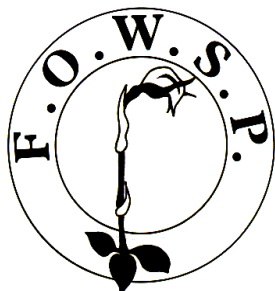


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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 completes the 40th year of FOWSP and our newsletter. However, the 40th birthday celebration has been delayed until 2 April 2023.

We hope to see many faces from across the 40 years and invite FOWSPians to bring along anything that will promote discussion about FOWSP and Warrandyte State Park.

Rumour has it that we will be able to see some of our FOWSPians' artistic and perhaps even musical talents on display. Just maybe, some will be inspired to wear something reminiscent of the wonderful natural area that we all work so hard to improve and protect and/or costumes to represent their special passions in the park.



Gathering at the folly for the AGM

Hmm, now what sort of insect could I be at the celebration?

In the meantime, enjoy this newsletter with information from the 2022 AGM, TAGs, Frogland and of course from the nursery.

And please, plan now for what you can contribute to the newsletter for 2023 and more especially to help us celebrate next April.

Best wishes to all for the summer ahead.

Linda Rogan



Happy holidays FOWSPians

**Deadline for February 2023 edition newsletter is
Friday 20 January 2023**

contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan editor@fowsp.org.au
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

FOWSP AGM 2022

It was great to have 26 people attending the AGM which was held at the Folly. The meeting was brief and we enjoyed a face-to-face catch-up around the BYO BBQ.

Some highlights are below.

Parks Victoria Report - Phil Rance

Challenges in the Parks in the past year included

- **Illegal bike riding** in the Park. PV are closing tracks down when they become aware of them.
- **Storm events** at Pound Bend caused 9 trees to fall across the river
- **Weeds** Grassy Weed generation is a very big issue. A targeted weed eradication program is taking place in the Pauline Toner reserve. A grant has been given to control the weeds and 3 TAGs have taken place so far to remove them.
- **Rabbits** are being controlled by fumigation and poison carrots.
- **Deer** are a bigger concern than rabbits. A small program to control deer is taking place in the Yanakie Block, and Nillumbik and Manningham are running a broad-scale program.
- **Fox** control is taking place in One Tree Hill and Rifle Range.



Phil presents his welcomed report behind the old BBQ which makes a good podium

Threatened species program includes the wine-lipped spider orchid under Cam's Orchid Recovery program. One thousand plants have been grown using hand pollination and control of weeds. This is the world's largest population. The Rosella Spider Orchid is also being recovered. Many other rare, threatened and endangered species are of concern.

Biodiversity enrichment is occurring through purchase of plants from the Royal Botanic Gardens as well as those provided by FOWSP

Planned burning is taking place in St Andrews at Timber Reserve.

TAGs have been very valuable this year and PV is grateful for the assistance of FOWSP volunteers.

So far this year, volunteers have logged 1500 hours. Phil expressed his sincere thank you to FOWSPians for their important contributions .

Nursery Report - Josh Revell

Josh thanked Phil Rance for his involvement in the nursery. Ongoing COVID measures are somewhat trying, but volunteers are still enthusiastic and working hard every Thursday.

Welcome to Lynda and Paddy, 2 new staff members.

Thanks to the committee for their support.

Committee Report - Gray Ardern

Thanks to Phil Rance for his continued support.

Recruiting new staff: One advertisement was put in the Warrandyte Diary



Josh, our esteemed nursery manager, as usual, on the run

(Continued on page 4)

Early November TAG at Naughton’s Reserve

Finally, after a very long time, a block of land situated between Naughtons and Longridge Farm is coming across to PV. Rangers refer to it as “The Rush Block” - appropriately enough, as it had been in the Rush family for over 70 years.

There were about a dozen large *Pittosporum undulatum* trees on it - trees so large that the abundant deer were unable to reach the upper parts of them, which have been producing tons of viable seed. These weed-trees are no more, thanks to the manic efforts of Judith, David, Brian, Geoff and Don. All done with folding hand-saws!

