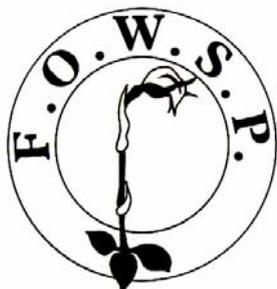


# Friends of Warrandyte State Park



## Newsletter

Website: [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au)

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

### Editor's corner

This newsletter is a true joint effort, because in October both your editors were off with the birds (Joan) and the bees (Linda). Linda worked on the FOWSP newsletter just before she left for Western Australia and therefore gets first say.

*“What a wonderful month it has been in the bush. I spent most of a stimulating week with the native orchid (ANOS) conservation group searching for locations of threatened orchids and managed to slip in a few bee and wasp photo opportunities as well. For my best photo catch of the week see the email extra page.”*

Joan then hurried home from an unforgettable birding trip in South Australia, mostly along the Birdsville track, to finish off the newsletter.

As usual it is packed with great articles. P2/3 reprints a profile of FOWSP secretary Artur Muchow. Julie and Linda challenge our insect knowledge with their detailed observations on p4. Carol has sent photos of the recent water-watch training session p6. Frogland is being renovated—story p7 and 9. Don't forget our Spring Sale and the AGM BBQ at the folly on 15th November. (*Invitation p3*) The Cougars are treating us to one of their inimitable slide talks. Not to be missed! Two very interesting letters to the editor appear on p8 and Jan is our spy for this month with all the goss on p9.

Jason wants us all to know that back-copies of



Gray is working, Mike is supervising! Linda is noting and what is Pat doing with a knife in her hand? See page 7

the newsletter are being scanned and put on the website. Eventually they will be searchable online. Fantastic work Jason.

Once again, many thanks to all those who sent in articles and photos. We couldn't do it without you. Happy reading.

*Linda and Joan*

**Deadline for December edition newsletter is**

**Friday 25th November, 2011**

contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan [lindarogan@netspace.net.au](mailto:lindarogan@netspace.net.au)  
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113



**Spring is in the air. What a great time of year to spend in the garden!  
To help you and your garden along our nursery is having a  
Spring Sale!!!**

The wide range of *Pomaderris* and grass species that we have in stock are on special at only \$1.00!

We have plenty of tubestock of *Pomaderris vacciniifolia* or Round-leaf Pomaderris for sale (photo L). A dense small tree to large shrub which can grow to 4m. This attractive, quick growing plant has cream flowers between October & November and is a bargain at \$1 as in 1999 it was declared significant in the Melbourne region (*Beardsell, Cheal et al., FoM*) and vulnerable statewide and recent reports show less than 250 specimens left in their natural habitat in the state of Victoria. We also have plenty of wildflowers, screening plants and water plants available.

Remember too that now is the perfect time to get your Autumn planting orders in, orders can be placed at the nursery, online via [fowspnursery@live.com.au](mailto:fowspnursery@live.com.au), or catch us on the nursery mobile 0408 317 327



*Regards, the Nursery Staff*



**Article and photo reprinted from  
the *Melbourne Weekly Eastern*  
13th September 2011**

ARTUR MUCHOW (FOWSP honorary secretary) has been a member of the Friends of Warrandyte State Park for more than 12 years.

“ I JOINED Friends of Warrandyte State Park because I wanted to learn more about the flora and fauna in the area and find out what I could do to improve the habitat of my own property. I'm now the secretary of FOWSP.

What we do is important because over the past 200 years the state park has been harmed through logging and the introduction of plant species from other parts of Australia and overseas. This changed the natural habitat as these new plants were extremely successful in spreading around the state park, therefore affecting the wildlife which no longer had natural areas to live in.

The FOWSP turns 30 next year and our main focus is still striving to rescue and maintain the forest's natural habitat, as well as revegetating areas within the state park. Our aim is to get rid of the non-indigenous vegetation and to rehabilitate the forest. An example of how we do this is through collecting seeds of the indigenous plants and then propagating them.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**FOWSP AGM Tuesday 15th November 2011**  
**Pound Bend Nursery Folly**  
**Promptly at 6:00 - SHORT AND SWEET**

Followed by BBQ, BYO everything  
 Including a salad or dessert to share.

