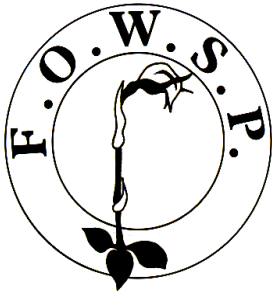


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

This newsletter brings you sad news but also much to celebrate. We will sadly miss Marion King. Some words about Marion's rich life are on p. 8.

Amongst FOWSPians who have travelled are Chris and Graham Kay. See p. 2 for their photos from a recent WA journey. Gabo Island has greatly benefitted from Friends attentions as told by Martyn Hiley, now of Malacoota, on p. 3.

We celebrate a special birthday on p. 4.

Another successful and useful grant comes to us from the Bendigo Community Bank Warrandyte p. 4.

Last newsletter stimulated Kim Tarpey to relate her own wood duck story on p. 6.

On Sunday 6 November attend the Reduce Recycle Reuse Festival in Warrandyte see p. 7. FOWSPian and artist Carolyn Noel will be there running a recycled paint workshop. Artwork from reused material will be featured plus you can drop off your dry, old paint for recycling.

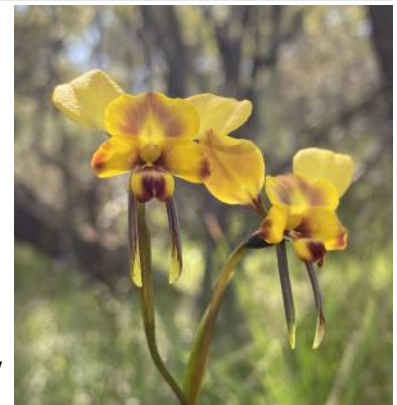
On the back cover we see the photo of flooding along the Yarra and we hear how floodwaters are affecting the Yarra Flats area on p. 8 courtesy of Friends of Yarra Flats.

TAGers report on p. 9.

Wildlife and wildflowers feature on pp. 10 and 11.

We hope you stay safe and enjoy this newsletter.

Linda Rogan



Lynne Vary's lovely donkey orchids *Diuris orientis*, photographed on her property, are sure 'smile-bringers'.

Changed plans for AGM and 40th celebration

The FOWSP AGM will be held at the Folly, Warrandyte State Park, on **Sunday 13 November 2022 at 5pm** instead of 3.30pm (previously announced). This will be followed by a BYO everything BBQ. Hope to see you there.

There has been a change of plans for the FOWSP 40th Anniversary Celebration. As some invitees are not able to come on the day of the AGM, the Celebration has been postponed until **Sunday 2 April 2023 at 1pm**. There will be a guest speaker, a spit roast & dessert. This will be provided at a subsidised cost of \$10 per head.

Please save these dates and watch for further details

**Deadline for December/January edition newsletter is
Friday 18 November 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

FOWSPians explore Australia

A most spectacular royal



On a trip to Western Australia earlier this year, we visited the Fitzgerald Biosphere east of Albany. Listed by UNESCO, it is recognised for its great diversity of vegetation and flora and covers over one and a half million hectares including 2500 species and subspecies.

We were lucky to see the royal hakeas in striking colour (left and below) scattered all over the hill running parallel to the magnificent coastline, as well as featured with other species in a more formal walkway. As stated in their brochure, biospheres seek to conserve biological and cultural diversity with social and economical development.



Some time later, further north travelling towards Sandstone from Meekatharra, we stopped to admire the paper daisies (below). There had been plenty of rain so we were in the right place at the right time for a change.

Words by Chris Kay and photos by Graham Kay



FOWSPians ex-Warrandyte keep in touch

Friends of Mallacoota share news of – Gabo Weeding Project

The Friends of Mallacoota is a group of volunteers, established in 1983, aiming to sustain the character of Mallacoota and its surrounds by protecting and caring for the natural environment. There are about 110 members as of October 2022.



