



Understanding  
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# Field Nats News No.263

Newsletter of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

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May 2016

## From the President

It has been a busy month with excellent attendances at meetings. A Botany Group workshop on the Bryophyta (mosses) took some of us back to our undergraduate days in science laboratories; cutting sections of mosses and examining them under the microscope. We will be holding more of these "hands-on" sessions across a range of subjects. There was an interesting presentation on gold formation, a fascinating session on dragonflies and damselflies and two sessions on fungi. One thing that I notice at virtually every meeting is the enthusiasm for our bookshop; the display cabinets generate a lot of interest. There is certainly an excellent range of books at discounted prices to meet the various interests of FNCV members. Quite a few new titles have been added of late.



**Moss mat of *Rosulabryum* sp on top of a fence post at Gembrook in 2015**

Jurrie Hubregste has uploaded the new *Fungi In Australia* e-book to the FNCV website under the Publications tab. It can be easily loaded onto a small tablet or Android phone to use in the field.

*"It is a freely downloadable e-book, which consists of 9 parts, is intended to serve as a resource to assist in the identification of some fungi that may be encountered in our native forests. It contains 307 species and over 1500 photographs of fungi, plus references for further study."*

**Part 1** Introduction introduces you to Fungi In Australia and also to the Kingdom Fungi.

**Part 2** "Ascomycota: Pezizomycotina" contains the descriptions of ascomycetes.

**Part 3** "Basidiomycota: Agaricomycotina : I" contains the order Agaricales, which includes most of the gilled fungi.

**Part 4** "Basidiomycota: Agaricomycotina : II" contains the rest of the orders that make up Agaricomycotina, which are predominantly species of non-gilled fungi.

**Parts 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9** comprise the *Photographic Guides*, which can be used in the field to assist in the identification process. It is our intention to keep adding to the species list as more identifications become available."

(Users are encouraged to make a small donation to the Club when they download it.) Jurrie and the Fungi Group are to be congratulated on the effort that has gone into its development.

Don't forget to put the AGM in your diaries for 2 pm Sunday May 1st—it is a very important meeting.



The deadline for FNN 264, June 2016 will be **10 am on Tuesday 3rd May 2016**. FNN will go to the printers on the 10th with collation on Tuesday 17th May

Sapphire McMullan-Fisher will be the speaker for this year's meeting and will be talking about Fungi and their importance in the ecosystem. ***Fungal Ecology - Fungal links in our Ecosystems***. It is not to be missed.

I have not seen any jewel bugs (Family Scutelleridae) in my garden over recent years. I saw them regularly around the suburbs some 40 years ago. These two, *Scutiphora pedicellata*, (photos below left), were recently photographed in Humevale and Cape Liptrap respectively. They are hard to miss when they are about. (All photos M. Campbell)

**Max Campbell**

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

### May 2016

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> – FNCV Annual General Meeting :** 2 pm. Guest speaker Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, Fungimap Co-ordinator. *'Fungal Ecology—Fungal links to our Ecosystems.'* Afternoon tea served. Contact Office 98779860 or admin@fncv.org.au **Invitation FNN 262 p9.**

**Change to April geology meeting**  
Wednesday April 27th Lisa Nink –  
"Feathers, Fur and Scales: Victorian Megafauna and the Dinosaur Dig" and Ruth Robertson –  
"Mintaro Slate in the Clare Valley".

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> – Fungi Group - Foray: Noojee – Toorongo Falls circuit.** Meet at 10.30 am at Toorongo Falls car park, Toorongo Falls Road. From Melbourne, head east along the Princes Freeway, turning left at the Drouin exit towards Noojee, or take the Warburton Hwy to Yarra Junction, turning onto the Yarra Junction-Noojee Road for a more scenic trip through the ranges. From the Noojee township, head east for around 3km then left onto the Toorongo Falls Road which terminates at the Reserve.  
(Melway Edition 37, Page X928 B5 or Vic Roads, Edition 8, Page 81 B7). Contact Virgil Hubregtse 9560 7775.

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fungi Group - Meeting: Microscope workshop.** Learn how a microscope can help you identify fungus. Contact Virgil Hubregtse 9560 7775.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Fauna Survey Group - Meeting: Birds in the Western Strzelecki Ranges.** Speaker: Cara Brammar PhD Candidate, Department of Ecology, Environment and Evolution, La Trobe University. Contact Sally Bewsher 9752 1418.

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> – Fungi Group - Foray:** The destination will be decided closer to the date and all those on the email list will receive prior notification; we will be meeting at 10.30 am. Contact Virgil Hubregtse 9560 7775.

