

# Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Inc.

## Annual Report

### Year Ending 31 December 2008



Understanding Our Natural World  
Est. 1880

Reg. No. A0033611X  
1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn Vic 3130  
Telephone/Fax 9877 9860  
www.vicnet.net.au/~fncv

INDEX	page
FNCV Administration	2
President's report	3
FNCV Environment fund	4
Field Nats News	5
<i>The Victorian Naturalist</i>	6
Microscopy Group	6
Australian Natural History Medallion	7
Bat Study Group	7
Botany Group	8
Marine Research Group	8
Geology Group	9
Fungi Group	10
Terrestrial Invertebrates Group	11
Juniors' Group	11
Library	12
Day Group	12
Fauna Survey Group	13
Report by Council	14
Income Statement	15-16
Statement of Assets & Liabilities	17-18
Cash Flow Statement	19
Audit Report	20



*Pseudocolus fusiformis*

Photo: Paul George



Juniors' fungi excursion King Lake

Photo: Wendy Clarke



## Administration

### Membership

Membership as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 was 794, 6 members more than for the same time last year. We attracted 117 new members over the year, but unfortunately lost 101. As with previous years, the largest membership categories were Ordinary (full paying) membership and Concession members.

We have attracted a lot of students to our club over the past year with the introduction of a new student category at a cost of \$25 for yearly membership.

Over the past year we have collected information from our members with regard to their specific interests within the club, age group and preferred method of receiving the monthly newsletter. We will use this information in improving the services we provide our members in the future.

### Book Sales

Total profit from the book shop for 2008 was \$1900.64 with several new book titles being added to our stock. FNCV publications continue to sell at our meetings, with a total profit of \$1541.67. Our newest publication, *Coastal Invertebrates of Victoria* continues to be one of our best sellers.

### Hall Hire

We continued to hire out the hall to various groups in 2008 and received a total income (before expenses) of \$2334.54. There are three groups that hire our hall on a regular basis throughout the year and we also accommodate casual hall hirers. The hall is cleaned on a fortnightly basis, ensuring

the premises are ready for use by hirers, as well as club members. Thank you to club member Colin Dowzer, Club Secretary Gary Presland and former President Wendy Clark who gave up their time to open the hall for our hirers outside of office hours.

### Promotion

Our quarterly-produced 'Calendar of Events' provides details about club meetings, excursions and camps for each of our Special Interest Groups (SIGs). It is distributed to libraries, universities and other environmental groups throughout Melbourne and Victoria and includes a membership application form for prospective new members to use.

Our website continues to be an excellent marketing tool and assists in promoting all aspects of the club. Coming events such as Open Days, Symposia and our annual Australian Natural History Medallion presentation are advertised through our website, providing an additional method of distributing information about our activities

### Advertising in FNCV Publication

Income from paid advertising and flyers inserted in the *Field Nat News* (FNN) during the year totalled \$618.19.

As this will be my last Administration report, I would like to thank all volunteers who have generously contributed their time to the various aspects of running the club and have assisted me by offering their support in my role as Administration Officer.

**Helen McNally, Administration Officer**



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

Joan Broadberry (editor)  
Gary Presland  
Noel Schleiger

FNCV President, Alan Yen (left) and Secretary Gary Presland — photographed at FNCV open day during Seniors Week in October 2008.



## President's Report

### General Club Activities

The Field Naturalists Club of Victoria had another successful year with general meetings and the multitude of talks and excursions run by the various Special Interest Groups.

The notable general FNCV activities included: An Open Day on October 12. The Club normally runs its Open Day earlier in the year, but decided to be part of Seniors' Week. While the day attracted many visitors and attracted some new members, it did not attract many Seniors new to the Club. Council will review the timing of Open Day next time round (in 2010).

There was another very successful FNCV Biodiversity Symposium in September. The theme was 'Birds and the Environment,' and several eminent speakers made presentations. The proceedings will be published in *The Victorian Naturalist* in 2009.

The winner of the 2008 Australian Natural History Medallion is Mr Ern Perkins, a member of the Castlemaine Field Naturalists Club. The announcement was delayed this year, and the presentation ceremony has been held over until March 2009.

The FNCV Christmas Party in December was again a great success, and a great time was had by all who attended. Members were entertained by Marine Research Group member Julie Marshall who spoke about her fascinating trip to the Galapagos Islands.

A new group was formed in 2008, the Day Group. This was established by Sheila Houghton and Gary Presland, for members who preferred to attend day meetings during the week. The meetings held by the Group have all been well attended.

Two conveners of Special Interest Groups have decided that it was time to hand over responsibilities to others. Ray Power and Rob Hansom have been instrumental in guiding the Microscope and Geology SIGs respectively, and ensured the success of these groups. Ray has handed control of the Microscopy SIG to Phillippa Sterpin while a replacement for Rob has yet to be found.

### The Environment Fund

This will be reported separately.

### The Library, the *Field Nats News*, and *The Victorian Naturalist*

While the library, *Field Nats News* and *The Victorian Naturalist* teams have separate reports, I reiterate the

point that I made in last year's Annual Report: that they carry out important aspects of the FNCV that most members take for granted. The Club would not function properly without the efforts of those volunteers involved in maintaining these activities.

With funding from the Norman Wettenhall Foundation and our own Environment Fund, Gary Presland supervised the production of a searchable DVD with volumes 1-70 of *The Victorian Naturalist*. Congratulations to Gary for a wonderful job that will result in greater exposure of the club's journal to the scientific and naturalist communities.

### Deaths

I regret the passing of the following members during late 2007, 2008 and early 2009. Two members were tragically killed in the fires of February 2009. The Club also lost its oldest member, Cedric Ralph, and well known former President, Tom Sault. Tom was President from 1970-1973.

Leigh Ahern	2009
Jenny Barnett	2009
Margaret Darcy	2009
Margaret Potter	2009
Cedric Ralph	2007
Joan Rowlands	2008
Tom Sault	2008
Betty Sommerville	2008

### Summary

Despite the many achievements of this year, the FNCV still had problems that are common to many voluntary organisations. The Club has become very dependent on computers and a data projector, and all these had to be replaced in 2008. The Club previously had a policy of repairing its aging computers, but technology changes so rapidly, it was decided to purchase three new computers to ensure network compatibility between the machines. The Club had to replace its data projector, and will have to replace its second hand laptop computer soon. My thanks go to those members who made donations to the President's Fund to assist with these purchases.

