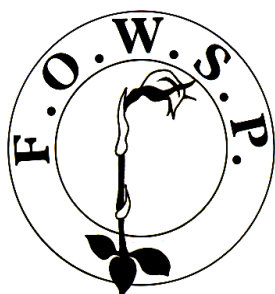


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

ANOTHER month has flown and we are well into autumn. Although we keep our fingers crossed, each week seems to bring us closer to 'normality'. Morning teas are beginning to take on that delicious look and taste with Lyndy's special touch and we are all happy about that.

This month we are taking some time to look back at FOWSP history. Doug Seymour, prompted by one of FOWSP's Coffee and Chats at Warren Glen, has taken the time to share some of his recollections on p. 2.

Some of our legless wildlife and also an eight-legged one appear on p. 3.

The likely answer to a hairy question from 2020 appears on p. 6.

Taggers have helped attack the woody weeds in a southern section of Kinglake State Park while taking time to appreciate indigenous plants. Kelvin reports on p. 7.



Volunteers were thrilled to see the return of near traditional morning tea as shown here with Joy and Allison being served by Lyndy and Kay.



FOWSP has much artistic talent among our members but it is not always seen. Page 9 shines a light on works of art by Lyndy and Gloria. At the bottom of the same page, is a demonstration of the art of dispatching European wasps.

Page 10 now contains two insect portraits as we are no longer posting printed copies of the newsletter to general members and we no longer require the postal information.

Page 11 has some photos and news from around the nursery including some of the difficulties experienced in keeping our orchid stock alive.

Photo left show the entrance to Frogland on a typical autumn day.

Linda Rogan

**Deadline for June edition newsletter is
Friday 21 May 2021**

**contributions can be emailed to [Linda Rogan editor@fowsp.org.au](mailto:editor@fowsp.org.au)
or posted to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113**

Doug Seymour's Recollections of early days of FOWSP

During the March Coffee & Chat at Warren Glen I found myself telling tales about the early days of FOWSP. Lynda remarked that it would be a good idea to record some of that history as we move on with our work on the shoulders of other who went before.

My early involvement in the late 1970's was intermittent as I was focussed on the work of a contemporary group of that time - the Warrandyte Environment League (WEL). These were the years of battles to save the Koorngong river frontage, Professors Hill Sanctuary and seemingly endless planning cases fighting off developers.

To firm up on some FOWSP dates and people I called Val Polley who has generously helped. Who else would you go to? Val reminded me of the WEL's participation in an amazing rubbish collection day organised in the late 70's. We agreed such an event

would not be possible today. A four-wheel drive club turned out to help extract rusting car bodies and old water tanks from creeks and gullies which, together with other metal waste, was piled up on the edge of the State Park off Webb Street, for later contract removal. We also brought our chain-saws to clean up! I do not recall a risk management study being undertaken.



FOWSPians enjoy a Coffee and Chat

However, it was as a result of this type of work the WEL together with Park Ranger Kris Reinertsen and some local residents, inspired by the efforts of the Friends groups in the Organ Pipes and Wilson Promontory National Parks decided to start a similar 'hands on' group for the Warrandyte State Park..



Doug Seymour

FOWSP was formed at a meeting on 6th April 1982 in the old Getson's site community building on the corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue. Firstly, Geoff Durham from the Victorian National Parks Association told us about Friends Groups and how they assisted management by working in their parks. Then together with members of the Organ Pipes Friends Group, he showed slides of what had been achieved in the Organ Pipes National Park. Kris Reinertsen then outlined his plans for the Warrandyte State Park and the meeting agreed to form a new group, the Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP). It appointed two coordinators for the

new group and the very first FOWSP working bee was planned for Fourth Hill later that same month.

Good and productive workdays followed but as enthusiasm and attendances became intermittent then coordinator Mike Duff called a meeting at his home. A small but dedicated group turned up to hear the news that the Friends Group was in danger of collapse. The meeting decided that FOWSP must keep going.