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Marine Research Group - Meeting: Field trip roundup.** Join us as we review where we have been and what we have seen during our field work season. Contact Leon Altoff 9530 4180 A.H. 0428 669 773.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Fauna Survey Group - Survey - Dadswells Bridge, Grampians National Park.** Contact Robin Drury 0417 195 148, robindrury6@gmail.com **Prior Registration essential.**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – Juniors' Group - Excursion: A practical photography session with Wendy Clark.** At Valley Reserve in Mount Waverley, meet in the new playground off Waimarie Drive at 10.30 am. Bring a camera (iPod/iPhone is fine). Contact Claire Ferguson 8060 2474; toclairef@gmail.com

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> – Fungi Group - Foray: Bunyip State Park, Gembrook.** Meet at 10.30 am at Mortimer Picnic Ground, off the Gembrook–Tonimbuk Road, (Melway Edition 37 Page 14 R12). Contact Virgil Hubregtse 9560 7775

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>—Collate FNN.** Starting about 10.00 am. All welcome. Morning tea served. Contact Joan Broadberry 9846 1218.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Terrestrial Invertebrates Group - Meeting: Speaker to be advised.** Contact Max Campbell 0409 143 538, 9544 0181 A.H. mcam7307@bigpond.net.as

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> – Botany Group - Meeting: speaker to be advised.** Contact Sue Bendel 0427 055 071

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Fungi Group - Weekend Foray. Based at Forrest, in the Otway Ranges.** For further information contact Virgil Hubregtse 9560 7775.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Day Group - Meeting: Botanical Art.** Speaker: Helene Wild. Helene will also bring a range of her art works for sale. Meet at 10.30 am for coffee and a chat, speaker at 11 am. Contact Joan Broadberry 9846 1218

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> – Geology Group - Meeting: 'Towards a Geologically Educated Community: Why, What and How?'** Speaker Leon Costermans - author & consultant. Contact Ruth Hoskin 9878 5911; 0425 729 424; rrhoskin@gmail.com

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Juniors' Group - Meeting: 7.30 pm. A Bug's Life.** Speaker: Max Campbell, President FNCV Contact Claire Ferguson 8060 2474, toclairef@gmail.com

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> – Fungi Group - Foray: Mount Worth State Park, Seaview.** Meet at 10.30 am at Moonlight Creek picnic area, (Melway Edition 37, Page X912 U8, Vic Roads Edition 8, Page 97 B6). Contact: Virgil Hubregtse 9560 7775.

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> - FNCV Council Meeting - 7.30 pm sharp.** Agenda items and apologies to Wendy Gare 98779860 or admin@fncv.org.au



**The policy of the FNCV is that non-members pay \$5 per excursion and \$3 per meeting, to contribute towards Club overheads. Junior non-member families, \$4 for excursions and \$2 per meeting.**

# Members' news, photos & observations

We always have space for member photos and natural history observations. Please share with us what you have noted in your daily life, travels or garden. Email: [fnnews@fncv.org.au](mailto:fnnews@fncv.org.au) by the first Monday in the month.

Welcome  
Welcome

Warmest greetings to these new members who were welcomed into our club at the last Council meeting:

*Debra Jubb, Thomas Feeger, Christine Murphy, Freda Thompson, Lester Thompson, Gilberto Rios, Tony Matveey, Zoe Fawcett, Mark Antos, Fedya Peters, Iryna Peters, Linton Peters, Lucinda McLean*

## A HUGE THANK YOU!

The FNCV Council members would like to thank **Struan Campbell and Rhys Freeman** for their help and assistance with the conversion to the new computers in the office.

Struan, who is the son of our President Max, spent many, many hours here setting up the new computers and software, and transferring all of our data into them. Without him we would never have managed. Max also did a lot of the work, so thank you to **Max** as well. We should also thank Struan's wife **Sarah** for giving up her husband over the weekends in January while he worked here. Max and Struan were here till the wee hours of the mornings to get everything completed quickly.

Rhys is an FNCV member who answered our call for help with the transfer of the members' database into new software. It was very pleasing that one of our members should freely offer their support when we asked in Field Nats News. His expertise made the transition easy for Wendy in the office. Rhys works in the fields of computer networks and MS Access Databases and operates his own business. We can recommend him to any of our members who are needing computer help. Wendy Gare our off ice administrator can forward emails to Rhys if any of you would like to contact his business for help.

## FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers, I have written a report on the last 12 months of FNN for the AGM and I thought I would just include just a few paragraphs in this edition of FNN.

"We, the editorial team, would love to see even more people contributing to FNN. Our amazing Club runs a huge program. Each month there are many FNCV meetings, presentations, surveys and field trips that are not reported on. Some SIGS are hardly mentioned in a whole year. We find it especially rewarding to receive nature notes and images, stories, poems and observations from members. But these are few and far between. Email and digital photography have made it so very easy to send material to FNN ([fnnews.org.au](http://fnnews.org.au)) that there is really no excuse. FNN could and should be overflowing with snippets and reports from every section of the Club and from our always fascinating field naturalist lives. Contributions do not have to be long.

**Follow the rule of p's: a picture, a paragraph or possibly a page.**

Please take up the challenge and share the natural history you have discovered within the FNCV and elsewhere with us all through the pages of YOUR NEWS-LETTER"

## SEANA

As there is an Australian Naturalist Network program in Western Australia this year there will be no SEANA Spring Camp in 2016.

