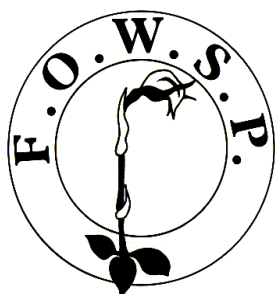


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



Newsletter

Website: www.fowsp.org.au

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113
ABN 94170156655/Incorporation No. A0024890C

Editor's Corner

Hello FOWSPians and welcome to 2022.

It is too early to tell how the year will progress, so let's focus on the positives. Having volunteers back at the nursery and Frogland is a major plus for me. As shown on photo right and also on p. 4, propagation is in full swing. This includes lots of seed sorting and sowing as well as lots of propagation by cuttings. Some weeks there may be extra work days for volunteers as arranged by the nursery staff.

Also TAGs are resuming. This is a plus for me as it is always interesting to receive reports from the TAGs such as the Betton fencing grant story on p. 2.

A new contributor to the newsletter is always very welcome. Jen Willis has provided a fascinating article 'Five indigenous pollinator-attracting daisies' on p. 3 and I have thrown in a few photos to illustrate her choices.

Lyndy Gilbert is responsible for another successful grant. See p. 5. This time it is a brochure to raise awareness of our native bee species. It has also inspired me to start an occasional series to help others become more familiar with this diverse group of pollinators. I am beginning with the masked bees, *Hylaeus* species also on p. 5. Write to me as editor if you have any questions about native bees and I will print answers next time.

Josh and Carol share their spider observations on p. 9. Hope to see you soon around Pound Bend.

Linda Rogan



John and Caitriona removed their masks and paused from their seed sorting to sit down with their cuppas.

See p. 4.

**Deadline for March edition newsletter is
Friday 18 February 2022**

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

Completion of the Betton Fencing Grant

Indigenous plant diversity is declining in our iconic 4th Hill Reserve. Urban and rural development, including land clearing, has left the remaining bushland in the area degraded and isolated. Key threats which lead to the decline and also prevent regeneration include grazing and disturbance by feral and indigenous animals e.g. deer and rabbit but also wallaby and kangaroo.

Volunteers from the FOWSP, Andersons Creek Landcare and Scotchmans Hill Action Group are working every week to give our bush a helping hand. They are supported by Parks rangers, grants from Melbourne Water and DELWP (Department for the Environment, Land, Water and Planning). One of the grants obtained in the recent years was to protect a significant zone of flora and fauna along Betton Track. The fence built here will keep out animals which otherwise would graze and disturb flora re-establishment.

More than 1000 indigenous plants, including locally extinct species, were grown in FOWSP's nursery for this project. Volunteers removed weeds and planted these plants which will attract pollinators for rare orchids. A two-year project, extended into three years due to lock-downs, is now completed with the final step of placing an explanatory board on the site.

The last days work was followed by a bit of ceremony to erect the signage. Despite no champagne, a successful installation.

Thank you to Don and Artur for this report.



Volunteers David and Elisha remove non-indigenous *Cassinia* from the site.



Artur at arms length



Proudly displaying the finished sign. L to R Don, Elisha, Judith, Artur, David, Brian, and Ranger Phil.
Photo Justin



Leucochrysum albicans photos by Cathy Willis

Five indigenous pollinator-attracting daisies
Written by Jen Willis

If you're growing vegetables and fruit, you probably understand the benefits that pollinators bring to your garden. Many plants, particularly the cultivated varieties we grow for food, are self-fertile

(don't need other plants to pollinate them) but you'll usually get a better crop if you've got a healthy population of pollinators visiting your garden.

European honey bees are the most commonly known pollinator species. They were introduced to Australia in the 1800s and while they are the best-known bees, we also have more than 2,000 species of native Australian bee species, all of which play a key role in pollination too. There are estimated to be a couple of thousand other pollinator insects (including moths, wasps, ants, flies, beetles, butterflies) that are indigenous to Australia. Other local pollinator species include microbats, flying foxes, skinks, small mammals and birds (particularly nectar-eating ones like lorikeets and honeyeaters).

