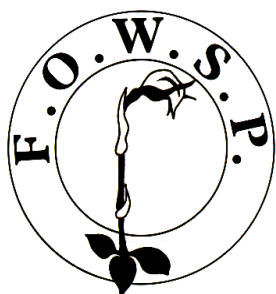


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



Newsletter

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) Inc. PO Box 220 Warrandyte 3113
ABN 94170156655/ACN A0024890C

Editor's Corner

By Joan Broadberry

YOUR JOINT EDITOR looked a little odd lying on the footpath by the post office, but no-one seemed to mind. As FOWSP treasurer, I was collecting FOWSP mail at the Warrandyte Post office, when I looked down and saw a beautiful orange and black caterpillar moving across the wood chips on the nature strip. As always it was laboriously towing its home behind it. I gave an exclamation of pleasure for it is one of my favourite native animals, the Saunders Casemoth (*Oiketicus elongates*). Many of us will be familiar with the stick shelter built by this unusual endemic caterpillar. It regularly turns up in our gardens. However, many fewer folk have seen the animal inside. As I had my camera, I took some shots (below) of the head and three segments of body that emerge when the case moth is feeding or traveling. The caterpillar will eventually pupate in-



side its home of sticks and turn into a moth.

As I sit at the computer writing this column, I am continually jumping up and checking on the caterpillar of a Dainty Swallowtail Butterfly (*Papilio anactus*) which is busy pupating on my lemon tree. This is the second in a week. Since the



first caterpillar made its pupa case at night I am determined not to miss a thing this time.

The Dainty Swallowtail is large at 85-95 mm and is truly one of Melbourne's most magnificent butterflies. It is black and white, with a bright red and blue border along the hind-wings. The adult caterpillar is black with tiny blue spots, a pattern of heart shaped cream patches over its body and rows of short black spines. The first stage of pupation involves the caterpillar curling its head like a question mark, making itself a safety belt of silk and then gradually positioning itself straight out at an angle of about 25 degrees from the plant stem. The finished pupa case is green with two "horns" and faint lighter markings, well camouflaged on a citrus branch. Both are illustrated in Pat and Mike Coupar's book *Flying Colours* p 113, and I have also included some of my photos.

It has been a busy time for me as I belong to the

(Continued on page 2)

Nursery closed: Thursday 10 April

No sales and no nursery work that day as the old office is to be demolished.

Deadline for May edition newsletter is Friday April 25

contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan lindarogan@netspace.net.au
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

(Continued from page 1)

Marine Research Group (MRG) of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria (FNCV). Unfortunately I missed the last two FOWSP committee meetings. In



the summer months, during very low tides, the MRG do field work along the Victorian Coast surveying for marine intertidal invertebrates. We only record live species, including

crabs, bivalves, gastropods, nudibranchs, sea stars, sea cucumbers, brittle stars and a host of other critters. It can be hard work as quite a lot of lifting rocks and checking under them is involved. However, it is also immensely interesting and addictive and a unique opportunity to learn about the gorgeous creatures of the seashore.

If anyone would like to know more, give me ring or contact the FNCV (9877 9860/ fncv@vicnet.net.au) and ask for a program. In the meantime, enjoy your FOWSP newsletter. We have certainly enjoyed putting it together.



Travels of an ex-Pat Terminated By Pat Coupar

AFTER A WEEK of unseasonably cool, wet February weather we finally headed up the coast of southern New South Wales to explore some of the National Parks in the area.

In the post school holiday calm the camp sites were very quiet and we settled in, looking forward to a couple of weeks meandering from Park to Park – walking, swimming, photographing and relaxing. It wasn't to be.

The next day we set off to visit some of the local coves, beaches, dramatic cliffs, and lookouts highlighted in the National Park brochure. It was our third stop for the morning. We left the car in a small parking area and descended a steep track to a rocky beach strewn with shells and overhung at one end by a sea cave. We were at the beach for precisely 45 minutes – I know because we had been tossing up whether to take our lunch down with us. We didn't, and ironically our lunch was the first thing we no-

ticed, strewn across the ground, when we got back to the car park.