I want to thank all the members who have generously donated their time as volunteers to the various Club functions: the Library team, The *Field Nats News* team, The *Victorian Naturalist* team, the organisers of Special Interest Groups, and members who have volunteered to help with various Club functions. I also wish to thank Council members for their work during the year, especially the Treasurer and her assistant and the Secretary. A special thank you to Helen MacNally, our Administration Officer, for her work over the last three years. Finally, thank you to the donors, sponsors and advertisers who have assisted the Club.

Alan Yen



## 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, John Harris and Cathy Willis. Each year the Fund contacts the regional field naturalist clubs in Victoria and advertised 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 2008 were:

Organisation	Purpose	Amount requested
FNCV Marine Research Group	Portable microscope for fieldwork	\$1000.00
FNCV Botany Group	Weeding equipment	\$894.40
Friends of Clematis Creek	Platypus sign	\$350.00
Mansfield Environment and Climate Action group	Data projector	\$799.00
Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative	Cost of employing Jennifer Webb for 40 hours more to investigate bandicoot populations at 5 extra sites/ speak at schools and produce a leaflet on the long nosed bandicoot and its habitat	\$1000

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, as well as most welcome and gratefully accepted. Thank you to everyone who donated in 2008; your support will enable the Fund to continue providing grants for worthy projects in the future.

**Barbara Burns, Secretary**



*Pleurocollybia* sp.

Photo: Paul George



Juniors at Point Leo

Photo: W. Clarke



## Field Nats News

The 2008 issues of Field Nats News comprised nos. 172 to 182 inclusive. The new FNN email address is: [fnews@fncv.org.au](mailto:fnews@fncv.org.au). With the help of our valued contributors, (see table below), and our layout and collations teams, the production of the FNCV's monthly newsletter runs smoothly. Our deadline is always the first Tuesday of the month, with FNN going to the printers on the second Tuesday. In general, our authors are very good at meeting this date and we appreciate their diligence. We ask more FNCV members to consider sending reports, articles, letters, natural history observations, or items they have read elsewhere which deserve to be reprinted. A page or a paragraph is welcome.

Your editors, Joan Broadberry and Dr Noel Schleiger have attempted to make the Field Nats news as readable as possible, by publishing reports and articles by a wide range of authors and including many photos, diagrams and sketches. However, as the newsletter is printed only in black and white, the impact of many of these illustrations is muted. We would encourage members to receive the newsletter via email and enjoy the full colour version. This is a simple process that be done by applying to the FNCV Administrative Officer.

As always, special thanks to Platon Vafiadis who carefully prepares the Marine Research Group page ready to 'go'. Thanks also to Sheila Houghton for her help with archival material and obituaries, and Rob Hamson and Alan Yen for their reliability and attention to detail. Special thanks also to Gary Presland for invaluable technical support each month. Also for driving the update of the Club's computers. Thanks to Helen McNally for preparing the four-monthly calendar, on which our program page is based. She also assists in liaising with our advertisers and supplies the mail-out labels.

Towards the end of 2008 we found our pleas for more help with collation were answered and for the past few months this has been a pleasant and easy task. Collation takes place in the FNCV hall, starting about 1 pm on the third Tuesday of each month except December. With a team of over 10 people there is time to socialise and the atmosphere at collation is very enjoyable. Finally, grateful thanks to Ray Power for organizing FNN into postal boxes

### CONTRIBUTORS TO FNN DURING 2008

Month	No.	Main Contributors	Pages	Encls.	Ads.	Collators
Feb.	172	Alan Yen, Rob Hamson, Dr. Eric Bird, Sheila Houghton, Dick Thomson (ANOS), Sue Bendel, Joan Broadberry, Platon Vafiadis	14	0	5	11
March	173	Alan Yen, Sally Bewsher, Sheila Houghton Sue Bendel., Mimi Pohl, Rob Hamson, Platon Vafiadis	10	0	7	11
April	174	Alan Yen, Sue Bendel, Rob Hamson, Sheila Houghton, Megan Davidson, Platon Vafiadis,	12	0	9	12
May	175	Ann & Dick Andrews (Albury-Wodonga), Bob Whatmough, Rob Hamson, Sue Bendel, Paul George, Pat Grey, Sheila Houghton, Platon Vafiadis	12	0	3	8
June	176	Alan Yen, Annie Lamb, Sheila Houghton, Rob Hamson, Paul George, David Gibson, Susan White, Clem Earp, Platon Vafiadis	12	4	4	9
July	177	Alan Yen, Gary Presland, Sheila Houghton, Rob Hamson, Virgil Hubregtse, Arthur Carew, Pay & Ed Grey, Roger Pierson., Platon Vafiadis	12	0	3	11
August	178	Alan Yen, Russell Thompson, Megan Davidson, Kaye Oddie, Bill Leithhead, Sue Bendel Clarrie Handreck, Platon Vafiadis,	10	2	3	7
Sept.	179	Alan Yen, Sheila Houghton, David Gibson, Claire Stanton, Bill Leithhead, Virgil Hubregtse, Joan Broadberry, Noel Schleiger, Rob Hamson, Platon Vafiadis	12	0	3	6
Oct	180	Alan Yen, Rob Hamson, Sheila Houghton, Sue Bendel, Sally Bewsher, Denise Carew, Platon Vafiadis	12	4	5	12
Nov.	181	Alan Yen, Gary Presland, David Gibson, Rob Hamson, Sue Bendel, Sheila Houghton, Joan Broadberry, Russell Thompson, Platon Vafiadis	12	0	5	15
Dec.- Jan. 09	182	Alan Yen, Rob Hamson, Ian Endersby, Sue Bendel, Sheila Houghton, Gary Presland, Joan Broadberry Platon Vafiadis	10	0	7	12

## The Victorian Naturalist

Six issues of *The Victorian Naturalist* were produced during 2008, comprising Volume 125. There was a uniformity about these issues, insofar as all of them were 32 pages in length. One of the advantages of this size is that it allows for full colour, without excessive cost.

In total, the volume contained 24 original papers, consisting of 12 Research Reports, eight Contributions, and 4 Naturalist Notes by 50 individual authors.

The range of subject matter published through the year was extremely wide, with papers on a diversity of topics relating to plants and animals. In addition, Volume 125 carried 14 book reviews and a tribute—to mark the passing of the FNCV's oldest member, Mr Cedric Ralph. 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



Juniors' fungi excursion King Lake Photo: W. Clarke



## Microscopy Group

Numbers held up well during the year, but to my mind some meetings were not well enough attended to draw a speaker. On the other hand the speakers do not seem to mind, as there are always lots of questions. It had been suggested in the past that the Group change to bi-monthly meetings. In 2009 we have resolved to do that and share the third Wednesday of each month with the Terrestrial Invertebrate Group. More importantly, we have a new Chairperson: Phillipa Sterpin. Phillipa was in the Microscopy Group for a time, beginning in 1990, before leaving to raise a family. We wish her well in her new duties.

