



The Clematis

The Quarterly Newsletter of the
Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club Inc. A0006074C
P.O. Box 563, Bairnsdale Victoria 3875 www.bairnsdalefieldnaturalists.com.au

Issue No. 110

Summer 2016/17

Executive 2016/17

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Raymond Creek Falls - see page 12

Photo by Fran Bright

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CORRESPONDENCE TO: The Secretary, P.O. Box 563, Bairnsdale 3875

www.bairnsdalefieldnaturalists.com.au

The Clematis is printed and supported by the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning

MEETINGS

General meetings take place at:

The Noweyung Centre,
84 Goold Street, Bairnsdale
as per program at 7.30pm *sharp*
Committee meetings take place at:
members homes as per
program at 4.00pm

THE CLEMATIS

Responsibility for the accuracy of information and opinions expressed in this newsletter rests with the author of the article.

All articles for Autumn Clematis must be sent to the Newsletter Editor by 1st Mar 2017.

SUBSCRIPTION FEES 2016/17

Single membership	\$30
Family membership	\$45
Mid-year fee (new members only)	\$15

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- To further the awareness and study of all branches of natural history within the East Gippsland community through field excursions, regular surveys, specialist guest speakers and publications.
- To observe and strengthen the laws for the preservation and protection of indigenous flora, fauna, habitat and important geological features.
- To promote the formation and preservation of National and State Parks and Reserves.
- To collaborate with other groups and agencies with similar environmental interest.

LIBRARY INFORMATION - ask a committee member if you would like to borrow a book.

- Books are generally borrowed for one month - however you can write on the sign-out sheet if you wish to have it longer.
- Should any library materials need maintenance, please make a committee member aware of same.
- If you wish to recommend a book, this can be done by writing a short recommendation for the Clematis. This information could be from our library books or from other books that you believe our library could look at purchasing.

FIELD TRIPS

It is your responsibility to contact the coordinator of each field trip to notify them of intention to participate.

The coordinator will notify you if the trip has to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances.

Please take note of safety procedures in your Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club Inc. 'RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY' booklet. This can be downloaded from our web site.

RULES TO OBSERVE DURING FIELD TRIPS

- Excursions are cancelled on days of TOTAL FIRE BAN.
- Participants to keep a visual on the car in front and behind.
- When making a turn, give signal, and stay at intersection until following car has also turned.
- If separated from other cars, stop, and stay with your car. Other members will return to find you.
- The Car Pooling Cost Calculator is used to assist drivers and car pool passengers to share fuel costs.

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY FOR BUSH WALKS

Walks vary in distance from 6 to 14 km.

<i>Easy:</i>	Flat, good firm track.
<i>Moderately easy:</i>	Mostly flat, track in good to fair condition.
<i>Moderate:</i>	May be undulating, track in good to fair condition.
<i>Moderately Difficult:</i>	May be some steep sections, track may be rough in places.
<i>Difficult:</i>	May have long steep sections, track may be non-existent at times.

Contact the leader of the walk for a rating if it's not included in the program.

From the Editor

Many thanks to all our article contributors and photographers for making the Clematis an interesting and informative, reference newsletter. Thank you to the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning for their continuing support in the printing and distribution of the Clematis.

Wishing all our members a joyous Xmas and a safe and happy New Year.

PROGRAMME January to June 2017

PLEASE NOTE: due to difficulties in finalising this program before publication an updated program will be sent to you in January .

Date	Activity	Time	Destination	Meeting Place	Subject/Rated	Leader/Speaker
JANUARY						James Turner
Sat 15 th	Excursion	9.00am	Nunniong Plateau	Bridge Club		
FEBRUARY						Vicki Fraser
Sun 5 th	Juniors	TBA	Blue Pools, Briagolong	All Abilities Playground	Walk and swim	
Thurs 9 th	Comm. meeting	4.00pm	Committee meeting	Pat McPherson's home		
Frid 17 th	General meeting	7.30pm	General meeting	Noweyung Centre	Bairnsdale Field & Game – Macleod's Morass and The Heart Morass	Simon Webster & David Young
Sun 19 th	Excursion	9.00am 9.30am	Tulloch Arm Forest	Bridge Club Red Knob		James Turner
Sun 26 th	Bushwalk	9.00am	Raymond Island	Bridge Club	Easy	Noel Williamson
MARCH						
Sun 5 th	Juniors	TBA	Raymond Island	All Abilities Playground		Vicki Fraser
Thurs 9 th	Comm. meeting	4.00pm	Committee meeting	Margaret Regans's home		
Frid 17 th	General meeting	7.30pm	General meeting	Noweyung Centre	TBA	
Sun 19 th	Excursion	9.00am			TBA	
Sun 26 th	Bushwalk	9.00am	Mitchell River NP	Bridge Club	Moderate	Noel Williamson
APRIL						
Sun 4 th	Juniors		TBA			
Thur 13 th	Comm. meeting	4.00pm	Committee meeting	Pauline Stewart's home		
Frid 21 st	General meeting	7.30pm	General meeting	Noweyung Centre	TBA	
Sun 23 rd	Excursion		Sperm Whale Head		Details to be finalised	
Sun 30 th	Bushwalk	9.00am	Bullumwaal area	Bridge Club	Moderate	Noel Williamson
MAY						
Sun 2 nd	Juniors	TBA	John Herman's home at Waterholes	All Abilities Playground		Vicki Fraser
Thurs 11 th	Comm. meeting	4.00pm	Committee meeting	Jen Wilkinson's home		
Frid 19 th	General meeting	7.30pm	General meeting	Noweyung Centre	TBA	
Sun 21 st	Excursion	9.00am 9.45am	Orbost area	Bridge Club Nowa Nowa store		James Turner
Sun 28 th	Bushwalk	9.00am 9.45am	Mt. Nowa Nowa	Bridge Club Nowa Nowa store	Difficult	Noel Williamson
JUNE						
Sun 6 th	Juniors		TBA			
Sun 18 th	Excursion	9.00am	Lonely Bay	Bridge Club		Marg Regan
Sun 25 th	Bushwalk	9.00am	Providence Ponds	Bridge Club	Easy	Noel Williamson

CONTACTS for Field Trips.

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 Pauline Stewart 5152 1606
 Vicki Fraser m. 0417 586 856

Annual subscriptions are now due for 2017.

Download a membership application form from our web site and send with fees to:

The Treasurer,
 Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club Inc.
 P.O. Box 563,
 Bairnsdale , Vic 3875

BAIRNSDALE & DISTRICT FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB INC**Reg. No. A0006074C****ANNUAL REPORT****for the year ending 30th June 2016**

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club for the financial year 2015-16. It has been another year of innovation and achievement; a year when the Club took another giant leap forward and among other things, formed a Junior Field Naturalist Group.

NEW INITIATIVES**Junior Field Naturalists Group**

The genesis of this initiative came from members whose grandchildren were already enthusiastic about the natural environment and thirsty to expand their knowledge. The Committee embraced the concept and over summer explored governance issues with Consumer Affairs Victoria who administer the Act under which the Club is incorporated and administration and management issues through contact with the Victorian and the Geelong Field Naturalists Clubs, both of whom have junior groups.

