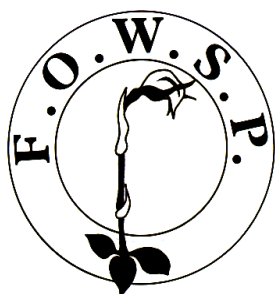


# Friends of Warrandyte State Park



## 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/Incorporation No. A0024890C

### Editor's Corner

A LOT has happened since the November Newsletter.

Pages 2 and 3 bring you excerpts from the Year in Review, Nursery Report and Parks Vic. Rangers Report which will give you some idea how full the past year has been.

Also beginning on p.3 some notes from *Threatened orchids of Middle Yarra and the Warrandyte-Kinglake Habitat Corridor* presented after the AGM by Ranger Cam.

A very special morning with Cecily Falkingham exploring some of the Mullum Mullum Park/ Walert Creek grant area was inspirational for participants. See p. 7.

Kinder kids star on p. 8 when Lyndy and Ken took nature to the classroom. On the same page read about FOWSP's steps taken to go plastic-bag-free.

Don't miss the Volunteering Victoria Awards reported on p.9 where our own Josh is honoured.

The combined Entomological Society and FOWSPian event on 25 November was very lucky to be held on a Saturday when the rain wasn't pouring and although it was warm and muggy, it wasn't disabling.



Gray's birthday BBQ 26 October - just missed the November Newsletter.



Joy and Astrid, a visitor from UK, a proud grandmother's smile.

Watch for a report and photos from this event in the February Newsletter as it couldn't be fitted in here. Photos below are teasers.

Best wishes to all for the holiday season *Linda*



(Left) moth *Endoxyla secta*

(Right) Examining historic aerial photographs of Pound Bend.



**Deadline for February 2018 edition newsletter is**

**Friday 2 February 2018**

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

## FOWSP AGM 12 NOVEMBER 2017 NOTES AND EXCERPTS FROM THE EVENING

### The Year in Review

FIRSTLY we thank Parks Victoria for allowing us to play our part in making Warrandyte State Park and the Warrandyte-Kinglake Conservation Reserve such a priceless asset. We thank Faye Williams, Area Chief Ranger for Plenty Gorge and Warrandyte, and closer to home, Warren Murphy, the Warrandyte Ranger Team Leader, and Warren's team of Rangers. We particularly thank our 'Own Ranger' Janaya O'Dempsey, who has worked so very closely with us.

Janaya is currently on secondment to Aboriginal Victoria, within the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and we miss her very greatly indeed! Before going on secondment Janaya helped us write an application for a major grant from DEWLP – which we won! [Details of this grant: 'Walert Creek Habitat Restoration and Projection Project' appeared in a recent Newsletter].



Other grants received this year are: Bendigo Bank's funding of a defibrillator and part of the cost of a frame to support a new Nursery watering system. The frame will also support mesh to keep cockatoos from destroying our stock. The Field Naturalists gave us money to buy a new computer – indeed that computer was used for the slide-show and Power Point presentation at the AGM!

'In the pipeline' is a grant from Melbourne Water for revegetation of PV land beside the Yarra. Over 2000 plants will be put in, mainly within nine portable deer and kangaroo 'exclosures', on the alluvial terrace below the former Harris property, and stretching up to the Work Centre pump house.

Annette's Nursery Report ably expresses our thanks to the Committee, especially Lindy, Linda and Cathy, and to Kelvin and Jason, and to the TAG team; so I will not repeat those thanks here. I will however amplify Annette's thanks to Josh, because it seems to me that we cannot thank him enough!

So many thankless tasks fall to the obliging and uncomplaining Josh. Josh also keeps track of the life-cycle of the countless species of plants we propagate, predicts the precise moment to harvest the seeds of all those species, and gets out there to collect them.

Any Thursday morning you can see lots of volunteers and customers asking Josh lots of questions. Everybody gets his full, courteous and helpful attention. I've done voluntary work elsewhere with indigenous plant experts, so I can tell you that they do not all combine knowledge with patience and the ability to communicate well.

Finally we thank our hard-working, knowledgeable and friendly Nursery staff: Michelle Tumino and Annette Lion. It was they, incidentally, who on their own initiative, painted the notice-board in the Folly to provide a screen for the AGM presentations – typical of their resourcefulness!