The program for the year 2008 was as follows:

**February:** Microscopy and Botany groups combined meeting, 'Adaptation to the environment of algae: a hands on practical night'. Speaker: Mary Gibson, Deakin Uni.

**March:** 'The Morphology of pollen and Spores' Speaker: Roger Pierson, Deakin Uni.

**April:** 'Pathogenic fungi: *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*.' Speaker: Rebecca Barnett, PhD candidate Dept of Botany La Trobe Uni.

**May:** Members' night.

**June:** 'The Modern Microscope and its Different Forms'. Speakers: Peter Beech and Philip Taylor. Peter is a lecturer at Deakin Uni, and Philip is the Confocal Microscopy Unit Manager Deakin Uni.

**July:** Members' night.

**August:** 'Phytoremediation' Speaker: Jason Major from Gene Technology Information Service, Melbourne Uni.

**September:** 'Microscopy techniques for examining mycorrhizal associations' Speaker Magali Wright, Melbourne Uni.

**October:** 'Aquatic bio-assessment for determining river health'. Speaker: Tim Gurmi of EPA.

**November:** Members' night.

**Ray Power**



Ray Power, convener of the Microscopy Group (left), at the FNCV open day. Photo: J. Broadberry



## Australian Natural History Medallion

The Australian Natural History Medallion is awarded each year to the person judged to have made the most meritorious contribution to the understanding of Australian Natural History. The financing, design and procurement of the Medallion is the responsibility of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, which also appoints the Secretary to the General Committee, hosts the Medallion presentation, and provides some other administrative services. The core of the ANHM is its General Committee which comprises representatives of, currently, ten natural history societies. Its prime task is to ensure that the Award Committee is adequately staffed with competent assessors and to provide strategic guidance for the promulgation of the Medallion. Only the General Committee can amend the Rules of the Medallion. The current General Committee has concentrated on ensuring that the Medallion is adequately funded and has attempted to raise the profile of the Medallion by inviting well known and respected scientists to present the Award. There is still within the natural history community a tendency for the award to be considered a Victorian, rather than a national, award, in spite of the number of interstate recipients over recent years. The Medallion committees no longer use FNCV stationery for their correspondence.

The winner of the 2008 Australian Natural History Medallion is Ern Perkins who was nominated by the Field Naturalists' Club of Ballarat for his work in the recording and research of native flora and fauna. This has led to his extensive contribution to environmental education in the community. His consistent investigation, exploration, recording, documenting and advocacy of our natural environment has been of such benefit that he greatly deserves the Award. The Medallion will be presented to Ern, by John Landy, on 11 March 2009, and his citation will be published in the Victorian Naturalist.

David Cheal (Ecology), Chris Gray (Geology) and Paul Gullan (Botany) retired after serving four years on the Awards committee. A number of the General Committee's recommendations for replacements were either unavailable, or did not respond to an invitation to join. Margaret McDonald (botany), Doug McCann (geology) and Mark Norman (marine invertebrates) accepted positions on the committee.

Ian Endersby has advised the President of the FNCV that he will relinquish the position of Secretary of the ANHM at the presentation of the 2009 Medallion. He will have, by then, been involved in ten complete cycles of the Award, and been responsible for eleven presentations.

**Ian Endersby**  
Secretary, ANHM General Committee



## Bat Study Group

FNCV members and other bat aficionados rallied monthly in 2008 to monitor the variations in the number of grey-headed flying foxes (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) at Yarra Bend park. The colony in Eastern Park in Geelong is counted on the same night. Numbers at the Yarra Bend camp fluctuate with the season and food availability - more animals are resident in summer and the autumn breeding season, and fewer in the winter months. In 2008 the peak numbers at the Melbourne camp was in December (20,000 animals). This regular monitoring provides valuable data on the movements of a listed vulnerable species. The relatively mild summer in 2007/2008 meant that the majority of young born in October/November had a good survival rate at least from the hazard of very hot days. Unfortunately the 2008/2009 summer has not been so kind.

The other regular fieldwork opportunity for is a microbat survey at the Organ Pipes National Park where roosting boxes have been installed and data are collected every other month. Annual harp-trapping is also conducted in the park in March each year. Fieldwork at the OPNP can be quite strenuous as ladders have to be carried from tree to tree and each box carefully checked and the occupants bagged. Although microbats individually weigh only a few grams, the collective weight of hundreds is considerable and they all need to be kept safe during the process. The occasional possum has been known to take up residence in the bat boxes if the lid is not securely fitted. Ants also find the bat boxes a nice dry place to set up home.

People who are vaccinated against Australian Bat Lyssavirus are able to handle bats, but those who are not can still participate in fieldwork in ways that does not put them at risk. Pre-exposure vaccination comprises 3 shots. Post-exposure vaccination requires 5 injections but is cost-free. Of course, it is best to avoid being bitten or scratched at all!

**Dr Megan Davidson**  
(for the Bat Study Group)



FNCV open day

Photo: J. Broadberry



## 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. A special thankyou to the following speakers and excursion leaders: Dr Mary Gibson, 'Algal adaptations to the intertidal and subtidal environment'; Bruce Fuhrer, 'Plants from Western Australia'; Annie Lamb, a field trip to Merri Creek to look at the Alligator Weed, Neville Walsh, 'Responses of alpine vegetation to recent bush-fires', Annie Lamb, 'Weedspotters seminar', Dr Maria Gibson, 'Plants of Tanzania', Luke Simkin, for the tour and history of the forest gallery and behind the scenes live exhibits at Melbourne Museum, Dr Paul Gibson Roy, 'Reconstructing wildflower grasslands', David Cameron, 'Conservation status of the Victorian flora- the current review of status using IUCN Red List categories and criteria'; David Cameron also led a field trip to Castella to find *Pomaderris vacciniifolia*, Jenny Porter, 'Identification and workshop of pea plants', Jenny also led a field trip to look at the diversity of plants at Wonthaggi Heathlands, Emma Carlos, 'Weeds as habitat for birds', and Geoff Lay, 'Plants in the Lake St Clair/ Cradle Mountain area'.

