



Understanding  
Our Natural World  
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# Field Nats News No.272

Newsletter of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

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Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9.30 am - 4 pm.

March 2017

## From the President

This year's SIG programs are underway again and I am looking forward to seeing you all at the various events. The first FSG presentation was an excellent introduction to new approaches to surveying mangrove biodiversity. There was also an interesting slide show on Sweden. Our Calendar of Events is packed with wonderful meetings and activities so make every effort to get to them. After all the recent rain, my backyard has a lot of fungi popping up from the leaf litter so it won't be long before the Fungi Group are out on forays. I am looking forward to those as well.

The St Andrew's Cross Spiders I wrote about last month have produced their egg sacs and little spiderlings have now spread around my garden. They initially sit together in a common web for several days before dispersing. Of the many egg sacs I studied, 20% of them produced small parasitic wasps (probably Scelionidae) and no spiderlings. The Garden Orb Weavers Spiders (*Eriophora sp.*) are still out in force and setting up their webs in the middle of the night and taking them down in the morning, unlike the St. Andrew's Cross Spiders which just leave them in place and repair them as needed. The Bird-dropping Spiders (*Celaenia excavata*) are still guarding their dozen or so egg sacs, many of which have been parasitised by wasps. The exit holes can be seen on the sacs.



*Tiny St Andrews's Cross Spiders dispersing from the egg case.*  
Photo: M. Campbell

I had the pleasure of the company of a very large asilid fly (robber fly) a few days ago. It came to rest on a leaf near me to consume an unfortunate wasp it had captured. The Red Robber Fly, *Colepia rubiviscens*, is one of our giants and this specimen was just over 40mm in length with a wing span of circa 63mm. It buzzed noisily away like a small aircraft.



**Max Campbell**

Robber Fly  
*Colepia rubiviscens*  
Photo: M. Campbell

### A request from the editor

The deadline for the April FNN (273) would normally be 10 am on the first Tuesday of March (7th), however, as the editor will be travelling from 5th March, I am going to ask that, if possible, copy be submitted early by **10 am Tuesday 28th February.**

We have a volunteer who has kindly offered to help complete FNN so I will not make this deadline mandatory, but it would be a great help, if you are able, to forward your contributions a week early

Please consider - Joan.

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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.***

### MARCH 2017

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - Marine Research Group. Field work: *Port Fairy area*.** Exact locations are decided while on site. For details of meeting times contact Leon Altoff 9530 4180 AH; 0428 669 773

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Fungi Group. Meeting: *Fungal ecology*.** Speaker: Sapphire McMullan-Fisher, who is an ecologist with a particular interest in the conservation of biodiversity, particularly macrofungi and mosses. She has been actively involved with Fungimap since 1999. Contact: Carol Page 9857 6388; cpage356@gmail.com

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Fauna Survey Group. Meeting: *The work of the Australian Wildlife Conservancy*.** Speaker: Zac Lewis, Development Executive, Australian Wildlife Conservancy. Contact: Ian Kitchen 9795 7423; iankitchen@optusnet.com.au

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Fauna Survey Group. Survey: *Survey for Plains Wanderers, Bael Bael Nature Conservation Reserve (near Kerang)*.** Prior registration essential. Contact: Ray Gibson 0417 861 651

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Marine Research Group. No Meeting: Labour Day**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> - Terrestrial Invertebrates Group. Meeting:** Contact: Max Campbell for details. 0409 143 538; 9544 0181 AH; mcam7307@bigpond.net.au

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – Botany Group. Meeting: *Flora of Annuello Flora and Fauna Reserve*.** Speaker: Sue Bendel. Contact: Sue Bendel 0427 055 071

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> - FNCV Members. Working Bee: *Mainly inside the hall*.** Meet at 9.30 am at the FNCV hall. Bring all tools and materials (buckets, rags, products) for dusting, window cleaning, pruning etc. Morning tea provided. All welcome. Contact: Barbara Burns 9846 2608

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> – Juniors' Group. Excursion: *Ponding at Jells Park*** with Max Campbell. We will meet at 9 am at Jells Park, in the carpark furthest in from Ferntree Gully Road entry. Contact: Claire Ferguson 8060 2474; toclairref@gmail.com

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> - Collate FNN 273.** Starting about 10 am. Contact Joan Broadberry 9846 1218

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Geology Group. Meeting: *Integration of Melbourne Water's Cultural Heritage*.** Speaker: Paul Balassone MSc, Heritage Co-ordinator, Melbourne Water. Contact: Ruth Hoskin 9878 5911; 0425 729 424; rrhoskin@gmail.com

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> - Fauna Survey Group. Excursion: *An evening survey to look for Leadbeater's Possum, gliders, owls and other nocturnal wildlife*.** Contact: Ray Gibson 0417 861 651

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – FNCV Council Meeting: 7.30 pm sharp.** Agenda items and apologies to Wendy, 9877 9860 or admin@fncv.org.au

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> – Day Group. Meeting: 10.30 am for coffee and a chat, presentation at 11 am** Speaker John Harris: *Florida, Bahamas and Mexico*. Contact: Joan Broadberry 9846 1218.

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> – Juniors' Group. Meeting: 7.30 pm. *Our Unique Southern Oceans*.** Speaker: Jono Stevenson  
Contact: Claire Ferguson 8060 2474; toclairref@gmail.com



**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:**

**John Burch, Sue Maslin, Peter Rouge, Michael Forster, Bruce Sims,  
University of Melbourne, Hannah Nicholas and Monika Farnbach.**

### AUSTRALIA DAY at GOVERNMENT HOUSE

On Monday 23rd January, Max Campbell and I represented the FNCV at the annual Australia Day reception at Government house. The FNCV receives an invitation each year as the Victorian Governor is our patron. About a thousand people from all walks of life attended. It was a very hot day though a change came through about 6 pm.

The Governor, the Honourable Linda Dessau, gave a short speech on what it means to be an Australian, answering the question with reference to the response to the Bourke Street tragedy where people of diverse backgrounds put self interest aside to help total strangers.

*Editor: The Club has been pleased to acknowledge the Governor of Victoria as its patron since August 1950.*

**Barbara Burns, FNCV Treasurer**



### OUR VALLEY by Cecily Falkingham, Donvale

On a warm Summer's day recently I decided to walk in "our" valley. I only had an hour and in that short time I observed that in spite of very little rain, the bushland looked reasonably green. Around the *Bursaria spinosa* danced the butterflies and a myriad of small insects, it being the only plant flowering so profusely and well-named the butterfly bush. I stood and watched the variety of insects drawn to the sweetly-scented flowers. A Spotted Pardalote called overhead in a small Yellow Box and then swiftly made a dive capturing a Katydid, a relative of the grasshopper. It flew to the ground with the struggling insect which was almost as big as the bird itself, providing a nice meal for the Pardalote I should imagine for some time. Grey Shrike Thrushes, Kookaburras, Grey Fantails and Scrub-wrens were calling and feeding. Using the narrow path as a flight path were the dragonflies and the Common Brown Butterfly.