The 2017 autumn camp will be hosted by Sale and District FNC and Latrobe Valley FNC. It will be held from Friday March 17th to Sunday 20th. At the Laurels Function Centre at Sale's Greenwattle Racecourse.

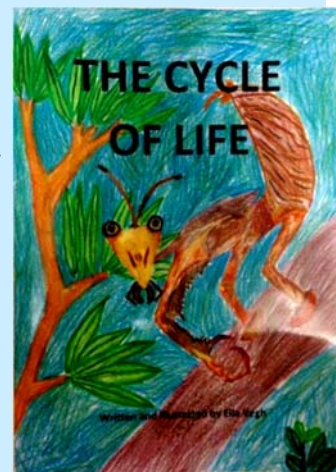
### Erratum:

FNN 262 p4 Should have read, "all meetings were held in the Herbarium".

## News from the Juniors

Ella, from our Juniors' Group is interested in being an Entomologist or an entrepreneur in future and currently breeds a variety of stick insects. In exchange for some of them last year, the Melbourne Museum gave her a giant mantid. She has written, illustrated and published a fantastic book about the cycle of life and follows the journey of several Australian native animals. *Cover illustration right.*

Ella's book can be bought on line at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) (search for Ella Vegh). Profits go to Animals Australia. The publishing was arranged by Ella's school, The Knox School in Wantirna. Or contact Claire Ferguson—8060 2474;







# Geology Group

## Geology meeting

24th February 2016

### ***‘World Heritage Stone: Establishing of a New International Geological standard’***

*Associate Professor Barry Cooper,  
School of Natural and Built Environments,  
University of  
South Australia.*

Our first speaker of the year was long time FNCV member Dr Barry Cooper. Barry now resides in Adelaide but is a frequent visitor to his home state. Dr. Cooper's main field of research is the history of geology, particularly the rising new field of heritage building stone and the protection of stone resources. This includes not only stone for construction purposes but also monumental stone, decorative stone, sculptures, quarries and stone provinces.

Dr. Cooper is a member of a recently formed international group -The Heritage Stone Task Group or HSTG. It was formed under the auspices of the International Union of Geological Sciences or IUGS. The IUGS, among other things, is responsible for establishing naming standards in the earth sciences (naming rock formations, time periods etc.). The Heritage Stone Task Group aims to give formal international recognition to stone resources that have contributed over time to our culture. An example of this is ‘Portland Stone’. Under a Criteria designated by the HSTG ‘Portland Stone’ has been given formal recognition as a Global Heritage Stone Resource (GHSR). ‘Portland Stone’ is used extensively in the United Kingdom. St Paul's cathedral is constructed from it as well as the UN building in New York. It has been quarried on the Islet of Portland on the Dorset coast since Roman times. Production of the stone was ramped up in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, when the desire to build larger, grander structures created the demand for a stronger, more durable and aesthetically appealing building material. For more information on the criteria for establishing a stone resource as a GHSR see [www.gsa.org.au/heritage/TAG%](http://www.gsa.org.au/heritage/TAG%20Articles/TAG%20166%20Web.pdf)

[20Articles/TAG%20166%20Web.pdf](http://www.gsa.org.au/heritage/TAG%20Articles/TAG%20166%20Web.pdf)

Often the GHSR status ties in with World Heritage Status as it protects the resource (quarry) used to repair and maintain buildings of important cultural value. An example of this is



The Malmsbury Viaduct - as seen from the Botanical Gardens - an example of Victorian Bluestone. Photo: Wikipedia.

the Candoglia Quarry, in the Val d'Osso near Milan. It is presently being considered for GHSR status. The quarry opened in 1387 to supply the pink marble for the construction and ongoing repairs to the Milan Cathedral. Because of its long historical association with the cathedral, as well as other criteria, it has a strong case for recognition. [www.duomomilano.it](http://www.duomomilano.it) has more information on this.

Dr. Cooper, as the Australian representative of the Heritage Stone Task Group, attends frequent conferences and has advocated Sydney Sandstone as the first Global Heritage Stone Resource (GHSR) from Australia. He has also suggested International recognition of ‘Victorian Bluestone’ and ‘Harcourt Granite’. It is interesting to note that a stone resource is nominated using its traditional name

rather than its correct scientific name. This is in keeping with the historical and cultural values associated with the name. ‘Harcourt Granite’ is in fact a granodiorite. Similarly, ‘Victorian Bluestone’ is of course basalt and ‘Portland Stone’ is Limestone. Dr Cooper's enthusiasm for his topic, and the attendance of several visitors with a knowledge of building stone made for a lively discussion and piqued

everyone's interest in the geological, historical and cultural value of dimension stone. Speaking personally, Barry's presentation, together with Phil Bock's excursion into Melbourne last year, has made a once mundane trip to town an exciting new geological and historical adventure. For those who get a chance to travel to Adelaide, Barrie has written an excursion guide of the building stone of North Terrace.

