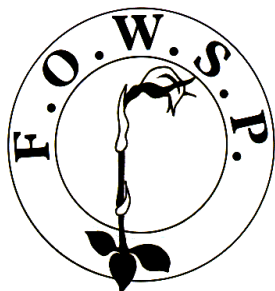


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

AFTER A LONG WAIT, things are starting to happen at the FOWSP nursery. On Tuesday the new shed was erected on the concrete slab. Once the storage space is organised with shelves and racks for hanging tools, we will be able to start emptying the old storage space near the volunteer's work area. When the old walls come down there will be much more room for our growing numbers of willing workers to propagate. Oops, it's the plants, not the workers to be propagated. And also more room for celebrations such as the three birthdays celebrated below with Annette, Belinda and Dick.

Some of the plants that have been propagated and are ready for sale at the nursery are featured in Kel's Nursery Notes on page 2.



On page 3 we have a look at the Good, the Bad and the Ugly amongst plants in Frogland and some hints on learning which is which.

Boys Road progress is glimpsed on page 4.

Carol Page shares her wonderful photo of the Otway Black Snail on page 7.

And don't miss the eclectic mix of news from FOWSPians plus a variety of ways you can help with fundraising for the refurbishment and new building at the nursery on pages 8 and 9.

It's not too soon to be thinking about sharing news of your conservation efforts, photos and articles for the next newsletter.

In the meantime, enjoy this one.

Linda



**Deadline for July/August 2013 edition newsletter is
 Friday 22nd June 2013**

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

Kel's Nursery Notes

ARE YOU THINKING about increasing the floral biodiversity at your place by planting indigenous plants? Here are a few of the plants we currently have for sale at the nursery which are stated to be rare or endangered in the Warrandyte area:

The Forest Nightshade or *Solanum prinophyllum*, a small sprawling annual or perennial sub-



shrub to 30cm. A good weed suppressant in damp areas, it is naturally occurring in riparian forest e.g. along the low level floodplain terrace below the Rangers depot at Pound Bend and on damp forest floors. This interesting plant has a district status (in 1999) of Endangered and it's district abundance in 1999 was stated to be Rare / Localised (Beardsell). With purple flowers from Sep. to March and very prickly foliage this one may just get past the predation of the rabbits and wallabies.



Acacia myrtifolia or **Myrtle Wattle** (an easy one to remember) is an attractive shrub to 2m which can flower from July to October. It naturally occurs in a range of vegetation communities but most are found in grassy dry forest e.g. hill

slopes of Fourth Hill. It is a rare/localised plant species for this area.

Another wattle is *Acacia stricta* or the **Hop Wattle**



also known as the **Straight Wattle** an open erect nice looking shrub growing to 3m with balls of yellow flowers from July to October. This plant benefits from pruning. It likes a full to semi-sunny spot and dry, well-drained soil; can be used for screening wind-breaks hedges and borders. It is locally endangered.

Plus we currently

have an abundance of Victorian Christmas-bush or *Prostanthera lasianthos* tubestock. Normally found growing alongside the Yarra the large shrub/small tree to 5m, produces a stunning show of white flowers between Nov and Jan (Christmas time!). In the home garden it could be a good one for that damp shady spot as it does require regular moist but well



drained soils (even over summer). Also useful as screening or a windbreak and for attracting many native bees and butterflies at flowering time.

Kel

Victorian Christmas-bush, *Prostanthera lasianthos* in full flower along the Yarra at Pound Bend. (Close-up above by L. Rogan, other photos from Flora of Warrandyte)

The Good, the Bad and the Ugly in Frogland

LET ME MAKE IT CLEAR that the dedicated weeders pictured here are definitely the “Good”, while the weeds they are removing are the “bad and ugly”.

Amongst the plant life around Frogland are many plants that are rare in the Warrandyte area and yet have some similarity to the weeds we are fighting to control.

Rumex bidens or Mud Dock is one that has been res-



Rumex bidens or **Mud Dock** leaves and flowers at Frogland. A good guy.

cued from the Mount Lofty area when wetlands were lost to the new golf course. A perennial, semi-aquatic plant, it forms a vigorous mat of floating, hollow stems and upright leaves growing from a point on a muddy bank of wetlands, creeks and rivers. The stems seem to die back in winter, re-emerging and growing vigorously in warm months. It has a finely 'crisped' leaf edge. It appears to be relatively shy in flowering. Flowers, encased in coloured bracts like other *Rumex* species, are clustered in leaf-axils on upright stems.



