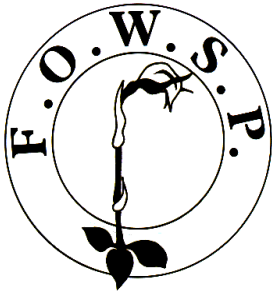


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

We are all having to get used to frosty mornings but the bright days that follow make it easier to tolerate the short daylight hours.

This newsletter brings you some observations from bird watching in Preston by dedicated birdo, Joan Broadberry on page 2.

On page 3 Alwynne Buntine reports her experience of "Walking with the dinosaurs."

We also have an invitation, to all interested people to join FOWSP for **National Tree Day** on Sunday the 28th of July.



Allison shows us how to use the pouches on the front of the FOWSP aprons. Photo by Annette

Annette's frosty photo here shows us one reason why plant growth is slow this time of year.



Take note of the FOWP Sausage Sizzle on Saturday July 13th near the Warrandyte IGA. Volunteer your help to Sybille page 9.

Kel is always ready with excellent suggestions for plants from the nursery on page 4.

How did the Hewlett Packard volunteers cope with planting in the frost? Find out on page 8.

Please note that this is a double issue. The next newsletter will be in September. Enjoy this newsletter and keep your stories and photos coming. *Linda*

Deadline for September 2013 edition newsletter is

Friday 24th August 2013

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

Birding in Preston

by Joan Broadberry

THE RED WATTLEBIRD is one of the most familiar and widespread of Melbourne's native honeyeaters. Its cousin, the LITTLE WATTLEBIRD is not so common or well known. I have only occasionally recorded them in my garden in Templestowe. When my daughter moved to Preston it was a real surprise to me to find Little Wattlebirds present in her street. I have been observing them now for several years and have often asked myself, what are they doing there?

It comes back to basics. The Little Wattlebirds' main food source is nectar, although they also eat insects, berries and seeds. They are often described as a bird of coastal, Banksia woodlands. This small area of Preston has a few street plantings of mature banksias and bottlebrush. The dominant tree in my daughter's front garden is a large grevillea. It flowers prolifically over many months and is a magnet to the Little Wattlebirds. I almost feel as if I have made an appointment with them when I visit. These relatively few nectar-bearing trees must be a major reason for the birds' presence. I don't know the species of the grevillea, but it is clearly not a native of Melbourne. The flower is a spiky ball with light pink tips, radiating out from a greenish center. No matter. It is a wonderful case study of how important our gardens and nature strips are to the survival of birds.

The Little Wattlebird looks superficially like the Red Wattlebird but is smaller, and despite its name, has no facial wattles. It is a handsome bird, with attractively streaked, silver-grey plumage on its underparts. The head and back are darker and less streaked. In flight the bird shows two rich, rufus-coloured wing patches. Little Wattlebirds are lively, constantly in action and great fun to have around. If they visit your garden you cannot miss their call - raucous is a good word. One book describes the voice, as "bubbling, cackling and chuckling with their alarm call being a loud 'kwock'." My ears pick out a loud, four note, repetitious cadence which sounds like a bugle. These noisy birds can be a unwelcome alarm clock. Years ago I was awakened very early by them foraging vociferously in the garden. It was late spring and the sun rose about 5 am, as happens just before daylight saving arrives.

The main breeding season for Little Wattle birds' is from July to December, the nest being constructed in the fork of a Banksia or small tree. There are some little parks and creeks in the area, but Preston is not really known for its woodlands. As well as food sources, to survive birds also need a suitable breeding habitat. I am not confident of the future prospects of this group of Little Wattlebirds. There is constant redevelopment in the neighbourhood. The old-nectar-bearing trees could so easily be lost as the land is subdivided and apartments built. Unfortunately the modern 'garden' is often just a layer of pebbles and a few succulents. We all need to be much more aware that what we plant in our gardens, streets and parks is not just about us, it absolutely vital to the survival of native birds in our suburbs..



Joan's photo, 29th June 2013, Little Wattlebird surrounded by Grevillea flowers.

