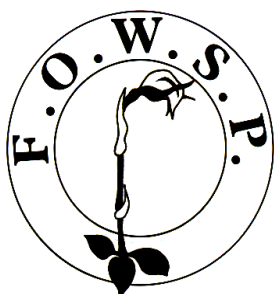


Friends of Warrandyte State Park



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

Well, here we go again. On May 27, 2021, we face at least 7 days lockdown and at the very least miss out on working at FOWSP next Thursday. Yes, we do know what to do, and we will get through this okay but it may bring feelings of despair to some.

This newsletter focuses on what has been happening around FOWSP recently and finishes with some of my favourite photos from past June newsletters. Hint: Please send your favourite recent photos for the July/August newsletters. If there is a story attached, that's even better.

Thanks to Peter Hanson for sharing the photo of these well fed sugar gliders from his nest box.



TAGs continue to accomplish much in our park. Don gives us a peek at some of the tasks completed on pp 2 and 8. Carolyn and Don also share some of the highlights of their recent 'gorgeous' camping trip in NSW. (Can you forgive my dreadful pun?)

Peter Hanson checked this nesting box near Fourth Hill. Previously inhabited by feral bees, it had now been taken over by sugar gliders who appear to have eaten all the honey!

Lisa Jenkins begins a new series with her musings on our iconic eucalypts on p. 5.

Catchup to what is happening in Frogland just now on p. 7 and see the work in progress of renovation at the nursery itself on p. 8. **Can anyone tell me who built the original structure and when this was??**

Thanks to all who have contributed to this newsletter. I hope it will be enjoyable for all.

I expect to be on the highway heading north when I am working on the July/August newsletter so it will be a great help if people can send me articles, snippets and photos as soon as possible so that I am not left with the only option of making that issue a personal travel blog. *Linda Rogan*

**Deadline for July/August edition newsletter is
Friday 18 June 2021**

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

TAG to Red Beard fence

An enthusiastic TAG group gathered on 13th May. Our destination in Warrandyte is named after a small remnant population of red beard orchids (*Calochilus paludosus*), now endangered. This area was fenced some years ago to protect orchids and other rare flora. It is also home to occasional sightings of the likewise endangered wine-lipped spider orchid (*Caladenia oenochila*), as well as the vulnerable blue stars (*Chamaescilla corymbosa* var. *corymbosa*) and sharp midge orchid (*Genoplesium despectans*).

Able led and explained by ranger Phil, our task was to improve the growing conditions for these species by removing significant growth of low storey *Cassinia longifolia*, invasive Sallow wattle (*Acacia longifolia*) and thinning *Acacia pycnantha*, plus general weeding. Some of the group focused on skirting repairs to the fence to prevent rabbit entry.



Phil and new TAGger Grant attacking the *Cassinia*.



Red beard orchid
Calochilus paludosus
Photo Josh Revell

The TAG was timed to avoid damage to the vulnerable species that would be emerging in the next few months. Our scouting around found a few emerging waxlips (*Glossodia major*), tall greenhoods (*Pterostylis melagramma*), and blue pincushions (*Brunonia australis*).

As usual for now, TAGgers brought their own COVID-safe morning tea.

Thanks to Don for this report.



Robin and Judith, a formidable team.