*And then at dark.....* **Wild Africa**  
**A slide show by Pat & Mike Co**



Africa is an amazing continent. It has:

- the world's heaviest land animal
  - the world's tallest animal
  - the world's tallest bird.
  - the world's fastest land mammal
- the world's largest ape

See them all along with lions, leopards, antelopes and with special close encounters with our closest relative - the chimpanzee. Spend time with us as we watch their intimate family lives at close quarters. Learn why it was such an inspirational and even life changing experience for us.

**Newsletter team this month were:**  
**Linda Rogan**  
**Joan Broadberry**  
**Mel Coupar -(line drawings)**

*(Continued from page 2)*

With our current membership holding 320 families, we have established a successful organisation which works in favour of conservation and rehabilitation. We meet every Thursday morning at our on-site nursery. Family membership costs \$20 and concession \$10, which includes a monthly newsletter and discounts on plants from our nursery. People of all ages are welcome and it's common for the young ones to come along with their parents.

We work closely with Parks Victoria and were lucky enough to receive a \$15,000 grant from Melbourne Water recently. Membership fees, grants and donations are what solely fund our organisation.

I especially like being part of the group because of the social aspect; the spirit among the members is truly amazing. As volunteers from all around Victoria, we share the same goals; to come along, rehabilitate and help nature."

### FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

**Thanks to those who helped out on October 1st-**  
 John and Diane Baird, Sybille Ims,  
 Marion Thompson, Caitriona & John Young,  
 Ken Crook, Lyndy Gilbert,  
 Trailer delivery and retrieval: Peter Curry

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 2011/12, please ring Sybille Ims **9844 1335 or 0405 500 278** or email [imsbs@netspace.net.au](mailto:imsbs@netspace.net.au)

*First timers are always paired with  
 someone more experienced.*



**Future market dates are:** *Saturday November 5th  
 and December 3rd*

## Julie Bishop's tiny critter

WITH THE HINT of “hopper” we found the following: This insect is definitely a member of the Eurybrachid Hoppers and looks very much like Spider-faced Wattle Hopper nymph *Gelastopsis insignis*.

I noted that the nymphs of this group all seem to have the paired long posterior appendages. (Thanks to Brisbane insects site) No one has offered an explanation of the purpose of these



A

appendages nor why this individual was observed to moving quickly in a posterior direction.

**free DVD of the Imperial Blue Butterfly to anyone who can shed light on this behaviour!**

[http://www.brisbaneinsects.com/brisbane\\_planthoppers/AcaciaHopper1.htm](http://www.brisbaneinsects.com/brisbane_planthoppers/AcaciaHopper1.htm)



Morning tea at FOWSP nursery

Photo by Jason

### SEEKING WORKERS

The Manningham City Council-Bush Crew are looking for people interested in paid work handweeding and/or mowing in Council's bushland reserves. All ages are welcome starting NOW for 5 hour sessions. If you, or someone you know are interested or would like more details please call Jane Pammer 0413 908 968 anytime.

This is great way to get to know some of the best bits of Manningham bushland while working with like-minded people.

### Correction:

September 2011 Volume 29 Number 7 page 2. In all cases where *Acacia howittii* is mentioned *Acacia lep-rosa* should be substituted.

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

## 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*

**3rd November-** *Koala count Pound Bend, Grade: easy* BBQ will be held after

**17th November** *Activity with Cam*

**1st December** *Bird watch with a ranger at Pound Bend Grade: easy*

0408317327 for more information

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 eepad-min@manningham.vic.gov.au

### Program

**9:30 am, 24th November** *Westerfolds Wander*

This section of Yarra Valley Parklands was saved from residential development nearly 40 years ago and now forms part of a valuable habitat link stretching all the way from Kinglake National Park all the way through to Yarra Bend Park at the cities edge.

