



Newsletter

Website: www.fowsp.org.au

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

Editor's corner

THIS MONTH we have the wonderful embarrassment of too much good material for the newsletter. Therefore I will keep my comments brief and add two pages to the newsletter. I do want to point out what a lot of work FOWSPians have done approaching and over the holiday period.

Lyndy Gilbert was the initiator of the Anti-litter competition at Arthurs Creek Primary School with help from FOWSPians Jason Patton, Kelly Wooster and others (page 8).

Jason Patton kicked off the cooperative clearing of Scotchmans Hill Reserve (page 4), in addition to much ongoing work on the website and the online *Flora of Warrandyte*.

Many helpers have begun making Blue Banded Bee breeding bricks (Bx5 see *I Spy* page 11) Two FOWSP scholars excelled in 2009 (page 10)

Alwynne has visited favourite haunts at Lake Mountain and put pen to paper to let us know what she saw (page 2)



Ben, Guide Extraordinaire See story page 4

Ben and others became impromptu tour guides for visitors from Fitzroy Neighbourhood House (page 4)

This is only a glimpse of all that is happening. Please continue your newsletter contributions and be sure to let us know of any projects related to FOWSP that you have on the go. Your input helps to make the newsletter such a pleasure to compile and to read.

Linda

Important Nursery Notice

The nursery will also be closed on all days of Melbourne TOTAL FIRE BAN.

Newsletter team this month were:

Linda Rogan
Joan Broadberry
Mel Coupar (Line drawings)
Jason Patton (mailing list)

Deadline for March edition newsletter is Friday February 19, 2010

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



Some signs of life at Lake Mountain, Alpine Meadow composite by Linda Rogan

New Beginnings By Alwynne Buntine

LAST NOVEMBER friends and I visited Marysville and after adding to the local economy in a very small way by lunching there, we ventured on to Lake Mountain. I hadn't been to the mountain since the devastating fires in February last year and wasn't sure of what to expect but hoped there may be evidence of the survival of the Macleay's Swallowtail Butterfly. This I'd seen in profusion previously.

As we journeyed along the road to Garretys carpark at the resort on the mountain, the first surprise was the rangers station at the park entrance. It was still standing as before, completely untouched by the fire. Travelling on we reached the first carpark and day shelter, also unburnt. I knew that a little way further up the mountain was a beautiful cutting on the edge of the road that in spring was like a garden. Filled with wax flowers *Philotheca myoporoides*, *Olearia phlogoppapa* and *Ozothamnus secundiflorus*. It was an area where I had previously seen the butterfly. I was expecting to see burnt vegetation but to my amazement as we rounded the bend in the road, it was all there, still flowering in profusion as it had been the Christmas before. It was as if the road turning as the fire raced straight ahead had protected the vegetation in the cutting.

We drove on up to the resort and the rangers' depot. Parking the car we decided to walk to Echo Point and continue on to walk an 8-10km loop out towards the summit and back again. We began our walk towards Echo Point. We hadn't gone far, just a short way passed the ranger' depot when a swallowtail butterfly fluttered across the track in front of us. "One swallowtail," I thought, "Wow, at least there's one, but surely If there's one, there's got to be more?"

Continuing, we completed our walk marveling at the regeneration. Marsh bogs surrounded by fresh new growth, and the frog calls coming from them, deafening. Small grass trigger plants *Stylidium graminifolium*, *Alpine* var. Growing in their hundreds, ready for flowering next year, and snow gums *Eucalyptus pauciflora* var. *alpine* showing new growth at their bases. Bright crimson rings of epicormic growth standing out in sharp contrast to blackened tree trunks. Lots of the understory shows signs of new life with green shoots on seemingly dead branches, regrowth everywhere, but only one butterfly.

Returning to the car, we started down the mountain. Reaching the cutting, we stopped to check for butterflies one last time. Leaving the car and walking toward the flowering bushes, I was quite overcome because there they were, Macleay's Swallowtail Butterflies, fluttering in amongst the flowers. Only a few, but as this was not late afternoon (when they are usually seen) I felt this was a positive sighting. For beauty to still exist in such devastation is truly an example of nature's resilience, and new beginnings.