Thank you to Karen Lester for assisting with the management of the Clyde – Tooradin disused railway Plains Grassland where we looked for threatened species. Unfortunately it was too dry to look for *Prasophyllum frenchii* (Maroon Leek-orchid), this year. Thank you to the people who assisted with the weeding at Clyde. On our first trip we created two transects, weeding one of them, and listing the species and cover for both transects. On the second visit we walked along the railway verge noting the plants that were in flower. Thank you to Jenny Porter and Karen Muscat for leading the field trips to Clyde.

In 2008 the Botany Group will contribute to the conservation of Victoria's biodiversity by continuing to manage Clyde with weeding days, and searching for threatened species. These excursions will provide members with practical experience in some of the State's best patches of remnant vegetation.

In 2008 we were awarded funds from the FNCV Environment Fund to purchase tools and a GPS to assist with our work at Clyde.

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

## Marine Research Group

The Marine Research Group held 8 meetings and undertook 8 field trips throughout 2008. On average 12 people attended our meetings with the highest attendance of 18 people attending in several months.

### The program for the year was:

February	Kate Naughton speaking on Tosias, and Platon Vafiadis speaking on <i>Gabrielona nepeanensis</i> .
April	2008 Field Trip Roundup narrated by Bob Burn.
May	Michela Mitchell talking on anemones.
July	Peter Appleford from the Dept of Primary Industries speaking on the Ganglioneuritis virus currently affecting abalone in Western Victoria.
August	Julie Marshal speaking on her recent trip to the Galapagos Islands.
September	Alan Monger speaking on Turrids.
October	Jan Watson speaking on Hydroids: The Feathers and Flowers of the Sea.
December	Member's 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 2008 included Phillip Island (multiple locations), the Inverloch area (multiple locations) and Brighton.

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**





## Geology Group

The geology group has had another successful and enjoyable year with an average attendance at our ten meetings of 28 and for our six excursions the overall average was 19. Two of the excursions, being to working quarries had to be during the week, hence the slightly lower attendance for these (13 and 8). Our thanks to all the speakers and leaders who have given their time and shared their knowledge with us over the year.

FNCV members have played an essential part in the running of the Group. Noel Schleiger has continued to represent Geology at Council meetings. David Gibson has written reports on two meetings and an excursion; likewise Clem Earp has written up a meeting for the FNN. Ian Endersby and Kaye Oddie also wrote articles on geological topics for the FNN. Leon Costermans helped at the Open Day. Ray Power, as always, is there at every meeting to open up, set up, clear up and lock up!



Geology display FNCV open day. Photo: J. Broadberry

Graham Patterson was co-leader on the Corio Bay - Curlewis trip and wrote up his part for the FNN. His research through the available literature to find relevant material for this excursion was invaluable. Roger Pierson was instrumental in organising the White Elephant trip and also wrote it up. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation of Frank Holmes for leaving his sick bed to present the first talk of the year when our scheduled speaker was unable to attend.

**Rob Hamson, Secretary**

### Geology Meetings

February: *Janchrisorum: and eight-year episode in the life of an amateur palaeontologist* Frank Holmes (Fossil Collectors' Association)

March: *Geological Conservation: a 2008 perspective* Dr Susan White (La Trobe University)

April: *Latrobe Valley Brown Coal* Dr Guy Holdgate (University of Melbourne)

May: *Sand Management at Lakes Entrance* Peter Wheeler (Monash University)

June: *Grampian (Gariwerd) Ranges Geology Revamped* Ross Cayley (Geoscience Victoria)

July: *Earthquakes* Gary Gibson (Chairman - International Seismological Centre)

August: *Who killed Australia's Giant Marsupials?* Dr Matt Cupper (University of Melbourne)

September: *Tectonic Controls on large-scale Landscape Processes in Australia* Sara Jakica (University of Melbourne)

October: *Rethinking the heritage and historical landscapes of the Victorian goldfields* Dr Keir Reeves (University of Melbourne)

November: *Where worlds collide: a Permian analogue of the Wallace Line in East Asia* Professor Guang Shi (Deakin Uni.)

### Geology Excursions and Field Trip

February: *Lilydale Quarry* Leader: Charlotte Sell (Operations Manager, Unimin Australia Limited)

April 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>: *Phillip Island: Volcanics and Granite Coastlines* Leaders: Graeme Burgan (Education Officer, Phillip Island Nature Parks) and Dr Eric Bird (writer and consultant)

April: *Granite in the Strathbogies* Leader: Dr Allan Rossiter (Bendigo Regional Institute of Technology)

October: *Anglesea Coalmine* Leaders: Dr Guy Holdgate (University of Melbourne) and Tony Cust (Mine Surveyor, Anglesea Power Station - Alcoa)

October: *Corio Bay to Clifton Springs* Leaders: Graham Patterson and Rob Hamson (both FNCV members)

November: *The White Elephant* Leaders: Richard Hartland (White Elephant Authority) and Roger Pierson (Deakin University)



## 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:

The Beeches, Marysville (57 species),

A weekend foray to the Otway Ranges, including Mait's Rest, (38 species), Melba Gully (60 species) and Hopetoun Falls (45 species)

Upper Yarra Reservoir (81 species),

Mt Macedon, Sanatorium Lake Picnic Ground and Day's Picnic Ground (68 species)

Bunyip State Park (Gembrook), Mortimer Reserve Picnic Ground (90 species),

Greens Bush (Mornington Peninsula National Park) (79 species),

Dom Dom Saddle, near Narbethong (94 species),

Blackwood, Jack Cann Reserve (62 species),

Devilbend Reservoir, Mornington Peninsular (52 species), and Emerald Lake Park (48 species).

In each case, the appropriate ranger was contacted prior to the survey to check any special requirements and a copy of the survey report forwarded to them.

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'. From our forays this year 5 collections of fungi have been lodged with the National Herbarium (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne).

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

1. Distribution patterns of Australian macrofungi based on a combination of climate and geography: a talk by Dr Tom May, Senior Mycologist at the RBG Melbourne.
  2. An Introduction to Lichens – Small but Successful Communities: A talk by Dr Simone Louwhoff.
  3. Fungi of Kangaroo Island by Paul George.
- Aspects of Fungi – an introduction by Paul George.

This year the Fungi Group produced a completely new version of the CD-ROM of fungi images. This handy guide contains more than 1100 images of 240 species that are readily identifiable in the field. A structured key allows fungi to be searched by shape, spore colour, genus or species. The CD-ROM contains detailed descriptions of the salient features of each species, plus general information about fungi (including the main groups of fungi, what they eat, slime moulds, bibliography,

glossary, etc) and a section on the skills required to collect voucher specimens, make spore prints and photograph fungi.

