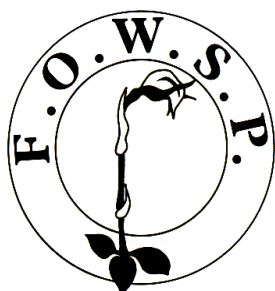


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

SUMMER has lingered almost beyond its welcome with the warm weather being accompanied by drought. Many of us are getting impatient for planting but when we weaken we know that regular watering must follow.

Reiner Richter's finding of an unfamiliar fungus that parasitises a spider is shared on p. 2 with photos to show the detail.

Lyndy brings us some introductory information from a thought provoking seminar she and Ken attended in March on p. 3.

Carolyn shows us how to take the effort out of kneeling on p. 4; later she introduces us to a changeable visitor that has set up a long term camp in her garden p. 7.

Alwynne brings us a tale of travel with some enticing photos by Bruce Fuhrer and then she poses a question for fellow nature lovers p. 8.

The leaves of the Dainty Bird-orchid *Chiloglottis trapeziformis* that were planted in late January are coming up in Frogland, with a little additional watering, in mid April. This is the second species to be re-introduced to Frogland (photo left).

Please take note of the altered schedule for the newsletter this month. As I will be away for June and July, the deadline in May is early and the combined winter newsletter will be for June/July instead of the more usual July/August. So please think about what you can send in for the June/July newsletter asap. And of course, enjoy this one.

Linda



Sarah's pleasure and surprise is evident at Lyndy's gorgeous rose cake which is marking a very special occasion. See p. 7 for details.



**Deadline for June/July edition newsletter is
Friday 18 May 2018 (one week earlier than usual)
contributions can be emailed to Linda Rogan editor@fowsp.org.au
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113**

Reiner Richter's fungal find



IT WAS A WARM and unfortunately dry April day near rainforest past Cann River when a small group of field naturalists led by Reiner Richter searched for whatever-we-could-find. We had spotted various beetles, scorpions and frogs under logs but it took Reiner's sharp eyes to notice some tiny white fungus amongst the rotting wood.

Reiner's photo left makes it appear larger than life.

Those of you who were at the nursery on 12th of April will have seen the tiny fungus that was passed around with a magnifying glass. Even with the glass you may not have seen much more than what can be seen in the palm of my hand below.



What is interesting about this fungus is that it requires an invertebrate to complete its life cycle. That is they parasitise caterpillars, beetle larvae and in this case arachnids.

When shown to Bruce Fuhrer, his comment was "What rare find". He explained this is an anamorph of a fungus species, likely a broad spectrum *Isaria* that infects a range of hosts including several insects and spiders. It appears from the Atlas of Living Australia that this genus is in the Cordycipitaceae, the family that includes *Cordyceps*. Spider hosts are rare here but are more common in tropical rainforests.

An anamorph is a form of a species that does not form spores but is covered in powdery packets of fungal tissue from which it can reproduce asexually. The same species will at times produce fruiting bodies with spores.

I have enlarged Reiner's photo below so that you can clearly see its chelicerae (jaws) and some of its eyes much better than could be seen with the magnifying glass.

Linda



Networking Forum: Building partnership capacity with Friends groups
Building Partnership capacity with Friends Groups: stories from the Yarra Catchment
 Co-convenors The Victorian Environment Friends Network, VEFN and
 Yarra Riverkeeper Association, YRKA on 17 March 2018

KEN AND LYNDY attended this seminar on behalf of FOWSP and Lyndy has made extensive notes which she would be happy to share with anyone who is interested. The information and photos below come from her notes.

Objective: This forum provided opportunities to hear from other representatives, to network, to hear case studies from other friends' groups and to learn how to secure funding. (DEWLP provided the funding for this particular event.)

The Victorian Environment Friends Network, VEFN exists to help represent the common interests of all Friends groups in Victoria. The Victorian Environment Friends Network Committee was originally established to organise the biennial conference. Nowadays, as well as doing this it arranges seminars, produces a quarterly newsletter, administers the Best Friend Award, promotes environmental volunteering and liaises with managing authorities. Coming up are workshops in social media & strategic planning to help improve effectiveness of Friends' groups, which currently number 77 in the Yarra Valley.