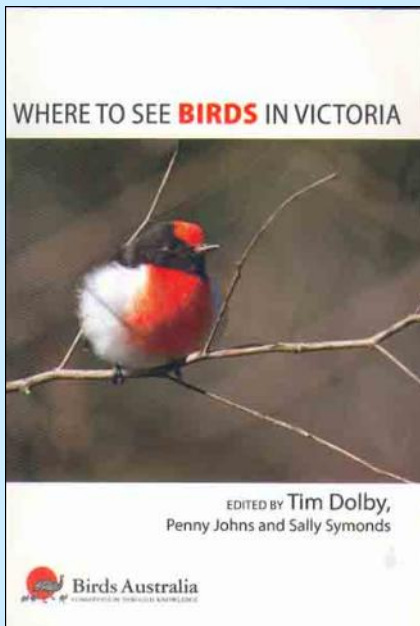
Garretys car park Jan 2010



....And endings by Joan Broadberry

A friend from the Ringwood Field Naturalists took this amazing photo. She was walking along the Yarra River near Finns Reserve Templestowe when the air was suddenly filled with the alarm calls of birds. A group of Noisy Miners were in full voice and Rainbow Lorikeets were screeching in obvious distress. She looked around for the cause of the disturbance and noticed a Tiger Snake hanging out of Eucalypt hollow in the very act of swallowing a Rainbow Lorikeet chick. For once the Noisy Miners were justified in making a fuss. It certainly pays to have a camera at the ready. *Photo: J.Cooke.*

Book Review



CALLING all bird watchers - new book: *Where to See Birds in Victoria* Edited by Tim Dolby, Penny Johns and Sally Symonds. Jacana, RRP \$35. Reviewed by Joan Broadberry

Although Victoria is Australia's smallest mainland state,

and represents only 3% of the Australian land mass more than 500 species of bird have been recorded. Launched in late 2009, *Where to See Birds in Victoria* features the some of the best bird-watching locations in the state, and, importantly, where to look for those special or rare birds. Its 192 pages are compiled, written and photographed by a dedicated team from Birds Australia (Vic). The principal editor, Tim Dolby, is a well known birdwatcher. He is a regular contributor to the media, organizer of the Twitchathon, and committee member and former convener of Birds Australia (Vic).

The guide features over 40 destinations throughout Victoria, including such classic birding spots as Wyperfeld, Hattah-Kulkyne, Little desert, Chiltern-Mount Pilot, Terrick Terrick, the Grampians, Croa-

jingolong, Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula, the Otway Ranges, Wilsons Promontory and Mount Buffalo, as well as many places in and around Melbourne and along the coast.

The book is divided into two sections. The first examines Victorian birding sites and is broken up into eight separate regional areas: the Victorian Mallee, Greater Wimmera, North Central Vic., Western Vic., Greater Geelong, Greater Melbourne, Gippsland and Far Eastern Gippsland. Within each of these areas, the major birding spots are treated as individual chapters. Each chapter begins with a short description of the site, brief directions on how to get there, followed by a longer section on where to see the birds. At the end of the chapter there is some very basic information on accommodation and facilities. The second section of the book, The Bird-finding Guide, is an annotated list of the birds of Victoria. It contains a summary of the relative abundance of each species; their habitat; seasonality; and a list of places, (from part 1), where you can expect to see them.

One of the many strengths of *Where to See Birds in Victoria* is its gorgeous photography. Another strength is its clear layout and easy to follow instructions on where to look for the different species. However, this last is to some extent negated by an absence of adequate maps, although Melway road map references are supplied where possible. The only maps provided are very general ones at the beginning of each of the eight sections. A reader not already familiar with country Victoria could become quite frustrated using this guide. Nevertheless as a keen birdwatcher and devotee of the *Where to Find* genre of bird-book, I welcome this volume and applaud its authors for the high quality of its text and images. ☺



CLEARING OF SCOTCHMANS HILL RESERVE

By Lyndy Gilbert

RANGERS DAVID VAN BOCKEL and Luke Perry from Parks Victoria Warrandyte, in consultation with Jason Patton, Brackenbury St East Community Fireguard Co-ordinator (and FOWSP committee member), formulated a cooperative model to clear a 10 metre fire break on Scotchmans Hill Reserve at the rear of properties facing Brackenbury Street. This would be a test case for Parks Vic and local residents to work together to reduce fuel loads in reserves.