I had hoped to see the resident Blue-tongue Lizard as the sun rose higher in the sky and the day became hotter. We had seen a Tiger Snake in this area many years ago and I had my camera ready if it made an appearance. The heady perfume of the Eucalypts and the cicadas getting into full voice reminded me of how precious this small 35ha reserve is, only a small part of the Mullum Mullum corridor and my escape from the noise of civilization. Dawn is the best time to walk here just twenty minutes from home and in the past I have led many dawn walks here to hear the dawn chorus. A walk of several hours can yield as many as thirty or forty bird species as well as Black Wallaby and the occasional Echidna. This area has been saved from being part of the Eastern Freeway and is a bush corridor leading all the way to Warrandyte. It could have been a six-lane freeway. Something that I am mindful of every time I walk there, in a twelve month period covering the four seasons it is possible to see over fifty bird species.

Donvale has changed a lot in the fifty seven years we have lived here but I can honestly say the bushland is thriving, apart from the weeds around the edges (the edging effect) and the Mullum Mullum Valley is still a magic experience.

**Thanks to the  
editorial and layout  
team who put  
together FNN 272**

Joan Broadberry  
Wendy Gare  
Sally Bewsher



**From  
the  
Office**

Dear Members, we are urgently in need of toilet paper please! (Boring but vital. ..)

I love to hear feedback from you as well. Anything which you would like to see added/changed/improved/discontinued or new ideas are all welcome. For instance, it's always difficult to know how many emails to send out to you with information about upcoming meetings, interesting articles from other groups etc. Just email the office on [admin@fncv.org.au](mailto:admin@fncv.org.au)

The last Club jacket, royal blue, size XXL is selling for the bargain price of \$20.

**Wendy Gare, Administration Officer**





## The FNCV Environment Fund Call for Donations



FNCV Reg. No. A0033611X

The Environment Fund of the FNCV has been set up for the purpose of supporting the objectives of the Club in relation to the environment. **Donations to the fund are tax deductible.**

From 2003 to 2016 the Fund was able to support **sixty-one** applications for grants of between \$200 to \$1000 from both the FNCV Special Interest Groups and other organisations. Donations are needed in order to enable further grants to be made in the future. Please use the form below to donate to this worthy Fund. A receipt will be provided.

More information about the Environment Fund is on the FNCV website at [www.fncv.org.au](http://www.fncv.org.au) Barbara Burns, (Secretary)

- FNCV Juniors' Group – Replacement of two toilet tents & purchase of petrol powered auger for camping trips \$600.
- Phoebe Burns PhD student. Melb Uni. "Environmental determinates of Smokey mouse (*Pseudomys fumeus*) populations in the Grampians-Gariwerd National Park. Equipment purchases.
- Bairnsdale FNC. Juniors - three dissecting microscopes Model MoticRED20-S - \$1000.
- Sale FNCV - 2000 Brochures of 100 significant Birds of the Sale Common State Game Reserve. \$1000.

**Yes I would like to support the FNCV Environment Fund. Please find enclosed my tax deductible donation of:**

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$200

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Direct EFT payment option:** Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000 Account No: 123098725  
Name: The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

- Please use "**Enviro**" followed by your name as your reference and
- send an email to [admin@fncv.org.au](mailto:admin@fncv.org.au) to let us know that you have paid directly.

OR

Name:.....

Address: .....

☐ Cheque ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
CARDHOLDER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRY DATE: ☐ ☐ / ☐ ☐

Please return to : Environment Fund, FNCV, PO Box 13, Blackburn 3130.

Enquiries can be made to Wendy Gare, FNCV Administrative Officer, 03 9877 9860, Email: [admin@fncv.org.au](mailto:admin@fncv.org.au)

### SECOND-HAND BOOKSALE

Every two years the FNCV organises a second-hand booksale. This raises funds for the Club and is a service to members and the local community. This year the sale was held very early in the year, on the 11th February. Luckily the summer weather was co-operative.

A booksale creates a great deal of work, but, as always, our members responded quickly and enthusiastically. Council member and FNCV treasurer, Barbara Burns took on the major responsibility of running the event. Towards the end of *continued page 12.*