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

*Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca*, commonly known as the False Chanterelle, was found in a softwood plantation at Sanatorium Lake picnic area, Macedon Regional Park. Distinctive for its bright orange gills, this species has not been seen by this group in Victoria before.

At Melba Gully, in the Otways, we found possibly the most exciting specimens for the year - *Pseudocolus fusiformis* – a stinkhorn with three orange arms joining at the top, enclosing the dark gleba and emerging from an egg. Several immature 'eggs' were found around the two fruit-bodies we saw. Again, this is a rare species. We also saw several small patches of the delicate Coral Tooth, *Hericium coralloides*, growing on an upright Nothofagus trunk – again one of the westernmost sightings in Victoria.

A *Pleurocollybia* sp. growing on an old pine stump at Dom Dom Saddle was also new to us. The caps, some upturned with age, were yellowish brown, the gills light yellowish brown with interconnections, and the stipes (often off-centre in this species) were brown.

At Doctor's Creek, at the Upper Yarra Reservoir, we found many cicada shells. One caterpillar was covered by *Cordyceps bassiana*, also known as the Icing Sugar Fungus, which parasitises insects. Late last year there had been a large emergence of adult Cicadas, mainly Green Grocer/Yellow Monday, two forms of *Cyclochila australasiae*. The group had not seen this *Cordyceps* on cicadas before.

### Paul George



*Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca*

Photo: Paul George



## Terrestrial Invertebrate Group

The Terrestrial Invertebrate Group had a series of speakers that covered biosecurity threats to Australia from foreign invertebrates, termites, a species of threatened butterfly, and live invertebrates.

Megan Relf spoke about her work on the Altona Skipper butterfly, *Hesperilla flavescens flavescens*. It is found to the west of Melbourne and lives on the Chaffy Saw Sedge (*Gahnia filum*). Antonette Sindik, from AQIS, outlined the threats posed by foreign insects if they manage to cross the Australian borders. Antonette outlined ways in which insects can gain access, and the programmes that the quarantine service have in place to reduce the chances of their entry. Don Ewart gave a thought provoking talk about the good and bad sides of termites. Termites can cause major structural damage yet they are an essential part of Australian ecosystems because of their role as decomposers. Jess Sinclair from Museum Victoria outlined the work undertaken by the live animal staff in the area of invertebrate husbandry. This was followed up by a tour of the live invertebrate facilities at the Museum. The Terrestrial Invertebrate Group had a second trip to the Museum in 2008 to look at the insect collections. This was led by Lucinda Gibson at the Museum, and members were treated to some of the material in the dry (pinned) and wet (alcohol) collection areas.

Alan Yen



Ada Tree — Juniors' Excursion . Photo: W. Clarke



## Juniors Group

The Juniors Group, now in its 65<sup>th</sup> year, continues to flourish, with an average attendance at meetings of around 40–50 people. About half of these would be junior members and the balance parents.

The President of our group, Myriam Amiet-Knottenbelt has done a wonderful job in leading our group. Her enthusiasm and passion carries this exceptional group onwards, continuing to inspire young people and allowing them to share their passion with other like-minded naturalists.

Other junior councilors were: Georgia Lloyd as Vice President, Evannah Clark as Editor / Mailing Secretary until after 4 years of hard work she resigned in November and handed the editorship to Thomas Green. During her time as Editor she added another set of pages to the magazine and brought new life and direction to it. Alex Gage was Internet Manager and Wendy Clark, Club Advisor. Bianca Gibson has taken over as Treasurer and mailing secretary and Erica Gage joined us as a councilor.

All of the members of the Junior Council, except the Club advisor, are teenagers - including the President.

### Meetings

As usual the topics covered at meetings were diverse. We started the year with a members night where Bianca Gibson talked on Monotremes & the Aitken family talked on their trip to the Northern territory. Other topics were Sharks & other aspects of the Melbourne Aquarium by Nick Kirby, Powerful Owls by Jim Greenwood, Tasmanian Devils by Janine McCoy, Bones by Russell Thompson, Australian Spiders by Lynne Kelly, Bugs Alive at the Museum by Jessie Sinclair and Short Tailed Shearwaters by Gordon Cameron.

### Excursions

Topics were: Rock pool Ramble at Pt Leo, Fungi at the Ada Tree, Moonlit Sanctuary, Owls in their Natural Habitat at Lilydale, McKenzie flora & Fauna Reserve and two exciting trips to the Museum, one to see behind the scenes at the Bugs alive Exhibit and the other to see the live collection of insects that came back from Queensland.

### Camps

At Easter we went to Snowy River National Park. Approx 50 people attended it. One highlight was a goanna that stole and ate a teddy bear!

In October we went to McKenzies Flora & Fauna Reserve at Alexandra and stayed by the Goulburn River overnight. Despite the drought we found plenty of creatures to inspire.

All in all, a very successful year.

Wendy Clark  
Club Advisor

## Library

The major achievement this year has been the compilation of a database of the bookstock, which Gary Presland has been working on. This project has three advantages: it gives us an off-site record of our holdings, an accurate number of the monographs we hold, and is a significant step towards a computerised catalogue. We now have 3,145 volumes, including 46 titles that were added during the year. This figure does not include our extensive periodical collection.

Acquisitions covered a variety of topics: of note amongst these were Anstis, M. (2002) *Tadpoles in south-eastern Australia*; Beale, B. (2007) *If trees could speak* (donated by Leon Costermans); Bird, E.C.F. (1996) *Beach management*; (2000) *Coastal geomorphology*, (1985) *Coastline changes: a global review* (donated by the author); Clode, D. (2006) *Continent of curiosities: a journey through Australian natural history*; Geering, A et al. (2007) *Shorebirds of Australia*; Gowlett-Holmes, K. (2008) *A field guide to the marine invertebrates of South Australia*; Hooper, M. (2007) *The ferocious summer: Palmer's penguins and the warming of Antarctica*; and Selkirk, P. et al. eds. (2007) *The sub-Antarctic*.

Donations were also received from Laura Levens, Frank Holmes, Sid Cowling, Kay Oddie, Edward and Hazel Brentnall, and Gary Presland, who presented us with a copy of his newly-published book, *The place for a village: how nature has shaped the city of Melbourne*. The library and *The Victorian Naturalist* editorial staff, as well as other Club members, attended the launch of this book by Barry Jones in November.

Alan Yen donated a CD of McKinnon, M. (2007) *Blandowski's specimens*.

We continue to receive books from reviewers for *The Victorian Naturalist*. Our thanks are extended to all these people.

