

INDIGENOTES

Very Useful Indigenous Plants of Victoria: Billy Buttons (*Craspedia* sp.), Blackwood (*Acacia melanoxylon*) by Anita Barley
and Water Ribbons by Jo Ferguson.

Jottings in Australia in the 1850's

The following article is reproduced from the book, *Jottings in Australia* by Samuel Hanaford. This is a small book and also includes 'jottings' of other places in Victoria. Samuel Hanaford arrived at Melbourne from Devon in 1853. In 1856 he published *Jottings in Australia: or, Notes on the flora and fauna of Victoria*, Blundell, Melbourne. The taxonomy has been updated where it was possible to find a reference to the name used. If anyone recognizes the old name and knows its current name it would be great to hear from you and we could publish it in *Indigenotes*.

Many thanks to Damien Cook for telling us of this book's existence at the State Library in the Rare Books Room many moons ago. To Geoff Carr for helping to update the taxonomy. Apologies to indigephiles in being so slack in getting this article into print.

To all those who have been and are involved in the restoration at Yarra Bend Park. I hope this story uplifts the spirit and gives the energy to keep on keeping on.

Peter Tucker

Editor's Note: Peter has provided more historical texts and we will continue the series next month. I reckon it's simply useful to make this information more widely available.

We rambled from the bridge at Richmond as far as Dight's mill some five or six miles on its margin.... At this season of the year, the flat grounds are one vast swamp, yet even here springs up the simple little *Montia australasica* and the surface of the water is covered with the minute inconspicuous flowers of *Ranunculus inundatus*, river buttercup.. Many aquatics can be secured now for the herbarium. *Potamogeton tricarinatus*, *P. ochreateus*, *Myriophyllum variifolium* and the *Ottelia ovalifolia* with its many floating leaves at first sight resembling those of a potamogeton but differing from them in the venation and its beautiful white nymphaea like flowers, crimson at the base is a prize indeed even though you my readers, may get a ducking as was our lot in our endeavour to obtain it. Overhanging the river the pendulous flowers of the various formed acacias drooped most gracefully emitting a most delicious perfume interspersed here and there with the delicate spike of pink flowers of *Indigofera australis* and the beautiful almost transparent flowers of *Sida pulchella* nearly hidden amongst its rich green foliage. Everywhere the ground was as with snow with that

little exquisite gem *Wurmbea dioica* its petals circled on the interior with a band of brown. and various species of *Drosera*, sundews. *Drosera whittakeri* (planchon) with radical rosulate leaves which impart a reddish dye to paper when pressed and large white flowers. *D. planchonii* (J> Hooker) figured in Hooker's "Icones Plantarum" as *D> menziesii* from specimens found at Swan Foot on the east coast of Van Diemens Land, easily distinguished from other species by its long, slender, prostrate peduncles and three leaves springing on slight petioles from one point of the stem; and *D. peltata* (Smith) also figured in the same work Vol 1 Tab 4 as *D> lanata* from specimens sent from Van Diemens Land by Mr Gunn, leaves alternate, those of the stem peltate radical ones uniform cordate flowers pink in uniform racemes. Mark the beauty with which *Clematis microphylla* twines airily around all the shrubs in her vicinity and further on how lovingly she embraces the trunk of that venerable Eucalyptus as a daughter her aged parent, comforting and protecting him in the decline of life for the care with which he sheltered her in youth. Now descend this dark hollow by the water's edge, observe that little queen of secrecy the violet *Viola hederacea*, linked hand in hand with her two graceful hand maidens *Adiantum aethiopicum* (maiden hair) one of the loveliest of our native ferns and a small *Hypnum*. What handsomer carpet would you have than *Kennedia prostrata*, with its bright red shaped pea flowers and the splendid spreading blue clusters of *Hardenbergia violacea* mantling the ground on all sides. Listen to the sweet plaintive note of that little red breasted robin perched fearlessly on yonder *Olearia* the shrill note of the kingfisher as he skims up the stream. Watch the bright eyed lizards as they creep hastily by.....

On the high banks near Hodgson's punt the *Grevilea latrobei* (poss. *rosmarinifolia*?) may be obtained and about the same locality various orchidaceae; *Diuris maculata* (R. Brown Prod 315) its pretty yellow flowers, richly marked with dark brown spots, *D. sulphurea*, *D. aurea*, *Caladenia carnea*, *C. caerulea*, *C. alata*, *C. pulcherrima*. *Pterostylis cucullata*, the entire plant of green found at the foot of trees in shady places and *Glossodia minor*. Of the Liliaceae *Chamaescilla corymbosa* with blue flowers and yellow anthers is indeed a bright star. *Stylidium graminifolium* is much too exquisite a flower to be omitted with its grassy leaves and pink petals and *Stackhousia monogyna* abounds everywhere. Mosses which are so plentiful at home are less so here but the following may be gathered without much searching for; *Hypnum*

recognitum, *Dryptodon africanus*, *Funaria hygrometrica*, a species of *Fimbraria*, *Dicranum purpureum* and the handsomer lichen *Etraria aculeata*.