Jason contacted all those in his Fireguard group as well as FOWSP committee members, for volunteer assistance. Some 15 people, four children and an arthritic dog assisted Ranger Luke Perry and his team of six contractors who led the boundary charge with chainsaws on Monday 14 December. Later, the 'Chipper' crew arrived to mulch the branches stacked by volunteers. We also took the opportunity to poison all woody weeds and pick up rubbish which had accumulated underneath the bushes.

Eric and Marian Houghton very generously allowed us access to their bathroom and kitchen. Morning tea was kindly provided by Peta Cumming, whilst Luke and Kay arranged a magnificent barbecue for lunch. Special thanks also to Rob and Louise for laying-on afternoon tea with all the trimmings, and to Martyn and Cindy for the use of their Bali hut - the perfect place from whence to consume such a wonderful afternoon tea!

Within a few hours, we had made an enormous impact on the Reserve. It was very satisfying to see Parks Victoria / DSE and locals working together, ridding the Reserve of rubbish. Most importantly, the fuel load was reduced in a responsible and con-

sultative way and without too much impact on the indigenous vegetation.

Replanting will commence soon, with plants from the FOWSP nursery.



Ben Pinch-hits as Tour Guide

Special report by I Spy

ABOUT 10:30 AM Thursday 17th December 2009

AS FOWSP members, as usual, were working diligently, a large unexpected bus pulled into the Depot car park.

A group of over twenty people had arrived on a "surprise destination" Christmas outing.

They were all from the Holden Street Neighbourhood House located in North Fitzroy. (3068)

The bus was driven by Jacinta Mcmanamon, the house manger. With the group was Bev Polzin, a Community Development Worker, and also Wayne, a helper-member who studies at the House and looks after the garden there. (See photo page 1)

After a tour of the Depot, toilets, office foyer, plant sale area and the covered work area, they met all the working FOWSP members and were presented with some spur of the moment plant gifts.

Later guided by Joan Broadberry and Linda Rogan the visitors were taken to Pound Bend to visit a tree frequented by butterflies. Although the butterflies had departed, the House was presented with a copy of the DVD on the Imperial Blue Butterfly and the visitors enjoyed the unexpected visit to view the lower end of the Pound Bend Tunnel and the Yarra River with Ben's knowledgeable commentary

Unrelated to this group we noticed under a sign nearby which read, "Please take your rubbish home", two plastic bags of empty cans and bottles obviously left by lazy and inconsiderate people, treating littering their environment as a joke. This rubbish was later removed by FOWSPians.

Information? Communication? Investigation? Report from Pat and Mike Coupar

Wed Dec 16th

10.00am: Set up camp at Peachtree Creek on the eastern shore of Tamboon Inlet 27kms south of Cann River in Far East Gippsland. Temp. around 38°C

4.30pm: Notice smoke billowing from behind the forested hills across the inlet

6.00pm: ABC local radio reports on a 200ha fire 16kms SW of Cann River started by forestry thinning operations in the Bemm State Forest (*later confirmed as logging machinery catching fire*). Also reported was a small fire of 7ha started by a tourists van which caught fire on the West Wingan Rd in the Croajingolong NP

10.00pm: Smoke still visible across inlet, but did not seem to have increased in size

Thurs Dec 17th

8.00am: Clear skies, no smoke visible across inlet

10.00am: Drive to Cann River DSE/PV work centre (*regrettably old PV visitor centre with it excellent nature displays is now closed*). Enquire if the West Wingan Rd is open. Receptionist was unable to give us any information, despite consulting her own DSE website

11.00am: drive back to Peachtree Ck. Billowing smoke now visible across the inlet, much increased from the previous evening. Pack up camp and leave.



Wind from NNW has picked up

12.30pm: Drive 40kms east along Prince's Hwy. Take the West Wingan Rd 34kms to Wingan Inlet (*no rd closure signs*). 20kms down the rd come to the small fire still smouldering and the burnt out van – bulldozers and 1 DSE crew in attendance. Allowed to continue to campsite and advised to listen to local ABC

1.30pm: Set up camp and walk to surf beach (*with*

transistor radio). Extensive clouds of smoke blowing across from the Cann River fire.