**FIELD NATS NEWS Index for Issues 260 (February) –270 (December/January), 2016-17****Compiled by Pat Grey***(Reports of Special Interest Group activities (SIGS), are listed chronologically according to FNN issue)*Altoff, Leon: *Photo Credits: Tetracitella purpurascens, Catomerus polymerus and Tesseropora rosea, Chthalamus antennatus* **265:11.****AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HISTORY MEDALLION:** Notice – new Secretary needed **262:4**; Invitation to attend the presentation to Max Moulds on 7/11/16 **268:1**; Presentation to Dr Max Moulds (illus) **270:1&5.****AUSTRALIAN NATURALISTS' NETWORK:** notice of get-together in WA, October 2016 **261:11.**Bathie, Carol: Research on ascidian *Corella eumyota* (illus) **266:11.** *Photo Credits Cystodytes dellechiaiei* **265:11**; *Corella eumyota* views **266:11.**Bell, Ian: Fabulous Fungi (illus) **263:8.**Berg, Gordon: Locusts in Victoria (illus) **265:10.***Photo Credits:* large Spur-throated locust, Yellow-winged locust, *Gastrimargus musicus*, Australian Plague Locust **265:10**Betts, Professor Peter: How do we know about the Earth (illus) **267:4.**Bock, Phil: Congratulations on being awarded the inaugural Ellis Medal at the recent 17th International Bryozoology Conference **264:3****BOOK REVIEWS:** Museum Victoria Marine Field Guide - *Nudibranchs and related molluscs* as part of a series, *Flora and Fauna of the Victorian and South Australian Mallee* by Jocelyn Lindner, 2015, review by Ted Ryan **260:10.****BOTANY GROUP: Reports to Council:** Moss workshop (illus) **263:7**; From ancient cedars to invasive species: five facts worth knowing about Ontario's forest by Kyle McLoughlin **265:12**; Interactive photography workshop by Wendy Clark **267:5**; Help needed to organise the Botany Group **270:11.** *Photo:* members studying mosses **263:7.**Bribiesca-Contreras, Lupita: Anchialine caves: laboratories in nature (map) **262:10.**Broadberry, Joan: Peron's Tree Frog **260:3**; FNCV Christmas Break-up 2015 **260:4**; Squall interrupts survey on Shoreham rock platform (illus) **261:3**; Survey at Martha Point 17/1/16 (illus) **261:12**; King Parrots visit in winter (illus) **265:3**; Some endemic birds and Wild-life of New Zealand - an introduction (illus) by Joan Broadberry **267:6-7**; Spring Orchids (illus) **269:3.***Reports from Day Group:* **262:7**; **266:10&12**; **270:13.***Photo Credits:* Peron's Tree Frog (x2) **260:3**; FNCV Christmas Break-up 2015 **260:4**; Squall on Shoreham rock platform **261:3**; Members on the rock platform, pink sponge, pink sponge with pink nudibranch **261:12**; Harmer's Haven rock platform **263:12**; Black Wallaby, Chocolate Wattle Bat, Members, White's Skink, Agile Antechinus **263:10**; King Parrots **265:3**; Yellow-eyed Penguin, New Zealand Robin, New Zealand Pigeon, Southern Royal Albatross, Hector's Dolphin **267:6-7**; Flooding of low lying areas, *Caladenia fulva*, *Caladenia versicolor*, *Thelymytra rubra* x *T. megalopytra* hybrid **269:3**; ANHM awarded to Dr Max Moulds, ANHM dinner **270:1&5**; Cinnamon Bells, attendance **270:13.**Burn, Robert: Queens Birthday Honours: Medal of the Order of Australia **266:11.**Burns, Barbara: Notice of double celebration FNCV (ill) **267:1.***Photo Credits:* photos of double celebration figures **267:1.****CALENDAR OF EVENTS: MONTHLY:** **260:2**; **261:2**; **262:2**; **263:2**; **264:2**; **265: 2-3**; **266:2**; **267:2**; **268:2**; **269:2**; **270:2.**Campbell, Maxwell: *From the President:* (illus) **260:1**; (illus) **261:1**; **262:1**; (illus) **263:1**; (illus) **264:1, 4**; (illus) **265:1&3**; (illus) **266:1&6**; **267:1**; (illus) **268:1**; (illus) **270:1&5.***Terrestrial Invertebrate Reports:* **263:5**; **265:10.***Photo Credits:* Golden Stag Beetle, Greengrocer Cicada, Fiddler Beetle **260:1**; FNCV Christmas Break-up 2015 **260:4**; Cowboy Beetle, Bee Fly **261:1**; Flesh Fly & Photomicrograph of wing **262:1**; Members at the Day Group **262:7**; Moss Mat *Rosulabrynum* sp., two Jewel Bugs *Scutiphora pedicellata* **263:1**; Members studying mosses **263:7**; Elephant-trunk ciliate, photo series of *Actinopod* consuming gastrotrich **264:1, 4**; *Centropyxis* sp., *Arcella* sp. *Lachrymaria* sp. **265:1&3**; Kookaburra **265:3**; graphs of insects and bacteria **266:1&6**; Hoverflies **269:1**; Greengrocer cicada **270:1&5.**Clark, Wendy: Junior Field Nats, a big part of my Life (illus) **268:10&12**; 'Woolly Bears' on the Forest Floor (illus) **269:4.***Photo credits:* Juniors' president & camp Organiser 1970's, Nowa Nowa Easter Camp, Tick removal, echidna, 1972 camp **268:10&12**; Honey-brown Beetle, larva **269:1.**Cook, Kristina: Whale rescue training **260:11.**Cooper, Barry (Assoc Professor): World Heritage Stone **263:4.****DAY GROUP: Reports of Meetings & Excursions:** brief note - A grey nomad's wildlife encounters by Andrew McCutcheon (illus)(Joan Broadberry) **262:7**; Fabulous Fungi (illus) Ian Bell (Joan Broadberry) **263:8**; Wildflowers of the Mojave & Sonoran Deserts (ill) by Lynsey Poore (Joan Broadberry) **264:10**; Botanical Art (illus) by Helene Wild **265:8-9**; What's the buzz? A peek into the lives of our Native bees, nesting, mating, roosting (illus) by Linda Rogan (Joan Broadberry) **266:10&12**; Some endemic birds and Wildlife of New Zealand - an introduction (illus) by Joan Broadberry **267:6-7**; New Zealand South Island Geology for Tourists (illus) by Rob Hamson **268:4-5**; Excursion to Wombolano Park, Ringwood East (illus) by Joan Broadberry **270:13.****Photos:** Grey-crowned Babbler, Red-barred Dragon, Rufus Bettong, Fawn-footed Melonys **262:7**; Fungi Cycle, various Fungi (Fungimap photos) **263:8**; map, Joshua Tree, Beaver-tail Cactus, Zebra-tailed Lizard, Saguaro Cactus **264:10**; Viola, Honey Possum & Scarlet Banksia **265:8-9**; *Homalictus punctatus*, Mating pair of *Euryglossa ephippiata*, 'Fantasy photo' of Linda's garden **266:10&12**; Yellow-eyed Penguin, New Zealand Robin, New Zealand Pigeon, Southern Royal Albatross, Hector's Dolphin **267:6-7**; Baleen Whale, Christchurch Cathedral, opera house, Oamaru, Rob at junction of Pacific & Australian plates **268:4-5**; Cinnamon Bells, Common Bird Orchid, members attending **270:13.****Reports to Council:** meeting- Where there's fire, there's Smokies by Phoebe Burns, Where are they now? Changes in the occupancy of the Broad-toothed Rat, *Mastacomys fuscus* across Victoria by Stella Shipway, excursion - Wildflower and orchid walk in Mullum Mullum Park Mitcham, with Cecily Falkingham **260:9**; Adventures on the Cooper by Marie Gibson (Joan Broadberry) **261:4.**Drury, Robin: Report on arboreal mammals around the Grampians (illus) **268:3.***Photo from remote cameras:* Squirrel Glider, Sugar Glider, Brush-tailed Phascogale **268:3.**Eichler, John: *Photo Credits: Alpheus novaezealandiae, Alpheus richardsoni, Alpheus villosus* (Beaumaris), *Synalpheus tumidomanus*Shoreham) **262:10**; *Plectaster decanus, Noumeahaliclona* **265:11**; *Rossbeevera vittatispora* **269:5-6**; *Hexagonia vesporia* **269:6-8.**Falkingham, Cecily: Black House Spider (illus) **262:3**; Fungi – illus poem **267:3.***Photo Credits:* Black House Spider **262:3**; fungi **267:3.****FAUNA SURVEY GROUP (FSG): Reports of Meetings, Camps, Field trips, Surveys:** Stagwatching for Leadbeater's Possums inNoojee area, Rushworth forest -checking nestboxes (illus) John Harris **262:8-9**; Camp at Great Otway NP (illus) **263:10**; Report on arboreal mammals around the Grampians (illus) Robin Drury **268:3**; Checking nest boxes at Long Forest (illus) John Harris **269:9****Reports to Council:** South of Little Desert, Bird watching (illus) **260:9**; notice of Christmas break-up; Feeding Ecology of Australian and Antarctic Fur Seals by Laetitia Kernalguen; Stagwatches, Rushworth Forest Survey **262:6**; meetings & surveys **263:7**; Cape Otway Survey (illus) **264:8**; Cape Otway survey, meeting Echidnas by Kath Handasyde **265:12**; meeting and N Grampians NP survey **266:6**; meetings: Predator