**Distance: 5 km Time: 3 hours, Grade: moderate**

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

*Please note there will be no walk in December 2011.*

## 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, 9am to 1pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) *and*

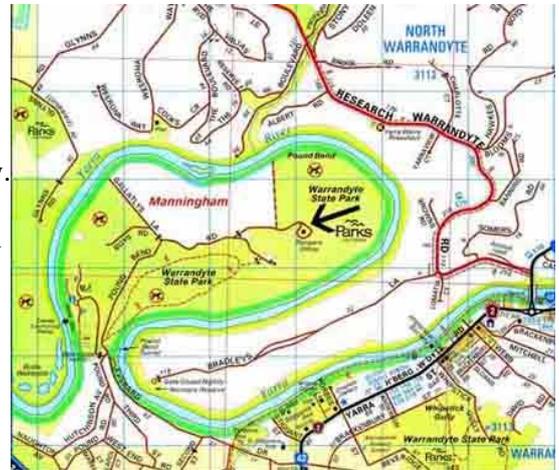
the first Sunday of each month

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 Environmental Seminars*

are held on the **1<sup>st</sup> 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*

**Wednesday 2nd November** *'The Mental Health Benefits of Nature'*, with Jean Dind of Out Doors Inc.

**Wednesday 7th December** *'Invertebrate Activity in Tree Canopies'*, with Anna Burns.  
(Rescheduled from October)



### *Selections from Nillumbik Environmental events*

**Sunday 6th November**, 9.30 am-12noon *'Attracting Butterflies into your Garden'*.  
Learn how to entice butterflies into your garden and give them a reason to stay. With Judy Allen. Cost: \$20 (includes morning tea).

**Where?** Edendale Farm, Gastons Road, Eltham (Melway 22 A1)

**Bookings:** Living & Learning Nillumbik on 9433 3744



FOWSPIANS WATER WATCH TUTORIAL Thanks to Carol Page for these images taken at Pound Bend

## News from the Committee

- Redesign of nursery** - A local architect has been asked to provide drawings to allow this matter to progress.
- Survey feedback** - The results of the survey require further analysis before more activities are planned.
- Manningham Youth Sustainability Forum - Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Oct** - It is anticipated that FOWSP will be take part in this event.
- The 2011 AGM will take place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Preparations are underway.
- Wind-up lunch for volunteers** will take place on Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> December - preparations are underway.
- Trailer ideas** - Sybille will upgrade some of the display and information provided in the market trailer.
- Victorian National Parks Association** - Planning is underway for a joint activity between this group and FOWSP at Longridge Farm
- Follow up for external groups** - In future external groups who participate in a planting exercise could be invited back after 12 months later to see the results of their work, do some weeding and take the guards off.
- New members afternoon tea** - Lyndy will plan another of these.

### Rangers Report – Conrad

- Ranger Jodie Godfrey is now on maternity leave - Warren Murphy is the FOWSP contact person while Jodie is away
- The new Chief Executive Officer of Parks Victoria, Bill Jackson, is undertaking a restructure of the organisation. He has appointed a new executive team which has been condensed to 5 members who are aligned to the core values of the organisation. There is also a new chairman of the Board. His name is Andrew Fairley.
- New gates around will be installed around the Park as part of bush fire protection
- The summer fuel break program will commence on 17<sup>th</sup> October
- Seasonal outlook - The Department of Meteorology has said that southern Australia could be getting warmer with less rain.
- Project fire fighters were previously employed by the Department of Sustainability, but are now employed by Parks Victoria

### Nursery Report – Kelly (during Josh’s absence)

- Nursery sales were down on grand final weekend, but generally more people are coming to the nursery on weekends
- Propagation is slow at present but there are other jobs for volunteers to do on Thursdays
- Most orders are now collected.
- Nursery staff participated in the Bush Care Day out
- People definitely interested in doing environmental work with FOWSP on the weekends.

### Nursery Report - Josh

- Fred recently conducted a successful bus trip to the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens
- There is discussion taking place regarding more joint activities with ACCA on Thursdays.
- The 30<sup>th</sup> birthday of FOWSP will take place in 2012 - planning for an event to mark the occasion will begin soon.