2.30pm: wind changes to SSW and temp drops

3.00pm: back to camp. Met by police and told to



pack up and leave.

4.00pm: back to the Hwy (*still no rd closure signs at the start of the West Wingan Rd despite radio reports saying the road is now closed*). Head east. Over the next 2 hours local radio (ABC, 828 AM) reports every 15mins on the Cann River fire which is now 7000ha in size, out of control and threatening the town of Cann River. The fire is spotting 5kms ahead and two fires have broken out north of the Hwy. The Hwy is now closed between Cann River and Orbost.

7.00pm: Arrive at Mallacoota (*where temp reached 42°C before the change*). Wind drops, threat to Cann River township eases.

Fri Dec 18th

7-10mms rain overnight. Consult the DSE/CFA website for updated information on the fire. Found many inaccuracies. For instance, the Cann River fire was not shown on the State-wide map or recorded on the list below the map. Although there was a brief incident report on it. However, in the same region two fires were marked on the map as still going – one was the small West Wingan Rd fire which according, to radio reports, was contained and a fire that was burning at Dock Inlet a month ago – this was still shown on the map as out of control!

Local radio reported that the Cann River fire was still burning and now had a perimeter of 90kms. 300 fire-fighters were in attendance

Information? Definitely less for the public because PV has closed its visitor centre on the main street. Website did not provide sufficient or correct information

Communication? No road closure signs. Warnings should have been given out much earlier on radio.

Investigation? Why were contractors allowed to use machinery in State Forest when temperatures were in the high 30's? Will the logging industry be held accountable?

FOWSP Committee 2010

Martyn Hiley	9844 4547	FOWSP contact
martyn@hiley.cx		
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer
Linda Rogan	9435 5806	Newsletter Co-ordinator
lindarogan@netspace.net.au		
Kelly Wooster	9844 2819	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary
Cathy Willis	0418 142297	
Gray Ardern	0418 190261	
Jason Patton	0402 121838	Webmaster
jason@parau.com		Membership

Other FOWSP contacts

<u>Nursery Manager</u>	Josh Revell
	0408 317327
<u>Park Office</u>	9844 2659
<u>Librarian</u>	Judy Green
	9844 2096
<u>Wildlife Rescue</u>	Adriana Simmonds
	9722 2908
<u>Koala Rescue</u>	Julie Pryor
	9722 1117
<u>Market Trailer Newsletter</u>	Joan Broadberry
	98461218
Website: www.fowsp.org.au	

Thursday Activity Group (TAG)

JOIN US on the first Thursday of the month from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. LEARN some vegetation management skills and help improve some special sites in the Park. Just tag along with the Thursday Activity Group (TAG). Activities are cancelled on Total Fire ban Days

Plans for the TAG activities for 2010 will be announced on the day in order to be responsive to weather conditions and current needs. Therefore meet at the nursery 9.30 sharp.

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars 2010

Held on the **1st Wednesday** of the month at 7.30 pm at will continue next year at a **new location. Currawong Bush Park- Mel 34 H6**

Wednesday 3rd March Dr Lindy Lumsden on *Bats*
Wednesday 7th April Phillip Ingamells on Climate Change and Victoria's Natural Areas



Seminars are FREE. No bookings required *Supper provided*
 For further information 9840 4405

Selections from Nillumbik Shire Council Environmental Events

Thursday 11th February : 7 pm-8.30pm *Create a water efficient home*
Saturday 13th March 10 to 1 pm Rabbit Control Field Day

Venue: Edendale Farm, Gastons Road, Eltham...(Melway 22 A1)
 Free but please book both events



Bookings: Georgia Ramsey,
 Environment and Strategic Planning on 9433 3210

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 (by donation) every Thursday.

