



Understanding Our Natural World
Est. 1880

Field Nats News No.143

Newsletter of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.
1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn Vic 3130
Telephone/Fax 9877 9860
www.vicnet.net.au/~fncv
email: fnnews@vicnet.net.au

Editors: Joan Broadberry 9846 1218
Dr Noel Schleiger 9435 8408

Reg. No. A0033611X

Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday 9 am-5 pm.

June 2005

President's Report

Hi Everyone,

It's a freezing morning as I finalize my pres report, but it's kind of refreshing to feel the cold and think about enjoying the winter months to come.

I should be letting you know about my weekend away to Wilson's Promontory, but a sudden flu got the better of my travel companion.

I did venture into Mirboo North to conduct a plant species survey with the Botany Group. We enjoyed the day immensely and for those who would love to come along to future Botany plant surveys, please don't hesitate.

Annual General Meeting

My apologies for not being able to make the AGM on May 1st, due to an interstate trip. Congratulations to all the members of the newly elected Council. In particular I would like to welcome Gary Presland, an editor of *The Victorian Naturalist* as a new Council member.

We still require an Honorary Secretary. It is possible the tasks of the secretary could be divided between two people. One discrete job is taking the Council minutes once a month in the evening of the fourth Tuesday. Skills required are note taking and basic computer literacy. Definitely not too onerous. Please call Mimi at the office if you're in-

terested.

Don't forget to purchase some of our FNCV Eco Bags 2 for \$3 and our wonderful bookmarks (see p 8) next time you at the Club.

**Karen Muscat
President**

A big thank you To our Retiring Honorary Secretary

KAREN GEORGE

Karen took on the role of Honorary Secretary to the FNCV two years ago and had been a tremendous asset to the Club in her various roles such as taking minutes at Council meetings, dealing with correspondence and preparing the Annual Report.

Karen, we have really appreciated your dedication and hard work. Hopefully you will have more time now to participate in Club meetings and excursions.

Deadline for Field Naturalist News 144

is the first Tuesday of the month, **June 7th**. This edition will be going to the printers on 14th June. Please email contributions if possible. Photos welcome.

Leaves from Our History Symposium Celebrating 125 years of the FNCV Sat May 28th—Sun May 29th, Royal Botanic Gardens

There are still a few days to register for this wonderful celebration. Full program published in FNN 140 and FNN 142.

Cost for one day of lectures and catered lunch \$70. Contact office.

Index	Page
President's Report	1
Calendar of Events	2
Annual General Meeting	3
Geology Group Report— "Antarctica"	4
Fauna Survey Group—	5
Fungal Foray—Yarra Ranges National Park	6
Fungi Group Report— "Photographing Fungi"	7
Library News & Notices	8
Marine Research Group— "A Molecular and Morphological Review of Genera of Asterinidae".	9
Postal Microscopical Club of Australia	10



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*All meetings are held at FNCV Hall, 1 Gardenia St. Blackburn at 8 pm., unless otherwise indicated.
On days of extreme weather conditions excursion may be cancelled. Please check with leader.*

June

Sunday 5th - Fungi Group *Fungal Foray* 10.30 am Greens Bush, Baldry Crossing (MEL 254 G6). Contact Geoff Lay 9898 4816 AH

Monday 6th - Fungi Group *Meeting* Bruce Fuhrer will present an illustrated lecture on fungi which might be found on our coming excursions. Contact Geoff Lay 9898 4816 AH

Tues 7th - Fauna Survey Group *All about Bats*, by Chris Grant, Deakin University.
Contact Prue Simmons 9801 2882 AH

Friday 10th to Monday 13th -Fauna Survey Excursion *Otways Survey*. A return to this interesting part of the world to investigate its inhabitants. Contact Stuart Daspher 9387 8734.

Saturday 11th – Juniors’ Excursion *BBQ & spotlight walk at Jells park*. Contact Wendy Clark 9877 9266 AH.

Tuesday 14th - Terrestrial Invertebrate Group *Invertebrates of Central Australia*, by John Wainer, Department of Primary Industries, Victoria. Contact Pete Neville 9471 0840 AH.

