

# 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

Another action filled month with too many photos of activities to be able to do justice to all. Some are included in the email bonus page. Please note that this edition is for July and August. Next edition is September

Above, see a rare group-photo of some of the Thursday morning volunteers at morning tea. I don't want you to think that a photo of volunteers drinking tea mean that's all they do. It's just that photographers, as well as other volunteers, are usually busy working at other times. And thanks to the mystery donor of the *Welcome* sign.

Carolyn Noel reveals the virtues of pricking out *Pomaderris elliptica*, a rare plant in our area, on p. 2.

You never know what you will learn while participating in TAGS as reported on p.3 & 4. This time they

also offered a reason to become acquainted with Fungi-map See pp. 3,4. & 9. Welcome to new writer/reporters Carolyn Noel and Joy Hick.

What are the giant boxes being built in the Folly? Find out on p.8. Then puzzle over the number 5 on the same page.

One of the most satisfying activities in the past month, for me has been observing (and helping a little) with the transformation of Frogland. Closed for safety due to a deteriorated boardwalk, it has now opened with a new natural materials pathway. See p.9.

Also exciting is seeing the space being cleared for pegging out of the new Education Building. Watch this space over winter.

Thanks to all FOWSPians who make all this, and more, happen. *Linda*

**Deadline for September 2014 edition newsletter is**

**Friday 22nd August 2014**

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

## Pleasures of Pomaderris Pricking by Carolyn Noel

THERE IS such simple pleasure to be had, as a FOWSP member, standing at the tables in the nursery pricking out plants and sharing conversations on a host of topics such as, holidays, the sex changing habits of some fish, TV shows, and kitchen renovations whilst potting tiny seedlings into tubes. One of Thursday's tasks was to pot up three trays (150 plants) of *Pomaderris elliptica*.

The pleasure of knowing that you are part of a team that helps to grow plants for regenerating the bush in your local area adds to the whole experience. But when you hear the full improbable story of how this came to be one of the focus plants for today it emphasises what a close call some specimens have, and what a great job the park rangers and the volunteers do.

Apparently way back in 1992, park ranger David Van Bockel found what he thought was a large specimen of a type of plum tree growing near the river at Blue Tongue Flat. Too big to pull up he resolved to come back and exterminate this interloper later. He took a branch back with him so he could have the culprit identified by a local botanist.

It turned out that David had found the one and only specimen of Smooth Pomaderris; *Pomaderris elliptica*



Judy shares in the pleasure of pricking out Pomaderris. Photo Carolyn Noel

that has ever been recorded in Warrandyte State Park (it is more often found in Lilydale).

Given the plant's endangered status, its abundance 'rare' in the local area and 'significant' in the Melbourne region (*Flora of Warrandyte* 1999), the tree was quickly fenced off in order to protect it. Safe from rabbits it soon had its own tiny saplings growing around it.

Today the tube stock grown on from this original specimen are a part of all plantings near the river. It is a plant that likes a bit more water than the others so it prefers the wetter areas. But I have it on good authority that it will survive in drier places like Fourth Hill if looked after in the driest parts of summer. The tree grows up to 4 metres tall near the river. You can find it in the *Flora of Warrandyte* – this is where the accompanying pictures of the mature plant have come from.





## Three Bridges Planting - TAG 5th June

by Joy Hick



UNDER A THREATENING SKY, an enthusiastic group from FOWSP, employed all their usual gusto, and headed off to Pound Bend Three Bridges track.

Our task was to plant 150 nursery grown tubes, on behalf of Melbourne Water, on the steep river bank as well as on the river flats. We listened to birds calling, observed fungi and even weeded, in addition to our main planting tasks. A timely call for morning tea, by Artur, allowed the hardworking volunteers to enjoy a cuppa in the car park, during the heavy showers. Back to work for an hour and a half and all the planting, staking and guarding was complete, by 12.30.



Diverse species planted included the following: *Acacia dealbata*, *Acacia mearnsii*, *Acacia verticillata*, *Acacia verniciflua*, *Eucalyptus viminalis*, *Goodenia ovata*, *Goodia lotifolia*, *Olearia lirata*, *Pomaderris elliptica*, *Pomaderris vacciniifolia* !!! critically endangered, *Rapanea howittiana*, *Rubus parvifolius*, *Solanum laciniatum*, *Spyridium parvifolium* as listed by Carol.