Pollinators are in it for a feed. As the animal or insect feeds on the pollen (or more commonly the sweet nectar) of a plant, it brushes up against the anthers (the male pollen-producing parts of the flower). Pollen sticks to its body, feathers, thorax, head etc. It then moves to another flower or plant and brushes the pollen against the stigma (female part), creating pollination. Once pollinated the plant can produce fruit and then seed, allowing it to reproduce.

While most gardeners can list lots of introduced pollinator-attracting plants (rosemary, borage, lavender, salvias and annuals such as alyssum and borage etc.), far fewer can name indigenous pollinator-attracting plants.

5 indigenous pollinator-attracting daisies

Here are some daisies that are looking great in gardens and in the bush right now and will draw in the insect pollinators into your garden:



Brachyscome multifida (Cut-leaf Daisy) growing under indigenous shrubs early September 2021 in Linda Rogan's garden.

1. *Leucochrysum albicans* (Hoary Sunray)
With a yellow disc centre and radiating papery bracts in either white or yellow (only yellow are indigenous to north-east Melbourne), these are a gorgeous burst of colour that flower for almost half the year. Provides food for and will attract butterflies. Photos above and also p. 9.

2. *Brachyscome multifida* (Cut-leaf Daisy)
Ranging in hues of white to mauve locally, and light yellows and pinks in other places in Australia, this is a gorgeous daisy that flowers for many months of the year. It's very hardy, drought resistant and looks great in gardens, spilling over rocks or walls and in hanging baskets.

(Continued on page 8)



January 2022 at the nursery

Propagation is a major theme at the nursery in January. This includes seed collecting and seed sorting. On the left are the colourful everlasting petals of *Leucochrysum albicans*. According to a factsheet by Greening, the fruit, also known as the cypsela, is 2–3 mm long and topped with a

pappus of plumose bristles (upper tray left above). The seed attached is tiny and may remain viable for a few months.



Another form of propagation carried out at the nursery is via cuttings. Chris and Peta received instruction in making cuttings from Cathy Willis. They found a shady location and are shown above making cuttings from *Goodenia ovata* the hop goodenia.

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.

Please contact Don Vincent 0417 618 367

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.

3/02/2022	Frogland and surrounds	LINDA	Weeding and maintenance	Easy to moderate	
10/02/2022	Boomers Reserve	PHIL/CAM	Litter removal, Cassinia thinning	Moderate	Tongue orchid viewing
17/02/2022	Endeavour Bank	ARTUR	Exclosure clean up and weeding	Moderate	
24/02/2022	Heads Road	DAVID	Maintenance	Easy	
3/03/2022	Rifle Range	Don	Weeding guard removal eeding/ guard removal from drainage line	Easy	
10/03/2022	Pauline Toner Reserve	PHIL/CAM	Cassinia thinning, woody weeds - Polygala, wattles	Easy-Moderate	Eltham Copper Butterfly viewing!

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

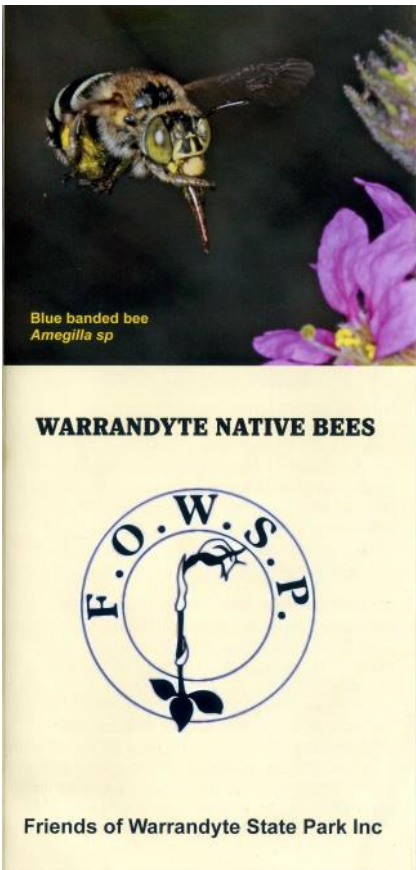
Please note TAGS and activities will be cancelled on Total Fire Ban days or when weather conditions are deemed hazardous.