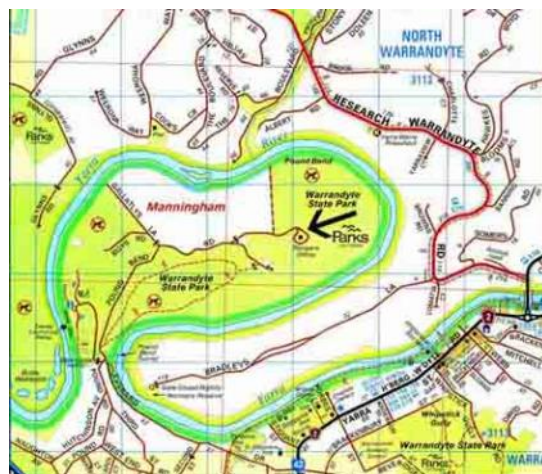
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and the first Sunday of each month
2 pm to 4 pm.

**Nursery is closed to customers and volunteers
on Total Fire Ban Days**

NEW PRICES

Members \$1.00

Non-members \$1.50 .



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Propagation Workshop

Wednesday 17th February 2010
9 am—1 pm FOWSP Nursery
Pound Bend Rd. Warrandyte
Melway ref 23 C11

Workshop leader: Nursery Manager Josh Revell

Topics will include: seed collection, sowing, cuttings, division, pricking out, growing media, timing and requirements

Learn how to grow your own plants in a small group with hands-on demonstrations

FREE for members of Friends/Landcare/ Environment groups. All others \$10.

Morning tea and workshop notes provided

Limited numbers, bookings essential

eepadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au
Kelly Trainor 9840 4405



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

ANTI-LITTER CAMPAIGN – December 2009

Platypus have recently been found strangled to death with rubber bands and fishing lines in Pound Bend, Warrandyte. In order to raise awareness of the impact of rubbish on our environment, Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP), Parks Victoria and the Yarra Riverkeepers Association (YRKA) collaborated on an anti-litter campaign aimed at the Andersons Creek Primary School (ACPS) as the first site.



FOWSP met with the ACPS Principal, Des McKenzie, on 5th October. He was very encouraging and open to suggestions. Lyn Regan subsequently contacted Lynda Gilbert and a full week on the environment was conducted at the School, culminating in the poster competition which closed on 4 December.

Sponsorship for the prizes for the best posters came from a grant kindly offered by Bendigo Bank.

Over 200 posters and PowerPoint presentations were received by Lyn. Judging was held on 7 December with Jason Patton, Kelly Wooster (FOWSP), Danny



Mathers (Bendigo Bank) and Belinda Mackowski from the Manningham Leader participating. Seven winners, one from each Year Level were chosen and ten were highly commended.

The prize-giving on 10 December was preceded by a wonderful PowerPoint presentation given by Ian Penrose, which was based on the wildlife found around the Yarra and the impact of rubbish on this major waterway.

Each child received a laminated certificate and coloured pencils from FOWSP and Ranger Roo material from Parks Victoria. The winners also received a \$50 voucher to spend at Australian Geographic. ACPS received \$500 worth of books.

Feedback from teachers, parents and students indicated that litter was considered a problem in the community and a campaign of this nature to raise awareness of the damage to animals and plant life was welcomed.

FOWSP is grateful to ACPS for their encouragement and participation. An ongoing relationship has been developed and Jason Patton will work with ACPS in 2010 to grow plants in milk cartons.

For other winning and commended posters see our website fowsp.org.au on the *Who We Are* page under competitions.



Megan-Grade 5 winner

HOW DO I GET HELP FOR INJURED WILDLIFE?

If you hit or encounter an injured animal on the road, pull over only where it is safe to do so. Use hazard lights to warn approaching motorists.

WHOM DO I CALL? A little research has come up with the following:

If you are in the local area, **Adriana Simmonds 9722 2908 or Julie Pryor 9722 2908**. They can put you in touch with a suitable wildlife carer from the carer's network.

All the numbers that follow do basically the same thing, put you in touch with an appropriate local carer. Patience is required. It may take a few calls as you move through the system. Advice as to how to deal with the particular situation will be given e.g. whether to move the animal etc.

RACV Wildlife Connect 13 11 11. Same number as Roadside Assist, therefore easy to remember.

Wildlife Victoria 1300 094 535 or 1300 0WILDLIFE
also easy to remember

Help for Wildlife 0417 380 687 Often on road signs.



Many Thanks to the Market Volunteers who helped out on the FOWSP Warrandyte market trailer in busy December 2009



Diana & John Baird, Sue Shepard John Hanson, Jan Smidts, Brian James, Lindy Gilbert, Ken

Crook. Special thanks to Peter Curry for delivery and return of the trailer.

