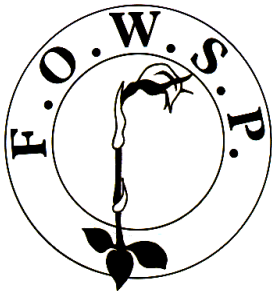


# Friends of Warrandyte State Park



## 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

The end of September finds us still with 5 km limits but the numbers are looking good and if we can just stay the course for another three weeks we should be rewarded with late spring and summer, without significant Covid deaths and illness. I suspect the masks may be a part of life for a lot longer however.

Thanks to all who have kept us posted with what is occurring in your 5 km which has helped to brighten up this newsletter.

Lyndy Gilbert has good news for us about the repair of our hail damaged igloos on p. 2.

Linda Rogan (editor) has an idea to brighten up a night, whether curfew is in place or not p. 3.

Starting on p.4, Lisa Jenkins lets her fascination with words and classics take us on a magical mystery tour starting and ending with local acacias.

Lyndy Gilbert and Sybille Ims let *Tetradleca* show off on p.5. Then Lyndy gives us a glimpse of some of the plants in full glory in the nursery stock plants area.

There are many welcomed reports from a number of FOWSPians on p. 8 and 9.

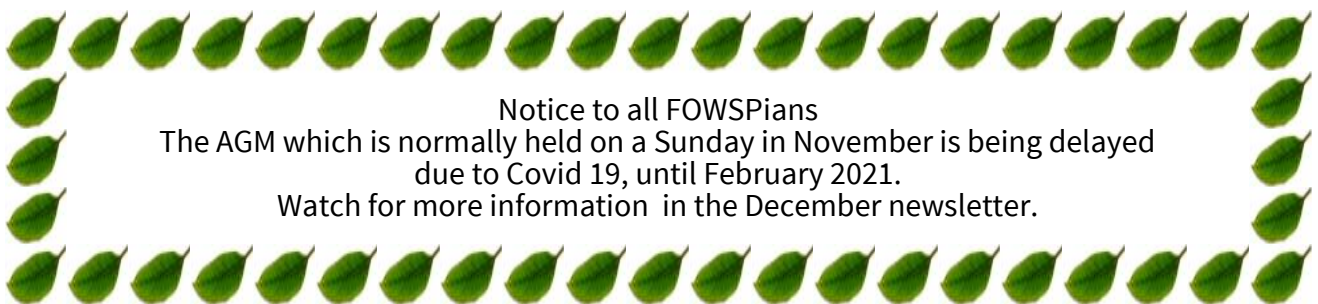
Sadly, on p. 9 we say sad farewell to Mick Woiwod and send our condolences to his family and close friends.

Hoping for the best

*Linda*



Sybille Ims shares this photo of **Nature undressing.**  
A gum on Everard Drive.  
It made me smile.



Notice to all FOWSPians  
The AGM which is normally held on a Sunday in November is being delayed due to Covid 19, until February 2021.  
Watch for more information in the December newsletter.

**Deadline for November edition newsletter is**

**Friday 16 October 2020**

**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**

## Community Bank Warrandyte funding for igloo covers



During the January hailstorm, the 2 igloos, which are used by the FOWSP nursery, were badly damaged. The igloos are a vital asset as they provide heated beds and a protected environment to grow our new seedlings and cuttings. Each igloo contains around 5,000 plants.

Your committee applied for a grant via Community Bank Warrandyte, our local branch of the Bendigo Bank, to provide and install new covers. We have just received advice that we were successful in obtaining a grant for \$3,657 to cover the costs of covers for both igloos.

This has come at a fortuitous time for our nursery as the COVID pandemic has restricted sales of plants since March this year and therefore income to carry out much needed repairs has been reduced. We plan to carry out the work with the grant monies as soon as the current restrictions are lifted and tradesmen are permitted back on site.

We are truly grateful for the consideration given to our request for funding from the Community Bank Warrandyte and their continuing generosity towards our environmental endeavours. We have been given grants for a range of requests including educational activities, a 30,000-litre water tank, an AED unit, new roofing over the potting shed, an irrigation structure - and our latest grant - new covers for the igloos.