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2021-2022			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS
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Lyn Moore	0409 683 041 lynm333g@gmail.com	Wildlife rescue Victoria https:// www.wildlifelifevictoria.org. au/contact-us	Manningham Council Rep Cathy Willis 0427 660 651
Kelvin Watkins	0488 039 774		Webmaster Jason Patton 0402 121838 jason@parau.com
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647 legality@bigpond.com		Website: www.fowsp.org.au 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, Lyn Moore

Next Committee Meeting
Date: Tuesday 8 February 2022
Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend or Zoom
Time: 19:30 pm sharp



Getting to know our local native bees

Thanks to Lyndy Gilbert, FOWSP received a grant from the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria in 2021 to design and print this new brochure (left) which is designed to raise awareness of our local native bees. The photos and information contained in the brochure is necessarily limited due to space. Brochures will be distributed at the nursery.

I propose to write occasional articles expanding on this information and I will begin today with the genus *Hylaeus* which I have chosen because it is from one of the groups mentioned in the brochure, the masked bees. Although I am an enthusiast, not an expert, I have been learning all I can about the native bees I can find in my suburban



The clouded masked bee *Hylaeus nubilosus* female probably nesting in this bee post.

(Continued on page 6)

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.

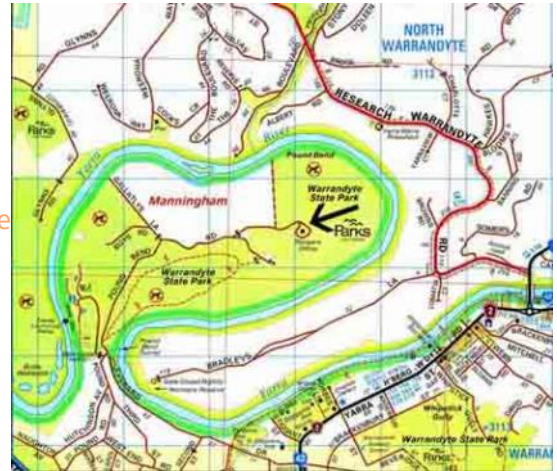
NURSERY OPENING HOURS

The nursery is open for plant sales every Thursday.
9.30 am to 12.30 pm *and*

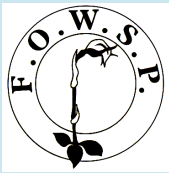
the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 2pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) April to November only.

**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



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FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out in the past.
FOWSP committee has decided to delay rostering
our trailer at the market until April 2022.

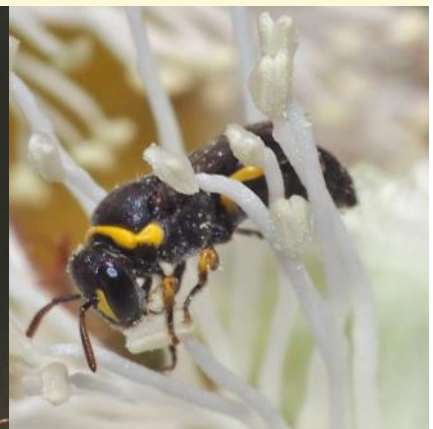
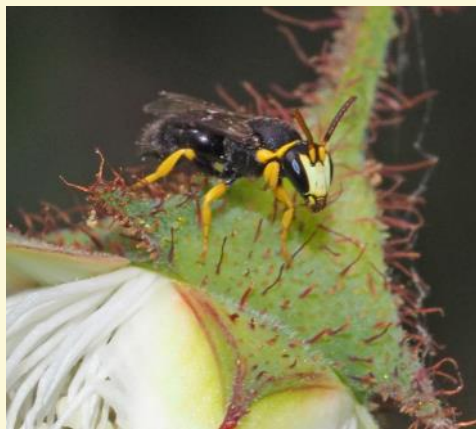