- Interactions in N Australia by Leila Brook, Linear Vegetation for Fauna conservation by Mark Hall, survey – workshop for trapping techniques **270:4**; Seminar: Reptiles and Amphibians of Victoria (illus) by John Harris **270:12**.
- Notice:** Biodiversity Symposium to be incorporated into the FSG's reptile & amphibian seminar to be held on 8th and 9th Oct. 2016 **265:3**.
- Photos:** Squirrel Glider, Greater Glider (x2), Sugar-glider family, Bobuck, Yellow-footed Antechinus, Brush-tailed Phascogale **262:8-9**; Black Wallaby, Chocolate Wattle Bat, Members, White's Skink, Agile Antechinus **263:10**; Sugar glider, Phascogale **264:8**; Squirrel Glider, Sugar Glider, Brush-tailed Phascogale **268:3**
- Ferguson, Claire: Juniors SIGS (illus), excursion at Black Rock beach **261:4**
- Photo Credits:** Members using a microscope, Ringback Pipefish **261:4**; Ella Vegh with Stick insect, Lichen Stick Insect, variety of Stick insect eggs, book – The Cycle of Life by Ella Vegh **262:11**.
- FNCV PATRON:** Victorian Governor of Victoria, the Hon Linda Dessau.
- FNCV ADMINISTRATION: From the Office (Wendy Gare):**
- Postage costs:** **260:5**. **New computers:** **260:5**.
- Facebook, FNCV, monitored by to Ian Kitchen:** members 2549 **263:6**; 2656 members **264:3**.
- Notices:** Diary Dates **263:5**; notice of leave **263:12**; Whitehorse Spring Festival 16/10/16 **266:9**.
- Solar Panels:** report – FNCV electricity bill = **ZERO 262:4**.
- Supplies needed for Hall:** **261:9**; **270:3**.
- Thanks:** to FNN collators & members opting to receive FNN etc via email **261:9**; to local State MP Samantha Dunn—colour printing flyers **266:9**; extra hands for FNN mailing **269:3**; Rhys Freeman—help with updating data base **269:3**; help given at Whitehorse Fest. (illus) **270:11**.
- Updating:** data bases & membership **269:3**.
- Volunteers Wanted:** Whitehorse Spring Festival 4.10/16 **268:1**.
- Wanted:** new secretary for the ANHM **262:4**.
- FNCV BIODIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM, October**—notice **265:3**; Seminar: Reptiles & Amphibians of Victoria (illus) by John Harris **270:12**.
- FNCV BOOK SHOP (Kathy Himbeck):** orders and queries **260:12**; **261:11**; Book Launch to celebrate 20 years at 1 Gardenia Street **262:4**; news & books available **262:5**; news & books available **263:9**; contact details **264:3**; News from the Bookshop **266:8**; contact **269:6**; news contact and books **269:10**; news contact and books **270:10**.
- FNCV Christmas Break-up Functions:** 12 December 2015 (illus) **260:4**; invitation to the 2016 Christmas Party **270:5**.
- FNCV COUNCIL:**
- Annual General Meeting:** Notice 1/5/16 **262:9**; 1 May 2016 (illus) **264:9, 11**.
- Council Papers:** Revised manual for risk management within the SIGS **261:1**.
- Photos:** Barbara Burns, Phoebe Burns, Moira Minty with Max Campbell, Dr Sapphire McMullen-Fisher **264:9&11**.
- Nomination form for Council 2016-2017:** **262:12**; Reminder for Council nominations **263:5**.
- SIGS extracts:** Fauna Survey, Geology, Juniors, Day Group **260:9**; Day Group, Juniors excursion **261:4**; Fauna Survey, Marine Research, Microscopy **262:6**; Botany Group, Fauna Survey, Juniors, Marine Research **263:7, 12**; Botany, Fauna Survey, Geology Group **264:8**; Botany Group, Fauna Survey, Fungi Group, Geology Group **265:12**; Fauna Survey, Juniors **266:6**; Botany Group, Fauna Survey, Juniors, Geology **267:5**; Geology Gr., Juniors, Marine Gr., Microscopy Gr. **268:6**; Fungi Group, Geology Group **269:4**; Fauna Survey, Fungi, Geology **270:4**.
- Thanks:** Struan Campbell and Rhys Freeman for conversion to new office computers **263:3**.
- FNCV ENVIRONMENT FUND:** Call for Grant Applications, donations welcome (tax deductible) **261:9**; Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalist Club – Junior Field Naturalist Group, purchased the dissecting microscopes **Model: Motic RED20-S. 266:12**.
- FNCV INSURANCE POLICY RE MEETINGS & EXCURSIONS:** **260:9**.
- FNCV INVITATIONS:** Invitation to the Club's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the Blackburn Hall **264:4**.
- FNCV LIBRARY NEWS (Gary Presland):** **260:5**; **262:4**; **266:9**; **268:5**.
- FNCV Policy:** Capture and Handling of All Animals: **260:12**; Risk Management paper **261:1**.
- FNCV Twenty Years celebration** since the opening of Club's Blackburn premises & launching of 'Understanding our natural world. The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria 1880-2015' by Gary Presland (ill) by Barbara Burns **267:1**.
- FIELD NATS NEWS:**
- Adverts.** Good Will Wine **263:12**; Understanding our natural world *The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria 1880-2015* by Gary Presland **266:9**.
- Advertising Rates:** **260:12**; contact for information **262:11**; **264:7**; **269:9**.
- Index for 2015** – Feb-Dec/Jan **261:5-8**. Thanks to Pat Grey for compiling the index **261:8**.
- Notices:** Friends of RBG Cranbourne Spring Plant Sale **269:9**.
- Thanks to: Editorial & layout team- Joan Broadberry, Wendy Gare, Sally Bewsher:** FNN 260 **260:3**; FNN261 **261:4**; FNN 262 **262:3**; FNN263 **263:5**; FNN 264 **264:3**; FNN 265 **265:9**; FNN 266 **266:9**; FNN 267 **267:3**; FNN 268 **268:6**; FNN 269 **269:12**; FNN 270 **270:5**.
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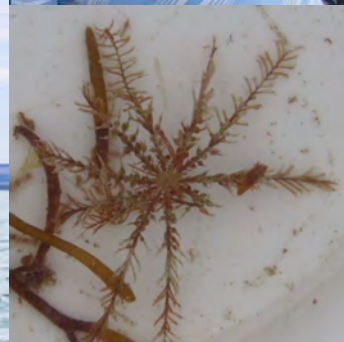