Thanking people is in itself a thankless task because one is bound to neglect to give all the thanks that are due – but be assured that we are very grateful for all the help we've had this year. We couldn't have had such a successful year without every single one of your contributions.

FOWSP turned 35 this year, and I'd suggest that like the best of 35 year olds, FOWSP combines the wisdom of experience with youthful vitality!

*Gray*

### Nursery Report

WELCOME everyone to another AGM; Another year of reviews; Another year of hearing about all the wonderful work that has been done.

We have a new system (thanks to Michelle) that lets us keep track of the plants that have been propagated. Since the last AGM approximately 35,000 plants were grown and our wonderful volunteers (all you guys) have clocked up about 4000hrs by an average of 25 volunteers every week.



Thanks to the very patient Kelvin, we now have a Square Reader. For those digitally challenged, like me, this is a machine that enables customers to pay with their credit cards. This means much fewer unpaid invoices need to be checked.

The grant to build a frame over the plants-for-sale area will allow us to install a better watering system and also to have permanent netting and shade cloth in areas. This means no more cocky damage and also frost protection! The staff spend many hours netting and removing the nets each Thursday to protect the plants from being 'played with' by the bored cockatoos. This is certainly a job we won't miss.

Our spring clearance sale is always a popular and busy time and this year was no exception. With the combination of emailing members, advertising on facebook, the ability for customers to pay by credit card and dropping the price of all the plants to \$1, it made for the busiest day I've ever had in the ten years I've been here. The last open Saturday, which was November 4th, we sold approximately 1500 plants in a space of 5hrs!

It is impossible to list everyone who has made important contributions this year but the following is a good attempt: **Parks Rangers** for helping us with our TAG's; **Col** for always making sure the tank has enough water; **Janaya** for so many things as mentioned by Gray; **Linda** for doing such an amazing job month after month with the newsletter; **Linda and Marie** with many other volunteers, week after week you tirelessly get on your hands and knees and weed, plant and look after Frogland like it's your little baby; **Carolyn** has created such a beautiful wildflower garden in a space where there was nothing. And the mosaic sign is just gorgeous; **Alwynne, Marion, Irene and Louise** have their own table for cuttings and come in almost every single week and take such good careful care of our stock plants and always let us know if there's a dry spot; **Artur and Lyndy** for applying for the grants; **Jan** for co-ordinating the trailer each

month and making sure the roster is filled, ... and ensuring the trailer is always stocked up with the appropriate fliers and information; And thanks to all the volunteers who help fill the rosters and work at the trailer no matter what the weather.

**John** and others for bringing the trailer to and back from the market; **Dick** who maintains and openly shares his knowledge of the orchids. He also takes pride in stacking the trays with pots for propagation. It's a simple but very important task. **Gloria and Lyndy** for taking the initiative to reduce the use of plastics by making 'Boomerang Bags'. **Gray** for all his jokes – good and bad. For leading the TAG's, STAG's but no longer any WAG's. And for always being so light, cheerful and never failing to make us laugh; and all the other **Volunteers** who make up FOWSP and make things work!

### And Special Thanks

**Jason and Kelvin** for all things technical, digital and computerish; **Cathy** endlessly helps out within the nursery, attends committee meetings, leads walks, composes and prints plant signage for us. She always helps where she can and we're very grateful to her; **Lyndy** the list is endless what Lyndy does! She is most famous for making delicious morning teas every week even if she can't attend the nursery that day, Ken often delivers it. She cleans, cooks, organizes bbq's, is our treasurer, applies for grants. Recently Lyndy and Ken have been attending kindergartens and giving talks about FOWSP.

**And of course the Customers** who keep us afloat

### **Last of all (but not least) The staff.**

Michelle, Josh and Sarah are really the best workmates. They're understanding, fun, patient, clever, capable, and just really great friends to work with. And they seem to understand that my clocks at home seem to somehow run 5mins behind the nursery clock!

