



## *President's Report*

This year we concentrated on improving the club's facilities, by reviewing our operational systems and purchasing new equipment.

The special interest groups have continued to provide interesting presentations and excursions for our members.

### **We obtained the following grants for 2006:**

A grant from Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations, (GVEHO) provided \$2000 towards administration costs.

The Commonwealth of Australia, through the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants provided \$1012 for the purchase of office chairs.

### **Biodiversity Symposium**

For Biodiversity Month, we held a symposium on 'Invasive Species.' Topics discussed included the threat of invasive plants and animals to our environment. The event was organised by Dr Alan Yen and was well attended and enjoyed by our members.

### **Environment Fund – Successful Grant Applicants**

The 2006 successful applicants were awarded to:

FNCV Geology Group. Purchase of geological maps, \$384.25

FNCV Fungi Group. Purchase of Fowlers Vacola unit for drying specimens plus collection containers, \$300.

*The Victoria Naturalist* Team of the FNCV. To assist in providing 16 pages of colour for 3 x 64 page issues of *The Victorian Naturalist*, \$800.

FNCV Bat Group. To assist in funding 5000 copies of a leaflet "Melbourne's Bats" to be distributed via the FNCV, libraries, schools etc, \$1028.50

### **Australian Natural History Medallion**

The 2006 ANHM medallion was awarded to Ian Fraser for his contributions to ecology, conservation and education.

### **FNCV Office**

New office furniture was purchased to assist Helen. A wooden cabinet previously located in the office was

moved to the conference room and a new lock was installed. The digital projector and laptop computer are located in the cupboard, providing easier access for SIG groups.

### **Book sales**

This year we focussed on improving the book sales system. We initiated a sales recording system which provides up-to-date sales information and book sale records. The book list has continued to be displayed on the web site and in the newsletter, which is proving very successful.

### **Christmas Party**

The 2006 Christmas party was well attended. Sean Dooley, author of *The Big Twitch* presented a talk about his bird watching journeys around Australia. The majority of the prizes for the raffle were donated by members and the income paid for the BBQ. It's a good way for members to come together and reflect on a very productive and eventful FNCV year.

This is my last term as President, which I have enjoyed immensely. I would like to thank the following members who provide many hours of valuable volunteer time.

- The Vice Presidents, Dr Alan Yen and John Harris for their contributions.
- Dr Gary Presland as secretary, Barbara Burns as treasurer and the FNCV councillors.
- Thank you to Helen M<sup>c</sup> Nally for her efficiency in administration.
- The library staff, Sheila Houghton, Dr Gary Presland and volunteers.
- Ian Endersby, the secretary for the Australian Natural History Medallion.
- *Field Nats News* editors Joan Broadberry, Dr Noel Schleigher and collation volunteers.
- *The Victorian Naturalist* editors Dr Maria Gibson, Dr Gary Presland and Anne Morton.

Thank you for producing outstanding publications in 2006.

### **Karen Muscat President**



## FNCV Administration

### Membership

Membership as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 was 822, 26 members down from the same time last year. We attracted 118 new members over the year, but unfortunately lost 124. As with previous years, the largest membership categories were Ordinary (full paying) membership and Concession members.

Our Access database was upgraded by Leon Altoff allowing us to process membership payments much more efficiently.

### Book Sales

The book sales were temporarily suspended whilst implementing a new ordering system so the total sales are considerably less than previous years. However, FNCV publications continued to be popular amongst our members with \$690.66 being received for *Mosses and Allied Plants* and \$937.73 for *Spiders and Scorpions*.

### Hall Hire

Hiring our hall to various groups continues to be a valuable source of income for the club. We have regular hall hirers who continue to use the hall, and we have accommodated various casual hirers throughout the year. Total income (before expenses) for 2006 was \$2,984.56 (excl. GST). Thank you to Rosemary Robb, Colin Dowzer and Gary Presland who gave up their time to open the hall for our hirers.

### Promotion

Our Calendar of Events is produced three times during the year and outlines coming events, excursions, camps and speakers of interest for each of our Special Interest Groups. It is distributed to libraries, universities and other environmental groups throughout Melbourne and Victoria.

This year, the FNCV promoted our club with a stall at the Whitehorse Spring Festival, on October 10<sup>th</sup> 2006, with Gary Presland generously giving his time to oversee it. The Festival gives local clubs and organisations an opportunity to promote their activities and interact with the Whitehorse community.

Our website continues to be an excellent marketing tool and assists in promoting all aspects of the club. Many thanks to Leon Altoff for donating his time and expertise in maintaining and improving the website over the past year.

### Advertising in FNCV Publication

Paid advertising and flyer inserts placed in the *Field Nats*

*News* (FNN) during the year totalled \$658.57. There was no income from paid advertising in *The Victorian Naturalist* this year.

Thank you to everyone who has generously volunteered their time and effort in contributing to the running of the club, allowing members to continue to enjoy their membership.

**Helen McNally**  
Administration Officer



## 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), Bob Rogers, Noel Schleiger and John Harris.

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 April to process the submissions and decide on the successful applicants.

The projects supported in 2006 are listed in the President's Report on page 2.

Each project is required to be completed within 12 months of receipt of funding, with a report on completion to be published in the *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 gratefully accepted. Thank you to everyone who donated in 2006. Your support will enable the Fund to continue providing grants for worthy projects in the future.

**Barbara Burns**  
Secretary



## *Field Nats News*

In 2006 11 issues of FNN nos 150-160 were delivered to members and subscribers. The club is most grateful to our contributors, editors and layout teams and the collation team. Without these volunteers (which can involve up to 30 people each month), the newsletter would not eventuate. All FNCV members look to the monthly newsletter to find out the program of meetings and excursions, as well as reports on recent events. It is central to club life.

We are always keen to upgrade the content of FNN. We are glad to receive letters to the editors canvassing issues such as items we need to include or how our content can be improved. Our thanks and appreciation go to those members who take the time and effort to write up meetings, camps and excursions. It would be great to receive more general natural history articles. We have been publishing many more photographs than previously. They often convey much more than a written description. Please email your photos so that the full range of club activities can be included. Line drawings, maps etc can be scanned and published.

We try to keep to our budget of 12 pages per issue. Paid advertising and flyers help cover our costs. Occasionally we cut down to a 10 page issue and this allows us to run a

14 page issue when necessary. With nine special interest groups space can get very tight.

The collation afternoons on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month are always enjoyable and friendly and we usually have the job completed by about 4 pm. Many thanks to Ray Power for co-ordinating the arrangements with Australia Post.

It is essential we work within a time limit. Please note FNN has its own email address, separate from the FNCV. ([fnnews@vicnet.net.au](mailto:fnnews@vicnet.net.au)). Our absolute deadline is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. We prefer for all copy to be in by the first Tuesday of the month as the rush at the end can be our greatest problem. Our preferred format is a plain Word document with minimum formatting.

