

Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

Annual Report

Year Ending 31 December 2005



Understanding Our Natural World
Est. 1880

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Members of the FNCV Juniors' Group searching for graptolites at Mt Bullengarook slate Quarry

Photo: Wendy Clark

President's Report

Finances

We have had another successful year financially.

The Federal Department of Environment and Heritage provided \$3600 which paid for a new photocopier.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment provided \$10,000 to fund the 125th anniversary. Special Interest Groups have successfully received grants for equipment.

Donations to the Environment Fund totalled \$5129.45.

Events

Open Day

We received a grant from the City of Whitehorse for \$1600 to fund the event. The majority of the funds was dispersed by producing 3000 flyers, 200 bookmarks, a vinyl banner which was located at the front of the office and eco show bags printed with our logo, which were given away to visitors. Publicity for the event included a feature in The City of Whitehorse Newspaper. The Open Day was a great success, with 250+ visitors attending. Revenue for the event, totalled \$2000, which included \$1200 of book sales, sausage sizzle and soft drinks sales \$200. Nineteen new members joined, which included some family memberships.

I would like to thank the Special Interest Groups for producing excellent displays and the hands-on approach shown by many councillors and members who distributed flyers and posters and helped with preparations.

125th Anniversary Symposium

A two day Symposium was held at the Mueller Hall in Royal Botanic Gardens. It was greatly enjoyed by those attending and was a true landmark event to commemorate our 125th anniversary. *The Age* Newspaper published an article and photo about our anniversary. A booklet detailing the history of the FNCV was created by Gary Presland and Sheila Houghton.

Australian Natural History Medallion

Pauline Reilly was presented the 2005 Australian Natural History Medallion for her work in the field of Ornithology and Conservation, particularly the study of penguins. Pauline is also well known for her children's books about native animals and birds.

Administration

Mimi Pohl resigned from the FNCV in November to take up a Zoology position outside Adelaide. We wish Mimi all the best with her new job and thank her for her great contribution to the administration of the club. We were fortunate to employ Helen McNally as administration officer. Helen's background is in administration and she has an interest in native plants.

Cosstick Reserve

Part of the FNCV property holdings is land at Maryborough known as Cosstick Reserve. John Harris, councillor and Fauna Survey Group member has formed a committee to help manage the site, which requires fencing and general property maintenance.

Finally, I would like to thank the executive council, SIG office bearers and all others who volunteer their time in the FNCV, for their efforts, and look forward to another successful year.

**Karen Muscat
President**



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FNCV Administration

I recently took over the role of Administration Officer in November 2005, after Mimi Pohl accepted a full time position at Yukumurra Sanctuary in South Australia. Mimi filled the position of FNCV administration officer for 18 months and during her time here brought about many changes and improvements to the running of the club. On behalf of the club, I would like to wish Mimi all the very best for the future and to extend our gratitude for all her hard work.

With an administrative background, I am pleased to be working with an organization that will allow me to gain valuable experience in such a varied role, including office and event management. I look forward to the many challenges this position will present and hope to identify areas of improvement for the long term benefit of the club.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped me with this transitional period in my new role. A special thanks to Karen Muscat for your continued support, to Wendy Clarke for being a valuable source of information and to Barbara Burns for helping me with the accounts.

Membership

This year membership increased marginally from 972 to 990. 157 new memberships were received and we lost 139. Full paying memberships increased from 31.7% to 33.5% and concession memberships were down from 21.7% to 19%. Database improvements should result in more effective member relations and processing so we can achieve additional growth in 2006.

Hall Hire

The hiring of our hall to various groups continues to be a valuable source of income to the club. Thank you to Rosemary Robb and Wendy Clarke for volunteering to open the hall for these groups.

Book Sales

As of November 2005, the book ordering service we have provided at a discounted rate to our members was temporarily ceased. A new and improved method of running this service is being devised that will allow a more effective means of distribution and ordering. This will involve computerized inventory of all stock with sales trends and product re-ordering information being more easily accessible.

Helen McNally Administration Officer



Helen McNally who took over as FNCV administrative officer in late 2005
Photo: Joan Broadberry

Thanks to those involved in the production of the FNCV Annual Report

Joan Broadberry (editor)
Dorothy Mahler
Noel Schleiger
Wendy Clark

Field Nats News

In 2005, FNN numbers 139-149 were issued to members and subscribers. Grateful thanks go to the members of our editorial and layout teams, our contributors and the collation team without whom our monthly newsletter would not appear. Putting out an issue involves upward of 25 people per month. Without the newsletter it would be difficult, if not impossible, for the FNCV's program of meetings and excursions to take place.

We continually strive to improve our content. Constructive feedback and letters to the editor are always welcome. Again a big thank you to those who take the time to write up meetings, camps and excursions. It would be wonderful if we could also receive more general articles and natural history observations. Thanks to digital photography, we are now able to easily include more pictures. We encourage members to email their photographs to us so that there is a wider variety published.

The production of the newsletter is confined within a budget. Advertising and enclosures help us with our costs. With nine FNCV Special Interest Groups, it can be

hard to keep within the 12 page format and perhaps one day FNN will need to expand its size. Doing our own collating and sorting helps further with our budget. Numbers attending the collation afternoons have increased as compared to 2004. The atmosphere is always friendly and it is very satisfying to see a job well done. A huge thank you to Ray Power for his co-ordination of this task each third Tuesday.

We also work within a time limit. Could our contributors, please remember that FNN has its own email address, fnn@vicnet.net.au separate from the FNCV office email address. Our absolute deadline is the 2nd Monday of the month. However, as our greatest problem is a rush at the end, we ask our contributors to please have their copy in by the first Tuesday of the month. Our preferred format is as a word document without too much formatting e.g. columns or tabs.

The table below acknowledges our main contributors for each issue. To those not mentioned, we apologise. Special thanks to Platon Vafiadis for his meticulous preparation of the monthly Marine Research Group reports. A final thanks to the FNCV office administrator, Mimi Pohl and now Helen McNally whose support and advice is always invaluable.