Local resident, Glen Jameson, assumed the coordination of the group and was ably assisted by Peter Van Dijk. Under their capable leadership FOWSP grew in numbers and enlarged its scope. Each year a program was set in conjunction with the Park staff, incorporating work in different areas of the Park with a mixture of weed management, planting, propagation and building tasks to suit everyone's taste. In taking on the coordinator role Glen brought a deep ecology perspective to our working bees. I always recall the dedicated preparation Glen and wife Heather devoted to preparing and running the weeding and planting days ~ talks on the plant communities, helpful instruction on

(Continued on page 8)

White-lipped Snake *Drysdalia coronoides* by Lynda Chambers

I found a White-lipped Snake in our garden this morning. I believe it was a juvenile as it was very small, around 30 cm long.

In April 2016 Lynda wrote:
‘T’was the Season By Lynda Chambers

DURING THE WARMER SEASONS of the year it is not unusual to spot the odd reptile when out in the bush. This year saw some exciting finds, all very close to our house in the Park Orchards / South Warrandyte region.’

...

White-lipped Snake (35-50 cm): This snake can be identified by a conspicuous white strip, edged with black, along its upper lip. The upperparts can be highly variable in colour from brown to reddish-brown to grey to olive-green. It can be found throughout south-eastern Australia, including Tasmania, in woodlands, heathlands, and dry sclerophyll forests, particularly in wetter areas where there is a tussock groundcover. It is venomous but not dangerous. Status: Secure.

On that occasion Lynda couldn't get a photo of the white-lipped snake to share. However this April she has succeeded as shown here:



White-lipped snake pokes its head out from the rocks and slithers across the open ground.
 April 2021



White-lipped snake *Drysdalia coronoides* April 2021
 Note the distinctive white strip, edged with black, along its upper lip. Photos Lynda Chambers.

**Wolf prowls Frogland**

This particular wolf ran across my gloved hand making me jump for my phone for a photograph. Although fast moving, he also stopped motionless and almost disappeared amongst the leaf litter. After consulting Whyte and Anderson *A Field guide to spiders of Australia*, I am guessing one of the Union-jack wolf spiders in the *Tasmanicosa* genus. The genus stands out because of the light and dark union-jack pattern on the carapace. Like all wolf spiders, these are very active hunters during the day and night.

Linda Rogan

BOOKCHAT – MAY 2021**“SANDTALK” by Tyson Yunkaporta**

We are accustomed to a certain way of thinking. We want the world to be simple, but we talk about it in complicated ways.

Indigenous thinking is different. It knows the world is complex and finds deep ways to communicate this knowledge through pictures, carvings, stories.

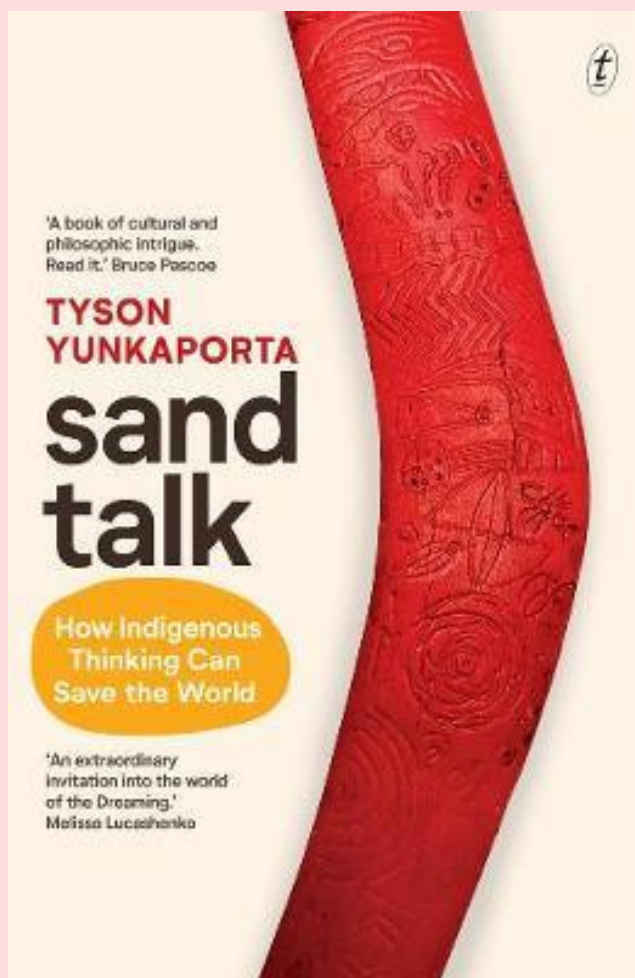
Tyson Yunkaporta uses sand talk, which honours the Aboriginal custom of drawing images on the ground, to bring clarity to complexity. He asks, “What happens if we bring an Indigenous perspective to the big picture – to history, education, money, power? Can we in fact have proper concepts of sustainable life without Indigenous knowledge?”

