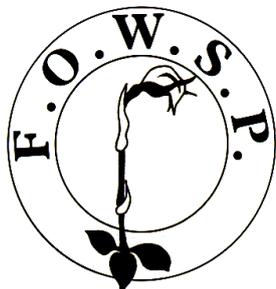


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

APRIL WAS ANOTHER busy month for Fowspians. Future challenges for those of us actively working to care for our natural environment are increasing rapidly, due to population pressure, and the inability to tell the difference between human need and greed. Some think that that no matter how much we use up resources that took millions of years to form, a magic technology will allow us to continue indefinitely. This newsletter has several features that reflect members efforts to step more lightly on this planet. Annette's report on the Warrandyte CAN Sustainability Festival is a good start. (Right and page 3)

Also acting locally, Carol Page shares her experience on a TAG weeding day and further information on some of the weeds removed from Webb Street Warrandyte. Her report on the Mt. Lofty walk, is a good example of taking steps to learn about and appreciate our local environment. Both are on page 2. Carol also provides photos of some work occurring at Glynn's Reserve on page 3.

Steven Katsineris writes about the joy of learning of a rare parrot in the local area, on page 4.

Alwynne Buntine shares some of Bruce Fuhrer,s photos and observations of a colourful flatworm, in the High Country; one that would be easy to overlook. A good reminder that the invertebrates are just as important and interesting as the furry or feathered creatures.

Next month we will have a report by Pat Coupar of the thrill of interacting with Australian Sea Lions.

If happiness comes from learning and having important work to do, Fowspians should be happy. Please enjoy the newsletter and keep sending in your contributions.

Linda

Warrandyte CAN Sustainability



Festival by Annette Lion

ON APRIL 2ND Warrandyte Community Centre was buzzing with people learning about how to live ever so busy lives as lightly as possible. There were stalls with loads of information such as DIY double glazing, insulation products, Friends of the Earth,

(Continued on page 3)

Deadline for June edition newsletter is Friday 27 May, 2011

contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan lindarogan@netspace.net.au
 or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

A Weeding TAG

Thursday 7 April 2011

WILLING WORKERS followed Gray to an area of the Park along Webb Street, Warrandyte. Armed with gloves, tools and more importantly a delicious morning tea, we set to at a fair pace. The area is known as the Russell Street burn. The burn took place twelve months ago. In areas free from weeds the variety and quantity of native plant regeneration is remarkable. It will definitely be a place to visit in the Spring. Our fearless leader told us to concentrate on specific species and it was incredible the difference we made to the area in such a short time. The most dominant weeds were two Brooms, Flax-leafed, and Cape, appreciably more of the latter. Cootamundra Wattle had spread well, but had not grown to a size where it was difficult to pull out. In fact I don't think we needed to use the tools at all. The highlight for me was being told by Gray that the fruit of the weed *Solanum nigrum* (Black nightshade) was indeed edible, and delicious as well – as it was fruiting, I needed no second bidding and consumed many over the morning* -

From the web –

Medicinal Action and Uses---*This species has the reputation of being very poisonous, a fact, however, disputed by recent inquiries. In experimenting on dogs, very varying results have been obtained, which may be explained by the fact that the active principle, Solanine, on which the poisonous properties of this (species) depend, and which exists in considerable quantity in the fresh herb, varies very much at different seasons.*

The berries are injurious to children, but are often eaten by adults with impunity, especially when quite ripe, as the poisonous principle is chiefly associated with all green parts. Cattle will not eat the plant and sheep rarely touch it.*



Solanum nigrum

The other noxious species we removed are as follows: Bone seed, Willow-leafed Hakea, Blackberry, Bridal Creeper, English Ivy, Freesia, Mirror bush, Drain Flat-Sedge, Fleabane, White Sallow Wattle, Sow-Thistle, Tree Privet and an Apple tree which to quote Gray, "It was brute force that effected the 'Maluscacide'.

An apple a day may keep the doctor away, but that apple will need more than a doctor to revive it."...

I keep a selection of reference books in the car, including those on weeds, the Manningham Weed guide amongst them which we used on the day – I find them very useful.

I love the TAG's, they give me an opportunity to go to areas of the Park of which I am mostly unfamiliar, and of course there is always the chance of finding diverse range of animals. On Thursday, a large egg mass entwined in the leaves of a small *Acacia Implexa* and a couple of Caterpillars .