## Extracts from reports given at the last FNCV Council Meeting

**Juniors' Group:** On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, three FNCV adult members joined the Juniors' Group to visit the Queenscliff Marine Discovery Centre and board the "Kyena" for a Marine Biology trip. The weather was lovely and warm and we learnt about the area and some of the creatures which live there. In the seaweed sample we found lots of critters including a wandering sea anemone, feather star, brittle stars, seahorses, pipefish, skeleton shrimp, gorgeous baby squid and squid eggs. We passed Chinaman's Hat where there were plenty of brown fur seals hanging out and a boat of people having an encounter snorkelling with them. Pope's Eye was also viewed from the boat where there were many Australasian Gannets and Cormorants.

Our January meeting was attended by only six people due to holidays, the men's tennis semi-final and Chinese New Year. I also didn't send a reminder email as only one council member was giving a talk. This was on Nigretta Falls, west of Hamilton. I also gave a talk on Tasmania. As we now have fewer Junior Council members attending regularly, I think we should hold our first meeting in February next year.

*Claire Ferguson*



Photos by Indra (aged 14)

*Clockwise: sorting dredged weed, Squid, Australian Fur Seals and Brittle Star.*

**Marine Research Group:** The tides for January were not suitable for field work, so our field work season started on the 4th February with a trip to Breamlea.

**Editor:** Images on the right, taken at the MRG field trip to Breamlea show an interesting find collected by John Eichler. The rotting wood pieces he brought back to the group contained many live Shipworm. Surprisingly these belong to the family of bivalve molluscs. The tiny shell enclosing the head, can be seen on the far left of the lower photo. A more detailed report will appear later in MRG news. *Photos: J. Broadberry*

**Bookshop:** A total of 445 books/DVD's/CD's were sold during 2016. This does not include the 25 copies of *Wildflowers of the Stirling Range* purchased by the organisers of the recent ANN in WA. This total for 2016 is almost 100 books more compared to the 348 books sold during 2015. Thanks to all who purchased a book in 2016!! In particular many thanks go out to one of our institutions for their \$1600 order that included 48 books covering 32 titles.

As at the last audit completed on 3 January 2017, there were 151 titles available for sale on the bookshelves at the club rooms. Included in this are 11 titles in the special/clearance section at reduced prices.

*Kathy Himbeck*



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

*This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.*



# FNCV Environment Fund: Call for Grant Applications

The FNCV Environment Fund has the following purposes:

- To support and finance environmental research, in particular research into the biodiversity of Victoria.
- To support and finance dissemination of information on the natural environment by any legitimate means, including public lectures, seminars, field trips, courses and publications.
- To support and finance practical projects aimed at preserving and enhancing the biodiversity of Victoria.

The FNCV Environment Fund is administered by a committee consisting of Malcolm Calder (Chair), Barbara Burns, (Secretary & Treasurer), Bob Rogers, John Harris, Ian Moodie and Cathy Willis.

**The Committee calls for applications for the next round of funding from the FNCV Environment Fund. Requests for projects between \$200 & \$1,000 will be considered.**

Applications can be from organisations or individuals, but in the latter case must be supported by an organisation. Suitable organisations are established natural history or environmental organisations (Field Naturalist Clubs, Landcare Groups etc.), educational institutions or government departments. Multiple applications from one research group are not encouraged.

Applications for this round of funding close **Monday 3rd April 2017**. All applications will be acknowledged and results of applications communicated by 18 April 2017. *Late applications will not be accepted.*

Successful projects are required to be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding, with a report supplied on completion. The report will be published by FNCV and successful applicants are encouraged to communicate their results to the Club via articles, talks or field trips. Additional information about the Environment Fund is available at [www.fncv.org.au](http://www.fncv.org.au).

Please include the following information in the application:

- Project Title.
- Project description (max 250 words).
- How the project meets the aims of the fund.
- Budget (include GST in all relevant items). (Also indicate other sources of funding)
- Indicate if the application is from an individual or organisation and give the name of the individual or organisation.
- Applicant name and contact details (including mailing address/phone/fax/email).
- Signature of applicant.
- Endorsement of organisation (signature of responsible person such as President, Secretary, Manager, Head of Department, include name and position held).

**Applications should be sent to:  
Secretary FNCV Environment Fund  
Field Naturalists Club of Victoria  
PO Box 13,  
Blackburn Vic 3130  
or emailed to [admin@fncv.org.au](mailto:admin@fncv.org.au)**

■ Donations to the FNCV Environment Fund are **tax deductible**. Donations are needed. Donation forms can be down-loaded from the website [www.fncv.org.au](http://www.fncv.org.au) or are available on request from the FNCV Office. Phone 98779860 or email [admin@fncv.org.au](mailto:admin@fncv.org.au)

# Climate Trails and Parks Victoria by John Harris

**What are they?** Climate Trails are citizen science projects coordinated by the Earthwatch Institute. They aim to monitor biodiversity and its response to climate change. A large range of flora and fauna (including terrestrial and marine invertebrates) have been chosen as "indicator" species. Each species has a physical description and behavioural notes, as well as how the species may be impacted by climate change. These changes may include flowering earlier or later, depending on temperature, breeding season etc. Through regularly walking a ClimateWatch trail and recording what you see, you can discover what is happening in your local environment and contribute to a national program that helps scientists inform Australia's response to climate change. Walking the trail with a group gives you the opportunity to share the experience.

Parks Vic. in conjunction with Climate Watch, have set up four Climate Trails in the Organ Pipes, Grampians, Yarra Bend and Wilson's Prom National Parks. They have been established along existing tracks in the Grampians NP (Venus Baths trail), Wilson's Prom (Loo Ern trail), Yarra Bend (Bushland Circuit) and Organ Pipes on the trail to Rosette Rock. These trails feature a number of the "indicator" plant and animal species. Having been involved in the establishment of the latter two trails, I can see how they can increase visitor participation within the park while contributing to a national citizen science project. Parks Vic. are considering preparing other trails but want to see how these four trails are used and what information is gathered, first. There may be opportunities for the FNCV to be involved in setting up future trails with PV.

