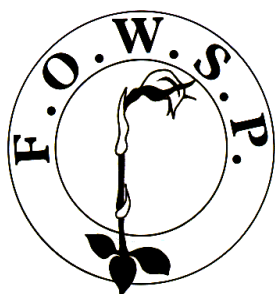


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

August's wintry blasts have not slowed things down at FOWSP.

It has been a bit of a shock to Peter and I who have just returned from travels in NT, Kimberley and the Pilbara. The furthest south we reached was Kalbarri where the wildflowers and orchids were just starting to show. If anyone is thinking about a trip to southwest WA this spring, don't hesitate. With the rain they have had, this should be a superb year for wildflowers. I have included



Lisa and Annette have good reason for these smiles. See p. 9



just a couple of shots from Kalbarri in July: the Murchison Rose and a Colletid bee on a Banksia flower just because I can (left).

National Tree Day in late July was again quite successful as described on p. 2.

On p. 3 see what Ken and Lyndy, FOWSP's ambassadors to the kindy kids, have been up to.

Page 4 gives a glimpse of some of the plants going into Frogland.

Students from Lilydale campus of Box Hill TAFE have been learning and helping at FOWSP as seen on p. 7 and we were pleased to see our friend Simon was amongst them.

On page 8 a story of citizen science and the plight of Humpback whales is shared with us by Mallacoota member Pat Coupar. Most of you will remember Pat well as previous newsletter editor and both Pat and Mike spent many years actively pursuing many FOWSP projects before moving to far east Gippsland.

Keep us posted on your activities and enjoy this newsletter. *Linda*



Deadline for October edition newsletter is

Friday 21 September

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

Another successful National Tree Day Event 29 July 2018



National Tree Day attracted a total of 38 people, mainly families with children, to Warrandyte State Park. Most of the attendees were not known to FOWSP and found the location through the National Tree Day website. It was great to see so many new participants.

Artur Muchow and Cathy Willis assisted people with the planting and some 1000 plants went into the ground.

The weather was kind and the sun shone through, making it a very pleasant day. The kangaroos attracted a lot of attention too.

We used our new Bushmans barbecue (photo right) for the first time, purchased with a small grant from Manningham City Council. It was lovely to cook on - nothing got burnt! Everyone enjoyed a feast of bread, sausages, salads, fruit and cakes, various drinks, tea and coffee. It was evident that everyone enjoyed the experience and the barbecue.

Artur thanked everyone for coming. It was fulfilling to revegetate yet another part of the park.

Lyndy



Lisa, Kelvin, Cathy and Lyn, some of the FOWSPians helping on National Tree Day

Kinder Kids explore Mullum Mullum Creek with FOWSPians

We visited Carey Baptist Kindergarten on 9 August 2018. This was our second visit and we were delighted to be asked again.

Carey Kinder is one of the most beautiful and well set up kindergartens that I have ever had the pleasure to visit. The staff are utterly delightful and so welcoming, so it felt like we were long time friends of the Kinder.

The purpose of this visit was to explore the Mullum Mullum Creek and discuss the flora and fauna that we could expect to find there.

Although it was cold outside, it was quite pleasant for this type of outing.

Anne Fahey and her assistants escorted the children to the creek bank and we introduced the children to the flora and fauna surrounding them (photo above).



Kinder kids playing in the makeshift outdoor log structures.

On return to the kinder, we set up "shop" and sold plants to the children and staff. Each child had a paper bag with \$2 in it to purchase their plants to take home.

Using a powerpoint presentation, we illustrated where our water comes from, where it ends up and what lives in or near the water.

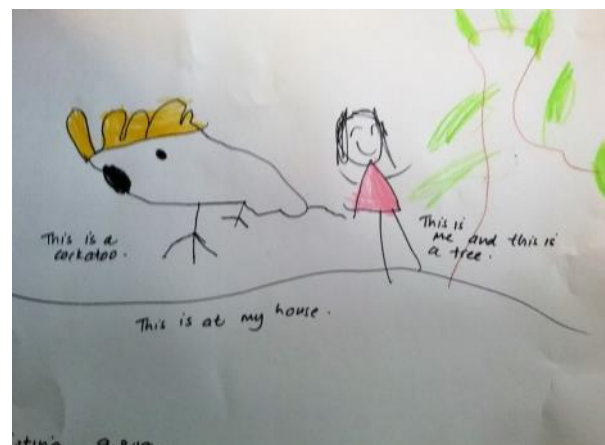
We also took some creek water for the children to examine which had freshwater snails, mosquito larvae and water fleas for the children to look at under a magnifying glass. The final activity was to place stickers of Australian animals, birds and water creatures on A3 sheets which pictured a pretty part of the

Mullum Mullum Creek.

