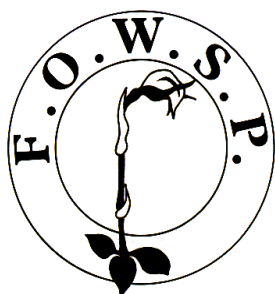


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

What I most enjoy about putting this newsletter together is the smiling FOWSPian faces and even more so when it is school holidays and young FOWSPians are in the picture.

I have tucked as many smiles as possible in this newsletter.

Gray brings us exciting news on p.2 and Joy, Lynda and Louise share smiles on p. 3 where we also hear from Marjory Burgess. Then there is Lyn, Alwynne and Bernice on p. 4. Artur describes the completion of a five year project on p. 7.

I want to thank the growing

Frogland team for their on-going work on p. 8. Lyndy shares her pleasure on a FNQ trip recently where she learned how Cairns is saving its *Melaleuca leucadendra* p.9.



Young FOWSPians left to right: Mikaia, Elina, Milyca, Tya and Mikayla

Please enjoy this newsletter and help us find more to smile about for the next.

Linda

Mark your calendars for two events in November

Sunday 12 November The FOWSP AGM

Saturday 25 November Combined Event with the Entomological Society of Victoria

Walks, Talks BBQ from 5:30 pm ; fireside talks and light trapping insects after dark until late
A real chance to get close and personal and learn about some of our insects.

Details for both these events will be in November Newsletter

FUND RAISER

Enjoy great wine and help support
Friends of Warrandyte State Park.

Learn more here: <http://goodwillwine.com.au/charities/friends-of-warrandyte-state-park/>

FOWSP will receive a minimum of 50% of the profits re-
sulting from your purchase- cheers to that!"



Deadline for November edition newsletter is

Friday 20 October 2017

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

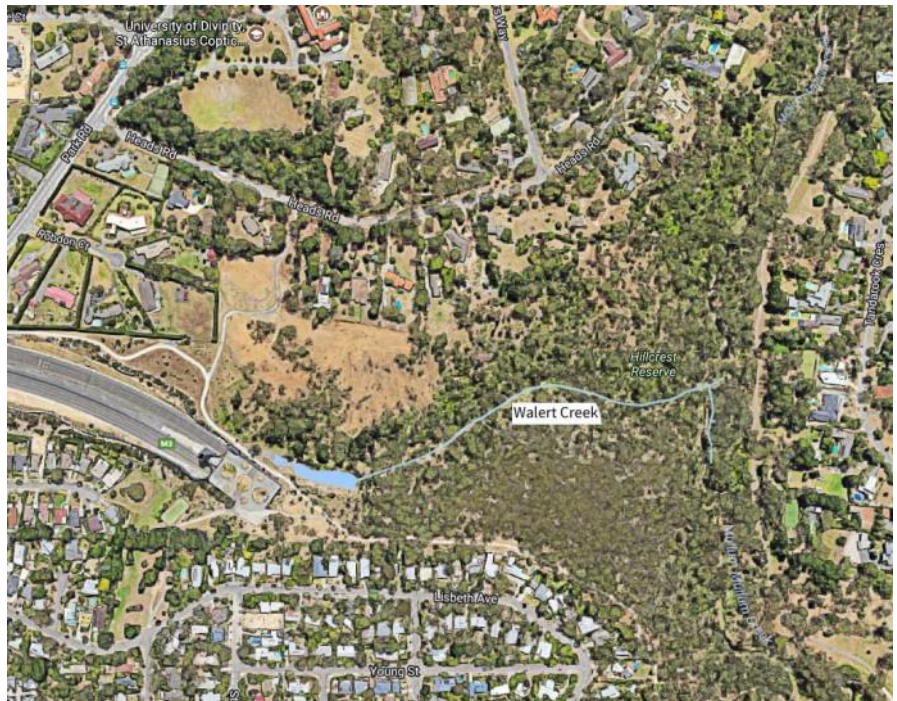
FOWSP Wins Biodiversity On-Ground Action Grant

RECENTLY Josh had a yen for Vietnamese food and being the ever-thoughtful Josh, he invited me to go with him.

Our chat on the way was interrupted by a call on my phone, but Josh's car isn't nearly as quiet as my Rolls-Royce Silver Mist (?), so I couldn't make sense of the call at first. I was just about to end it [the call, that is] when I heard the words 'Walert Creek' and 'you have won the grant'.

The caller from DELWP [Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning] was letting me know that FOWSP had been successful in its application for almost \$42,000 to rehabilitate a weed-infested section of Walert Creek in Mullum Mullum Park, Donvale.