Bewildered at first. Did one of us forget to close the door? Had birds got into our lunch? The driver's side door was open, but the window totally smashed. We'd been robbed. Among the items stolen were: a wallet (with cash and cards), mobile phone, GPS navigator (a recent retirement gift), binoculars, two tripods, two camera bags and accessories (including macro lens, flash, battery charger and cables). Fortunately we had our cameras on us.

Our large car fridge was on its side (hence our lunch scattered over the car park), but the thieves had failed to detach the tie downs, instead they had tried to yank it out – perhaps we had disturbed them for they had nearly succeeded.

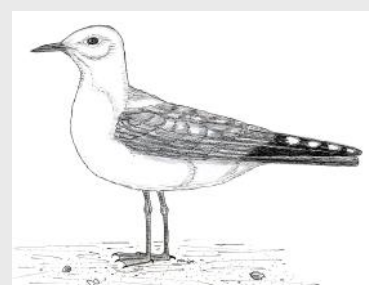
Although they had unlocked all doors with the central locking they were unable to open the barn-style back door – in their haste they couldn't find the release handle (we later found finger marks where they had tried to prise the doors open). So at least our chain saw was saved.

We were about 20 minutes from a major coastal town. Our first stop was the bank, followed by the police station, then the Telstra shop. We realised just how much we have come to depend on a mobile phone - arranging for a new car window to be fitted took many calls.

We have, of course, speculated on who and how many (the why and how were obvious). Were we followed, was it opportunistic or planned, did they keep a lookout to see when we left the beach to return to the car park?

As time has gone on we muse over it much less and are thankful it wasn't worse. I won't name the National Park where we were robbed for it could happen anywhere and, in retrospect, it is amazing that we haven't been broken into before. But we have learnt a lesson that I hope everyone will take note of.

There was another car parked right next to us in the car park. It hadn't been touched. I looked through the car's window before we left. There was nothing at all on display - no bags, no GPS, nothing. While it is impossible to put large items out of sight, a GPS mounted on the dash board is like a beacon to a thief as are camera bags. Warrandyte has signs at its most popular reserves saying 'do not leave valuables in the car'. Don't ignore them. And, like us, carry that message wherever you go.



Living With Wildlife Around Hurstbridge's Roads

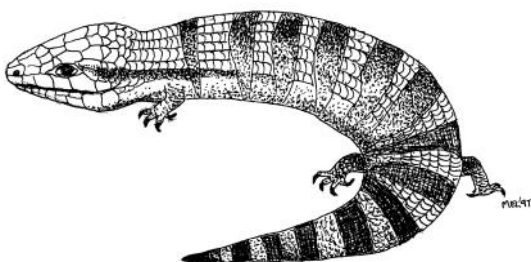
By Steven Katsineris

ONE OF THE DELIGHTS of living in a rural/ bush region like Hurstbridge is the fantastic diversity of native wildlife found around this area. In some parts of the district wildlife is becoming more abundant. For instance, there has been a significant change in the area around the Diamond Creek, where the council and community have done a lot of replanting of indigenous plant species along the creek. As this vegetation has grown and increased, the undergrowth has gotten thicker and this has had the marked effect of making the spot a much richer habitat for wildlife.

One marvelous occurrence I've noticed is that with the restoration of the bush beside the creek, beautiful Black Wallabies now inhabit the area. These small, timid and solitary wallabies live in thickly vegetated places near waterways and gullies. Black Wallabies sleep during the day in the scrub and come out in the late afternoon to feed. They eat grasses and native shrubs.