Coming markets: February 6th, March 6th.

Markets are held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm. Volunteers are rostered on in pairs for an hour. If you are interested in being on the market roster for 2010 please email Joan Broadberry: joan.broadberry@optusnet.com.au or ring anytime on **9846 1218**.

No knowledge assumed

New Policy: If on the Friday before the market the forecast Saturday temp. is over 35°- the whole market is cancelled.

News from the Committee

- First antilitter campaign was carried out in 2009 with Anderson Creek Primary School (page 8)
- Nursery renovations will continue in 2010
- Blue Banded Bee nesting block to be installed in nursery
- AGM minutes will appear under publications in the website.

Rangers Report

- Luke Perry started at the park as a Field Services Officer for the fire program.
- Warren Murphy from Albert Park is here as a Visitor Services Ranger
- The Park also received an extra two Project Fire fighters, now making a total of seven PFF's
- In the last year the Jumping Creek Car park has been upgraded as have the board-walks along the Jumping Creek Track.
- Fires in the last year burnt 50% of the trap sites set up to check the Phascogale population. The survey is part of a program to protect Phascogale numbers

Nursery Report

- Josh reports some 60,000 plants were produced in 2009, a 66% increase over 2008.

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 9 February 2010 **Venue:** Ranger Station, Pound. Bend. **Time** 7.30 sharp

Educational achievements amongst FOWSPians



KELLY WOOSTER has just completed her first year at Swinburne Lilydale. During the year she completed an assignment that involved a four day study of fauna in the Little Desert National Park. The following is from the

assignment abstract:

“The research ... aimed to compare the abundance of animals trapped within two Heathland vegetations within the same area, the only variable being a predator proof fence. Conducted ... between October 5th and 8th 2009 at the Little Desert Nature Lodge Block and land adjacent to the Little Desert National Park, Whimpey’s Block, fauna surveys focused on the Silky Desert Mouse (*Pseudomys apodemoides*)(Right). Feeding trials were set up in an attempt to verify dietary preferences. Several separate surveys were conducted to assess various aspects of the flora and fauna at both the Lodge Block and Whimpey’s Block. Vegetation structure, flora species diversity and soil types were compared between

three vegetation quadrats of Heath, Brown Stringybark and Mallee within Whimpey’s Block. Fauna surveys were conducting daily along 100 metre transect lines using Elliot traps, cage traps, hair funnels, track tubes and a pit line. Sand pads were set up to survey for introduced species, particularly



Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*). Observations in the abundance of *P. apodemoides* within the two different Heathland vegetation sites were noted with trap success rates at the Lodge Block being greater than that of Whimpey’s Block. Results point to the fenced area of the Lodge Block most likely having greater numbers of *P. apodemoides*, with the impacts of introduced species seen as a major threat to the survival of many native Australian mammals.”

BELINDA CHRISTIE, FOWSPian and nursery employee has completed an additional Honours year in 2009, after completing a Bachelor of Environmental Science (Environmental Management) at Deakin in 2008. She is enrolled in the PhD at Deakin, to start in April. Her thesis is entitled [Environmental Education Ideals & Realities: Environment experts’ & teachers’ opinions of Victorian government secondary education](#).



Abstract

“The United Nations and its member States, including the Australian Government, pursue Environmental Education (EE) as one tool in building ecologically sustainable societies, to combat the increasing environmental crisis. This pursuit has occurred for decades. There is limited EE research, however, in the State of Victoria. This study has begun to address this lack of data. A total of 109 Environment Experts and 31 Year 7 to 10 teachers were surveyed for their opinions of the ideals and realities of Victorian Government secondary classroom EE.

Environmental Education Ideals & Realities

Environment experts’ & teachers’ opinions of Victorian government secondary education



Belinda A Christie

School of Life and Environmental Sciences
Deakin University

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the degree of
Bachelor of Environmental Science (Honours)

October 2009

This study has found that although Environment Experts and Teachers largely agree with the international community on what EE is, how it should be implemented and what topics it should include, EE is still far from reaching these ideals. An overloaded cur-

riculum and lack of knowledge of its implementation in a cross-curricular manner, inhibit EE. This study recommends that to improve EE in Victorian Government secondary classrooms, these inhibitors must be addressed through a well publicised, easy to access and user-friendly ‘ready-to-use’ EE teaching resource, and through improved pre- and in- service teacher education.”