Paul Strickland, Co-Convenor of VEFN

Yarra Riverkeeper Association, YRKA was incorporated in 2005 and is part of the Waterkeeper Alliance of more than 150 waterkeepers worldwide. "We advocate for the River: for green spaces, for water quality, for biodiversity, for the birds, animals, insects and reptiles along the River, for good planning decisions, for the tributaries, for the parklands, for appropriate recreation; and for an understanding of our river and its role in the life of the city of Melbourne. We lobby governments and we educate the community. We tell the story of the River." <http://yarrariver.org.au/who-we-are/>



Andrew Kelly, Riverkeeper

His group has recently had a major win when The Yarra Protection Act was enacted by Parliament in 2017, /for more information see:

<https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/policy-and-strategy/waterways-planning/yarra-river-protection>

Welcome to Country was given by Uncle Tony from the Wurundjeri Land Council. He noted that there is now a Narrap team, a part of the Wurundjeri's Caring for Country (Narrap) Plan; some 9 Aborigines are currently employed and they are hoping to employ more people. In comparison with 20 years ago, the Yarra is dirty. Narrap will raise awareness of the need for a buffer zone for wildlife, the importance of stopping cattle damaging the creeks and rivers and commence revegetation of these degraded areas. Uncle Tony noted the importance of the Yarra to the Aborigines as a source of food and culture. Bunjil (the eagle) is the creator of life for Aborigines. Permission was given to us to enter the land.



Uncle Tony from the Wurundjeri Land Council

When asked "What things did you find most interesting, potentially useful, from the seminar?". Lyndy answered below:

That is a difficult question, but for me, it was the following:

- 1. The need to communicate with other Friends groups. eg I would like to suggest our committee meet the Helmeted Honeyeater group and learn about how they run their nursery and how they got sponsorship and visit their nursery to see their operations and compare it with ours. See attached slides with their supporting partners - fascinating stuff. The Glenfern group grow over 90,000 plants per year without paid staff. How do they do it?*
- 2. We need to be more involved in our community, influencing schools and our Councils etc to ensure there is an understanding of what we do and get the message across about the need to balance the need for housing with preserving the environment for our flora and fauna, especially as the MCC is being pushed to create more housing which is impacting on Warrandyte: Investors are moving in. There will be 12 new Macmansions in the next 2 years built on Yarra St. There is a big gap there and it is growing wider as more people come to Melbourne. Our future volunteers will come from the kids of today. If they don't understand the need to preserve our environment, then all is lost.*

Ken and I have been taking every opportunity to talk to local schools and kinders, but we need to be more proactive as there are so many kids coming through each year, and create programs in consultation with teachers who have an interest in the environment.

We hope to present further information from or stimulated by the seminar in the future.

No need to struggle with kneeling

We now have four kneelers that will be perfect for hand weeding in Frogland and elsewhere around the nursery. Carolyn demonstrates their use below:



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	3 May	9:00-12:00	Walert Creek	Weeding	Easy	FOWSP
Thurs	17 May	9:00-12:00	Fiddler Track	Fencing	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	31 May	9:00-12:00	Buttermans Track	Planting	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	7 June	9:00-12:00	Endeavour Bank	Planting	Moderate	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 COMMITTEE 2018			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	9435 5806	Newsletter editor	Newsletter assist and Librarian	
	editor@fowsp.org.au		Gloria Moore 0402 285005	
Annette Lion	0414-249-729	Facebook Coordinator	Wildlife Rescue Adriana Simmonds	9722 2908
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		Market Trailer Jan Falconer	
			9844 1226 or 0419 872 096	
			email trailer@fowsp.org.au	
Carolyn Noel	0409 901 441		Manningham Council Rep	
			Cathy Willis 0427 660 651	
Joy Hick	0418573916		Webmaster	
			Jason Patton 0402 121838	
			jason@parau.com	
Kelvin Watkins	0488 039 774		Website: www.fowsp.org.au	
Jeff Cranston	0418 396 647		FOWSP general enquiry number	1300 764 422
	legality@bigpond.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
Mel Coupar (Line drawings)

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 8 May 2018

Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp



FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks



This series of free nature walks will explore a variety of local bushland areas in Manningham and are 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 May 24 2018 Yarra Brae to Jumping Creek This is a challenging walk through the heart of the Warrandyte Gorge country. It includes superb scenery, less explored section of the river, a few steep hills, a creek crossing and interesting history along the way.