The morning passed so quickly, always a sign of being immersed in ones' activity. *Carol Page*

**Editors would advise caution*

Mt Lofty Walk -March

ANOTHER OF CATHY WILLIS' interesting Community walks within Warrandyte State Park was held on 24 March. This was a 5km circuit at Mt Lofty.

At the top of our first hill at the information board we looked down on the beginnings of the Warrandyte gorge. This terminates near Mullum Mullum creek in Templestowe. Along the track it was immediately obvious that there was a heavy infestation of *Amyema quandong* (Grey mistletoe) on the *Acacia dealbata* (Silver wattle) – some were in attractive flower but unfortunately did not attract Mistletoe birds as we were passing - it was also present on *Acacia Pycnantha* (Golden wattle), but not to such a degree. This mistletoe is indigenous and specific to Acacia. Both of the Acacia species usually begin flowering in Spring. Deeper into the circuit, the Eucalypt species, *Eucalyptus polyanthemos* (Red box) was the most dominant; it grows well in dry shallow soils in foothill country. We passed a large patch of *Dimorphotheca pluvialis* (African white daisy) – it is native to a number of countries including Namibia. It was in full flower, a newish invasive weed that is becoming a problem in the Park.

We came across several sturdy wire frames – rabbit bait enclosures – necessary to limit harm to non target species-. These were put in place in early March. A spotlight transect is carried out prior to laying the bait and repeated 4/6 weeks afterwards. Unlaced carrot is put out for one meal, then three subsequent carrot meals are laced with Pindone. Stay tuned for the results.

Cathy spent time in various locations telling us about *Kunzea ericoides* (Burgan). It can become a dominant plant very quickly as it is one of the first to

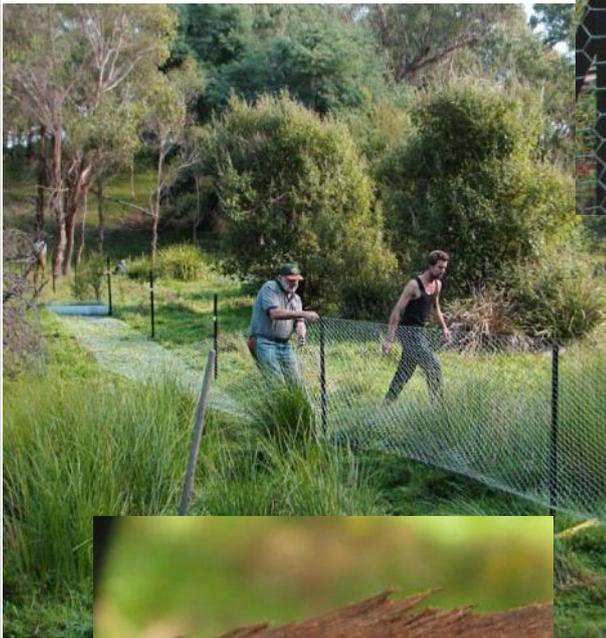
(Continued on page 8)

What's Happening at Glynn's Reserve?

Photos by Carol Page

Comments from Gray Ardern

Right and below, photos show construction of a fence that will not only keep fluffy rabbits from the rare plants that are thriving in and around these ponds, but will keep foxes from eating the marsupials and frogs that live there. The fence is designed to deny foxes a stable foothold if they try to scale it



The next photo, (below) is of us cutting and dabbing dog rose [*Rosa canina*] a garden escapee. The beetle was confidently identified to genus level by Cam, but I was too overcome by nostalgia to attend - as children we used to call these 'chums' and regarded them as extra special



(Continued from page 1)

Transition Towns, local food swaps, council info, CAN (Climate Action Now – who organised the event), recycled products, Sea Shepherd, etc. There was also the North East Ranges Permaculture group of whom I've been an active member for many years. Permaculture is my other passion, apart from natives and combining the two has been an interesting journey.

At the last minute I had the idea of selling indigenous 'bush foods' within the permaculture stall. So I hit the books and took every suitable plant we, (FOWSP, had for sale and sold them as bush foods. There was a lot of interest and I sold a few plants. I had many interesting conversations and learned a

few things that some of the plants used to be used for. There are some plants that are just far too special to use as bush foods, such as the lovely Vanilla Lily (*Arthropodium milleflorum*). The aboriginals used to eat the juicy, sweetish tubers, but at that time, they would have been found in abundance. It would be a shame now to dig up the few we have around War-randyte.