**Josh** is patient and very tolerant of being the only male. He does cop some flack from us strong women but it's always in fun and he's well looked after. He's very generous of his time and knowledge, of which we all know, he has so much of; **Michelle** is the best problem solver! I love her ability to cope with anything and make everything work. We've become quite close and it's special to work with such a good friend; **Sarah** is a computer whiz. If we know Sarah is coming in to work then we have special tasks we ask her to do. What takes me hours, she whips up in minutes. Everything seems easy when Sarah's on board.

*Annette*

**Parks Victoria Ranger Report** notes from the report delivered by Cam Beardsell (for full report see appendix to 2017 AGM minutes)

THE NEW CEO Matthew Jackson was previously the CEO of the Phillip Island Nature Parks (Penguins) and the new Regional Director is Bryan Welch. Other staff changes include a fond farewell to Bernie Van Lith on his retirement; A new ranger, Phil Rance, will be starting in late November. Aidan O'Dempsey has moved to another work centre and Robert Box has been appointed into the Fire FSO position

The year has been filled with many and varied programs including wide ranging pest plant and animal control programs throughout the Yarra corridor. Environmental research programs include work with Deakin University, DELWP and in-house studying the Powerful Owl. Fish surveys involving Arthur Rylah Institute have been carried out to determine effect of Dights Falls fishway on fish communities of tributaries of the Yarra River. Cam's orchid recovery program continues (see below and p.4).

Volunteer groups working with Parks included the Green Army program with a focus on fence construction/removal, pest plant control & revegetation; numerous FOWSP TAG activities as well as work with more than 5 other

This year Parks staff have had to deal with a lot of illegal dumping within the park, both domestic and industrial. There has also been illegal Mountain Bike tracks & jumps created throughout parks areas and a lot of vandalism.

The building of Tikalara Mountain Bike Trail is in early stages now and is a positive effort to meet the needs of and gain cooperation from local bike clubs.



Cam Beardsell presented on local threatened orchids.

### **Threatened orchids of Middle Yarra and the Warrandyte-Kinglake Habitat Corridor**

notes from a presentation by Cam Beardsell

AFTER the AGM, Cam gave an inspiring talk based on the report Karl Just had recently completed. This 189 pp. work, funded by a grant from the Victorian Government's Threatened Species Protection Initiative, involved close collaboration with Cam. Cam's presentation of this important work included far more than can be re-produced in this newsletter so only selected highlights are included.

Cam started his battle to preserve native orchids in 1975 with the Wine-lipped Spider-orchid in the local area. About half of the total population of Wine-lipped Spider-orchid that are still extant are found in the reported area. There are also about 500 plants in the Belgrave area and various other small populations.

He stated that 10 per cent of all the orchid species that were found in this area have been lost in the past 40 years and that this is despite all the best efforts available at the time.

The threats and management of these threats were outlined for five spider-orchids (*Caladenia* spp.) and two greenhood orchids (*Pterostylis*).

The first three discussed were clubbed spider-orchids: *Caladenia oenochila*, *Caladenia* aff. *cruciformis* and *C.* aff. *fragrantissima*. Close-up photos of the clubs on the tips of the tepals show the marked

differences in the arrangement of the glands amongst these three orchids. The accompanying photos clearly show this. For instance *C. oenochila* glands are arranged sparsely like individual beads on stalks.

A reserve in this area has an extant *C. oenochila* population and is being managed to increase the orchid numbers. A successful ecological burn was carried out in December 2016 within a 1.5 hectare area which now has a deer proof fence. It has been found that autumn burns are detrimental to this and many other orchid species. All 40 original orchid plants flowered after the Dec. burn and they were naturally pollinated. Also there has been a translocation of plants grown from seed at the Royal Botanic Gardens and direct seeding has been carried out near the base of the orchid plants. Recruitment is expected to occur



The Wine-lipped Spider-orchid, *C. oenochila*, inset shows clearly sparse glands.



Red Cross Spider-orchid (*Caladenia* aff. *cruciformis*)



over the next few years. It takes two years before juveniles form tubers so early grazing of the leaves results in plant death. Many juvenile plants were grazed by Portuguese Millipedes. This invertebrate pest was first introduced by accident in 1981 and it has been an increasing problem since this time. At least two types of Millipede trap are being employed in the fenced area.