Wednesday 15th – Microscopy Group *Investigating fine objects in food*. A talk by FNCV member Jim Kyval.
Contact Ray Power 9717 3511 AH.

Thursday 16th – Botany Group *Biodiversity Conservation at a Local Level*. Paul Foreman, Botanist at Manningham will describe the assessment and conservation of the remnant vegetation within the Council.
Contact Jenny Porter 9859 1274 AH.

Sunday 19th - Fungi Group *Fungal Foray*. 10.30 am Bunyip State Park (Gembrook), Mortimer Reserve Picnic Ground, off the Gembrook-Tonimbuk Road (MEL key map 14). Contact Geoff Lay 9898 4816 AH

Sunday 19th – Botany Excursion *Wanderslore - Trust for Nature* property survey, 8.5 ha of Dry Foothill Forest in Launching Place. Contact Annie Lamb 0402 755559 or Mimi Pohl FNCV office hours 9877 9860, or on 0422 082707

Monday 20– Fungi Group *Book Launch* – Celebration of ‘*Fungi Down Under*’ Full details FNN p8.

Tuesday 21st— Collate FNN 144 1 pm FNCV Hall, 1 Gardenia St. Blackburn. Contact Noel Schleiger 9435 8408

Wednesday 22nd – Geology Group *Deep Leads, Groundwater and Melbourne’s Burnley Tunnel*. Speaker: Warren Peck, Principal Geotechnical Engineer at AMC Consultants. Contact: Rob Hamson 9557 5215 AH.

Friday 24th – Juniors’ Group *Attracting Native Wildlife*, a talk by Robert Bender.
Contact Wendy Clark 9877 9266 AH.

Saturday 25th - Fauna Survey Excursion. *Helping with the animal census at the Earth Sanctuaries Site at Little River*. Pre census BBQ \$5.00 ea. Contact Ian Kitchen 9795 7423 AH.

Saturday 25th - Geology Group Excursion *Collecting Graptolites* at Tuerong Quarry, Mornington Peninsula. Meet outside at 10am. Melway 152 D7. The quarry is off Balnarring Road. Look out for the FNCV GEOLOGY sign. Participants must register with Rob Hamson on 9557 5215 AH. There is a number limit of 25 and an age limit of 18 and over. For full details see this edition of FNN p5

**The policy of the FNCV is that non members pay \$5 per excursion and \$2 per meeting,
to cover insurance costs.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The FNCV Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday afternoon May 2nd. A full set of minutes will be published later. This is a short preliminary report.

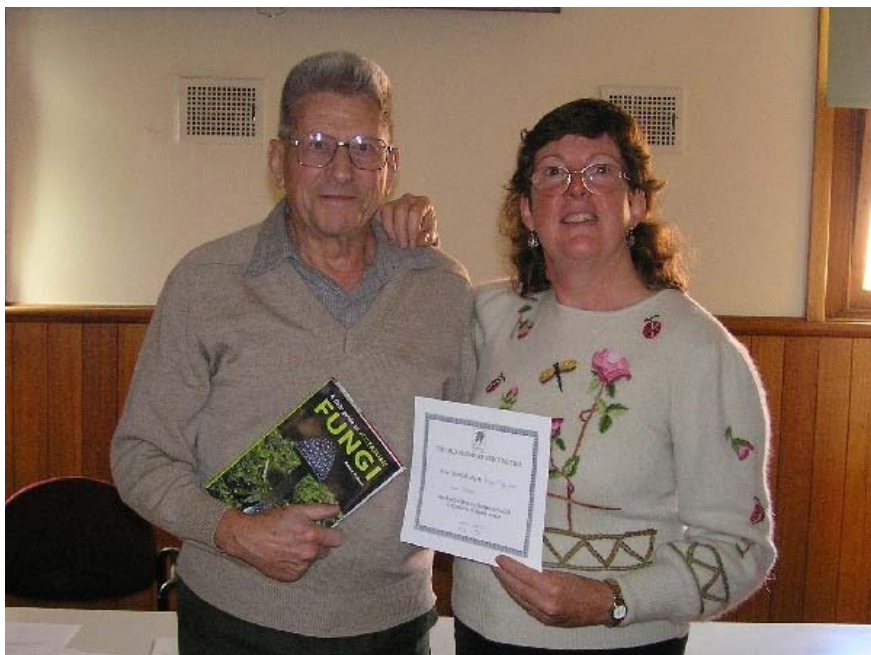
The meeting was chaired by Alan Yen, and the election of office bearers conducted by Noel Schleiger. Congratulations to the elected members of the next FNCV Council. Karen Muscat, President; Melanie Archer and Alan Yen, Vice Presidents; Barbara Burns Treasurer; Joan Broadberry, Wendy Clark and Gary Presland, General Councillors. Representative of each of the Club's Special Interest Groups are still to be appointed to Council. As yet no-one has come forward to take up the position of FNCV honorary Secretary.