The children were very excited with the unusual activity and very responsive to the outdoor show and tell. The visit lasted for 3 hours - we ran out of time and will have to visit again!

One child also did a wonderful drawing of a sulphur crested cockatoo (photo right).

Lyndy and Ken



Frogland planting August 2018

IT WAS REALLY PLEASING to come back to FOWSP after my winter's travels and to see how healthy Frogland is looking. Many thanks to Marie and others who have come out in the wintry weather to help look after Frogland.

Although the soil is still dry below the top couple of centimetres, we have planted some additional plants in August, a task made much easier by the new tap.

Native Tall Feathergrass *Stipa elegantissima* (photo upper right) from Morrisons reserve was planted and some of this grass was also recently planted back into Morrison's to bolster its population.

Other Frogland plantings include *Dillwynia cinerascens*, *Acacia gunnii*, *Lagenifera huegelii* (photo mid right) the latter from Currawong is rare and localised.

Linda



Hakea decurrens ssp. *physocarpa* or Bushy Needlewood tubestock and flowering plant (photo right from *Flora of Warrandyte*)

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	6 Sep	9:00-12:00	Ridge Block	Weeding and planting	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	13 Sep	9:00-12:00	Gold memorial Rd	Woody weeding with ACCA	Difficult	FOWSP
Thurs	27 Sep	9:00-12:00	One Tree Hill	Weeding	Moderate	FOWSP
Thurs	4 Oct	9:00-12:00	Walert Ck	Planting and weeding	Moderate	FOWSP & ACCA

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
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			email nursery@fowsp.org.au	
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			email trailer@fowsp.org.au	
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			Cathy Willis	0427 660 651
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			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 September 11th 2018

Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

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 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.

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

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

Enquiries: 9840 9326

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.

Wednesday 5 September 7:30 pm Fish and crayfish of Mannningham's creeks presented by Chris Bloink

This seminar provides a background review of the fish and crayfish species found in Manningham's creeks. Chris will provide an outline of the species that were formerly known or suspected to occur in these waterways, together with a summary of their ecology.

Saturday 8 September 10:00 to 12:00 Field trip: Chris will lead backpack electrofishing demonstration in a local Manningham creek. The demonstration will include a display and discussion of any fish and crayfish species captured as well as habitat and threats.

Wednesday 3 October 7:30 Imported geological material in natural areas – impacts and management

Imported geological material is an emerging critical issue in maintaining natural areas. Foreign geomaterial is not consistent with site geology, geomorphology, soils and hydrology. Join Dr Jeff Yugovic who will review case studies, discuss alternatives and propose management guidelines

Further information see <https://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/environment-seminars>

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.

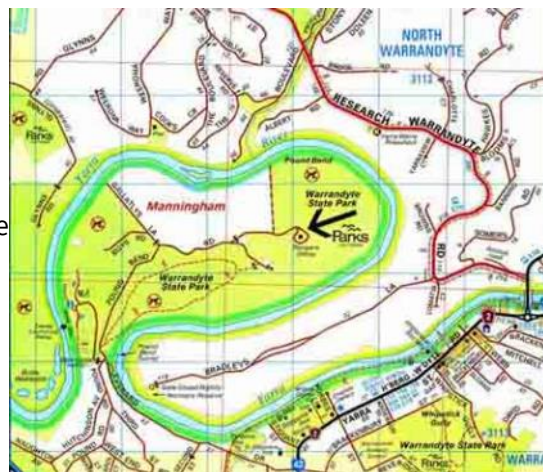
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

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

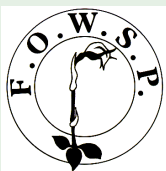
Closed Christmas and New Years days.