Also within this area there is a single plant called Red-cross Spider-orchid, that may be a new species. It is bright red in colour and differs from the red form of *C. oenochila* as the glands on the clubs are very dense similar to *C. cruciformis*. This plant is currently being called *Caladenia* aff. *cruciformis*. Further research will reveal its true identity.



There is also a single plant called *Caladenia* aff. *fragrantissima*. This one has unique clubs with chains of cells similar to those of *C. fragrantissima*. If it is a separate species then it is the only one known to exist in the world.

In future newsletters I plan to include some of the information from the presentation about Rosella Spider-orchid *Caladenia rosella*, the Charming Spider-orchid *C. amoena*, the Woodland Plume-orchid *Pterostylis plumosa* and the Emerald Greenhood *Pterostylis smaragdina*.  
Linda



St Andrews Spider-orchid (*Caladenia* aff. *fragrantissima*)

**TAGS (Thursday activity groups)**

**TAGS meet at the nursery at 9.00 am for a 9.15 am 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**

The schedule for TAGS in 2018 will be out soon and many Thursday mornings have impromptu TAG activities often near the nursery.

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2016/17			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell
			<u>Nursery Phone</u>	0408 317 327
			email <a href="mailto:nursery@fowsp.org.au">nursery@fowsp.org.au</a>	
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer and Membership	<u>Park Office</u>	03 8427 2132
Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter editor	<u>Newsletter assist and Librarian</u>	
	<a href="mailto:editor@fowsp.org.au">editor@fowsp.org.au</a>		Gloria Moore	0402 285005
Annette Lion	0414-249-729	Facebook Coordinator	<u>Wildlife Rescue</u>	Adriana Simmonds 9722 2908
Caitriona Young	9844 2842	Minute Secretary		
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		<u>Market Trailer Jan Falconer</u>	9844 1226 or 0419 872 096 email <a href="mailto:trailer@fowsp.org.au">trailer@fowsp.org.au</a>
John Blake	0418329 937			
Joy Hick	0418573916		<u>Manningham Council Rep</u>	Cathy Willis 0427 660 651
Kelvin Watkins	0488 039 774		<u>Webmaster</u>	Jason Patton 0402 121838 <a href="mailto:jason@parau.com">jason@parau.com</a>
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647		Website:	<a href="http://www.fowsp.org.au">www.fowsp.org.au</a>
	<a href="mailto:legality@bigpond.com">legality@bigpond.com</a>			FOWSP general enquiry number 1300 764 422

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

**Newsletter Team this month:** Linda Rogan, Gloria Moore, Mel Coupar (Line drawings)

**Next Committee Meeting**  
**Date:** Tuesday 13 February 2018  
**Venue:** Education Centre, Pound Bend  
**Time:** 19:30 pm sharp

## Manningham City Council Environment Seminars



The Environment 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. **Venue:** Riverview Room at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte **Time: 7:20** for a 7.30 pm start  
**Enquiries:** 9840 9326 email [csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au)

**Wednesday 6 December 2017 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm The brighter side of night: the ecological consequences of artificial night lighting** **Dr Therésa Jones** Until very recently one of the constants for life on earth has been the presence of a bright day and a dark night. Since the advent of electrical night lighting, this has changed: nights are becoming increasingly bright and many species living in urban areas never experience a true dark night. Accumulating evidence indicates that this dramatic shift in the night-time photic environment in urban areas has a range of (largely negative) ecological consequences. Join Dr Theresa Jones as she explores the biological effect of artificial night lighting for physiology, behaviour and life-history traits using vertebrate and invertebrate models in the field and laboratory

**Wednesday 07 February 2018, 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm The impacts of introduced grazing on plant communities** Until European settlement, Australia's high country had not seen large, hard-hoofed grazing animals. In fact, it had little exposure to large animals of any kind. So what happens when we introduce livestock and feral grazing animals to plant communities that have not evolved with them? Is there any benefit to the high country or is the news all bad? Does grazing reduce blazing? And what on Earth does any of this have to do with Manningham? Join Dr Arn Tolsma from Victoria's Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research as he answers these questions and more.