### Next Committee Meeting

**Date:** November 8th 2011

**Venue:** Ranger Station, Pound Bend

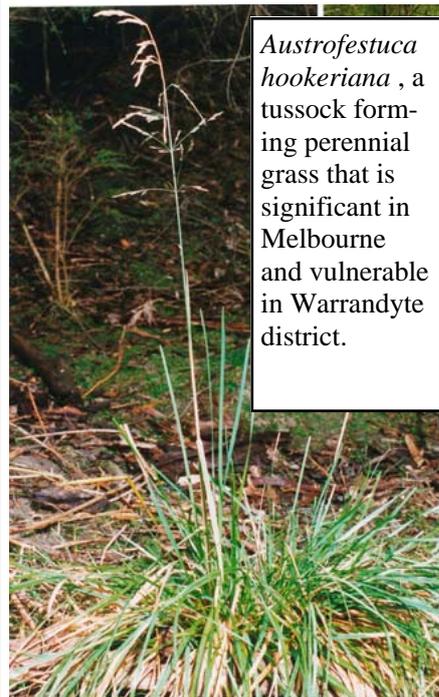
**Time:** 19:30 pm sharp

## Froglund awakens

THE PAST FEW WEEKS has seen a flurry of activity in Froglund. First was an attack on blackberries and thistles. This reminded us what value and potential we have there, due to the work done in years past. We were lucky enough that Pat Coupar was available to guide us on priorities.

Weeding started in the areas of best vegetation first with planting following up where gaps were significant. It was pleasing how many “good” plants were found amongst the weeds including *Carex inversa* and *breviclumis*.

To date planting has included *Olearia lirata* and *Solanum prinophyllum*. *Carex appressa* and *fascicularis*, *Austrofestuca hookeriana* and when available *Poa ensiformis* will help prevent reinfestation by weeds by squeezing them



*Austrofestuca hookeriana*, a tussock forming perennial grass that is significant in Melbourne and vulnerable in Warrandyte district.

out and by reducing the excess nutrients from the nursery and road run off.

As per the original plan planting will include some of Warrandyte’s rare plants to provide a seed orchard for the nursery.

More on page 9

### Letters to the editor

Dear Fowspians

I thought I would just like to say hello. I was a member of Friends of Warrandyte for 12 years. My main claim to fame is that I used to conduct the Koala counts in October.

There maybe a member that remembers me. You never know. I believe Bill is still attending. My daughter Jocelyn Hunter attended a couple of meetings over the last couple of years.

I now live down on the Bellarine Peninsula and am a member of the Friends of The Bluff at Barwon Heads. Significantly different flora from Warrandyte. Moonahs excite everyone down here.

Due to work I do not get along very often. This year I went out to Mud Island with them and cleared a tern nesting spot. I still enjoy eradicating weeds most. Much more fun than weeding at home

I hope you all enjoy a cup of bush tea during your potting and planting meetings.

Brenda Hunter  
bren49suzi81@aapt.net.au



Kel's photo  
"So that's where the wheelbarrow got to".



Dear Linda

I have attached a number of photos from a recent trip to WA. Most of them are of wildflowers in the Murchison Goldfields area, and there are also some from Kings Park. I'm sorry I haven't named them!

The bowerbird nest (below) is a very long-established one. The owner of the property says it was in existence when she first moved there 35 years ago, and it has been added to and refurbished each year.



It's on a 400,00 acre property "Meeline Station" <http://www.meelinestation.com/>, which offers accommodation. It is near Mt Magnet, 600 kms north-east of Perth. Perhaps you could include the link, for people's interest. The property is barely stocked any more, and is gradually returning to its natural state. The owners are very interested in the regeneration, and very knowledgeable. An interesting place to stay!  
*More photos on email bonus page 11*

Doreen Burg.

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

## “I SPY”

By J.F.



### Revitalising Frogland

On his first day as a FOWSP volunteer James Cordwell joined a number of regular volunteers on the start of a long term project to restore the extremely neglected and overgrown frogland area to something of its former glory.

Under the expert guidance of Pat and Mike Coupar, who were involved in the development of frogland, James assisted with clearing the boardwalk of overgrowth, removing woody weeds and grasses, and planting many sedges, including Warrandyte's rarest sedge, *carex browneii*. It is hoped that the sedges will soak up some of the moisture in one particularly soggy area.

James is hoping to travel to Europe shortly before returning to the life of a student. He developed an interest in indigenous plants through his many visits to the FOWSP nursery with his mother, and more recently has developed an indigenous plot of about one acre on his parent's property.