All three were extremely helpful.

At the same time, through Andrew Bould, we made contact with a former Club member, Vicki Fraser who had in the past, co-ordinated a group "Kids in Nature" which encouraged children to have an interest in nature by participating in family outings of nature based activities. Vicki responded positively to our offer to put some structure around her group activities and roll it into a junior group for the Field Nats. with her as Co-ordinator.

The junior group was launched on 19th March 2016 with a talk about fossils by Mary and Vara Dharmarajah followed by a highly successful fossil excursion the next day.

By the end of June the group had attracted 46 new family members (parents and children) who have enjoyed a diverse range of natural history excursions and activities.

The group is still a work in progress and we are in the process of equipping it but it has been a real success story so far thanks to the passion, expertise and enthusiasm of Vicki Fraser.

Further field guides

Energised by the success of the Orchid Book, James Turner, Andrew Bould and Jennifer Wilkinson are involved in the preliminary stages of a project to list East Gippsland flora in groupings of Families and Genera according to plant type that could be the subject of future field guides.

Facebook page

Christine Bittner a life long member of the Club through the Lawrence family membership (mother Jenny, brother Alan) has offered to establish and monitor a Facebook page for the Club.

And now the record of routine Club activities for the year.

MEMBERSHIP

Including the above mentioned juniors and their parents we have welcomed **fifty** new members this year and the current membership is 109.

COMMITTEE/CO-ORDINATORS

The Committee of four members and five ordinary members was elected and allocated portfolios at the AGM on 16th October 2015:

- President Pat McPherson
- Vice Presidents Jennifer Wilkinson & Pauline Stewart
- Secretary (Under the Act) Pat McPherson
- Treasurer Margaret Regan

- Botanic Group Co-ordinator James Turner
- Bushwalking Group Co-ordinator Noel Williamson
- Newsletter Editor/Website Co-ordinator Pauline Stewart
- Clerical Support/Club Enquiries Fran Bright
- Librarian Fran Bright

Vicki Fraser was appointed Co-ordinator of the Junior Field Naturalists Group at a general meeting of members on 19th February 2016.

MEETINGS

Nine scheduled committee meetings were held during the year and **eight** general meetings were held and the average attendance was 25 members and visitors who heard excellent guest speakers make the following presentations:

- Simon Robinson *East Gippsland Water Aquifer Storage & Recovery Project*
- John Saxton *Birds around Nicholson*
- Greg Fyfe *Gekoes of Central Australia*
- Bill Kosky *Eremophilas*
- Varo & Mary Dharmarajah *Dinosaur fossils at Winton*
- Jim Reside *Ten years of surveying in the Kimberley*
- Sean Philipson & Jeremy Tscharke *Formation, significance & maintenance of the Silt Jetties at Eagle Point*

A big thank you to Andrew Bould for the informative articles and photographs he prepared for *The News* to promote our guest speakers.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Field excursions/activities

Monthly field excursions were once again ably planned and led by James Turner.

We went to Kenny State Forest in July 2015 and to White Rocks and the Little River area north of Ensay in August.

September saw us poking around Orbost including Corringale Road and Mount Raymond.

October was a busy month for the Club. It started with the Metallic Sun Orchid survey at the Blond Bay Wildlife Reserve which we have been undertaking annually since these rare orchids were discovered by James Turner in 1990. This year (2015) the count was 82 in two plots which were fenced in 1997 and in 2005.

This was followed up by the Spring Camp at Mallacoota in October which involved 4 days of excursions, first in the Cann River area enroute to Mallacoota; in the environs surrounding the town; at Gypsy Point; at Wangarabell and in the Genoa River area on the way home.

In October, Bill Kosky, a Melbourne member of the Club continued to monitor the *Diuris punctata* relocation project that we undertook at Mallacoota Airport in May 2014 prior to major work being undertaken there. He reported 10 and 12 plants in the two relocation plots which he opined are doing well and have been well located but noted that elsewhere at the airport the orchids, whilst present, were in greatly reduced numbers.

On the 14th of November a good turnout of members joined in an ANOS orchid count at Strathfieldsaye where over 4000 Leek orchids were recorded. The regular excursion that month was to Newmerella, Mt Raymond again and Young's Creek Falls.

A special excursion was added to our January 2016 schedule – to Kenny Forest to see a Spotted Hyacinth Orchid, a new one for East Gippsland. The regular monthly excursion was to Fernbank, Clydebank and Hearts Morass.

We were at Mt Baldhead in February; Buchan Caves Reserve in March; Bally Hooley, East Buchan and Basin Falls in April; the Bullumwaal area in May and at Old Man Hill in Sarsfield and the Nicholson River in June.

All these excursions have been documented in Margaret Regan's scholarly reports in the Clematis Newsletter and are available to members on our website.

You will notice that at the end of each report Margaret now summarises all plants (and birds) for easier access. Congratulations Margaret on the quality of these reports, you are a star and thank you James for another wonderful year of discovery.

Excursions of the Junior Group were ably planned and led by Vicki Fraser as follows: Fossil dig at Nowa Nowa; Bush walk with a Birdo at Log Crossing in the Colquhoun Forest; a Fungi Foray at Fairy Dell and Water sampling at Macleods Morass. Vicki's enthusiastic reports of these excursions and happy photos are also included in the Clematis.

Bush walks

Bush walks were ably planned and led by Noel Williamson with the assistance of Pauline Stewart. Over the year we have been to the Bush Family Reserve at Meerlieu; The Sisters north of the old Mitchell River Weir; Blond Bay; Bruthen to Bruthen Trails; Deptford; Davey Knob Track off the Dargo Road and Mt Little Dick back of Bruthen.

Thank you to both Noel and Pauline for your leadership and planning of these walks.

NON-FIELD ACTIVITIES

Orchids of East Gippsland – a field guide

Thus far we have sold 867 copies of the book and have 124 left of which quite a few are still out on consignment. We will soon need more copies. EG Printers now have the capacity to do a small re-print as necessary.

A very big thank you to Pauline Stewart who has managed the sale of these books either directly or through a number of trade outlets near and far. A number of copies have gone to overseas libraries. A mammoth job well done.

This year we have raised another \$4700 through the sale of this book and funds have been earmarked for the printing of further field guides as they are developed. To this end, \$15,000 has been placed in an ING DIRECT Business Term Deposit at 3.2% interest maturing in June 2017.

Club forms

We have used our new Club logo and motto (developed last year by Jennifer Wilkinson) to re-badge our forms and letterhead which enhances our professional image. We have also added the facility on the Membership Application Form for membership fees to be paid directly into our bank account.

Home page

Throughout the year, Jennifer Wilkinson and Pauline Stewart have been revamping and updating our Home page.

The stunning new page reflects Jennifer's artistic expertise and we now have sections for the public as well as a 'members only' section. The public can download the current Clematis Newsletter, Membership Application Form; Risk Management Policy, Basic Medical Report and the Orchid Book Order Form. An index of excursion locations and corresponding Clematis issues as well as past Clematis issues is only available to members via a pin number. Members who have forgotten this pin number can contact Pauline.