Much time has been spent removing the weedy introduced *Rumex* species that is growing in Frogland but not in the standing water. It grows more upright and lacks hollow floating stems. Leaves are



Weedy *Rumex* species, being removed from Frogland

wider, slightly curly and may have a darker reddish stem.

Carex fascicularis (tassel sedge), *Carex appressa* and a grass *Austrofestuca hookeriana* have been planted in the drainage area of Frogland. Amongst them weedy Drain Flat-sedge has become a problem and we need to be confident in its identification. Pat Coupar gave us a lesson recently showing us how the leaves of the Drain Flat-sedge (a *Cyperus*) are shiny, soft, hairless and smooth edged. After comparing the feel of the weedy plants with the stiffer, tougher and raspy



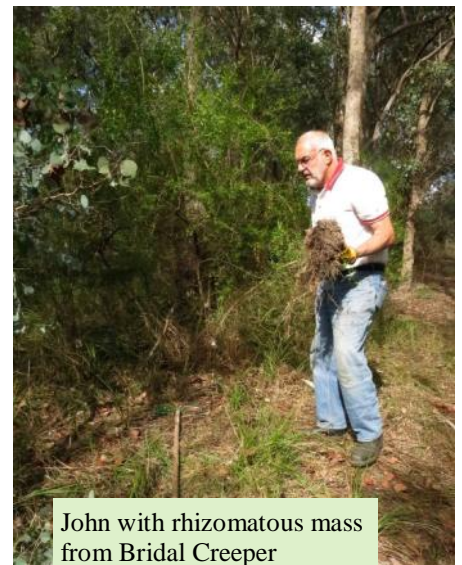
Drain Flat-sedge, a bad weed
Photo: AJ Brown from Victorian Resources online.

Below: Kelvyn hunts out the weedy sedges.

edged native *Carex* we all felt confident. But how to remember which is rough? I made up the following to help me: “It’s got to be rough and tough to be an Australian native”.



The really “ugly” weed in the area are the Bridal Creepers *Asparagus asparagoides*. It’s shiny green leaves hide it’s brown tuberous mass. This mass can be up to 10cm thick and occur along a branching rhizome. It can make up 90% of the plants biomass and any bits of it left behind or moved by machinery can form another plant. Since we don’t want to spray within Frogland, our only choice is to dig them up and dispose of the tuberous mass as John is doing on the right.



John with rhizomatous mass from Bridal Creeper

Linda



Boys Road leaps ahead with TAGs and WAGS

SUNDAY'S MAY 26th WAG WENT WELL. With no rainfall, we were kept busy removing stakes and guards from the previous plantings.

We targeted the ones which were in the drainage line as this part of the site is often underwater so it was good to clean that area up. Some of the plantings are growing very well. A little stand of Manna Gums are going strong and it looks as if we can start to plant some understorey plants in one of the sections where a nice Golden Wattle and Candlebark canopy has been created. More photos next newsletter.

The next activity for Boys Rd will be Sat 22nd of June at 10am. *KEL*



Left: Boys Rd Gully planting in November 2012.

Right: Annette gathers some of the many plant stakes in May 2013.



FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks Leader: Cathy Willis



This series of educational and interpretive nature walks explores some of Manningham's most inspiring and interesting bushland. Each walk is paced to allow participants to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of the area. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack. All times and distances are approximate.

Ratings:

Easy – Flat or undulating well formed tracks/paths with low tripping hazards.

Moderate – May include some moderately steep or narrow sections or have higher tripping hazards. **Difficult** – Includes steep and/or narrow sections, slippery sections, or high tripping hazards.

Bookings are essential as places are limited. Meeting points will be provided at time of booking.

To book call 9840 9124 or email eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au **Book early as places are filling fast.**

Thursday 27 June 9.30 am Currawong and the Mullum Mullum Creek wilderness. Currawong's tagline is "the best little wilderness in town". We will traverse Currawong from south to north to find out why, and then return along the riparian corridor in the west side of the creek.