On the way through Naughtons, *Thelymitra* species orchids were seen, but there is now nothing left of the vast swathes of orchids that were seen on the Rush block before cattle were grazed there in the 1950s.



Barrie, Brian and Geoff sorting out a gnarly sweet pittosporum.

(These *Thelymitra* orchids from the *T. pauciflora* group often persist when other species are long gone. Photo left was from the verge of Pound Road about the same time. Linda R)



In fact, the ground-story vegetation is now sparse and impoverished - not even able to support wallabies or kangaroos. There was plenty of evidence of echidnas, so it is not entirely barren.

A surprising sighting was *Linea pelisseriana* (Pelisser’s toad-flax) as identified by Geoff. This pretty little herb is from Southern Europe and the Mediterranean, although rarely seen here,

‘...(the) first records of Pelisser’s Toadflax within metropolitan Melbourne date to collections made at Warrandyte in 1951; this is also where the plants in this post were photographed.’

Photo right.

From Weeds of Melbourne (weedsofmelbourne.com).

The TAG concluded with a delicious portable morning tea made by our treasured Treasurer.

Thank you to Gray for these notes.



(Continued from page 2)

and NRM Jobs (which has 28,000 subscribers). Two new staff members were employed from a large number of applications from very highly qualified people. Paddy and Lynda were hired and are working well together.

Many thanks to Linda Rogan for her amazing dedication to FOWSP and the wonderful monthly newsletter she produces. Thanks to Josh Revell for his amazing work in the nursery. Thanks to Kelvin Watkins for his technical support. We also thank him for his contribution to the committee and we are sorry that he has stepped down from this committee role.

Thanks to Lyndy Gilbert for the morning teas and her great work as treasurer. Thanks to the TAGS and nursery volunteers for their fantastic work.

Treasurer's Report - Lyndy Gilbert

The fully audited report is available to members. FOWSP has 263 family members as at June 2022, 15 more than last year. Our income this year was \$90,638, nearly \$27,000 higher than last financial year. There has been a substantial increase of grants to the value of \$9077. The Community Bank Warrandyte supplied \$5330 towards 20 new trestles to support the tables. \$500 was given to FOWSP for doing a survey on volunteering. \$3000 was awarded by DSS for First Aid Training for 2022 and 2023. The Field Naturalists provided \$247 for 100 brochures on Native Bees. Nursery expenses were up by \$4230 for the purchase of nets to cover the plants thus preventing their destruction by deer, kangaroos and birds.



Lyndy and Ken at the AGM

Thanks to Pat and Mike Coupar for sharing the proceeds from the sale of their book "Wings of Change" with FOWSP.

Thanks to Ken Crook for his support with the banking and mail.

Thanks to our wonderful staff and volunteers for the continuation of the work to look after our environment.

Did you know 17 trees are required to offset the CO2 from one human being!

Election of Committee of Management

Current committee members were elected unopposed. There was one vacancy which may be filled at a later date. As usual committee members are listed on p. 5.

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

8/12/2022	Walert Creek	DAVID	Maintenance, watering	Moderate
15/12/2022	Nursery	JOSH	General weeding, maintenance	Easy
22/12/2022	Pound Bend cleanup, 2023 TAG planning	JOSH	Whatever Josh says	Easy

Difficulty ratings:

Easy: Even terrain, some light lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Few tripping hazards.

Moderate: Uneven terrain, light to heavy lifting, kneeling and bending involved. Tripping hazards present.

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

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

Please note TAGS and 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	Gloria Moore
	editor@fowsp.org.au			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.wildlifevictoria.org.au/contact-us	Jason Patton	0402 121838
			jason@parau.com	
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647	Staff Representative	Website: www.fowsp.org.au	
	legality@bigpond.com		FOWSP general enquiry number 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 21 February 2023
Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend
Time: 19:30 pm sharp



In November, the sweet vernal waved its flowering head giving away its location amongst our otherwise nearly weed-free areas and removing them kept us busy.