Noel Schleiger and Joan Broadberry Joint Editors

<i>Month</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Significant Contributors to FNN 2005</i>	<i>Pages</i>	<i>Enc</i>	<i>ads</i>	<i>Coll-ators</i>
Feb	139	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Rob Hamson, Lyn Ansell, Sheila Houghton, Alan Yen, Joan Broadberry, Platon Vafiadis	12	1	9	13
March	140	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Jenny Porter, Sheila Houghton, Platon Vafiadis, Barbara Burns.	10	1	7	11
April	141	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Rob Hamson, Ian Kitchen, Noel Schleiger, Annie Lamb, Nick Andrewes, Platon Vafiadis, Joan Broadberry	10	1	6	10
May	142	Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Noel Schleiger, Sheila Houghton, Platon Vafiadis, Rob Hamson, Silvia Zele, Vyrna Beilharz, Pat Grey, Ed Grey, Kylie MacGregor, Linda Semeraro, Renee Ayres.	12	1	6	10
June	143	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Joan Broadberry, Rob Hamson, Pat Grey, Peter Homan, Virgil Hubregtse, Sheila Houghton, Platon Vafiadis, Noel Schleiger.	10	1	7	15
July	144	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Annie Lamb, Clarrie Handreck, Joan Broadberry, Ray Gibson, Russell Thompson, Paul George, Geoff Lay, Karen George, Sheila Houghton, Ian Endersby, Rosta Buc.	12	1	7	11
August	145	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Rob Hamson, Doug McCann, Stuart Dashper, Pat Grey, Ed Grey, Jurrrie Hubregtse, Virgil Hubregtse, Sheila Houghton, Joan Broadberry, Platon Vafiadis, Noel Schleiger.	12	-	15	13
Sept	146	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Clem Earp, Joan Broadberry, Jenny Porter, Annie Lamb, Arthur Carew, Denise Carew, Platon Vafiadis, Andy Moore.	12	-	7	12
Oct	147	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Rob Hamson, Ian Endersby, Sheila Houghton, Ed Grey, Pat Grey, Arthur Carew, Denise Carew, Jurrrie Hubregtse, Platon Vafiadis, John Harris, Joan Broadberry	12	1	8	13
Nov	148	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Sheila Houghton, Jenny Porter, Noel Schleiger, Lyn Ansell, Scott Eipper, Paul George, Clarrie Handreck, Platon Vafiadis.	12	-	9	10
Dec/ Jan	149	Karen Muscat, Mimi Pohl, Platon Vafiadis, Rob Hamson, Joan Broadberry, Paul George, Wendy Clark, Sheila Houghton	12	-	7	

Library

A stocktake was conducted during the year, revealing that only 23 books were missing, which comprised 0.8% of the book stock. The periodical collection consists of about 3000 items, bringing our total holdings to approximately 6000.

The library continues to benefit from donations, including those from people who have reviewed them for *The Victorian Naturalist*. This year donations were received from Edward and Hazel Brentnall, Sid Cowling, Felix Haarhoff, John A. Lee, Keith Marshall and Roger Pierson. Our thanks are due to all these people. A large donation came from the estate of Ernest Byrne, a member from 1956-1978, who was Vice-President from 1962-1966.

Ninety-six titles were added, significant amongst which were: Adelaide Botanic Gardens (2005) *Census of South Australian vascular plants* 5th ed.; W. Dampier (1697) *A new voyage around the world*; ed. by M. Beken, 1998; G. Daniels (2004) *Bibliography of Australian entomology, 1687-2000*, 2 volumes; C.A. Grgurinovic (2003) *The genus Mycena in south-eastern Australia*; G. Kaplan (2004) *Australian magpie*; B. Lloyd (2002) *Gold in the ranges: Jamieson to Woods Point*; C. Sturt (1849) *Narrative of an expedition into Central Australia ... during the years 1884, 5 and 6*. Facsimile edition 1965, (for which we are indebted to Keith Marshall).

The 125th Anniversary Symposium saw people who were giving papers consulting the Club's archives for historical material. Papers relating to Edith Coleman provided material for Danielle Clode, John Walter

continued his research into the genesis of the Society for Growing Australian Plants (now Plants Australia), while Malcolm Calder was doing the same for the Victorian National Parks Association. There were enquiries about the Special Interest Groups and the Hawthorn Junior Field Naturalists Club. The discovery that we had suitable and adequate facilities for storing archival material prompted Barry Cooper, from Adelaide, to part with early minute books of the Hawthorn Juniors. We were very grateful for these, especially as there are still significant gaps in our archive collection, particularly in relation to the Botany Group. Hope Black required information about the Kershaw family, whom she is researching. And there were numerous enquiries from Sue Wright while she was writing the historical re-enactment *A Signal Service*, performed at the Symposium, and again at the FNCV Christmas party, with a rewritten Act III to bring us safely to Blackburn.

The library was a busy place during 2005, for research, consultation and borrowing. Members, on the whole, maintained our honour system for borrowing books, though there were, unfortunately, a few backsliders, which meant that we were unable to trace our missing books.

Enid Amis, Enid Haarhoff and Joan Kottek continued to give valuable assistance. In October the library staff was increased by the arrival of Gary Presland. His qualification in archival management will prove to be of great assistance. He has already assisted by lending a strong arm to some urgently required reorganisation. Tess Kloot continued to give monthly assistance with the archival collection. My grateful thanks go to all these willing volunteers, without whom the library could not function.

Sheila Houghton
Honorary Librarian
& Archivist



Organising committee for the 125th anniversary symposium:
From left: Mimi Pohl, Anne Morton, Sheila Houghton, Gary Presland and Alan Yen

Photo: Joan Broadberry

The Victorian Naturalist

Six issues of *The Victorian Naturalist* were produced during 2005, comprising Volume 122. Both the first and the final numbers for the year were special issues. The first issue was 64 pages in length and carried most of the papers from the Biodiversity Conference, held at Ballarat University in June 2004.

Perhaps the highlight of the year was in producing the last issue, which contained most of the papers presented at the Symposium held in May 2005 to celebrate the FNCV's 125th anniversary. This History Symposium issue was a major achievement. The issue ran to 128 pages and carried papers by 20 individual authors. Thanks to funding from the Department of Sustainability and Environment, the issue was splendidly coloured. This issue will stand for many years to come as the main source of information on the history of the FNCV.

In addition to these two special numbers, there were a further two issues of 64 pages and two of 32 pages. In total, Volume 122 contained 51 papers (7 Research Reports, 36 Contributions, and 8 Naturalist Notes) by 93 individual authors. The coverage of subject matters through the year was extremely wide, with papers on a diversity of topics relating to plants and animals. In addition Volume 122 carried 17 book reviews, as well as two tributes — to mark the passing of Robert Taylor and Bary Dowling. Books returned by reviewers were donated to the FNCV library.

Throughout the year Virgil Hubregtse has provided invaluable editorial assistance in all matters relating to the production of *The Victorian Naturalist*. Dorothy Mahler has assisted also, particularly in dispensing complimentary copies to authors. Ken Bell again prepared the annual index. The work of each of these individuals is essential to the smooth operation of producing *The Victorian Naturalist*, and I am pleased to thank them here, as well as my fellow editors Dr Maria Gibson and Dr Gary Presland.

Anne Morton
Executive Editor

Australian Natural History Medallion

Pauline Reilly was awarded the Australian Natural History Medallion for 2005, recognising her contributions to Ornithology and Conservation, particularly of wetland habitats. The Award was presented by Dr John Long, Head of Science – Museum of Victoria, at the FNCV meeting in November, and was followed by the winner's address about her lifetime of bird studies and her special interest in penguins. A citation for the medallion winner will be published in *The Victorian Naturalist*. Angair-Anglesea Airey's Inlet Society made the nomination.

Dr David Cheal, Dr Chris Gray and Dr Paul Gullan commenced their four year appointment to the Award Committee .

We are extremely pleased that Andrew Isles has accepted an invitation to sponsor the Medallion for three years. Another five Medallions have been cast by the sculptor Viktor Kalinowski, sufficient to last until 2011.

The General Committee did not meet formally during the year but was kept informed by mail.

At the symposium commemorating 125 years of the FNCV I gave an address on the Medallion analysing trends in the location, gender and disciplines of the winners, and an up-to-date list of recipients was published.

Ian Endersby
Secretary ANHM General Committee



Pauline Reilly holding Australian Natural History Medallion

Photo: Jenny Porter

FNCV Environment Fund

The FNCV Environment Fund is a tax-deductible fund that was set up in 2003 to aid individuals and community groups who are involved in environmental research.