Distance: 6.5km Time: 3hrs Rating: Moderate



Selections from Nillumbik Shire Council Environmental Events

Sunday 16 June 10am–12noon Bulwidj Reserve, Blue House Road, Smiths Gully (Mel 264 E5) park at Smiths Gully Store and walk or ride down if you can. Enhance the natural environment by revegetating the open paddock area around the shared (pedestrian, bike & horse) recreation trail through Bulwidj Reserve. Facilitator Brad Tadday

Sunday 14 July 10am–12noon Yanggai Reserve, end of Howards and Blue House Roads, Panton Hill (Melway 264 D7) park on Long Gully Road near the bridge and walk or ride through Wimbi Reserve. Enhance the natural environment by revegetating the open paddock area around the walking and mountain biking recreation trail through Yanggai Reserve. Facilitator: Brad Tadday

Bookings 9433 3316, environmental.events@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or complete the online form.

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2013			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
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				nursery@fowsp.org.au
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				9846 1218
Kelly Wooster	9844 2819	Social media contact; facebook	<u>Wildlife Rescue</u>	Adriana Simmonds
				9722 2908
Jan Falconer	9844 1226		<u>Koala Rescue</u>	Julie Pryor
				9722 1117
Cathy Willis	0418 142297		<u>Librarian</u>	Judy Green
				9844 2096
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		<u>Webmaster & membership</u>	Jason Patton
			mobile	0402 121838
				jason@parau.com
Caitriona Young	9844 2842			
Sybille Ims	9844 1335 or 0405 500	Market trailer	Website:	www.fowsp.org.au
	278 imsbs@netspace.net.au			

TAGS (Thursday activity groups) & **WAGS** (Weekend activity groups) **2013**

TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.15 am for a 9.30 pm departure. Please remember to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather, and please bring your own filled water bottle.

Contact number: 0408 317 327

Day	Date	Time	Site of Activity	Activity undertaken	Leader	Difficulty rating
Thurs.	6/06/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Lower Orchard Track	Planting and maintenance	FOWSP	Easy
Thurs.	20/06/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Jumping Creek Reserve	Revegetation of old car park	Rangers Aidan and Luke	Moderate
Sat.	22/06/2013	10:00 am to 12 noon	Boys Road site of Pound Bend	Maintenance of revegetation areas.	FOWSP	Easy
Thurs.	04/07/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Pound Bend Nursery beside Ranger's depot	Propagation Basics	FOWSP	Easy

Difficulty Ratings

Easy: Even terrain, some light lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Few tripping hazards.

Moderate: Uneven terrain, light to heavy lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Tripping hazards present.

Difficult: Steep terrain, light to heavy lifting, working in over-grown areas and lots of bending. Many tripping hazards and slippery surfaces present.

Check the website for any changes at <http://fowsp.org.au/activities.php>

TAGS and WAGS will be cancelled on Total Fire Ban days or when weather conditions are deemed hazardous.

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

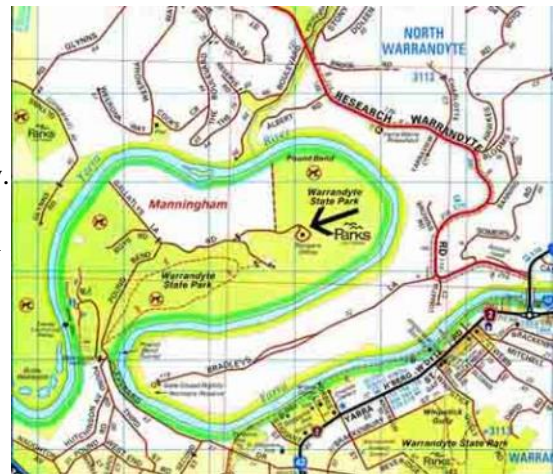
2 pm to 4 pm.

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

Prices 2012

Members \$1.50

Non-members \$2.00



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***The 2013 Manningham Environmental Seminars are held on the
first Wednesday of the month
(except May when it will be on Wednesday 8th May).***



Many of the seminars will be complemented with field sessions to facilitate broader education on the topics. **No bookings are required for the evening talks** however **the field sessions must be booked and can only be booked at the seminar.**

Seminars start at 7.30 pm in the Chandelier Room at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte.

For further information phone Lyn Meredith 9840 9326

Wednesday 5th June —Mosses and Liverworts: Presented by: Dr Matt Dell – Principal Botanist, Biosis Pty Ltd (Melbourne). Mosses and liverworts are plants which occur in almost all vegetation types playing a vital role in soil conservation, seed germination and nutrient cycling. This seminar will cover moss and liverwort distribution in Warrandyte and how land uses influence and affect associated vegetation change for these life forms.