Other organisations such as, local government (eg. Manningham City Council) have established climate trails in their parks, with others established across Australia from Albury to Paraburdoo (WA) to Tinnaroo in Queensland.

If you would like more information on these Climate Trails, the indicator species or location or to get involved, visit <http://www.climatewatch.org.au>.



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**A massive thank you to Pat Grey from Joan & Sally for once again compiling the latest FNN index. Her meticulous and timely work is appreciated more than we can express.**





## Fungi Group

**FNCV FUNGI GROUP FORAY 19 JULY 2016,  
LANGWARRIN FLORA & FAUNA RESERVE,  
near FRANKSTON**

The Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve is an island of relatively undisturbed natural bushland surrounded by the suburbs of Frankston and Langwarrin. The park has an important place in military history with almost a 100 year history of military use spanning from 1886 to 1979. Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve is located on the Cranbourne Sands, a series of parallel sand dunes, formed thousands of years ago, that stretch from Frankston to Cranbourne and beyond. The undulating topography in the reserve, as a result of the parallel sand dunes, leads to a variety of different environments. The dominant heathland plants found on the dry, nutrient-poor sandy soils of the dunes include Coast Manna Gum, Heath Tea-tree and Silver Banksia. The eucalypt woodland communities found on the lower, less well-drained soils include Silver-leaf Stringybark, Coast Manna Gum, Narrow-leaf Peppermint, Swamp Gum, Black Sheoak and Prickly Tea-tree. The understorey of the grassy woodland community contains many different grasses and sedges, such as Kangaroo Grass and Variable Sword-sedge.

A cold, frosty morning gave way to a brilliant sunny day for this, our first survey at Langwarrin. In the car park was a group of brown-capped, yellow fleshed *Cortinarius* sp. somewhat like *C. clelandii* but not quite dark enough in the cap. One specimen of Rooting Shank *Oudemansiella gigaspora* was hiding behind a eucalypt as was one specimen of the reddish-capped *Leratomyces ceres* (*Stropharia aurantiaca*). All of these were growing in the wood mulch.

On the Emu Wren Track was a lot of moss under Teatree. Much searching in the moss eventually resulted in finding one tiny yellow *Rickenella fibula* (decurrent gills and a 'fuzz' of hairs on the stem). Further along was a good example of the Horse-dropping Fungus which we have been calling *Pisolithus arhizus* (earlier *P. tinctorius* Dye Ball). This, however, is a northern hemisphere species and recent Queensland work on five species by P. Leonard and S. McMullan-Fisher (2013, *Fungimap Newsletter* 49 pp 4-8) indicates that three of the species studied are likely to be found in Victoria: *P. marmoratus* with a brown to black peridium (outer covering), with or without gold mottling; the larger *P. albus* with a white to pale cream peridium and the smaller *P. microcarpus* with a gold-brown peridium and a clearly defined stipe (stem). The specimen we saw had a dark peridium and no clearly visible stem so is therefore *P. marmoratus* (photo above), which is also the species that we are most likely to encounter.

The two earthtongues in the moss were *Geoglossum umbratile*. Jurrie Hubregtse identified them from a description in *Helotiales of Australasia: Geoglossaceae, Orbiliaceae, Sclerotiniaceae, Hyaloscyphaceae* by B.M. Spooner in *Bibliotheca Mycologica* Band 116. They were black tongues, about 35 mm tall with a grooved, rough, pitted head which is distinct from the rough stem and had no minute hairs on the stems or heads thus indicating that they were a *Geoglossum* sp. not *Trichoglossum* sp. which are differenti-

ated by the minute hairs (setae, brown lance-shaped cells) that protrude from the surface of the fruit-body giving it a finely bristly texture.

Growing in the sandy soil were numerous groups of the brownish saucer-shaped discs *Aleurina ferruginea* photo p 12. with a smooth inner surface, slightly curved rims and rough outer surface. The common and widespread Fungimap Target Species Split Gill *Schizophyllum commune* was seen growing on old dead wood. Its shell-like cap is whitish and covered in hairs, and has no obvious stipe. The common name reflects the fact that the gills are split longitudinally. But a cautious note – do not smell it because the spores may be pathogenic and cause the disease basidiomycosis. Red-brown cushions of *Hypoxylon howeianum* (*H. fuscum*) were found on a small branch and several circular spiky forms of the brownish braided, ropey anamorph stage remained and could be seen changing into the fully developed tan-brown cushions of the sexual form.

A resupinate, violet crust with white woolly margin was found on a dead branch. On the same branch were fruit-bodies of *Stereum illudens* and it was first thought that the resupinate crust may have



*Pisolithus marmoratus*  
Photo: Torbjorn von Stokirch

been a precursor of the *Stereum*. However, inspection under a hand lens showed the wrinkled surface with the white margin was a separate species and identified as *Hjortstamia crassa* which we saw in 2013 at Woodlands Historic Park. It is interesting to note that there are four violet to blue to purple crust-like fungi found in Australia and distinguished morphologically by fertile surface appearance and growth habit. *Chondrostereum purpureum* is resupinate to effused-reflexed but eventually forms frilly brackets, with a smooth to slightly wrinkled, purple to violet fertile surface with a pale margin. It grows on living and dead wood. *Hjortstamia crassa* is resupinate, violet to dark blue to purple with a woolly white margin and the fertile surface is wrinkled like *Byssomerulius corium*. It grows on dead wood. *Terana caerulea*

(syn. *Pulcherricium caeruleum*) Cobalt Crust is resupinate, dark blue ageing to violet, with a white woolly margin. The surface is smooth with tubercles and lumps. This species grows on rotting wood. On the naming side, Index Fungorum gives the species name as *T. 'coeruleum'*. *Trichaptum byssogenum* has a pored fertile surface, is resupinate to effused-reflexed, violaceous with some brown tints, and the margin a paler violet. It grows on dead wood.

In the afternoon, along the Dune Circuit Track, Jurrie Hubregtse made a collection for the RBG Melbourne Herbarium of some tiny reddish-orange discs found in the sandy soil. They were scattered to densely aggregated, with a diameter up to 5 mm, concave to flat, sometimes deformed by mutual pressure. The upper surface was slightly pitted (needed a hand lens to see), and the underside smooth and yellow-orange. With microscopical examination Jurrie was able to determine that they were *Pulvinula cinnabarina* and he made this comment, "There are a small number of very similar looking *Pulvinula* species but they can be readily separated using microscopic features."