Table 1 below acknowledges our main contributors for each issue. We apologise to those not mentioned. Special thanks to Platon Vafiadis and Rob Hamson for their meticulous preparations of the Marine Research page and Geology content, respectively. Thanks to the FNCV office administrator Helen McNally for her help and advice

**Dr. Noel Schleiger & Joan Broadberry**  
**Joint Editors**

**Table 1. CONTRIBUTORS TO FNN 2006**

Month	No.	Main Contributors	Pages	Encls.	Ads.	Collators
Feb.	150	Karen Muscat, Malcolm Calder, Noel Schleiger, Helen McNally, Clem Earp, Snezana Trkulja, Joan Broadberry, Jenny Porter, Virgil Hubregtse, Roger Pierson, Barbara Burns, Sally Bewsher, Ray Gibson	12	1 Cal-endar	3	
March	151	Karen Muscat, Jenny Porter, Sheila Houghton, Virgil Hubregtse, Pat Grey, Sally Bewsher, Russell Thompson, Platon Vafiadis	12	0	4	12
April	152	Karen Muscat, Jenny Porter, Sue Bendel, Sheila Houghton, Noel Schleiger, Paul George, Rob Hamson, Dr. Megan Davidson, Platon Vafiadis, John Harris	12	0	3	12
May	153	Karen Muscat, Joan Broadberry, Clem Earp, Peter Homan, Greg Dudgeon, John Harris, Sue Bendel, Annie Lamb, Ray Power, Sheila Houghton, Platon Vafiadis	12	0	3	8
June	154	Karen Muscat, Sheila Houghton, Helen McNally, Rob Hamson, Roger Pierson, Noel Schleiger, Joan Broadberry, Platon Vafiadis	12	1 Cal.	10	13
July	155	Karen Muscat, Gary Presland, Rob Hamson, Sue Bendel, Sheila Houghton, Virgil Hubregtse, Denise and Arthur Carew, Platon Vafiadis	12	0	3	8
August	156	Karen Muscat, Sue Bendel, Rob Hamson, Sheila Houghton, Russell Thompson, Sally Brewsher, Ray Gibson, John Harris, Platon Vafiadis, Pat Grey, Paul George	12	0	4	16
Sept.	157	Karen Muscat, Sue Bendel, Rob Hamson, Alan Monger, Sheila Houghton, Virgil Hubregtse, Platon Vafiadis	10	0	3	11
Oct	158	Karen Muscat, Paul George, Lyn Ansell, Rob Hamson, Ed and Pat Grey, Melanie Archer, Annie Lamb, Snezana Trkulja, Sue Bendel, Platon Vafiadis, John Harris	12	1 Cal.	2	9
Nov.	159	Karen Muscat, Clem Earp, Sue Bendel, Robin Drury, Virgil and Jurrrie Hubregtse, Snezana Trkulja, Rob Hamson, Sheila Houghton	12	0	4	9
Dec.- Jan. 07	160	Karen Muscat, Sue Bendel, Joan Broadberry, Noel Schleiger, Linden Gillbank, Snezana Trkulja, Melanie Archer, Sheila Houghton, Dr. Lynda Chambers, Rob Hamson, P. Vafiadis	14	0	6	12

## *Library*

The major achievement in 2006 was the completion of the cataloguing of the periodical collection. The library holds over 100 permanent files, as well as short-term files of about 20 other serial publications.

Seventy eight titles were added to the bookstock during the year. Amongst these were

J. Dawson and R. Lucas (2005) *The nature of plants*; S. Dooley (2005) *The big twitch*; D.L. Jones (2006) *A complete guide to native orchids of Australia*; P. McCarthy (2003) *Catalogue of Australian lichens and Catalogue of Australian liverworts and hornworts*; S.L. Stephenson (2003) *Myxomycetes of New Zealand*; M. Swan and S. Watharow (2005) *Snakes, lizards and frogs of the Victorian Mallee*; H. Tyndale-Biscoe (2005) *Life of marsupials*. We also received numerous government reports on the management of national and marine parks, biodiversity and climate change.

Donations were received from Ray Gibson, Ed and Pat Grey, Virgil Hubregtse, Ian Kitchen, and Ken Simpson; and Kristen Otto presented us with a copy of her book on the Yarra, in recognition of the help given to her during her research. We very much appreciated the donation of books by the people who reviewed them for *The Victorian Naturalist*. (Stickers in the books indicate in which issue of *The Victorian Naturalist* the review appears, with the name of the reviewer).

Enquiries have been varied. As usual there have been researchers into the activities and publications of early members of the Club. We had a request for information on the Sydenham Wireless Station Reserve, and the involvement of the Native Plants Preservation Group (later the Native Plants Preservation Society) in surveys there. An interesting enquiry came from Warrnambool about the stranding of large numbers of By-the-Wind Sailors (*Vellela vellela*) along the coast there, and whether this might be related to cyclonic activity further north.

In the early part of the year we said goodbye to Enid Amis, Joan Kottek and Tess Kloot after five years of valuable assistance. Gary Presland was appointed Assistant Librarian in May to replace Enid Amis. He has undertaken many tasks, notably the cataloguing of the periodicals. Enid Haarhoff has continued to be a regular helper, and I thank them both for their commitment.

**Sheila Houghton**  
**Honorary Librarian and Archivist**



## *The Victorian Naturalist*

Six issues of *The Victorian Naturalist* were produced during 2006, comprising Volume 123. The special issue for the year was No. 4, which focused on the interesting but lesser known field of bryophytes. This issue was also the largest for the year, at 96 pages in length. Perhaps the highlight of the year was in producing the entire volume, all six issues, with full-coloured pages. Nowhere was this feature of greater value than in the special issue on mosses, liverworts and hornworts.

With the exception of that issue, each of the issues in Volume 123 consisted of 64 pages. In total, the volume contained 41 original papers (21 Research Reports, 14 Contributions, and 6 Naturalist Notes) by 67 individual authors. Two of these Contributions (one in two parts) were the last papers to be published from the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium of May 2005. The Australian Natural History Medallionists for 2005 (Pauline Reilly) and 2006 (Ian Fraser) were also honoured in the pages of *The Victorian Naturalist*, with articles that detailed their achievements.

The range of subject matters published through the year was extremely wide, with papers on a diversity of topics relating to plants and animals. In addition, Volume 123 carried 18 book reviews, as well as four tributes — to mark the passing of Ellen McCulloch, Neil Archbold, David Ashton and Brian Smith. Books returned by reviewers were donated to the FNCV library.

My thanks are extended to all the authors who supported *The Victorian Naturalist* by submitting papers on an interesting range of subjects. 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 an 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**

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

Joan Broadberry (editor)  
 Dorothy Mahler  
 Noel Schleiger

## *Australian Natural History Medallion*

The 2006 Australian Natural History Medallion was awarded to Ian Fraser for his contributions to Ecology, Natural History, Education and Conservation. The Award was presented by Dr David Cantrill, Chief Botanist – National Herbarium of Victoria, at the FNCV meeting in November, and was followed by the winner's address entitled "A biased naturalist wonders". A citation for the medallion winner will be published in *The Victorian Naturalist*. The Field Naturalists Association of Canberra made the nomination and was supported by a number of natural history groups and government departments.