Field Trip: Mosses and Liverworts Saturday 8th June- 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm

Dr Matt Dell will lead a walk through the Pound Bend reserve to discuss landscape elements that provide moss and liverwort habitats. A number of commonly occurring species will be identified together with factors influencing their presence.

Wednesday 3 July Fungi Presented by, Jurrie Hubregtse.

This seminar is a beginner’s introduction to fungi. It will tell you what fungi are, how they feed, and also the important role they play in our environment. Jurrie is a Victorian Field Naturalist Club fungi expert. For further information, please phone Lyn Meredith on 9840 9326.

Field Trip: Fungi foray Thursday 4 July, 10.30 am – 12.30 pm Jurrie Hubregtse and Victorian Field Naturalist assistants will lead a fungi foray through Jumping Creek Reserve, Warrandyte State Park. This will be an opportunity to search for and identify fungi in the field. Jurrie will be accompanied by other Fungi Group field naturalists, guaranteeing a learning experience.

Bookings are essential as places are limited and you must attend the seminar on the 3 July to be eligible for a place.

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

News from the Committee

Redesign of the Nursery - update

The Education Centre is now finished and will be on site very soon.

The Shed is in place, see page 1 photo.

Warrandyte Diary will be doing a story, with photos, about the new building.

Frog poster reprint - Is going ahead with funding from Melbourne Water.

A First Aid course - will be offered for members - names being collected

New rules for Incorporated Associations - All incorporated associations are required to have new Rules. The Committee has prepared the wording for FOWSP's new rules and will shortly circulate them to members for comment .

Fundraising:

Good will Wines are available for purchase by members. On-line orders can be placed.

Raffle Tickets are available for purchase by members

A Sausage sizzle will be conducted by FOWSP outside the Warrandyte IGA on 13th July. Volunteers are being called for.

Some donations have been made since the Newsletter went out and more will be welcome.

Ranger's Report

Parks Victoria staff have been busy conducting a number of programs:

- The phascogale program at One Tree Hill and Rifle Range has been very successful with increasing numbers - 8 in one day - 26 individuals altogether

Victaphanta compacta Otway Black Snail



Photo and information by Carol Page

Discovered in 1912, it was originally thought to be endemic to the Otway Ranges. We found ours along the Beech gully Nature Trail leading from Mt Erica car park, but it has also been found at Tarra-Bulga.

Isn't it stunning!!

- The burns program for the year has been wound up - lots of staff involved - weed control follow-up to occur - program for next year being worked on
- Fire recovery work ongoing - should be finished mid-June - various trails being repaired and im-

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 11th June

Venue: Ranger Station, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

*Thanks to our May volunteers:
Diane and John Baird, Marion Thomson,
Louise Clear, Christine Andell, Sybille Ims
Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook
Peter Curry trailer transport*

The Warrandyte market is 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 2013 please contact **Sybille Ims 9844 1335/0405 500 278** imsbs@netspace.net.au

First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.

Future market dates are: Saturday 1st June, 6th July

A Word to Wine Lovers of FOWSP

WE HAVE RECENTLY JUMPED on board with the great people at Goodwill Wines to raise much needed funds for nursery operations. Charity wines of the past have surely left a bad taste in most people's mouths, but David Laity of Goodwill Wines based in Daylesford has changed that. On their website <http://www.goodwillwine.com.au> David explains that "Like so many others on Black Saturday, I lost my home and my job. I was grateful to be alive and had no idea of the overwhelming support that would be provided. Because of this kindness I was able to start again.

The Age's Epicure (Tuesday, 29 May 2012) <http://www.theage.com.au/lifestyle/cuisine/charity-begins-with-a-bottle-20120528-1zek9.html> reported that the words "FUND-RAISING wine - are enough to strike fear into the heart of many a wine lover, supporting a good cause but confident that what's in those bottles will be barely drinkable." Explaining further that when David Laity was looking for a way to give back to charities that helped him after he lost everything, including all his films (he was a filmmaker), in the Black Saturday bushfires. Wine - that is, good wine - seemed an obvious choice. In August 2010, Goodwill Wine began online with just one charity on its books, the Country Fire Authority. Today it has 70.