A walk amongst the dinosaurs

by Alwynne Buntine

IMAGINE YOU ARE STANDING at the edge of a tropical rainforest in outback north west Queensland, where the forest meets the inland seashore. Here the water is not deep and many creatures wade and feed in the muddy shallows. These creatures are not the ones we would see in this situation today. It is 95 million years ago and the creatures we are watching are dinosaurs. Small and medium sized reptilian type dinosaurs puddling and grazing in the shallow as the tide goes out. These dinosaurs are Coelurosaurs and Ornitho-pods.

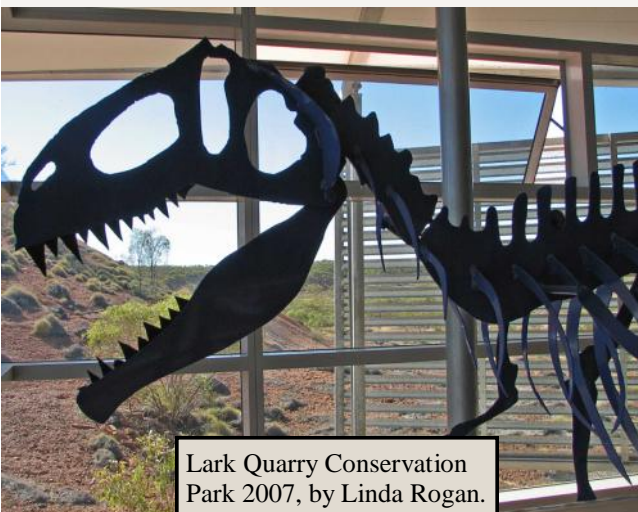
Suddenly their peace is disturbed by a much larger dinosaur's crashing through the trees and racing along the beach in pursuit of a meal. This is the flesh eating Carnosaur. The smaller dinosaurs take off and flee across the wet muddy foreshore in their flight for life, running on their hind legs similar to the way a frill necked lizard runs when startled. They are closely followed by the Carnosaur.

All that remains in the wet muddy sand are thousands of small and medium sized footprints over printed by several large ones. This is what you see when standing above looking down on the spectacular fossilized footprints of the dinosaur stampede at Lark Quarry Conservation Park in NW Qld 110 kms from Winton.

There are 3300 footprints to be seen. A moment in time captured forever, not only in the footprints but also in the atmosphere of the display. You really feel you have been transported to another age as you look at and wonder about what really happened here, and the creatures to whom the footprints belong.

According to the park ranger at the site, these fossils inspired the stampede scene in Jurassic Park because it's the only site in the world so far, depicting dinosaurs stampeding.

I went here on a recent holiday and the long trip to get to the site was certainly worthwhile.



Lark Quarry Conservation Park 2007, by Linda Rogan.

National Tree Day at FOWSP

Sunday 28th July

9.30 am to 3 pm

Meet at the nursery



THE FRIENDS of Warrandyte State Park are celebrating National Tree Day with a morning of planting in the

Warrandyte State Park. We will be giving nature a hand by planting indigenous trees and undertaking some site maintenance in the Lower Orchard Track site within Pound Bend.

Everyone is welcome, and no experience is needed. The planting activity will run from 9am to 12.30 pm.

Plan to stay for the **free BBQ lunch** provided (about 1pm).

And from 1 pm, there will be some fun (and free) kids' entertainment including environmentally themed colouring in and professional face painting by MADesigns, photo right.



Our project continues on from previous years planting, which aims to increase the biodiversity along the banks of the Yarra River in an area of the Warrandyte State Park which was once used as an orchard. We will be planting locally sourced plants which we have propagated at our nursery. Come along and assist in some great conservation activities and meet some like-minded people. Everyone is welcome, no experience is necessary and there always someone there to show you the ropes.

Planting and maintenance site will be down on the Lower Orchard Track, 500 metres from the nursery.

Meet at the nursery (Melways 23C10) ,

See you there, Kel

Please RSVP to: Kelly Wooster

Phone: 0408317327

Email: friendsofwsp@gmail.com

or at <http://treeday.planetark.org/site/54228> confirm your attendance on 0408317327

Please wear appropriate clothing (hat, covered shoes, long sleeved shirt and long pants recommended). The event will not go ahead if the day has a severe weather warning issued.

"This project was supported by Manningham City Council's Community Development Grant Program."