Coprosmopsis repens
a serious weed on
Gabo Island

One of the Friend’s projects is on Gabo Island, a 154-hectare Lighthouse Reserve, managed by Parks Victoria and located off the coast of eastern Victoria, 13 kilometres from Mallacoota between Mallacoota and Cape Howe.

A number of invasive weeds are spreading throughout the island. This project is intended to remove Mirror Bush *Coprosmopsis repens* and help restore Gabo Island’s environment to its natural state.

The project started in 2017 and so far, we have undertaken 6 trips to the Island. Each trip consists of 8 volunteers who stay on the Island for 5 days. The main activities are weeding, vegetation mapping and flora identification. Weeding consists of hand pulling seedlings and

small plants, cutting and painting larger growth with either secateurs or large loppers, and sawing down and treating four to five metre trees. As many of the root systems are large and go deep into rocky crevices where we cannot get any tools in, we have had to develop some innovative ways to treat these plants.

We have surveyed 2-3 ha of the vulnerable Dwarf Zieria and added 15 new species to the Parks Victoria flora list for the island, including a daisy *Coronidium elatum* first described in the 1860’s, as well as a new population of the vulnerable fern Shore Spleenwort.

Although we were unable to go to the Island for two years because of the fires and COVID restrictions, we have removed Mirror Bush from over 7 ha. We have undertaken two trips this year and on the last one in August, we removed over 14,000 plants. More trips are planned for 2023. Look Ma, no Mirror Bush!



Cleared of *Coprosmopsis repens*

Martyn Hiley

Many will remember Martyn’s helpful years on the FOWSP committee up until about 2010. He has since moved to Mallacoota. Thanks to Martyn for sharing this Friends activity at a special Victorian locality. Editor



Happy 90th birthday wishes to Irene Fuhrer

FOWSPians are pleased to congratulate one of our long-time 'ladies of the cuttings table' Irene Fuhrer on her 90th birthday. She reports she spent a very pleasant day sharing a meal with family and close friends.



A welcome grant from Community Bank Warrandyte

The Community Bank Warrandyte (CBW) has approved the Friends of Warrandyte State Park application for a grant to install animal and bird proof netting to go around the shade houses. This netting is required to prevent grazing on our plants by deer and kangaroos as well as mischievous actions by birds ripping the plants out of the pots.

Over \$4 million has been reinvested by the CBW in the local community since 2003. The more accounts we open at the Bank, the more grants are available to our community. To date, FOWSP has received 8 grants from the Bank including lumalite roofing over the potting shed, new igloo covers, a 33000 litre water tank, the huge steel structure over the sales area, new A-frames, a defib unit and environmental books for local primary schools.

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

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.

3/11/2022	Naughton Avenue	GRAY	Woody weeds - pittos, polygala, boneseed	Easy
10/11/2022	Fourth Hill - Wildcat/ Fiddler Fence	PHIL	Grassy weeds	Moderate
17/11/2022	Haslam Fence	PHIL??	Sweet vernal, Briza weeding	Easy- Moderate
24/11/2022	Scotchmans Hill		Weeding, maintenance	Easy
1/12/2022	Nilja / Longridge Farm	GRAY	Agapanthicide	Easy

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 2022			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	Nursery Manager	Josh Revell
			Nursery Phone	0408 317 327
			email nursery@fowsp.org.au	
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer and Membership	Park Office	03 8427 2132
Linda Rogan	0491 112 692	Newsletter editor	Newsletter assist and Librarian	
	editor@fowsp.org.au		Gloria Moore	0402 285005
		Facebook Coordinator	Carolyn Noel	0409 901441
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		Market Trailer Jan Falconer	
			9844 1226 or 0419 872 096	
			email trailer@fowsp.org.au	
Lyn Moore	0409 683 041	Wildlife rescue Victoria	Webmaster	
	lynm333g@gmail.com	https://www.wildlifelifevictoria.org.au/contact-us	Jason Patton	0402 121838
			jason@parau.com	
Kelvin Watkins	0488 039 774		Website: www.fowsp.org.au	
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647	Staff Representative	FOWSP general enquiry number	
	legality@bigpond.com		1300 764 422	
		Lynda Chambers 0466 274421		
		phenogist@gmail.com		

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 November 2022
Venue:	Education Centre, Pound Bend
Time:	19:30 pm sharp

From the Manningham website

Nov. 16

Which Eucalypt is that Nature Walk

Do eucalypts all look the same to you? Come along on this short walk to learn how to differentiate species of eucalypts.