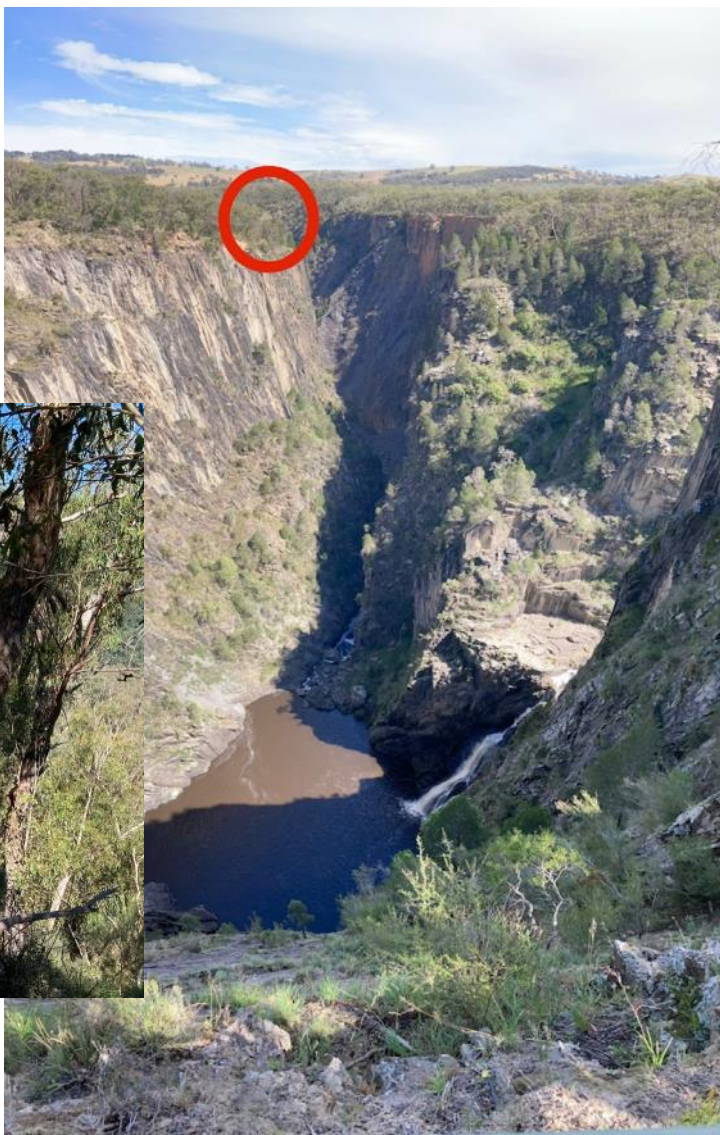


Brian and David opening up orchid habitat.

Autumn escape but reminders of Warrandyte

Don Vincent

For our Autumn escape, Carolyn and I explored a few NSW national parks on a road trip and came across some strong reminders of Warrandyte in one place (photo below). At Apsley Falls in the Oxley Wild Rivers NP, on the plateau at around 1000 metres elevation, we found familiar open woodlands of *Themeda*, *Stipa*, Red Stringybark, *Cassinia*, *Indigofera*, *Vittadinia*, and many others including Sweet Bursaria.



We wondered if there were similar insects and fauna as well ...?? Lo and behold, there were small butterflies (pictured left) dancing in the midday sun that were almost identical with the Eltham Copper butterfly. Further enquiry identified these as the Bright Copper butterfly (*Paralucia aurifer*). Very excitedly we chased them to get photos and then set out to see what else we could find. We were pleased to

discover an orchid that looked very much like our Autumn Greenhood (*Pterostylis revoluta*) (Editor's note now *Pterostylis ampliata* near Melbourne).

All the while our backdrops were the magnificent gorges and waterfalls of the Park, including at Apsley Gorge, photo above right, where our campsite is circled at top left on the gorge rim. (I hope campers here are not prone to sleep walking, Ed.)

As well as Oxley Wild Rivers, we visited Barrington Tops NP at Gloucester Tops (recent flooding rains having caused many landslides and road closures) where the alpine landscapes are striking, with totally different plant communities of Snow gum/*Lomandra*, Antarctic Beech, and eucalypt/banksia only steps apart in narrow ecotones.



Message to all volunteers from Parks Victoria

As part of Parks Victoria commitment to maintaining a child safe environment, and to ensure they align with the Child Safe Standards, a Working with Children Check is now compulsory for all volunteers.

This means that everyone who volunteers on the Parks Victoria estate must hold a current Working with Children Check by 30 June 2021.

