



Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

Est. 1880

The emblem of the FNCV is the Native Fuchsia *Correa Reflexa*.

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Objectives: to stimulate interest in the study of natural history in all its branches and to preserve and protect the natural environment of Australia, in particular the flora and fauna of Victoria.

Our mission statement is “Understanding Our Natural World”.

The **Field Naturalists Club of Victoria** offers a wide choice of natural history activities, events and learning experiences. The Club is organized into a number of smaller **Special Interest Groups** (SIGs), catering for beginners to experienced naturalists. These **SIGs** offer a great opportunity for all Club members to learn more about specific areas of our natural world. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend activities across all the **SIGs**.

Meetings are held in the **F.N.C.V.** Hall, 1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn.

Visitors welcome to all activities. A small fee will be charged to non-members.

Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 9 am to 4 pm. Contact- Administration Officer, phone: 9877 9860 or email: admin@fncv.org.au



The following is an overview of the Club's activities.

BAT GROUP

The Bat Group conducts monthly surveys of the grey-headed flying fox at Yarra Bend Golf Course, meeting at around sunset, on the **first Wednesday** of each month. Other meetings and activities are as announced in the newsletter.

BOTANY GROUP

The Botany Group specialises in observing and identifying Victorian flora, bryophytes and algae. A full program of guest speakers, excursions, plant surveys and conservation work is conducted, catering for all levels of expertise and interest. Meets for lectures on the **third Thursday** of each month at 8 pm.

DAY GROUP

The Day Group program includes guest speakers on a wide range of topics and local excursions focusing on all aspects of natural history. This group particularly caters for members who prefer day time activities. Meets on the **fourth Tuesday** of each month at 10.30 am. Morning tea and the opportunity to socialise before the meeting.

FAUNA SURVEY GROUP

The Fauna Survey Group studies fauna and their habitats. The FSG's activities include field surveys, live trapping under permit, checking nestboxes, stagwatching for Leadbeaters Possum in the Central Highlands and spotlighting. Field camps are held throughout the year. No previous experience is needed; training is provided in the field. Data collected are sent to the *Atlas of Victorian Wildlife*. In addition, monthly meetings are held on the **first Tuesday** of each month at 8 pm (Second Tuesday in November).

FUNGI GROUP

The Fungi Group aims to widen knowledge of fungi. A calendar of fungal surveys is carried out during the cooler months with findings documented through *FungiMap*. Monthly meetings are a mix of stimulating speakers and identification workshops held on the **first Monday** of each month at 8 pm.

GEOLOGY GROUP

The Geology Group has established an impressive program of excursions and invited speakers covering all aspects of geology - the forces shaping our planet, the geological history of the Earth, rocks, fossils, minerals, and the landforms we see around us. The group meets on the **fourth Wednesday** of each month at 8 pm.

JUNIORS GROUP

The Juniors Group is specifically designed for primary and secondary school-aged children. The aim is to encourage an interest in all aspects of natural history and its study among young people. Each month there is a short talk by an interesting speaker, show and tell, games and competitions. There are also excursions around Melbourne most months, as well as Summer and Easter camps. The Juniors publish their own newsletter *The Junior Naturalist*. Parents are very welcome to participate. The juniors meet on the **last Friday** of each month at an earlier time of 7.30 pm (not Dec).

MARINE RESEARCH GROUP

Formed in 1957, the MRG amalgamated with the Field Naturalists Club in 1997. During the warmer months, the MRG carries out a regular field program surveying intertidal marine invertebrate life around the Victorian coast. All are welcome, no expertise required. The group works closely with Museum Victoria. In addition there is a full program of speakers, at meetings, which are held on the **second Monday** of each month at 8 pm.

MICROSCOPY GROUP

All aspects of Microscopy are covered including demonstrations and workshops, as well as opportunities for practical work with the Club's microscopes. The group meets to hear presentations from guest speakers on the **third Wednesday** of the month every second month: February, April, June, August and October at 8 pm. Beginners are welcome.

TERRESTRIAL INVERTEBRATE GROUP

The TIG studies all terrestrial invertebrates (including freshwater species) with an emphasis on insects. In addition to interesting speakers there is a regular program of field trips and activities. The group meets on the **third Wednesday** of the month every second month: March, May, July, September and November at 8 pm.



GENERAL MEETING

Occasional general meetings are held in the afternoon on weekends during the cooler months. Guest speakers cover many aspects of general natural history and club members are able to bring along exhibits for discussion and knowledge sharing. Dates as announced in the *Field Nats News*.

FIELD NATS NEWS

The FNCV's monthly newsletter contains a calendar of events, reports and photographs of Club meetings, excursions and camps, member's observations, President's column and library news. The due date for copy is always 9 am on the first Tuesday of the month, with collation taking place in the FNCV hall at 1pm on the third Tuesday on the month. Email your news to fnnews@fncv.org.au.

THE VICTORIAN NATURALIST

The Victorian Naturalist has been published since 1884. It is a scientific journal of natural history, with six issues a year. It contains contributions, research reports, naturalist notes, book reviews and letters to the editor. Contact email: vicnat@fncv.org.au.

FNCV BOOKSHOP

The FNCV provides club members with the opportunity to buy natural history books at significantly less than recommended retail price. Many books are in stock and are sold at meetings and during office hours. A full booklist can be downloaded at www.fncv.org.au or obtained by request from the office.

LIBRARY

Books and periodicals covering all fields of natural history are available to members for loan or reference. The FNCV was founded in 1880 and the library, having been built up over a long period, has many books and journals of historical interest, as well as recent publications. The library is open each Tuesday from 11am to 2 pm or by appointment.

Download FNCV Membership form from www.fncv.org.au or phone the office on 9877 9860.