Dr Mike Clarke, Dr Kathleen Ralston and Professor Rob Wallis completed their four year term on the Award Committee and are sincerely thanked for their contributions. Andrew Corrick (Ornithology), Bryan Grieg-Fry (Herpetology), and Ian Mansergh (Mammalogy) have accepted an invitation to join the Award Committee for the next four years. Associate Professor Bruce Livett, as President of the Royal Society of Victoria and, thus, ex officio member of the Award Committee has served for the last three years. He has made valuable contributions to both the Award and General Committees. As the incoming RSV President does not have an earth or biological science background he has declined to accept the role. The General Committee has co-opted Dr Bill Birch to the Award Committee under Rule 2.4. As Dr Birch is currently a member of the RSV Council this maintains the long connection of the RSV with the Australian Natural History Medallion.

A nomination was received in 2005 for Steve van Dyck (Mammal Society of Australia) and is still current. Five new nominations were received in 2006 for Kevin Bonham (Tasmanian FNC), Jeffrey Campbell (Launceston FNC), Ian Fraser (FN Association of Canberra), Ern Perkins (FNC Ballarat) and Neville Walsh (Friends of the RBG Melbourne) and Jeanette Covacevich (Queensland Naturalists' Club) and Max Maddock (The Wetland Centre) were re-nominated. At the end of 2006 there were seven current nominations.

As well as the \$1000 Medallion sponsorship from Andrew Isles an additional \$690 was received from eight member associations and six individual FNCV members who donated with their subscription renewals. These donations will be acknowledged separately in *The Victo-*

*rian Naturalist*.

All Medallions have been mounted by Scotia Engraving in a mount almost identical to the previous style and at a substantially lower cost. There is sufficient stock to last until 2011.

The General Committee met during the year to appoint new members to the Award Committee and to review the Medallion's finances and procedures. The Committee is still keen to see the Medallion endowed sufficiently to cover annual running costs. Although this will cause additional work for the FNCV Treasurer and Administrative Officer to maintain a separate fixed deposit account the FNCV has agreed to do this. A target of \$30,000 through major endowments or bequests, has been set. The Secretary was asked to prepare a Medallion letterhead which incorporated a scan of the Medallion and acknowledged the contribution of the FNCV (with its Correa logo) based on a design prepared by Helen Aston.

The paper on the ANHM given at the symposium commemorating 125 years of the FNCV was published in *The Victorian Naturalist*.

**Ian Endersby**  
**Secretary ANHM General Committee**



Ian Fraser (right) being presented with the 2006 ANHM by Dr. David Cantrill.  
Photo: J. Broadberry

## Microscopical Group

Below is a brief summary of the activities of the Microscopical Group for 2006.

In February John Zhu from “Coherent Scientific”, the Australian distributors of Nikon microscopical equipment, spoke on, and demonstrated the Nikon Coolscope digital microscope. This is an “all in one digital microscope” which transcends the current concept of a microscope. Its advantages are discussed by Roger Pierson on p 9 FNN 150. The February meeting involved club member Ian Endersby demonstrating how the microscope helps in the identification of insects. Paul George has given a comprehensive report on p 8 FNN 152.

On March 15<sup>th</sup> Chris Tyshing showed moss peristomes with the aid of SEM imaging. There is a full report in FNN 154 p 8. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, Roger Pierson of Deakin University demonstrated how differential interference and digital image capture has advantages. This is reported in FNN 154 p 7.

On May 17<sup>th</sup> Professor Colin Anderson of University of Melbourne Medical School, introduced the Zeiss Ultraphot microscope of 1960’s German optical technology. This microscope was donated to the FNCV by Melbourne University. See FNN 153 p 10.

June 21 was a hands on practical evening, spent using the recently donated Carl Zeiss Ultraphot II microscope system. July 19<sup>th</sup> was a members’ night.

On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Mary Gibson of Deakin University conducted a hands-on study of algae looking at fertilisation and reproduction strategies. On September 21st, Philip Keane from the Botany Department, Latrobe University Bundoora spoke on “Cocoa the plant, its’ pests and diseases”. On 20<sup>th</sup> October the group journeyed to the Arthur Rylah Institute, 123 Brown St. Heidelberg, to study fresh water invertebrates.

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, Megan Short and Cuong Huyah of Deakin University spoke on pin cushion millipedes as seen under the microscope.

The Microscopical Group is very grateful to all speakers and report writers for their hard work and dedication in presenting the 2006 program.

**Noel Schleiger & Ray Power**



## 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 and Jenny Porter for organising most of these activities.

The Botany Group members wish to acknowledge the effort taken by the speakers, excursion leaders and members who made the activities interesting and enjoyable. Thankyou to Annie Lamb for coordinating the Trust for Nature surveys. A special thankyou to the following speakers and excursion leaders: Jeff Yugovic, “Revegetation vs indigenous gardening”; Neville Walsh, Megan Hirst and Jeff Jeanes, “Millennium Seedbank project, Kew, Seedbanking as a conservation tool.”; Dr David Cheal, “Plant relationship to fire”; Lynda Moon, tour of Royal Botanical Gardens Cranbourne”; David Cameron, “Case studies in rare or threatened plants in Victoria”; Fiona Ede, “Weeds and native tree seedlings in riparian zones”; Cathy Powers, “Terrestrial orchids of Victoria”; Neville Walsh, “Ferns and allied plants (mainly of the Melbourne region). More than Fishbones and Maidenheads”; Ern Perkins, “Box iron bark forests, their components, complexity and future.”; Damian Magner, “Australian trees and biodiversity in the mountains of southern India”; Carrie Deutsch, “The state we’re in – biodiversity campaign state wide”; Karen Lester, excursion to Arthurs Seat Park searching for threatened species, *Euphrasia collinia* subsp. *muelleri* (Purple Eyebright) and to Clyde – Tooradin disused railway Plains Grassland to look for threatened species, *Prasophyllum frenchii* (Maroon Leek-orchid), *Dianella amoena* (Matted Flax-lily) and *Xerochrysum palustre* (Swamp Everlasting).

In 2006 the Botany Group received \$9900 in grants to do an environmental burn and to weed the Clyde-Tooradin disused railway. The work done at Clyde contributed to the gaining of the Banksia award for land and biodiversity section for “Back from the brink: Saving Victoria’s threatened orchids”.

In 2007 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. This information is helpful to land managers, when determining environmental management practices.

**Sue Bendel**  
on behalf of the Botany Committee



## Geology Group

The average attendance for the ten meetings over 2006 was 27, and for the five excursions 20. Our sincere thanks to all our speakers and excursion leaders, without whom there would be no program. Visitors' fees to both activities amounted to \$251, of which \$70 was paid directly to excursion leaders for expenses incurred and \$100 paid into Club funds.