However, we still found time to appreciate the native raspberry (photo left not to be confused with weedy blackberry) and the numerous exuvium (cast-off skins) left when dragonflies emerged on the vegetation in the top pond (photo right). I counted seven. *Linda Rogan*



What's happening in Frogland?

In late October, we were confronted with a profusion of weedy sweet vernal and even more stubborn Ixia bulbs coming into bloom especially thick in the bottom corner of the fenced area. We have been attacking the bulbs by digging them out in the fringe area but were pleased to get some assistance with a bit of targeted spraying at the end of the month.

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.

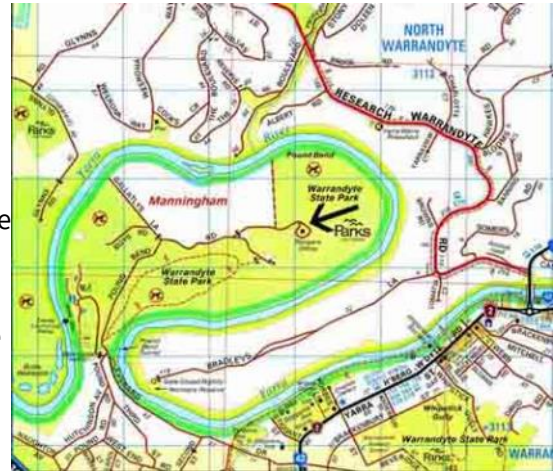
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 1pm (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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Plant pots should go direct to PP5

Please DON'T put your plant pots into your recycling bin!!!



There is a new recycling program especially for plant pots with the number 5 in the recycling triangle. Also sometimes labelled as PP5.

Recycling facilities that sort the commingled recycling bins (the yellow bin) often **cannot identify plastic plant pots as recyclable** so if you put them into your recycling bin they go to landfill.

Polypropylene, like glass, is highly recyclable with near 100% recoverability so now there is a national collection scheme that has been rolled out.

Our local drop off is **Beasleys Nursery; 195 Heidelberg- Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte** or you can find one by visiting WWW.pp5.com.AU

Thanks to the spring edition of the Diggers magazine and an article by Tim Sansom for the information in this article.

Thank you to Carolyn Noel for passing this information along.