This site is known to be the home of the threatened Mountain Bird Orchid [*Chiloglottis jeansii*] and the vulnerable Southern Toadlet [*Pseudophryne semimarmorata*].



At the end of the application was the question 'How long has it taken you to complete this application form? [minutes].' In fact it took Janaya [our Own Ranger] and myself days, so detailed were the Department's requirements!

But now the real work begins! FOWSP members will be involved initially in locating the Mountain Bird Orchid, so that contractors can be engaged to fence them against browsing - particularly by deer and macropods.

Contractors will also spray target species, including blackberry, ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, and blue periwinkle. We Fowspians will follow up, manually removing re-emerging weeds, as well as woody and herbaceous shrubs such as cotoneaster, tree tobacco and pittosporum.

Weeds will be replaced by appropriate indigenous plants of local provenance - re-vegetation is needed as it is unlikely that spontaneous recovery could now take place. We will collect seed and cuttings from the project site and adjacent Parks Victoria land, and propagate them as tube-stock.

The resulting plants [1500 grasses, sedges and shrubs] will be planted out in years 2 & 3, once the weeds have been removed.

Without this intervention the remnant forest will continue to be replaced by a mass of light-excluding woody weeds and vines. As the remnant vegetation is lost, so too are the resident birds and other animals.

Removal of dense thickets of woody weeds and vines will also remove harbour for invasive species such as foxes and rabbits, which are a threat to the toadlet and the orchid.

There are several other ways FOWSP members will be involved, for example annual monitoring of the toadlet and orchid populations, and encouraging community involvement; but mention must finally be made of the familiar task of rubbish removal as we must be the most highly qualified rubbish removers anywhere!

For very good photos of the orchid on Collin and Mischa Rowan's website see:

<http://www.retiredaussies.com/CollinsHome%20Page/Orchids/Chiloglottis/Images/Simpliglottis%20jeansii%20Vic13/Simpliglottis%20jeansii%20Vic13.htm>

To see [and hear] the toadlet:

<http://www.frogs.org.au/frogs/species/Pseudophryne/semimarmorata/>

With a smile from Gray

Smiles while weeding



Another winning smile from Joy while she weeds the gorgeous Murnong or yam daisy. She also spotted this common hover fly, one of several active in the nursery in September.

Perhaps Joy is also smiling because she has also just returned from a great overseas walking trip.



Lynda and Louise also manage smiles amongst the *Acacias* although some (of the plants) are a bit prickly.

Dear Fellow Fowspians,

What a wonderful State Park we have!

Today, August 22nd is gloriously sunny and we have just had a five kilometre walk through the park. We began by climbing Mt Lofty. The views from there are extensive, the green country stretching across to the blue hills. Everywhere wattles are in bloom: golden wattles, silver wattles and gold dust wattles. The Blackwoods were just beginning. Spreading wattles (*a. diffusa*) were here and there. All the bush in the Park was more luxuriant than round our North Warrandyte home. We saw several families of kangaroos.

I had a notebook and pencil to make a bird list. Apart from common big birds, we saw grey fantails, little thornbills, a blue wren and a yellow robin. I also had perfect views of a female robin, hopping and flitting on low branches but I do not know which robin it was. There was no flush of red on the wing, but the general shape and the distinct white marking on the wing convinced me it was a robin.

We appreciated the well made tracks and walked on.

Thank you for caring for such a beautiful place.

Marjory Burgess



Lyn and Alwynne looking after some very special plants in our stock plant section. These are a source of many rare plants propagated by seeds, cuttings and divisions.



It's always a pleasure when Bernice Dowling Volunteer Coordinator for the Port Phillip Region drops in to chat and share our pleasure in the nursery.

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars



The Environment Seminars are held on the first Wednesday of the month.

Many of the seminars will be complemented with field sessions to facilitate broader education on the topics. No bookings are required for the evening talks; however, RSVPs must be provided for the field sessions. Due to the popularity of the field trips bookings are limited to three field trips per person. You must attend the corresponding seminar to keep your field trip booking. **Bookings now open. email csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au or phone 9840 9326**

Venue: River View Room at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte **Time:** 7:20 for 7.30 pm start

Enquiries: Lyn Meredith, 9840 9326

Wednesday 04 October 2017, 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm Waterwatch - 10 Years of Citizen Science by Nigel Philpot

Manningham's creeks support one of the largest open space habitat corridors in metropolitan Melbourne. In 2007, a team of community volunteers began an extensive water quality monitoring program designed to assess the health of these waterways. This presentation will provide an analysis of the monitoring program and discuss the impact that 4,600 local septic tanks can have on the health of these important aquatic habitats

Field trip Waterwatch with Nigel Philpot Thursday 5 October 2017 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

This field trip will include monitoring of Mullum Mullum Creek both upstream and downstream of potential pollution hot spots in Manningham. Come prepared for a walk of approximately 4 kilometres.