The highlight of the year was the weekend excursion to Hamilton and special thanks are due to local leaders Ken Grimes and member Chris Ah Yee. Thanks also to the following members: Clem Earp for leading an excursion and writing up two reports, Lyn Ansell for a report and Noel Schleiger for attending Council meetings on behalf of the Geology Group. Thank you also members Jim Kyval and Frank Holmes for lending specimens for the display cabinet.

**Rob Hamson**  
Secretary



### Geology Meetings

Date	Topic	Speaker
February	Microfossils and Climate Change in Victoria over the Last 100 Million Years	Dr Stephen Gallagher, University of Melbourne
March	The Ediacarans - the Origins of Animalia	Professor Pat Vickers-Rich, Monash University
April	Meteorites: the Victorian Perspective	Dr Bill Birch, Museum Victoria
May	The Extraordinary Gogo Fish Fossils from the Kimberley of W.A.	Professor John Long, Museum Victoria
June	The Bass Canyon System	Jeremy Mitchell, Uni. of Melbourne
July	Supervolcanoes: Potential Effects and Hazards of Future Eruptions	Professor Ray Cas, Monash University
August	Chatham Islands: Dinosaurs of Greater New Zealand at the K-T Boundary	Chris Consoli, Monash University
September	Oceans on the Roof-top of the World - Travelling through Tibet.	Liz Weldon and Dr Monica Campi, Deakin University
October	Waterfalls: their Formation, Location and Classification with Particular Reference to Victoria	Associate Professor Ian Rutherford, University of Melbourne
November	Gentle Giant and Violent Killer: a tale of two volcanoes - Kilauea and Mont Pelee	Rob Hamson (member)

### Geology Excursions

Date	Topic/Location	Leader/Attendance
April	The Evolution of the Yarra River	Lex Ferguson, brick industry Consultant (retired) (22)
May	The Geology, Landforms and Fossils of the Hamilton Area, Western District	Ken Grimes, geologist/ consultant & Chris Ah Yee, (member) (25)
June	The Restoration of the Main Spire of St Paul's Cathedral	James Charlwood ( <i>Cathedral Stone</i> ) (12)
July	The Geology of the Yea Area	Clem Earp (member) (19)
November	The Geomorphic Development of the Werribee and Parwan Rivers	Associate Professor Ian Rutherford, University of Melbourne (21)

## 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:

Yarra Ranges National Park at The Beeches, Marysville (43 species),  
 Blackwood (83 species),  
 Bunyip State Park (92 species),  
 Greens Bush (Mornington Peninsula National Park) (88 species),  
 Upper Yarra Reservoir (85 species),  
 Cathedral Range SP (76 species),  
 Big Pat's Creek, Warrandyte, State Forest (67 species)  
 Wanderslore Sanctuary, Launching Place (63 species).

After each foray, a meeting was held at the FNCV clubhouse to review the records.

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’. A number of voucher specimens were formally documented and lodged at the National Herbarium (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne). The research permit has been renewed for another three years.

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

1. Lesser Known Fungi – Ascomycetes and Boletes by Bruce Fuhrer
2. Documenting voucher collections - workshop
3. The Fungi of Lord Howe Island by Geoff Lay
4. Towards a critical checklist of Australian macro fungi by Dr Tom May.

In May the FNCV Juniors joined us for a foray to the Upper Yarra Reservoir. It was encouraging to see the interest and enthusiasm displayed by the young people.

The Fungi Group produced its second edition of the CD-ROM of fungi images. The CD-ROM utilises a simple search key to access many species we have found and which we believe can be readily identified in the field. We now have 109 species and over 780 images. Descriptive notes for each species are included to assist in identifying species and distinguishing them from look-alikes.

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

Winter in Victoria was unusually dry and despite the promising autumn start, the fungi season proved much shorter than usual. Nonetheless, our keen forayers found quite a few interesting fungi.

On our first foray to Mortimer Reserve, Bunyip State Park we found the rare, silvery-capped parasitic *Asterophora mirabilis* growing on an old *Russula*. This is Australia's only Agaric growing on an Agaric.

Also found were the blue-grey discs of *Banksiamyces macrocarpus* growing on cones of *Banksia spinulosa*. These were the largest specimens the group had seen (diam to 20 mm).

At Green's Bush we found a bright orange *Amanita* that was new to the Group. This had pale scales on an apricot-orange cap, a stout stipe with wonderfully apricot-peach tints, no volva,

a large pendulous striate annulus and adnexed, nearly free gills, crowded and white with orange near the margin. We tentatively identified it as *A. aff armeniaca*.

On a typically wet and wintry July day at Blackwood we rediscovered the small, dark-brown, long-toothed unnamed fungus on the bark of a living Peppermint (probably *E. radiata*) - the same tree on which we saw it last season. A large, slimy-capped caramel-coloured species, initially thought to be a *Hebeloma*, dropped a white spore print overnight (not the pinkish-brown/tan of a *He-*

(Continued on page 10)



*Astraeus hygrometricus*

Photo: Paul George

## Juniors' Group



*Cyptotrama aspratium*

Photo: Paul George

(Continued from page 9)

*beloma*). This suggested *Tricholoma eucalypticum*. Two weeks later the Friends of Mt Worth SP and the Friends of Morwell NP joined us at Mt Worth. Two species of Vegetable Caterpillars, *Cordyceps gunnii* and *C. hawkesii* were seen. A slime mould *Leocarpus fragilis* was also found, with its sporangia attached to a piece of grass lying on top of a gum leaf. A group of small, white bladders hanging from a short stipe was found on very rotten wood. The blunt and somewhat folded fruit bodies (similar in shape to a capsicum) were probably *Physalacria sp.* *Beenakia dacostae* was found growing high on a tree-fern trunk - we had previously seen this only on dry, woody debris

By the end of August the fungi season had all but finished and our foray to Wanderslore in the Yarra Valley revealed only 63 fungi species, although the slime moulds seemed to enjoy the warmer weather. The September rains were very poor this year and the spring flush of fungi was almost non-existent. However, our final foray in October to Kinglake (an area that had been severely burnt in last summer's bushfires) rewarded us with a number of species that flourish after fire – morels (*Morchella elata* group), *Anthracobia sp.*, *Pholiota highlandensis*, *Pyronema sp.* and a large mass of tiny Geopyxis-like brown cups on the burnt ground.

**Paul George**  
**Fungi Group**



2006 was a very successful year for the Junior 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 4yrs – 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 Junior council is made up of juniors from the age of 12yrs 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 in running the group. Long time member Wendy Clark's guiding hand has been instrumental in the group's ongoing success and remained invaluable in 2006.

### Meetings and Excursions

The topics covered at monthly meetings included: Echinoderms, Platypuses, Fungi, Bats, Giant Earthworms, Night Birds, Orchids and the Tari Basin of Papua New Guinea, not to mention several talks by council members on varying topics and of course the birthday meeting!