One day, just before dusk I was driving to the train station to pick up my daughter Sian. I saw a Black Wallaby hopping slowly down the steep hill ahead of me. It got to the roadway and stopped there, watching my car approach. I slowed down and then stopped the car, to let the wallaby cross the road safely. The Black Wallaby stood up and looked at me for a few seconds and I sat there looking back at it. A moment later it hopped at an unhurried pace across the road. It took about four graceful, leisurely hops and it disappeared into the bush. There appeared to be an intuitive understanding in this encounter with the Black Wallaby. A clear awareness by the wallaby, I suppose, that it could take its time crossing because I was not going to harm it. It was a magical moment. Since then, my son Andreas and I have seen what I think is the same wallaby going up the hill in the same place early in the mornings returning from feeding.

A few days later I stopped again along this same section of road, after I saw two other cars stationary there. I pulled up wondering what was wrong and saw they had stopped to allow a Blue-tongued Lizard to safely cross the road. This was a caring act and a very encouraging thing to see happening. I have likewise often stopped to let Blue-tongued Lizards, kangaroos and other wildlife cross over roads in the area. But unfortunately, I still see a lot of dead animals on and beside the roads around the Hurstbridge district. Sadly it is a too common sight around the



countryside. I find this very distressing and heartbreaking, as I'm sure many other people do as well. In the recent few months I have seen three dead Black Wallabies, a number of Eastern Grey Kangaroos and several Blue-tongued Lizards, Tawny Frogmouths, Rainbow Lorikeets, Noisy Miners and a number of other birds dead on the roads.

Fortunately, over the years, I have been able to rescue some orphaned and injured animals, including a several young Eastern Grey Kangaroos, a Ringtail Possum and a few injured birds

It is great to see the native bush being successfully restored in various places around the region enhancing the natural beauty of Hurstbridge and the rest of Nillumbik. In addition these fine revegetation efforts are providing rich habitat, shelter and food for more native wildlife.

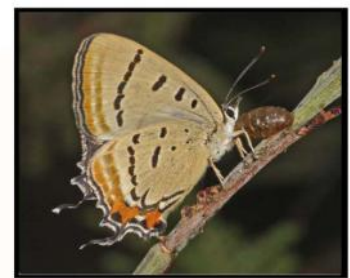
Hopefully, the return of wildlife to the district will go together with an increased realization that we share the place with these amazing animals and with it the prospect of a growing sympathy and tolerance of them.

(Continued on page 7)

An invitation to Friends of Warrandyte State Park:



Join us for
**Highlights of
Lord Howe Island
And
Imperial Blue-
A peek at this
butterfly's
private life**



Two brief animated slide shows by Linda Rogan

When: Wednesday 16 April 7:30pm

Where: Westerfolds State Park Office

Who: All Friends of Warrandyte State Park

RSVP by 10 April

03 9435 5806 or

email: lindarogan@netspace.net.au

Or sign up at the nursery

Please bring a plate to share.



Serendip Bus Trip

By Joan Broadberry

LAST MONTH, THANKS TO THE GENEROSITY OF FRED RICH (pictured), the Thursday nursery crew enjoyed a bus trip and picnic at Serendip Sanctuary near Lara in the shadow of the You Yangs. Twenty five of us, including Fred's little grandson, were squeezed into a council bus that Fred had arranged to hire and drive. The farming property, Serendip, was purchased by the Victorian Government in 1959 and developed as a Wildlife Research Station. It opened to the public in 1991 and is now managed by Parks Victoria. Unfortunately its wetlands were very dry. However, we managed to see a number of interesting water birds and animals.

One of Serendip's missions is to breed endangered species. It has had obvious success with Magpie Geese, which now range freely. Breeding stock of bustard and brolga were captive in pens. It was great to view them up close, but disconcerting to see the bleak nature of the brolga enclosures and hear of their aggression. Watching Gray imitating John Cleese's "silly walk", which just **must** be an imitation of a brolga walk, was a hoot. Probably the star of the day was a male Musk Duck (see last page of this newsletter). We also enjoyed close views of Pademelons, Cape Barron Geese Bluefaced Honeyeater, Stone Curlew, Wandering and Plumed Whistle Ducks and the spectacular Bluebilled Duck.