As my personal experience of eating bush foods is limited, I referred people to the book I used to source the plants (*Wild Food Plants of Australia* by Tim Low). Although some things were a little vague, such as, "if the Dianella berry tastes good then it's edible!" But I'm willing to give it a go.

All up it was a great day.

Annette

The Superb Parrot

OVER THE PAST few years I have caught brief glimpses of bright green parrots with long tails in flight (singly or in pairs) in the bushland around Hurstbridge, but wasn't able get close enough to distinguish the features. I looked through my bird books but couldn't determine the species of bird and resolve their identity.

Then one morning in early March 2010, after walking to school with my daughter, Lara, I was returning to our car, when I saw a green parrot with a long tail in a Kangaroo Apple bush feeding. It had its back to me so I was able to get close to it. As I got closer the bird turned around and I saw its neck and head. I realized it was definitely a male Superb Parrot. The males have a bright yellow forehead and throat, with a scarlet band across the upper chest. As soon as it saw me though it quickly took flight and swiftly flew away and disappeared into the nearby bush.

Then one Sunday morning in mid-January 2011, while watching King Parrots in the large tree outside our kitchen window, I heard an unusual harsh, "crak" sound. It was an odd birdcall I hadn't heard before. I walked outside the door and looked up into the tree. There perched on a branch was to my utter surprise a beautiful male Superb Parrot. I rushed inside the house and got my camera and so did my daughter. We took some photographs of it and watched the Superb Parrot as it climbed about in the tree. I'm sure it was smaller than the other male I saw the year before. I looked around in the other trees and glimpsed a Superb Parrot flying between two Eucalypt Trees. What an exciting occurrence this was. Since then I've heard and had more sightings of these stunningly beautiful birds.

Superb Parrots nest in the hollows of sizeable, mature, live trees, but also dead trees are used. Unfortunately, the clearing of their woodland habitat has removed many of the old nesting trees Superb Parrots need for breeding. The loss of its woodland nesting and foraging habitat has had a huge impact on the Superb Parrot. There is estimated to be about 6,500 Superb Parrots left remaining in the wild. In Victoria, the Superb Parrots range has contracted to the north; they are now believed to be restricted to the region along the Murray Valley .

The Barmah forest is the only known nesting site of the endangered Superb Parrot in Victoria. It is thought that there are only about 150 of them coming back to Victoria to breed. The loss of vital breeding and foraging habitat in Victoria has made the fight to save the threatened species harder.



To save the endangered Superb Parrot it is crucial to preserve and protect the remaining viable habitat, the remnant Gum and Box woodland; and especially to keep the old, hollow-bearing trees the parrots require for nesting. Actions like restoring the native habitat by revegetating the woodlands and installing nest boxes will also help the recovery of the Superb Parrot. Individuals and community groups can also make a real difference. If you live in or near the home territory of the Superb Parrot you can help by replanting native trees and other vegetation that the parrots need to survive.

I was elated to have Superb Parrots turn up in our garden and to finally discover the identity of the unknown parrots. Strange how sometimes in life you spend your time looking for something, then when and where you least expect it, what you sought just comes to you.

Even though there maybe just a small population in the district, this is significant as the species is vulnerable with only a few left in the wild in Victoria. I don't know if these Superb Parrots I saw are escapees, a leftover from a past population or new arrivals that have come into the region. Whichever the reason for their existence in the area, it is a very heartening to encounter these magnificent parrots in the district. Lets hope there is still enough suitable habitat for the Superb Parrot to survive and recover.

Steven Katsineris.