Alan Yen read Karen Muscat's president's report. (Karen sent her apologies as she was interstate). Barbara Burns gave the treasurer's report and with an overhead presentation, produced a very comprehensive picture of the Club's finances up to 31st December 2004.

Wendy Clark announced the successful applicants for grants from our Environment Fund and then presented special memberships. The outstanding contribution of Bruce Fuhrer to the FNCV was recognised and he was welcomed as a Honorary Member. Bruce has just released a new book on Fungi see review this page. Long term memberships, recognising 40 years in the Club, were then presented to Margaret Corrick, Ern Perkins, Keith Marshall, David Jones, Maxwell Mould and Maxwell Thompson. Margaret, Ern and Keith were given the opportunity to reflect on their time with the Club. Congratulations to all.

The meeting was then treated to a thought provoking address by Andrew Bennett from Deakin University entitled "Wildlife of Victoria's Woodlands—Insights from a decade of Research". We thank Andrew for his stimulating presentation. Special thanks to those who provided a delicious afternoon tea.

Joan Broadberry



Bruce Fuhrer, holding a copy of his new book, *A Field Guide to Fungi*, is presented with his certificate of FNCV Honorary Membership by Wendy Clark.

Photo J. Broadberry

A FIELD GUIDE TO FUNGI

Bruce Fuhrer,

360 p—Price \$49.95

Bloomings Books Pty Ltd

7 Newry St. BURNLEY 3121

This is a most attractive field guide covering over 500 fungi species, with 548 clear, colour photographs of fungi in their natural situations. There is data on their fungal biology, ecology, taxonomy and distribution. Descriptions include spore print and colour, sport descriptions, size, range shape and habitat data.

Decades of field work and study with excellent photography make this the most modern, detailed fungi guide available to date.

Bruce is a well known naturalist and now an honorary member of the FNCV. He has been author and co-author of several books on fungi, liverworts, mosses, lichens and wildflowers. For 25 years Bruce worked in the School of Botany at Monash University. He was awarded an honorary M. Sc. by Monash University in 1988 and the Australian Natural History Medalion in 1989.

Noel Schleiger

Grateful thanks to those who helped collate and label FNN 142

- Margaret Corrick
- Graeme Thomson
- Rosta Buc
- Ray Power
- Keith Marshall
- Rosemary Robb
- Noel Schleiger
- Dorothy Mahler
- Joan Broadberry
- Pam Faragher



Fauna Survey Group

FSG Group excursion to Mt. William, Grampians National Park 12-14 March

Seventeen members and friends attended the Fauna Survey Group's trip to the Grampians over the labour Day long weekend in March.

The main purpose of the trip was to carry out further trapping for the Smoky Mouse *Pseudomys fumeus*, on the summit area of Mt. William, the highest point in the Grampians, where the species had been previously recorded in good numbers. We also took the opportunity to set up harp traps on the mountain hoping to record elusive species such as the White-striped Free-tail Bat.

Unfortunately the trapping results for Mt. William were disappointing, with only twelve Agile Antechinus *Antechinus agilis* and one House Mouse *Mus musculus* being recorded in Elliott traps, and no bat captures occurring in the harp traps. We did however, record several species of skinks, including the Southern water Skink *Elamprus tympanum*,

Whites's Skink *Egernia whitii*, Black Rock Skink *Egernia saxatilis* and Spencer's Skink *Pseudemoia spenceri*.