The Warrandyte market is normally held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve. Volunteers are rostered in pairs to man/woman the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

If you are interested in being on the market roster
please contact Jan Falconer 0419 872 096 email trailer@fowsp.org.au
First timers are always paired with someone more experienced.

Next market dates are: Saturdays, 2 April 2022, 7 May 2022

(Continued from page 5)
garden in Briar Hill. As a long-time FOWSPian, I have been filling my garden with as many indigenous plants as possible but I also include a few natives from further afield which are particularly good at attracting native bees. One such plant is *Angophora hispida* which comes from the Hawkesbury sandstone area of NSW and can be grown for a time as a shrub. This is my attempt to get Eucalypt type flowers down to ground level where I can easily observe them and has attracted all the bees in this article.



Male (left) and female yellow collared masked bee *Hylaeus euxanthus*.
As is seen in many species of bees, the males have much more extensive yellow or white mask compared with the female.

(Continued on page 7)



Hylaeus amicus female
Although this bee also has a yellow collar, the female lacks yellow marks on her legs.

(Continued from page 6)

So far the list of native bee species photographed by me in my garden includes about 39 species and 12 of these are *Hylaeus* sp.

Look at the photos of *Hylaeus* in this article, you will notice that none of them are carrying pollen on their legs nor under their abdomen. These bees do need to collect pollen and nectar in order to make bee bread for their young to consume after they hatch out inside their cells. Instead *Hylaeus* sp. sweep pollen into their mouths and carry it mixed with nectar in their crop. When they have completed an individual cell, usually in a ready-made hole, they regurgitate the liquid mixture and lay an egg on top before sealing up the hole. That is the only care they give their young.



Hylaeus elegans
Photo Linda Rogan



Hylaeus Rhodohylaeus sp. maybe *proximus*

Most *Hylaeus* sp. are black with varying amounts of yellow markings but one group is a particularly attractive combination of red and black. This group is in the *Hylaeus Rhodohylaeus* subgenus (means red *Hylaeus*) as seen left.

Another particularly colourful bee in this genus is *Hylaeus elegans* (above) which is seen in Victoria but I have only photographed it in Queensland.

(Continued from page 3)

3. *Chrysocephalum semipapposum* (Clustered Everlasting) right. Grows no taller than 1 metre, with clusters of bright yellow flowers at the ends of the stems and looks great mass planted in a swathe. Grows well in dappled sun, so it is great to plant under trees, including eucalypts



Chrysocephalum semipapposum (Clustered Everlasting) from Flora of Warrandyte.



Xerochrysum viscosum (Sticky Everlasting) with *Brachyscome multifida* in the background. Linda Rogan's garden

4. *Xerochrysum viscosum* (Sticky Everlasting) left. With bright gold bracts and a gold-crowned flower centre, the Sticky Everlasting is named for its rough and slightly sticky leaves. Like the

Hoary Sunray, it looks great as a long-lasting cut flower and also provides food for butterflies.

5. *Coronidium scorpioides* (Button Everlasting). Pale yellow button-like flowers that form a dense mat. Button Everlastings are herbaceous (dies back after flowering but reshoots in time to flower again in spring). Prefers semi-shade.

Growing and care

All these daisies can be grown in pots or garden beds and will create a colourful addition to your garden, as well as a welcome food source for native pollinator insects in your garden. All are already adapted to our hot, dry summer conditions, require little to no water once established and are perennial (will survive for years on end). Like all daisies, de-heading them of old flowers will encourage more blooms.



