We will be able to apply for funding each year to run the competition again if we wish. I hope some of you will be able to come to the presentation. It includes food and wine."

Contact Lyndy Gilbert on 9844 0106 for more details.

“I SPY”

By B.G



CORRECTION BY KEN

In the last edition of the newsletter one item in I Spy was incorrectly headed using the word Koonung. The correct spelling should have been KOORNONG, not KOONUNG or KOORNUNG.

LOVELY LILY

Ranger Jodie was recently at the park showing off her 14 weeks old daughter, Lily Grace. “Chocolate Lily”. The family was back from a four day holiday at Barmah. “We’re breaking her in (to camping), sleeping her in a Porta-cot in a small touring tent.” *Photo below.*

LANDSCAPE LADIES

During October, Jo Henry was “getting” plants at the nursery for some friends. Jo studied landscape architecture at RMIT and is an ex-Steiner student. She is currently sub-contracting to Australian Eco Systems. Accompanying her was Cric Henry (nee Starr), also a landscape designer/architect who was acquiring plants for a fence screening job. Both live in the Bend of Isles.

SEVERAL SLIP-ONS

The park will have 4 slip-ons to be used on the back of the smaller Toyota vehicles. The slip-ons have a capacity of 400 litres. These units can go where tankers can’t—(slip-ons used to be called “pigs”).

ONLY ORCHIDS

“Maroondah Council has moved to preserve one of the world’s rarest plants. The Council has bought a bush block where the Kilsyth South Spider Orchid was discovered in 1991. Ecologist Graeme Lorimer said the site was home to one of only three remaining specimens, and the only one to have flowered this year. The other two are clinging to life in Council owned bushland near Bungelook Creek.” *Maroondah Leader, 3/10/09*

SCOTTISH SOUJURN

Jan Falconer (the alternate I Spy) has returned from a long walk along the “West Highland Way”. The walk started at Milngavie, seven miles from Glasgow and finished at a Loch near Fort William. (90 miles further north). The eight days of walking started at sea level and ended at sea level. Apparently there were mountains in between. Jan said, “It was magnificent scenery.”

PARTICIPATING PATTONS

Jason and Peta Patton were recently seen “fossicking for plants”. Jason is a new FOWSP Committee member. He is , “looking after all the IT things and is putting the *Flora of Warrandyte* as a data-base on the internet.

EXPERIENCED EXPERTISE

Mid October, perched around the Parks office reception area were found people, deep in discussion. Jason P,

Cathy W, Josh R and Artur M, probably something to do with the plant data-base mentioned above.

ACID ACTUALLY

“Rising carbon dioxide emissions have already driven ocean acidity up by a third... ‘You can’t get away from the chemical impact of CO2 on the oceans’, says Will Howard of the Antarctic Climate and ecosystems Co-operative Research Centre in Hobart. ‘What’s more, geo-engineering schemes would only tackle global warming, not acidification,’ he says.” (*New Scientist p6, 7/2/09*)

CHOICE CHICKEN

Last Warrandyte market day, two rangers, resplendent in uniform, were seen taking a short lunch break. Justin W was enjoying a serve of chicken satay, and Conrad A was munching on a chicken workburger (?)

WATERWORKS

Val Desailly and Peter Clough (from Eco Dynamics) were busy loading plants onto a vehicle. They are planting out in Ruffey Lake Park, East Doncaster under contract with Melbourne Water. They also work along river banks.

STRESS TO SERENITY

Annette Lion has had parking fines, but doesn’t remember where or when! Annette says, “No matter how stressful life is, coming to work at the park nursery is joy and serenity.”

TRUST TREE

“An *Angophora costata*, Smooth-barked Apple, at 8 Taranakan Avenue has been classified as a Significant Tree-(Ashburton-Regional)”. *Vic. News, National Trust November 09.*

KNEES JERKING

A submission by the Landscape Committee to the Royal Commission into Victorian Bushfires includes, in part, ...”highlighting the possible knee-jerk reaction to the fires by allowing extensive clearing of land... and potential increase in concrete structures and the impact of clearing of the landscape along roadside verges.” *Rohan Storey, Architectural Historian, p5, Vic. News, National Trust November 09.*



This month it was lovely to say “hi” to the beautiful Lily who had taken her mum, Ranger Jodi, to the Thursday nursery for a visit with the volunteers.



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Birds breeding at the nursery. JB

This photo of a Masked Lapwing and chick was taken on the last Thursday in September by Linda Rogan, (who resolutely braved being swooped.) There were also six Wood Duck chicks by the dam the week before. In early October the plovers had disappeared, but four of the Wood Duck chicks were growing well.
Email newsletter recipients- more plover photos p11

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE

FOWSP Membership Renewal Form

Name

Address

.....

Telephone no. Email

Membership (family) \$20
Concession \$10

Newsletter by email (tick box)

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or existing members with unchanged contact details can use direct deposit. Details: BSB 633-108. Account: 136406907. Account name: friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc. Identify yourself by surname

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

Email photo bonus photos

More views of the Masked Lapwing chick and unhatched egg. See p10. *Photos. L. Rogan*



Caladenia oenochila. The Wine-lipped Spider Orchid. See p3
Photo: *Debbie Bettenay*.



Photos this page © Linda Rogan 2009

Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available) if you email them as follows:
lindarogan@netspace.net.au



Marie receives congratulations from Artur. See p4 *Photo: A. Lion*