Newsletter team this month were:

Linda Rogan
Joan Broadberry
Mel Coupar (Line drawings)

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2011		OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Jason Patton jason@parau.com	0402 121838	Webmaster & Membership	<u>Nursery Manager</u> Josh Revell 0408 317327
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer	<u>Park Office</u> 9844 2659
Linda Rogan lindarogan@netspace.net.au	9435 5806	Newsletter Co-ordinator	<u>Librarian</u> Judy Green 9844 2096
Kelly Wooster	9844 2819	Facebook and email con- tact	<u>Wildlife Rescue</u> Adriana Simmonds 9722 2908
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	<u>Koala Rescue</u> Julie Pryor 9722 1117
Cathy Willis	0418 142297		<u>Market Trailer & Newsletter</u> Joan Broadberry 98461218
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		
Jan Falconer	9844 1226		Website: www.fowsp.org.au
Sybillie Ims	9844 1335/0405 500 278		

Thursday Activity Group (TAG)

JOIN US on the first Thursday of the month from 9 am, (TAG workers only), to 12. 30 pm. Either meet at the depot, (sharp at 9:00 am for 9:15 start), or on site by arrangement. 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

- 5th May** Pauline Toner Reserve Environmental works
19th May Koorngong post fire weeding
2nd June Boys Road planting

Fowsp/Manningham Thursday nature walks

Leader: Cathy Willis

Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack. Meet 9.30 am **at the venue**. Walks held on the 4th Thursday of each month These walks are paced to allow us to appreciate the natural history along the way.

Call or email Natalie 9840 9124 eeepad-min@manningham.vic.gov.au

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL as places are limited: request meeting place information at booking

9.30 am Thursday 26 May **Jumping Creek Reserve to Warrandyte Village**

Following the river we cross the Jumping Creek and continuing over rocky ledges and sheltered riparian forest. After a short section along a dead end road we complete the walk along the upstream end of Warrandyte Walk. Distance: approx 3.5kms Time: approx 3- 3.5 hours

Rating: difficult (some sections of steep, narrow foot tracks)

NOTE: this walk will involve a 4km shared car shuttle as the walk is one way.

9.30 am Thursday 23 June **Bolin Bolin Billabong**

Join Hayden Heta, Aboriginal Heritage Coordinator Parks Victoria on this stroll around magical Bolin Bolin billabong, traditional meeting place of the Wurundjeri people. Learn about their lifestyle and Bolin's special significance. Distance: 2kms Time: 2 hours

Rating: easy (flat walk)

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.

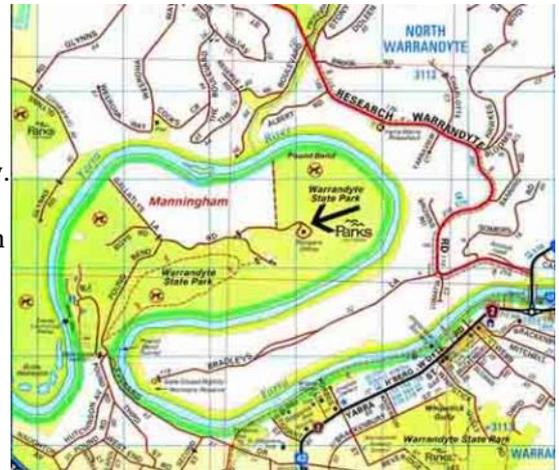
NURSERY OPENING HOURS

The nursery is open for plant sales (by donation) every Thursday.
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and
 the first Saturday of every month, 9 am to 1pm (to coincide with
 the Warrandyte Market) and
 the first Sunday of each month
2 pm to 4 pm.

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

Prices 2011

Members \$1.50 Non-members \$2.00



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Manningham/Nillimbik Environmental events 2011

Manningham Environmental Seminars are held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at 7.30 pm at the **Warrandyte Community Centre**,

168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, 3113 Mel Ref. 23 F11
For full details check closer to the time on 9840 9124



- 4th May** *Landscape changes and impact on local birdlife*, Murray Bouchier
- 1st June** *Understanding Fire in Our Local Environment*, Evan Thomas, CFA

Seminars are FREE. No bookings required *Supper provided*

Nillimbik

28th May Saturday 10 am to 3:30 with free lunch: **Introduction to Property Management Planning: productivity, aesthetics, conservation value**

9th June Thursday 7 to 8 pm *The Story of Stuff* a short environmental film. Free organic popcorn. Edendale Farm.