## Orchard Track TAG 19th June

as reported by Carol Page and Carolyn Noel



ON THIS MORNING, taggers carried out essential ongoing maintenance of previous plantings in this major revegetation area.

Carol reports "Bidgee-widgee *Acaena novae-zelandiae* is very common in Warrandyte State Park and today I was weeding around them while removing some guards. It was used as a tea substitute by the early explorers. There were around 20 or so plants on the Yarra River side of the track and nearly all were looking healthy. The *Pomaderris vacciniifolia* in the same area (still guarded) were firmly established and very bushy – a great result"

"A lovely find by John (photo R by Carol P.) *Phlebopus marginatus* (Gk: phlobos = vein, pou = foot) probably Australia's largest fungus, a bolete,. While some species of boletes are common and widespread, boletes are not your average fungus - instead of gills on the fertile under-surface, boletes have pores. Tightly packed vertical 'tubes' are affixed to the flesh of the fungus cap with the 'tube' open-

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

ings all that is visible. The openings are called pores. Caps can measure up to 1 metre across, (ours was 50cm), and weight has been recorded up to 29kg! Ours was past its prime and had been chewed by numerous insects and probably macropods. *Carol.*

**It is one of the Fungimap target species. See p. 9 for information on Fungimap.**

The fungus story goes on. Carolyn reports: "Carol told us that the *Phlebopus marginatus* were used for dyeing and the colour that they made was part of the identification process. This was fascinating. I learn something new every time I volunteer. Gray said it was the type of fungus that they dry in Italy. I had planned to make mushroom risotto for Don's dinner that evening so I took a big chunk of it home and cut it up and put it on a plate to tease him. He was a bit reticent about eating risotto made from this ugly thing and asked me a couple of times if I was sure it wasn't poisonous. Heh, heh. I finally revealed that I had made his risotto out of regular mushies from the vegie shop so he could eat his dinner without worrying. But by then it had dyed my hands bright yellow so I guess the joke was on me. *Carolyn*

Editors note: Please see the further information below from <https://fungimap.org.au/index.php/faq>

The edibility or toxicity of most wild Australian boletes is not known, and some Australian fungi are deadly poisonous though they may look very similar to edible varieties that grow in Europe and Asia. The only ones you can safely eat, if you know their identity for sure, are the ones that have come here from Europe. **Many Australian fungi are known to be toxic and there are no rules to easily distinguish between edible and poisonous fungi.** Several people die each year in Australia from incorrectly identifying and eating poisonous fungi, so we advise caution at all times.

## Poison Control: 1311 26

When ringing Poison Control about the ingestion of a fungus, try to have clear photographs of the specimen available to send them. This will make identification easier.

### **TAGS** (Thursday activity groups) and a **WAG** (weekend activity group)

**TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.15 am for a 9.30 pm departure. WAGs meet at times given below, at the nursery beforehand or at the specified location. Please remember to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather, and please bring your own filled water bottle. Contact number: 0408 317 327**

<b>Thurs.</b>	3rd July	9 am-12	Boys Road	National Tree Day planting	FOWSP	Moderate
<b>Thurs</b>	17th July	9 am-12	Yarra Edge Pound Bend	Planting	FOWSP	Moderate
<b>Sun</b>	27th July	9am-12	Lower Orchard Track	National Tree Day planting	FOWSP	Easy
<b>Thurs</b>	7th August	9 am-12	Lower Orchard Track	Planting	FOWSP	Easy
<b>Thurs</b>	21st August	9am-12	Kinglake/Warrandyte NCR	Planting <i>Acacia leprosa</i>	FOWSP	Moderate
<b>Thurs</b>	4th Sept	9am-12	Hochkins Ridge Reserve	Sallow Wattle removal	FOWSP	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.

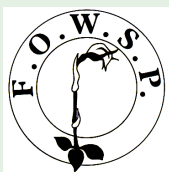
**Difficult:** Steep terrain, light to heavy lifting, working in over-grown areas and lots of bending. Many tripping hazards and slippery surfaces present.

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

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



FOWSP COMMITTEE 2014			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
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Sarah Qualtrough	0431 268 344			
			Website: <a href="http://www.fowsp.org.au">www.fowsp.org.au</a>	



## 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. During the first half of 2014 we walked sections of the Yarra River through Manningham. In the second half of the year we will explore some of the tributaries on both the north and south sides of the river.

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 distances and finishing times are approximate.