This will include anyone who volunteers on a one-off occasion, as well as anyone who volunteers regularly, individuals and volunteers within groups, even if you do not have direct contact or engagement with children. This will help to ensure Parks Victoria maintains a child safe environment.

The application process must be completed online and once it is finished, you will be sent an email with a barcode attached that you will need to take to an Australia Post outlet to confirm your identity and have a photo taken for your card. You can take your phone with you to an Australia Post branch or you can print the barcode out.

There is no charge for a volunteer Working with Children Check. It is free.

To apply online, please visit: <https://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au/>

Please ensure you select the 'Volunteer' option and to also use the Parks Victoria address and phone number below:

Parks Victoria
Level 10, 535 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
131 963



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

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.

3 /06 /2021	Blue Tongue Bend	Phil	Orchid planting and maintenance	Easy-Moderate
10 /06/2021	Walert Creek	Gray	Planting, maintenance	Easy
17/06/2021	Morrison's	Phil/ Cam	Ceremonial area maintenance, woody weeding and cassinia and wattle thinning	Moderate
24/06/2021	Craspedia Fence	Phil	Planting, grassy weed removal	Moderate
01/07/2021	Scotchman's Hill	Carolyn	Planting, weeding	Easy
08/07/2021	Betton Fence	Phil	Cassinia thinning, planting	Easy-Moderate

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	
Lynda Gilbert	9844 0106	Treasurer and Membership	Park Office	03 8427 2132
Linda Rogan	0491 112 692	Newsletter editor	Newsletter assist and Librarian	
	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	
Lynda Chambers	0466 274421		Manningham Council Rep	
	phenologist@gmail.com		Cathy Willis	0427 660 651
Lyn Moore	0409 683 041		Webmaster	
	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	
	legality@bigpond.com		1300 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,
Gloria Moore
Mel Coupar (Line drawings)

Next Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday 8 June 2021

Venue: Education Centre, Pound Bend

Time: 19:30 pm sharp

Warrandyte's Eucalypts-From Hills to River

Lisa Jenkins

Doing an article series on *Eucalyptus* species is a different undertaking to my previous series on our *Acacia* species. Eucalypts are a powerful presence in our landscape and imaginations and we have powerful responses to them. This is despite the fact that in Australia, *Acacia* forests are second in size to *Eucalyptus* forests, with *Eucalyptus* forests covering about 100 million hectares and *Acacia* forests about 10 million. The other forest types-*Callitris* (Cypress pines), *Casuarina*, *Mangrove*, *Melaleuca* and *Rainforest* make up the other roughly 20 million ha of indigenous forests on the continent (<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/forestsaustralia/profiles/australias-forests-2019>).

Part of the impact is the size of most eucalypts. Large trees dominate the human imagination; 'forest' is a word that sits deeply in our minds. It is generally understood that pre-industrial Europeans held the forest in both awe and dread, seeing it as the home of dwarves and aurochs as well as firewood and mushrooms. The historian Simon Schama finds this as far back as Ancient Rome, for whom the forest



Regenerating trees of Frogland, mostly red box *Eucalyptus polyanthemos*

(Continued on page 9)

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

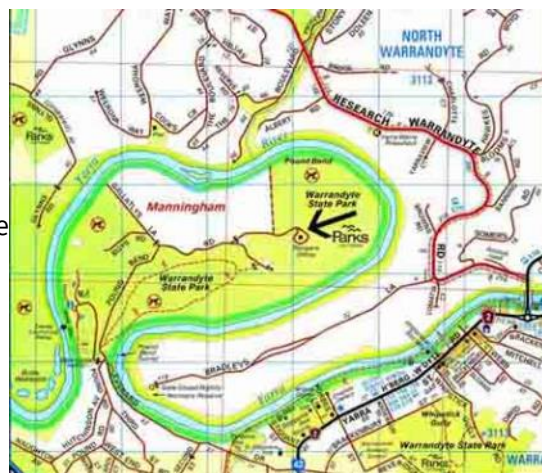
the first Saturday of every month, 9am to 2pm (to coincide with the Warrandyte Market) April to November only.