Despite the lack of small mammals, all those present enjoyed the wonderful experience of fauna survey work in such a spectacular location. The weather was fine for the three days, and each morning we had stunning views above cloud-filled valleys.

Our camp site was at Wannon Crossing on the Wannon River, thirty-five kilometres south of Hall's Gap. We set up several harp traps near the bridge over the river. Unlike Mt. William, we had very good results. Over three nights we captured one hundred and seventy-one bats of eight species and one Azure Kingfisher. The bats included Eastern False Pipistrelle Gould's Wattle Bat *Chalinolobus gouldii*, Chocolate Wattle Bat *Chalinolobus morio*, Gould's Long-eared Bat *Nyctophilus gouldii*, Large Forest Bat *Vespadelus darlingtoni*, Southern Forest Bat *Vespadelus regulus*, Little forest Bat

Vespadelus vulturnus and Lesser Long-eared Bat *Nyctophilus geoffroyi*, (pictured below)

Twenty-one species of birds were recorded around the camp site, including Gang-gang Cockatoo *Callocephalon fimbriatum*, White-naped Honeyeater *Melithreptus lunatus*, New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*, Weebill *Smicronis brevirostris* and Red-browed Firetail *Emblema temporalis*. A road-killed Lowland Copperhead *Austrelaps superbus* was found near the camp and an unusually large specimen of the Common Froglet *Crinia signifera* was also found. Common Brushtail Possums *Trichosurus vulpecular* and Red-necked Wallabies *Macropus rufogriseus* were also present around the camp site and Southern Brown Tree Frogs *Litoria ewingii* were heard.

Peter Homan



Photo: Lindy Lumsden

FORTHCOMING GEOLOGY GROUP EXCURSION

COLLECTING FOSSIL GRAPTOLITES AT TUERONG QUARRY, MORNINGTON PENINSULA, SATURDAY 25 JUNE, 10 am -12 noon

Mike Mellor of Rockleigh Stone has kindly allowed us to visit this working quarry (formerly known as Devilbend) again. After a brief look at the geology, participants will be able to look for Early Ordovician graptolites from five zones spanning the Chewtonian Stage. There are also some quite nice specimens of pyrite.

Participants must register with Rob Hamson on 9557 5215. There is a number limit of 25 and an age limit of 18 and over.

Participants must wear long pants, sturdy footwear, gloves, safety glasses and hard hat. The FNCV has 15 hard hats to lend out - if you want to borrow one, book one when you register. You will need a splitting pick/hammer or hammer and chisel to split the rock, and paper to wrap specimens.

Meet outside the quarry at 10am. Melway 152 D7. The quarry is off Balnarring Road. Look out for the FNCV GEOLOGY sign.



Fungi Group

The aim of this series of Fungal Forays is to increase recognition of species in the field

**Cambarville,
Yarra Ranges
National Park**

**Marysville-Woods Point Rd,
Sunday, 17 April 2005**

We arrived at the Cambarville picnic area on a bright sunny, DRY day, and were pleasantly surprised to find that it had been wet enough to produce a flush of fruit-bodies, and we spent the morning doing a circuit of the picnic and toilet area. After lunch we drove to the Cora Lynn park and walked down the track to the falls. Here the lack of rain had obviously affected fruiting although we recognised quite a few of the species found.

To help us recognise species and recall fungal names from last year, six Fungimap targets kindly obliged (*Amauroderma rude*; *Cordyceps gunnii*; *Marasmius elegans*; *Mycena interrupta*, *Mycena viscidocruenta*; *Oudemansiella radicata*/*Xerula australe*; *Schizophyllum commune*). The new Fungimap book *Fungi Down Under* by Pat and Ed Grey will also be a great help (available from the Fungi Group, or the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne (RBG), Fungimap, cost \$29.95 + \$3.00 postage and handling, incl GST).