Laity, who worked in a Toolangi nursery to support his filmmaking but could not continue after tearing knee ligaments fighting the fires, took a three-month new enterprise course through Centrelink, then began sourcing small quantities of quality wine. With the \$15,000 he and Ali received from the Red Cross bushfire appeal, they bought a label printer and their first batch of wine. "Because I got so much help I just feel obliged to pay that forward, to do something constructive with the money that the Australian public donated," he says. "It feels to me it is more about rewarding supporters of charities."

Furthermore The Age go on to say that "These are seriously good wines, sold in six or 12-bottle cases at below retail prices. With many animal charities on his list, 10 of Laity's 12 wines are vegan. Some are run ends, some sourced through contacts, others from winemakers wanting to help after reading about his social enterprise in wine magazines. Buyers are not told the source vineyard, but Laity's website description includes year and area of origin. Because he usually obtains a tank sample, he is selling the wine cheaper than the vineyards themselves, so the deal is that he does not identify them. Wines he



has sold have included a 2009 chardonnay from award-winning winemaker Graeme Miller in the Yarra Valley, one of his first backers; a medal-winning 2006 shiraz from Chalice Bridge in Margaret River; a 2009 sauvignon blanc from Sticks in the Yarra Valley; and a 2006 merlot from Ladbroke Grove in Coonawarra, which sold him 40 cases when it ran out of labels. A James Hall cabernet sauvignon sold out in two weeks.

So far Goodwill Wine, which donates 50 per cent of the profit, or \$20 a case, whichever is greater, to the specified cause, has raised \$40,000 for charity. It has 900 customers, 90 per cent of them women, and 30 per cent of sales are to returning customers. David goes on to say "My idea was simple.. I would go directly to the vineyards and find some of the best value, boutique wines Australia has to offer. I would build a reputation based on a steadfast commitment to quality, and I would pass on [50% of our profit margin](#) to the charity or non-profit organisation of your choice."

So if you are in the market for some winter wines have a look to see what is on offer while supporting FOWSP. Cheers! *Kel*

Aussie Farmers come to Warrandyte

Aussie Farmers Direct is an Australian owned, home delivery food business.

Australian fruit, vegetables, meat and dairy goods - over 170 products - are delivered to your door Tuesday and Wednesday each week. By buying from Aussie Farmers we are supporting local farmers and suppliers.

FOWSP will also receive 2% of your total spend every six months if nominated as the recipient.

For more information, go to www.AussieFarmers.com.au



Congratulations to Janine and Ranger Warren on the birth of their son, Carter Ewen.

Best wishes from FOWSP

New Members Afternoon Tea

SUNDAY 5TH MAY WAS A MAGIC DAY at the Folly. It was wonderful to sit near the roaring fire and listen to the birds singing around us. Two new members attended. They were Ethan and Liz pictured on the right, who appreciated the chat, the afternoon tea, the abundance of literature and the nursery tour conducted by Ken Crook.

The next afternoon tea will take place late October. Everyone is welcome.



DO YOU HAVE THESE BOOKS?

An unusually high number of books are missing from the library shelves and not recorded in the loan book. If you have borrowed any books, could you please check your desk, shelves etc for EN516, FL607, FL615, FL630, FL640, FL651, FL659, M816 and M822. Several of these have been missing for quite a while. Also there a couple of books that have been recorded but have been out for a long time. Could these please be returned – someone else may be wanting them.

FOWSP Librarian Judy Green



From the Travelling Hansons

John and I were privileged to attend the centenary of the Chelsea Flower Show this year. We headed straight for the Australian garden of course and were impressed with the scale and creativity which was given the largest site 25m by 13m. It consisted of a naturalistic billabong with waterfall splashing over huge rocks, sand beach and rock steppingstones. The focal point is the huge elevated structure depicting a waratah which included a sitting area encased in glass. The whole area is planted with a magnificent collection of Australian plants from small everlasting daisies to the huge grass trees and of course the iconic gum trees.

We personally know the designer Philip Johnson who invited us into the garden. He said to impress on people it was a team effort. He told us about the Queen's visit. She started to walk in and her minders gasped "You can't go in to the garden your majesty" to which she replied "I can walk where I want". She actually walked with Phil over stepping stones and the sand beach to reach the boardwalk. She asked Phil what was the philosophy behind the garden and he replied that it was reconnecting people with nature. "Sadly," he said "Australian plants are more popular overseas than in Australia." The plants for the garden were grown in Spain, Sicily and other Mediterranean areas.