He challenges us to think differently – and change the world.

“After two hundred years, Indigenous thinkers are claiming the right to interpret Aboriginal Australia. It is a revolutionary change: here, in this compelling book, are its first fruits.”
- Nicholas Rothwell.

You can borrow “Sand Talk” from the FOWSP library – Reference No. ED420.
Happy reading,

Gloria Moore

**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

6/05/2021	Craig Road	DAVID	Weeding, maintenance	Moderate
13/05/2021	Harding/Red Beard Fence	PHIL	Cassinia thinning, fence maintenance and leaf removal.	Moderate
20/05/2021	Endeavour Bank	ARTUR	Grant planting	Easy
27/05/2021	TBA	TBA	tba	
3/06/2021	Blue Tongue Bend/Burgan Bend	PHIL	Orchid maintenance/planting, Burgan thinning, fencing. Josh/Dick assist.	Easy-Moderate

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 2021			OTHER FOWSP CONTACTS	
Artur Muchow	0415 383328	Secretary	Nursery Manager Josh Revell	
			Nursery Phone 0408 317 327	
			email nursery@fowsp.org.au	
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	editor@fowsp.org.au		Gloria Moore	0402 285005
		Facebook Coordinator	Carolyn Noel	0409 901441
Gray Ardern	0418 190261		Market Trailer Jan Falconer	
			9844 1226 or 0419 872 096	
			email trailer@fowsp.org.au	
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	phenologist@gmail.com		Cathy Willis	0427 660 651
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	lynm333g@gmail.com		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

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 11 May 2021

Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

FOWSP TO PRODUCE A BROCHURE ON WARRANDYTE BEES

The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria opened applications for grants to not for profit organisations last month, so your committee sent a grant application to FNCV to design and produce a brochure on local bees.

Linda Rogan has spent many years studying bees in Warrandyte and this seemed a perfect opportunity as a brochure had not been done before. Linda and Lyndy Gilbert are collaborating on an eye catching, brightly coloured design which will be very different to anything that FOWSP has done in the past. Linda will provide information and photos from her vast collection.

I am pleased to announce that FNCV has just approved a grant of \$600 to allow FOWSP to provide 1000 bee brochures to be printed professionally. They will be available at the nursery and on the trailer at the market for anyone who is interested. I am sure they will be in demand by local schools and the general public.

We are delighted to have the opportunity to raise awareness of local bees and their importance to the environment. We are grateful to the FNCV for this grant which will assist us in this endeavour.



Lipotriches australica male



Three of our local native bees
Hylaeus littleri Littler's masked bee



Hylaeus rhodohylaeus sp.

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.

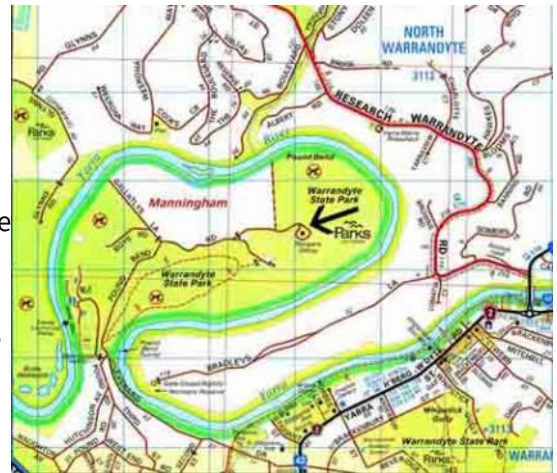
9.30 am to 12.30 pm and

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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Circumstantial evidence

Some of you may remember a comment from Sharon Mason regarding some wooly caterpillars photographed in October and November 2020:

Sharon Mason said 'The light and dark patterned caterpillars seem to be very common this year and to be on a range of plant species. I can not recall *Goodenia ovata* being eaten much at all before this season. So far where I live at Pound Bend no animals seem to think they are edible'. (In 2020 many were totally stripped of leaves).