From the Fungi Group CD, put together from species seen and recognised in the field on the 2004 forays, we recognised *Austropaxillus infundibuliformis*, *Bisporella citrina* group, *Discinella terrestris*, *Ganoderma australe*, *Heterotextus peziziformis*, *Hydnum repandum*, *Lac-*

tarius eucalypti, *Marasmiellus affixus*, *Mycena albidocapillaris*, *Mycena albidofusca*, *Mycena cystidiosa*, *Mycena epipterygea* group, *Panellus stipticus*, *Psilocybe subaeruginosa*, *Rickenella fibula*, *Trametes versicolor* and *Xylaria polymorpha*.

In the picnic area, a small specimen of the brown frilly polypore, *Ryvardenia campyla* (ex *Griffola/Postia brunnea*) collected last year, had re-appeared on the same stump of *Eucalyptus regnans*. Nearby in the grass, we made our first collection for the RBG herbarium – *Lycophyllum decastes*, a large gilled species growing in clumps and fused at the stem base (connate). It has a grey-brown rubbery cap (to 115 mm), slimy when wet, white gills which have a pinkish hue and whitish stem. The genus used to be *Tricholoma*. Daniel Remy (a mycologist visiting from France who came on a foray last year) placed it in the *decastes* group. Daniel also explained the ‘nibble, spit, scratch’ method of assigning *Russula* species into specific groups. Nibble a bit of cap and gill, chew, wait for the taste – acrid (peppery), mild or bitter – then SPIT it out. Scratch the stem and rub with a crystal of iron sulphate (Ferrous sulphate). If in the *Russula* group, the reaction may be green, carrot-coloured or none. It is also useful to note how far the cap cuticle will peel back – ¼, ⅓, ½, or all.

There were a lot of *Clitocybe clitocybioides* in the grass, some of which had been parasitised by a white fungus which prevented the fruit bodies from developing properly. These fruit bodies were contorted and gills only very rudimentary. In fact, quite a number of other species had been infected, *Russula* sp. in particular were often infected

with a pin mould. One *Russula* sp. with a grey sticky cap and striate margin, covered with the pin mould (possibly a *Spinellus* species), is occasionally parasitised by the rare *Asterophora mirabilis* (Grey Jockey) a small grey gilled species.

Dr Tom May (senior mycologist at the RBG) was able to come to the FNCV Hall on the following Monday night to identify our samples and he will continue this practice (when he can) after our forays throughout the season. Arthur Carew, one of our digital photographers, was able to show illustrations of the species in situ which assisted Tom in identifying the specimens. This follow-up to the foray is an extremely useful learning process for us – thank you Tom!

Pat Grey

Photographing Fungi

**Report of talks given by
Paul George, Jurrie Hubregtse
and Geoff Lay
Monday 4th April 2005:**

At this interesting and informative meeting photographers Paul George, Jurrie Hubregtse and Geoff Lay inspired us with excellent presentations on how to photograph fungi. The following topics were covered:-

Why photograph fungi? A variety of reasons for photographing these fascinating organisms were illustrated with examples of images taken for (1) a formal record, (2) an aid to identification, (3) conveying the sheer beauty of a fungus, and (4) the pleasure of capturing images of texture, patterns, colour and form. It is important to have a clear idea what you want from your photos: this will help you focus on what is important to you so that you can produce the images you desire.



Library News

Recent additions:

Attenborough, D. (1998) *The Life of Birds*

Fenton, J. (2004) *A Century Afield: a History of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club*

Kantvilas, G. & Jarman, S.J. (1999) *Lichens of Rainforest in Tasmania and South-eastern Australia*

New, T.R. (1992) *Introductory Entomology for Australian Students*

The Permian System (1998) Proceedings of the Strzelecki International Symposium on the Permian of Eastern Tethys.

White, M. (1999) *Reading the Rocks.* (Former title: *The Nature of Hidden Worlds.*)

I have had an enquiry about Zillah Lee, who was elected to the Club in 1959. If anyone remembers her, and even has a photograph, I would appreciate it if they would get in touch with me.