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



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FOWSP/Manningham Thursday nature walks



This series of nature walks will explore various sections of the natural areas of Manningham. Each walk is paced to allow participants to enjoy and appreciate the natural beauty of the area.

Bookings are essential as places are limited. Bookings will open two months before the walk date.

The meeting point for each nature walk will be provided at the time of your booking. All walk durations are approximate.

Please wear appropriate clothing for the weather including a hat and sturdy footwear. Bring a water bottle and snack.

9:30 am Thursday 27th September Blue Tongue Bend Loop A circular walk that follows the management track over the ridge and then returns along the river, with stunning views, rare plants and an old chapel to discover along the way.

Distance: 4km **Time:** 3 hrs **Rating:** Difficult

9:30 am Thursday 25 October Bucks Reserve, White's Orchard and the Mullum Mullum Creek Explore this lesser known section of the Mullum habitat corridor including the wild west facing slopes east of the creek. Note: there will be some off track walking to connect between tracks.

Distance: 4 km **Time:** 2.5 hrs **Rating:** Difficult

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. Bookings and information see 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.

Visit from Boxhill TAFE students including our friend Simon

Students from Box Hill TAFE Lilydale campus who are studying Conservation Land Management had a working learning session at Pound Bend and then joined us for morning tea (photo below). It was great to meet Simon (a previous FOWSP volunteer enjoying a cuppa photo inset) amongst the students and hear that he is enjoying the course and participating in a Friends of... group near his new home.

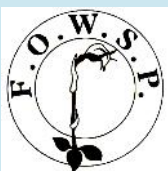


Students will also attend on the last Thursday of August to learn/ assist in erecting a deer fence. Our best wishes go to Simon and all the students.



FOWSP can become more zero waste suggestions from Annette

- reusable glass bottles of tap filled water instead of offering plastic bottles
- encourage people to bring their own water bottles
- supply some reusable water bottles for people who have forgotten their own.
- brewing teapots with loose leaf tea instead of tea bags (contain bpa plastic!)
- Let's aim for....RRRR REFUSE what we don't need
REUSE what we do need
RECYCLE what we can't refuse or reuse
ROT (compost) what we can't refuse, reuse or recycle.
There would be very little left over for land fill.



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 4th August 2018
**Diane and John Baird, Jeff Cranston, Marion King
Christine Andell, Marie Krause, 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
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, 1 September, 6 October, 3 November 2018

Healthy Whales Program – Citizen Science Research

By Pat Coupar

LAST MONTH Mike and I joined four other citizen scientist volunteers on a humpback whale research weekend on the Gold Coast. The well-named Humpbacks and Highrides (HHR) is an independent not for profit organisation dedicated to research and protection of whales and dolphins. CEO and chief scientist Olaf Meynecke and his research assistant Holly Richmond and other colleagues and volunteers are studying the behaviour of whales in an urban environment. Among other things their project is looking at the reasons why whales are experiencing more diseases, injuries and a change in migration behaviour such as giving birth further south.



On Friday afternoon the six of us citizen scientists met Olaf and Holly at Griffith University for a general introduction to the weekend ahead with details about the project and a safety briefing. We also learnt about the data collection procedures as well as getting familiar with whale behaviour terminology.

Saturday dawned clear and calm with virtually no swell. It couldn't have been better for our first day on the water. Although the boat was chartered for the purpose, our skipper Bec obviously felt as passionate about the whales as the rest of us. She did a fantastic job at finding the whales and getting the boat in the

right position for observation and data collection.

A considerable amount of paperwork was required by Olaf to get the necessary permits to get close to the whales and to fly a drone over them to collect samples of mucous from the blow and take aerial footage of the whales.

Over the two days we were with them, Olaf and Holly particularly wanted to concentrate on studying mums and calves, which we did including finding a very young calf (possibly only a day or two old) that was still being assisted by its Mum to reach the surface to take a breath. It was inspiring to watch. As was the



skill of Olaf and Holly flying the drone, complete with petrie dish attached, close to the whale to get a sample from the blow. A little easier was gathering up skin samples from the 'footprint' on the surface of the water following a breach. This material was preserved to be analysed at a later date.