## 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

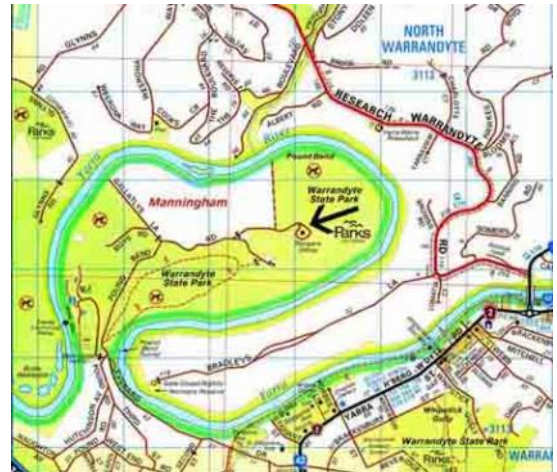
The nursery is open for plant sales every Thursday.

9.30 am to 12.30 pm

**Closed Christmas and New Years days.**

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

**Prices:** Members \$2.00      Non-members \$2.50



Copyright 2008 Melway Publishing Pty Ltd  
Reproduced from Melway Edition 36 with permission



## FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks

Leader: Cathy Willis



**This series of free nature walks will explore various sections of the Yarra River from the eastern end of Manningham in Wonga Park downstream to Templestowe.**

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.

Watch for the 2018 schedule by checking the link below in January or February.

[www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks](http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks)

Bookings can be made online and are essential as places are limited. Bookings open 2 months before the walk date.

Please note that nature walks will be cancelled on a day of Total Fire Ban or extreme weather warning as Parks Victoria will close all local parks.

## FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 4th November  
*Jan Falconer, Marion Thomson, Jeff Cranston, Gloria Moore  
Christine Andell, Lyn Moore, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook*

Special thanks to *John Young* who transported the market 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 (man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

If you are interested in being on the market roster for 2018  
please contact **Jan Falconer 0419 872 096** email [trailer@fowsp.org.au](mailto:trailer@fowsp.org.au)  
*First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.*

**Next market dates are:** *Saturdays, 3 February and 3 March 2018*



### Cecily Falkingham shows the way

LEGENDARY naturalist Cecily Falkingham, recently led a large group of FOWSPians on a walk in the Hillcrest Nature Reserve, Donvale - not far from her home. It was our Cathy Willis who arranged this outing with the wonderfully knowledgeable, modest and approachable Cecily.

This area of the Mullum Mullum Park, will be the focus of many future TAGS over the next 3 years, as FOWSP has received a grant from DELWP [Department of Environment, Lands, Water and Planning] for habitat restoration and protection here. For more information on this Grant, see the article about it in the last Newsletter.

Cecily and many others worked tirelessly, and ultimately successfully, to save this parkland from having the Eastern Freeway cut through it.

The demonstrated presence of the Powerful Owl, Mountain Bird Orchid and Southern Toadlet was an important factor in the State Government's decision to put the freeway under, rather than through this piece of bushland. The orchid and the toadlet will be foci of FOWSP's rehabilitation works, so one of the objects of Cecily's walk was to show us where the orchid has been seen in the past.

We saw neither flowers nor leaves of the Mountain Bird Orchid *Chiloglottis jeansii*, but we did see the very closely related *C. valida* in flower. Our own expert on indigenous orchids, Dick Thomson gave us some advice on management of this site of known occurrence and reassured us that although on this visit we saw neither flowers nor leaves, the orchid may just be dormant, and waiting for the right conditions to reappear.

Following a narrow track off the Main Trail, we sighted many wildflowers, including blue pincushion, common apple-berry, milkmaids, slender rice-flower, early Nancy, candles [creamy stackhouse], love creeper and tall greenhoods, no longer flowering, but with encouragingly bulging ovaries. We listened to the calls of many different birds, including golden and rufous whistlers and grey shrike-thrushes. We also watched superb blue wrens and grey fantails. Although none of these birds is a rarity, it was lovely to see them, as they have been evicted by noisy miners from so many places where they used to occur.



FOWSP TAG crew meets Cecily near MM Park.  
Photo: Carol Page



Cecily Falkingham shares her love of Mullum Mullum Park.  
Photo: Carol Page

Naturally TAG members could not resist weeding, even though weeding was not the focus of this excursion. Fortunately they had brought their gloves against accidental encounters with sword-sedges.