Coronidium scorpioides (Button Everlasting) Photos Linda Rogan



All of these species are available at times in the FOWSP indigenous nursery but it could be wise to order them soon for next seasons' planting.

FRIENDS GROUPS NOT BEING TREATED LIKE FRIENDS

LAURA MUMAW AND PAUL STRICKLAND FROM VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENT FRIENDS NETWORK WRITE OF THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT IN PARKS VICTORIA'S TREATMENT OF FRIENDS GROUPS.

The article above appeared in the December 2021 Parkwatch Magazine.

I am calling attention to it here because it expresses some of the experiences FOWSP committee has had recently with Parks Victoria. In particular we share in the concerns about 'the 76-page Volunteering Manual was launched in April 2021, without resolution on a number of issues previously raised about the relationship Parks Victoria has with volunteers, especially those organised by outside groups, including VNPA'.

Copy the address below to search for the magazine December Park Watch which has this article on p. 13.

<https://vnpa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/VNPA-Park-Watch-December-2021-287.pdf>

Local spiders



First came Josh's photo which is on the left. He said, 'They are St. Andrews Cross spiders and I think the small one is the male He wasn't there long.'

Next Carol saw the photos and she added, 'it would appear to be *Argiope keyserlingi* the St Andrews cross spider. According to Densey Clyne, "The jade or light brown egg sac, with a papery texture is placed in vegetation close to the web". He could also be on the opposite face of her web. Maybe you could hunt for the egg sac, if there is a successful mating.'

Then Carol added:

'Attached are photos of my *Deinopus* *subrufa* the net-casting spider (male) taken yesterday evening. It had been around a week, last seen

on the underside of a fold-up table I had near the front door where it was originally found. I re-found it by complete accident. Thank goodness it has now moved again but where I do not know, as it would have



cooked if it was still under the table in the hot northern sun.

Interestingly the same species appeared near my front door on 8 January in 2018.'



The Frogland Crew 2022

Most days since the beginning of the year we have had a full crew weeding and tidying up in Frogland. Seen on this page from bottom left are Chris, Marie, David, and Allison. Also helping on several days is Peta who can be



seen on p. 4. In addition to removing lots of still-green sweet vernal we spent one day de-flowering and digging out Scotch thistles.

It is a great place to work. Thanks team.
Linda Rogan



Are your subs due??

Please check the message on the email you receive with the newsletter link . If they are due soon a message such as below will be included:

'Please note that, according to our records, your Membership is due to expire on . Please click on the link below to re-new your Membership.

http://fowsp.org.au/membership.php?member_id=&membership_renewal=Yes
Of course, if this matter has been attended to recently, please disregard.'

PLEASE CHECK NOTES ON YOUR EMAIL 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 with the option of direct deposit payment.

Email photo bonus page



'This Australian white ibis *Threskiornis molucca* decided to preen itself on our fence. It is the first time we have seen one so close! Less than 2metres away'. Photo Lyndy Gilbert.

Rainbow lorikeets may not be welcomed in some peoples fruit trees but I still find them extraordinarily beautiful. This one and three more made a lovely show feeding on this *Corymbia ficifolia* but only for one day as I observed on my morning walk in Briar Hill. Photo Linda Rogan.



Jewel beetles can be cryptic or colourful as illustrated by these three. Left, on Peter's finger is the cryptic *Nascio vetusta* which feeds on eucalypts and is well hidden on its bark. Middle is the colourful *Castiari-na punctatosulcata* with its bright red trim. Last is the *Castiarina nasuta* which mimics the Lycid beetles in the inset. Photos Linda Rogan

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



Lyndy Gilbert was excited to find this lovely spray of pink flowers on Fourth Hill. This is the leafless orchid *Dipodium roseum*. They bloom in summer when little else may be in bloom.