Historical records

George and Pauline Stewart have scanned all the quarterly Clematis Newsletters from issue No. 5 and Andrew Bould is well into photographing articles from our old newspaper collections and scanning old Minute and Excursion books.

This is a mammoth task and is on going and we are blessed to have members with the expertise and the commitment to take it on. Sincerest thanks to you all.

First aid course

In May the Club organised a First Aid Course of which nine members took advantage to refresh and upgrade their knowledge and skills. Initiatives that flowed from this include re-equipping our three first aid kits in line with current best practice and the development of an Incident/accident reporting and management process.

New equipment

For security purposes, the Club purchased 2 x two way radios for use on field excursions and bush walks. They were successfully trialled at the Mallacoota Camp. Their use has been included in the Field Trips section of the Risk Management Policy.

Vicki Fraser was successful in obtaining a Victorian Field Naturalists Club Victoria Environment Grant of \$1000 for the purchase of 3 MoticRED20-S dissecting microscopes suitable for children to use in the field. These have proved to be very popular.

Vale Zena Bowden

Zena, along with her husband Cyril was a foundation member of this Club (1962) and although she moved away from East Gippsland many years ago she kept up her Club membership until 2015. Zena helped produce the first Clematis newsletter on an old roneo machine and we still have this historic document. Zena passed away on 9th February 2016 aged 93 years.

THANKS

I close this annual report by recording my thanks to the management of Noweyung for the continued use of their building for our general meetings.

I thank our members for your support and contributions to the activities of the Club during the year. I especially want to thank and to express my deepest appreciation to the Executive and Co-ordinators who, year after year, keep us in business and keep our field work and activities relevant.

Pat McPherson

President



www.bairnsdalefieldnaturalists.com.au

East Gippsland flora and fauna - promote, protect and enjoy

By Margaret Regan

The Metallic Sun-orchid (*Thelymitra epipactoides*) was found growing in the Blond Bay Wildlife Reserve in 1990 by James Turner. It is extinct in NSW, endangered in SA and ??threatened in Victoria. In Victoria, it mostly grows in coastal areas, in heathland, grassland and shrubby woodland, although there are a few inland sites with mallee vegetation. Unfortunately, much of this habitat has been destroyed for agriculture, but the areas are also threatened by weeds (including natives) and grazing animals. The orchid prefers open areas, particularly those that have been recently burnt. This magnificent orchid is one of the largest in Victoria. It can grow to 50cm and has a long strappy leathery grey-green leaf. There can be up to 20 blooms on a stem, and they can be of many colours, such as bronze, pink, blue, green or reddish, with a metallic lustre.

The Department of Name Changes (DELWP) constructed a secure fence around the greatest concentration of the orchids in 1997. A much larger enclosure was built adjoining this in 2005. Unfortunately, this has been breached in many places by wombats, allowing entry of grazing animals. We have seen Wombat, Swamp Rat and Rabbit burrows within the larger enclosure. We have also found the scats of macropods inside this fence. Five wombat swinging gates have now been inserted into the fence. Presumably this now only allows access to wombats. The area was burnt in 1996, 1997, 2000, 2004 and the last time was in 2013. With the lack of burning in recent years, other plants are now dominating the area. Burgan (*Kunzea ericoides*) is taking over in many areas of Blond Bay, and is dense on the eastern area outside the enclosure where we have found orchids in the past.

Numbers of orchids recorded in the area have been 2005 – 261, 2006 – 17, 2007 – 136, 2008 – 20, 2009 – 23, 2011 – 35, 2012 – 60, 2014 – 99, 2015 – 82 and this year 2016 – 46.

Inside the enclosures, the vegetation is dominated by Spiny-headed Mat-rush (*Lomandra longifolia*) and Coarse Twine-rush (*Leptocarpus brownii*). There were the small plants, the red pea Running Postman (*Kennedia prostrata*); and cream Common Rice-flower (*Pimelea humilis*). Apart from Burgan invading there was Sallow Wattle (*Acacia longifolia*) with 2-4-veined phyllodes and flower heads in spikes. In the area to the east of the enclosure were few of the Metallic Sun-orchid, but mauve and white Waxlip (*Glossodia major*) and the tiny yellow and brown pea Creeping Bossiaea (*Bossiaea prostrata*) with rounded leaves. The smaller enclosure is much invaded with larger plants, including the shrubby red and yellow Grey Parrot-pea (*Dillwynia cinerascens*), whose flowers are densely clustered on the stem.

We haven't previously found the Metallic Sun-orchid outside the enclosures on the south side, but one was found struggling up (with open flowers) through earth pounded by vehicles. Along here was also yellow Button Everlasting (*Coronidium scorpioides*); the white lily Milkmaids (*Burchardia umbellata*) whose ovaries are red; ??Yellow Wood-sorrel (*Oxalis corniculata* s.l.); and the tiny starry Golden Weather-glass (*Hypoxis hygrometrica*). Apparently, the seeds of Golden Weather-glass are hygroscopic (absorb moisture), and have been used somehow in amateur weather forecasting!!! On the way back to the cars a Red-bellied Black snake was seen crossing the track!!

At Tussock Swamp were many plants of the lovely blue Spotted Sun-orchid (*Thelymitra ixioides*) with open flowers. There were both spotted and unspotted orchids!! We also saw the upright ovate leaves of Large Tongue-orchid (*Cryptostylis subulata*). A tiny prostrate shrub with trailing branches was found on the track. It was the rare Dwarf Kerrawang (*Commersonia prostrata*) which has ovate leaves with crenate (round teeth) margins. There were two abnormally stunted species of banksia – Silver Banksia (*Banksia marginata*) and Saw Banksia (*B. serrata*). The two species were growing right throughout Blond Bay at their normal heights, but they weren't doing well in the swamp! Perhaps it is lack of available nitrogen. There was lots of Burgan again, but other plants were two heaths - Pink Beard-heath (*Leucopogon ericoides*); and white Daphne Heath (*Brachyloma daphnoides*); two peas - yellow and red Leafless Globe-pea (*Sphaerolobium vimineum*) whose flower calyx (below the petals) has dark dots; and Dwarf Bush-pea (*Pultenaea humilis*); Silky Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia sericea*) whose leaves are covered with silky hairs; and the tiny subshrub White Marianth (*Rhytidosporum procumbens*) with starry flowers.