Bookings 9433 3316

FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

The Warrandyte market is always held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve. Volunteers are rostered in pairs to man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour. If you are interested in being on the market roster for 2011 please email Joan Broadberry: joan.broadberry@optusnet.com.au or ring anytime on **9846 1218**. *First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.*

Future market dates are: Saturday May 7th, June 4th, July 2nd

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

A Strange Encounter

By Alwynne Buntine

ON A RECENT TRIP to Fall's Creek with the Victorian Nature Photography Group, Bruce and Irene Fuhrer and two young friends had a strange encounter of the "carnivorous kind". While examining an interest-



ing lichen on some rocks in the Faithful's Hut car park, they discovered two blue green terrestrial (ground dwelling) flat worms *Tricladida* on the same rocks. One outstretched and the other entwined

around a largish insect, possibly a wasp or a sawfly, as though holding it in a grasp of death before devouring it. (Photos) Actually, that's exactly what it was doing because most flatworms are carnivores.

Listening to the tale and looking at the photographs Bruce had taken, I was truly amazed that a creature with a mouth as small as the flatworm appeared to have, could eat such a large prey. Some research into this unusual creature revealed some interesting facts and answered my questions as to how it fed. The mouth is not, as I had thought, a lighter patch at one end of the worm. Instead it is at the end of a tube (the pharynx) which extrudes from the underside of the worm when it is aroused to predate (hungry). Like spiders, flatworms excrete digestive enzymes which externally digest and dissolve their prey so they can feed. This fact helped to make sense of why the creature had entwined its unfortunate captive. Their diet consists mainly of snails, slugs, earthworms and insects.

Reading further, I discovered that terrestrial flatworms in Australia number more than 137 known species so far. They come in an array of colours and usually inhabit damp and very humid areas. They live in leaf litter and decaying vegetation of forest floors and can be found under rotting logs. Flatworms leave a sticky

News from the Committee

- Planting at Wonga Park PS 21/7. Sybille and Lyndy to organise volunteers, tools, plants, stakes, tree guards, certificates, media etc. and report back to committee. Annette to organise propagation session at Wonga Park.
- Planting Orchard Track. Lyndy to contact Andersons Creek Primary to see if they would like a class to be involved (Grade 5/6?) on 11 August.
- Jason to contact Warrandyte Primary School to discuss a working bee for removal of stakes and tree guards.
- Membership brochures need updating. Committee to consider new designs.
- MCC are offering grants to not for profit groups. Artur will submit a grant for equipment.
- Tool inventory to be done by Gray and Artur.

Rangers Report

- Annual Parks Vic Volunteer Recognition event is on 12 May at Yarra Bend.
- The last burn for the season will be at Black Flat.
- Sporting Shooters Association will be culling foxes at One Tree Hill and Rifle Range. These areas will be closed to the public from 28 April until further notice on Thursdays only.
- Rabbit Program – baiting completed. Rabbit numbers are down.
- Flood damage to parks – work ongoing.
- Team Leader position advertised for Warrandyte State Park as David Van Bockel has accepted another position in the Dandenongs.
- Seasonal fire fighters at WSP contracts extended to end of May to carry out post-burn weed control and mobilisation of equipment.

Next Committee Meeting (members welcome)

Date: Tuesday 10 May 2011

Venue: Ranger Station, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

mucous trail behind them in which some of their prey gets caught, and they, in turn, are attracted to the mucous trails left by snails, slugs and earthworms. You can even find them in the damp places in our gardens, so next time you're inspired to clean up some rotting leaves and mulch in your garden, look out for these interesting predators and you too may have a similar experience.

As a point of interest, tape worms and liver flukes which are parasitic in mammals (including humans) are also members of the flatworm family.

Written by Alwynne Buntine from information supplied by Bruce Fuhrer and further information from The Australian terrestrial flatworm fauna (*Tricladida: Terricola*) 1998 by L Winsor and Wikipedia, the free encyclopaedia.

Letters To the Editor

Dear Editor,

There are people who say our climate's not changing and therefore humanity doesn't need to alter its behavior towards the earth. Unfortunately, even if it was the case that climate change was not happening, our earth is still in dire environmental trouble from human impact.

Our demands on the planet are excessive and the viability of life on earth is at stake. Since 1966, human demand on the planet's natural resources has doubled. These days we are using the equivalent of 1.5 planets to support our way of life and other human activities. Australia's consumption of natural resources is even higher. If the rest of the world lived like us, humanity would need nearly four planets to continue to survive. Clearly, this depletion of the earth's finite resources is unsustainable and we cannot keep going on in this careless way.