After a belated but delicious Lyndian morning tea, Gray started to think about some words of thanks for Cecily. The first word that popped into consciousness was 'inspiring' - so imagine his surprise when Cecily got in first and said that she found FOWSP's interest in her beloved 'backyard' ...*inspiring!* **Joy and Gray**

### Mt. Lofty Circuit Walk by Gloria

MANNINGHAM Council's monthly Nature Walks through local bushland areas are always most enjoyable and very informative, and the October walk at Mt. Lofty was no exception. Expertly led by Cathy Willis and Sam Gilbert, the walk commenced at Wittons Reserve on Brushy Creek in Wonga Park, a Sacred Women's site in the Wurundjeri history. The scenic five kilometre circuit walk is a section of the Wurundjeri Songline route, the major Wurundjeri travelling route to the Yarra Valley.

Cathy pointed out some magnificent old specimens of Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus meliiodora*) and Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*), the latter in flower. Also flowering was Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) whilst Hazel Pomaderris (*Pomaderris aspera*) was in full bud. We found a number of colonies of flowering Sun orchids (*Thelymitra carnea*) but unfortunately these weren't open as there was no sun! Burgan (*Kunzea ericoides*) grew in abundance, and it was interesting to note a section cleared by controlled fire a decade ago which has revegetated with saplings of Man-a-Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) as well as several species of wildflowers and orchids

The "birders" amongst us observed a large variety of birds including Fantail Cuckoo, White-eared Honeyeater, Little Raven, Galah, Superb Fairy Wren, Welcome Swallow and Wattlebird, with a highlight being the sighting of a Mistletoebird which, despite its bright red throat and chest, is often difficult to spot.

Keep your eyes open for the 2018 schedule of Nature Walks. What a great way to explore our local area! Places are limited, so bookings are essential. [www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks](http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks)



Superb Fairy-wren Photo: Kim Tarpey

KINDER KIDS TAKE TO NATURE



Carey kinder children planting with Ken.

THE FRIENDS of Warrandyte State Park received a request from Carey Kindergarten in Donvale and Warrandyte Kindergarten in Taroona Avenue to talk to the children about the importance of looking after our environment.

Ken and Lyndy collected stuffed animals and birds from Manningham City Council, brochures and flyers from Melbourne Water and material from Parks Victoria to make this an entertaining time for kinder kids.

The sessions which ran for 90 minutes, commenced with a talk about the lifecycle of frogs, then discussion ranged on the wider environment and the harmful effects of plastic bags, bottles and rubber bands on our wildlife.

The groups of children which numbered around 24, was then split into two. Whilst one group went out to dig in and water FOWSP plants, the second group designed pictures made out of leaves and flowers collected at the nursery to make beautiful collages, coloured in printouts of the frog lifecycle and looked at aquatic life through magnifying glasses at a sample of pond water from the FOWSP nursery. The children identified mosquito larvae and water bugs.

We received really positive feedback and a donation to FOWSP from both Kindergartens.  
See also photos on email bonus page.

*Lyndy*



Warrandyte Kinder kids singing "We've got the whole world in our hands"

In response to the overwhelming number of scientific studies on the harmful effect of plastic bags on our waterways and animals, FOWSPians have banded together to donate materials and time to make reusable cloth 'boomerang' bags for plants to travel in. The bags will be available at the market and the nursery to encourage people to reuse and recycle cloth bags. Any spare bags may be returned to the nursery for others to use. Special thanks to Gloria who has made 55 so far. That must be a record!

*Lyndy*



**JOSH REVELL – FINALIST  
VOLUNTEERING VICTORIA AWARDS**  
22 November 2017

VOLUNTEERING VICTORIA is the state peak body for volunteering, focusing on advocacy, sector development and the promotion of volunteering. They see their role as leading the development of a collaborative, sustainable, thriving volunteering community and movement in Victoria. There are 1.5 million volunteers in Victoria alone. For the past three years, Volunteering Victoria has run annual State Awards aiming to embrace, and showcase the work of volunteer managers, programs and volunteer involving organisations.

The 2017 Awards cover six categories including Innovation, Excellence, Inclusion, Thought Leadership, Employee Volunteering and Lifetime Achievement. This year’s ceremony took place at Parliament House on 22 November 2017.