I commented 'this looks like the one I have seen on *G. ovata* and *Gynatrix pulchella* in my garden this year'.

After 2 April 2021 I think I have the answer: Black and white tiger moth *Spilosoma glatignyi*.

On that particular night I had up to 16 of these beautiful black and white moths on my light sheet and some were present on other nights as well. The identification of the adults is pretty clear and looking them up on the Lepidoptera House website I find similar looking caterpillars with the following information:

Later instars (of the caterpillar) have a brown head capsule, and are very hairy, with black or dark brown hairs covering the thorax and abdomen.

Food plants of the caterpillar include *Goodenia ovata*. That along with the photos on the website led me to propose this species as likely for these hairy caterpillars. If correct they are more good news than bad as caterpillars of this species voraciously dine on many weeds including dandelions (as well as *G. ovata*). I also find them a very attractive moth.

Linda Rogan



Assault on Kinglake woody weeds

On Thursday 15th of April our TAG ventured to the southern end of Kinglake National Park. Going through St Andrews and heading along Buttermans Track, we parked our vehicles. Aply led by Josh & Cathy (and joined by one of the Kinglake Rangers Tony Fitzgerald and Sharon Mason) we split into two groups. Our first task was to ring bark some large *Acacia howittii*. Commonly known as the sticky wattle, its natural range is eastern Victoria from Yarram to the upper Macalister River. However it a declared weed in Manningham & Nillumbik.



Indigenous species Cranberry Heath
(*Astroloma humifusum*)

Next we pulled out hundreds of *Hakea salicifolia* seedlings under parent plants that had been previously cut down. The willow leaved wattle's natural habitat is south-eastern Queensland and eastern New South Wales. It is listed as a weed in Victoria.



We then wandered further into the Park and were pleasantly surprised to see that it was so clean. Both woody weeds and grasses were almost non-existent. There were large areas of *Xanthorrhoea*, some Nodding Greenhoods (*Pterostylis nutans*) just starting to emerge and Parson's Bands (*Eriochilus cucullatus*) (photo left) in flower. Also present were the Tall Greenhood (*Pterostylis melagramma*) and Cranberry Heath (*Astroloma humifusum*) (photo above)

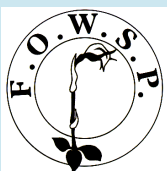
Getting back closer to Buttermans Track we then cut & dabbed more weedy wattles, mainly *Acacia floribunda* or Sallow Wattle. Native to the coastal and sub-coastal districts of eastern Australia from south-eastern

Queensland to eastern Victoria down to Sale. It has escaped further south into central and western Victoria to become a weed competing for space with indigenous species.



Finally some of us were able to stay and enjoy our morning tea.

Thanks to Kelvin for the photos and report.



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 3 April 2021
**Caitriona & John Young, Christine Andell, Jeff Cranston,
Lyn Moore, Lyndy Gilbert and Ken Crook**