### **9.30 am Thursday 24th July - Diamond Creek – Hohnes Hill and the Yarra confluence**

From its headwaters south of Kinglake, the Diamond rolls through forests and farmland, is joined by the Running and Arthur's Creeks to meet the Yarra at Eltham. Hohnes Hill overlooks the floodplain and is an endangered Eltham Copper Butterfly reserve. **Distance:** approx 3.25kms **Time:** approx 2.5hrs **Rating:** moderate (mostly flat and easy, one 'moderate' section)

**9:30 am Thursday 28th August - Andersons Creek Fourth Hill.** The main stem of Andersons Creek originates in Ringwood North, with some smaller tributaries flowing out of Park Orchards. The slopes above the creek on Fourth Hill in late winter are rich in flowering wattles to identify as we walk.

**Distance:** 3.5kms **Time:** approx 3hrs **Rating:** Difficult

#### **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. Bookings open 2 months before the walk date.** Meeting points will be provided at the time of booking, to book call 9840 9124 or email [eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au)

## 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

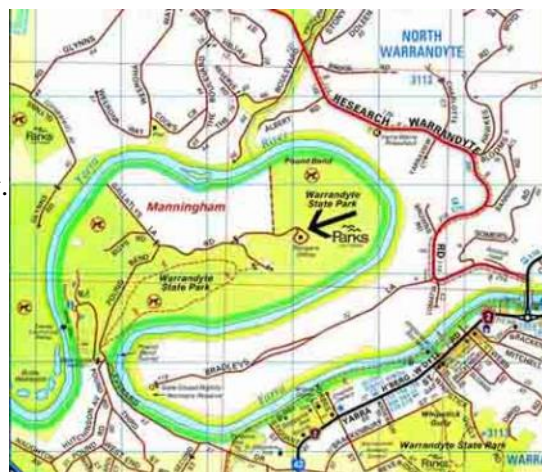
2 pm to 4 pm.

**Nursery is closed to customers and volunteers  
on days of severe weather and on Total Fire Ban Days**

**Prices 1st Jan..2014 note change from 2013**

Members \$2.00

Non-members \$2.50



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## Manningham City Council Environment Seminars

**The 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; but field trips must be pre-booked. This can be done before the talk, bookings are open now, however you must attend the corresponding seminar to retain your field-trip booking. Due to popularity of the field trips, bookings are limited to 3 trips per person per year.



**Venue:** Bull and Bush Room at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte **Time:** 7.30 pm

**Enquiries:** For more information, please phone Lyn Meredith on 9840 9326. **Bookings:** Natalie on 9840 9124.

**Wed 2nd July, Fungi - diversity, roles, management and conservation of a healthy fungal community** presented by Dr. Tom May, Senior Mycologist at Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens.

**Thur 3rd July, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm Field Trip:** Fungi foray with Dr. Tom May. Dr May will lead a fungi foray through Jumping Creek Reserve and Warrandyte State Park. This will be an opportunity to search for fungi in the field and learn about their ecological roles and how to identify them. Tom will also introduce methods for setting up survey plots for fungi. Booking essential (see above) **and you must attend the seminar on 2nd July.**

**Wed 6th August, The effects of urbanisation on the Eastern Yellow Robin** presented by Christine Connelly. Along with climate change, urbanisation is one of the biggest threats to nature and biodiversity. Christine has spent the last three years researching the effect of urbanisation on the Eastern Yellow Robin for her PhD program at Deakin University. She has looked at what type of habitat Yellow Robins require and how the urban matrix affects movement patterns across the landscape. Learn about her research and her discoveries about how the expansion of peri-urban eastern Melbourne is likely to affect this species.

**Thur 7th August, 7:30 am - 9:30 am Field Trip: Studying Eastern Yellow Robins and their habitat** with Christine Connelly. On this morning walk in the Warrandyte State Park, Christine will show examples of Eastern Yellow Robin habitats, and learn about their biology and behaviour. Christine will share her experiences and demonstrate some of the methods she used to study Yellow Robins including how she caught and released them, and how habitat quality was measured. Bookings are essential as places are limited (see above) **and you must attend the seminar on 6th August.**

**Wed 3rd Sept. Butterfly and Moth Larvae** presented by Steve Williams. Everything loves moths. A huge range of creatures eat them at any stage in their life. There are more moth species in Victoria alone than all the vertebrate animal species in Australia. Despite this crucial role in the local ecosystem many researchers ignore them partly because they are difficult to find and research. Hence many are little known. Steve will talk about the biology of these fascinating creatures, their wonderful adaptations and show some new, previously unrecorded, lifecycles.