Further along the track out of Tussock Swamp and in the forest, we were among Black Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*); and the magical Austral Grass-tree (*Xanthorrhoea australis*). On some of the grass-trees, one could see maybe yearly layers of leaves. In the strong wind on the day, the leaves were swaying like the grass skirt of a Pacific Island wahine. Again we found Spotted Sun-orchid and Waxlip, but there was also a surfeit of different finger orchids. These were Fairy Fingers (*Caladenia alata*) which only grows to 10cm with white or pale pink flowers and the labellum has purple stripes with an orange tip; Tiny Fingers (*C. pusilla*) (10cm) with a single very small pink or white flower whose rounded tepals have horizontal pink stripes; Orange-tip Fingers (*C. aurantiaca*) to 15cm with crystalline white flowers whose

labellum has orange calli and tip; and Dusky Fingers (*C. fuscata*) again to 15cm with a single white or pink flower, column and labellum with red stripes and calli yellow. Here also was white Common Heath (*Epacris impressa*); white Common Beard-heath (*Leucopogon virgatus*) whose tubular flowers have very hairy mouths; Bundled Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia fasciculata*) with leaves arranged in clusters; and Thick Twist-rush (*Caustis pentandra*) whose shiny green branchlets are almost straight [compared with the delightful Curly Wig (*C. flexuosa*), which we sometimes see further east on the coast]. The specific name is Greek and refers to the five stamens in the flower.

A little further on again were more orchids with yellow and brown Tiger Orchid (*Diuris sulphurea*), a tall orchid to 50cm with up to 6 flowers with two spots at the base of the dorsal sepals; and Red-beaks (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) which has a large leathery ovate flat leaf and up to 10 white and red-striped flowers with a very hooded pointed dorsal sepal. Fire stimulates flowering. There were also Large Duck-orchid (*Caleana major*) and Small Duck-orchid (*Paracaleana minor*) in bud. Other plants were the small shrubs Nodding Baeckea (*Euryomyrtus ramosissima* subsp. *prostrata*) with hanging white flowers; and Oval-leaf Pseudanthus (*Pseudanthus ovalifolius*) with oval leaves and cream separate male and female flowers; and white Tufted Blue Lily (*Thelionema caespitosum*), named for the tuft of leaves at the base of the plant. The flowers of Tufted Blue Lily always appear to be white when the plant is growing in sand, but are blue when the environment is damp. There was also Tassel Rope-rush (*Hypolaena fastigiata*) which has blue-green stems with brown bracts encircling the stem and terminal clusters of brown female or male flowers. We found a number of specimens of the lovely woody pore-fungus Fairy Stool (*Coltricia cinnamomea*) which is up to 30mm across, shaped like a toadstool with a stalk, and the brown cap is lustrous with shining radial surface hairs. The cap has concentric rings of various browns.

We lunched at Storm Point on Lake Victoria and opposite Loch Sport beneath Rough-barked Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis* subsp. *pryoriana*) which is a favoured feeding tree of the Koala. Its buds and fruits usually occur in threes. Numbers of water birds were fishing and roosting on a nearby spit.

A disappointing day for the Metallic Sun-orchid. Thank you, James, Len and Jacquie.



Typical Blond Bay habitat showing Austral Grass Trees (*Xanthorrhoea australis*)

Photo by Fran Bright

Plants recorded:		Fungus recorded:	
<i>Acacia longifolia</i>	Sallow Wattle	<i>Coltricia cinnamomea</i>	Fairy Stool
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak		
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia	Birds recorded:	
<i>B. serrata</i>	Saw Banksia	Black Swan	Australian Wood Duck
<i>Bossiaea prostrata</i>	Creeping Bossiaea	Pacific Black Duck	Chestnut Teal
<i>Brachyloma daphnoides</i>	Daphne Heath	Little Pied Cormorant	Little Black Cormorant
<i>Burchardia umbellata</i>	Milkmaids	Great Cormorant	Pied Cormorant
<i>Caladenia alata</i>	Fairy Fingers	Australian Pelican	Straw-necked Ibis
<i>C. aurantiaca</i>	Orange-tip Fingers	Whistling Kite	White-bellied Sea-Eagle
<i>C. fuscata</i>	Dusky Fingers	Wedge-tailed Eagle	Masked Lapwing
<i>C. pusilla</i>	Tiny Fingers	Silver Gull	Pacific Gull
<i>Caleana major</i>	Large Duck-orchid	Fairy Tern	Caspian Tern
<i>Caustis pentandra</i>	Thick Twist-rush	Crested Tern	Common Bronzewing
<i>Commersonia prostrata</i>	Dwarf Kerrawang	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Shining Bronze-cuckoo
<i>Coronidium scorpioides</i>	Button Everlasting	Laughing Kookaburra	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo
<i>Cryptostylis subulata</i>	Large Tongue-orchid	Galah	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
<i>Dillwynia cinerascens</i>	Grey Parrot-pea	Crimson Rosella	Eastern Rosella
<i>Diuris sulphurea</i>	Tiger Orchid	Superb Fairy-wren	Eastern Spinebill
<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Noisy Miner
<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> subsp. <i>pyroriana</i>	Rough-barked Manna Gum	Little Wattlebird	Red Wattlebird
<i>Euryomyrtus ramosissima</i> subsp. <i>prostrata</i>	Nodding Baeckea	New Holland Honeyeater	Brown-headed Honeyeater
<i>Glossodia major</i>	Waxlip	Spotted Pardalote	White-browed Scrubwren
<i>Hibbertia fasciculata</i>	Bundled Guinea-flower	Brown Thornbill	Australian Magpie
<i>H. sericea</i>	Silky Guinea-flower	Grey Currawong	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
<i>Hypoxis hygrometrica</i>	Golden Weather-glass	Grey Shrike-thrush	Golden Whistler
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman	Rufous Whistler	Grey Fantail
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Burgan	Magpie-lark	Australian Raven
<i>Leptocarpus brownii</i>	Coarse Twine-rush	Eastern Yellow Robin	Welcome Swallow
<i>Leucopogon ericoides</i>	Pink Beard-heath	Silvereye	Common Starling
<i>L. virgatus</i>	Common Beard-heath		
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush		
<i>Oxalis corniculata</i> s.l.	Yellow Wood-sorrel		Fairy Stool
<i>Paracaleana minor</i>	Small Duck-orchid		
<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower		
<i>Pseudoanthus ovalifolius</i>	Oval-leaf Pseudanthus		
<i>Pultenaea humilis</i>	Dwarf- Bush-pea		
<i>Pyrorchis nigricans</i>	Red-beaks		
<i>Rhynchospora procumbens</i>	White Marianth		
<i>Sphaerolobium vimineum</i>	Leafless Globe-pea		
<i>Thelionema caespitosum</i>	Tufted Blue Lily		
<i>Thelymitra epipactoides</i>	Metallic Sun-orchid		
<i>T. ixioides</i>	Spotted Sun-orchid		
<i>Xanthorrhoea australis</i>	Austral Grass-tree		