Distance: 8km Time: 4.5 hours Rating: Difficult

9:30 am Thursday 28 June 2018 Currawong Bush Park Currawong is known as "the best little wilderness in town". Join in this walk to find out why. After crossing the Mullum Mullum Creek at the northern end of the walk we return along the riparian corridor and view Currawong from across the creek.

Distance: 3.5 kms Time: 3 hours Rating: Moderate

Bookings are essential as places are limited and will open two months before the walk date. To Book: www.manningham.vic.gov.au/nature-walks The meeting point for these nature walks will be emailed to you once your booking is complete. All distances and 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.

Please note that nature walks will be cancelled on a day of Total Fire Ban or extreme weather warning.

FOWSP THURSDAY PROGRAM

We meet for propagation and other nursery activities every Thursday morning at 9.30 am at the Warrandyte State Park depot, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte (Melway 23 C10), unless otherwise stated below. Propagation takes place from 9.30 am to 12.30 midday.

No prior experience necessary -
There is always someone available to show you the ropes.

NURSERY OPENING HOURS

The nursery is open for plant sales every Thursday.

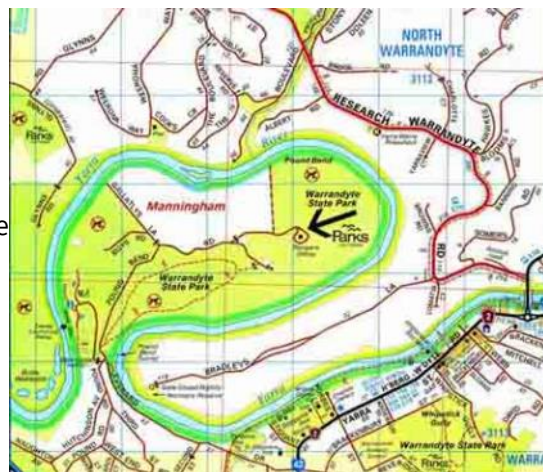
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

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

Closed Christmas and New Years days.

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

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



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

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars



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

Many of the seminars will be complemented with field trips to allow broader education on the topics. Bookings are not required for the evening seminars; however, bookings are essential for the field trips.

Due to the popularity of field trips, bookings are limited to two field trips per person for the series.

Attendance is required for the corresponding seminar to be eligible to attend and keep your booking for field trips.

Please note the seminars and field trips will be cancelled in the event of extreme weather, including a Total Fire Ban or Code Red Fire Danger Day.

Seminar Venue: River View Room, The Grand Hotel, Warrandyte

Time: Please arrive at 7.20pm for a 7.30pm start

Enquiries: 9840 9124

Wednesday 2 May 2018 7.30pm Underground Lovers – Exploring the clandestine relationships between trees and fungi. Dr. Alison Pouliot Although little known the roots of almost every tree in the Australian landscape are intimately entwined with fungi. These relationships extend beyond trees and include every orchid and most shrubs and grasses. These mutually beneficial relationships are the secret to their success in our highly variable climate and nutrient-deficient soils.

Fungi not only help plants access water and nutrients, but also increase their resistance to drought and disease. Fungi build architecture in soils, aerating them and allowing water to gently percolate to deeper horizons. While often maligned by gardeners, the great majority of fungi are friends, not foes.

Join ecologist and environmental photographer Dr Alison Pouliot in an illustrated and interactive seminar as she explores these fascinating relationships and shares her knowledge on ways to encourage fungi to flourish in our gardens, parks and local environments.