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

For plant orders email nursery@fowsp.org.au and include your mobile phone contact number.



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Manningham Council encourages FOWSPians to receive ENews



We aim to keep people informed of events and news happening in and around Manningham for all things relevant to the natural environment and sustainability. The ENews plans to carry a lot of interesting & relevant Green Wedge news. To sign up to receive the Manningham environment newsletter (via email) go to <https://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/environment-and-sustainability> Scroll to the bottom of the page and click 'Subscribe to our environmental newsletter' arrow and box will open for you to add your name and email. Click on the 'What's on...' box to sign up for events. Examples of activities upcoming are seen below.

How to Transition to an All-Electric Home

Presented by Manningham Council Wednesday 2 June

8.00pm to 9.30pm

As gas prices increase and more people are looking at ways to reduce their carbon footprint to battle the effects of climate change, transitioning to an all-electric home is a sure way to make a large contribution to fighting climate change and reducing your energy costs.

Cost: Free

Where: Online Webinar

Bookings: essential

Manningham Nature Walks - Longridge, Nilja and Seawind

Presented by Manningham Council Wednesday 23 June

9.30am to 12.00am

Free guided nature walk will explore a variety of bushlands in Manningham. This month we enjoy magnificent views of the Yarra River in Warrandyte. This beautiful section of river rapids also includes a walk through historic farming properties now regenerating with native animals

Cost: Free

Where: To be confirmed via bookings

Bookings essential via the website

Frogland is feeling loved and also needy just now

Linda Rogan

One of few benefits of COVID, from my viewpoint, is that more volunteers have chosen to come down to work in the fresh air and beautiful surrounds of Frogland. Our active team now includes regulars Lyn, Nina, Jewell and Allison. In addition we have the occasional help of Jason, who sees a job needing attention and gets the job done (photo left).



Jason adding needed mulch to the pathways.

With the occasional extra help of TAGgers we hope to make progress



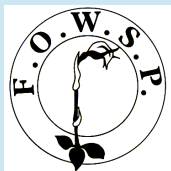
Lyn digging out bulbs not long after the leaves emerge.

this year in removing the Ixia bulbs (photo middle). This is a task which requires careful inspection and digging to capture all the smaller bulbs (photo above) which seem to be spreading from the lower reaches up into the middle of Frogland.

Last year, due to COVID, we were only able to remove most of the seed heads. A pleasant surprise while attacking this bulb amongst the native undergrowth was the discover of a thick green leaf of a sun orchid (right).



Morning tea is always a welcome chance for volunteers to socialise



FOWSP MARKET TRAILER

Thanks to those who helped out on Saturday 1 May 2021

Jan Davies, Anne Gedye
Christine Andell, Sybille Ims, Marie Krause, Lyn Moore,
Marjan Kiewiet, Jan Falconer

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, 5 June, 3 July, 7 August 2021



Orchids are roofed at last

At long last the 'orchid roof' repair has been started, with Kelvin assisted by Jason and Don. The old structure and watering system was removed first, followed by constructing new beams and joists to the old posts, which were still in good order.



Lyndy inspects the progress of the repair

Which left only the polycarbonate roofing, and joist fixings to be done. This was completed just under the wire, before dark on 27 May with lock down looming the next day.

Well done team, you have a right to look pleased in photo right.

We and the orchids thank you.
Photos by Don and Josh



Kelvin and Jason fixing the beams.



Exclosures along endeavour bank at Pound Bend planted despite delays

TAG Report 20 May 2021

After delays over 2020 due to COVID-19, we finally got to plant up the exclosures along Endeavour Bank at Pound Bend. Some 10 exclosures at 10 metres square had been built over the past 3 years as part of a grant, of which only a couple had been planted. They had suffered from some neglect as we had been unable to tend to them in 2020. Earlier this year we renovated those that had suffered from falling branches, weakened corner stays and some apparently deliberate damage.