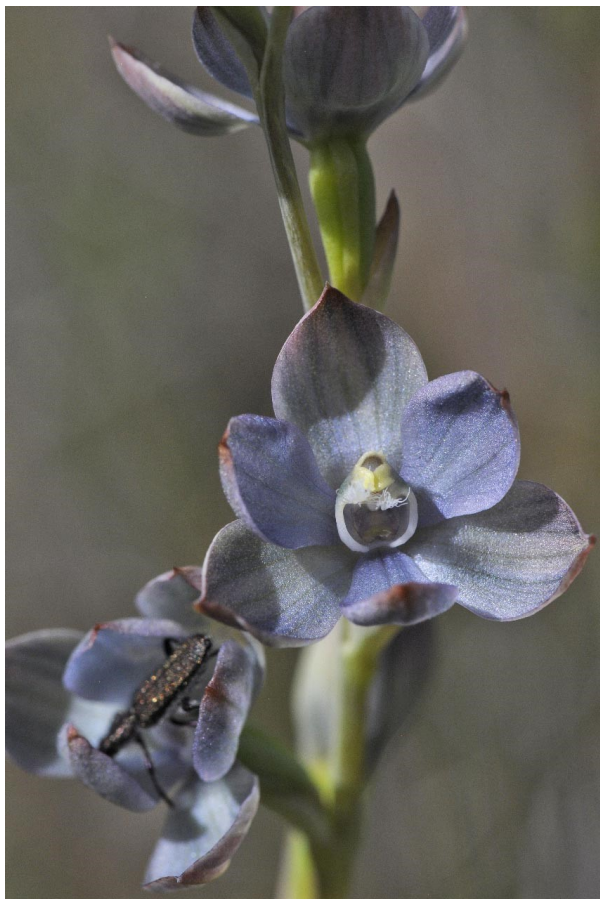


Orange-tip Fingers (*Caladenia aurantiaca*)

Photo by Dianne Weir



Red Beaks (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) Photo by Dianne Weir



Metallic Sun-orchid (*Thelymitra epipactoides*)

Photo by Dianne Weir



Searching for Metallic Sun-orchids

Photo by Fran Bright

On the way to Orbost we made a slight detour north along Wairewa Road to its junction with Smith Close. An overhanging tree was Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus tricarpa*). The two orchids found were yellow and brown Tiger Orchid (*Diuris sulphurea*); and Brown Beard-orchid (*Calochilus robertsonii*) whose perianth segments are green with reddish stripes and the labellum central section has long purple brown hairs. Other small plants were purple Hairy Fan-flower (*Scaevola ramosissima*); Creamy Candles (*Stackhousia monogyna*); cream Common Rice-flower (*Pimelea humilis*); mauve and white Ivy-leaved Violet (*Viola hederacea*); Grey Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia obtusifolia*); brown Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda australis*); the lilies Milkmaids (*Burchardia umbellata*); and Nodding Blue Lily (*Stypandra glauca*); and the daisies mauve Tufted Daisy (*Brachyscome scapigera*) with a tuft of leaves at the base; and yellow Button Everlasting (*Coronidium scorpioides*). A number of the interesting tiny orange fungal fruiting bodies Golden Jelly-bells (*Heterotextus miltinus*) were found on a fallen branch. They are gelatinous with a high water content. The cone-shaped body is suspended from a stalk. Inside the branch will be a web-like mass of thread-like filaments called hyphae. These hyphae are decomposing the wood, and only the fruiting body appears, bearing the spores to disperse the fungus.

After picking up more Field Nats in Orbost, we proceeded north along Yalmy Road to Moresford Road. Our first stop here was among the wonderful gnarled Silver-leaved Stringybark (*Eucalyptus conspicua*) which seem to favour damp sites. A taller shrub was Bushy Needlewood (*Hakea decurrens*) with mainly white, sweetly scented flowers. A pea shrub was yellow and orange Gorse Bitter-pea (*Daviesia ulicifolia*) whose leaves are modified to narrow pointed phyllodes (leaf stalks). There was white Common Heath (*Epacris impressa*); Blue Dampiera (*Dampiera stricta*); Thatch Saw-sedge (*Gahnia radula*) whose dark brown inflorescence droops to one side; and the carnivorous white Tiny Sundew (*Drosera pygmaea*) with a basal rosette (to 15mm) of pink round leaves covered with sticky hairs for trapping insects. The only orchid found was the pretty mauve and white Waxlip (*Glossodia major*).

We drove further to the Raymond Creek Falls in the Snowy River National Park. Raymond Creek flows through a minor gorge down to the Snowy River and enters just near Basin Creek Falls. From the picnic area, we walked to see the falls. Along the track to the top of the falls and down to the pool, of course we botanised. Orchids were again Tiger Orchid and Waxlip, but also Pink Fingers (*Caladenia carnea*) and Maroonhood (*Pterostylis pedunculata*). Almost in the water which was high, was pink Common Fringe-myrtle (*Calytrix tetragona*) whose flowers' sepals have long thread-like awns; and Forest or Pink Boronia (*Boronia muelleri*) which has pinnate or divided leaves. Daisies were again Button Everlasting; and the shrub to 2.5m, white and yellow Dusty Daisy-bush (*Olearia phlogopappa*) whose leaves have whitish hairs beneath. Other shrubs were Rock Wax-flower (*Philotheca trachyphylla*) with starry white flowers and oblong warty leaves; yellow Hop Goodenia (*Goodenia ovata*); Woolly Pomaderris (*Pomaderris lanigera*) with yellow flowers and ovate hairy leaves; and Pink-bells (*Tetradthea ciliata*), where the flower stalks have a few gland-tipped hairs. Smaller plants were purple Showy Violet (*Viola betonicifolia*); White Marianth (*Rhytidisporum procumbens*) with 3-toothed-tipped leaves; white Tall Sundew (*Drosera peltata* subsp. *auriculata*); and Small Poranthera (*Poranthera microphylla*) which has white flowers in clusters. Lilies were yellow Bulbine Lily (*Bulbine bulbosa*); and white One-flower Early Nancy (*Wurmbea uniflora*) which has usually a single flower where the nectaries on the tepals (petals and sepals) are white. The Early Nancy (*W. dioica*) we commonly see, has multiple flowers with red nectaries on the tepals. There was also Small Grass-tree (*Xanthorrhoea minor*); the small climber Common Apple-berry (*Billardiera scandens*) with lemon hanging tubular flowers; and Tailed Rapier-sedge (*Lepidosperma urophorum*) which has inflorescence stalks to over 150cm and slender inflorescences. One fungus was Split Gill (*Schizophyllum commune*) with densely hairy fan-shaped cream caps with lateral stems and double-edged gills. The spores from this fungus should be avoided – it is known to cause human respiratory problems. Another species of fungus was a tiny red bonnet (*Mycena* sp.), whose fruiting bodies were just unfolding.

The creek itself was flowing rapidly and water was streaming through the vegetation into the creek. The main fall was thundering – eat your heart out Niagara Falls!! It falls 20m into a deep pool. The water was brown with the silt being carried down the creek, and the volume of water plus the 20m drop caused a mist to form over part of the pool. The crest of the waterfall is associated with a change in the physical characters of the rocks from volcanics to sediments. Near the falls an Eastern Yellow-bellied Water Skink and a Jacky Lizard were seen. The Jacky Lizard is one of the dragons. It is grey to brown with black patches and pale stripes and rows of spiny scales along its body. They feed on insects and other small creatures.

On leaving the picnic area we stopped at the corner to see Mountain Greenhood (*Pterostylis alpina*) whose single flower has a basal rosette of leaves, with the flower having backswept lateral sepals and a protruding labellum. There was also mauve Twining Fringe Lily (*Thysanotus patersonii*) whose gorgeous flowers have fringed petals; and some buttercups (*Ranunculus* sp.).