Please note, you must attend Nigel Philpot's Waterwatch - 10 Years of Citizen Science on Wednesday 4 October to be eligible to book and attend this field trip.

Venue: Will be given at time of booking

Time: Bookings: Bookings are essential. Please email csadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au to book.

Wednesday 6 December 2017 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm The brighter side of night: the ecological consequences of artificial night lighting Dr Thérèse Jones Until very recently one of the constancies for life on earth has been the presence of a bright day and a dark night. Since the advent of electrical night lighting, this has changed: nights are becoming increasingly bright and many species living in urban areas never experience a true dark night. Accumulating evidence indicates that this dramatic shift in the night-time photic environment in urban areas has a range of (largely negative) ecological consequences. Join Dr Thérèse Jones as she explores the biological effect of artificial night lighting for physiology, behaviour and life-history traits using vertebrate and invertebrate models in the field and laboratory

FOWSP COMMITTEE 2016/17			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
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	legality@bigpond.com		764 422	

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

Newsletter Team this month: Linda Rogan, Mel Coupar (Line drawings), Gloria Moore and Lisa Jenkins

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 10 October 2017

Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

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

Thurs	5 October	9:00-12:00	Gold Memorial car park	Woody weeding with ACCA	Difficult	FOWSP & ACCA
Thurs	19 October	9:00-12:00	Scotchmans Hill	Woody Weeding	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	2 November	9:00-12:00	Nilja Rd	Woody weeding	easy	FOWSP

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 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.

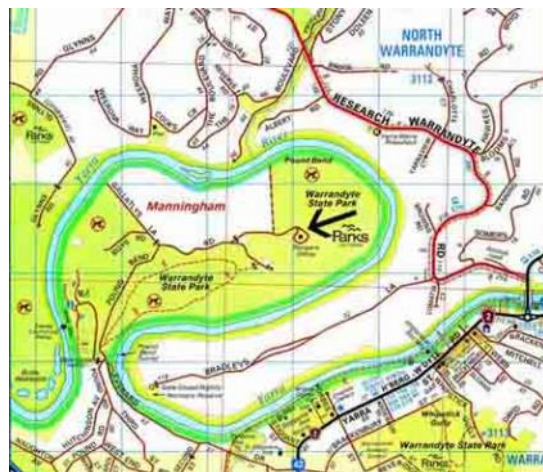
Thursday's 9:30 am to 12:30 pm;

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

Closed Christmas and New Years days.

Also closed to customers and volunteers on days of severe weather and on Total Fire Ban Days

Prices: Members \$2.00 Non-members \$2.50



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FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks



This series of free nature walks will explore various sections of the Yarra River from the eastern end of Manningham in Wonga Park downstream to Templestowe.

Each walk is paced to allow participants to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of the area. Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack.

9:30 am Thursday 24th October Mount Lofty circuit Starting at the sacred Wurundjeri Bukkertilibul dreaming site on Brushy Creek, we head up to the highest point of Manningham that has a view of the river, where we overlook the start of the Warrandyte gorge.

Distance: 5km **Time:** 3 hrs **Rating:** Difficult (some steep sections)

9:30 am Thursday 23 November Grasses at Pound Bend Nature Walk Do all grasses look the same to you? Would you like to be able to tell a grass from a sedge from a rush? On this short walk at Pound Bend you will learn some of the common grasses.

Distance: 2km **Time:** 2.5 hrs **Rating:** Mostly easy with one short steep section.

All distances and finishing times are approximate.

Ratings:

Easy – Flat or undulating well formed tracks/paths with low tripping hazards.

Moderate – May include some moderately steep or narrow sections or have higher tripping hazards.

Difficult – Includes steep and/or narrow sections, slippery sections, or high tripping hazards.

Bookings can be made online and are essential as places are limited. Bookings open 2 months before the walk date. www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks

The meeting place will be provided at the time of booking.

Please note that nature walks will be cancelled on a day of Total Fire Ban or extreme weather warning as Parks Victoria will close all local parks.

Work on a Melbourne Water's grant is now complete.

Artur says "Pound Bend has come the full circle". Five years ago the lower orchard track project was begun and now it is complete. The work and dedication of FOWSP members, their helpers and grants from Melbourne Water has restored a diverse habitat.