On the high yarra banks near the lunatic asylum we may find the rare grass *Echnipogon ovatus* and the coarse *Themeda triandra* abundantly too *Nicotiana suaveolens* with white flowers, *Muhlenbeckia* is trailing along the banks and around some of the acacias climbs a beautiful *Billardiera* with long pendulous yellow flowers. The tea trees of the colony *Melaleuca gunniana* and *Leptospermum* are now in bloom and several varieties of the *Helichrysum* (everlasting) ornament the dry stony banks with their rich orange coloured flowers. As we rest by the riverside we notice footprints of the opossum, kangaroo rat and native cat we are startled now and then by the harsh note of the laughing jack ass and the bronze wing pigeon starts up hurriedly from amidst clusters of *Einadia nutans* on the red fruit on which it feeds.

This month we may find in flower everywhere *Linum marginale*, *Hypericum involutum*, *Pelargonium australe* a pretty little geranium with a delicate perfume. *Scutellaria humilis*, *Solanum laciniatum*, *Mentha australis*, *Viola hederacea*, the little white violet which clothes the yarra banks, *Galium australe*, *Senecio odoratus* with a host of others.

A catalogue of the plants common in the colony of Victoria with their habitats and dates of flowering. From Hannaford's Jottings in Australia.

This list has been annotated to include only those plants found in the Melbourne region. There are names in this list which we weren't able to update or find in reference texts.

PTERIDOPHYTA

ADIANTACEAE

Adiantum aethiopicum abundant on the banks of the Yarra.

Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia Rocky places on the Yarra and near Saltwater river.

ASPLENIACEAE

Asplenium flabellifolium Rocky situations near the Yarra.

AZOLLACEAE

Azolla rubra On a swamp near Gardiner's creek, Botanic Gardens.

DENNSTAEDTIACEAE

Pteridium esculentum Common everywhere.

OPHIOGLOSSACEAE

Botrychium australe Swampy ground near Richmond. The only specimen of this plant found in Victoria we discovered in August 1853 in the above locality and although we repeatedly explored the neighbourhood with much diligence could never obtain a second.

Ophioglossum lusitanicum Near Prahran.

MONOCOTYLEDONAE

ALISMATACEAE

Alisma plantago-aquatica Marshy places, rivers.

Damasonium minus This rare plant we discovered in lagoons near the Yarra and have never noticed it in any other localities.

CENTROLEPIDACEAE

Aphelia gracilis Swamps about Melbourne. Sept.

A. pumilio Grassy places about Melbourne. Oct.

Centrolepis strigosa Moist grassy situations about Melbourne. Sept.

CYPERACEAE

Bolboschoenus caldwellii/medianus About Melbourne. Dec.

Carex appressa

C. breviculmis

C. chlorontha

C. gaudichaudiana

C. inversa

C. longibrachiata

C. pumila

All of the above *Carex* spp. may occasionally be met with.

Cladium or *Baumea* sp

Cyperus lucidus Banks of the Yarra. Jan.

**Isolepis prolifera* Yarra banks

Schoenus maschalinus Moist situations. Sept.

S.pogonolepis? Yarra.

HYDROCHARITACEAE

Ottelia ovalifolia On the Yarra and lagoons. Jan. This elegant water plant will easily be detected by its large potamegeton like leaves floating on the water on long petioles. The flowers are white, crimson at the base and appear just above the surface. The stem is round but in some specimens we have observed it triangular.

JUNCACEAE

Juncus effusus moist situations. Feb.

J. pallidus About Melbourne.

Luzula campestris? Pastures. July.

JUNCAGINACEAE

Triglochin procerum In the Yarra and lagoons.

LEMNACEAE

Lemna minor Lagoons common.

LILIACEAE

Bulbine bulbosa Pastures near Hodgson's punt. Aug.

Burchardia umbellata Pastures. Oct-Sept.

Chaemascilla corymbosa Pastures. Spring.

Dianella caerulea Amidst rushes about Brighton and St Kilda.

Arthropodium minus Pastures. Nov.

Thysanotus patersoni Twining around plants in the scrub near E. Brighton. Oct.

Tricoryne graminifolia? Pastures. Dec.

Lomandra collina? Richmond, Survey paddock, pastures. Aug.

ORCHIDACEAE

Caladenia alata? Pastures at Hawthorn. Sept.

C. caerulea In pastures around Melbourne.

C. carnea Shady places at Brighton under *Leptospermum laevigatum*.

C.dilitata sens lat or *C.patersoni* sens lat. Common in pastures about Melbourne and Warrnambool. Ovt-Nov.