Its purposes are:

- 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 Fund is administered by a committee consisting of Malcolm Calder (Chair), Barbara Burns (Secretary and Treasurer), Tom May, Bob Rogers and Noel Schleiger.

Each year the Fund contacts the regional field naturalist clubs in Victoria and advertises in the FNCV Newsletter and on the Web for grant applications. The committee meets in early April to process the submissions and decide on the successful applicants.

The projects supported in 2005 were:

Funding towards printing and publication of a Nature Guide Booklet for the Latrobe Region. Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club \$1,000

Purchase of Elliot and Cage traps to be used by the Fauna Survey Group of the FNCV in its regular program of ongoing and one-off surveying activities. Fauna Survey Group \$1,000

Each project is required to be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding, with a report on completion to be published in *The Victorian Naturalist*. Successful applicants are encouraged to communicate the results of their project to the Club via articles, talks or field trips.

Donations to the fund are tax-deductible and most welcome and gratefully accepted. Thank you to everyone who donated in 2005. Your support will enable the Fund to continue providing grants for worthy projects in the future.

Barbara Burns
Secretary



Microscopical Group

There was finally a small increase in numbers attending Microscopy meetings in 2005. Genetic engineering, fish parasites and laser microscopy attracted about 15 members each meeting, and the demonstration of the unique Nikon Coolscope digital microscope attracted 21 members and visitors. This microscope consisted of a 17 inch monitor and a "black box", looking like a computer C.P.U. These housed the necessary microscope parts, such as lenses and electronics. This is quite different to any previous microscope. The only external feature is a small tray to take a slide into the microscope; the rest is automatic.

The meetings for the year were:

- February – Members' night
- March – Rust Fungi. Leader, Vyrna Beilharz
- April – Genetic engineering in plants and how it is done. Speaker, Professor Roger Parish
- May – Practical night
- June – Investigating foreign objects in food. Speaker, Jim Kyval
- July – Members' night
- August – Fish Parasites. Leader, Phil Littlejohn.
- September – Plant sections and their relation to the environment. Leader, Mary Gibson.
- October – Recent developments in laser microscopy. Speaker, Martin Harris
- November – Demonstration of Nikon Coolscope digital microscope. Demonstrator, John Zhu.

In past years the group has been part of FNCV displays at locations such as Ceres Brunswick or the Maranoa Gardens in Balwyn which increase awareness of the FNCV in the community. It seems to me disappointing that the club has not been able undertake such activities over the last year. However, there was the very successful Open Day and the celebration of the 125th Anniversary.

As always we must express our gratitude to the speakers and report writers, especially if the speaker undertakes to write a report on the activity as well.

Ray Power
Convenor

Geology Group

Our ten evening meetings this year had a pleasing average attendance of 29. Many thanks to our speakers whose topics have ranged wide, both geographically and historically, and covered all aspects of geology from fossils to minerals and geomorphology to civil engineering. Illustrations and maps supplied by speakers Danielle Shean and Warren Peck for the display cabinet were much appreciated. Thanks also to members who have written up reports for the FNN: Doug McCann, Clem Earp, Noel Schleiger and Lyn Ansell. A special thank-you is due to Doug McCann who researched the history of the Geology Group and presented his paper at the *Leaves from our History*

Symposium in May.

We are grateful to our excursion leaders who showed us geology in the field, whether at Cape Schanck, from a boat cruising along the Maribyrnong River or in our city streets.

The Maribyrnong cruise made a profit of \$240 for the Club (thanks to Noel Schleiger for organising this). A further \$150 from visitors to meetings and excursions was paid into Club funds during the year. Noel has also ably represented the Geology Group on Council this year.

Rob Hamson
Secretary



Geology Meetings 2005

Date	Topic	Speaker
February	The Future of the Geology Group	Rob Hamson/discussion
March	Voyage to Antarctica	Rob Hamson
April	Joseph Beete Jukes and his 1850 "sketch" of Australian geology	Dr Doug McCann, science historian
May	The Pleistocene Megafauna of Victoria	Danielle Shean, Monash University
June	Deep Leads, Groundwater & Melbourne's Burnley Tunnel.	Warren Peck, geotechnical engineer
July	The History of the Murray River over the last 12 million years.	Dr. Malcolm Wallace, University of Melbourne
August	The Australian Deserts: Origins & Modern Landscape Processes	Associate Professor David Dunkerley, Monash University
September	Geological History of the Yarra River	Lex Ferguson, brick industry consultant (retired)
October	Rubyland Myanmar	Joe Francese, mineral collector
November	The Yea Goldfields	Clem Earp, member

Geology Excursions 2005

Date	Topic/Location	Leader/Attendance
March	Cape Schanck & Flinders	Dr. Eric Bird, consultant & writer (14)
June	Collecting Graptolites at Tuerong Quarry	Courtesy of Mike Mellor, owner/manager (19)
September	A Geological Cruise along the Maribyrnong River	Dr. Noel Schleiger, lecturer, (retired) (30)
October	City Building Stones Walk	Phil Bock, research fellow, Deakin University (19)

Fungi Group

Aims

The Fungi Group aims to “widen our knowledge of fungi in the field”. Through our activities we hope to improve the knowledge and understanding of the distribution and ecology of Victorian fungi.

Activities

Our program of fortnightly forays attracts a wide range of people of various ages and experience and experienced guides lead each foray. The following locations were surveyed:

1. Yarra Ranges National Park at Cambarville (51 species identified); Dom Dom Saddle (82 species); The Beeches, Marysville (69 species)
2. Blackwood (118 species)
3. Bunyip State Park (92 species)
4. Greens Bush (Mornington Peninsula National Park) (139 species)
5. Upper Yarra Reservoir (100 species)
6. Cathedral Range SP (73 species)
7. RJ Hamer Arboretum, Olinda (61 species)
8. Big Pat's Creek, Warrandyte State Forest (60 species)
9. Mason's Falls, Kinglake National Park (84 species)

After each foray, a meeting was held at the FNCV clubhouse to review the records. Dr Tom May attended many of these and assisted with identification of the specimens.

In 2005 the Fungi Group obtained a Research Permit from the Department of Sustainability and Environment to facilitate our project: *'The collation of data on distribution and ecology of Victorian fungi'*. Fifteen voucher specimens were formally documented and lodged at the National Herbarium (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne). The research permit has been successfully renewed for another three years.

A series of talks and workshops were held at the Blackburn FNCV clubhouse. Topics included:

1. How to take field notes, (Ed Gray)
2. Photographing fungi, (Paul George, Jurrie Hubregtse and Geoff Lay)
3. Coral Fungi, (Bruce Fuhrer)
4. Identifying fungi with a microscope, (Fran LaFontaine)
5. Slime moulds, Paul George)
6. Workshop to test *FunKey* the interactive key to Australian fungi genera, (Tom May and Kevin Theile)
7. Visit to National Herbarium to understand how the collections are handled.

The Fungi Group produced a popular CD-ROM of fungi images. The CD-ROM utilises a simple search key to

access over 380 images of 61 species and includes descriptive notes for each species, (supplied by Dr Tom May), to assist in identifying species and distinguishing them from look-alikes. We are currently updating this CD-ROM with another 50 species that were found this year, as well as including many new photos of our original species.