Josh had prepared some 200 plants comprising Hemp Bush (*Gynatrix pulchella*), Black Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*), Christmas Bush (*Prostanthera lasianthos*), Hazel Pomaderris (*Pomaderris aspera*), Prickly Moses (*Acacia verticillata*) and Blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*). TAGgers almost got them all in, watered well from the nearby Yarra using the "bucket on a rope" method! One more TAG for the remainder of the

exclosures next month. After a long absence, it was a real treat this time to have Lyndy's morning tea (thank you Lyndy), collected enthusiastically by Carolyn and served in a COVID-responsible way!



(Continued from page 5)

'by definition was 'outside' (*foris*) the writ of their law and governance' whilst also being the location of their 'founding myths' which were set in sacred groves (Schama, *Landscape and Memory*, HarperCollins, 1995, 83). And it's been observed that early white settlers in the Victorian mountains, seeing mountain-ash forests for the first time called their settlements 'Jordan and Jericho, a reaction to a Biblical sense of awe' (Halkett, *Trees that call Australia home*, Potts Point, 2008, 146).

It was the otherness of eucalypts, their difference to European trees that made them so powerful in the mind of early white arrivals to Australia. Evergreen, bark-shedding trees that need fire to reproduce have no place in the European imagination. And there is the great variety of eucalypts, ranging in size from shrubs such as *E. vernicosa* from Tasmania which grows to about one metre to the *E. regnans*, the mighty mountain ash, tallest of all flowering plants. Many very tall specimens of *E. regnans* have been measured and recorded with varying degrees of reliability; the current verifiably measured tallest living specimen in the so-called Centurion, which is 99.6 metres tall. By comparison, there are only a handful of species of oak native to Europe, despite the genera having more than 500 species and the tree being synonymous with Europe, and one species, *Quercus robur*, known as the common, English or European oak, dominates.

As FOWSPians know, one measure of this variety is habitat, and so I am going to organize this series of articles by species location, starting with the upper slopes. There we find *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* (red stringybark), *E. polyanthemos* (red box) and *E. goniacalyx* (Bundy). On lower slopes we have *E. rubida* (Candlebark), *E. obliqua* (messmate), *E. melliodora* (yellow box) and *E. radiata* (narrow-leaf peppermint). By the river and in gullies we find *E. viminalis* (manna gum) and *E. ovata* (swamp gum). Another division of Eucalyptus are by their bark-we have gum-barked species (*E. ovata*, *E. rubida* and *E. viminalis*), stringybarks (*E. macrorhyncha* and *E. obliqua*), peppermints (*E. radiata*) and box-barked (*E. goniacalyx*, *E. melliodora* and *E. polyanthemos*). And one of the key ways to identify different species is by their gum nuts, so between these three identifying features, and my usual foray into the etymology of their names, I don't think we'll get too lost in this forest (sorry, I couldn't help myself!).

Note: I will use the term 'eucalypts' loosely, to refer collectively to the various indigenous Warrandyte species. Strictly, 'eucalypt' is a descriptive name for woody plants with capsule fruiting bodies belonging to seven closely related genera (of the tribe *Eucalyptae*) found across Australasia: *Eucalyptus*, *Corymbia*, *Angophora*, *Stockwellia*, *Allosyncarpia*, *Eucalyptopsis* and *Arillastrum*. (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalypt>) And we are also used to a couple of introduced species of *Corymbia*, including *Corymbia maculata* (spotted gum) and *Corymbia ficifolia* (red-flowering gum). A section our street is lined with *Corymbia ficifolia* and it's flowering now in a glorious pillar box red. And I find joy in the bark of *Corymbia maculata*, to the point where I have a photo of some I came across as my phone's screen saver.