As additional livable planets are not easy to find, we have to change our lifestyle, and learn to live more simply, so that humanity and other life forms, (and the earth itself), can simply go on living. With each passing year of inaction the problem grows worse. We need to stop our over-consumption of natural assets, use our resources more sensibly and begin to repair the damage done to the ecosystems. It is now urgent that we change our attitudes and act to save the earth from looming disaster.

Steven Katsineris,

Project Platypus in Stawell is advertising for six helpers for six plantout days in July. For information ask Fred for a copy of their flyer. or check the following: <http://www.platypus.org.au/plantout-registration.php>

**PROJECT
PLATYPUS**
UPPER WIMMERA LANDCARE



Fred Rich says:

"The first one (Saturday 2nd July) is very very close to my place on Redman farm one of the first in the area. This will be a very plant specific ,(plants will be indigenous to specific areas), and should be interesting. The last one is not far from our place and the tours of previous plantouts on the Sunday should be fantastic. Hope you can make it." Fred's phone 9437 2233 email richfred@gmail.com

(Continued from page 2)

revegetate a cleared area –it is also alleopathic, (it produces a chemical which inhibits the growth of other species). As well, it is resistant to fire when growing. In areas where it needs to be controlled, several methods are being tried. Cutting and painting with Roundup and using a bulldozer are two of the most recent. Plants are left to dry for a few weeks then burnt.

We saw *Microlaena stipoides* (Weeping grass), Cathy said it makes an ideal lawn for shady sites. We also admired *Eragrostis brownii* (Brown's love grass), another substitute for the home garden lawn in an area not subject to heavy usage.

A seriously aggressive weed in the Park is *Ehrharta erecta* (Panic veldt-grass) – it flowers and seeds all year and can complete its life cycle in 6/8 weeks!! The seed is dispersed by wind, water, birds and rabbits. There were some handsome old *Eucalyptus melliodora* (Yellow box) – highly prized by apiarists. The species was, unfortunately, heavily harvested for timber. We were shown rosettes of leaves of *Pterostylus concinna*, (Trim Greenhood); they were in a fenced off area, and should commence flowering around June.

As usual with Cathy, this was a stimulating and educational walk, also as is the case in WSP, a good Cardiovascular workout!

Carol Page

Nature notes from Mitchell and Julie

Julie Bishop identified a frog call she had never heard before in her garden pond. It was the Eastern Smooth Frog, *Geocrinia victoriana*, (Victor for short). Julie described the call as, "low-pitched and musical". It croaked all through the day and night. Victor is very small, only about 35mm. Julie told me how it is possible to type *Geocrinia victoriana* into Google and select the first site which has a function whereby one can listen to the call. At one point Julie heard Victor join in nice chorus with an Eastern Spinebill. Although not at the same pitch, both calls pulsed together in perfect time.



Julie and Mitchell also reported seeing a Wedge-tailed Eagle hunting, (a cat?), over a Warrandyte backyard on Yarra St. It was low enough to get great views of the face, feet and the curled up feathers of its wing-tips. Julie's attention was directed to it because of the fuss being made by other birds; magpies, ravens and noisy miners. She said seeing it against the backdrop of suburbia really emphasized what a huge birds it is.

“I SPY”

By B.G



Cathy's Class

Cathy Willis led a demonstration and practical class in early April for members interested in the best ways to collect, treat and propagate plants from cuttings and the most effective way to 'prick out' from seedling trays into tubes.

A full page of instructions was given to each person. "Moist, gently, avoid touching roots, bend test, no kinks, tip-stem-heel, take an esky? hormone mixture, not in bud or flower, 'rip' then trim," were all mentioned.

Paul's Particulars

The April newsletter carried a photo and article about Paul Rogers. Further research reveals that Paul plays touch football, likes skiing and sails fourteen foot skiffs.

Last seen, Paul was helping John Blake plant up a roundabout at the depot with *Dianella longifolia*, (for propagating purposes), and a special central tree feature, *Eucalyptus nortonii*. Paul would like to be a geography teacher.

Environmental Economy I

A plan to open the Yarra Ranges national Park... and green wedge land to tourist development was released in March.

The draft report, *Unlocking Victoria's Tourism*, singles out the Yarra Valley, "as an area where constraints impede tourist development."