Many thanks to Fred for organizing a lovely day out.

March's Tag Activity at Antechinus Swamp

Report by Joan MacMahon

THIS SPOT is at the end of Bradleys Lane, hidden from view on the left side as you enter the car-park. The name recognizes a trapping activity back in the early to mid-90's, organized by Fay Valcanis, then our Park Care Officer. An Agile Antechinus* was found! I wonder if any remain, as this area is thick with foxes as well as some cats.

Our idea was to get rid of some of the many woody weeds that devalue this part of Warrandyte. We last had a TAG activity here in March 2006. That time the emphasis was on the honeysuckle, this time we had our sights on the myriad of Pittosporums (from seedlings to well above our heads). Our brand new saws which are wonderfully sharp, are much safer to work with as they can be folded and pocketed, were a pleasure to use.

With ranger Kylie and Brian, Martyn, Joan, John, Gray, Pat and Mike we formed into pairs – one cuts, the other paints and proceeded to have some fun! Sometime later (time was flying) we gathered for a bite to eat and *The Reckoning*. We reckoned the sum total of our destructive activities was 201(!) *Pittosporum undulatum* (not so Sweet Pittosporum), masses of honeysuckle, lots of vertical ivy, some blackberry outliers, a Cotoneaster or two and one **large** Coastal Wattle. And I should add two lots of Agapanthus were dug out and left to dry on site.

*See page 3 of March 2008 newsletter for more on Antechinus

March Market Volunteers

Ray Kruger
Sue Shepherd
Marion Thompson
Joan MacMahon

Shan Shnookal
Wolfgang & Marie Krause
Peter Curry (delivery & return of trailer)



And for the Warrandyte Festival

Tony Honeyborne	Lynne Vary
Marjan Kiewert	Peter Curry
Jan Smidts	Tim Bedford
Geoff Speedy	Lyn Douch
Jan Tindale	Cath Andrew
Lynda Gilbert	Marion Thomson
Ken Crook	Joan MacMahon
Adrienne Hilton	Wolfgang Krause
Diane Baird	Marie Krause
Alison Thom	

Anyone who would like to be rostered on to help with the trailer, even for just one hour, please contact Marie Krause 9712 0498
*New members especially welcome,
No experience required.*

Please note no FOWSP trailer will be at the market in April

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FOWSP Committee 2008

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martyn@hiley.cx

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Gray Ardern 0418 190261

Cathy Willis 0418 142297

Newsletter Coordinator

Treasurer/Newsletter

**Tag Activities/Newsletter/
FOWSP contact**

**Membership/
FOWSP contact**

Secretary

Other FOWSP contacts

Nursery Manager

Park Office

Market Coordinator

Wildlife Rescue

Koala Rescue

Librarian

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0408 317327

9844 2659

Marie Krause
9712 0498

Adriana Simmonds
9722 2908

Julie Pryor
9722 1117

Judy Green
9844 2096

Thursday Activity Group (TAG)

April 3 Mount Lofty Himalayan honeysuckle and woody weed removal

May 1 Pound Bend Boys Road grant site planting

The Thursday Activity Group is co-ordinated by Ranger Jodie Davis and FOWSP member Joan MacMahon JOIN US on the first Thursday of the month from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Either meet at the depot (sharp at 9.30 am), or on site. LEARN some vegetation management skills and help improve some special sites in the Park. Just tag along with the Thursday Activity Group (TAG).