Have a cuppa with FOWSPians

Lyndy reports that there is still a lot of enthusiasm for a get together at the Warran Glen Café. With a little bit of luck, the next one will proceed on the last Thursday in June which is the 24th at 1pm.

Photo right is Amelia Popkiss from a past get together. Thanks to Amelia for her thoughtful donation as noted below.



NEW BOOK FOR FOWSP LIBRARY
Many thanks to Amelia Popkiss for donating a book to FOWSP library titled **"Habitat - A practical guide to creating a wildlife-friendly Australian garden"**.

The author is A B Bishop. It was published in 2018.

It is a delightfully illustrated and easy to read publication.

Its number in the library is GA1409



Variable oxycanus *Oxycanus dirempta*

This moth is a hepialid, a group sometimes called ghost or swift moths. Photo right was taken in Marysville after rain on 2 May 2021.

Information from the Lepidoptera house says 'The Caterpillars of this species live in burrows they dig in the ground. Typically these are under Wattle bushes (*Acacia* species). The caterpillars line their burrows with silk. They feed nocturnally, crawling out of their burrows to feed on leaves.

The caterpillars pupate in their burrow. When the moth is ready to emerge, the pupa wriggles to the top of the burrow, and the empty skin is left poking half out of the burrow after the adult moth has departed.



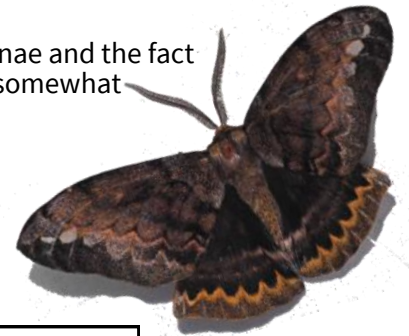
Batwing Moth *Chelepteryx collesi*
(from June 2019)

This is a portrait of the male moth which is the same species as huge caterpillar found by Joy Dahl (June 2020, p.9) and oth-gum trees in the summer. Strangely, although this moth is is certainly not our largest moth (the Hercules moth is bigger) but its caterpillar may be the longest measuring up to 13 cm. Caterpillars should not be touched!

This one is a male as shown by the feathery antennae and the fact that it came to the light at night. The females are somewhat larger than the males.

The caterpillars feed on various Myrtaceae.

Linda Rogan



June 2021 Vol. 39 no. 5

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.'

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**Red-banded Greenhood *Pterostylis sanguinea***

The most colourful of the Autumn blooming greenhoods, this one was photographed near Anglesea. It can also be found in the Frankston area.

This species also occurs in WA and Tasmania.

Like most greenhoods, this species is pollinated by male fungus gnats *Mycomya* sp.

The orchid labellum produces a chemical that mimics the sex pheromone of the female fungus gnat and the male is attracted and temporarily trapped inside the orchid.

Linda Rogan

Tree frogs hop to it

Best FOWSP photo for May 2019 (from June 2019)
Give Lynda some competition next month.

The Southern Brown Tree-frogs are enjoying the rain we have been having this week. When I heard them calling from near our house I tracked them down to sitting on the wall behind a bucket of water.

When disturbed they both jumped into the bucket. Of course, I then had to wait to make sure they were able to get out. But it did give me an opportunity to take some photos.

Lynda Chambers

**Rock Correa (*Correa glabra*)**

One of Warrandyte's winter flowers. This dense shrub is common in Warrandyte, especially on the rocky cliffs overlooking the river. It has rounded, bright green, shiny leaves and pale yellow flowers. Many hybrids occur in the Park between this species and Common Correa (*Correa reflexa*) which has rougher, hairy leaves with the terminal pair of leaf bracts generally reflexed over the flower.



From July 2001 Words by Pat Coupar
artwork by Mel Coupar

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

The last bath before the cold
weather set in.
Photo Linda Rogan
Repeated from 2020