FOWSP is grateful for donations from our supporters

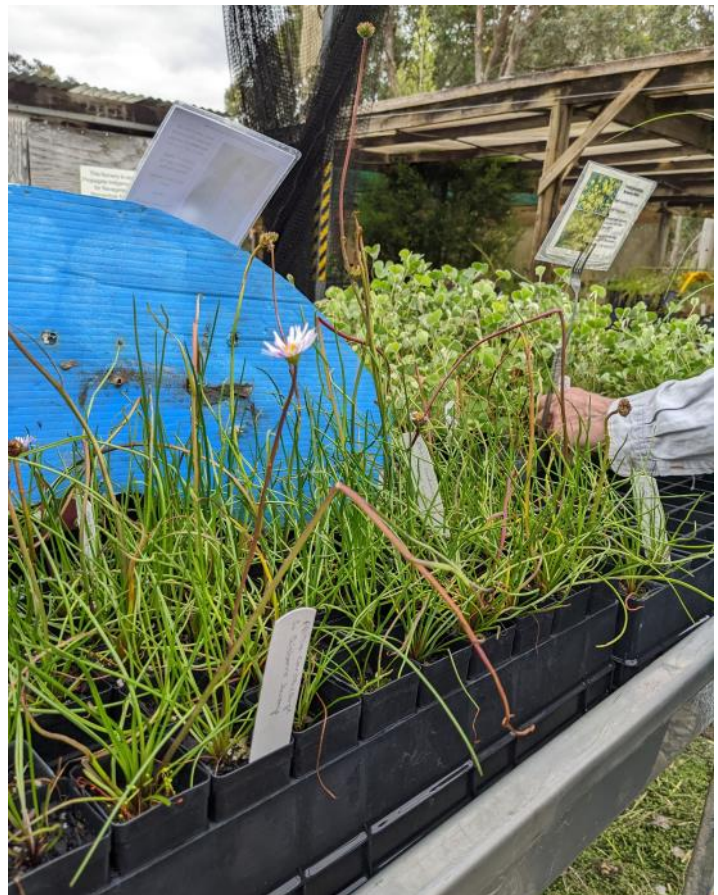


John, Kay and Gray show that 'many hands make light work' in moving the substantial table to its new location for water loving plants.

In October 2020, June McIntosh kindly donated this large steel potting table. Initially, it was used in the rare plants area but then one of the volunteers had a bright idea. With just a little sealing on the corners and attachments, this table could hold water. This made it the ideal location for a range of moisture-loving plants which often suffer a bit on the benches in the drier time of year.



Plants which will immediately benefit from this location include *Ranunculus glabrifolius* the shining buttercup, *R. inundatus* the river buttercup, *Xerochrysum palustre* the swamp everlasting, *Ornduffia reniformis* running marshflower, *Lythrum silicaria* purple loosestrife, *Marsilia drummondii* nardoo, *Myriophyllum* species watermilfoils, *Allittia cardiocarpa* the swamp daisy and *Goodenia humilis* swamp goodenia. All may be suitable for a swampy spot in your garden.



A letter from Coochiemudlo

Dear FOWSPIANS

I was sorry to hear that you have lost Marion. My condolences to FOWSP members and to her family.

I am still staggering on - doing a little bit of environmental weeding and still collecting seeds and helping in our Native nursery.

I am currently training some new, younger members of the team to collect and prepare seeds and I am getting more tottery.

Love from *Olive Walters*.

Around the nursery



Lisa shows off the new animal-proof and bird-proof netting, financed with a grant from Community Bank Warrandyte. Plants being protected can be seen behind.

On 27 October 2022, we all sang happy birthday to Gray who admits to being well past

21. Rather than sharing a cake amongst us, cupcakes were the go. Gray also demonstrated how to blow the candle out without the chance of spreading infection. Picking up a handy plastic lid he created a targeted bit of breeze which did the job.



FOWSPIans enjoyed their cuppa in the greatly appreciated sunshine on 1 December (Photo left).

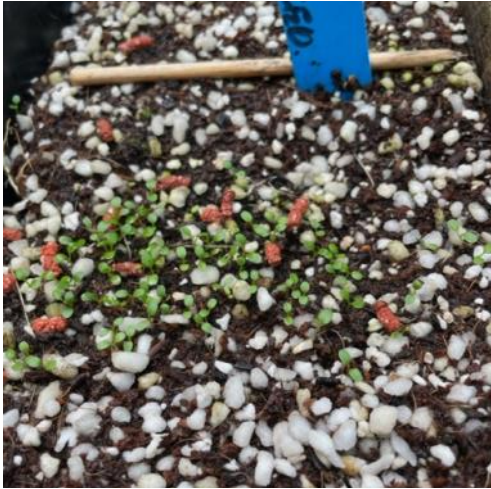


Lisa presents the cupcake while guarding the flame.

Vulnerable and endangered plants grown at FOWSP

This is the first of a series about some of the special plants grown in the FOWSP nursery. Volunteers may have recently noticed the blue 'Do not weed' tags in some of the trays and pots (Photo left below). The nursery has provided us with the story of this particular plant in the Warrandyte area.