A web site dedicated to the Fungi Group was developed on the FNCV web service. This site describes the aims and objectives of the Group, the calendar of activities, sample reports from previous forays and photographs of the 'Fungus of the Month', (illustrating an interesting find from our forays).

Interesting Finds

A number of the fungi we found on our forays have not previously been recorded in Victoria. Some of the more interesting finds included:

Dermocybe canaria (uncommon).

Chlorovibrissea melanochlora (rare).

Chlorovibrissea bicolor (extremely rare). This species has only been previously photographed by Bruce Fuhrer and this was only the second/third sighting registered with Fungimap. The pale green head on a darker green stipe is distinctive.

An unnamed toothed basidiomycete, possibly *Auriscalpium sp.* The tiny specimen with spines looked a bit like the northern hemisphere Earpick Fungus *Auriscalpium vulgare* (= *Hydnum auriscalpium*). This is the first time that it has been seen in Victoria, although David Ratkowsky has found this species (or something very similar) in Tasmania.

Clitopilus hobsonii (first record of this genus in Victoria). A group of small white pleurotoid shells, growing in moss on a tree stump. When examined under the microscope the spores appeared elliptical with longitudinal ridges – a distinctive characteristic of the genus *Clitopilus*.

Hemimycena sp. (first record of this genus in Victoria). *Hemimycena* differs from *Mycena* in the structure of the cap cuticle. We found *Hemimycena* at Upper Yarra Reservoir and then at The Beeches a few weeks later.

Arrhenia retiruga (uncommon). 'Tiny, White Cornflakes' – a field name given to a very small, white, thin, often twisted species that was growing abundantly on moss.

The group also helped identify *Favolaschia calocera*, an introduced weed that has not been recorded in Victoria previously. The bright orange caps are very distinctive.

Paul George



Fungimap

From its inception in 1995, the Fungimap scheme has been supported by the FNCV and Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne. Due to the increasing complexity of administrative and financial arrangements, a new incorporated Fungimap organisation was created in 2005. The aim of the new organisation is to stimulate and support the study and appreciation of Australian macrofungi and ensure their conservation. The Fungimap office will continue to be hosted by RBG Melbourne.

Cassia Read ably filled the Fungimap Co-ordinator position for the first half of 2005. She supported the team of volunteers in the Fungimap office and also carried out much of the paperwork related to preparation of a constitution and incorporation (assisted by John Carpenter). In addition, she organised the third Fungimap Conference (with Sarah Lloyd). Cassia stepped down as Co-ordinator in June to take up postgraduate studies.

Three issues of *Fungimap Newsletter* were produced in 2005. The first was edited by Cassia Read and Graham Patterson, the other two by Pam Catcheside and Tom May.

During 2005, the input of volunteers Wendy Cook, Graham Patterson, Libby Read and Geoff Lay in the Fungimap office was vital in keeping everything running smoothly, particularly for data entry and book sales.

The third national Fungimap Conference was held at Gowrie Park in Tasmania in May. Around 80 participants enjoyed a stimulating day of talks, and three days of forays and workshops, including a memorable trip to the Cradle Mountain area. Mary White presented a very interesting keynote address on 'Earth Alive: from Microbes to a Living Planet'. Planning is already underway for the fourth national Fungimap Conference, to be held in southern Queensland in 2007.

The inaugural meeting of the new incorporated Fungimap organisation was held during the Conference at Gowrie Park. A management committee was set up consisting of Tom May (President), Katrina Syme (Vice-President), John Carpenter (Treasurer), Pam Catcheside and Sarah Lloyd. Subsequently Teresa Lebel was co-opted onto the committee as Secretary.

A highlight of 2005 was the publication of *Fungi Down Under: the Fungimap Guide to Australian Fungi*. This was the culmination of many years of work by the authors Pat and Ed Grey, with considerable editorial and layout input from Leon Costermans. The book is ground-breaking in its inclusion of maps, and the very attractive layout provides excellent coverage of all the 100 Fungimap target species. More than 80 people, many of whom are FNCV members, provided photographs or assisted in other ways, such as in the production of maps. *Fungi Down Under* was launched at the Fungimap Conference, and a celebration was also held at the FNCV in June.

FNCV members have been particularly active in supporting Fungimap in the ten years since its inception, contributing many of the records. Four individual contributions merit special acknowledgement. John Julian's enthusiasm and flair for organisation were instrumental in getting the scheme going, and he provided administrative support in the early days, including starting up the *Fungimap Newsletter*. Michael McBain created a very comprehensive website for Fungimap, which gave the scheme national and international exposure. Ian Bell came up with an innovative format to display the target species on a CD-ROM, which has sold numerous copies. Pat Grey helped in many ways in the first years of Fungimap, especially in databasing records and communicating with recorders.

It would not have been possible to start up and maintain Fungimap without the considerable support of the FNCV. Fungimap joins groups such as the SGAP (now Australian Plants Society) and the VNPA, for which the FNCV played a major role in nurturing before their creation as separate organisations. The success of the FNCV's own Fungi Group during 2005 in organising a diverse program of forays and meetings, as well as publishing a very useful CD-ROM, means that fungi will continue to be a focus of the FNCV.



Tom May
Fungimap President

Tom May speaking at the 125th Anniversary Symposium

Fauna Survey Group

Once again the Fauna Survey Group has had a busy and varied year. Eleven meetings were held, ten of which featured guest speakers. There were seven stagwatches carried out in the Central Highlands to search for Leadbeater's Possum, we held ten camps and seven day events were also organised.

Monthly meetings

This year we had speakers on wildlife photography, reptiles, hibernating Scottish bats, climate change, wildlife of the Box Ironbark forest, the breeding biology of Tasmanian and New Zealand birds, the African White Rhino and Western Grey Kangaroos.

Kinglake

The January camp at Kinglake National Park was mainly held in order to survey bats. Only ten bats were trapped in the vicinity of the ranger's house over eight trap nights. One trap was placed across the water near Mason's Falls and we were pleased to capture a Gould's Long-eared Bat. One night's trapping with three traps at Toorourrong Reservoir, yielded twenty two bats of seven species, including *Myotis* and Common Bent-winged Bats

Otways

This trip was based at Parker River. Elliott trapping was done in old heathland and Bush Rats and antechinus were caught. Common Ringtail and Brushtail Possums, Koalas and Swamp Wallabies were observed during a spotlight walk.

Strathbogies

Over Easter, we had a camp in tall open forest on private property. We explored the area near our camp on foot and drove to Mount Strathbogie one day to look around. Nine Agile Antechinus were caught in the Elliott traps and were processed and released. Forty three bats were caught in the Harp Traps, providing plenty of opportunity for members to weigh and measure these tiny creatures. Seven Mountain Brushtail Possums, Common Ringtail Possums, Koalas, a Sugar Glider and eight Greater Gliders were found when we went spotlighting.

Cape Conran

We spent a week in September assisting DSE with the Southern Ark Project. Extensive fox baiting has been carried out and at this stage it seems that this has resulted in increasing numbers of native mammals. The focus was on monitoring for Long-nosed Bandicoot (one caught) and Long-nosed Potoroo (27 caught). Most of these animals were recaptures, but several new animals were trapped and FSG members had the opportunity to learn how to microchip them. Bat trapping was also carried out and forty five Lesser Long-eared Bats and *Vespardelis* species were recorded.