On the way home along Morseford Road, we stopped a further three times to see what was flowering. At the first stop were the daisies, the shrub Snowy Daisy-bush (*Olearia lirata*); tiny Blue Bottle-daisy (*Lagenophora stipitata*); and yellow Showy Podolepis or Copper-wire Daisy (*Podolepis jaceoides*). Showy Podolepis has large inflorescences where the outer ray florets have 3-lobed rays and the inflorescences are borne on thin dark stems. There was also a white Blue Dampiera, Creamy Candles, the tiny yellow pea Creeping Bossiaea (*Bossiaea prostrata*) with rounded leaves and cream Dwarf Mat-rush (*Lomandra nana*).

The second stop was a sea of orange and blue beneath Silver-leaved Stringybark. The blue was Blue Dampiera, whilst the orange was Showy Parrot-pea (*Dillwynia sericea*), a shrub to 1m, with rough leaves and flowers forming dense inflorescences. Many plants were covered in the small semiparasitic leafless climber Slender Dodder-laurel (*Cassytha glabella*). Although the stems are green, and therefore photosynthesizing and making the plants' own carbohydrates, it taps into the water system of the plant it is climbing, taking water and minerals. Here was once again the orchid Waxlip, but Audrey's very sharp eyes discovered its much more rarely seen partner, purple Small Waxlip (*Glossodia minor*). Its flower is half the size of Waxlip, and the labellum is purple with a basal black callus, whilst the labellum of Waxlip is mauve and white, with a basal yellow callus. There was also the tiny Screw fern (*Lindsaea linearis*). A Painted Lady butterfly was noticed. It has pale brown under wings and a pattern of orange and brown on the upper wings, with tiny blue eyespots on the hindwings. The larvae are brown and spiky with a pale yellow stripe along each side, and feed on daisies. This whole area had been severely burnt in the wildfires of 2014, including the Raymond Creek Falls picnic area.

Our last stop a little further on was to see a rare pea which was the bush-pea (*Pultenaea parrisiae*), a small shrub with trailing branches to 60cm and yellow and red pea flowers.

A wonderful day, thank you James, and although it rained on the way to Orbost, it was fine thereafter. Thanks also to Len, Jacque and John for the bird list.



Jacky Lizard (*Amphibolurus muricatus*)

Photo by Fran Bright

Plants noted:		<i>Stypandra glauca</i>	Nodding Blue Lily
<i>Boronia muelleri</i>	Forest or Pink Boronia	<i>Tetradlea ciliata</i>	Pink-bells
<i>Bossiaea prostrata</i>	Creeping Bossiaea	<i>Themeda australis</i>	Kangaroo Grass
<i>Brachyscome scapigera</i>	Tufted Daisy	<i>Thysanotus patersonii</i>	Twining Fringe Lily
<i>Bulbine bulbosa</i>	Bulbine Lily	<i>Viola betonicifolia</i>	Showy Violet
<i>Burchardia umbellata</i>	Milkmaids	<i>V. hederacea</i>	Ivy-leaved Violet
<i>Caladenia carnea</i>	Pink Fingers	<i>Wurmbea uniflora</i>	One-flower Early Nancy
<i>Calochilus robertsonii</i>	Brown Beard-orchid	<i>Xanthorrhoea minor</i>	Small Grass-tree
<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	Common Fringe-myrtle		
<i>Cassytha glabella</i>	Slender Dodder-laurel	Fungi seen:	
<i>Coronidium scorpioides</i>	Button Everlasting	<i>Heterotextus multinus</i>	Golden Jelly-bells
<i>Dampiera stricta</i>	Blue Dampiera	<i>Mycena</i> sp.	A bonnet
<i>Daviesia ulicifolia</i>	Gorse Bitter-pea	<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	Splitgill
<i>Dillwynia sericea</i>	Showy Parrot-pea		
<i>Diuris sulphurea</i>	Tiger Orchid	Reptiles:	
<i>Drosera peltata</i> subsp. <i>auricula-</i>	Tall Sundew	Eastern Yellow-bellied Water	Jacky Lizard
<i>D. pygmaea</i>	Tiny Sundew		
<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath	Butterfly:	
<i>Eucalyptus conspicua</i>	Silver-leaved Stringybark	Painted Lady	
<i>E. tricarpa</i>	Red Ironbark		
<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge	Birds seen or heard:	
<i>Glossodia major</i>	Waxlip	Australian Wood Duck	Pacific Black Duck
<i>G. minor</i>	Small Waxlip	Wonga Pigeon	Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo
<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Hop Goodenia	Gang-gang Cockatoo	Crimson Rosella
<i>Hakea decurrens</i>	Bushy Needlewood	Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Shining Bronze-Cuckoo
<i>Hibbertia obtusifolia</i>	Grey Guinea-flower	Laughing Kookaburra	Sacred Kingfisher
<i>Lepidosperma urophorum</i>	Tailed Rapier-sedge	Superb Lyrebird	White-throated Treecreeper
<i>Lindsaea linearis</i>	Screw fern	Satin Bowerbird	Superb Fairy-wren
<i>Lomandra nana</i>	Dwarf Mat-rush	Brown Thornbill	Spotted Pardalote
<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Dusty Daisy-bush	Striated Pardalote	Yellow-faced Honeyeater
<i>Philothea trachyphlla</i>	Rock Wax-flower	White-eared Honeyeater	Yellow-tufted Honeyeater
<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower	Red Wattlebird	White-naped Honeyeater
<i>Poranthera microphylla</i>	Small Poranthera	Eastern Whipbird	Spotted Quail-thrush
<i>Pultenaea parrisiae</i>	A bush-pea	Golden Whistler	Rufous Whistler
<i>Pterostylis alpina</i>	Mountain Greenhood	Grey Shrike-thrush	Olive-backed Oriole
<i>P. pedunculata</i>	Maroonhood	Dusky Woodswallow	Australian Magpie
<i>Ranunculus</i> sp.	A buttercup	Pied Currawong	Grey Fantail
<i>Rhytidosporum procumbens</i>	White Marianth	Australian Raven	Satin Flycatcher
<i>Scaevola ramosissima</i>	Hairy Fan-flower	Scarlet Robin	Eastern Yellow Robin
<i>Stackhousia monogyne</i>	Cream Candles	Welcome Swallow	Silvereye



Native bees on *Podolepis* sp.