THE HEAT BED IS ON...



AND THE COLD DAYS and nights mean a slower growing pace for the plants at the nursery. We do currently have some great plants and what better time to plant them but now?

A nice little shrub which we haven't had in the nursery for a while is the **Grey Everlasting - *Ozothamnus obcordatus*** (Photo left)- Open shrub to 2m, benefiting from pruning with yellow flowers in Jan, Oct, Nov, and Dec. This species likes a position of full-sun or semi-sun; Soil Type: Dry, Well-drained; Uses: Hedges/Borders, Rockery/Cottage.

Tree Everlasting - *Ozothamnus ferrugineus* - A shrub or small tree to 4m. It is quick growing with clustered white flowers. Best planted in groups, it flowers in Jan, Feb, Nov, and Dec;

Flower Colour: White; Position: Full-sun; Soil Types: Well-drained, Moist; Use: Screening/Windbreak.

Do you have an area which gets inundated in winter and need a plant that can help soak up the water or stop soil erosion, then **Hooker's Fescue - *Austrofestuca hookeriana*** may be the plant you need. A dense perennial grass with flower stems to 1.8m, this plant can also tolerate shady sites and the moist soils of winter and drying out over the hot summer months.

Also for the moist areas we currently have some stock of **Blady Grass - *Imperata cylindrica*** (photo right)- a rhizomatous perennial grass with stems to 1m. The flower heads are fluffy and have an interesting texture, although not always seeding unless fire or slashing occur. Small animals and birds use the plant for habitat White flowerheads from Nov to March. *Kel*



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.

Thursday 25 July, 9.30 am Fourth Hill- the northwest face The early wattles and wildflowers will be emerging as we traverse the steep and stony hills on the northwest face. Gold mines, the cemetery and the old water tower site provide an historical perspective to the walk. Distance: 4km Time: 2.5hrs Rating: difficult

Thursday 22nd August, Fourth Hill - wattle walk-August is the peak of Warrandyte's indigenous wattle season. As we walk around the southern side of Fourth Hill we will work our way through identifying nearly all the local wattles, along with some of the invasive garden escapees. Distance: 3.5km Time:2.5hrs Difficulty: moderate.

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.

Places are limited and **bookings are essential**: 9840 9124 or eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au. Book early as places are filling fast. Meeting point will be provided at the time of booking.

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

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2013			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell
			<u>Nursery Phone</u>	0408 317 327
				nursery@fowsp.org.au
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Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter editor	<u>Newsletter assist</u>	Joan Broadberry
				9846 1218
			<u>Wildlife Rescue</u>	Adriana Simmonds
Kelly Wooster	9844 2819	Social media contact; facebook		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			
Sybill Ims	9844 1335 or 0405 500	Market trailer	Website:	www.fowsp.org.au
278	imsbs@netspace.net.au			

***The 2013 Manningham Environmental Seminars
are held on the first Wednesday of the month .***



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 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. Must be booked at the seminar.

Wednesday 7 August: The Yarra River - community advocacy: presented by Rod Ingham

A variety of human demands impact on the Yarra as Melbourne grows ever larger. The river has shaped the city's character and prosperity and will continue to provide for us if managed with understanding and vision. As the primary source of Melbourne's tap water, flow reductions are but one of many pressures faced by this crucial resource. Join Rod Ingham, Project Officer Yarra RiverKeepers Association (YRKA), for a presentation on the health and future of the Yarra River. Rod Ingham - geographer, environmental scientist and educator, is Project Officer for the Yarra Riverkeepers Association, an organisation engaged in environmental advocacy on behalf of Melbourne's river. Rod researches and publicises river issues, and has studied the history of impacts since European settlement.

Field Trip: Middle Yarra Wednesday 14 August 10.00 am - 2.00 pm Join Rob Dabal, Melbourne Water Senior Vegetation Specialist, to discuss river ecology, the importance of healthy adjoining vegetation communities and Melbourne Water's capital works programs to improve these connections. The bus trip will tour the Middle Yarra catchment and give you an insightful snapshot of the Yarra in and beyond Manningham. The morning tour will finish with a BYO picnic lunch. Must be booked at the seminar.