Please consider supporting the Warrandyte Branch of the Bendigo Bank if you are not already a customer. They are doing amazing things for our community through their grants and scholarship programs. Reported by Lyndy Gilbert

## How to enjoy the nightlife without breaking curfew

By Linda Rogan

It is just a bulb from a mozzie zapper but I have put it to an entirely different use. A couple of months ago I edited an article from the Kureks who are members of the Victorian Entomological Society. This featured the steps they took designing a light sheet which was easily transported and assembled. 'What a good idea I thought. I will be able to take this with me in our new caravan when we head north'. Well you all know that didn't happen. However as winter nights gave way to milder spring warmth in our Covid 19 retreat, (which sadly is more than 5 km from Pound Bend area) I was tempted to set up this light sheet and see what could be attracted from my semi-indigenous garden in Briar Hill.



After dark, about 10:30 pm, my sheet covered with a scattering of small to tiny brown moths and a couple of green lacewings. Never-the-less, I decided to get up in the night (4:30 am) and check the sheet again. This was a lucky decision as the second check gave me, amongst other things, three beetles which I found interesting and these were gone when I checked again at first light.



Here are some of the insects I found of interest, clockwise from upper right.

1. *Sorama bicolor* whose caterpillar feeds on gum trees
2. *Euchaetis rhizobola* also feeds on gum trees
3. *Paropsides calypso* Lilly Pilly leaf beetle
4. *Paropsisterna laesa* red box leaf beetle
5. *Cadmus aurantiacus* a case bearing leaf beetle which apparently also feeds upon eucalypts.



**Learning *Acacia* species identification through their names** by Lisa Jenkins

*Acacia myrtifolia* (myrtle wattle)-for the phyllode being myrtle leaf-like  
*Acacia aculeatissima* (thin-leaved)-aculeatus (prickly or thorny) and issimus (very much)  
*Acacia acinacea* (gold dust wattle)-for the ancient style of dagger called acinaces



Figure 1. *Acacia myrtifolia* from Flora of Warrandyte (FoW) Some will see a similarity to the leaves of *Myrtus communis* (right)

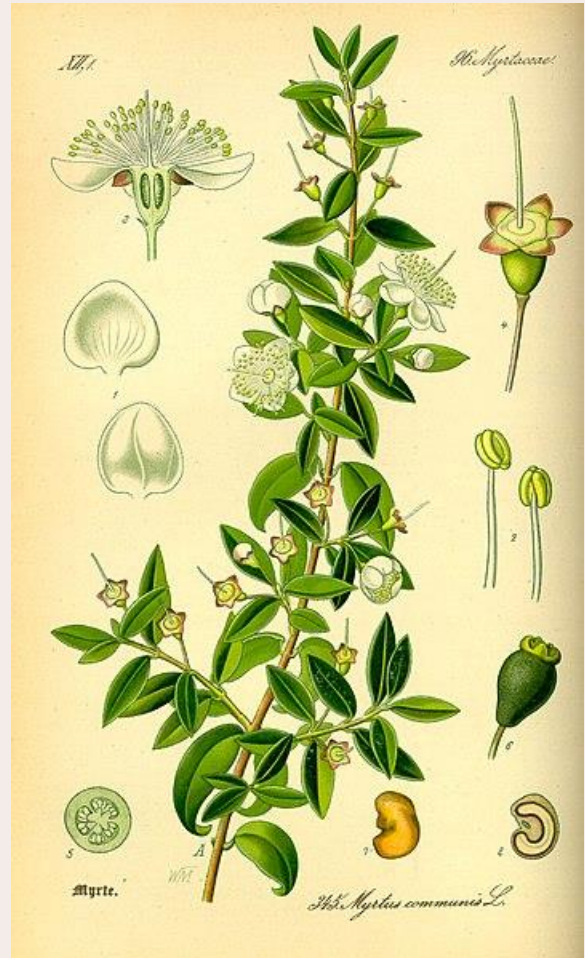


Figure 2. *Myrtus communis*. wikipedia.org. Sourced 20 September, 2020\*.