**Thur 4 Sept. 10.00 am – 12.00 noon Field Trip: Life Histories of local Moths** with Steve Williams  
Steve will lead this walk along the Mullum Mullum Trail and will discuss some of the fascinating life-histories of local moths while showing how well adapted species are to their hosts and bushland setting. Be prepared to get close and personal with a caterpillar. Bookings are essential as places are limited (see above) **and you must attend the seminar on 3rd Sept.**

## Selections from Nillumbik Shire Council Environmental Events

**Sunday 27th July 2:00 pm** Join members of the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group for a walk along the Gawa Trail whilst reflecting how Wurundjeri people utilised the native flora and fauna. Then enjoy a cuppa whilst listening to a talk by Mick Woiod. Also learn about Edendale Indigenous Plant nursery. Easy walk but not wheelchair accessible.

**FREE but book** online at [http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/News\\_Activities\\_and\\_Events/Activities\\_Program](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/News_Activities_and_Events/Activities_Program)



**Saturday 23 August 2:00-4:00 pm** Nillumbik is known for its diverse orchid population with approximately 143 different orchid species recorded. Join Julia Franco for a walk to learn about, find and identify our beautiful terrestrial orchids and their habitat. Note that this is on private property in the Bend of Islands and the address will be provided upon booking. **FREE but booking** required to learn meeting point., 9433316 or online at [http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/News\\_Activities\\_and\\_Events/Activities\\_Program](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/Environment/News_Activities_and_Events/Activities_Program)

### From the minutes of the June Committee Meeting

#### Nursery Report

- A good supply of plants are available for sale at the nursery at present. This is an excellent time to buy.
- Nursery staff have requested wheelbarrows, trolleys, gravel, shade area and copies of the new edition of *Flora of Melbourne*. Priorities must be established as cash will be limited once the costs of the Education Centre are paid.. Grants may need to be applied for.

#### Rangers Report

- Camera monitoring has shown up two species of antechinus – dusky and agile
- Warrandyte Mountain Bike Club in negotiation with Parks Vic regarding creation of new bike trails.

- The rangers' shed in the park is almost complete and the FOWSP trailers will be installed in that location shortly.
- Manual handling OHS is being conducted by Janaya. FOWSP is requested to cooperate.
- Upgrading: Jumping Creek car park complete. Candelbark to be done: Mt Lofty Bridge requires repairs.

#### General

- Stage one of Frogland rejuvenation has been completed with the construction of a pathway to replace the deteriorated boardwalk. Thanks to many hands but especially to Jason and Kelvyn. *Photo left and more on p. 9.*

- The education centre roof is being dismantled to allow transport to the Pound Bend site. On-site space for its delivery is being cleared.

- Thanks to Parks Vic for offering to reimburse the cost of FOWSP name

badges and tools



**Newsletter Team this month:** Linda Rogan, Joan Broadberry, Mel Coupar (Line drawings)

#### Next Committee Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday 8th July

**Venue:** Ranger Station, Pound Bend

**Time:** 19:30 pm sharp

## FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday June 7th.

**Diane and John Baird, Jan Davies and Peta Cummings,  
Peter Kennedy and Marjan Kiewiet, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook**

**Also thanks to Don Vincent for trailer transport to and from market.**

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 June or July 2014 please contact (for June and July only) **Sarah Qualtrough 0431 268 344 saireyspice@hotmail.com**  
other months :Caitriona Young 9844 2842 or 0411478410 thefouryoungones@yahoo.co.uk

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

**Future market dates are:** Saturday July 5th, August 2nd, and September 6th.



### What's been happening in the Folly? by Linda Rogan

NOEL AND LEE have been constructing extra large nest boxes since about 24th April. The Powerful Owls in the Grampians have lost most of the old tree hollows that they depend on for nesting. After construction, there was a "call to brushes". Carolyn, Faye, Joy and Marie all contributed their artistic talent for the cause, completing the painting by the end of June. How will these formidable structures be placed high in the trees where they are needed? Fred who ordered these boxes for the Grampians, says, "I had the idea of using a rock climbing instructor to get them to the desired height . A bonus is that he started as a tree climber for his father's business." FOWSP is keen to hear how this all works out.