We were informed that as of 2009 *The Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia*, which incorporates the *Records of the South Australian Museum*, will only be available on-line.

In spite of the increased availability of material online only, which affects the number of periodicals we receive, the library continues to be quite well used. 150 books and periodicals were borrowed during the year.

Enquiries were mainly for information about past members, including one from Kraig Adler of Cornell University, concerning Charles Frost (a member from 1885-1915).

At the opening of the walking track from the Lal Lal to the Moorabool Falls, on 25 May, I had the pleasure of

meeting Bob and Eileen Pitcher. Bob is the grandson of Frederick Pitcher, one of the Club's original members in 1880. Bob was delighted to hear that we had material relating to his grandfather, and he and Eileen later visited us to examine it.

My thanks go to Gary Presland who has provided invaluable support throughout the year; to Enid Haarhoff, who continued assiduously to accession new books, and to Claire Appleby, who gave us occasional help during the year.



**Sheila Houghton**  
Honorary Librarian and Archivist.



## Day Group

The day Group was re-established in June 2008 and has had a successful half year. The first meeting was attended by 18 members who heard Gary Presland's talk on 'Reconstructing the Natural History of the Whitehorse area'. In July Paul George introduced us to 'Some aspects of Fungi' and Sheila Houghton spoke about and displayed some of the 'Treasurers of the FNCV library' in August. The group's first excursion in September was to Yarran Dehren Park, ably led by local naturalist Cecily Falkingham. A further spring excursion to Antonio Park, led by Ian Moodie from Parkwise, City of Whitehorse, was also well attended and very successful. The final talk for the year was given by Linda Rogan on the 'Natural History of Lord Howe Island'. This attracted the largest attendance to date.

Meetings are preceded by morning tea and this opportunity to socialize has proven a popular innovation. Special thanks are due to Sheila Houghton and Gary Presland for the time and effort they have put into launching the group and the wonderful program they have put in place. Members of the group will need to join in the organisation side in the future to share the workload.

**Sheila Houghton**



*Cordyceps bassiana*

Photo: Paul



## Fauna Survey Group

The Fauna Survey Group has continued to be active during 2008. We have held a variety of camps across the state and thank all of the speakers who came to our monthly meetings.

They were:

February Teresa Canon – Elephants of Sri Lanka.

March Marc Tessier – The plants & Wildlife of the Pyrenees.

April. Alastair Trail – Tuans & Sugar Gliders in Wonga Park.

May. Julie McInnes – The Plight of the Yellow-Eyed Penguins, NZ.

June. Rohan Bilney – Ecological Impacts of Sambar Deer in East Gippsland.

July. FSG members spoke about their visit to ‘Hi Vallee’, WA.

August. Julian Di Stefano & Anne Miehs – Small Mammals, Reptiles & Fire in Heathy Woodlands of SW Vic.

September ...

October . Murray Littlejohn - Hybrid Zones in Victorian Frogs & Their Importance in Conservation.

November. Marissa Parrott – Agile Antechinus.

### Field Trips.

In January, we returned to Yellingbo to follow up the 2007 survey. Bat trapping was the focus and fifty bats of five species were trapped. A wide range of mammals and birds were observed or trapped and there were lots of Banjo and Verreaux Tree Frogs serenading us as we went spotlighting.

Paddy’s Ranges and Cosstick’s Reserve were visited in February. Seven bats were trapped, Plains Froglet, Common Froglet and Spotted Marsh Frogs were found and various birds seen, including White Browed Babblers and Red-Rumped Parrots.

Holey Plains near Rosedale was our next destination. The highlights here were catching two pygmy possums in pitfall traps, hearing the Powerful Owl calling at night and having a Lace Monitor in the camp.

Over Easter, half a dozen of us went to Western Australia to assist with survey work on private land north of Perth. In particular, we used Harp Traps to provide data about the bats of this locality. No bat trapping had been carried out previously. All species caught there are regularly trapped here in Victoria. Trapping and handling Honey Possums and seeing lots of ‘new’ reptiles was a great experience.

During April we checked one hundred and eleven nestboxes in the Rushworth Box Ironbark Forest. Twenty four sugar gliders were found in twelve boxes. No Brush-Tailed Phascogales were seen this time, though there was evidence of their presence by way of scats. A wood gecko was also found in one box.

The June long weekend saw us travel to Dookie Agricultural College to do survey work in their bushland reserve. Elliott

trapping yielded only two house mice, but we were fortunate to observe a Squirrel Glider when out spotlighting. Three different frog species were found too. A single Rainbow Skink was caught by hand during a wander on top of Mount Major.

August saw us hold our camp at Stradbroke Flora and Fauna Reserve, in Gippsland. Cage, Harp and Elliott trapping proved fruitless. We returned there at Christmas and this time had more success. Agile Antechinus, Bushrats, a Swamp Rat, four bats species and five different reptile species were trapped and released. A feral cat was also caught and two others were seen.

We surveyed in Wandown Flora and Fauna Reserve in September, in conjunction with the Mid-Murray Field Naturalists. A low number of bats were caught, weighted, measured and released. Sixteen reptile species were found and a number of mallee fowl were observed. We assisted in line searches to locate Mallee Fowl mounds and enjoyed pleasant evenings around a toasty fire. A wide variety of birds were also recorded.

The November long weekend involved a visit to Orbost, where private land was surveyed. Bushrats, Agile Antechinus, Chocolate Wattled Bats. Lesser Long-eared Bats and Little Forest Bats were recorded and a Southern Brown Bandicoot was seen.

All results from our trips are sent to the Atlas of Victorian Wildlife, as required by our permit. This includes species trapped, observations made during evening spotlighting walks, general observations and indirect evidence. eg. scats, bones or feathers.

We look forward to continuing our camps and surveys during 2009.

**Sally Bewsher**



Fauna Survey Display– open day Photo: J. Broadberry

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA INC**  
*REPORT BY COUNCIL. Year ended 31 December 2007*

1. The members of Council hereby submit the Balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 and the Income Statement for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 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>
Dr Alan Yen	President	Entomologist	2001
Karen Muscat	Councillor	Botanist	2003
John Harris	Vice President/Fauna Survey	Science Teacher	2003
Julie Barker	Treasurer	Information Technology/Accountant	2007
Barbara Burns	Councillor	Tutor	2001
Dr Gary Presland	Secretary	Retired	2005
Joan Broadberry	Councillor	Retired Teacher	2001
Dr Noel Schleiger	Councillor/ Geology	Retired	2006
Audrey Falconer	Councillor	Public Servant	2003
Maria Gibson	Councillor	Senior Lecturer	2007
<b>SIG Representative</b>	<b>Special Interest Group</b>		
Leon Altoff	Marine Research	Analyst	2003
Ray Power	Microscopy	Retired	1993
Sue Bendel	Botany	Quality Assurance Co-ordinator	2006
Paul George	Fungi Group	Information Technology	2006
Megan Davidson	Bat Group	Lecturer	2005
Snezana Trkulja	Terrestrial Invertebrates	Building industry	2006
Alexander Gage	Juniors	Student	2007
Gabriel Paholski	Juniors	Student	2007
Ray Gibson	Fauna Survey	Chemist	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 loss of the club for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007 was (\$5918 net loss) (2006 net profit \$5153).
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 2007.
- (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 2007.
- (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             2008 in accordance with a resolution of Council.