[www.sa.gsa.org.au/Brochures/North\\_Terrace\\_final1.pdf](http://www.sa.gsa.org.au/Brochures/North_Terrace_final1.pdf) The website below give an excellent overview of the role of the Heritage Stone Task Group (HSTG) or if you are confused by the acronyms [www.GlobalHeritageStone.org](http://www.GlobalHeritageStone.org) Once again thank you to Barry for an informative evening and giving us some of your valuable time.

**Ruth Robinson**



# Terrestrial Invertebrates Group

## Photographing and Identification of Dragonflies in the Wild

16th March

**Speaker: Reiner Richter**

Reiner delivered a very interesting presentation on the insect order Odonata, Dragonflies and Damselflies.

Reiner has travelled to many places in order to capture life images of dragonflies and damselflies. He showed over a hundred photographs of the insects, most of them of exquisite clarity. He provided details of their ecology, biology, common names and scientific names. He also provided some useful tips on the most effective ways to obtain good macro images in the field.

The meeting was attended by over forty people who clearly enjoyed the presentation very much despite the extremely hot and humid weather.

One of Reiner's photos is attached. The talk can be downloaded from <http://rnr.id.au/FNCV>

**Maxwell Campbell**



*Austrolestes leda*

Photo: R. Richter

### Many thanks to those who helped collate and label FNN 262

Sheina Nicholls  
Andy Brentnall  
Margaret Corrick  
Geoff Corrick  
Ian McDonald  
Neil McLachlan

*The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the FNCV.*

A reminder that **nominations for the FNCV Council 2016/17** must reach the FNCV office no later than **2 pm, Friday 29th April.**

A nomination form will be emailed with this newsletter, see p12 FNN 262 or contact the office.

**If you find injured wildlife:**  
**Wildlife Victoria**  
1300 094 535  
**Help for Wildlife**  
0417 380 687

Will connect you to your nearest suitable wildlife shelter

**PUT THESE NUMBERS IN YOUR PHONE NOW.**

### DIARY DATES

- ◆ This year the FNCV's biodiversity symposium is being incorporated into the FSG's reptile and amphibian seminar weekend to be held on 8th and 9th October.
- ◆ Book launch and celebration will be held on the 8th July. This is the 20th anniversary of our move to the current hall. At the celebration we will be launching a book on the history of the FNCV, written by Dr Gary Presland.

**Thanks to the editorial and layout team who put together FNN 263**

Joan Broadberry  
Wendy Gare



# Fungi Group

## ‘What the Fungus? Dealing with identification uncertainty on fungal forays’

Presentation by  
**Dr Tom May,**  
Senior Mycologist at the  
National Herbarium, Royal  
Botanic Gardens Victoria  
7th March 2016

This year’s Fungi Group activities got off to a good start with a well attended meeting where Dr Tom May gave an informative and entertaining presentation concerning the problem of identifying fungi in the field.

A photo of a table of fungal fruit-bodies, plus a list of fungi found, clearly illustrated the fact that not all specimens that we find can be identified. A composite of 9 photos of fruit-bodies purporting to be those of *Mycena subgalericulata*, from the Atlas of Living Australia, highlighted the identification problem, while a list of many different ways of recording this variable fungus reinforced the necessity to use a uniform method.

Tom grouped the fungi we find into four categories: **Known knowns**, **Unknown knowns**, **Known unknowns** and **Unknown unknowns**.

**Known knowns** consist of fungi that are named, well-known and easy to identify in the field. The Fungimap Target species are good examples of these – all well described and accompanied by photos and maps in *Fungi Down Under: the Fungimap Guide to Australian Fungi*, by Pat and Ed Grey.

**Known unknowns** are fungi that have not been formally named, but are easy to recognise in the field. In such cases it is best to use ‘tag’ or ‘field’ names, with a phrase in quotes. When listing these, it is ideal

to introduce them with voucher numbers, e.g. *Laccaria* sp. ‘D’ sensu T.W. May (MEL 123435). Other examples are *Laccaria* sp. ‘A’, which is a large *Laccaria* that grows with Myrtle Beech *Nothofagus cunninghamii*, and *Mycena* ‘tiny blue lights’, a tiny, very distinctive fungus, best viewed with a hand lens. Tom showed a photo of this *Mycena* growing on a decaying cabbage tree palm branch in Royal National Park, NSW. This was very interesting for us, because in Victoria our group has found it only on the rachises of dead tree fern fronds.

**Unknown knowns** are fungi that have been named but are not well known. Many of these are known only from the type collection and have never been re-collected.

**Unknown unknowns** are fungi yet to be collected and described. There are a great many of these. DNA sampling of soils yields numerous ‘molecular operational taxonomic units’ (mOTUs), and most of these DNA sequences do not match known species. Bioplatforms Australia has produced ‘Biome of Australia Soil Environments’ (BASE), which has revealed about 40,000 species-level taxa from 800 sites.

**Surveys and voucher collections** Carrying out fungal surveys and making voucher collections are vital ways of increasing our knowledge about Australia’s fungal biota. Tom emphasised the need for well-documented voucher specimens, accompanied by images, to be lodged at the National Herbarium of Victoria (MEL), Royal Botanic Gardens, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra. Ample specimens are required, especially if the fungi are small. All MEL collections are recorded in a database, and the data are sent to the Atlas of Living Australia. Note that a collection permit is required.