Photo by Dianne Laws



Showy Violet (*Viola betonicifolia*)

Photo by Fran Bright



Old Lady Moth (*Dasypteria selenophora*)

Photo by Fran Bright



Hop Bitter Pea (*Daviesia latifolia*)

Photo by Fran Bright

WON RON STATE FOREST - 18 September 2016

By Margaret Regan

On a cold and unfortunately rather damp day, many Field Nats travelled to Woodside on the South Gippsland Highway to be met by Kath from Morwell, who had arranged a day for us in the lovely Won Ron State Forest. Won Ron occupies 6700 hectares, with several different ecological vegetation classes. On higher drier sandy areas there are plants such as Yellow Stringybark (*Eucalyptus muellerana*) and Black Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*), with Austral bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*) as part of the understorey. The damper low-lying areas have species such as Manna Gum (*E. viminalis*), Mountain Grey Gum (*E. cypellocarpa*), Swamp Paperbark (*Melaleuca ericifolia*) and a variety of sedges (Cyperaceae family). The first inhabitants of the area were the Brataualoong people. For thousands of years they gathered fish and shellfish from coastal waters, and used the game from the forest for food, and the timber, for shelters, canoes and tools.

We drove into the Won Ron forest along Napier Road. At our first stop, as was the case at all our stops, there were many finger orchids (*Caladenia* spp.) in bloom. Here were both Pink Fingers (*Caladenia carnea*) and White Fingers (*C. catenata*). Both Pink and White Fingers can be pink or white. The flower of Pink Fingers has horizontal red bars across the labellum and column, whilst the flower of White Fingers has a plain red column and its white labellum has an orange tip. One of the White Fingers had its lateral sepals crossed beneath the flower, so it was suggested this be renamed "Dancing Fingers". Other orchids were purple and white Waxlip (*Glossodia major*); Alpine or Mountain Greenhood (*Pterostylis alpina*) whose usually single flower has very swept back lateral sepals and a protruding labellum; Nodding Greenhood (*P. nutans*) and Mayfly Orchid (*Acianthus caudatus*). Mayfly Orchid has up to 9 dark purplish flowers with incredibly long (for the size of the flower) fine tepals (up to 30mm). Taller shrubs were the small Scrub Sheoak (*Allocasuarina paludosa*) and Hedge Wattle (*Acacia paradoxa*), which is prickly and has undulate asymmetric phyllodes and single globular flower heads in the axils of the phyllodes. Smaller shrubs were white Common Heath (*Epacris impressa*); two guinea-flowers, Rough Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia aspera*) with minutely rough ovate leaves; and Erect Guinea-flower (*H. riparia*) whose narrower hairy leaves have very incurved margins; and cream Common Rice-flower (*Pimelea humilis*). A lily was white Early Nancy (*Wurmbea dioica*), the plants of which can be either monoecious (plants whose flowers have both male and female parts) or dioecious (plants which are either male or female). Plants here seemed to be either male (with the flowers only having stamens with pollen) or female (with the flowers only having ovaries, style and stigma). Other small plants were Tall Sundew (*Drosera peltata* subsp. *auriculata*) and Wattle Mat-rush (*Lomandra filiformis*). There were fungi also seen during the day. Here was brown Fringed Polypore (*Polyporus arcularius*) on a dead branch. It has thin tough leathery convex caps to 50mm and coffin-shaped pores beneath the cap. The edge of the cap is fringed. On another piece of dead wood were the tiny Golden Jelly-bells (*Heterotextus militinus*). Birds seen or heard were Spotted Pardalote, White-eared Honeyeater, Grey Shrike-thrush and Pied Currawong.

Further along Napier Road was White Woman's Waterhole. Legend has it that this woman was the sole survivor of a local shipwreck, who was taken in by the aborigines who used this waterhole. She engraved a message on a tree, which was seen by a passing stockman. The lady was rescued and later returned to England. There is a toilet, picnic facilities and a camping area at the waterhole. We followed one of the tracks from the waterhole, botanising along the way. One of the overhead trees Messmate (*Eucalyptus obliqua*), was in flower and attracting noisy Rainbow Lorikeets. The roadside was covered with May Gibbs' "tutus"!! Three of the wattles blooming were Spreading Wattle (*Acacia genistifolia*) whose phyllodes are reduced to sharp spines and the globular flower heads are 2-4 per axil; Prickly Moses (*A. verticillata*) whose sharp phyllodes are arranged in whorls of six on the stem and the flowers are in spikes; and Cinnamon Wattle (*A. leprosa* var. *graveolens*) whose phyllodes have 2 nerves. Other shrubs were the peas, purple Austral Indigo (*Indigofera australis*) which has soft pinnate leaves with up to 25 leaflets; and yellow and red Common Flat-pea (*Platylobium parviflorum*) with ovate pointed opposite leaves; Golden Grevillea (*Grevillea chrysophaea*); and Dusty Miller (*Spyridium parvifolium*) which has tiny cream flowers above larger whitish floral bracts. "Parvi" is Latin for small. There was also pink Common Heath; and Hairy Pink-bells (*Tetratea pilosa*). There were a number of creepers or climbers. The peas were pale purple delicate Twining Glycine (*Glycine clandestina*); small red Running Postman (*Kennedia prostrata*); and robust Purple Coral-pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*). Other climbers were tiny blue Love Creeper (*Comesperma volubile*); white and yellow Mountain Clematis (*Clematis aristata*); and white and deep pink Wonga-vine (*Pandorea pandorana*) whose tubular flowers have pink spotted hairy insides. Herbaceous plants were mauve and white Ivy-leaved Violet (*Viola hederacea*); Creamy Candles (*Stackhousia monogyna*); and mauve Spoon Daisy (*Brachyscome spathulata*) with long basal leaves with rounded teeth.

The orchids here were Pink Fingers, White Fingers and Cobra Greenhoods (*Pterostylis grandiflora*). Bracken was ubiquitous, but there was also tiny Screw fern (*Lindsaea linearis*). Fungi were the always seen Scarlet Bracket (*Pycnoporus coccineus*); and some small black gilled convex fungi with caps about 2-3cm across which may have been Dark Blue Pinkgill (*Entoloma moongum*) Birds noted here were Sulphur-crested Cockatoo, White-naped, Yellow-faced and Crescent Honeyeater, Golden Whistler and Grey Shrike-thrush.

A little further west on Napier Road we searched near the Old Railway walking track, which followed a section of the Great Southern Railway. The Great Southern Railway opened in 1892, branching from the Gippsland line at Dandenong, and extending to Port Albert. Presumably the walking track was over the branch line to Woodside. Here the orchids were again Pink and White Fingers, and Nodding Greenhood, and some tiny unknown spider orchids related to Southern Spider-orchid (*Caladenia australis*). Common Correa (*Correa reflexa*) was in full bloom with its hanging tubular red and green flowers. There was an attractive orange bracket fungus whose brackets were edged with yellow. Birds were Fantail Cuckoo, and Scarlet and Yellow Robin.