This is a fun month-it's about shapes and WARNING! one of them is a little bit silly and ribald.

There's not much more to say about either *Acacia myrtifolia* (myrtle wattle)-for the phyllode being myrtle leaf-like (Fig. 1) nor *Acacia aculeatissima* (thin-leaved)-aculeatus (prickly or thorny) and issimus (very much). They both do what it says.

I must say that I had to look up the myrtle (Fig. 2) since it's only familiar to me as the family in which *Eucalyptus* live. And, frankly, I don't find the connection obvious.

*Acacia acinacea*, however, is more obscure and it's the fun one. Acinaces are swords, used by the Medes, Persians, Greeks and Scythians. The Medes were before the Persians and they both lived in modern-day Iran. The Greeks-well. The Scythians were a nomadic people from Eurasia. They were based in modern-day Ukraine but were frequently involved in warfare with various Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries (hence their knowledge of acinaces).



Figure 3. *Acacia aculeatissima* from FoW

(Continued on page 6)

\*Original book source: Prof. Dr. Otto Wilhelm Thomé Flora von Deutschland, Österreich und der Schweiz 1885, Gera, Germany. Permission granted to use under GFDL by Kurt Stueber. Source: www.biolib.de

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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

**Next Committee Meeting**  
**Date:** Tuesday 13 October 2020  
**Venue:** Electronic  
**Time:** 19:30 pm sharp

**Three faces of *Tetradtheca ciliata*.**

What a gorgeous display *Tetradtheca* has made this season! Below we have Lyndy’s photo of the flowering pots amongst FOWSP stock plants. Next we have two versions from Sybille Ims’ garden. Centre is the commercial cultivar and right is the local indigenous form, a little shy but still beautiful. I also have a beautiful drooping display of the local form by placing three small plants in a large self-watering pot. *Linda Rogan*



## 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.

There is always someone available to show you the ropes. No prior experience necessary -

Closed at present  
See p. below

**NURSERY OPENING**

The nursery is open day. **9.30 am to 12.30 pm** the first Saturday of every 2pm (to coincide with the Market) April to November only.

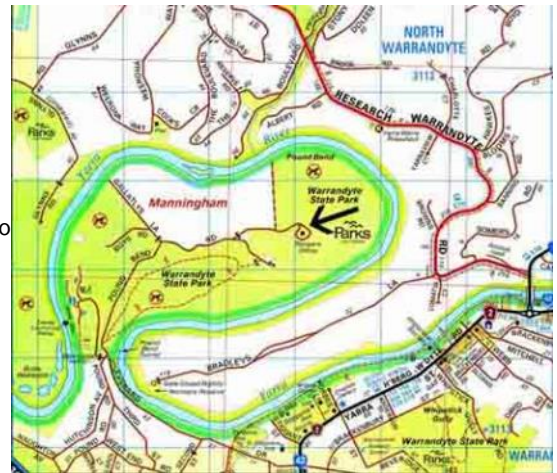
**HOURS**

for plant sales every Thursday and month, 9am to Warrandyte

days of severe

**Closed Christmas and New Years days. Also closed to customers and volunteers on weather and on Total Fire Ban Days**

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



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**Open for click and collect only for email orders to  
nursery@fowsp.org.au  
Phone contact number required.**

*(Continued from page 4)*

I love all this because I'm a classics junkie and I have an especial fascination with the Scythians. Acinaces were commonly used and so lots are found by archaeologists-they turn up on Ebay and one can buy replicas (Fig. 4)



Figure 4. Acinaces from internet sales

Rather like *Acacia myrtifolia*, I can't quite see the leaf shape in *Acacia acinacea* (Fig. 5 )



Figure 5. *Acacia acinacea*

You might notice, (searching the internet), that the original sword invites another name. It was given by Professor Foell, a material scientist at the University of Kiel. In his study of the evolution of complex iron artifacts, he looked at many acinaces and christened the Scythian variety the 'Bollocks Sword' (Fig. 7).