We all have learned over time to adapt: the resident roos had to learn to cope with many stakes; deer devouring our young plants taught us which plants are less palatable to deer.

The big clean-up was finished over the last 5 weeks and now the area is left to prosper. Thanks to all FOWSPians and helpers to have made this happen.

But wait, there will be a new project on the peninsula soon, watch this space.

ARTUR



Lower Orchard Track after the clean up at the end of this project.

FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 2 September
Diane and John Baird, Jeff Cranston, Robin Hull
Christine Andell, Lyn Moore, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook



Special thanks to ***John Young*** who transported the market trailer.

The Warrandyte market is held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve.

Volunteers are rostered in pairs to (man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

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

Next market dates are: *Saturdays: 7 October, 4 November, 2 December 2017*

What's happening in Frogland?



Platylobium sp., *Craspedia variabilis* and *Podolepis jaceoides* ready for planting.

Frogland has come such a long ways since the remaking of the pathways a couple of years ago and now with the deer and roo exclusion fence, planting has continued apace. Plants recently added include



grasses: *Eragrotis brownii*, *Entolasia marginata* in moist areas, and Wallaby grass *Rytidosperma* species in the drier areas; also a range of *Senecio* sp. and daisies and various shrubs.



Lyn Moore attacking weedy gladioli, arrow shows the hidden gladiola.

While planting is always satisfying, it is the on-going dedication of our small team of weeders that really makes the difference. Chief amongst these is Marie with her knowledge and skill. Lyn Moore who has become very skilled in the recognition and removal of weedy wild gladioli (see left). This bulb seems to tuck itself amongst our native plants and each single plant produces an enormous number of viable brown bulbs (see below). I have also learned that crushing the bulbs results in the growth of many tiny plants. Removing these all is a real challenge.

Many thanks to all who help from time to time including Fiona, Robin and Jason who helped with weeding and/or planting.



Environmental Protection for *Melaleuca leucadendra*

We recently went to Far North Queensland and were fascinated by the *Melaleuca leucadendra* at Palm Cove. Cairns Regional Council has protected these trees under a special citywide plan to keep this the 'City in a Garden'.

The Melaleucas on the beachfront are centuries old. They grow to a height of 40 metres and a girth of 10 metres. They are also known as the white paperbark – a large hardy tree that occurs all around Australia's tropical north. It has dense thin leaves, and the bark comes off the trunk in large sheets – the bark protects the tree during fires. It produces sweet smelling white flowers – if you stand close to one in flower you'll get a strong scent of someone cooking with honey.

The restaurants, resorts, hotels, footpaths and landscaping had to be constructed around them. It is fascinating to walk on the footpath and see the creative ways that the trees had grown through the buildings - or the buildings have been built around the trees. The local community and businesses are very appreciative and protective of these graceful old giants who provide shade, shelter and a lovely natural ambiance to the township.

Specifically the objectives of the plan for the Palm Cove area are:

- To enhance the streetscape with street trees of appropriate scale and form
- To respect established street tree character
- To create links with the remaining natural vegetation and establish wildlife corridors between the coastal areas and hill slopes.
- Encourage use of native and threatened species

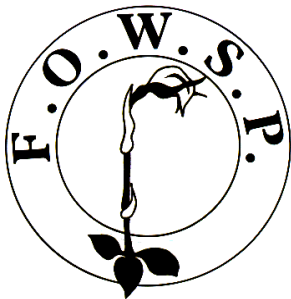


At the Palm Cove Tourist Bureau, there is a special sign to indicate their importance to the precinct.

For further information:

http://www.cairns.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/9167/PolicyNo40304PartC.pdf





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Common Bronzewing pigeon

Our garden has again been the courting grounds for a pair of Common Bronzewing pigeons. They seem to appreciate the many wattle seeds and open pathways for display and

firkytoodling. (I had to check the spelling for this 17th century word but it does seem to fit).

They also seem to appreciate our series of bird baths. I am hoping this year to see where they nest.

Bronzewings, like other pigeons, secrete a special milk-like substance from their crop, which is fed to the young chicks.

Linda

October 2017 Vol. 35 no. 8

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

FOWSP Membership Renewal Form

Name

Address

.....

Telephone no.

Email

Membership (family) \$30
Concession \$15

Newsletter by email ☐ (tick box)

Send to: FOWSP PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113 or renew on the website www.fowsp.org.au with the option of direct deposit payment.

This newsletter is printed on recycled paper

Email photo bonus page

The gorgeous FOWSP orchid display, one pot of which has earned a cultural certificate.



A pink form of *Pimelea humilis* and *Platylodium formosum* (Buttermans Track) both from our stock plants.

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