By Environment and sustainability

Which eucalypt is that?

Do eucalypts all look the same to you? Come along on this short walk to learn some tips on how to identify all our dozen local species of eucalypts, and learn where in the landscape you will find them.

Distance: 2 km

Time: 2.5 hours

Difficulty: moderate (mostly easy)

Walks will be cancelled on days of extreme weather, Location will be disclosed upon registration

<https://spring-outdoors.squarespace.com/events/which-eucalypt-is-that-nature-walk>

Or search Spring Outdoors 2022 Manningham and scroll down to 16 November 2022

Sorry I am having difficulty copying live links into this newsletter. Editor.

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

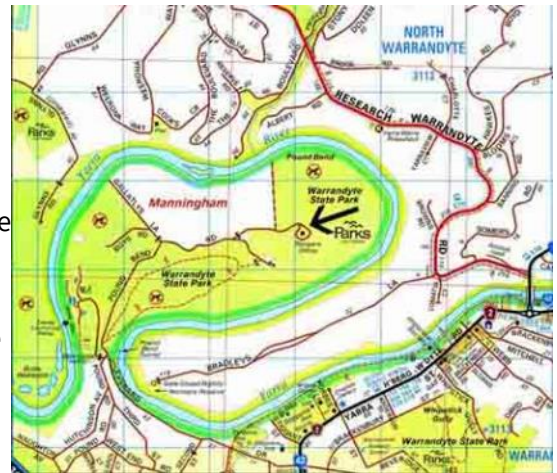
the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 2pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) April to November only.

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

End of season sale
Saturday 5 November 2022
Some plants \$1 and 20% off all others



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

A Wood Duck Story

Kim Tarpey

In response to Cathy's invitation to relate incidents of kidnapping of ducklings by rival duck mothers, I have a similar story to relate that occurred in Hurstbridge. This restaurant backs on to the Diamond Creek, it has bushland and a mowed area perfect for grazing of kangas, wallaby and Australian wood ducks! We were in the habit of going there on a fortnightly basis for brunch. On one particular day we were enjoying watching the ducklings with their parents.

There were two family groups grazing.

This was not quite idyllic as one of the mothers who must have had a disproportionate amount of maternal instinct charged into the second group of ducklings and scattered them. She then rounded up some of the young ones, like a kelpie and hustled them back to her babies.

One little one stood there perplexed and tried to return to its mother but the rival duck charged again and pushed it into her fold.

The kidnapping mother was quite aggressive in her attentions to the chicks – nipping them and pushing at them into the space she wanted them to go, she was continually running round and round the group. The drake just looked on in a helpless kind of way.

We didn't see either group in the weeks after that incident. Perhaps Mr Fox came up from the creek or an off-lead dog finished things. I hope they moved on further up the bank.

*This is the scientific name for these ducks which have confusingly been called the maned duck or the maned goose. We are being guided by Birdlife Australia's website which states, 'The Australian Wood Duck is a medium-sized 'goose-like' duck...'



*Chenonetta jubata**

Photographed recently at Petty's Orchard.

FOWSPian and artist Carolyn Noel will feature

Those who can go along to the Festival at Warrandyte Neighbourhood House on 6 November will see some of Carolyn's impressive recycled artwork. It is also a chance to recycle your old left-over paint, whether dried out or separated via Paintback, who recycle the paint and extract usable chemicals. Also available is a workshop in artwork from recycled paint

Open from 10am to 4pm with workshops from 10am to 12noon. Book through Warrandyte Neighbourhood House.

Carolyn has also arranged for the FOWSP trailer to be there and welcomes any FOWSPian who is able to sit with the trailer for an hour or so to answer questions about FOWSP.