Participants are encouraged to bring along fungi for identification. Please Note: Fungi can only be collected from participants' private property and cannot be from public land or roadsides as a permit is required to collect fungi on public land.

Thursday 3 May 2018 9.00am to 11.00am Field Trip: Underground Lovers

Presented by Dr Alison Pouliot Alison will share her extensive knowledge and experience on this field trip introducing participants to the diversity, ecology and curiosities of the Kingdom Fungi, specific to fungi found in the region and its various habitat types. Participants will learn some of the basic skills used to identify fungi in the field using multiple senses. The relationships between fungi and various plant species and different habitat types will be discussed. Every fungus has intriguing natural and cultural histories and stories which Alison will share along the way.

(Continued on page 7)

Congratulations to Sarah and Andy

We were all very excited to be able to help Sarah and partner Andy celebrate their engagement.

Sarah was filling in for Michelle Tumino this week in mid April but we can be sure she will be back from time to time. She loves being around FOWSPians and really enjoys the nursery work.

Andy and Sarah intend to travel around UK and Europe before they settle down. They are going to convert a van into a tiny house in England and pick up casual work as they go along to help their budget.

They are still working out where their marriage will take place, but it will probably be China, where she and Andy met whilst she was performing over there. They may have to get married twice, as the Marriage Certificate may not be recognised in Australia. Sarah loves cooking for family and friends, and makes cakes for special occasions. The last one was for her sister's wedding. Sarah has a wealth of talent and will go far in the future.

Lynda Gilbert

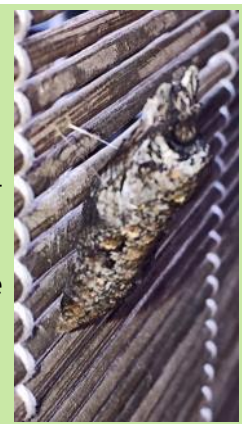


In Carolyn's garden (also see email photo page)

I found this caterpillar munching my baby lemon tree. After looking the critter up I decided to monitor how much it and its two companions would eat before becoming chrysalis and emerging as beautiful butterflies. The next day it disappeared. I feared a bird had eaten it. A day later I found it attaching itself to the inside of a bamboo blind. It had moved at least 4 metres from the tree to a spot it considered a lot safer. I hope I get an opportunity to watch it emerge in two weeks to a month.

Carolyn

PS. This is the caterpillar of the Dainty Swallowtail Butterfly. We hope Carolyn can watch its emergence. Ed.



(Continued from page 6)

Manningham City Council Environment Seminars

Wednesday 6 June 2018 7:30 pm Threatened orchids of Middle Yarra and the Warrandyte-Kinglake nature conservation link Presented by Cam Beardsall. Local ecologist, environmentalist and Parks Victoria Ranger Cam Beardsall will speak about seven of our most locally threatened native orchid species, their threats and management. Cam will provide numerous colour photos to visually aid his discussion of the conservation aspects of these orchids including; threats such as the impacts of habitat loss, fragmentation and herbivore grazing, ecological interactions with fire, pollinators and associate plants. Cam will also discuss management programs such as population recovery and site protection relevant to these species.



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER At the Warrandyte Riverside Market

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 7 April
**Dianne and John Baird, Jeff Cranston, Caitriona Young,
Christine Andell, Lyn Moore, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook,**
Special thanks to **Artur Muchow** 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 for this year.
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, 5 May, 2 June, 7 July 2018

Lake Eyre and the Painted Hills SA

On a recent outback trip with my friends Irene and Bruce Fuhrer, we were lucky enough to be taken in small planes on two scenic flights over Lake Eyre and the Painted Hills.

We were staying in the small outback town of Maree SA at the time and the flights were part of our trip.

The first flight was from Maree over Lake Eyre. The plane I was flying in only held 4 passengers so we were able to fly at only 500 metres above the ground so had a spectacular view for taking photos. The plane Irene and Bruce were flying in was considerably larger so was unable to fly so low. However their camera and telephoto lens still produced very clear and detail photos as you can see from this article.