Healesville Environmental Watch chairman, Steve Meacher, said, "the report was exactly what was expected when economists write on the environment." *Alex Munro, Maroondah Leader*, March 15, 2011

Environmental Economy II

Some ideas might be: Eco huts, trained lyrebirds that dance on request, fast food facilities, wildflower picking parades, machete teams to clear to bush so that large 4WD coaches can get in. Perhaps a casino, a Luna Park or a golf course in the wilderness?? The mind boggles; but hey, anything to lure the tourists.

Fish the Fry

"Sardines may not be faring so well in other parts of the world, (the depleted Mediterranean, including around the island of Sardinia..). But in Australia they are thriving, with reports indicating under-fishing to the tune of about two thirds... They're cheap

too...are easy to cook and delicious to eat...So really, there's absolutely no excuse for not eating them, is there?"

Royal Auto, page 10, April 2011. Extracts from an article by Michael Harden, a Melbourne food critic and author.

Worked at Warrandyte State Park

David Van Bockel, one of the longest serving rangers at WSP has left the park to take up a new appointment as Fire Operations Officer working out of Sherbrooke. (*Parks Victoria*.) We wish him well for the future.

A position for a new Team Leader of natural Values Management has been advertised.

Ray the Rock Star

It was good to see Ray Kluger at the depot recently. Ray made a special visit to renew his FOWSP membership. Ray was also well known for his "rock" work; a rare skill to find now-a-days.

On Orchids

Fowsp member, Dick Thomson, will be speaking about Victorian Orchids and their conservation at the Australian Plant Society Maroondah meeting on Friday 17th June 2011.

Venue: Manchester unity Hall, 8 Main St., Blackburn (near Blackburn railway station).

Website vicnet.net.au/-apsmrdah

Think on Zinc

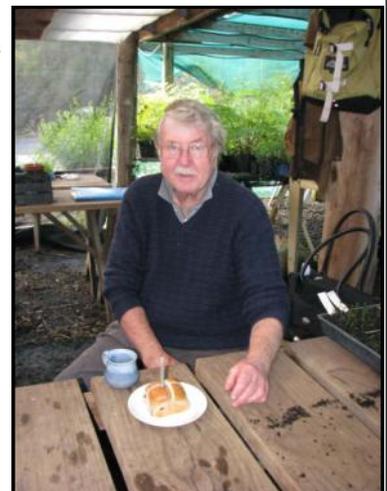
"And cow manure has too much toxic zinc.... But never use cow manure which always comes from feed-lot cattle and is laded with zinc, which is added to increase meat production."

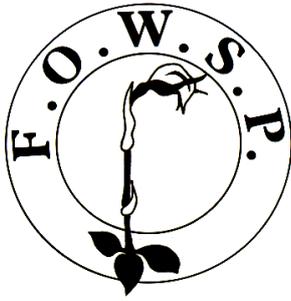
Kunzea, April 2011, From notes of a talk given to the March meeting of APSM by Kevin Handreck
Kevin Handreck is a soil scientist who has done extensive soil research for CSIRO over many years.

Happy Birthday Keith

A delicious birthday cake was baked by Sybille for Keith Jardine on 14th

April. He was unable to make Thursday's nursery that day; shamelessly we scoffed it without him. On 21st he had to make do with a hot cross bun and a single candle. Best wishes from us all, Keith, sorry about the cake!! .





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Vine Moth Phalaenoides tristifica

A caterpillar collected from an Epilobium in WSP grew into this beautiful Vine Moth. It is also known to feed on Hibbertia and cultivated grapevines. Although said to be black and white as an adult, the central spots are clearly yellow on first emerging. The caterpillars openly feed in the daytime and the moths also fly in the daytime sometimes being mistaken for butterflies. LR

May 2011 Volume 29 number 4

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)

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Email photo bonus

Mike Coupar's photo of an Australian Sea Lion in SA. Next month we feature Pat's report of a close encounter with these beautiful creatures



Ivy, age 5 says "I'm very good at holding moths. "This moth is *Phalenoides tristifica*, a Vine Moth see page 10 for more. Photo by Linda Rogan

More of Gary's "chums" from childhood. See page 3 to learn more. These and the beetle on page 3 are Paropsine beetles that feed on Eucalpyts.



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