For more information contact either Jodie on 9844 2659 or Joan on 9844 3213

Also note : 3rd Thursday of the month Anderson Creek Landcare Group activities

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars 2008

Held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at 7.30 pm at South Warrandyte Hall, 66-68 Hall Rd,
Sth Warrandyte (Mel ref. 35 J8)

April 2 Bandicoot banter: historical lessons for future conservation Dr. Paul Metrovski

May 7 Water Bugs (and stream ecology) Trish Grant

Seminars are FREE. No bookings required
Supper provided

**Selections from Nillumbik Shire Council Environmental Events**

Sunday April 20 Managing for wildfire on a bush block

10 am-2 pm Venue: CFA Christmas Hills South Fire Station
Bookings: Megan Frye on 9433 3210



Sunday April 27 Diamond Creek Waterwatch bike ride by Waterwatch

10 am-1 pm Meet: Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre
Bookings: Megan Frye on 9433 3210

Sunday 25 May & Sunday 22 June Whole farm planning course by WACMAC Landcare & NMIT

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. Every fourth Thursday we sometimes go on a spontaneously organised walk. (see below) Propagation takes place from 9.30 am to 12 midday. A delicious morning tea is provided. No prior experience necessary - there is always someone available to show you the ropes.

NURSERY OPENING HOURS

The nursery is open for plant sales (by donation) every Thursday. 9.30 am to 12.30 pm and the first Sunday of each month 2 pm to 4 pm.

PRICES

Members 80 cents Non-members \$1.20

Nursery closed: Thursday 10 April

No sales and no nursery work that day as the old office is to be demolished.



Missing books and tapes

From librarian Judy Green

All Members and rangers who have borrowed from the FOWSP library in the past please check your shelves to see if any of the following books are hiding there:

W1202 *Environmental weed invasions in Victoria*- Charles Lamp and Fred Collett

W1203 *Weeds of Forests Roadsides & Gardens*- Carr, Yugovic, Robinson

FL660 *Native Grasslands*- Scarlet, Walbrink, Mc Dougall

EN504 *Discover Warrandyte*- Friends of Warrandyte State Park

ED407 *Aboriginal Melbourne*- Gary Presland

Tapes: TA2101 and TA 2112

Please return found items.

Sunday Walks 2008

This educational series of interpretive nature walks takes you into some of Manningham's most inspiring and interesting bushland. All walks are free but **bookings are essential** as places are limited. Each one commences at 10.15 am. It is important to note that walk lengths and difficulties vary, and times and distances are an estimate only. Appropriate shoes, hat and clothing, and a water bottle are required, as is food on longer walks.

April 6th **Timelines Revisited** what changes since 1995? **Glen Jameson**

Revisit the Middle Yarra Six Seasons Timelines Calendar with Glen who is one of its creators. Discussion will take place on top of **Mt Lofty** with optional walk afterward. **BYO lunch**

May 4th **Longridge Farm Tour** explore history and remnant vegetation **Ken Crook**

BYO lunch 6.5kms/3.5hrs. Note: parking is limited, car pool if possible
End of Alexander Rd Warrandyte Melways Ref 22 H10

Bookings: KayToussaint on 9840 9348 or email eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au

Thursday Walks 2008

If the weather is suitable and there is enough interest, walks may be held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 1 pm after lunch. Meet at the nursery, Pound Bend Rangers depot, Pound Bend Rd, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10). Walks will last approximately 2 hours. No need to book, but remember there is no definite program for these walks. **Enquiries to Josh Revell 0408 317327**

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

Thursdays at the Park

By Alwynne Buntine

"HI MEL, GOOD MORNING JOSH, is there a book to sign?"

"There certainly is. It's on the bench with a pen next to it you'll find."

Gloves are donned and people say, "Josh, what's our task today?"

"There's pricking out and cutting to do. In just a minute I'll collect a few."

"That's okay, can we get our own?"

We've done it before and know where they're grown." Approval's given and some set out as Mel collects the seedling trays. She puts them on the tables outside where we work on sunny days.

Soon everybody has a task and those that don't just have to ask. Josh has many things to be done and at nine thirty the morning has just begun.

A sense of purpose envelopes the group, the buzz of conversation you'll hear as trays of tubes filled with new plants in significant numbers appear

The trolley is filled, the plants moved away to be placed in the hot house to grow. In a few weeks they'll be put out for sale for people to take home and sow

For those not planting, there's weeding to do, weeds grow with a vengeance. In tubes and pots and in the ground too, just waiting for someone's attention.