Carolyn says, 'Basically I offered my services to run a group workshop using some recycled house paint to create a large canvas or banner. To enrol in the workshop, folks will have to contact WNH.'

The sculpture below will be on display and is intended to promote the endeavours of the Yarra Riverkeeper Association www.yarrariver.org.au. Carolyn said, 'It has a platypus through the middle of it and was such a mammoth effort I christened it 'the monster' but in fact it needs an official name. Tongue in cheek, I call it "Every drop counts" because every drop of water is important and every time rubbish is dropped it counts. The front is shaped like a water drop. It has become a story of the Yarra in its creation and I have tried to include some indigenous plants on it. The substrate is a huge piece of polystyrene that was fished out of the Merri Creek by the River Keepers. I saw it on their Facebook site and offered to create a sculpture out of it for them. It has already featured in the launch of their anti polystyrene campaign. See photos of the re-shaped substrate and the sculpture below.'



Marion King 1923—2022

Thanks for much of this information to Marion's children who spoke so well at her memorial service.

Marion King passed away on 16 October at the age of 99. She was a regular nursery volunteer since the late 90s, and will be sadly missed, but well remembered, by all at FOWSP. Nursery regulars will picture her sitting at the bench, always with Irene and Alwynne amongst others, happily chatting away while working through a pile of cuttings, this trio being those trusted to care for the most precious and fussy of plants. Marion also volunteered on the market trailer, and never missed a FOWSP celebration, loved a party! She was always interested in what was going on in everyone's lives, and had kind words for all.



Marion with her granddaughter Melissa, photo is from a Better Homes and Gardens show in 2020.

Marion grew up on an orchard at Tyabb and walked 2-3km to primary school each day. This gave her a great love of native plants, and particularly orchids. It also gave her a love for poetry, as she would recite poems along her way. She and her girlfriends would go 'orchiding' on weekends.

Both an academic and sporty student at Frankston High School, on graduating she became a student teacher at Hastings. After a year she decided it wasn't for her, moved to Melbourne, studied business and worked in an accounting firm. Here she met her husband Bill. They built a house on land in South Warrandyte with a cherry orchard, and later started a native nursery "Chalka", named after a tributary of the Murray that flows into Hattah Lakes. (When I moved to Warrandyte over 35 years ago, I visited their nursery and bought my very first indigenous plants.)

Marion, along with Bill, was a great contributor to community life. She was a founding member of Ringwood Photography group, Ringwood Field Naturalists Club (61 years), and Maroondah Society for Growing Australian Plants (57 years). She was active from the very start at North Ringwood Methodist (later Uniting) Church, having come from a long line of Methodist ministers. She and Bill were also very active in getting the South Warrandyte Colman Reserve sports fields and tennis courts built. It was here she won the Ladies Wood Chopping event at the South Warrandyte fair – hidden talents! Marion was a keen and talented tennis player and only on her 75th birthday said she would give up playing singles.

All this was going on as they raised a close family of 5 children. She somehow found time to develop a love of crosswords, played the piano and painted watercolours. They travelled extensively throughout Australia, passing on their love of nature to all the children. She had an excellent knowledge of native plants and animals and was a very keen birdwatcher. This appreciation has been passed through the generations.

Along with four generations of her family, many friends and members of other groups, it was good to see quite a few FOWSP members at the service. FOWSP was acknowledged as being an important part of her later life. She was certainly an important part of FOWSP. One of her sons said that her last clear word to him was 'hakea'. I'm really happy to think that in her last hours Marion was enjoying visions of the bush she loved so much.

Vale Marion King

Story from the Friends of Yarra Flats (Photo on last page)

While much of Victoria suffered severe flooding in October, the Yarra River parklands did not totally escape the rain. The Friends of Yarra Flats Park shared the photos from the back cover which show water roaring into Annulus Billabong for the first time in 11 years. This Billabong had received some pumped environmental water over the past two years but pumping shouldn't be needed for a while now. Also at risk were many kangaroos which tried to escape the flood water with nowhere to go but neighbouring streets. Some streets were blocked off by locals. A call to the 'Roo Rescue Network' which includes 'Vets for Compassion' and 'The Wildlife Rescuers', brought a swift response.