### Excursions were as follows:

Pound Bend (butterfly count with the T.I.G), Honey Suckle Point (rockpool ramble), Fins Reserve (platypus hunt), Upper Yarra Reservoir (Reefton with the Fungi Group), Yarra Bend (bat flyout), Langwarrin Flora & Fauna Reserve (orchid search), Blackburn Lakes (Owl and possum spotlight).

### Camps:

The juniors hold two camps each year, the five-day Easter Camp and a shorter weekend camp at the end of the year. 2005 saw the end of year camp move from its traditional December slot to October with great success, so we kept the date for 2006. This year the camp was based at the Allenvale Mill campsite just out of Lorne. The camp was a great success, taking in a variety of ecosystems including a look at the intertidal zone at Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary near Aires Inlet, the rainforest at Erskin Falls and casuarina woodland at She-Oak falls. The campsite itself also had plenty of wildlife with koalas, possums and gliders, owls and even glowworms observed within a short walk from the camp.

The five day Easter camp was held in central Victoria near Mansfield on the Delatite River. With the help of Michael Gage and Ruth Alt we were able to secure a private campsite with stunning vistas and a dam full of aquatic life. Over the course of the camp forays were made to Mount Samaria State Park and the Alpine National Park to ad-

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

enjoy the spectacular scenery and investigate the local wildlife. The traditional Sunday Easter Bilby Hunt was also a great success with plenty of chocolate consumed by all!

Special thanks to David Bruce for kindly allowing the use of his property.

2007 looks to be a promising year for the Juniors with many exciting meetings and excursions already in the pipeline.

Nick Andrewes



## Terrestrial Invertebrate Group

The Terrestrial Invertebrate Group's year began with a butterfly count at Pound Bend, Warrandyte. Patrick Honan of Melbourne Zoo then presented the first meeting on the zoo's unique and successful captive breeding programme for the Lord Howe Island stick insect (*Dryococelus australis*).

Dr Melanie Archer from the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine spoke in April about her part in an unusual invertebrate survey expedition to the Cocos (Keeling) Islands. In June, Dr Alan Yen (Department of Primary Industries) talked about the biology and conservation of the mysterious Giant Gippsland Earthworm (*Megascolides australis*).

The August meeting was presented by Dr Megan Short, Cong Huyhn and Miranda Thomson from Deakin University. Megan gave a lecture on the fascinating pin-cushion millipedes, while Cong and Miranda afterwards showed live material under the microscope.

The millipede theme was continued in October by Dr Bob Mesibov (Queen Victoria Museum), who travelled all the way from Tasmania especially to address the group. He shared with us his extensive knowledge about the millipedes of west Gippsland.

The final meeting in November was co-presented by Dr Melanie Archer and Peter Marriott. They provided a slide show introduction to the flies (Order Diptera) using Peter's beautiful photographs. This will be repeated

for the Juniors Group in 2007. Summaries of most presentations can be found in the Field Naturalist's News.

**Dr. Melanie Archer**  
Terrestrial Invertebrate Group



## Bat Study Group

In 2006 the Bat Study Group was finding its wings. In February Ian Kitchen organised a microbat workshop at Kinglake National Park with Lindy Lumsden. In September the group organised an evening at Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary at which PhD candidate Lisa Evans presented her research on bat parasites.

Throughout the year group members have assisted bat researchers collect data, including the monthly population monitoring of Grey-headed flying fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) numbers in Melbourne, and population monitoring of microbats in the Organ Pipes National Park.

The group had input into the Department of Sustainability and Environment "Protocols for management of Grey-headed flying-foxes at Yarra Bend Park during severe adverse weather events" and responded to heat events in January and November. The total number of very hot days per year is projected to increase, and this presents a particular challenge to the management of the only breeding colony in Victoria of this vulnerable megabat species. In October we ran an evening for Juniors at Yarra Bend park to view the flying-foxes with their dependent young and watch the fly-out after sunset. The group also had a number of sessions at Yarra Bend during the warmer months of providing the general public with an opportunity to view the animals through spotting scopes and to have their questions answered.

The group was successful in its application to the FNCV Environment Fund to publish a flyer called "Melbourne's Bats" which is being used to help educate people about these interesting, but little-known mammals.

**Dr. Megan Davidson**  
Bat Study Group



## *Fauna Survey Group*

The Fauna Survey Group has carried out a range of surveys across Victoria this year, as well as having a variety of speakers at its monthly meetings.

### **Speakers**

Topics for 2006 covered mammals of south-western Victoria, Fairy Martins, Sea turtles, Black Swans, wild-life of Japan, Mt. Baw Baw, Swamp antechinus, wildlife of South Africa and Mammal Week at O'Reilly's ( Qld.).

### **Stagwatches, including Mount Baw Baw National Park**

The FSG. conducted several evening stagwatches close to Melbourne, targeting Leadbeater's Possum. LBP was seen at two localities.

Two overnight stagwatches were also held in the Mt. Erica area to look for Leadbeater's Possum and other wild-life. At both, we encountered inclement weather. As a result, spotlighting work was curtailed. On the February trip, we caught a surprising number of bats, but the November bat trapping results were poor. Spotlighting revealed Greater Gliders, Yellow-Bellied Gliders and Boobook Owls. Large numbers of Bushrats and Agile Antechinus were recorded in traps. Members of Friends of LBP joined us on the first trip to Mt. Baw Baw NP.

A total of 86 stags (hollow trees) were watched by 93 observers in 2006.

### **Falls Creek- Mt Mackay/Pretty Valley**

FSG members travelled to Mt. Mackay over the Australia Day long weekend, to undertake surveys primarily looking for Mountain Pygmy Possum (*Burramys parvis*). While we were unsuccessful in trapping *Burramys*, a Broad-toothed Rat and many Bush Rats were caught. A suite of reptiles including *Egernia guthega*, *Pseudemoia entrecasteauxii*, Alpine Water Skink and White-Lipped snake were caught in funnel traps or by hand searching, along with frogs and butterflies.

### **Grampians National Park**

There was a good attendance of enthusiastic people on this March trip. We caught a large number of bats and a variety of terrestrial mammals, including two Southern Brown Bandicoots. There was quite a range of mammals, birds and reptiles, despite the devastating effects of the fires, the impact of which was very obvious. Early signs of recovery were becoming apparent.

### **Boole Poole, Gippsland Lakes National Park**

The April camp was well attended and required a boat trip across the eastern end of Lake King, from Metung to

the Lakes National Park. We carried out a large amount of trapping in a widespread area next to Bunga Arm. Results were very variable from one site to another. The conditions were very dry, which may have affected our results. Some pygmy possums were caught, hog deer were seen, there was evidence of echidna diggings and fresh pig scats were found. Numerous snakes were observed, as were Jacky Dragons and a range of sea birds, including Caspian Terns and White-bellied Sea Eagles. The new infra-red camera was set up by a soak at the far end of the western survey area. Eastern Grey Kangaroos were observed coming in to drink.