On to Dog Trap Road where there were more finger orchids, some of which may have been hybrids, but two distinct new species were Dusky Fingers (*Caladenia fuscata*) and Clark's Caladenia (*C. clarkiae*) named for a very keen orchid naturalist and previous member of our club, Ruth Clark! Dusky Fingers can be pink or white; the column and labellum have red transverse stripes, and the labellum calli are yellow. Clark's Caladenia is one of the hooded Caladenias where the dorsal sepal is arched over the column. The tepals, whether white or pink, have pink tips and the labellum has a purple apex. Another orchid we saw many times was again the Mayfly Orchid. One non-orchid plant noted was purple Twining Fringe Lily (*Thysanotus patersonii*) whose flowers have gorgeous fringed petals. A bird here was Noisy Miner, which may explain why no other birds were noted. To the east of White Woman's Waterhole and still off Napier Road we again walked along the overgrown raised Old Railway walking track. Here were again lots of fingers, Mayfly Orchid and Nodding Greenhood. New orchids were Maroonhood (*Pterostylis pedunculata*); and Tall Greenhood (*P. melagramma*), and one most of us were not familiar with was Southern Spider-orchid. Its labellum is dark red and the sepals have prominent red clubs. Two fungi were Pizza Caps or Vermilion Grisette to non-locals (*Amanita xanthocephala*), a small gilled fruiting body with an orange cap with white scales; and tiny brown vegetable caterpillars of the genus *Cordyceps*. This is a genus of highly specialised fungi that parasitise the larvae of insects. Spores of the fungus penetrate the soil and infect the larvae, consuming their soft tissue. The fungus then sends out a stalk from behind the head of the larva which grows up through the soil, to produce a fertile club (with more spores) above the ground. The ones we saw looked like brown matches protruding out of the soil, and were probably Fawn Vegetable Caterpillar (*Cordyceps menesteridis*) which is found on beetle larvae. When dug up, the exoskeleton of the unfortunate larva was revealed!!

A little further east along Napier Road on the roadside was again Clark's Caladenia and Southern Spider-orchid, but also Brown-beaks (*Lyperanthus suaveolens*). Brown-beaks has a flowering stem to 45cm with up to 8 brown or greenish flowers with narrow incurved tepals and a yellow labellum which curves under. Also flowering was the hemi-parasite Drooping Mistletoe (*Amyema pendulum*) which has candelabra-like groups of red flowers whose petals curl backwards at the tip; and the pea with mostly yellow flowers, Showy Bossiaea (*Bossiaea cinerea*) whose leaves are nearly triangular and pointed. Further along was our last orchid, Thick-lip Spider-orchid (*Caladenia tessellata*). Its tepals are shorter and broader than most spider-orchids and the broad labellum has a central group of glossy purple calli. There were at least 15 different orchid species on the day, not counting unknowns and hybrids.

Many thanks to Kath for sharing her more local environment.



Mayfly Orchid (*Acianthus caudatus*)

Photo by Dianne Weir

Plants seen:		<i>Lindsaea linearis</i>	Screw fern
<i>Acacia genistifolia</i>	Spreading Wattle	<i>Lomandra filiformis</i>	Wattle Mat-rush
<i>A. leprosa</i> var. <i>graveolens</i>	Cinnamon Wattle	<i>Lyperanthus suaveolens</i>	Brown-beaks
<i>A. paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle	<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark
<i>A. verticillata</i>	Prickly Moses	<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga-vine
<i>Acianthus caudatus</i>	Mayfly Orchid	<i>Platylobium parviflorum</i>	Common Flat-pea
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral bracken
<i>A. paludosa</i>	Scrub Sheoak	<i>Pterostylis alpina</i>	Alpine or Mountain Greenhood
<i>Amyema pendulum</i>	Drooping Mistletoe	<i>P. grandiflora</i>	Cobra Greenhood
<i>Bossiaea cinerea</i>	Showy Bossiaea	<i>P. melagramma</i>	Tall Greenhood
<i>Brachyscome spathulata</i>	Spoon Daisy	<i>P. nutans</i>	Nodding Greenhood
<i>Caladenia australis</i>	Southern Spider-orchid		
<i>C. carnea</i>	Pink Fingers	<i>P. pedunculata</i>	Maroonhood
<i>C. catenata</i>	White Fingers	<i>Spyridium parvifolium</i>	Dusty Miller
<i>C. clarkiae</i>	Clark's Caladenia	<i>Tetratheca pilosa</i>	Hairy Pink-bells
<i>C. fuscata</i>	Dusky Fingers	<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Ivy-leaved Violet
<i>C. tessellata</i>	Thick-lip Spider-orchid	<i>Wurmbea dioica</i>	Early Nancy
<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis	Fungi seen:	
<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Common Correa	<i>Amanita xanthocephala</i>	Pizza Cap or Vermilion Grisette
<i>Drosera peltata</i> subsp. <i>auriculata</i>	Tall Sundew	<i>Cordyceps menesteridis</i>	Fawn Vegetable Caterpillar
<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath	<i>Entoloma moongum</i>	Dark Blue Pinkgill
<i>Eucalyptus cypellocarpa</i>	Mountain Grey Gum	<i>Heterotextus miltinus</i>	Golden Jelly-bells
<i>E. muellerana</i>	Yellow Stringybark	<i>Polyporus arcularius</i>	Fringed Polypore
<i>E. obliqua</i>	Messmate	<i>Pycnoporus coccineus</i>	Scarlet Bracket
<i>E. viminalis</i>	Manna Gum	Birds seen or heard:	
<i>Glossodia major</i>	Waxlip	Rainbow Lorikeet	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine	White-eared Honeyeater	White-naped Honeyeater
<i>Grevillea chrysophaea</i>	Golden Grevillea	Yellow-faced Honeyeater	Crescent Honeyeater
<i>Hibbertia aspera</i>	Rough Guinea-flower	Noisy Miner	Spotted Pardalote
<i>H. riparia</i>	Erect Guinea-flower	Grey Shrike-thrush	Golden Whistler
<i>Indigofera australis</i>	Austral Indigo	Fantail Cuckoo	Scarlet Robin
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman	Eastern Yellow Robin	Pied Currawong



Dark Blue Pinkgill (*Entoloma moongum*)

Photo by Dianne Laws



Thick-lip Spider-orchid (*Caladenia tessellata*)

Photo by Dianne Weir



Gum-leaf Skeletoniser (*Uraba lugens*)

Photo by Dianne Laws

Vale

*We are saddened by the passing of two
Club members, our fellow bush souls.
So many fond memories.*



George Stewart

Long-time member, friend and Vice President (1978 - 1986), President (1986 - 1989), Publicity Officer (1977 - 1981), and respected Life Member passed away on 16th October. George was also a valuable support to Pauline in her work as Editor of *The Clematis*.

Our heartfelt condolences to Pauline and the family.



Lindsay Simmons

Our friend and past President Lindsay Simmons passed away on 18th October.

Lindsay joined the Club in 1999 and embraced every aspect of our activities; meetings, bush walks and excursions.

Come rain or shine Lindsay was always there. Our thoughts are with Elise and Lindsay's family at this sad time.

Vale

Barbara Mills

Passed away on the 25th November 2016



A well-respected member from 1991 to 2008, Barbara was a champion of the birds, animals and plants of the Australian bush. There was always fun and laughter when Barbara came along to excursions and camp-outs. Barbara was a co-founder of the Fauna Survey Group and spent happy times with the group out in the field trapping and identifying wildlife.

Our condolences and thoughts go to Barbara's family.

The Newsletter of the Bairnsdale & District

Field Naturalists Club Inc.

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