At our July and August meetings

this year, Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, Fungimap Coordinator, will be speaking about the *Hypocreopsis* Survey Plan. *Hypocreopsis amplexans* (‘Tea-tree Fingers’) is a very rare fungus that has been found growing on *Lepidospermum* in southern Victoria. The aim is for Fungimap to obtain funding from the Victorian Government Threatened Species Protection Initiative, through a Community Volunteer Action Grant, and carry out surveys that will ultimately lead to formal listing of this fungus under the IUCN RED list.

## Death Cap (*Amanita phalloides*) bounty Fungimap Fundraiser.

Photo below from the internet—



Researchers at Michigan State University require 10 kg of dried fruit-bodies (= 75 kg fresh!). The Death Cap fungus grows under oak and pin oak trees. Fruit-bodies can be dropped off at MEL, preferably on a Friday afternoon. Contact Tom on 9252 2319 prior to delivery.

**Virgil Hubregtse**

At the last Council meeting it was reported the FNCV had 2549 facebook members.

As always, thanks to Ian Kitchen.

*This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.*



## Extracts from SIG reports given at the last FNCV Council Meeting

**Botany Group:** Thank you to Dr Mary Gibson for a most interesting workshop on an introduction to identification of mosses. 17 participants enjoyed looking down microscopes to key out mosses. Thanks to Max Campbell for setting up the microscopes.

**Fauna Survey Group:** At the meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March, the guest speaker was Mark Antos relating another African adventure, this time to the Republic of Congo. Mark told us about the country and the wildlife, much of it in equatorial rainforests, although a number of other habitats were also illustrated. The meeting was well attended.

The Leadbeater's Possum survey on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March was not primarily stagwatching this time. Instead we borrowed the DEWLP Leadbeater's Possum survey kit, which contains 2 infrared sensitive cameras, a thermal imaging camera and megaphone with the call of LBP. The highlight was filming a Feathertail Gilder. Also there were some photos of Mountain Brushtails, but the target species, Leadbeater's Possum, eluded us. We also used the thermal imaging scope, which can find animals without any illumination. It has great potential once you come to grips with using it effectively, even though the cost of this one is prohibitive.

The group applied for and received a 'Scientific Procedures Fieldwork Licence for the use of Animals'. (This allows us to mark the ear or tail of an animal with a marking pen, and inspect animals a bit more closely than the ethics permit allows.)

**Juniors' Group:** The Juniors' February excursion was joining the St Kilda Earthcare group with their monthly removal of Pacific Sea Stars. Due to the warmer water temperatures in Feb we were told to bring dive gear with weight belts in order to get to the cooler depths needed to find the cool water loving sea stars and only had one Mum and daughter make the effort to get there. They biked from Lower Templestowe and got there late but found the group and saw the sea stars being bagged and weighed and were told about why these feral pests cause a problem to the ecology of the bay.

At the Juniors February meeting we had Heather Maginn, educator from SeaLife and Melbourne Water, speak to us about sharks. She brought along shark teeth, egg cases and jaws; and a baby shark in formaldehyde. Rather than having a PowerPoint she gave an interactive presentation with a lot of audience participation as we had good attendance.

We needed to postpone our March excursion to the 20th due to high temperatures forecast for the scheduled day. A group of 23 Juniors' and parents had the privilege of visiting Adriana Simmonds Wildlife refuge at her Wonga Park, Land for Wildlife, property. Adriana has permits for education purposes to show the public her property and refuge. We learned about planting indigenous plants in our gardens, having ponds or leaving out water, keeping cats inside or in cat runs (and much more), to provide habitat for our native animals. We met ringtail and brushtail possums, a gorgeous baby sugar glider, kangaroos and blue tongue lizards. We learned about the reasons they came into care and the process of caring for them in the early stages up until their

Photos: M. Campbell



Thanks to the Juniors' newsletter

(Continued on page 12)