### **Rushworth: Heathcote – Graytown National Park**

The main purpose of this weekend was to replace dilapidated nestboxes in the Box Ironbark Forest. New boxes were purchased from the Bob Taylor Memorial Fund. As usual, numerous sugar gliders were seen, along with one Brush-tailed Phascogale.

### **Mammal Handling Workshop at Eumerella, (Anglesea)**

Despite the rather bleak weather, we had an excellent turnout for this weekend. Our numbers were boosted through the attendance by students from RMIT. A large range and number of species of mammals were caught, including Southern Brown Bandicoot, Antechinus species and rat species. Three frog species were recorded and reptiles seen included White Lipped Snake, Lowland Copperhead and White's Skink. A meander along local beaches revealed several species of albatross, Giant Petrels, Australian Gannets and other smaller species.

### **Lysterfield/Churchill National Park**

A handful of people attended. Surprisingly there was nothing caught in the cage and Elliott traps, despite abundant evidence of Swamp Rats. Bat trapping was also poor. The infra-red camera was put up too, without any success. Hopefully, a better result will be attained in February 2007.

### **Croajingolong National Park**

A week-long trip to Croajingalong National Park was one of the highlights for 2006. Our reason for attending was to continue assisting with the Southern Ark Project. Two survey sites were chosen, one in heathland and the other around the campsite on Thurra River.

Three Swainson's Antechinus with pouch young were found in a pitline at the heathland site and twenty eight bushrats were trapped. A most unusual capture, found in a large possum trap on loan from DSE., was

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12)

an adult Echidna – a first for at least the last twenty five years.

Two rare species of owl – the Masked Owl and the Sooty Owl - were detected with spotlights. Numerous beachcombing expeditions took place and a number of us visited the historic Point Hicks lighthouse. The light crystal arrangement at the top of the magnificent, spiral staircase was most impressive. Some sea birds such as albatross, terns and gannets were spotted from the top.

**Sally Bewsher & Russell Thompson**  
FSG Committee



## Marine Research Group

The Marine Research Group held 8 meetings and undertook 8 field trips throughout 2006. On average 17 people attended our meetings with the highest attendance of 20 people attending in several months.

### The program for the year was:

February: Friends of the Port Melbourne Foreshore

April: Dr Tim O'Hara - exploratory trip along the south coast of Australia

May: "Introducing Marine Invertebrates" – preview of a new series of identification handbooks

July: Dr John Buckeridge from RMIT speaking on "Ibla - a very special minute barnacle"

August: "Reflections on Ballast" and "Better Bays and Waterways"

September: Kate Charlton - work with the Dolphin Research Institute

October: Ship Biofouling: a vector for the global redistribution of marine plant and invertebrate species

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 2006 included Urquhart's Bluff, Table Rock, Airey's Inlet, Cape Con-

ran, Williamstown and Sandridge Beach.

In 2006 the group revised and republished the 1984 book – *Coastal Invertebrates of Victoria*. Many members contributed large amounts of time and effort to have the book ready for our December meeting. The book has been published using "Print on demand" technology, allowing minimal stocks to be kept on hand while ensuring its continued availability.

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 and Audrey Falconer for coordinating our field trips. Thanks also go to Clarrie Handreck, Bob Burn and Mark O'Loughlin.

**Leon Altoff**  
Secretary



Members of the MRG at work during a field trip to Cape Conran.

Photo: J. Broadberry

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA INC**  
**REPORT BY COUNCIL. Year ended 31 December 2006**

1. The members of Council hereby submit the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 and the Income Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 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
John Harris	Vice President/Fauna Survey	Science Teacher	2003
Barbara Burns	Treasurer	Lecturer	2001
Dr Gary Presland	Secretary	Retired	2005
Joan Broadberry	Councillor	Retired Teacher	2001
Dr Noel Schleiger	Councillor/ Geology	Retired	2006
<b>SIG Representative</b>			
<b>Special Interest Group</b>			
Leon Altoff	Marine Research	Analyst	2003
Audrey Falconer	Marine Research	Public Servant	2003
Ray Power	Microscopy	Retired Engineer	1993
Sue Bendel	Botany	Quality Assurance Co-ordinator	2006
Nick Andrews	Juniors	Student	2002
Paul George	Fungi Group	Information Technology	2006
Megan Davidson	Bat Group	Lecturer	2005
Snezana Trkulja	Terrestrial Invertebrates	Building industry	2006

2. 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.
3. The net profit of the club for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006 was \$5153 (2005 net profit \$10,440).
4. A review of the operations of the Club is contained in the President's Report, which forms part of this Annual Report.
5. 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.
6. Other than as disclosed in the Annual Report, there are no significant developments likely to affect the financial results of the Club.
7. 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,

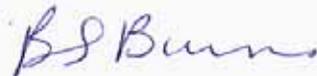
- (a) The accompanying Income Statement is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the financial results of the Club for the year ended 31 December 2006.
- (b) The accompanying Balance Sheet is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Club as at 31 December 2006.
- (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      day of      2007 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 2006

		2006	2005
		\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>	Membership	<u>\$46,417.48</u>	<u>\$41,460.93</u>
<b>Bookshop</b>	Bookshop Profit	<u>3,088.11</u>	<u>1,432.74</u>
<b>Publications</b>	Profit Sale FNCV Publications	1,097.78	1,953.75
	Back issues Vic Nat	<u>568.08</u>	<u>279.20</u>
		<u>1,665.86</u>	<u>2,232.95</u>
<b>Other Earnings</b>	Hall Hire	2,984.56	3,020.71
	Profits - Camps, Bat Workshop, Geology Exc	309.95	1,839.11
	Income Biodiversity Symposium	1,945.46	
	Advertising - Field Nat News	592.72	1,381.82
	Profit Sale FNCV products	185.86	40.00
	Copyright Income	318.32	
	Non-Member Levy	300.00	
	Sundry Income	<u>203.97</u>	<u>86.18</u>
		<u>6,840.84</u>	<u>6,367.82</u>
<b>Investments</b>	Bank Interest	1,117.44	1,298.25
	Interest Income Investments	<u>16,788.00</u>	<u>15,039.19</u>
		<u>17,905.44</u>	<u>16,337.44</u>
<b>Grants, Donations</b>	Grants (*see below)	3,818.18	15,100.00
	Bequest - Thomas R.N. Lothian		1,500.00
	General Donations	3,181.50	4,235.45
	Donations President's Equipment Appeal	<u>38.75</u>	<u>205.00</u>
		<u>7,038.43</u>	<u>21,040.45</u>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<u><b>\$82,956.16</b></u>	<u><b>\$88,872.33</b></u>
<b>* Grants</b>			
	Department of Sustainability & Environment - Symposiums	1,818.18	10,000.00
	Aust Government Department of Environment and Heritage		
	Grants to Voluntary, Environment & Heritage Organisations	2,000.00	3,600.00
	City of Whitehorse - Open Day Grant		1,500.00
	Knox Environment Society for FSG	\$2000	
	Less Purchase of Infra Red Camera	<u>\$2000</u>	
		<u>0.00</u>	
		<u>\$3,818.18</u>	<u>\$15,100.00</u>