Barbara Burns, with Stumpy tail lizard, Hattah Lakes.

Photo: Joan Broadberry

During our visit, we were fortunate to see a rare beach sighting. A young Leopard Seal was resting on the beach about two kilometres from camp. It was in reasonable condition, but had clearly been injured, probably by a shark.

This was our second trip to assist with the Southern Ark Project and future trips are likely.

Hattah/Nowingi

The November camp was attended by a large number of members, visitors, DSE staff and herpetologists. The trip was tied in with concerns about the toxic waste dump site at Nowingi. The weather was quite variable and rain meant that it was a good opportunity to search for reptiles and frogs in the evenings. A wide range of species was seen, and/or trapped, but the most exciting sight was of a Bandy Bandy on the roadside one night.

Grampians

Another successful camp was held in the Grampians, with the hope of finding Smoky Mouse. Not one was caught, but plenty of other native animals were seen or trapped. One hundred and sixty eight bats were processed over the long weekend, twenty four species of birds were seen or heard, five species of reptiles were observed and three other mammals were seen or trapped.

Rushworth

Nestboxes were checked in August 2005 by a small number of members, and the assistance of some Swinburne students and their leader on Saturday. Sugar Gliders (58) were the main inhabitants, but one Brush-tailed Phascogale was also found. Evidence was found of

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

Phascogales in seven other boxes. Quite a significant number of boxes are in poor repair, are unusable or have fallen down. Most of the donations received in memory of Bob Taylor following his death are to be put towards replacing boxes in 2006.

William Ricketts Sanctuary

The FSG carried out a survey in the Dandenongs in December at the request of the ranger. The weather was quite cool and trapping results were low. However, a number of visitors attended and they were happy to see any captures, especially the bats.

Rennick

Our Christmas camp was a quiet one this year, with only four members attending. We trapped in remnant vegetation blocks surrounded by pine plantations in far western Victoria and also explored the local area and nearby beaches by day. Bush Rats were the main find, but a beautiful, young, Yellow-footed Antechinus was also caught. The warm weather was beneficial for bat trapping and we had success in a range of locations. Notable captures were of four female Greater Pipistrelles, which were mite infested and had very balding skin, and a number of newly independent Lesser Long-eared Bats.

Day trips

One successful pelagic excursion was held, (the second was cancelled due to the weather), and both were booked out almost immediately. Special sightings included Wandering and Sooty Albatross, an Elephant Seal, Common Dolphins and the seal colony at Lady Julia Percy Island.

The visit to Werribee Zoo was attended by a variety of club members and we were also taken into the classrooms to see numerous live creatures, taxidermied animals, bones, skins and displays.

A small number of nestboxes at Christmas Hills was checked in the autumn. Two Phascogales and several Sugar Gliders were recorded.

Other visits were to Earth Sanctuaries at Little River to help with a census and to Organ Pipes for an evening spotlight.

We had our annual equipment day in July to clean, repair, replace, count and check our well-used traps and resources. This day also served as a social event with a barbeque lunch being held.

Sally Bewsher
Secretary



Terrestrial Invertebrate Group

The fourth year of the Terrestrial Invertebrate Group has been extremely successful with a core group of members attending most of our meeting and a number of visitors attending presentations. We have had a wide range of presenters discussing topics of general interest. The year began with three tertiary students each presenting overviews of their terrestrial invertebrate research projects. Greg Lefoe (Department of Primary Industries) then spoke to the group about invasive species. Wendy Clark (FNCV) spoke about spiders. Alan and Deanna Henderson (Museum Victoria) spoke about the *Bugs Alive* exhibition and Peter Marriott spoke about the identification and natural history of local moths.

We have continued to survey Yarra Bend Park and several members have been sorting invertebrates at home. Butterfly counts were carried out again this year at Warrandyte State Park. This has allowed the Terrestrial Invertebrate Group to obtain three years of data. Thanks go to Jane Pammer and Sharon Mason for organising and running the trips this year. We hope to continue this work in future years to allow us to document changes in the butterflies of the area.

Dr Melanie Archer



From left, Rosta Buc, Prue Simmons and Scott Eipper at Hattah Lakes National Park

Photo: Joan Broadberry

Marine Research Group

The Marine Research Group held 8 meetings and undertook 10 field trips throughout 2005. On average 19 people attended our meetings with the highest attendance of 23 people over several months. Topics ranged from "Underwater images from Victoria" to "How corals form coral reefs".



Clarrie Handreck (centre) with MRG group, Pt. Roadknight

Photo: Joan Broadberry.

The program for the year was:

February - Mark O'Laughlin - "A Molecular and morphological review of the genus *Asterinidae*".

April - "The history of marine science at Port Phillip Heads" by Dr Jan Watson.

May - Dr Alan Marshal, "How corals form coral reefs".

July - Wendy Roberts from Museum Victoria speaking on the activities of Reef Watch.

August - Jason Caruso - "Sharks, Rays and Chimaera of Vic.

September - Andrew Newton - "Images from St Leonards Pier and other Victorian locations".

October - Dr P. Vafiadis - "Observations of micro molluscs".

December - Members' night.

Field trips are a wonderful opportunity to experience at first hand the myriad of invertebrate life forms to be found on our coasts. Trips were undertaken when suitable low tides coincided with weekends and many records were added to the Marine Research Group species database. Locations visited during 2005 included Port Campbell, Wreck Beach, Martha Point and Rosebud Pier.

The existing committee remained in place:

President: Michael Lyons

Secretary: Leon Altoff

Fieldtrip coordinator: Audrey Falconer

Committee members: Phil Bock, Platon Vafiadis

I would like to thank all our speakers for sharing their knowledge with us. I would also like to thank Platon

Vafiadis for preparing the MRG page for Field Nats News each month, and Audrey Falconer for coordinating our field trips. Final thanks go to Clarrie Handreck and Bob Burn.

**Leon Altoff,
Secretary**



Botany Group

The Botany Group has continued to attract informative speakers and visit a diverse array of interesting locations during the past year. We would like to thank Karen Muscat for organizing most of these activities.

The Botany Group members wish to acknowledge the effort taken by the speakers, excursion leaders, contributors to Field Nats News and members who made the activities interesting and enjoyable. In particular we thank the following for providing the group's program: Liz Henry, Whitehorse Community Indigenous Plant Project; Natalie Holland Trust for Nature survey partnership; Annie Lamb and Mimi Pohl for coordinating the Trust for Nature surveys at Uambi, Wanderslore, Grieve Nature Reserve and Harbury; Randall Robinson, "What role do insects and disturbance have on bringing back wildflowers?", Josh Dorrough, "Conserving native vegetation in grassland areas"; David Cameron, "An introduction to the flora of Victoria" and "Basic plant ID (part 2) Kinglake"; Paul Foreman, "Biodiversity conservation at a local level"; Karen Muscat for coordinating the searches for threatened species in the Mornington Peninsular National Park, Green's Bush, Clyde Tooradin railway reserve and Crib Point; Aaron Floyd, "Uptake of arsenic in mosses"; Maria Gibson, "Common Lichens of Victoria"; Melanie Birchnell, "Flowering patterns in melliferous eucalyptus"; Karen Lester and Gemma Phelan, "Threatened flora recovery and management in Port Philip Region"; Damien Cook, "Victorian wetlands and their restoration".