Figure 7. The "bollocks type" (acinace) is often associated with the Scythians and found in their "Kurgans" - substantial burial mounds found all over Eurasia.

So: my question is: 'Is *Acacia acinacea* up for a revised common name-the 'bollocks wattle'? Or shall we



go down another path?

You may think that the acinaces looks like other ancient swords, as seen in the movies. I was racking my brains as to which one and I found myself wandering down the path of replicas and fandom wiki pages. But Hollywood, it seems, is pretty bad on the historical veracity of weaponry (no surprise there!) and the closest I came were Viking swords-similar but not as bollocksy. But then I decided to delve into the past and found that in 1960, Hollywood was more than able to create an historical verisimilitude:

This film, which I haven't had the delight of seeing, starred Joan Collins as Esther, the Jewish love interest of Ahasuerus (Xerxes), king of Persia, in a story from the Old Testament. Alas, that text is also wrong in historical detail (Persian kings never married 'out'). So could we, to quote the article in which I found this image and in honour of a splendid Hollywood genre, rename *Acacia acinacea* the 'swords and sandals wattle'?

I'll leave it to the vote.

Figure 8. Poster, 'Esther and the King,' 1960.

For readers who may have difficulty choosing between Lisa's two suggestions, I offer this photo of *Acacia acinacea* in my garden heavily dusted with pollen, as evidence for keeping the common name of gold dust wattle.

*Editor*



**Showy blooms amongst the nursery stock plants**

Thanks for photos from Lyndy Gilbert



FOWSPians Report

**Alwynne Bunting**

Just returned from a walk along the Mullum Mullum Creek where she reports many lovely wildflowers in bloom. The greenhoods *Pterostylis curta* and *nutans* are nearly finished but Alwynne was excited to find that one of the greenhoods she keeps in a pot at home has set seed. She is keen to see if she can get some plants from these seeds.

Back at the creek tall greenhoods are still plentiful, snowy daisy-bush *Olearia lirata* are making quite a show, not to be outdone by blooming early Nancys, *Platylobium obtusangulum* and twining glycine. A single milkmaid was showing with buds promising more to come.

In Alwynne's garden *Brunonia* are in bud and trigger -plants and chocolate lilies in the garden are in flower.

In her spare time Alwynne has pricked out 40 more *Olearia ramulosa* which will find new homes sometime down the track.

She sends greetings to everyone and hopes we all have good news soon.



Right, Trigger plant blooming at Hohnes Hill

Below, Snowy daisy-bush in Linda's garden  
Photos Linda Rogan



Above, *Platylobium* blooming amongst the FOWSP stock plants. Photo Lyndy Gilbert



**Marie Kraus** wishes to pass on her thanks to Jason and Peta for spotting and repairing the Frogland fence. She has been wondering how Frogland was and how the weeds are going but also I miss seeing the various species coming into flower. The photo of the Clematis in flower was lovely. Kelvin's orchid photos from Professors Hill were also great. I look forward to being able to return to the Nursery but I must say time has passed quickly at home as there has been a lot of weeding to do and the last storm resulted in two large trees uprooting and it is taking a lot of work to clear the debris. Unfortunately, one of the trees was a beautiful yellow box *Eucalyptus melliodora*, which I often admired and the other was a red stringybark *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* which had survived the 1960's bushfire which came through this area. Luckily we had no damage to buildings but some of the plants I had nurtured over the years in a gully were flattened. I trust you and your family are coping and are well during this Covid-19 lockdown.

Best wishes

Marie



**Vale Mick Woiwod March 31, 1929 – August 26, 2020**

Mick had turned 91 before he passed away on 26 August 2020 and this past FOWSPian and long time resident of the Bend of Islands will be missed by many. It is well worth reading the tribute published in the Warrandyte Diary.

<https://warrandytediary.com.au/tribute-to-mick-woiwod/>

Mick has researched, written and published over 20 books with a focus on the Yarra Valley, and on Victoria's Indigenous history although he had turned 60 before he took up writing. At 63, he gained a Degree, majoring in Aboriginal history, Aboriginal religion, and archaeology.