Over the two days we saw just how vulnerable these migrating humpbacks are, particularly the calves. Shark nets and baited drum lines are major hazards and entanglements are not uncommon. On the Sunday afternoon – another warm, sunny day, boats and jet skis were out in force. We saw a speeding boat heading straight for a humpback that we could see but the boat driver couldn't and only thanks to Bec's high-pitched whistle did it stop in time. Shortly after that we came across a Mum and calf corralled by eight boats (recreation and commercial fishing) trying to get a closer look at the whales.

Even more distressing for our researchers is to find a whale entangled in a shark net as happened at Burleigh Heads the day after we left. You can read Holly's upsetting account of it in the HHR newsletter. You can subscribe to the quarterly newsletter by going to: humpbacksandhighrises.org

Now, when Mike and I see humpbacks passing our Mallacoota beaches and Gabo Island we have a much better, although concerning, insight into what is ahead of them on their annual migration north.

Thanks to Olaf and the HHR Healthy Whales Program for giving volunteers like us the opportunity and privilege to join their research team in documenting behaviour, collecting samples and taking photographs, while learning about how increased water temperature and other environmental factors are influencing the behaviour of these magnificent intelligent mammals.

Best wishes to Janaya

Janaya gave a very emotional farewell to all her friends at FOWSP on Thursday 2 August.

She has been offered a great job through DELWP with Heritage Victoria until March next year and will be working in Nicholson Street as a support officer with a customer focused role and will assist her manager, Steve Avery.

Whilst she is looking forward to a new challenge, it was difficult to leave her friends from FOWSP.

Having been a volunteer herself at Dandenong Valley Parklands, she has a great affinity for volunteers.

For eight years, she has looked after the volunteers in Warrandyte and its surrounds - she has been involved with FOWSP, ACCA, OPLC and student groups. She has assisted groups raise funds through grant applications, the largest being the Walert grant, between Parks, FOWSP and DELWP. This involves installing deer fencing to protect endangered orchids, and planting over 15,000 plants with volunteers.

Janaya is hoping to be able to continue her role in fire, emergency and compliance.

She will keep in touch and asked people to drop in to her new workplace.

It was sad to see her go, but she will keep in contact.

Lyndy



Visitors to the nursery

Cheryl Meikle, Branch Manager and Dee Dickson, Community Liaison Officer, of the Warrandyte Branch of the Bendigo Bank, came to say hello to FOWSPians and to see the super new watering structure which has been built with the grant money provided by the Warrandyte Community Bank. They were both impressed with the size and shape and were amazed at the operation of the nursery.

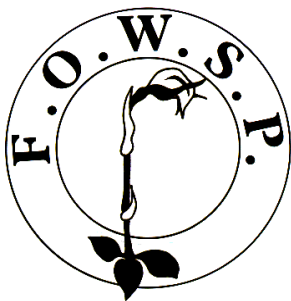
Bendigo Bank gives 80% of its profit back to the Warrandyte community, which has amounted to some \$2.4 million over the past 10 years.

FOWSP has received over \$12,000 for the 3 grants it has applied for. We have just submitted another grant application for a new 33000 litre water tank to future proof watering our plants in case the pump which supplies the nursery with water from the Yarra River breaks down.

Lyndy

These beautiful birthday cakes made all of us smile, not just Lisa and Annette.





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Chiloglottis trapeziformis

Blooming successfully in Frogland this year having been planted
in February this year.

This is the second orchid species to have tubers planted in
Frogland. *Pterostylis curta* was planted in 2017 and is currently
blooming well although some area have been chewed, perhaps
by millipedes. The *Drosera* planted along with the orchids has not
done quite so well this year.

Linda

September 2018 Vol. 36 no. 7

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

Thanks to Josh for lovely photos of flowers: Common Hovea *Hovea linearis*, Yam Daisy *Microseris lanceolata* and Blue Caladenia *Cyanicula caerulea*, Sure signs that spring is on its way.

Several of these wasps were flying in my garden in the August sunshine. Ken Walker IDed them as a parasitic wasp *Drepanoctonus bifasciatus*, in the Ichneumonid family. What is its prey?

Linda



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