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



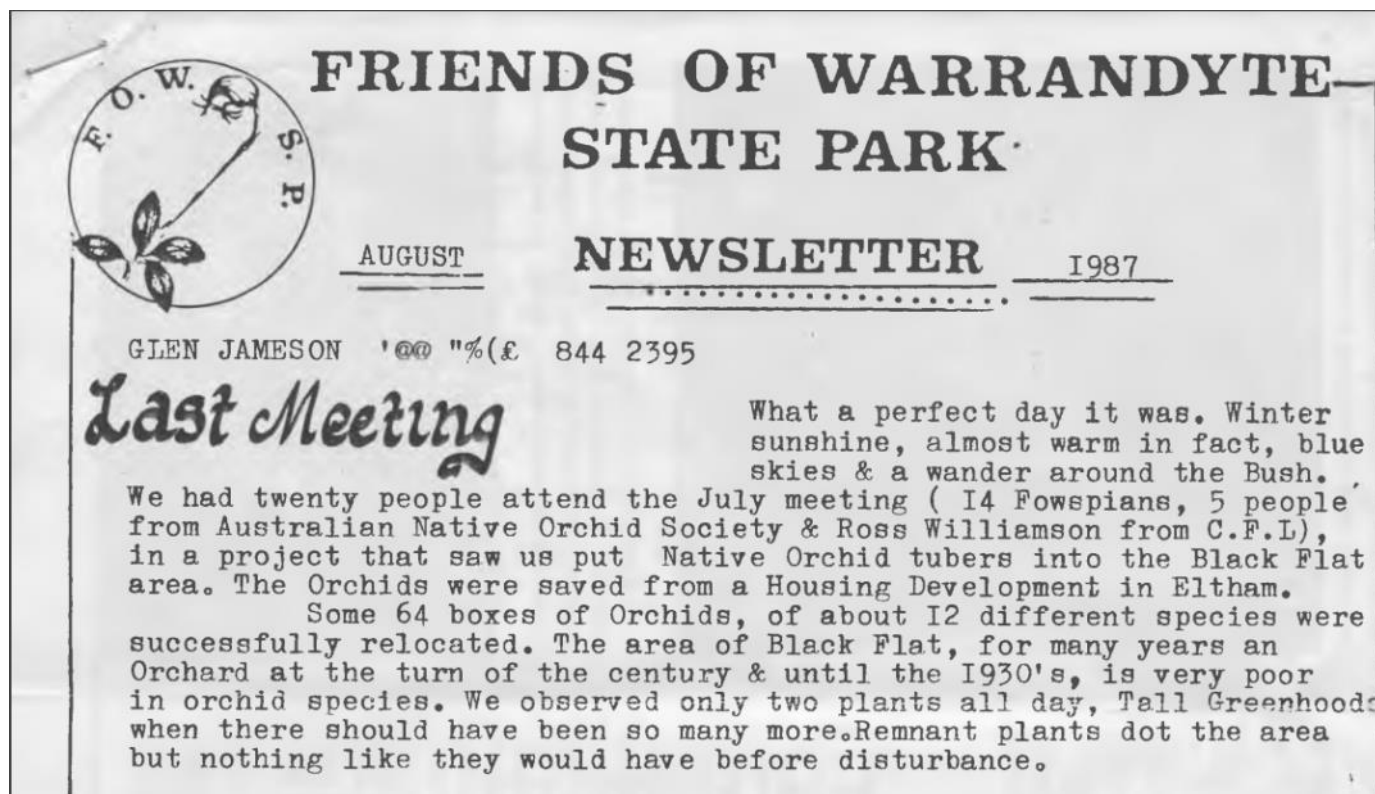
The Warrandyte market is held on the first Saturday morning of the month from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm at Stiggants Reserve. Volunteers are rostered in pairs to (man/woman) the FOWSP information trailer for just one hour.

If you are interested in being on the market roster
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 May, 5 June, 3 July.

(Continued from page 2)

planting, trays of seedlings in the back of the Toyota Stout truck. We learnt a lot from Glen.



Early FOWSP newsletter from Glen Jameson's time

When the Jameson family headed off around Australia in 1987 with camper trailer behind, the Co-ordinator role passed to retired teacher Margaret Burke. Margaret transformed the FOWSP into a larger family-oriented organisation, believing the involvement of children was essential to the relevance of the organisation in the community. The Market stall started modest catering alongside plant sales and a long tradition of grants applications began. Satellite groups around various reserves and water courses sprang up, funds were received for enhancement of the Depot nursery and the Folly was built. I drafted and submitted the Articles of Association for the Incorporation of FOWSP around this time, having gained experience from the incorporation for the Environment League. Ian Roche was Head Ranger and FOWSP supporter for many of these years.