Can you see all 5 Tawny Frogmouths? Photo by Mary-Mae Trench

### Any advance on five?

In February this year, a Warrandyte friend had the delightful experience of finding five Tawny Frogmouths in a tree close to her house. She tells me that it was their soft, persistent oom oom oom call that initially caused her to look up. Frogmouths were observed around the house for about two weeks, but never again were all five seen together.

Luckily there is a photograph. Relying on their superb camouflage, these birds are never easy to see, but can you spot them? There is a youngster and an adult on the lower left. Possibly another young bird and adult in the centre. Or could that pair be two juveniles? A lone adult sits on the right. Tawny Frogmouths often rear two young, but is three a possibility? What do you think? *Joan B.*

**Frogland Pathway reopens thanks to many hands as seen in the photos below and in the June Newsletter:**



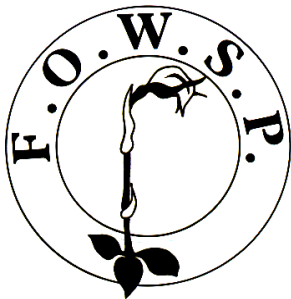
1. Boardwalk was removed. 2-3. Marie and Linda try out the Wacker. 4. Jason and Kelvyn install the drainage. 5. FOWSPians gather to give their seal of approval. Wacker photos by Jason (the only time he took a break from the hard work himself). An extra big thanks to those who came in at least twice on Saturdays to complete this project.

### What or who are Fungimap?

Fungimap Inc is a non-profit citizen-science organisation dedicated to raising the profile of Australia's incredible fungal diversity. We are a network of over 700 individuals who contribute valuable data about the distribution of Australian fungi, which is contained in the National Australian Fungimap Database (NAFD) which has over 100,000 records and 6,500 images of fungi. This valuable resource is used for research, conservation, and policy purposes and has been provided to the Australian National Heritage Assessment Tool (ANHAT), State and Commonwealth environment agencies, and the *Atlas of Living Australia*.

You can get involved with Fungimap by joining as a member, coming along to a workshop, finding your local fungi group on our website, or simply checking out our website to learn more about Australia's amazing fungi and what they do. [www.fungimap.org.au](http://www.fungimap.org.au) [info@fungimap.org.au](mailto:info@fungimap.org.au)

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



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**Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae***

This one was sitting on a post admiring the new Frogland pathway, or perhaps hoping all the activity had stirred up some tasty insects or reptiles.

Kookaburras are believed to pair for life and Both sexes share the incubation duties and both care for the young. Other Laughing Kookaburras, usually offspring of the previous one to two years, act as 'helpers' during the breeding season. Every bird in the group shares all parenting duties.

*Thanks to Birdlife Australia website. Linda*



**July/August 2014 Vol.32 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                \$15

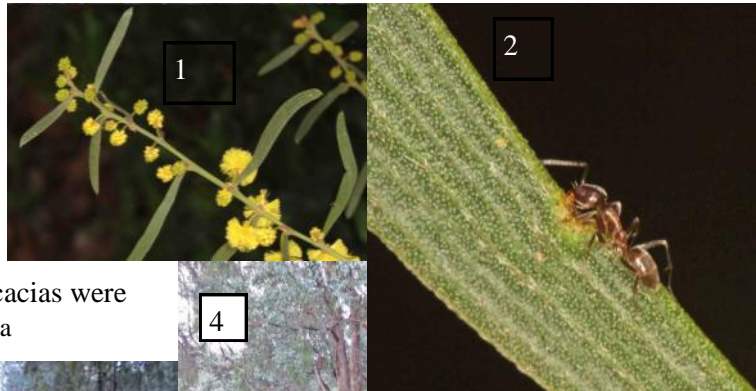
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Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au) with the option of direct deposit payment.

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## Email photo bonus page

1&2 *Acacia lanigera* \*with ant feeding at the gland of the phyllode. 3. New Frogland pathway. 4. Installing the connector for Frogland drain. 5. Propagation house moved away looking like an unwieldy turtle. 6. *Acacia genistifolia*. \* 7. *Acacia ulicifolia*. \* 8. Clearing the way for the new Education Centre. \*All of these Acacias were blooming at the nursery in May. Photos by Linda



**Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available) if you email them as follows:  
[editor@fowsp.org.au](mailto:editor@fowsp.org.au)**