Sheila Houghton
Honorary Librarian

Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

F . N . C . V .

Est. 1880

Understanding Our Natural World

- Botany 
- Terrestrial Invertebrate
- Juniors
- Fauna Survey Group
- Microscopy
- Marine Research 
- Geology
- Fungal Forays 

1 Gardenia St. Blackburn
3130 Vic - Ph 03 9887 9860
www.vicnet.net.au/fncv

Glossy FNCV bookmarks available at the office \$1.50 each. Great for presents. Don't forget FNCV eco bags \$2 each or 2 for \$3.

**CELEBRATION OF
FUNGI DOWN UNDER**

At 8 pm on Monday 20 June, the FNCV Club room will be the setting for a celebration of the arrival of the Fungimap Book *FUNGI DOWN UNDER*.

Dr Tom May will speak about the book and the authors will sign copies for purchasers.

We especially look forward to seeing many of the members who contributed photographs.

Everyone is welcome

**Advertising in the
Field Nats News**

VERY REASONABLE RATES

Contact Mimi in the
Field Nats Office
9877 9860
(Monday -Wed)



Marine Research Group News

Notes on

Mark O'Loughlin's talk: 'A Molecular and Morphological Review of Genera of Asterinidae'.

Monday 14 March, 2005

Mark presented a talk on his ongoing review of genera within the family Asterinidae, and outlined the *major* taxonomic rearrangements that he and his colleagues have made within the family based on genetic and morphological data. Some of the earlier work leading up to this current research has been summarised in previous editions of the MRG page. These are briefly summarised below as a background to the current work:

a/. See FNN 117, p. 9, and FNN 124, p. 11 on the erection of the genus *Meridiastra* O'Loughlin 2002, type species *Meridiastra atyphoida* (HL Clark, 1916), and descriptions of *Meridiastra fissura* O'Loughlin 2002 and *Meridiastra nigranota* O'Loughlin 2002 (ref. 1.);

b/. see FNN 124, p.11 on the description of a new *Patiriella* from New Zealand, *Patiriella mortenseni* O'Loughlin et al, 2002 (ref. 2);

c/. see FNN 124, p. 11 and FNN 127, p. 9 on the assignment of *Patiriella gunnii* (Gray, 1840) to refer to the common southern Australian purple hexagonal seastar with orange tube feet that was formerly known as *Patiriella brevispina* HL Clark, 1938 - this name turned out to be a junior synonym of *Patiriella gunnii* (Gray, 1843). The form that we had mistakenly believed up to that time to be *Patiriella gunnii* (Gray, 1840) proved to be a complex of three new species, *Patiriella medius* O'Loughlin, Waters & Roy, 2003, *Patiriella oriens* O'Loughlin, Waters & Roy, 2003 and *Patiriella occidentens* O'Loughlin, Waters & Roy, 2003 (ref. 3).

However, emerging and provisional molecular phylogenetic studies backed by morphological correlations suggested the need for major re-organisation within the genus *Patiriella* as well as other asterinid

genera. For example, the type species of *Patiriella*, *Patiriella regularis* (Verrill, 1867), displayed genetic as well as internal morphological features that separated it from *Patiriella gunnii*, *oriens*, *occidens* and *medius*, as well as from *Patiriella mortenseni* (see FNN 124 for more details).

d/. This emerging work was published by Waters et al, in 2004 (ref. 4) as a maximum parsimony DNA cladogram of shallow-water Indo-Pacific asterinid species (aiming to show connectiveness between clades via a minimum number of inferred evolutionary steps – see also the discussion in the MRG page of FNN 137, p. 11), with well defined cladistic groupings that necessitated major re-structuring within the family.

e/. O'Loughlin et al., in 2004 (ref. 5) provide the taxonomic and nomenclatural details of that re-structure, based on *congruence* between DNA and morphological data, and this formed the key aspect of Mark's talk. The major changes relating to southern Australian asterinids, and thus to MRG fieldwork, are as follows:

Patiriella gunnii, *oriens*, *medius*, *occidens* and *calcar* (Lamarck, 1816), all from temperate Australia, and *mortenseni* O'Loughlin et al, 2002, from New Zealand, are all now transferred to the genus *Meridiastra*, to accompany *Meridiastra fissura*, *nigranota* and *atyphoida*. *Patiriella regularis* remains in *Patiriella* and is the type species of the genus.