Dipodium punctatum Near Gardiner's creek. Jan.

Diuris aurea Common about Melbourne. Sept.

D.maculata Stony places near Dight's Mill. Sept.

Glossodia minor/major? About Richmond. Aug-Sept.

Pterostylis cucullata Common in pastures. Aug-Sept.

Thelymitra pauciflora

POACEAE

Agrostis aemula Banks of Yarra.
Avena fatua Generally in cultivated places.
* *Alopecurus geniculatus* Moist places.
* *Briza minor* Waste places and cultivated places.
Chloris truncata In moist grassy places near St Kilda.
* *Dactylis glomerata*
Glyceria australis Lagoons near the Plenty.
* *Holcus lanatus* Grassy places.
* *Hordeum leporinum* Waysides.
* *Lolium perenne* Cultivated places.
* *L. temulentum* Cultivated places.
* *Poa annua* Waste places.
P. australis/poss *P. labillardieri*? Often in elevated places.
* *Polypogon imitans*? Darebin Ck.
* *Phalaris minor* Waste and cultivated places.
Phragmites australis Yarra banks.
Stipa semibarbata Near Brighton and the Yarra.
Themeda triandra Common.
* *Vulpia* sp Lonsdale St Melbourne.

POTAMOGETONACEAE

Potamogeton tricarinatus Lagoons, rivers, common. Dec.
P. ochreatus Swamps, common. Jan.

TYPHACEAE

Typha orientalis Lagoons. Dec.

DICOTYLEDONEAE

AIZOACEAE

* *Carprobrotus aequilaterus* Saltmarsh common. Spring.
tetragonia implexicoma Seashore near Brighton. Nov.

AMARANTHACEAE

Alternanthera denticulata Yarra banks, moist situations, common. Jan.

APIACEAE

Daucus glochidiatus Survey paddock, Richmond. Jan.
Eryngium sp Richmond paddock near the Yarra. Jan.
Hydrocotyle tripartita About Melbourne. Sept.
Trachymene diversifolia? Scrub near St Kilda. Jan.
T. pilosa Near Liardet's beach. Dec.

ASTERACEAE

Brachyscome angustifolia Marshy places near Brighton. Aug.
B. cardiocarpa
B. diversifolia grassy ridges on the Yarra. Nov.
B. graminea On the Yarra banks amidst Juncaceae. Also var *humilis* in same locality.
Calocephalus lacteus Amongst Juncaceae at St Kilda.
* *Centaura solstitialis* Uncultivated lands. Jan.
Chrysocephalum apiculatum Grassy places on the Yarra, near the beach, Melbourne. Dec.
Chrysocephalum semipapposum Scrub near Brighton. Oct.
* *Conyza canadensis* Near Melbourne.
* *Cotula coronopifolia* About Melbourne. Summer.
Cymbonotus lawsonianus Sandy cliffs by the sea near Brighton. Aug.
Gnaphalium indutum Dry pastures near Brighton. Oct.
Gymnogyne cotuloides Muddy situations near Brighton. Oct.
Hypochoeris glabra Sandy places frequent.
Picris angustifolia Banks of Yarra. Jan. A synonym for another *Picris* species?
Psuedognaphalium luteoalbum Common Yarra banks.
Senecio odoratus Banks of the Yarra. Nov. Also var *angustifolia*-North side of the Yarra near the old slaughter house.
Senecio sp. Muddy banks of the Yarra. Nov.
Senecio rupicola Sandy soil on sea coast. St Kilda. Sept
Sigesbeckia orientalis Melbourne. Apr-May.

S. squarrosus Grassy ridges on the Yarra. Sept.
Silybum marianum Common everywhere. The milk thistle which has become so widely diffused throughout the whole colony as to call for an Act to be passed by the Legislative Council to make its destruction imperative.
Skirrhophorus fuernrohrii Sandy pastures around Brighton. Nov.
Sonchus asper Waste places. Summer.
S. oleraceus Waste places. Summer.
Scorzonera lawrencii/poss *S. laciniata*? Near the sea at Brighton. Aug. "The root of this plant is a favourite food of the natives and would form if enlarged by culture an agreeable substitute for *S. hispanica* or asparagus"
Mueller's report.
Taraxacum officinale Common. Summer.
Tetrachaeta perennis Near St Kilda. (?)

BORAGINACEAE

Cynoglossum australe Melbourne. Dec.
C. suaveolens Batman Hill.
Myosotis australis Banks of Yarra near Gardiner's Ck. Dec-Jan.

BRASSICACEAE

* *Capsella bursa-pastoris* Waste ground. Common.
Cardamine remotiflora On the Yarra.
* *Lepidium africanum* About Melbourne. Frequent.
Nasturtium terrestre/*Rorippa nasturtiumaquaticum* Yarra banks. Jan.
Coronopus didymus waste places.
Sisymbrium officinale Waste ground, common.