***Cardamine papillata*, Forest Bitter-cress**



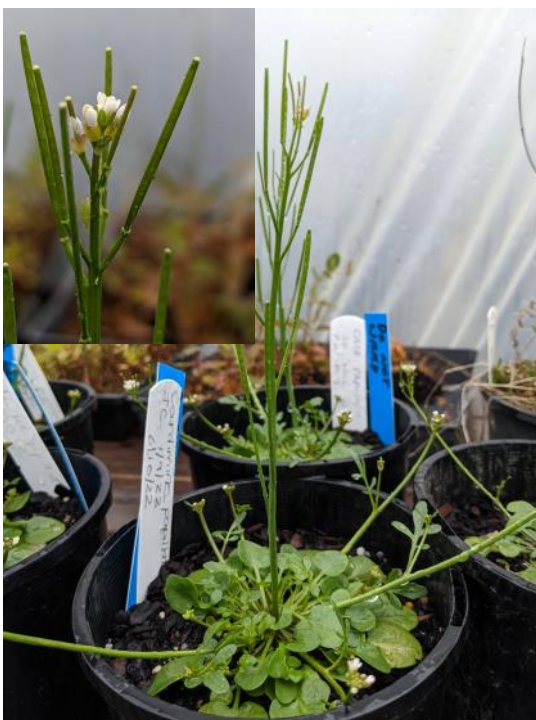
During the survey conducted in the 90s for the production of Flora of Warrandyte (David Van Bockel and Pat Coupar 1999), *Cardamine papillata*, Forest Bitter-cress (locally indigenous), was found in a shaded gully of the Jumping Creek Reserve area of Warrandyte State Park.

Forest Bitter-cress is an annual or perennial herb that is vulnerable in Victoria and endangered in the district. This species prefers to grow in moist soils and is short-lived.



Plants at Jumping Creek Reserve have been

monitored over the years and protected from rabbits. With the encroachment of the weedy *Cardamine hirsuta*, Hairy Bitter-cress, it was decided that a more manageable population needed to be established within the park. A site within an existing rabbit-proof fence was selected in Jumping Creek Reserve. Ranger Phil Rance collected seed from the few remaining original plants by bagging the pods with an empty teabag in 2021. First sowing in 2022 proved unsuccessful with no plants produced. The next sowing at the end of July was more successful (photo above) with 80 plants pricked out in September (Photo right). Seventy-five were planted back at Jumping Creek in early October (Photo below right). The plants have been monitored by Rangers and FOWSP and have not been eaten by slugs or millipedes and have produced seed pods. We hope that this will remain a viable population for years to come.



Thanks to all the Rangers and volunteers involved at the nursery and in the field.

Editors notes: Although these are closely related to the weedy *Cardamine hirsuta* known as flick-weed this indigenous one has relatively smooth hairless leaves. A sharp eye is needed here.



December 2022/January 2023

Caterpillar and chrysalis on daisy in the nursery What will emerge?

While browsing amongst the healthy looking leaves of a daisy plant *Coronidium gunnianum* previously known as *Helichrysum rutidolepis*, Josh discovered a caterpillar and nearby a chrysalis loosely attached to a leaf. In the sunshine, the chrysalis case shown as if sprinkled with tiny flecks of gold leaf. The photo doesn't quite pick up this shine. Linda has taken the plant home in order to observe the emergence of the adult. So what will it be? The fact that it is in a chrysalis without an external cocoon indicates a butterfly rather than a moth. Thinking back a few years Linda remembers raising a similar caterpillar through to adult, so I think I know what will emerge. I have no idea how long that may take. What is your guess??

Linda Rogan



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.

Email photo bonus page

Josh captured this shot of two kookaburras. The one on the left is snacking on a frog. Josh says it was a pobblebonk.



Don shares this photo of the spotted sun orchid, *Thelymitra ixioides* from the Rifle Range (Top left).



Today's TAG at Pauline Toner Reserve, involved planting more *Bursaria spinosa* to attract Eltham Copper butterflies. The Dainty Swallowtail (left) was spotted during the morning's activity. *Joy Hicks*

These adventurous girls and their parents are probably eligible to frequent visitor points if FOWSP had such a thing (below left). Below right shows some of the now well established, *Craspedia variabilis*, in Frogland this November.



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



Burgan for small birds, and jewel beetles and native bees and so much more. Currently in bloom at Frogland