Patiriella exigua (Lamarck, 1816), *parvivipara* Keough & Dartnall, 1978, and *vivipara* Dartnall, 1969 are all now transferred to the new genus *Parvulastra* O'Loughlin, 2004, with *exigua* as the generic type species. (See O'Loughlin et al, 2004 - ref. 5 - for criteria on the morphologic diagnosis of the genus).

Many species formerly in the genus *Asterina* have been assigned to other genera, one to *Paranepanthia*, three to *Patiria*, and several more to the new genus *Aquilonastra* O'Loughlin, 2004. (See O'Loughlin et al, 2004 - ref. 5 - for criteria on the morphologic diagnosis of the genus). In regard to southern Australian species, *Asterina scobinata* Livingstone, 1933 now belongs in *Aquilonastra*.

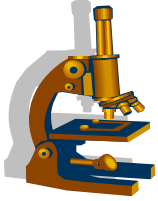
We thank Mark once again for sharing his outstanding research work with us (and also forgive him for the nomenclatural 'headaches' that he has caused us!).

Acknowledgements:

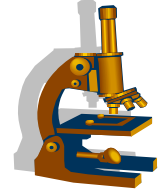
Many thanks to Clarrie Handreck for his notes taken on the presentation and for copies of Mark's earlier papers, John Eichler for a copy of Mark's 2004 paper (ref. 5), and Mark O'Loughlin and Leon Altoff for making available plates of Mark's presentation – a great team effort!

References and further reading:

- O'Loughlin PM (2002). New genus and species of southern Australian and Pacific Asterinidae. *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* 59(2): 277-296
- O'Loughlin PM, Waters JM, and Roy MS (2002). Description of a new species of *Patiriella* from New Zealand, and review of *Patiriella regularis* (Echinodermata: Asteroidea) based upon morphological and molecular data. *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand* 32(4): 697-711.
- O'Loughlin PM, Waters JM, and Roy MS (2003). A molecular and morphological review of the asterinid, *Patiriella gunnii* (Gray) (Echinodermata: Asteroidea). *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* 60(2): 181-195.
- Waters JM, O'Loughlin PM, and Roy MS (2004). Molecular systematics of some Indo-Pacific asterinids (Echinodermata, Asteroidea): does taxonomy reflect phylogeny? *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 30: 872-878.
- O'Loughlin PM, Waters J (2004). A molecular and morphological revision of genera of Asterinidae (Echinodermata: Asteroidea). *Memoirs of Museum Victoria* 61(1): 1-40.



INTERESTED IN MICROSCOPY?



Why not join the Postal Microscopical Club of Australia?

Receive 8 or more sets of 10 slides by post each year, on a wide range of natural history subjects, view them at your leisure and then post them on to the next member on the list.

Simple and rewarding.

Members receive a quarterly newsletter and are able to participate in occasional excursions.

If you are interested please ring Tony Ellis on 0403 492 469 for details.

Winter lectures - Royal Cranbourne Botanic Gardens

Sunday June 26 1.45 pm for 2 pm. At City of Casey Offices: Patrick Northeast Drive, NARRE WARREN Mel 110 D4. John Arnott, Director Geelong Botanic Gardens, **“Beyond the Garden’s Gates”**

Sunday August 14 1.45 pm for 2 pm. At Cranbourne Secondary College: Clarendon St. (off S. Gippsland Hwy) CRANBOURNE Mel 133 K4. Randall Robinson, Victoria University, **“Indigenous Plants—Why and How?”** and Dr. John White, Head, School of Ecology & Environment, Deakin University, **“Wildlife in the Suburbs —Why Remnants are so Important”**

Field Nats News 143



The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.
Locked Bag 3 PO
BLACKBURN VIC 3130
Reg.No. A0033611X

Postage Paid
Australia

**SURFACE
MAIL**