Wednesday 4th September The Yarra River and its tributaries support an interesting and diverse but little known freshwater fish community. Learn about human impacts; the unique freshwater fish community, their life-cycle and habitat requirements. Presented by Dr. Dan Borg Senior Aquatic Scientist.

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

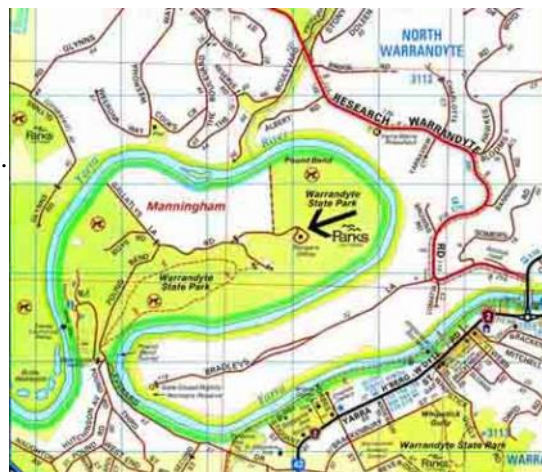
2 pm to 4 pm.

**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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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.	04/07/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Jumping Creek Reserve	Planting	Park Rangers	Moderate
Sat.**	06/07/2013	10:00 am to 12 noon	Pound Bend Nursery	Basic propagation of indigenous plants	FOWSP	Easy
Thurs.	18/07/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Lower Orchard Track	Planting and maintenance	Park Ranger	Easy
Sat.**	27/7/2013	10 am to 2 pm	Pound Bend Nursery	Propagation activity for National Tree Day	FOWSP	Easy
Sun.**	28/07/2013	9.00 am to 3 pm	Lower Orchard Track	National Tree Day Details p. 3.	FOWSP	Easy
Thurs.	01/08/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Pound Bend near tunnel	Planting near Pound Bend Tunnel	Park Rangers	Easy
Thurs.	15/08/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Koornong meet at Pound Bend Nursery	Weeding at previous burn sites	Park Rangers	Moderate Wombat holes
Sun.**	25/08/2013	1 pm to 3 pm	Pound Bend Tunnel	Planting follow up near PB Tunnel	FOWSP	Easy
Thurs.	05/09/2013	9.15 am to 12 noon	Fourth Hill	Woody Weeding	Park Ranger	Moderate

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.

****This project was supported by Manningham city Council's Community Development Grant Program**

News from the Committee

- New rules for FOWSP - See column on Right.
- The new shed has been installed on the concrete slab above the nursery. Jason is improving the drainage and a ventilator will need to be installed on the roof to keep it dry inside.
- A rainwater tank will be installed to act as a back-up water supply for the nursery.
- The updated Frog poster is nearly complete
- The Committee is considering the eligibility of FOWSP for DGR status to improve access to future grants..

Rangers Report

- A major spruce up of Sugarloaf Reservoir public area, costing approximately \$15,000 is in process.
- A fox control project in the One Tree Hill/Rifle Range area is underway together with the Sporting Shooters Association.
- The septic system at the depot is to be upgraded as soon as aboriginal heritage issues are addressed.
- Issue of mountain biking in One Tree Hill area is being negotiated.
- Planning is underway for fire operations for the next three years
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) have been merged to become the Department of Environment and Primary Industry (DEPI).

Next Committee Meeting

Date:	Tuesday 9th July
Venue:	Ranger Station, Pound Bend
Time:	19:30 pm sharp

New Rules for FOWSP

Dear Members,

In April 2012 the Victorian Parliament passed the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (the new Act). We need to adapt our constitution to conform to this legislation.

Some key reforms in the new Act are:

- Codification of duties of office holders
- Defences of office holders
- Indemnity of office holders
- New reporting procedures to government
- Merger of the Public Officer/Secretary role
- Removal of a prohibition on trading
- Use of technology at committee and general meetings
- Conflicts of interest and committee members.

We are amending the rules in our Constitution accordingly. The DRAFT new rules with additions in bold characters, deletions strikethrough, will be placed on our website under Publications; Other Publications.

Please peruse these new rules, raise any questions about them and make suggestions to improve the wording by contacting Artur, prior to the committee meeting on 10th September .