Alan Yen - President

Julie Barker - Treasurer




## THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA

INCOME STATEMENT  
Year ended 31 December 2007

		2007	2006
		\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>	Membership	<u>\$38,220.98</u>	<u>\$46,417.48</u>
<b>Bookshop</b>	Bookshop Profit	1,319.29	3,088.11
<b>Publications</b>	Profit Sale FNCV Publications	1,214.51	1,097.78
	Back issues Vic Nat	<u>246.08</u>	<u>568.08</u>
		<u>1,460.59</u>	<u>1,665.86</u>
<b>Other Earnings</b>	Hall Hire	2,863.63	2,984.56
	Loss - Openday	-435.38	309.95
	Income Biodiversity Symposium	254.55	1,945.46
	Advertising - Field Nat News	648.18	592.72
	Profit Sale FNCV products	-20.86	185.86
	Copyright Income	378.98	318.32
	Non-Member Levy	184.45	300.00
	Sundry Income	<u>134.77</u>	<u>203.97</u>
		<u>4,008.32</u>	<u>6,840.84</u>
<b>Investments</b>	Bank Interest	1,587.52	1,117.44
	Interest Income Investments	<u>16,994.99</u>	<u>16,788.00</u>
		<u>18,582.51</u>	<u>17,905.44</u>
<b>Grants, Donations</b>	Grants (*see below)	1,800.00	3,818.18
	Small Equipment Grant	920	
	Small Equipment Grant - re office chairs	<u>920</u>	
	General Donations	2,170.75	3,181.50
	Donations President's Equipment Appeal	<u>0.00</u>	<u>38.75</u>
		<u>3,970.75</u>	<u>7,038.43</u>
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$67,562.44</u></b>	<b><u>\$82,956.16</u></b>
<b>* Grants</b>			
	Department of Sustainability & Environment - Symposiums		1,818.18
	Aust Government Department of Environment and Heritage		
	Grants to Voluntary, Environment & Heritage Organisations	<u>1,800.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
		<u>\$1,800.00</u>	<u>\$3,818.18</u>

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**  
**INCOME STATEMENT**  
Year ended 31 December 2007 (continued)

	2007	2006
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		\$
<b>Publications</b>		
Victorian Naturalist - Printing	10,856.27	11,037.54
- Postage	3,825.28	3,342.76
- Sundry expenses	0.00	124.70
	14,681.55	14,505.00
Less Environment Fund (History Symposium) Grant	0.00	-800.00
Net Cost Victorian Naturalist	\$14,681.55	\$13,705.00
Newsletter - Printing	3,837.76	3,722.50
- Postage etc	2,432.74	2,723.15
Calendar of events Printing & Postage	1,303.00	1,504.68
Junior Naturalists - Printing and Postage	728.81	884.47
Total Publications Expenses	<u>\$22,983.86</u>	<u>\$22,539.80</u>
<b>Expenditure Tied Grants</b>		1,643.56
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<u>\$44,578.58</u>	<u>\$58,772.80</u>
<b>Other Expenses</b>		\$887.00
Accounting Software Expenses		
Advertising & Publicity	\$131.82	
Annual report	75.00	78.00
Bank Fees	1,194.95	1,200.64
Depreciation Expense	4,787.00	5,699.00
Donations to Individuals & Organisations	300.00	500.00
First Aid Supplies	71.45	
FNCV Mugs	638.18	613.44
Gas, Electricity, Water	1,247.02	1,492.53
Gift Certificates		64.00
Hall Cleaning	1,260.00	1,320.00
Insurance	4,190.91	4,036.36
Internet Provider & Virus Scan	693.00	693.00
Kitchen & Bathroom Supplies	337.72	331.55
Library Expenses & Subscriptions	1,281.66	859.16
Non-Library Subscriptions	270.54	174.27
Office Postage & Post Box Hire	1,638.91	1,567.23
Office Stationery etc	1,477.16	543.42
Office Telephone	640.31	937.35
Repairs & Maintenance - General	831.99	1,634.99
Repairs & Maintenance - Office Equipment	1,420.72	392.96
Rates - Council	1,267.65	548.00
Rates - Maryborough Property	406.90	257.45
Special Interest Group Expenses	374.35	218.93
Sundry Expenses	112.50	261.59
Superannuation & Workers Comp	2,232.38	2,677.45
Wages & Salaries	23,614.10	26,631.50
Total Other Expenses	<u>50,496.22</u>	<u>53,619.82</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$73,480.08</u>	<u>\$77,803.18</u>
<b>OPERATING (LOSS) / PROFIT</b>	<u><b>-\$5,917.64</b></u>	<u><b>\$5,152.98</b></u>