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA  
INCOME STATEMENT  
Year ended 31 December 2006 (continued)**

EXPENDITURE	2006	2005
	\$	\$
<b>Publications</b>		
Victorian Naturalist - Printing	11,037.54	5,844.00
- Postage	3,342.76	2,902.97
- Sundry expenses	<u>124.70</u>	<u>390.15</u>
	14,505.00	9,137.12
Less Environment Fund (History Symposium) Grant	<u>-800.00</u>	<u>-3,147.00</u>
Net Cost Victorian Naturalist	\$13,705.00	\$5,990.12
Newsletter - Printing	3,722.50	3,818.27
- Postage etc	2,723.15	2,852.42
Calendar of events Printing & Postage	1,504.68	1,699.46
Junior Naturalists - Printing and Postage	<u>884.47</u>	<u>826.23</u>
Total Publications Expenses	<u>\$22,539.80</u>	<u>\$15,186.50</u>
<b>Expenditure Tied Grants</b>		
Symposiums, Biodiversity - History	1,643.56	9,494.46
Open Day	<u>          </u>	<u>1,992.16</u>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<u>\$58,772.80</u>	<u>\$62,199.21</u>
<b>Other Expenses</b>		
Accounting Software Expenses	\$887.00	
Annual report	78.00	84.00
Bank Fees	1,200.64	1,651.23
Depreciation Expense	5,699.00	5,798.82
Donations to Individuals & Organisations	500.00	935.00
FNCV Mugs	613.44	386.24
Gas, Electricity, Water	1,492.53	1,525.25
Gift Certificates	64.00	
Hall Cleaning	1,320.00	480.00
Insurance	4,036.36	4,036.36
Internet Provider & Virus Scan	693.00	693.00
Kitchen & Bathroom Supplies	331.55	554.58
Library Expenses & Subscriptions	859.16	609.38
Membership Cards		497.00
Non-Library Subscriptions	174.27	287.64
Office Postage	1,567.23	1,229.87
Office Stationery etc	543.42	2,839.24
Office Telephone	937.35	785.83
Repairs & Maintenance - General	1,634.99	428.50
Repairs & Maintenance - Office Equipment	392.96	596.25
Rates - Council	548.00	736.60
Rates - Maryborough Property	257.45	488.60
Special Interest Group Expenses	218.93	98.23
Staff Training		445.00
Sundry Expenses	261.59	146.57
Superannuation & Workers Comp	2,677.45	2,326.67
Wages & Salaries	<u>26,631.50</u>	<u>24,099.55</u>
Total Other Expenses	<u>53,619.82</u>	<u>51,759.41</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$77,803.18</u>	<u>\$78,432.53</u>
<b>OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$5,152.98</b>	<b>\$10,439.80</b>
Fungimap - See below		<u>5,966.65</u>
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<u><b>\$5,152.98</b></u>	<u>\$16,406.45</u>
<b>Fungimap</b>		
<u>Fungimap became independent on 19/5/05</u>		
Sales & Conference		4,908.15
Memberships & Donations		1,164.00
Less Bank Fees		<u>-105.50</u>
Net Surplus		<u>\$5,966.65</u>

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2006**

	2006	2005
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank of Melbourne Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$0.00	\$10,025.94
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$30,802.08	\$27,290.56
Fungimap Cheque Account - Note (3)		\$90.86
The Environment Fund Account - Note (3)	\$2,800.11	\$3,389.91
Petty Cash	\$50.00	
Interest Receivable (3a)	\$1,471.02	
Stock Lenses - Note (4)	\$96.00	\$192.00
Inventories (Books for Sale) - Note (4)	\$5,251.25	\$5,257.90
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b><u>\$40,470.46</u></b>	<b><u>\$46,247.17</u></b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>		
<b>Investments</b>		
Bendigo Bank Term Deposits - Note (5)	\$94,797.61	\$82,482.15
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	\$30,000.00
Shares in Australian Foundation - Note (5)	<u>\$20,220.00</u>	<u>\$20,220.00</u>
	\$274,100.20	\$261,784.74
Library Holdings - Note (6)	<u>\$49,522.44</u>	<u>\$49,206.43</u>
	<b><u>\$323,622.64</u></b>	<b><u>\$310,991.17</u></b>
<b>Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
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)	\$70,118.99	\$66,112.99
Less Accumulated Depreciation - Note (8)	<u>-\$49,968.74</u>	<u>-\$44,269.74</u>
	<b><u>\$244,050.25</u></b>	<b><u>\$245,743.25</u></b>
<b>Total Non current Assets</b>	<b><u>\$567,672.89</u></b>	<b><u>\$556,734.42</u></b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$608,143.35</u></b>	<b><u>\$602,981.59</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Sundry Creditors - Note (9)	\$4,213.82	\$6,212.00
GST Paid - GST Collected	\$2,260.89	\$764.27
Grants Held for 2007 - Note (9)	\$6,600.91	\$7,600.00
Funds Held in Trust - Note (9)	<u>\$271.00</u>	<u>\$271.00</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b><u>\$13,436.62</u></b>	<b><u>\$14,747.27</u></b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b><u>\$594,706.73</u></b>	<b><u>\$588,234.32</u></b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
<b>Members Accumulated Funds</b>		
Current Year Earnings/Loss	\$5,152.98	\$16,406.45
+ Fungimap Surplus		<u>\$5,966.65</u>
Current Year Earnings excluding Fungimap - Note (10)	\$5,152.98	\$10,439.80
General Fund b/f - Note (10)	<u>\$545,539.14</u>	<u>\$535,099.34</u>
	<b><u>\$550,692.12</u></b>	<b><u>\$646,639.14</u></b>
<b>Total Specific Funds</b>		
Marine Research Fund	\$25,433.75	\$25,433.75
Fauna Survey Equipment Fund - Note (11)	548.75	-1,451.25
Fungimap Fund - Note (11)		\$90.77
FNCV Environment Fund - Note (11)	\$2,800.11	\$3,389.91
Asset Revaluation Reserve	\$13,187.00	\$13,187.00
FNCV Juniors	<u>\$2,045.00</u>	<u>\$2,045.00</u>
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b><u>\$594,706.73</u></b>	<b><u>\$588,234.32</u></b>

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2006**

**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, with the exception of interest receivable accrued on the Bendigo Bank Term Deposit.