We also saw a group of *Lycoperdon scabrum* that beautifully illustrated the developing stages of growth: the youngest was covered in soft dark fibrillose pointed scales, a later stage showed that a lot of the scales had fallen off, but the final stage which leaves a smooth, papery, shiny surface we saw only in the morning. The youngest specimen, ca 30 mm round, had no sign of the opening

(Continued on page 12)



(Continued from page 11)

for the expelling of spores, but the more mature ones showed the spore outlet open at the top, and when the spore sac was pressed a puff of spores was expelled.

Torbjorn von Strokirch had this to say "I went for quite a long walk with John Eichler, Paul George and Richard Hartland in the afternoon along the Centre Break and Owen Dawson Track area. There were many Cortinarius (mostly purple(ish)), one of which was the Emperor Cort, *Cortinarius archeri* or *C. subarcheri*, *Entoloma* and *Amanita*. There were numerous *Russula* including *R. persanguinea*. Others seen were *Pseudohydnum gelatinosum*, *Entoloma readiae*, various tiny white Ms (*Mycena*, *Marasmius*, *Hemimycena* or the like...), *Tremella fuciformis*, *Panellus stipticus* and various crusts and powders (possible slime moulds). Particularly nice finds were a mass of *Craterellus australis* among some cut down tea trees on the Owen Dawson track west, *Humidicutus lewellinae* on the Centre break among some bracken and on the eastern part of the Owen Dawson track a single example of *Antrodia citrea*". [It is a soft bracket, mostly resupinate but forms small shelves and is usually found on the underside of dead eucalypt branches. The upper surface is flat, bright yellow, and on the under surface white round pores about 3 per mm, tending to yellow at the margin]. "I was also pleased to see *Mycena interrupta* because they are so pretty, *Nidula emodensis*, very nice cup shaped *Aleurina ferruginea* and *Coltricia cinnamomea*. There



*Aleurina ferruginea* Photo: Jeff Triplett

were also a lot of coral fungi." I (Pat Grey) thought that the area must have been wetter than the Emu Wren Track and Dune Circuit Track covered by the rest of the group but Torbjorn comments "I wouldn't say that it was consistently wetter. There was just different soil and vegetation in different areas. It was predominantly eucalypt forest in the east whereas the morning areas had a lot of teatree opening out to sandy heath in the north. As we went back to the west we encountered more teatree and wetter areas in the central part of the reserve."

John Eichler, who has often surveyed the fungi here said "The Reserve has a quite rich fungal flora although Sunday's foray didn't demonstrate this - my photographic records for the reserve covers about 120 species and, while I haven't combined all records for the reserve, I'm confident the species tally would exceed 160 species." He went on to say "In the afternoon Paul, Torbjorn and I were thrilled to come across a magnificent colony of *Craterellus australis* on Owen Dawson Track. The colony occupies about 25 sq m and contains numerous tight groups of large fruiting bodies. This is the second time I've found this species at Langwarrin - the first was in 1996.

Richard Hartland also saw: a young, small, ash-grey coral, *Clavulina cinerea*, which has thick grey branches and pale branch tips; *Inocybe meridionalis* which like all 'hairy-heads' had a cap shaggy with fibrils and tufts, and was dark brown, the stipe slender and red brown.

Thanks to Virgil Hubregtse, Jurrie Hubregtse and Ed Grey for doing microscopical work on the finds and thanks to John Eichler, Jurrie Hubregtse and Torbjorn von Strokirch for their contribution to the report. Thanks to Torbjorn von Strokirch for supplying the list of fungi seen by his group in the afternoon. Thanks to the photographers John Eichler, Ed Grey, Richard Hartland, Jurrie Hubregtse, David Lockwood, Torbjorn von Strokirch, and Jeff Triplett.

Pat Grey & Ed Grey

**Special thanks to those who answered our plea for help in January and collated and labelled FNN 271 which included the February -May COE**

June Anton, Andy Brentnall, Hazel Brentnall, Edward Brentnall, Barbara Burns, Keith Marshall, Sheina Nicholls, Joan Broadberry, Ong White, Monika Farnbach, Neil McLachlan, Ray Gibson

**Second-hand booksale**

*Continued from page 4.*

January and early in February, large numbers of good quality books were donated until the conference room was overflowing. Thank you to everyone who took the trouble to cull their bookshelves

Barbara's first job was to draw up a roster for sorting the books. Many hours were put in during the week before the sale, creating order from the untidy piles of weighty boxes. Another roster was needed on the day of the sale, which required a number of people to be on duty from 9.30 am - many did not leave until well after 4 pm. Tasks included: setting up the hall, dealing with customers and packing away. None of this was easy as much of the work involved lifting. You don't need to be told that books are heavy.

The sale ran very smoothly and made a profit of \$1171. Its success was entirely due to the team of willing people who volunteered their time and energy to support the FNCV. Grateful thanks go to Barbara Burns, Su Dempsey, Gary Presland, Carol Page, Sue Bendel, Ray Gibson, Ruth Hoskin, Jackie Warning, June Anton, Liz Haylock, Edward Brentnall, Hazel Brentnall, Heather Eadon, Geoff Lay and Monique Decortis.

Surplus books will be collected by Sue Bendel and donated to an animal welfare op shop in Healsville.

**One last request.** Just after writing this report I read an email from the office asking FNCV members to please drop by as soon as possible and assist with the clear-out, by taking a box of books to their local op shop. It has turned out to be too big a job to leave to one person.

Joan Broadberry

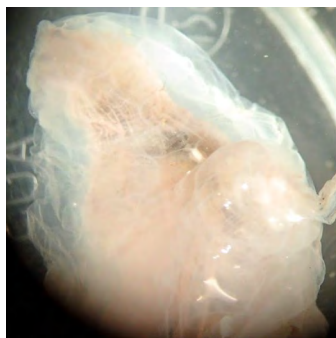


## Marine Research Group News

**MRG meeting Monday 12 December, 2016:  
Membes' night.**

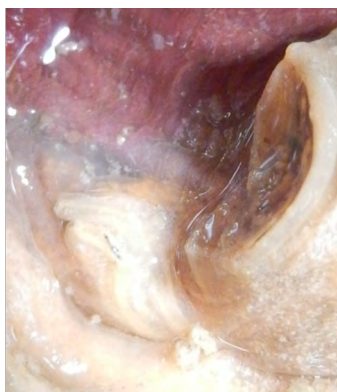
We finished the 2016 meetings with a member's night. The presentations proceeded in the order shown below:

**Carol Bathie**, also on behalf of **Janet Pett**, presented on threascidian *Ciona intestinalis*, a north-west Atlantic species which was introduced to Australia in 1899 and now found in most major ports across Australia. It has now been recently discovered for the first time in the Gippsland Lakes, in low densities. It is found on the underside of wooden man-made structures but can grow on any hard surface. Carol then presented images of its morphology, discussing its nervous system (visible through the translucent tunic) and aspects of larval dispersal - the larvae may not necessarily disperse very far and can settle very close to or even on the parent. Carol also presented video footage of the heartbeat of the ascidian *Asciidiella aspersa*.