Lake Eyre was devoid of water but the white salt crystals still gave us a magical view from the air. The patterns they created along what was the water's edge were truly beautiful. We flew over the area of saltpan that Sir Donald Campbell used to create the still in existence, land speed record as well as the Gibber Shelf on the shoreline of Belt Bay the lowest point in Australia. We also saw Silcrete Island (in the middle of the lake) and some of the eroded peninsulas that jut out into the salt bed.



After leaving Lake Eyre, we flew to the township of William Creek where we had lunch before our second flight which took us over the Painted Hills on our way back to Maree.

These hills are a rocky outcrop of small hills in the desert lying in what used to be part of the inland sea some 50 million years ago. Being a shelf in this sea, the rocks were exposed by water to show the colours of the minerals within and this is what we see today. They mainly consist of the red iron oxide with the colour fading to white due to the leeching of the ore by water. Unfortunately, we didn't see them at the prime viewing times of early morning and dusk or after rain when I'm told the colours are more vivid. However, it was still a magnificent sight and truly inspiring experience enjoyed by us all.

Alwynne Buntine Photos courtesy of Bruce Fuhrer

And a question from Alwynne regarding her photo on the right. What is it?

"I know it's the caterpillar of a case-moth, but which? It's only about 4-5 cms in length (the case that is) and it's attached itself to one of my Correas. Its case is a little different to any other one I've ever seen because not only has it been decorated with twigs from the Correa but also with Correa flowers and buds as you can see from the photos. I'd be very interested to know what the adult moth looks like."

Have you ever seen such an elegant case? Others can be seen here: <http://lepidoptera.butterflyhouse.com.au/psyc/psyc-cases.html>



Brumbys Lane & Pigeon Bank developments overturned - two wins for the environment!

MEET DANIEL EPSTEIN, Barrister and a resident of Warrandyte who is pictured below with his newborn son Rhen, our youngest addition to the environmental battleground. Rhen is already a fighter and hopefully will take after his dad in protecting our natural heritage in the years to come!

Daniel is a regular visitor to the FOWSP nursery. He was instrumental in assisting the Warrandyte Protection Group at VCAT to prevent a petrol station being built next to Andersons Creek about 2 years ago. Pollution from the petrol station would have killed any wildlife living in the creek and it would have disturbed the neighbours with noise, pollution, graffiti and hooning from cars visiting the service station all hours of the night and day. It also would have been a terrifying fireball in the event of a catastrophic event.

Daniel recently provided counsel to the residents of Brumbys Lane who objected to the development of a 49 room hotel with function rooms, a vineyard, orchard and winery, connected to the Olivigna Restaurant. The residents are already subject to noise and lights from the restaurant until late at night and further development would have impacted on the peace and serenity of the area.

VCAT ON 26 March 2018 refused a permit to build the complex on the following grounds:

Council's concerns regarding the impact of this development on the environment, vegetation and habitat corridor were considered valid.

The proposed hotel's built form would dominate the environment which is not in keeping with the area.

The inadequate number of car parks for the hotel and the inability of Brumbys Road to cope with the increased traffic flows as it is narrow and has a number of blind corners.

Daniel was also Counsel for 2 Pigeon Bank Road. It's been a long road for the neighbours, the Warrandyte Community Association, Friends of Nillumbik and the Green Wedge Protection Group opposed to the development proposal on Pigeon Bank Road. The developer went to the Supreme Court to stop the VCAT appeal, but was unsuccessful in November 2017. The Pigeon Bank Rd proposal would have destroyed 740 trees to build just one house on top of a ridgeline in North Warrandyte, contrary to the Green Wedge zoning. It has been withdrawn by the developer, Phillip Mannerheim Holdings Pty Ltd.

Lynda Gilbert



This gorgeous photo of Daniel and Rhen was taken by Lynda Gilbert.