## Day Group

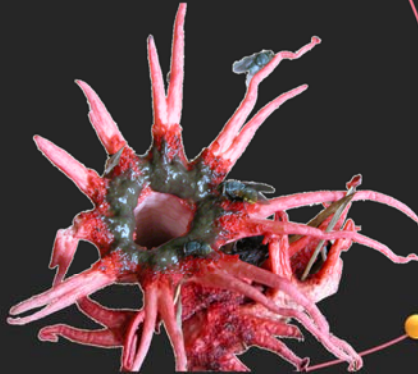
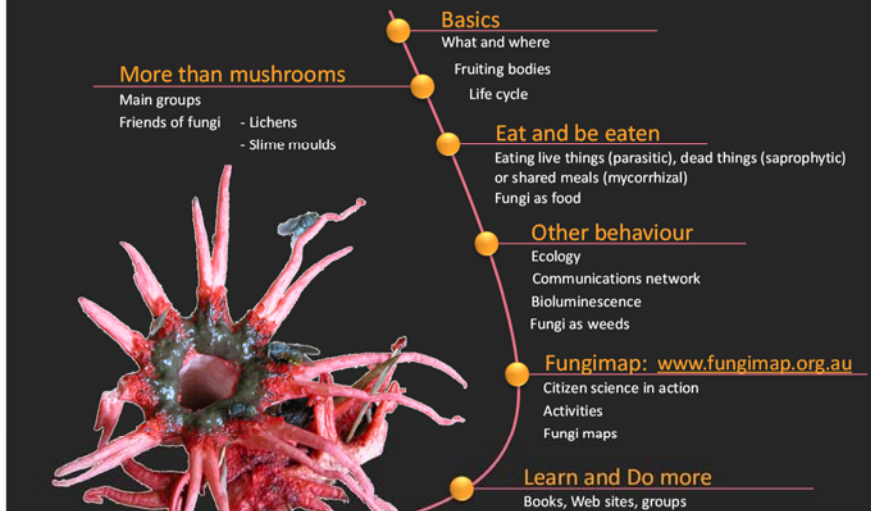
### Fabulous Fungi

**Speaker: Ian Bell**

The March Day Group were very fortunate indeed to enjoy a presentation from Ian Bell. Ian is both an FNCV member and long-standing Fungimap member. In his 'other life' he is a passionate meteorologist trainer and has taught in 25 countries. In 2002 he developed the Fungimap CD-ROM. More recently he has, with assistance from Blanch Higgins, Katrina Syme and Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, developed a Fungimap Powerpoint presentation for members to use and adapt when called upon to speak about fungi.

Ian used this as the basis of his talk to the Day Group and generously allowed me to borrow a copy. Three of the slides are reproduced here. They provide examples of the outstanding quality of his presentation. The first slide is an outline of his talk, the second shows an example of the detail Ian went to in explaining the ecology of fungi and the third samples the latter part of his presentation which took us through the main groups of fungi including many beautiful images of their fruiting bodies. These included, agarics, boletes, toothed fungi, bracket fungi, cups and

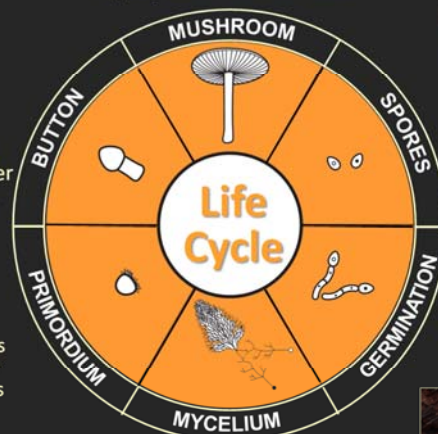
# The World of Fungi



The fruiting body is more than 90% water so can grow quickly.

When the mycelium has enough growth and the weather is right, it fruits

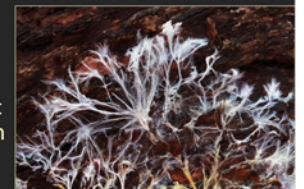
The fruiting body produces spores which are dispersed by air, water and animals.



Spores dropped on lower cap

If spores land on a suitable site they germinate and grow hyphae.

Compatible hyphae mate and form mycelium



Mycelia grow outwards, producing enzymes that soften and break apart the chemicals in the substrate, which they then absorb in order to grow.

## Fungi come in all colours



discs, puffballs, jelly, stinkhorns, birdsnest, and clubs and pins.

Ian went on to talk about the symbiotic relationship between a fungus and alga or cyanobacteria and the Protozoan kingdom of slime moulds.

He concluded with some tips on the identification of fungi and the work of Fungimap.

On behalf of the Day Group I would like to thank Ian for a wonderfully structured, detailed and clear presentation. It was fabulous to be in the audience.

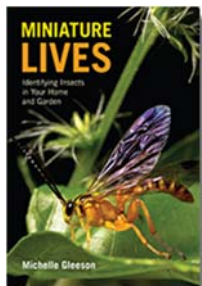
**Joan Broadberry**



## NEWS FROM THE BOOKSHOP (May 2016)

This month we seem to have a bias towards books on our interesting invertebrates, plus a title on Perth flora and another on common birds of Australia. The titles are all recent or upcoming releases with some already available on the shelves and others waiting on their release or order. The Butterflies book is a second edition and as there is still a single copy of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition in stock, this out-dated copy will be available on sale to members at cost price. Look out for an updated copy of the Bookshop Catalogue soon to be revised and updated to include all the books featured in the FNN articles and the status of other books that are now out-of-print and not available to order. To order or inquire about a book, please send me an email to, [bookshop@fncv.org.au](mailto:bookshop@fncv.org.au) and I will reply as soon as I can. Happy reading.