Email: myln@netspace.net.au

If you don't have access to the web please call Artur (9844 2551) to get a paper copy sent to you."

We will vote on the new rules, as accepted by the committee at our AGM later this year.

FOWSP MARKET TRAILER



Thank you to all who had volunteered, although the June market was cancelled:

Diane and John Baird, Anne Warren, Louise Clear, Christine Andell, David Moss, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook and also Peter Curry who would have transported the trailer.

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 host 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 July 6th, August 3rd, September 7th.*



Frost Bitten but not Shy

By Kel and Artur

Coldest morning in 13 years they say, well what a day for the 23 Hewlett Packard employees to head outside and give us a hand down at the Lower Orchard Track. Planting was the aim but keeping warm seemed to be top on the agenda for everyone, those steel caps in my boots were not making my toes any warmer though. With plants, guards and stakes laid out everyone quickly got to it, and boy were all participants efficient, over 500 tubestock in the ground in around two hours (with a morning tea break thrown in there of course). What a great success, hardly any complaints of being cold were heard at all and many questions about the State Park were asked, a very keen bunch of people, who we may see more of out and about in the Park. Many thanks to Janaya (keeping all safe), Peta and Jason (traffic control and tea), Lyndy (food), and all the other volunteers. And what did the HP people think of the day? See the email on p. 9. Thanks to Carol Page for photos.



Bits and Pieces



Hi Artur & Kelly

Thank you for a great event, every single person thoroughly enjoyed the planting session. I sincerely hope that we were of some assistance to you and the team, and didn't make too many mistakes!!

I must also mention the lovely morning tea, please pass on our thanks to the lady who did all the work!!

Regards
Phil from Hewlett Packard

On Friday May 31, Cathy W. Sent out the following message:

“Last month I said it would be perfect for planting once the rain came and we are still waiting. I also said to enjoy the Indian summer – déjà vu! Rain dancing in the bush could be very appropriate, let's try for collective effort this weekend and see what happens!”

The next morning the Warrandyte Market was cancelled, a rather rare event, due to inundation.

This woman doesn't know her own power!!

Correction

Page 7 June Newsletter:

It appears that the snail I sent you was misidentified- it was in fact *Victaphanta atramentaria*, the Gippsland Black Snail not the rarer Otways species (*compacta*)



Looking up *Atlas of Living Australia* (ALA) it has been seen Yarra Ranges Noojee, Mt Erica etc.

Carol



Chris and Tracy are grandparents for the first time to Josephine Mer-ran born while they were working at the nursery.

Best wishes from FOWSP

**FOWSP July Sausage Sizzle
Saturday 13th July outside the
Warrandyte IGA
10 am to 2 pm**

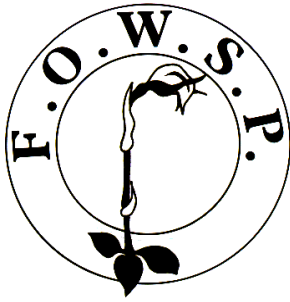
Please contact Sybille with your offers of help for barbecuing or hosting the FOWSP trailer at the site.

**Sybille Ims 9844 1335/0405 500 278
imsbs@netspace.net.au**

BEN, OF I SPY FAME, stumbled into the nursery with his right arm in a sling.

“You should have seen the other three guys,” he said. However, later he was heard consulting Sybille about progress after a carpal tunnel procedure. We are pleased to report that he has retained his garrulous nature and we wish him speedy recovery.





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Cobra Greenhood Pterostylis grandiflora

This impressive Autumn blooming greenhood is not found in WSP but is widely scattered in Victoria, NSW, Queensland and Tasmania. This one was photographed in a reserve near the Dandenong Ranges. It will grow to 40cm. tall and has one or rarely two flowers per plant. Flowering plants have several leaves scattered up the stem but only non-flowering plants have a basal rosette of leaves. *Linda*

July-August 2013 Vol.31 no. 6

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



June's photos clockwise from top right:
Winter colour *Epacris impressa*
Common Heath by Linda

Single bloom of the Emerald Greenhood, *Pterosylis smaragdina* by Linda

Robberfly feeding by Carol Page

Frosty leaves at a TAG by Carol Page.



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