**Above: *Ciona intestinalis* showing the neural complex visible through the tunic between the siphons.**  
**Photo: Carol Bathie.**

**Janet Pett**, also on behalf of **Carol Bathie**, presented a talk called "The morphology of the ascidian anus—does anyone care?" Quite obviously, Janet and Carol do care—the anus, as revealed by dissection, has taxonomic importance in ascidians. It can be smooth, scalloped, flattened, fringed, lobed or possess a combination of such features. Janet showed a number of images including the fringed anus of *Pyura gibbosa draschii*, the long flattened anal lobes of *Pyura australis*, the relatively smooth anal border of *Polycarpa pedunculata*. Janet then discussed anal morphology as a means of differentiating *Pyura stolonifera* from *Pyura praeapatalis*—the latter has a lobed anus and in Australia is more common than *P. stolonifera*. Janet also discussed another recently described species, *Pyura doppelganger* from Bridport Tasmania, which has a smooth anal opening; it has also been recently confirmed from Black Rock, Port Phillip Bay. Interestingly, it has not been found together with *P. praeapatalis* on Victoria's shoreline.



**Above: The anal opening of *Pyura doppelganger*, Black Rock, Port Phillip Bay.**  
**Photo: Janet Pett.**

**Leon Altoff** presented images from fieldwork conducted by himself and **Audrey Falconer** at Shoreham, Westernport Bay. These included ascidians, a variety of sponges, molluscs (including *Phasianella australis*, *Zalapais inscripta*, *Phyllodesmium macphersonae*, *Onchidella nigricans* and a juvenile chiton),

the sea star *Tosia australis*, the echinoid *Amblichilepas ovum*, the cnidarian *Staurocladia haswelli* and an undescribed nemertean. Images of a small tank for field-based photography were also shown in use in the field.



**Above: *Phasianella australis* at Shoreham, Westernport Bay.**  
**Photo: Leon Altoff.**

**John Eichler** showed images based on the theme of pelagic species that are occasionally seen washed up on the shoreline. From Ansons Bay Tasmania were shown clumps of the goose barnacle *Lepas anserifera* growing on a beam of wood that had been adrift in the open ocean. Also present among them was the predatory nudibranch *Fiona pinnata*.



**The nudibranch *Fiona pinnata* amongst its prey *Lepas anserifera* on driftwood, Ansons Bay, Tasmania.**  
**Photo: John Eichler.**

John also showed (from various localities) *Physalia physalis*, *Porpita porpita* and *Verella verella* and was lucky enough to see their key predators washed up with them, namely the purple snail *Janthina janthina* (which floats on the ocean surface via an amazing mucous raft) and the pelagic nudibranchs *Glaucus marginatus* and *Glaucus bennettiae*. John noted that their colours—darker on ventral aspects which face skyward and lighter on dorsal aspects which face downward—camouflage them respectively from potential air and sea predators. *Glaucus* also use the nematocysts of their prey for their own defence. The pelagic crab *Planes major* was also shown.

Many thanks to all who presented and to all present for a very interesting evening.

**Platon Vafiadis**



## NEWS FROM THE BOOKSHOP (March 2017)

Some members may not be aware of a selection of books that are available in the bookshelves in the 'clearance' section. A list of these books are provided in the following table and are all in 'brand new' condition. Bought whilst on sale, the savings are being passed onto the members. An old favourite (*A Field Guide to Australian Fungi*) has had names updated and reprinted while a new field guide to Australian birds (*The Australian Bird Guide*) will be released in May. Lastly, congratulations go to Gary for receiving a commendation in the 2016 Victorian Community History Awards for his book *Understanding Our Natural World*. If you haven't got your copy yet, there are a few still available. To order or inquire about a book, please send an email to me, at, [bookshop@fncv.org.au](mailto:bookshop@fncv.org.au) and I will reply as soon as I can. Your support is greatly appreciated. Happy reading! **Kathy Kimbeck**

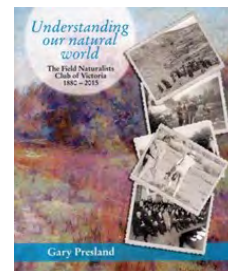
Title	Author	RRP	Sale Price
Action Plan for Australian Birds		\$49.95	<b>\$25.00</b>
Australian High Country Owls	Olsen	\$69.95	<b>\$36.00</b>
Australia's War Against Rabbits	B. Cooke	\$79.95	<b>\$55.00</b>
Biodiversity: Integrating Conservation & Production	Norton, <i>et. al</i>	\$89.95	<b>\$38.00</b>
Fur Seals & Sea Lions	ANH Series	\$39.95	<b>\$25.00</b>
Gliding Mammals of the World	S. Jackson	\$99.95	<b>\$55.00</b>
Parrots of the World	Forshaw & Knight	\$39.95	<b>\$24.00</b>
Undersea Jewels	Cobb & Willan	\$54.95	<b>\$36.00</b>

*A Field Guide to Australian Fungi* (B. Fuhrer) is a well known title that was first published in 2005. A revised version in 2009 contained many revisions and recently, December 2016, the book has been reprinted and released that includes a major review of nomenclature which resulted in nearly 100 further name changes and new species. The book now includes all of these changes plus a Schedule of Recent Name Changes for ease of referral. It is a definitive guide covering more than 500 fungi species with 548 superb colour photographs. (PB, 360 pp., 2016) RRP \$49.95 Members \$39.95



*The Australian Bird Guide* (P. Menkhorst, D. Rodgers, R. Clarke, J. Davies, P. Marsack & K. Franklin) has been ten years in the making. This guide will be the standard reference, for Australian birds for generations with all Australian endemics and non-endemics, described and illustrated in all plumage states. This guide contains over 4,700 detailed paintings illustrating species' variations including male, female and juvenile features. Using the latest taxonomy, it covers all species and distinctive subspecies recorded in Australia and its external territories. (PB, 576 pp., May 2017) RRP \$49.95 Members \$40

*Understanding Our Natural World: The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria 1880-2015* (G. Presland) was recently award a 'History Publication Award' commendation as part of the 2016 Victorian Community History Awards. The history of the FNCV captured in this book explores the ways in which the Club has gone about achieving its aims, since its inception in 1880. Along the way the book charts the major shifts in the preservation and conservation of the natural environments of Victoria over the past 135 years. Make sure you get your copy! (PB, 275 pp., August 2016) RRP \$30 Members \$24



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