Some kangaroos including a pouch joey were rescued via kayaks.

TAGers actively celebrate weeding season

October 6th. St Andrews Nature Conservation Reserve.

Rangers Phil and Justin led this very productive TAG to the reserve. After an absence of three years, the large TAG group was kept busy removing gorse, boneseed, blackberry, invasive bulbs and weedy acacia but also took time to explore the antechinus habitat.

October 13th. Pauline Toner Reserve

Braving impending rain through the morning, Phil and Cam led this TAG to one of our favourite places.

Cam has received funding for progressively extending the area of Eltham Copper Butterfly



Phil showing the group some local habitat for antechinus. I to r, Justin, Phil, Geoff, Brian and Ian



Phil, Barrie and Geoff hand weeding at Pauline Toner Eltham copper butterfly reserve.

by clearing *Cassinia* and invasive wattles thereby providing more direct sunshine and open flight paths for the butterflies. We supported this effort by the removal of weeds and many emerging *Dodonaea viscosa* which has become invasive in the reserve, and planted 50 *Bursaria spinosa* from the FOWSP nursery.

Cam enthusiastically showed us tagged *Bursaria spinosa* that had been previously planted. The tags show each bush which is now colonised by Eltham Copper grubs. This is strong evidence of the success of his and PVs persistent efforts. We finished the morning by weeding known butterfly areas, as well as searching for orchids.

20th October. Becketts Road / Mullum Link Trail
Planting by PV and FOSWP some years ago after

development of the paved Link Trail, has been a remarkable success especially of *Lomandra*, *Themeda*, *Goodenia ovata*, and *Acacia genistifolia*. Invasion by kikuyu, other weedy grasses and angled onion weed has, however, been severe and we have not been able to attend this site much over the past 2 years. The group attacked the weeds with gusto and made significant inroads into the weed problem. It will take some time to bring this area to its intended state, and we will need PV assistance to do so.

Each activity, of course, followed by a very welcome tea provided by Lyndy.



Robyn and Judith finishing the day, with the results of their effort clearly visible. Becketts Rd. Mullum Mullum



Caterpillar from the *Chlenias banksiaria* group of moths. Photo Linda Rogan

What's this caterpillar?

It is not always easy to answer this question so I was pleased when Alison found this one on a nursery plant that both Carol and I recognized it is in the *Chlenias* genus. I then proceeded to check the spelling and see whether or not I could tell the species.

According to Don Herbison-Evans on his website [Australian Caterpillars and their Butterflies and Moths](#), the first instar or newly hatched *Chlenias* caterpillar spends the first two days of its life climbing to the top of the plant where its egg was attached. Here it builds a silken balloon and catches the wind to

'fly' to another plant. As the larvae must eat within two days, it feeds upon whichever plant it lands upon and so is termed 'polyphagous'. Recorded food plants include boneseed *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, Myrtaceae family, Acacia species and the pine *Pinus radiata* plus many more unrelated plant species.

While this caterpillar is eye-catching, the adult moth is a rather drab grey with variable markings on its forewings. It is amongst the species yet to be separated out from *Chlenias banksiaria*, which can be called *C. banksiaria* group.

Linda Rogan



Chlenias banksiaria group adult, photo Reiner Richter

Are your subs due??

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

'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.'

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.

Spring on Scotchmans Hill

Email photo bonus page



These are a few of the wild-flowers recently photographed at Scotchmans Hill.

Clockwise:
Milkmaids *Burchardia umbellata* J.V., purplish beard orchid (front J.V.) (side K.R.), common rice-flower *Pimelia humilis* K.R., Tall sundew *Drosera peltata* K.R., nodding greenhood *Pterostylis nutans* K.R.

Photographers are J.V. = Jennifer Vincent, K.R. = Kim Reynolds



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

Water roars into Annulus Billabong October 2022
Thanks to Friends of Yarra Flats Park for the photos
and the story inside p. 8. Inset 'roo swimming to be
rescued