Others have left and gone out in the bush to work for a while with the rangers to remove tree guards, check on young plants and keep pathways clear of all dangers

Time goes by, it's eleven o'clock and everyone stops for a break.

The urn' boiling, drinks are made,

And out come the sandwiches and cake.

While all are gathered, Josh announces the activities coming to pass.

Numbers he needs for the various ones as the date are approaching quite fast.

Names are taken, details are given and formalities ended for now

People return to their previous tasks to assess what can be done in an hour.

Before long it's twelve thirty, the nursery is closed, it's the end of our session today. The benches are cleaned, the tools packed up and the seedling trays all put away. People depart with keys in their hands to find the vehicle they seek with a "Goodbye Josh," And a "Thank you Mel, we'll see you again next week."

News from the Committee

- Ian Penrose told tales of the Yarra and talked about Yarra Riverkeeper Association. This may be followed up by a presentation at a larger FOWSP gathering in the future
- Judy Green talked to us about the workings of the library. There are currently about 340 titles on the catalog list. A few items have not been returned. See page 6.
- ANZ volunteers will be helping FOWSP with the planting at Gallatlys Lane in May/June 2008.
- The job description for the MYLN coordinator position, one day per week for a year, is being formulated by Manningham with input from all groups in the network.
- John Delpratt, recently retired Burnley lecturer, is going to investigate options for raising rare and endangered local species for FOWSP.
- The minimum donation per plant may need to be increased.

Ranger's Report

- Two burns have been successfully carried out at Gold Memorial area in WSP and Laughing Waters Rd. In Yarra Valley Parklands.
- A Management Statement, addressing values and risks of Warrandyte-Kinglake Nature Conservation Reserve is being written by a contractor.
- WSP and the Yarra District of Parks Vic is now included in the Northern Melbourne District also incorporating Organ Pipes and Brimbank areas.

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday April 8, 2008

Venue: Ranger Station, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

(Continued from page 3)

While most people I'm sure are sensible and sensitive drivers, there are people who are still not mindful that night and day native animals are roaming around close to the roads feeding or crossing to get from one area to another. In time with a little effort we ought to be able to teach these people to become more conscious of the presence of wildlife wandering around and consequently to be more respectful and attentive to their presence.

We are really fortunate to live in such a wonderful area with its abundant wildlife. Lets make sure we make every effort we keep it that way.

Ed. Thanks to Alwynne for this tribute to the Thursday morning workers, and thanks to all the workers, (too numerous to name) who donate their time and skills week after week.

In For a Drink or Here to Stay?

By Linda Rogan



WALKING ALONG the Plenty River on Easter weekend, I was surprised by the large numbers of Corellas in the eucalypts. At one point a startled flock of 100 or more Corellas rose as one and reminded me of sights at waterholes further north.

Next a flock of 20 plus grey birds caught my eye as they filled a large Prunus across the river. Moving closer, I was surprised to see they were Crested Pigeons. Neither Peter nor I had seen them in such numbers before in the vicinity of Melbourne. September and November Newsletters mentioned sightings of Crested Pigeons in ones and twos.

A third bird I've noted at a neighbour's bird bath is the Musk Lorikeet, in big numbers, competing with the larger Rainbow Lorikeets. This was my first chance for a photo of the Musk.

An article in the *Age Monday March 24* quoted Richard Loyn, an ecologist at the Department of sustainability and Environment's Arthur Rylah Institute "...there had been some examples of longer-term relocations—including the galahs, corellas and crested pigeons that have arrived in the city over the past few decades and have since established themselves."

What unusual or changing bird sightings have you seen in Warrandyte State Park and area this summer?



Bits and Pieces from the end of Bradleys Lane

(see map page 6)

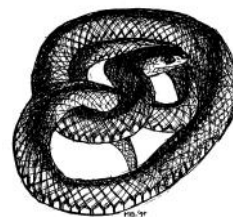
by Joan MacMahon

DID YOU KNOW parts of our park were de-littered on Clean Up Aussie Day?