**THE FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007**

	2007	2006
		\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Bank of Melbourne Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account - Note (3)	\$37,931.48	\$30,802.08
The Environment Fund Account - Note (3)	\$2,142.63	\$2,800.11
Petty Cash	\$50.00	\$50.00
Interest Receivable (3a)		\$1,471.02
Stock Lenses - Note (4)	\$35.00	\$96.00
Inventories (Books for Sale) - Note (4)	\$5,169.20	\$5,251.25
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$45,328.31</b>	<b>\$40,470.46</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>		
<b>Investments</b>		
Bendigo Bank Term Deposits - Note (5)	\$101,016.65	\$94,797.61
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)	\$20,220.00	\$20,220.00
	\$280,319.24	\$274,100.20
Library Holdings - Note (6)	\$49,747.30	\$49,522.44
	<b>\$330,066.54</b>	<b>\$323,622.64</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)	\$71,893.51	\$70,118.99
Less Accumulated Depreciation - Note (8)	-\$54,755.74	-\$49,968.74
	<b>\$241,037.77</b>	<b>\$244,050.25</b>
Total Non current Assets	<b>\$571,104.31</b>	<b>\$567,672.89</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$616,432.62</b>	<b>\$608,143.35</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Sundry Creditors - Note (9)	6326.00	\$4,213.82
GST Paid - GST Collected	\$1,366.63	\$2,260.89
Grants Held for 2007- Note (9)	\$20,337.38	\$6,690.91
Funds Held in Trust - Note (9)	\$271.00	\$271.00
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$28,301.01</b>	<b>\$13,436.62</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$588,131.61</b>	<b>\$594,706.73</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
<b>Members Accumulated Funds</b>		
Current Year Loss/Earnings	-\$5,917.64	\$5,152.98
General Fund b/f - Note (10)	\$550,692.12	\$545,539.14
	<b>\$544,774.48</b>	<b>\$550,692.12</b>
<b>Total Specific Funds</b>		
Marine Research Fund	\$25,433.75	\$25,433.75
Fauna Survey Equipment Fund - Note (11)	548.75	548.75
FNCV Environment Fund - Note (11)	\$2,142.63	\$2,800.11
Asset Revaluation Reserve	\$13,187.00	\$13,187.00
FNCV Juniors	\$2,045.00	\$2,045.00
<b>TOTAL MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b>\$588,131.61</b>	<b>\$594,706.73</b>

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2007

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 2007+A38 (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 2007

3. CASH	2007	2006
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account	\$37,931.48	\$30,802.08
Environment Fund A/c - Bank Melb.	\$2,142.63	\$2,800.11
Petty Cash	\$50.00	\$50.00
	<u>\$40,124.11</u>	<u>\$33,652.19</u>
3a. Interest Receivable	\$0.00	<u>\$1,471.02</u>
4. STOCKS		
Stock Lenses	\$35.00	\$96.00
Books for sale at lower of Cost or Net Realisable Value	<u>\$5,169.20</u>	<u>\$5,251.25</u>
5. INVESTMENTS		
Bendigo Bank Term Deposits	\$101,016.65	\$94,797.61
Esanda Finance Corporation Unsecured Notes	\$105,231.59	\$105,231.59
General Property Trust Units - at cost (Market Value \$36450)	\$23,851.00	\$23,851.00
Australian Ethical Investments at cost (Market Value \$29288)	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Shares in Australian Foundation (Market Value \$30600)	<u>\$20,220.00</u>	<u>\$20,220.00</u>
	<u>\$280,319.24</u>	<u>\$274,100.20</u>
6. Library - Books and Journals at Council Valuation 23/5/95 plus additions at cost	<u>\$49,747.30</u>	<u>\$49,522.44</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	\$71,893.51	\$70,118.99
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>-\$54,755.74</u>	<u>-\$49,968.74</u>
	<u>\$17,137.77</u>	<u>\$20,150.25</u>
9. CREDITORS & PROVISIONS		
Sundry Trade Creditors	\$1,820.00	\$1,939.00
Creditor FNCV Environment Fund	\$2,406.00	\$1,743.09
Creditor ANHM	<u>\$2,100.00</u>	<u>\$531.73</u>
	<u>\$6,326.00</u>	<u>\$4,213.82</u>
Grants Held for 2008		
Land Care Grass Roots - Botany SIG, for Clyde Reserve	\$6,100.00	\$3,100.00
WWF Australia - Botany SIG, for Clyde Reserve	\$3,590.91	\$3,590.91
Department of Sustainability Botany SIG for Clyde Reserve	\$4,000.00	
City of Whitehorse Water Conservation Grant	\$500.00	
Norman Wettanhall Foundation grant for digitizing Vic Nat.	<u>\$6,146.47</u>	
	<u>\$20,337.38</u>	<u>\$6,690.91</u>
Funds Held in Trust	<u>\$271.00</u>	<u>\$271.00</u>
MEMBERS ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
10. GENERAL FUND		
Balance Brought Forward	\$550,692.12	\$545,539.14
Less Net Loss	<u>-\$5,917.64</u>	<u>\$5,152.98</u>
Balance at 31 December 2007	<u>\$544,774.48</u>	<u>\$550,692.12</u>
11. SPECIFIC FUNDS		
<i>FNCV Environment Fund</i>		
Balance Brought Forward	\$2,800.11	\$3,379.91
Add Donations	1950.09	
Less Grants	<u>-\$2,614.50</u>	<u>-\$579.80</u>
Add Net Interest Earned	<u>\$6.93</u>	
Balance at 31 December 07	<u>\$2,142.63</u>	<u>\$2,800.11</u>

**FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT For the Year Ended 31 December 2007**  
**for The Bendigo Bank Account No 123098725**

	2007	2006
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Inflows Net Inflows from Operations	16,242.08	\$6,676.34
GST (net change)	(\$894.26)	\$1,496.71
<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operations</b>	<b><u>\$15,347.82</u></b>	<b><u>\$8,173.05</u></b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Outflows Equipment Purchases	(\$1,774.52)	(\$4,006.00)
Library Book Purchases	(\$224.86)	(\$316.01)
Transfer to Bendigo Bank Term Deposit	(\$6,219.04)	(\$12,315.46)
Petty Cash Float	<u>\$0</u>	<u>(\$50.00)</u>
<b>Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities</b>	<b><u>(\$8,218.42)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$16,687.47)</u></b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Grant Knox Enviro Society-FSG for Infra Red Camera	0	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
<b>CHANGE IN FNCV CHEQUE A/C BALANCE for year</b>	<b><u>\$7,129.40</u></b>	<b><u>(\$6,514.42)</u></b>
Bendigo/Bank Melb Cheque Acc Balances Start Year	<u>\$30,802.08</u>	<u>\$37,316.50</u>
Bendigo Bank Cheque Account Balance End Year	<u>\$37,931.48</u>	<u>\$30,802.08</u>
 Note 1		
Reconciliation of Net Profit with Cash Flow from Operations		
Net (Loss) Profit	-\$5,917.64	\$5,152.98
add decrease in inventory & FNCV merchandise	\$143.05	\$102.65
add depreciation	\$4,787.00	\$5,699.00
add decrease in interest receivable	\$1,471.02	(\$1,471.02)
add increase in creditors	\$2,112.18	(\$1,998.18)
add increase in grants received in advance	<u>\$13,646.47</u>	<u>(\$809.09)</u>
<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operations</b>	<b><u>\$16,242.08</u></b>	<b><u>\$6,676.34</u></b>

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 2008. 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 2008 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 2008 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Signed:

Susan J. Harkin, CPA  
Honorary Auditor

9<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
Blackburn

---