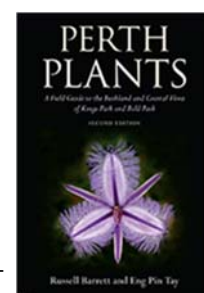
Kathy Himbeck



**Miniature Lives: Identifying Insects in Your Home and Garden (M. Gleeson)** provides a range of simple strategies that people can use to identify and learn more about the insects in their homes and gardens. Featuring a step-by-step, illustrated identification key and detailed illustrations and colour photographs, the book guides the reader through the basics of entomology. Gardeners, nature lovers, students, teachers, parents and grandparents of bug-crazed kids will love this comprehensive guide to the marvellous diversity of insects that surrounds us and the miniature lives they lead.

(PB, 344 pp., Mar 2016) RRP \$39.95, Members \$33.00

**Perth Plants: A field guide to the bushland and coastal flora of Kings Park and Bold Park – 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (R. Barrett & E. Pin Tay)** provides a comprehensive photographic guide to all plants known to occur in the bushlands of Kings Park and Bold Park, both native plants and naturalised weeds. There are 778 species included, representing about one-quarter of all the plants in the greater Perth Region. This new edition contains 22 additional species and updated photography throughout. It is an essential reference for anyone interested in the plants of south-west WA and particularly the Swan Coastal Plain



(PB, 440 pp., Apr 2016) RRP \$49.95 Members \$41.00



**The Complete Field Guide to Butterflies of Australia. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed (M. Brady)** is a fully updated guide to all butterfly species on Australia's mainland and remote islands. Written by one of Australia's leading lepidopterists, the book is stunningly illustrated with colour photographs, many of which are new, of each of the 435 currently recognised species. There is a distribution map and flight chart for each together with information on similar species, variation, behaviour, habitat status and larval food plants.

(PB, 400 pp., Apr 2016) RRP \$49.95 Members \$41.00

**A Naturalist's Guide to the Birds of Australia (D. Ingersen)** This easy-to-use identification guide to the 280 bird species most commonly seen in Australia is perfect for resident and visitor alike. High quality photographs from one of Australia's top nature photographers are accompanied by detailed species descriptions. Also included is a checklist of all the birds of Australia encompassing, for each species, its common and scientific name. (PB, 176 pp., Apr 2016) RRP \$24.95 Members \$20.00.



**Moths of Victoria – Part 6 (A. Kallies)** deals with Ghost Moths – Hepialidae and Allies. This group includes tiny secretive moths to some of the largest of all moths that appear with the autumn rains. With more than 50 species and over 400 images, this book presents every known Victorian moth of two evolutionarily ancient families. The larvae of some species are well-known as Bardi grubs, while the moths are also known as Rain Moths. The disc included provides over 150 additional pages with information, biology and distribution for each species. (PB, 36 pp., 2015) Price \$10.00.

**Insects of South-Eastern Australia: An Ecological and Behavioural Guide (R. Farrow)** is a unique field guide that uses host plants and behavioural attributes as the starting point for identifying insects. Richly illustrated with colour photographs, the different species of insects found in Australia's temperate south-east, including plant feeders, predators, parasites and decomposers, are presented. Whether you are a field naturalist, entomologist or just want to know what is in your backyard, this book will help you to identify the insects likely to be encountered. (PB, 288pp., May 2016) RRP \$45.00, Members \$37.00







## Fauna Survey Group

The Fauna Survey Group camped at Parker Hill campground in the Great Otway National Park at Easter, from 25-29th March.

A collaborative project with Parks Victoria aimed:

- to survey ground-dwelling mammal assemblages in heathlands and adjacent habitats near Cape Otway
- examine whether threatened species recorded in the past from the area are still present
- conduct opportunistic baseline inventory for other fauna species

Methods used were Elliot and cage traps, remote cameras and incidental observations. Special thanks to Mark Antos, Robin Drury and Ray White.

A much more detailed report will appear in future editions of FNN.

Photos Joan Broadberry:

Right, Black Wallaby, *Wallabia bicolor*. Below anticlockwise: Chocolate Wattled Bat, *Chalinolobus morio*; Ray White and Ray Gibson; White's Skink, *Liopholis whitii* and Agile Antechinus, *Antechinus agilis*



The capture and handling of all animals on FNCV field trips is done strictly in accordance with the Club's research permits.



## Marine Research Group News

### Report on MRG field trip to Shoreham beach, Westernport Bay, Saturday 26th December, 2015

In FNN 261 Joan Broadberry showed some images of the conditions encountered on the day, the most notable being the drenching squall of rain. Nonetheless, it was a good low tide and a variety of different invertebrates were recorded. Joan showed an image of the pink nudibranch *Noumea haliclona*. The chitons *Ischnochiton torri* (in some numbers) and *Cryptoplax iredalei* were present. The uncommonly seen *Granata imbricata* (present in some numbers), and the more uncommon *Agnewia tritoniformis* and *Austrodrillia beraudiana* were pleasing records. The hermit crab *Pagurixus hantredrecki* was quite common and the majid crab *Dumea latipes* was also seen.

### Report on MRG field trip to Martha Point, Mt. Martha, Port Phillip Bay Sunday 17 January, 2016

Highlights included the aeolid nudibranch *Trinchesia ornata*, the decorator crab *Anacinetops stimpsoni* and the pebble crab *Ebalia dentifrons*.