In 2006 the Botany Group will contribute to the conservation of Victoria's biodiversity by performing botanical surveys in several Trust for Nature properties and searching for threatened species. These excursions will provide members with practical experience in some of the State's best patches of remnant vegetation. The information we obtain will help land managers choose appropriate practices.

**Jenny Porter
(on behalf of the Botany Committee)**



Juniors' Group

2005 was a very successful year for the Juniors' Group with an interesting and varied range of meetings, excursions and camps filling the program. Membership continues to flourish with average attendances of 50-60 at meetings and 20-30 at excursions. The age range is from 4 years to 20's, and of course the parents. The average age of 9 years was slightly higher this year, reflecting the ongoing and increasing interest of teenagers within the group.

The Juniors' council is made up of juniors from the age of 12 years and up with Nick Andrewes (23) as Chairman. It was very pleasing to see the council grow in size and enthusiasm this year with all members contributing effectively towards running the group. Long time member Wendy Clark's guiding hand has been instrumental in the group's ongoing success and remained invaluable in 2005.

Meetings and Excursions

The topics covered at monthly meetings included: Reptiles, The Weather, Antarctic Journey, The Race to Sustainability, Attracting Native Wildlife, Freshwater Fish Surveying Techniques, and Cockroaches, not to mention several talks by council members on varying topics and of course the birthday meeting!

Excursions were as follows:

Mud Island (boat trip), Bullengarook (fossil fossicking), Jells Park (spot light), Reptile House tour (private collection), Blackburn Creeklands (spotlight), Bugs Alive (Museum behind the scenes), Warrandyte State Park.

Camps

Traditionally two are held annually, at Easter and one near Christmas. 2005 saw a schedule change for the Christmas camp (Hazelwood Ponds and Mt Worth State Park) which was moved to mid October. The change was a great success and meant more people were able to attend than would normally be able to during the busy Christmas period.

The five day Easter camp was held in Lake Tyres Forest Park and combined the beach, lakes, bush and rainforest for a diverse and thoroughly enjoyable camp.

2006 looks to be a promising year for the Juniors with many exciting meetings and excursions already in the pipeline.

Nick Andrewes
Chairman



Bat Group

This is one of the FNCV's most recently formed special interest groups. Although bats have always been, and continue to be, part of the work of the Fauna Survey Group, it was felt that there was enough interest to warrant the formation of a specialist bat study group. In 2005 the new SIG was coordinated by Mimi Pohl and Ian Kitchen. The first meeting was held at the hall on 14th September. Participants were addressed by Simon Toop, whose topic was, "The Flying Fox Relocation Project". The October meeting was addressed by Susan Campbell of Melbourne University, speaking on the subject, "Amazing Fishing Bat, *Myotis adversus*." Susan has been studying this species for her PhD.

On 14th December, the group had an excursion to Yarra Bend. A dusk count, organised by Megan Davidson, was conducted on the Grey-headed Flying Fox. There was a BBQ beforehand. These evening counts have been continuing on a monthly basis into 2006.

Dr. Noel Schleiger
(for the Bat Study Group)



The feet of the Large-footed Myotis (right) being compared to those of the Bent Wing Bat.

Photo: Joan Broadberry

THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA INC
REPORT BY COUNCIL. Year ended 31 December 2005

The members of Council hereby submit the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2005 and the Income Statement for the year ended 31st December 2005 and report as follows:

The names of the Executive Council in office at the date of this report are as follows:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Position on Council</i>	<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Council Member Since</i>
Karen Muscat	President	Self Employed	2003
Dr. Alan Yen	Vice President	Entomologist	2001
Dr. Melanie Archer	Terrestrial Invertebrate	Entomologist	2002
Rosta Buc	Secretary	Retired	2005
Barbara Burns	Treasurer	Lecturer	2001
Wendy Clark	Past President	Photographer	1998
Gary Presland	Councillor	Retired	2005
Joan Broadberry	Councillor	Retired Teacher	2001
John Harris	Councillor/Fauna Survey	Science Teacher	2003
<i>Special Interest Group</i>	<i>Representative</i>		
Leon Altoff	Marine Research	Analyst	2003
Audrey Falconer	Marine Research	Public Servant	2003
Dr. Noel Schleiger	Geology	Retired	
Ray Power	Microscopical	Retired Engineer	1993
Jenny Porter	Botany	Biology	2002
Nick Andrewes	Juniors	Student	2002
Arthur Carew	Fungi Group	Retired	2004

The principal activities and object of the Club are to stimulate interest in natural history and to preserve and protect Australian fauna and flora. No significant changes in the nature of those activities occurred during the reporting period.

The net profit of the club for the year ended 31st December 2005 was \$10,440 (2004 net profit \$23,601).

A review of the operations of the Club is contained in the President's Report, which forms part of this Annual Report.

No matters or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial year which has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations or the state of affairs of the Club.

Other than as disclosed in the Annual Report, there are no significant developments likely to affect the financial results of the Club.

During the financial year, no member of the Council has received or become entitled to receive any benefit by reason of a contract made by the club with the councillor or with an entity which the councillor is a member or in which the councillor has a substantial interest.

THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

In the opinion of the members of Council,

- (a) the accompanying Income Statement is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the financial results of the Club for the year ended 31 December 2005.
- (b) The accompanying Balance Sheet is drawn up as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Club as at 31 December 2005.
- (c) As at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Club will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

SIGNED at Blackburn on this 28 day of March 2006 in accordance with a resolution of Council.

K. Muscat
President



B. Burns
Treasurer



THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA

INCOME STATEMENT
Year ended 31 December 2005

		2005	2004
		\$	\$
INCOME	Membership	<u>\$41,460.93</u>	<u>\$43,847.00</u>
Bookshop	Bookshop Profit	<u>1,432.74</u>	<u>3,279.30</u>
Publications	Profit Sale FNCV Publications	1,953.75	3,011.95
	Back issues Vic Nat	<u>279.20</u>	<u>481.63</u>
		<u>2,232.95</u>	<u>3,493.58</u>
Other Earnings	Hall Hire	3,020.71	6,496.34
	Profits - Camps, Bat Workshop, Geology Exc	1,839.11	1,421.45
	Advertising - Field Nat News	1,381.82	248.18
	Advertising - Vic Nat		200.00
	Profit Sale FNCV products	40.00	83.05
	Copyright Income		1,632.00
	Sundry Income	<u>86.18</u>	<u>1,292.48</u>
		<u>6,367.82</u>	<u>11,373.50</u>
Investments	Bank Interest	1,298.25	754.22
	Interest Income Investments	<u>15,039.19</u>	<u>20,447.46</u>
		<u>16,337.44</u>	<u>21,201.68</u>
Grants, Donations	Grants (*see below)	15,100.00	1,500.00
	Bequest - Thomas R.N. Lothian	1,500.00	
	General Donations	4,235.45	3,396.75
	Donations President's Equipment Appeal	<u>205.00</u>	<u>1,342.50</u>
		<u>21,040.45</u>	<u>6,239.25</u>
	Total Income	<u>\$88,872.33</u>	<u>\$89,434.31</u>