*Finalists, Judging panel, Volunteering Victoria staff, 22 November 2017 at the State Awards*

I am proud to say that Josh Revell, who does so much for others, was nominated by your FOWSP committee and selected as a finalist, for the category of Volunteering Victoria’s **Lifetime Achievement Award**. This is awarded to a “paid or unpaid leader or manager of volunteers for long-standing, distinguished and meritorious service to the volunteering sector in a leadership role over at least seven years”.



*A rare sight – Josh at Parliament House with a glass of water in his hand!*

Josh has been extraordinary in his devotion to looking after the State Park’s flora and fauna. He has put in more volunteer hours than paid hours over the twenty years he has been involved with the nursery. His role has involved managing the nursery with staff and volunteers, collecting seeds, propagating plants and preserving rare species from extinction. He liaises on a regular basis with Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water and Manningham City Council. He raises awareness of the importance of indigenous plants to the state parks through education of schools and the local community. Under his guidance, the nursery has grown significantly, with some 40,000 plants now being grown each year.

From each category, one winner was chosen, (except for the Lifetime Achievement Award, where two winners were chosen out of the 5 finalists). These winners were presented with lovely glass trophies. To my surprise, the other 17 finalists did even not receive a certificate!

It was disappointing to me that none of the finalists were given the opportunity to speak: I have not heard of at least 70% of the organisations they represented and would have liked to have known more about them. I also learned that the committee did not visit the finalists at their place of work, but judged everything from the emailed nominations. My concerns were noted by Volunteering Victoria staff.  
*Lyndy Gilbert*

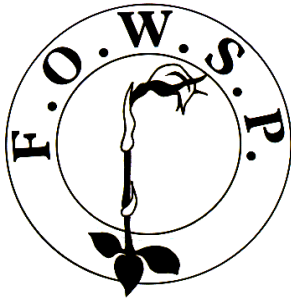
TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for a wonderfully informative edition of the FOWSP newsletter.

This year has been difficult for me health wise and have recently had more surgery which will require a further 6-8 weeks recuperation. I have really missed attending Thursday mornings at FOWSP, and hopefully will be able to return early next year. In the meantime, I feel as though I have been able to stay connected to the group and all the wonderful activities that FOWSPians love to get involved with via the monthly newsletter.

Our garden is providing us with some stunningly beautiful indigenous plants right now with *Dianella longifolia*, *Wahlenbergia communis*, Chocolate Lily, *Craspedia variabilis*, *Chrysocephalum semipapposum*, *Daviesia latifolia* and *Pomaderris elliptica* all starting to put on a great show.

Enjoy the remaining activities for the year and best wishes to everyone at FOWSP.  
Kind regards,  
*Jan Smids*



Print  
Post  
346802/0005

Postage  
Paid  
Australia

**REGISTRATION BY AUSTRALIA POST  
PP 346802 / 0005**

If undeliverable please return to  
Friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc.  
P.O. Box 220 **Warrandyte, 3113**



**Mantispidae *Campion* sp.**

THIS INSECT is a lacewing in spite of its raptorial arms that look like a mantis. It hunts for its prey.

This species is part of a subfamily that has a peculiar life history. The newly hatched larvae (first instar) goes looking for a female spider.

They climb aboard and are carried around until the spider lays her eggs and builds her egg sac. The Mantispid larva bores into the spider egg sac and spends the rest of its larval life feeding upon the spider's eggs. It pupates within the egg sac and eventually emerges as an adult. If it happens the young larva finds only a male spider, it will ride along until it has the chance to transfer to a female when the spider mates. Some species skip the spider ride and bore directly into a spider egg sac.

If you have never seen these before it may be because they are only a little over 1 cm long.

*Linda with thanks to Ken Harris*

**December/January 2017/18 Vol. 35 no. 10**

**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

Newsletter by email  (tick box)

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 page



(Left) Cathy & Sam estimating the age of a Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) (Above) Flowers of Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*) Gloria's photos from the Mount Lofty walk, article page 7.



Some of the artwork from Carey Kinder kids inspired by Ken and Lyndy's presentation.



Blue Ant, searching for somewhere to inject her eggs (maybe), taken on Saturday Oct 28, near Glynn's. Photo by Joy

**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)**