James clearly enjoyed working in frogland because he returned the next week, this time bringing his friend Bridie Stagg with him. Bridie, who is a Diploma of Horticulture student at Swinburne, also has a keen interest in indigenous plants. In 2012 Bridie will commence a second diploma, this time a Diploma of Parks and Gardens. With her double qualification Bridie has a long term goal of becoming a ranger with Parks Victoria.

Welcome to another new volunteer, Jess Fraser. Jess hopes to be studying wildlife and conservation at Deakin in 2012. Jess's interests include flora, fauna and insects and hobbies include basketball and sky diving.

### Welcome back

A very warm welcome back to Thursday morning regular John Blake, who with his wife Fay, has been travelling WA and NT extensively for some 18 weeks.

In their brand new custom built caravan John and Fay started out across the Nullarbor before heading north to Mt. Magnet, Newman, Karajini and 80 mile beach. They then headed to Lake Argyle where they were amazed to see 7 metres of water cascading over the spillway. Next stop was Darwin, where they met up with some friends, before slowly making their way

back home through the centre. The 16,000+ kms they covered did not dim their urge to travel and planning for their 2012 trip has already begun.

### Red faces at Werribee

John and Catriona Young recently spent an enjoyable 8 hours bird watching at the Werribee Treatment Plant. They spotted some interesting birds and their sun burnt faces indicated their obvious absorption in their task.

### Sybille's sumptuous samples

At the last meeting of the FOWSP committee the members were delighted to sample one of Sybille's cooking experiments. Keen to test indigenous plants for their use as food, Sybille had on this occasion used river mint as a flavouring for panna cotta. The result was delicious. If there are enough requests Sybille may be persuaded to provide the recipe.

### Green Over Gold - A Selection of Stories From the Bush

This delightful book is a selection of articles written for the Warrandyte Diary by Pat Coupar, and illustrated by Melanie Coupar. There are a limited number available at the special sale price of \$4.00 a copy, so with Christmas fast approaching take advantage of this offer.

### Work of Warrandyte Artists

FOWSP members Ken Crook and Lyndy Gilbert have researched and compiled a display of the works of a number of Warrandyte artists - some well-known, some less so. The works can be viewed at the Warrandyte RSL Hall between 4.00 pm and 7.00 pm on weeknights. There is no entry charge. More information from Ken & Lyndy 9844 0106



Above, hard at work in frogland.

"Weed first then plant. I have explained that we should not do any more (weeding or planting) than we can follow up. We should go over the site worked on previously at least every couple of months to check for weeds." **Good advice from Pat** See also page 7



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***Harmonia conformis* Common Ladybird, bug, beetle**

One of the good guys in the garden. This is one of several species of Ladybird that are used in organic gardening to help control mealybugs and aphids. These are eaten by both adults and larvae. These beetles have a habit of forming huge aggregations of adults in winter when they stop feeding. They fly towards the highest point in their sight, (sometimes people's roofs) They mate at this time and then may surprise the house's occupants by "dropping in" in large numbers.

**November 2011 Volume 29 no. 9**

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

**FOWSP Membership Renewal Form**

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone no. .... Email .....

Membership (family) \$30 (from 1 September 2011) Newsletter by email  (tick box)  
Concession \$10

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au) with the option of direct deposit payment.

*This newsletter is printed on recycled paper*

**Email photo bonus**



Fowspians at Gold Memorial Drive work day



Kel's photo of a Waxlip Orchid at Boomers Reserve

A male Thynnine wasp with yellow orchid pollinia on its back. (right) Further investigation (below) shows he also has a female wasp in tow "in cop" as the entomologists say. The winged male mates with the (wingless) female and carries her to blossoms where she eats pollen for a protein meal. Before the female can lay her eggs she requires a protein meal to mature the eggs. After the female has her pollen meal, the male returns her to the ground where the female burrows under ground (which is why she does not need wings) in search of beetle larva in which to lay her eggs so the larvae have a ready source of food.

The pollinia show that this male has "mated" three times with a deceptive orchid before finally locating a real female wasp. *Linda*



*Photos right. Two more of Doreen Burg's WA photos -see p 8*

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