*** Grants**

Department of Sustainability & Environment - History Symposium	10,000.00
Aust Government Department of Environment and Heritage	
- Grants to Voluntary, Environment & Heritage Organisations	3,600.00
City of Whitehorse - Open Day Grant	<u>1,500.00</u>
	<u>\$15,100.00</u>

THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA
INCOME STATEMENT
Year ended 31 December 2005 (continued)

	2005	2004
EXPENDITURE	\$	\$
Publications		
Victorian Naturalist - Printing	5,844.00	9,851.15
- Postage	2,902.97	2,277.36
- Sundry expenses	<u>390.15</u>	<u>410.63</u>
	9,137.12	<u>12,539.14</u>
Less History Symposium Grant	<u>-3,147.00</u>	
Net Cost Victorian Naturalist	\$5,990.12	\$12,539.14
Newsletter - Printing	3,818.27	4,144.25
- Postage etc	2,852.42	2,935.12
Calendar of events Printing & Postage	1,699.46	1,433.42
Junior Naturalists - Printing and Postage	<u>826.23</u>	<u>496.63</u>
Total Publications Expenses	<u>\$15,186.50</u>	<u>\$21,538.56</u>
Expenditure		
History Symposium	9,494.46	
Tied Grants		
Open Day	<u>1,992.16</u>	
	<u>\$62,199.21</u>	<u>\$67,895.75</u>
GROSS PROFIT		
Other		
Expenses		
Annual report	84.00	65.91
Bank Fees	1,651.23	1,099.59
Depreciation Expense	5,798.82	5,172.37
Donations to Individuals & Organisations	935.00	100.00
FNCV Mugs	386.24	
Gas, Electricity, Water	1,525.25	1,526.08
Hall Cleaning	480.00	
Insurance	4,036.36	3,807.73
Internet Provider & Virus Scan	693.00	834.62
Kitchen & Bathroom Supplies	554.58	410.38
Library Expenses & Subscriptions	609.38	359.13
Membership Cards	497.00	
Non-Library Subscriptions	287.64	563.91
Office Postage	1,229.87	795.10
Office Stationery etc	2,839.24	1,327.51
Office Telephone	785.83	889.33
Repairs & Maintenance - General	428.50	483.77
Repairs & Maintenance - Office Equipment	596.25	304.09
Rates - Council	736.60	1,165.20
Rates - Maryborough Property	488.60	
Special Interest Group Expenses	98.23	304.24
Staff Training	445.00	
Sundry Expenses	146.57	733.60
Superannuation & Workers Comp	2,326.67	2,756.60
Wages & Salaries	24,099.55	25,155.62
Total Other Expenses	<u>51,759.41</u>	<u>47,854.78</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$78,432.53</u>	<u>\$69,393.34</u>
OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS)	<u>\$10,439.80</u>	<u>\$20,040.97</u>
Fungimap - See below	5,966.65	<u>3,560.77</u>
NET PROFIT (LOSS)	<u>\$16,406.45</u>	<u>\$23,601.74</u>
Fungimap		
<u>Fungimap became independent body 19/5/05</u>		
Sales & Conference	4,908.15	2,160.77
Membership	1,137.00	
Donations	27.00	1,511.50
Less Bank Fees	<u>-105.50</u>	<u>-111.50</u>
Net Surplus	<u>\$5,966.65</u>	<u>\$3,560.77</u>

THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2005

	2005	2004
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank of Melbourne Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$10,025.94	\$18,804.08
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$27,290.58	13,249.70
Fungimap Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$90.86	6,674.21
The Environment Fund Account - Note (3)	\$3,389.91	3,799.91
Stock Lenses - Note (4)+A43	\$192.00	180.00
Inventories (Books for Sale) - Note (4)	<u>\$5,257.90</u>	<u>8,933.78</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>\$46,247.17</u>	<u>\$51,641.68</u>
Non Current Assets		
Investments		
Bendigo Bank Term Deposits - Note (5)	\$82,482.15	\$10,000.00
AGC Debenture Stock - Note (5)		\$65,539.80
Treasury Corporation of Vic - Note (5)		\$50,000.00
Esanda Unsecured Notes - Note (5)	\$105,231.59	\$105,231.59
General Property Trust Units - Note (5)	\$23,851.00	\$23,851.00
Australian Ethical Investments - Note (5)	\$30,000.00	
Shares in Australian Foundation - Note (5)	<u>\$20,220.00</u>	
	\$261,784.74	\$254,622.39
Library Holdings - Note (6)	<u>\$49,206.43</u>	<u>\$47,786.23</u>
	<u>\$310,991.17</u>	<u>\$302,408.62</u>
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Maryborough Property - Note (7)	13,400.00	13,400.00
Clubhouse at Cost - Note (7)	171,512.00	171,512.00
Clubhouse improvements - Note (7)	38,988.00	38,988.00
Equipment at Cost - Note (8)	\$66,112.99	\$61,783.49
Less Accumulated Depreciation - Note (8)	<u>-\$44,269.74</u>	<u>-\$38,470.82</u>
	<u>\$245,743.25</u>	<u>\$247,212.57</u>
Total Non current Assets	<u>\$556,734.42</u>	<u>\$549,621.19</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$602,981.59</u>	<u>\$601,262.87</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Sundry Creditors - Note (9)	\$6,212.00	\$3,259.00
GST Paid - GST Collected - Note (8)	\$764.27	\$1,445.00
Grants Held for 2006- Note (9)	\$7,500.00	\$11,500.00
Funds Held in Trust - Note (9)	<u>\$271.00</u>	<u>271.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$14,747.27</u>	<u>\$16,475.00</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>\$588,234.32</u>	<u>\$584,787.87</u>
EQUITY		
Members Accumulated Funds		
Current Year Earnings/Loss	\$16,406.45	\$23,601.74
+ Fungimap Surplus	<u>\$5,966.65</u>	<u>-\$3,580.77</u>
Current Year Earnings excluding Fungimap - Note (10)	\$10,439.80	\$20,040.97
General Fund b/f - Note (10)	<u>\$535,099.34</u>	<u>\$515,025.37</u>
	<u>\$545,539.14</u>	<u>\$535,066.34</u>
Total Specific Funds		
Marine Research Fund	\$25,433.75	25,466.75
Fauna Survey Equipment Fund	-1,451.25	-1,451.25
Fungimap Fund - Note (11)	\$90.77	6,674.12
FNCV Environment Fund - Note (11)	\$3,389.91	3,799.91
Asset Revaluation Reserve	\$13,187.00	13,187.00
FNCV Juniors	<u>\$2,045.00</u>	<u>2,045.00</u>
TOTAL MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS	<u>\$588,234.32</u>	<u>\$584,787.87</u>

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2005

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This special purpose financial report has been prepared for distribution to the members to fulfil the Council's financial reporting requirements under The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated constitution. The accounting policies used in the preparation of this report, as described below, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Club's constitution and with previous years, and are, in the opinion of the Council, appropriate to meet the needs of members.

- (a) The financial report has been prepared on a modified accrual basis of accounting including the historical cost convention and the going concern assumption.
- (b) The requirements of Accounting Standards and other professional reporting requirements in Australia do not have mandatory applicability to The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated because it is not a "reporting entity". The Council has, however, prepared the financial report in accordance with relevant Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.
- (c) These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost and do not take into account changing money values.
- (d) The accounting policies have been consistently applied unless otherwise specified.
- (e) *Investments* - are valued either at cost less amounts written off for permanent diminution in the value of investments, or at Council valuation. Dividends and interest are brought to account when received.

THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2005 (continued)

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(f) *Fixed Assets* - Property is brought to account at cost, or where appropriate, at Council valuation. Plant, equipment, furniture and fittings are brought to account at cost less accumulated depreciation calculated on a straight line basis over the estimated life of the asset.

(g) *Income tax* - The club is not liable for income tax

(h) *Inventories* - are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2. REMUNERATION OF COUNCILLORS

No remuneration has been received by councillors for the year ended 31 December 2005

3. CASH

Bank of Melbourne - Cheque Account	\$27,290.56	
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account	<u>\$10,025.94</u>	\$37,316.50
Fungimap A/c - Bank of Melbourne		\$90.86
Environment Fund A/c - Bank Melb.		<u>\$3,389.91</u>

4. STOCKS

Stock Lenses		\$192.00
Books for sale at lower of Cost or Net Realisable Value		<u>\$5,257.90</u>

5. INVESTMENTS

Bendigo Bank Term Deposits		\$82,482.15
Esanda Finance Corporation Unsecured Notes		\$105,231.59
General Property Trust Units - at cost (Market Value \$36,900)		\$23,851.00
Australian Ethical Investments at cost (Market Value \$30,873)		\$30,000.00
Shares in Australian Foundation (Market Value \$21,500)		<u>\$20,220.00</u>
		<u>\$261,784.74</u>

6. Library - Books and Journals

at Council Valuation 23/5/95 plus additions at cost		<u>\$49,208.43</u>
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7. FREEHOLD PROPERTIES

Cosstick Reserve, Maryborough		\$13,400.00
1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn - at cost		\$171,512.00
Improvements - at cost		<u>\$38,988.00</u>
		<u>\$223,900.00</u>

8. OTHER FIXED ASSETS

Plant and Equipment - at cost		\$66,112.99
Less Accumulated Depreciation		<u>-\$44,269.74</u>
		<u>\$21,843.25</u>

9. CREDITORS & PROVISIONS

Sundry Trade Creditors		\$3,147.00
Creditor FNCV Environment Fund		\$1,590.00
Creditor ANHM		\$275.00
Environment Fund Grant - A. Parkin		\$200.00
Environment Fund Grant - FSG		<u>\$1,000.00</u>
		<u>\$6,212.00</u>

Grants Held for 2006		
Knox Environment Society - FSG SIG	\$2,000.00	
Grass Roots Land Care - Botony SIG	<u>\$5,500.00</u>	\$7,500.00
Funds Held in Trust		\$271.00

MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS

10. GENERAL FUND

Balance Brought Forward		\$535,099.34
Add Net Surplus		\$16,406.45
Less Fungimap Surplus		<u>-\$5,966.65</u>
Balance at 31 December 2005		<u>\$545,539.14</u>

11. SPECIFIC FUNDS

<i>Fungimap Fund</i>		
Balance Brought Forward		\$6,674.12
Add Net Surplus		\$5,966.74
Less Transfer new entity incorporated 19/5/05		<u>-\$12,550.00</u>
Balance at 31 December 05		<u>\$90.86</u>

<i>FNCV Environment Fund</i>		
Balance Brought Forward		\$3,799.91
Add Donations		\$1,590.00
Less Grants		<u>-\$2,000.00</u>
Balance at 31 December 05		<u>\$3,389.91</u>

FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA
CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the Year Ended 31 December 2005

		Inflow no bracket,	Outflow ()
		2005	2004
		\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Inflows	Net Inflows from Operations	18,855 50	42,472 63
	GST (net change)	<u>(\$680 73)</u>	<u>\$2,660 99</u>
	Net Cash Flow from Operations	<u>\$18,174 77</u>	<u>\$45,133 62</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:			
Outflows	Equipment Purchases	(\$4,329 50)	(\$8,534 37)
	Library Book Purchases	(\$1,420 20)	(\$1,195 12)
	Transfer from/to AGC Debenture Stock	\$65,539 80	(\$4,287 65)
	Transfer from/ to Esanda Unsecured Notes	\$50,000 00	(\$4,655 37)
	Transfer to Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	(\$72,482 15)	<u>(\$10,000 00)</u>
	Transfer to Australian Ethical Investments	(\$30,000 00)	
	Transfer to Shares in Australian Foundation	<u>(\$20,220 00)</u>	
	Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities	<u>(\$12,912 05)</u>	<u>(\$28,672 51)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:			
		-	-
CHANGE IN FNCV CHEQUE A/Cs BALANCES for year (inflow)		<u>\$5,262 72</u>	<u>\$16,461 11</u>
	Cheque Account Bank Balance Start Year	<u>\$32,053 78</u>	<u>\$15,592 67</u>
	Cheque Accounts Bank Balances End Year	<u>\$37,316 50</u>	<u>\$32,053 78</u>
Note 1	Reconciliation of Net Profit with Cash Flow from Operations		
	Net Profit	\$10,439 80	\$20,040 97
	add decrease in inventory & stock FNCV merchandise	\$3,663 88	\$2,570 29
	add depreciation	\$5,798 82	\$5,172 37
	add increase in creditors	\$2,953 00	\$3,009 00
	Less decrease in grants received in advance	(4,000 00)	<u>\$11,500 00</u>
	Net Cash Inflow from Operations	<u>\$18,855 50</u>	<u>\$42,292 63</u>

FUNGIMAP Bank Account - CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the period ended 31 December 2005

		2005	2004
Cash Flow From Operating Activities			
Inflows	Sales & Conference	4,908 15	2,160 77
	Membership	1,137 00	
	Donations	27 00	1,511 50
Outflows	Bank fees	(105 50)	(111 50)
	GST adjustment with FNCV		\$152 33
	Transfer to new entity incorporated 19/5/05	<u>(\$12,550 00)</u>	
	CHANGE IN FUNGIMAP BANK BALANCE	<u>(\$6,583 35)</u>	<u>\$3,713 10</u>
	Opening Balance	<u>\$6,674 21</u>	<u>\$2,961 11</u>
	Balance 31 December 2005	<u>\$90 86</u>	<u>\$6,674 21</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA INC

Scope

I have audited the attached special purpose financial report comprising the Income Statement, Statement of Assets and Liabilities, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to and Forming Part of the Accounts, of The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated, for the year ended 31 December 2005. The Club's Council is responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Club's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting requirements under the Club's constitution. I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. (These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia).

I have relied on the data for years prior to that ending 31 December 2005 as being correct. No effort has been made to value the Club's assets.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practical for The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations, subscriptions and other fund raising activities until their entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, the audit in relation to such receipts was limited to the amounts recorded.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the financial position of The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated as at 31 December 2005 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Signed:



Ray A Wells, CPA
Honorary Auditor

31 March 2006
South Melbourne



Bandy Bandy *Vermicella annulata* found by the Fauna Survey Group at Hattah Lakes National Park *Photo: Joan Broadberry*



Nick Andrewes, chairperson Juniors' Council, photographed on a excursion to Warrandyte State Park *Photo: Wendy Clark*