"I SPY"

By B.G



Sharpening Secateurs

"A good education qualifies you for nothing but equips you for everything" response by Gray Arden to comments made when he was seen sharpening secateurs in the nursery area.

Grass Group

Early December '09 a group led by Josh Revell "took off" on a walk along the flats, then along the ridge above the road leading to the Park Depot. Grass identification was the purpose of the group.

Weaving the Web

Jason Patton reported that by the 10th of December he had responses to the new FOWSP website. (A report about the new site was given by Jason at the AGM on the 1st of December.

Saving Seedlings

Josh and Lee were busy at the depot making many small wooden boxes (335x390mm) which had a 6mm mesh on top. These were to protect seedling trays from mice and rats which had been scavenging freshly planted seed.

AGM Asides

Special mention with thanks, was made at the AGM of Ranger Colin Bromley's role in ensuring that the water supply and the pipes for the nursery were kept operative, and also other jobs he performed to support the FOWSP activity. (Photo below.) Colin, who qualified as a Queen's Scout when younger, has worked at the park for 19 years, initially in the role of



construction and maintenance. The other longest serving ranger at the park is David van Bockel.

Kelly Wooster gave a short, informative talk on the "social and group network facebook" Her talk fol-

lowed the presentation of the "*Flora of Warrandyte Network*" by Jason Patton. Kelly, a newly elected member of the FOWSP committee is currently studying land and conservation management at Swinburne Lilydale. Ask Kelly about her high scores at the end of her first year of the course.(see p.10)

Blue Banded Bees (BBBs)

Early January 2010 a small group, including Pat and Mike Coupar, Linda Rogan, Gray Arden, Simon Dickey, and Jackson Walsh (age 13 1/2, from Benthleigh area, worked off site to produce a clay mix for the production of nesting blocks for indigenous Blue Banded Bees. Their aim is to encourage them to nest and pollinate plants in the nursery. If you have a naturally occurring BBB nesting site would you please get in touch with Linda.



Anticipated Ambulatory Activities from VNPA April 12 Monday

Lynda Gilbert will lead a walk (6km) through Melbourne University Campus Limit to 20 people, cost \$10 Contact phone 0422746305

April 19 Monday

Ken Crook will lead a medium/hard 10km walk—Templestowe Hill Climb. Limit 15 people. Phone 98440106

May 24 Monday

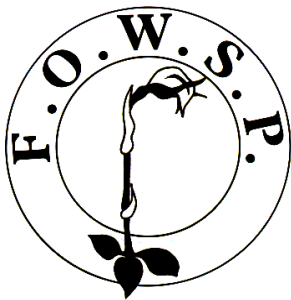
Ken Crook will lead a medium 10km walk—*The Bend of Isles*. Limit 15 people Phone 9844 0106

In the Igloo

According to Belinda, one of our nursery staff, "We will start using blank orange labels on plant trays just pricked out to keep track of which seedling trays which were completed that day and need to go into the igloo."

Missing Mel

Our thoughts are with Melanie Lange and family.. We hope to see her back at the nursery soon



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Friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc.
P.O. Box 220 **Warrandyte, 3113**



Native Bees on Craspedia variabilis

These tiny bees were foraging at the nursery in January 2010. I have yet to identify them but probably from the Halictidae family. The *Craspedia variabilis* is rare and localized in WSP and in 2009 numbers are reduced from 1999 levels with increased threats from Sambar Deer and trampling..

February 2010 Volume 28 no.1

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

Newsletter by email (tick box)

☐

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or existing members with unchanged contact details can use direct deposit. Details: BSB 633-108. Account: 136406907. Account name: friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc. Identify yourself by surname

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

Email photo bonus



Spiranthes australis blooming at the nursery Jan 2010
by Linda Rogan



More amazing snake photos from Alex Smart on Glenelg River



One of many Saltbush Blue Butterflies in the *Leptorhynchs tenuifolius* and *Atriplex semibaccata* in January
By Linda Rogan



Tawny Frogmouth and its young
By Linda Rogan

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