Thanks to Robyn Gillespie, president of ACCA for this report. (It was a late decision by the Anderson's Creek Landcare mob so there was no time to let you know it was happening.) With 25 participants they covered a fair area of Warrandyte; from around the sporting grounds, along Yarra St. from Harris Gully Rd. to Stiggants (that cutting has been badly littered for ages), then along the river from Stiggants to the bakery, as well as Gold Memorial Rd. and Husseys Lane. She guessed they filled about 40-50 bags of rubbish and they definitely see it as a once a year event for ACCA.

On the Saturday of Warrandyte's recent festival we persuaded my somewhat unadventurous, city-based sister-in-law, to try walking across the Yarra to the festivities. Amazingly, just as she was stepping into the ankle deep water someone else noticed a large (about 1.2 metre) snake swimming nearby - probably a Copperhead - luckily it was heading in the opposite direction! (We had to take the car around to drive her back here! I suspect we'll never hear the end of this !)

Wasn't that beaut rain? We got 10cm. I feel relief (and gratitude!) that maybe now no more plants will die and that we may now plant with some hope of survival



Exciting sighting in the Bend of Islands area: Lyrebirds!

(Melway reference 24 J, K, 1, 2).

MARIE KRAUSE reports two lyrebirds were sighted crossing Henley Rd. Some days later she and Wolfgang heard them calling from between their place in Catani Bld. and the river. Recently a neighbour saw one displaying! These amazing birds must be coming down the Warrandyte-Kinglake Corridor, an area now managed by our rangers. The sightings are just across the river from Mt. Lofty, close to the northern tip of what we label Warrandyte State Park. The birds don't know or care about this complex labeling, they just know where the food and shelter suits them. Anyone know how far lyrebirds can fly?

If you come to Glen Jameson's Mt. Lofty talk and walk on April the 6th, BYO binoculars, as we may be in for a major treat.

"I SPY"

By B.G



MARCH MEMO

John Blake, a new member, was found working with other FOWSP helpers, sorting out seedlings for the Warrandyte Festival Sunday market. John has previously canoed down the Yarra with his "now adult" boys

"Every time you fall in the water is part of the fun isn't it?"

John used to work as a pastry cook and he has since worked in marketing in association with the Australian Dried Fruit Industry.

EXIT EXAGGERATED

In a note to a London correspondent of the New York Journal, June 1st 1897, Mark Twain, author, indicated that, "The report of my death was an exaggeration."

In a similar vein, Pat, the previous editor of the FOWSP newsletter and Mike Coupar, who is also known to us, would like it known that contrary to various reports, they are STILL resident in Warrandyte Vic, 3113 and have NOT become Mallacoota based.

TALK OF TASMANIA

The APS Maroondah Inc. holds monthly Friday meetings with guest speakers:

April 18th Dick Burns: Plants of the Tasmanian Highlands

July 18th Margery Dore-Martin: The Linnaean system of classification of Plants.

The venue is Manchester Unity Hall, 8 Main Street Blackburn.

Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~apsmrdah

McMAHON MANDATE

I SPY was accosted by Joan McMahon and asked to read, comment on and publicize a book/document entitled *Our Water-mark*. So here goes.

Our Water-mark was produced as a not-for-profit community resource by the Victorian Women's Trust. It is all about water: in Victoria, in Australia and in the World. The 167 pages are easy to read, all the topics are very well supported by a range of simple but ample tables and graphs, references and pictures. The contents are in four parts.

1. Water our Wake-up call- The big Picture. 2. The Way Forward. 3. Becoming super-Efficient Water Users. 4. Building Community Momentum.