Mick was past Founding President of the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group. He was also co-founder of the Andrew Ross Museum in Kangaroo Ground.

He lived in the Bend of Isles for many years. While living in the Bend he and his late wife Margaret were always generous hosts for local events. He participated in the Bend of Islands Conservation Assoc. (BICA) and took a keen interest in all activities. After moving to Eltham Mick was still a regular visitor to the monthly coffee mornings held at the CFA station where he kept in touch with his many friends in the area.



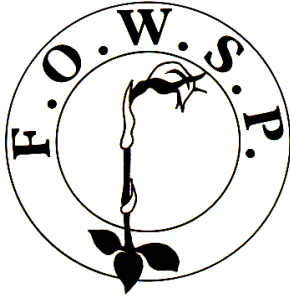
We send our condolences to his family and close friends.



**In Sybille Ims' 5 km:**  
A currawong at the birdbath and a banksia near Anderson Creek Primary School in August

**Jan Falconer**  
Reports that Tindals wildflower reserve has nodding greenhoods nearly spent, and only one donkey orchid so far. However, lots more plants are in bud so it will be just lovely there in a week or so





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Chocolate lily *Arthropodium strictum*

The weather was a bit too wet and cold for Joy to be able to smell the characteristic scent of these plants. It is variously described as 'chocolate' or 'caramel'. She is lucky enough to have them springing up amongst the grasses in her back garden.

According to tuckerbox.com.au

The Chocolate Lily's edible tubers usually grow to around 3.5cm in length, around 15cm below the surface. Raw tubers are slightly sweet and best eaten when young, as they become bitter over time. Like other varieties of tuber vegetables, they are delicious just lightly roasted with a bit of salt or butter. The fragrant flowers are also edible, and may be added to salads or used as decorative toppings for cakes, biscuits and tarts

Photo by Joy Hick

**October 2020 Vol. 38 no. 8**

**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)

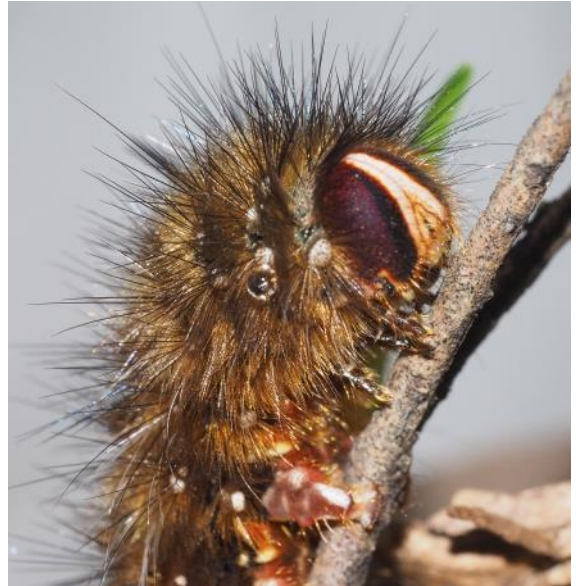
Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website [www.fowsp.org.au](http://www.fowsp.org.au) with the option of direct deposit payment.

*EMAIL NEWSLETTER? Your notification comes as a note in the email with the newsletter link .*

### Email photo bonus page



John Young sent along the photo above asking ‘What is this little guy?’



The answer is ‘I don’t know’ but I have had a lot of woolly caterpillars in my garden this year and I am trying to rear at least three different sorts as shown by these shots of their head capsules. The top photo seems typical of the Anthela group with the pale ‘facial’ marks; The first one below looks more like John’s with the small red head capsule; The bottom one looks very like, and may turn out to be, the painted acacia moth *Orgyia anartoides*. If they survive to adult, we will have a likely answer for John.



Along with the chocolate lilies, Joy Hick’s back garden has *Acacia pycnantha* seedlings springing forth and loving the rain.



**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)**



A flowering gum near the  
Warrandyte post office.  
Photo by Sybille Ims