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2006 (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 2006

3. CASH	2006	2005
Bank of Melbourne - Cheque Account		\$10,025.94
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account	\$30,802.08	\$27,290.56
Fungimap A/c - Bank of Melbourne		\$90.86
Environment Fund A/c - Bank Melb.	\$2,800.11	\$3,389.91
Petty Cash	\$50.00	
	<u>\$33,652.19</u>	<u>\$40,797.27</u>
3a. Interest Receivable	<u>\$1,471.02</u>	
4. STOCKS		
Stock Lenses	\$96.00	\$192.00
Books for sale at lower of Cost or Net Realisable Value	<u>\$5,251.25</u>	<u>\$5,257.90</u>
5. INVESTMENTS		
Bendigo Bank Term Deposits	\$94,797.61	\$82,482.15
Esanda Finance Corporation Unsecured Notes	\$105,231.59	\$105,231.59
General Property Trust Units - at cost (Market Value \$36,900)	\$23,851.00	\$23,851.00
Australian Ethical Investments at cost (Market Value \$30,873)	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Shares in Australian Foundation (Market Value \$21,500)	<u>\$20,220.00</u>	<u>\$20,220.00</u>
	<u>\$274,100.20</u>	<u>\$261,784.74</u>
6. Library - Books and Journals at Council Valuation 23/5/95 plus additions at cost	<u>\$49,522.44</u>	<u>\$49,206.43</u>
7. FREEHOLD PROPERTIES		
Cosstick Reserve, Maryborough	\$13,400.00	\$13,400.00
1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn - at cost	\$171,512.00	\$171,512.00
Improvements - at cost	<u>\$38,988.00</u>	<u>\$38,988.00</u>
	<u>\$223,900.00</u>	<u>\$223,900.00</u>
8. OTHER FIXED ASSETS		
Plant and Equipment - at cost	\$70,118.99	\$66,112.99
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-\$49,968.74</u>	<u>-\$44,269.74</u>
	<u>\$20,150.25</u>	<u>\$21,843.25</u>
9. CREDITORS & PROVISIONS		
Sundry Trade Creditors	\$1,939.00	\$3,147.00
Creditor FNCV Environment Fund	\$1,743.09	\$1,590.00
Creditor ANHM	\$531.73	\$275.00
Environment Fund Grant held for- A. Parkin		\$200.00
Environment Fund Grant held for - FSG		\$1,000.00
	<u>\$4,213.82</u>	<u>\$6,212.00</u>
Grants Held for 2007		
Knox Environment Society - FSG SIG		\$2,000.00
Land Care Grass Roots - Botany SIG, for Clyde Reserve	\$3,100.00	\$5,500.00
WWF Australia - Botany SIG, for Clyde Reserve	<u>\$3,590.91</u>	
	<u>\$6,690.91</u>	<u>\$7,500.00</u>
Funds Held in Trust	<u>\$271.00</u>	<u>\$271.00</u>
MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
10. GENERAL FUND		
Balance Brought Forward	\$545,539.14	\$535,099.34
Add Net Surplus	\$5,152.98	\$16,406.45
Less Fungimap Surplus		-\$5,966.65
Balance at 31 December 2006	<u>\$550,692.12</u>	<u>\$545,539.14</u>
11. SPECIFIC FUNDS		
<i>Fungimap Fund</i>		
Balance Brought Forward		\$6,674.12
Add Net Surplus	\$90.86	\$5,966.74
Less Transfer new entity incorporated 19/5/05	<u>\$90.86</u>	<u>-\$12,550.00</u>
Balance at 31 December 06	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$90.86</u>
<i>Fauna Survey Equipment Fund</i>		
Balance Brought Forward	-\$1,451.25	-\$1,451.25
Grant Knox Enviro Society-FSG for Infra Red Camera	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	
	<u>\$548.75</u>	<u>-\$1,451.25</u>
<i>FNCV Environment Fund</i>		
Balance Brought Forward	\$3,379.91	\$3,789.91
Add Donations		\$1,590.00
Less Grants	<u>-\$579.80</u>	<u>-\$2,000.00</u>
Balance at 31 December 06	<u>\$2,800.11</u>	<u>\$3,379.91</u>

**FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the Year Ended 31 December 2006**  
**for The Bendigo Bank Account No 123098725**

		Inflow no bracket, 2006	Outflow ( ) 2005
		\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Inflows	Net Inflows from Operations	\$6,676.34	18,855.50
	GST (net change)	<u>\$1,496.71</u>	<u>(\$680.73)</u>
	<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operations</b>	<u>\$8,173.05</u>	<u>\$18,174.77</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Outflows	Equipment Purchases	(\$4,006.00)	(\$4,329.50)
	Library Book Purchases	(\$316.01)	(\$1,420.20)
	Transfer from/to AGC Debenture Stock		\$65,539.80
	Transfer from/ to Esanda Unsecured Notes		\$50,000.00
	Transfer to Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	(\$12,315.46)	(\$72,482.15)
	Transfer to Australian Ethical Investments		(\$30,000.00)
	Transfer to Shares in Australian Foundation		<u>(\$20,220.00)</u>
	Petty Cash Float	<u>(\$50.00)</u>	
	<b>Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities</b>	<u>(\$16,687.47)</u>	<u>(\$12,912.05)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>			
	Grant Knox Enviro Society-FSG for Infra Red Camera	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	
<b>CHANGE IN FNCV CHEQUE A/C BALANCE for year</b>		<u>(\$6,514.42)</u>	<u>\$5,262.72</u>
	Bendigo/Bank Melb Cheque Acc Balances Start Year	<u>\$37,316.50</u>	<u>\$32,053.78</u>
	Bendigo Bank Cheque Account Balance End Year	<u>\$30,802.08</u>	<u>\$37,316.50</u>
 Note 1 Reconciliation of Net Profit with Cash Flow from Operations			
	Net Profit	\$5,152.98	\$10,439.80
	add decrease in inventory & FNCV merchandise	\$102.85	\$3,863.88
	add depreciation	\$5,699.00	\$5,798.82
	less increase in interest receivable	(\$1,471.02)	
	less decrease in creditors	(\$1,998.18)	\$2,953.00
	less decrease in grants received in advance	<u>(\$809.09)</u>	<u>(\$4,000.00)</u>
	<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operations</b>	<u>\$6,676.34</u>	<u>\$18,855.50</u>

FUNGIMAP Bank Account - CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the period ended 31 December 2006

		2006	2005
Cash Flow From Operating Activities			
Inflows	Sales & Conference		4,908.15
	Membership		1,137.00
	Donations		27.00
Outflows	Bank fees		(105.50)
	Transfer to new entity incorporated 19/5/05	<u>(\$90.86)</u>	<u>(\$12,550.00)</u>
<b>CHANGE IN FUNGIMAP BANK BALANCE</b>		<u>(\$90.86)</u>	<u>(\$6,583.35)</u>
	Opening Balance	<u>\$90.86</u>	<u>\$6,674.21</u>
	Balance 31 December 2006	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$90.86</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, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement and Notes to the Financial Statements, of The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Incorporated, for the year ended 31 December 2006. 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 2006 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 2006 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Signed:



Ray A Wells, CPA  
Honorary Auditor

23 April 2007  
South Melbourne