### Report on MRG field trip to Bushrangers Bay, Cape Schank, Sunday 14 February, 2016

A broad range of invertebrate life was recorded. Highlights included the chitons *Callistochiton antiquus* and *Rhyssoplax diaphora*, the bivalve gastropod *Edentellina typica* in some numbers on its food alga *Caulerpa brownii*, the anomuran crab *Petrocheles australiensis*, and the hermit crab *Pagurixus jerviensis* in some numbers.

### Report on MRG field trip to Cape Paterson, Sunday 13 March, 2016

This rocky reef again yielded some very interesting records, amongst which were the uncommonly seen sea star *Plectaster decanus*; the small bubble snail *Noalda exigua* and the nudibranch *Aegeres exeches* (both on the seagrass *Amphibolis antarctica*), and a superb undescribed *Tritonia* nudibranch from a subtidal algal sweep.

### Report on MRG field trip to Harmers Haven, Monday 14 March, 2016

The broad expanse of rocky reef with deep pools, crevices, loose rocks, rich algal growth and nice *Amphibolis antarctica* seagrass patches, combined with a good low tide, provided plenty of habitat variety from which many species were recorded. Some of the observations of life

seen beneath rocks on this day are shown below (all photos taken by myself):



*Granata imbricata* with *Clanculus plebejus* on top of it, Harmers Haven, 14/3/2016



*Notocyprea comptoni* (adult), Harmers Haven, 14/3/2016



*Eudoxochiton inornatus* (juvenile, approx. 25-30mm), Harmers Haven, 14/3/2016



Undersurface of large rock, encrusted with sponges, bryozoans and tube worms, showing the sea star *Paraneplanthia grandis*, several *Lomis hirta* crabs, and a few *Anthothoe albocincta* anemones. Harmers Haven, 14/3/2016

### Report on MRG field trip to Harmers Haven, western beach, Tuesday 15 March, 2016

This beach is similar to Harmers Haven in terms of habitat but has seldom been visited by the MRG (see images below, taken by myself). Like Harmers Haven from the preceding day's fieldwork, this rocky reef produced many records across a variety of invertebrate groups. The echinoderms were represented by seven holothuroid, two echinoid, three ophiuroid and eight asteroid species. Seven species of shrimp were recorded, and there was a diversity of molluscs, perhaps the most interesting of them being the little slit shell *Sukashitrochus atkinsoni* found under a rock.



A view of a section of the reef at Harmers Haven western beach, 15/3/2016



Lush growth of *Caulerpa* algae amongst red coralline and other algae on the edge of a lower littoral pool, Harmers Haven western beach, 15/3/2016

Fourteen species of chiton were recorded amongst which were *Rhyssoplax tricostalis*, *Rhyssoplax diaphora*, *Callistochiton antiquus* and *Leptochiton badius*.

### Report on MRG field trip to Twin Reefs, Wednesday 16 March, 2016

High winds abounded on the final day of this extended excursion to the South Gippsland region, but a good low tide more than countered this minor inconvenience. A report will follow.

Platon Vafiadis

## From the Office.....



*I will be on leave for a couple of weeks in May, this time my husband and I will be touring Scotland in a little motorhome (little so it will fit down the narrow winding roads!).*

*My last day in the office will be Tuesday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and I'll be back on Monday May 23<sup>rd</sup>. While I'm away Barbara Burns will kindly be checking the emails for me in case anything urgent crops up. If you have queries, it would be best to directly contact the individual SIG contacts listed in your calendar of events.*

*As usual, donations of tea, coffee and biscuits for the kitchen are much appreciated.*

**Wendy Gare**  
**Administration Officer.**



Celebrate Mothers' Day with a beautiful drop and support the cause you love.

**FNCV** and Goodwill Wine are offering you a selection of Mothers' Day wines at significantly discounted prices. Treat yourself or buy some for mum and 50% of the profit comes back to us. Already we have raised \$1080. Click on this link to purchase <http://www.goodwillwine.com.au/charities/field-naturalists-club-of-victoria-inc>

*(Continued from page 7)*

release. We were inspired by Adriana's passion and dedication to both caring for all creatures and educating the public to be mindful of the wonderful animals we share our land with. To learn more about her work go to [www.humanseeds.com.au](http://www.humanseeds.com.au) Great pictures were taken by Peter King.

**Marine Research Group:** Field work was conducted in the Inverloch area over the four days 13th - 16th March at Cape Patterson, Harmer's Haven (at both Beach 21 and Beach 22 locations) and Twin Reefs. Over 160 species were recorded at each location with a small number still awaiting identification. Species lists were electronically distributed to attending members, interested members not able to attend and parks officials at the end of each day.

Some issues raised around collection practices were discussed at a meeting held at Museum Victoria on 19th March with actions resulting to produce documentation and guides to ensure correct collecting procedures are followed and permit requirements are met.

Harmer's Haven rock platform

Photo: J. Broadberry



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