The beauty of this book is that it does NOT take a look at our water future from the view point of the usual self-serving interest groups. It addresses a very wide range of considerations and presents a variety of views. Topics include:

- water/climate variability
- rainfall history and charts
- surface water and ground water
- forests and fire/severe droughts

Quotes and Comments:

"Intuitively we know we are everything with water and nothing without it" p 8



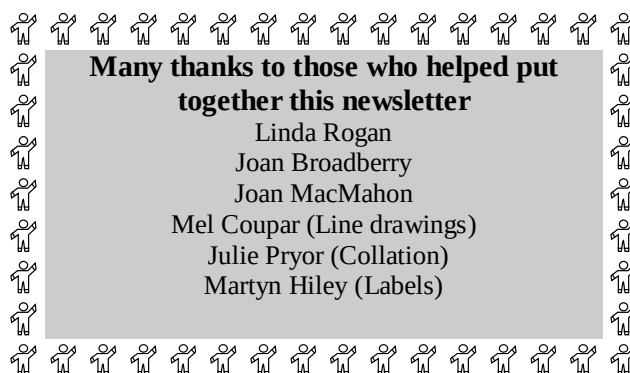
"When water's in trouble, we are." Mary Crooks; Executive Director of VWT 2007

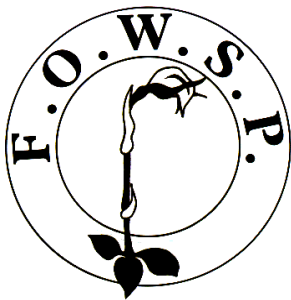
"After three human lifetimes- about 214 years... if we continue as strangers in this land... we will forfeit our long term future here by destroying the ability of Australia to support us." Tim Flannery 2002 Australia Day address.

Contacts for *Our Water-mark* are, Telephone 03 9642 0422, Fax 03 9642 0016

Email, enquiries@watermark.org.au or just give Joan McMahon a call.

WHAT CAN WE DO AS AN ORGANISATION?





REGISTRATION BY AUSTRALIA POST
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Friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc.
P.O. Box 220 **Warrandyte, 3113**

Musk Duck—*Diziura lobata*.

By Joan Broadberry

A strange charcoal-grey duck. Sits very low in the water and when swimming can look like a cormorant or even a platypus. The male has a large oval shaped flap hanging under its quite short beak and a stiff tail. Spends much time fully submerged seeking invertebrates. When displaying, the male inflates its chin flap, erects its tail feathers and slowly rotates in the water with a lot of splashing. Musk Duck's feet are set so far back under their bodies they walk very clumsily. Endemic to Australia.



PLEASE CHECK YOUR ADDRESS LABEL TO SEE IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS DUE

FOWSP Membership Renewal Form

Name

Address

.....

Telephone no. Email.....

Membership (family) \$20

Concession \$10

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113

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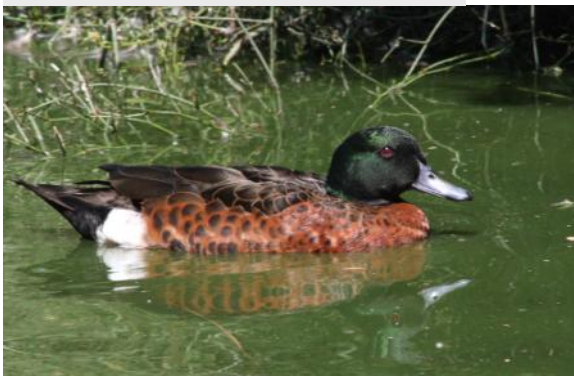


Yarra River, opposite Blacks Flat in the winter time.
Photo by Ian Penrose, Yarra Riverkeeper
Ian states: It reminds me that the indigenous people called the river, Birrarung, meaning "place of mists and shadows".

Bluebilled Duck at Serendip*



Chestnut Teal at Serendip*



*photos by Linda Rogan



Wandering(L) and Plumed(R) Whistling Ducks at Serendip*

Four-Spotted Cup Moth plus 3 instars feeding on a Eucalytus at Alma Browns Reserve*



Aren't they cute when they are little?

INVITATION TO PHOTOGRAPHERS

Your photos can appear on this page (subject to space available) if you email them as follows:
lindarogan@netspace.net.au