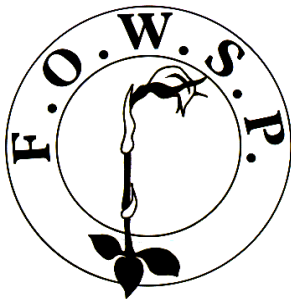
More on the Green Wedge

SUCCESS FOR THE GREEN WEDGE IN COTTLES BRIDGE

Like 2 Pigeon Bank Road, 14 Barreenong Road Cottles Bridge is in the Nillumbik Green Wedge in the Rural Conservation Zone – RCZ3. Unlike Pigeon Bank this case was taken all the way to VCAT by the applicant, which issued its ruling on March 16: a permit was not granted.

This case differed from the 2 Pigeon Bank case in that the Nillumbik Council did not end up overturning their Officers' rejection of the permit, which resulted in the applicant's appeal to VCAT. But what should be noted is the importance of community involvement, in this case in the form of community objections to the application and particularly the involvement of Friends of Nillumbik and Mr Bill Lord's appearance at VCAT. For more information see:

<https://mailchi.mp/9521dbd92599/vcat-success-for-the-green-wedge?e=e82ebae8e1>



Print
Post

346802/0005

Postage
Paid
Australia

**REGISTRATION BY AUSTRALIA POST
PP 346802 / 0005**

If undeliverable please return to
Friends of Warrandyte State Park Inc.
P.O. Box 220 **Warrandyte, 3113**



Gum Leaf Katydid *Torbia perficita*

Almost invisible when hanging among the gum leaves that it feeds upon, this large katydid really stood out when it landed on the railing of my deck. I was able to tell it was female by the large abdomen and the hook shaped ovipositors.

Her size is impressive, about 50mm long and she fed hungrily on some Red Stringy Bark leaves before laying a complex of black eggs on the screen of her cage on the second day I kept her. For more of this story see May Warrandyte Diary.

Linda

May 2018 Vol. 36 no. 4

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.

Email photo bonus page

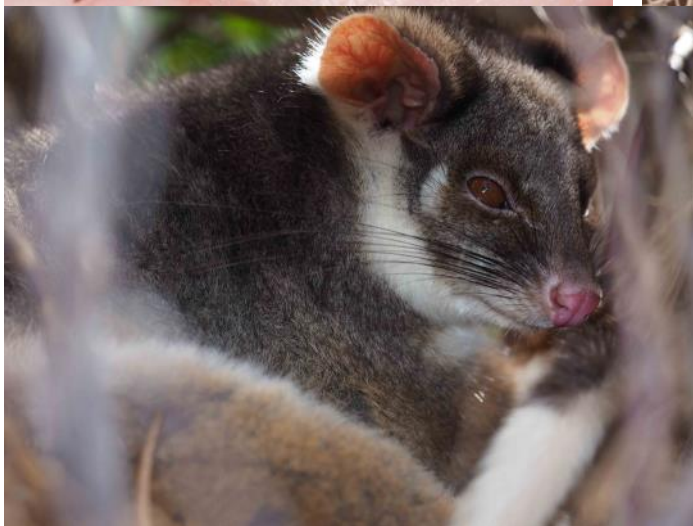
Carolyn photographed this insect that “was frantically searching every nook and cranny. I got the feeling it was looking for a shelter of some sort, nest perhaps?” An internet search reveals this is most likely *Scolia soror* (hairy flower wasp, blue flower wasp, black flower wasp, or blue hairy flower wasp), ... a common insect found in Australia. It may grow to 3 cm long. The wings are a smoky black colour with an appealing blue sheen. ... the antennae are relatively thick.[1] Adults feed on nectar. The female lays her eggs on larval beetles.

It is likely that this one was a female searching for beetle larvae. Ed.



Darkling beetle *Adelium* sp. above left. This beetle, one of several found under a log along Everard Track, gave me quite a surprise when I picked it up. I first thought I had injured it as I saw the long yellow structure protruding from its abdomen. It turns out this is a defence mechanism as the gland exudes a yellow smelly liquid and can later be retracted back into the abdomen.

Eggs above right, these have been laid by the Katydid shown on p. 10. Will they hatch? Wait and see.



Possum, left, just another shot of the ringtail that is loving living in the vine near our compost bin and eating my Red Stringybark leaves. *Linda*

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