We spent over 9 hours looking at the many show gardens and exhibits which is similar in many ways to the Melbourne Flower show but on a much

grandeur scale. Winning best of show at Chelsea has put Australia and Australian plants on the world stage.

Bev Hanson.

Thanks for this Bev. Did you notice the The Life Bee Inn sculpture crafted by Albury mother Joanne Diver, which also appeared in the Australian exhibit at the Chelsea Flower Show? It was designed to offer homes to some of our native bees.

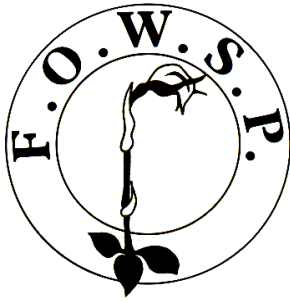
Google: Border Mail Mum's Art to Bee in Famous Flower Show to see more of the sculpture/bee house shown on the right.

Linda



Yarra Environmental Flows

A large photo on page 10 of The Age Monday May 27th, showed an environmental flow release into the Yarra River that was described as "the start of the largest environmental water release in its history". According to Melbourne Water spokesman, Nicolas McGay, "10 gigitalres ..will be released from reservoirs to help flush away sediment, improve water quality and boost vegetation and habitat for bugs, fish and platypus." This is to occur over the next 2 to 3 weeks. While this is good, some perspective was offered by Dr. Paul Sinclair of the Australian Conservation Foundation who said, " 10 gigitalres was the minimum amount scientists said the river needed to be healthy. 'It means you don't have a lot of buffer,'"



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***Boletellus obscurecoccineus* or Rhubarb fungus**

Family Boletaceae or pored fungus



A May trip to Mount Buffalo found the area dry so few fungi were located. This is an attractive one that was found along the pathway down to Rollason's Falls. It is said to be widespread in Eucalyptus forest and woodland but not common. The spore print is yellow. Thanks to Bruce Fuhrer who confirmed the ID. This is one of the species included in the Australian Fungimap so its location has been recorded.

Linda

June 2013 Vol.31 no. 5

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

FOWSP Membership Renewal Form

Name

Address

.....

Telephone no. Email

Membership (family) \$30
Concession \$10

Newsletter by email (tick box)

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

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

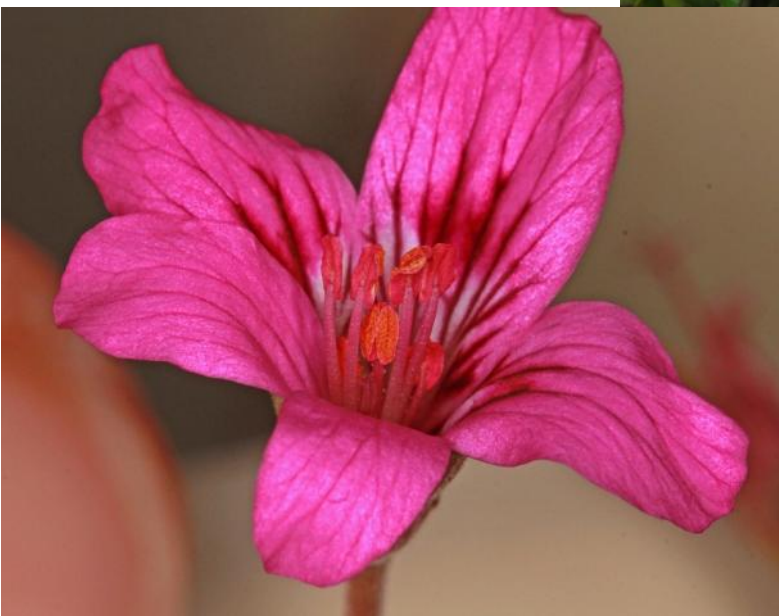
Email photo bonus page



Thanks to Cathy for the photos of a Wallaby coming in for a drink; also some plants at the nursery: the small yellow native *Hypericum japonicum* and a lovely *Correa reflexa x glabra* red form.

The latter is one of about 8 or 9 forms of *Correa* that can be found at the nursery. Josh showed us how to identify each one.

Linda's photos below of *Pelagonium* species blooms on plants from the nursery. The bright pink one is *P. radneyanum* but I'm not sure of the species of the light pink one.



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