Margaret retired in the early 1990s leaving a wonderful legacy. With the collective approach of Mike and Pat Coupar, together with many others, FOWSP evolved into the organisation we know today. Healthy organisations evolve or transition. The Environment League was wound up as the town planning situation stabilized with many members merging into the Warrandyte Advisory Committee, predecessor of the Warrandyte Community Association. Around 2005 a majority of FOWSP committee members voted to change direction, to increasingly focus on propagating indigenous plants and revegetation. A return to a biological science driven agenda requiring the adoption of a more consultative form of committee.

FOWSP has strengthened, grown and prospered over the decades with enormous benefits to both the Park and the wider community. The nursery and revegetation work has been a major focus. FOWSP remains a presence at markets and festivals with an excellent specialized trailer. It publishes books, brochures, post cards and planting guides to educate and inform and enjoys a reputation for expertise, enthusiasm and significant and meaningful work. FOWSP's influence can be said to have spread far beyond the confines of the Park itself.

Thanks to Doug Seymour for these historical notes.

Happy Birthday wishes from one artist to another



It was getting close to Gloria's birthday and Lyndy found out she wouldn't be able to attend FOWSP on the day. Lyndy utilized her extraordinary cake baking and decorating talents to create this small sized but beautiful cake and delivered it to Gloria with FOWSP's good wishes.

Gloria responded with this lovely hand painted thank you card. We would love to see more of Gloria's artistry.

White Porch Spider *Cryptachaea gigantipes*

This spider caused enough excitement in the pricking out area of the nursery for me to be summoned from Frogland. By the time I arrived with camera in hand, the drama was nearly completed. This small but long legged spider had trapped a larger European Wasp and quickly set about hog-tying the wasp.

This species spider commonly occurs in south-eastern Australia typically in caves but it is also common in other structures (such as the roofed nursery area). This spider does have a venomous bite but rarely noted to bite humans. The bite, however, appears to be quite effective against the European wasp so on balance is a useful addition to our local wildlife.

Linda Rogan





Black and white tiger moth
Spilosoma glatignyi

The hairy caterpillar of this species is one of many which are sometimes given the common name of 'wooly bear'. The adults may play dead if threatened and are known to exude a distasteful bloodlike substance from the thorax. I think this may be the answer to a question about caterpillars from 2020. See also p. 6

White-banded House Jumping Spider
Maratus griseus

True to its common name this particular jumping spider has made itself quite at home in our house. He is very tiny but happy to pose for photos when he catches sight of himself reflected in the lens. It appears this species is now included in the same genus as our gorgeous peacock spiders although this one lacks the colourful dance display.



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EMAIL NEWSLETTER? Your notification comes as a note **in the email with the newsletter** link as below:
'Please note that, according to our records, your Membership is due to expire on . Please click on the link below to re-new your Membership.

http://fowsp.org.au/membership.php?member_id=&membership_renewal=Yes
Of course, if this matter has been attended to recently, please disregard.'

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



***Banksia marginata* silver banksia (tree form)**

There are now at least three healthy banksias growing in the garden beside the nursery. They are in beautiful bloom just now in April. Getting banksias to grow from cuttings has been a challenge at least partly conquered by our cuttings crew as reported by Alwynne Buntine in June 2014. We grow some now from seed since we have worked out the collection and sowing timing. However at present numbers are low and available only for planting back into the park and behind deer proof fencing. Just occasionally now, we get a seedling which starts of its own accord under our larger banksias. The photo above is one of these and Alwynne has noticed that the repotted seedling have a more tapered 'trunk' than those from cuttings.



Sadly, the orchid area of the nursery has been under attack again. The culprit is *Rattus Rattus* the feral rat. In the photo below, Richard was stoically sorting out the pots which still show some signs of orchid life from those which don't. At the end about 126 pots out of the 460 in the area appear to have survived.

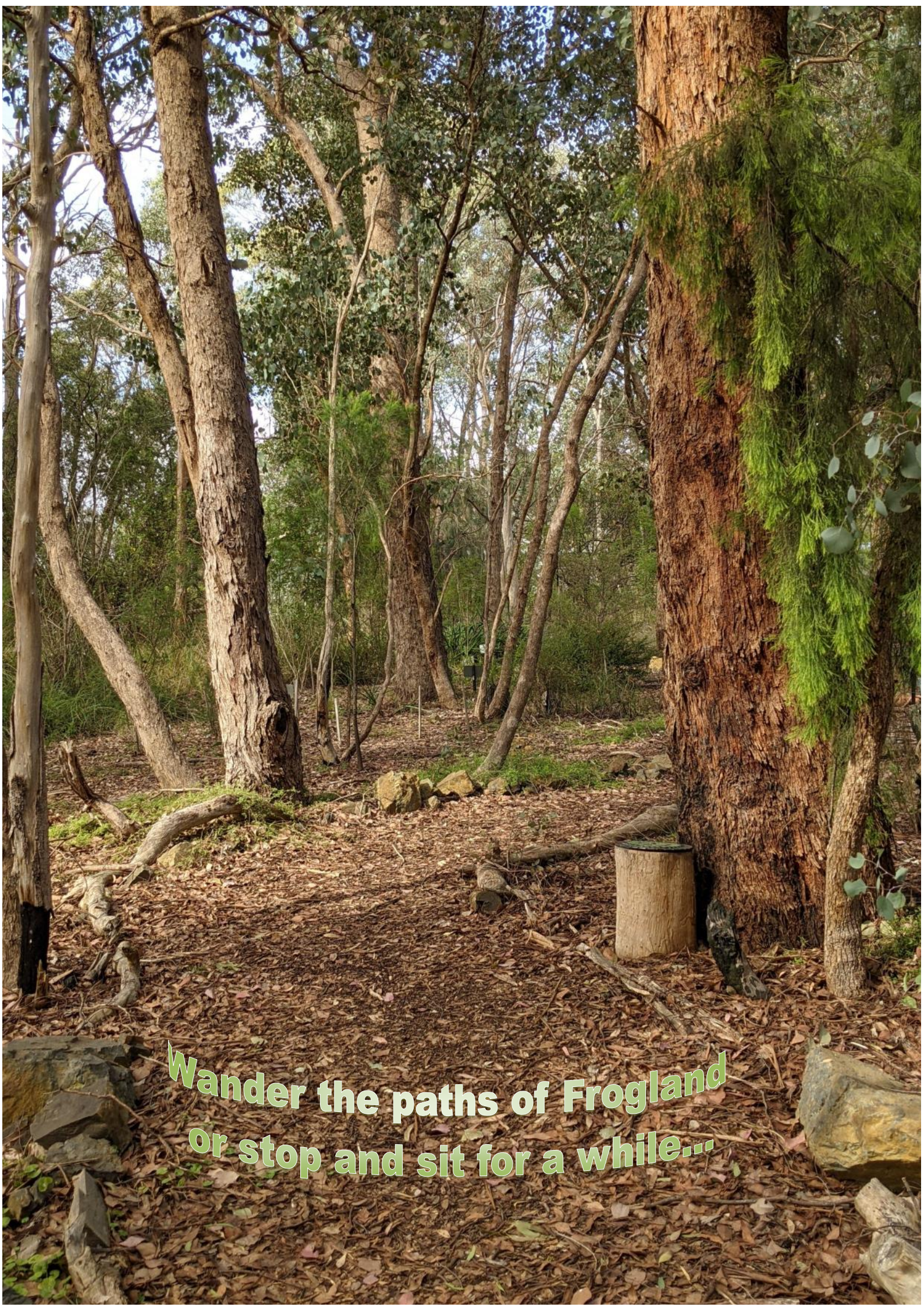
On the left is the one large pot of *Pterostylis curta* which escaped the onslaught.

We await the completion of the area improvements which will make the area more secure and are funded by the Bendigo Bank.

Linda



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

A photograph of a forest scene. In the foreground, there is a tree stump and a large tree trunk on the right. The ground is covered in brown leaves and some rocks. In the background, there are more trees and a path. The text "Wander the paths of Frogland or stop and sit for a while..." is written in green, stylized font across the bottom of the image.

**Wander the paths of Frogland
or stop and sit for a while...**