CAMPANULACEAE

Wahlenbergia gracilis Abundant everywhere Dec-Mar.
W. sp Abundant everywhere Dec-Mar.

CARYOPHYLLACEAE

* *Cerastium glomeratum* Summer.
* *Polycarpon alsinifolium*? Waste soil near Cremorne gardens, Argillaceous plains near Brighton.
* *Sagina apetala* Sandy soil
* *Silene gallica* Waste places spring.
* *Spergula arvensis*
Stellaria media Waste places everywhere. Sept-Mar.

CHENOPODIACEAE

Atriplex billardieri Sandy soil near St Kilda. Feb.
A. cinerea Sea coast. Aug.
* *Chenopodium murale* Marshy ground near Yarra. Jan.
Einadia nutans Banks of Yarra. Feb.

CONVOLVULACEAE

Convolvulus erubescens Grassy places common. Jan.
Dichondra repens Generally at the foot of trees. Sept.

CRASSULACEAE

Crassula decumbens Moist places. Dec-Jan.
C. peduncularis Sandy soils Brighton. Jan.
Crassula sp Moist situations.
Crassula sieberiana ssp *sieberiana* Dry places common. Jan.

DILLENIACEAE

Hibbertia prostrata Sandy soil near Liardet's beach and sandy scrub land towards Brighton. Oct.
H. sericea Scrub near Liardet's beach,

DROSERACEAE

Drosera peltata Boggy places
D. macrantha Hills around Melbourne in shady situations. Common.
D. whittakeri Swampy places common. Sept-Oct.
EPACRIDACEAE
Epacris impressa Brighton, St Kilda and sandy places.
Leucopogon virgatus Liardet's beach, near Melbourne. Aug.

L. parviflorus On the coast Brighton.

EUPHORBIACEAE

Poranthera microphylla Melb. Jan.
Ricinocarpus sidaeiformis/ *poss R. pinifolius* Scrub near Sandridge, St Kilda and Brighton.

FABACEAE

Aotus ericoides Scrub near East Brighton, St Kilda. Oct.
Bossiaea cinerea Liardet's beach. Aug.
B. prostrata Moist grassy places around Melbourne. Oct.
Daviesia virgata Hawthorn. July.
Dillwynia cinerascens Hawthorn. July.
Glycine latrobeana Survey paddock, Richmond, Near Saltwater river. Jan.
Hardenbergia violacea Near Gardiner's creek on the Yarra.
Indigofera australis Yarra. It's delicate rose coloured spike of flowers hanging over the Yarra as it glides slowly along. It is common above hawthorn bridge.
Kennedia prostrata Common everywhere.
K. coccinea? Climbing gracefully around the common brake fern of Melbourne.
**Lotus corniculatus* Pastures common. Jan.
**L. sp* Pastures Jan.
**Medicago sativa* Pastures, not common. Jan.
Melilotus officinalis William St Melbourne. We have only noticed one specimen of this english trefoil found in the above habitat.
Platylobium cordifolium?
P. macrocalyx? Both, trunks of the Eucalypts.
Trifolium filiforme? Occasionally in pastures. Jan.
T. campestre Occasionally in pastures. Jan.
T. repens Occasiopnally on pastures. Jan.
Vicia angustifolia Pastures. Dec.
Vicia hirsuta Pastures. Jan.

GENTIANACEAE

**Centaurium spicatum* Sandy soil near St Kilda.
Sebaea albidiflora Low marshy ground near Brighton. Oct-Nov.
S. ovata Melb. Oct-Jan?.

GERANIACEAE

Erodium moschatum Common near the sea coast. The musky storks bill, which is a rare plant in England has found its way here and covers the cliffs near the sea between St Kilda and Brighton and the flagstaff hill at Warrnambool.
Geranium homeanum Scrub near Liardet's beach. Dec.
G. sp Sandy soil in scrub, Liardet's beach. Jan.
Pelargonium australe Grassy situations common. Dec.

GOODENIACEAE

Goodenia ovata Banks of Yarra. Dec.
G. lanata Brighton. Jan.

HALORAGACEAE

Myriophyllum heteromorphum Lagoons frequent. Dec.
M. variifolium Lagoons about Melbourne. Dec-Jan.

LAMIACEAE

Ajuga australis Grassy places. July.
Lycopus australis Common in waste places near water. Jan.
Mentha australis Banks of Yarra. Dec-Jan.
M. diemenica Common. Dec.
Prunella vulgaris Grassy situations. Jan.
Scutellaria humilis Grassy situations, Melbourne. Jan - Mar.

LAURACEAE

Cassytha pubescens Near St Kilda, Brighton.

LENTIBULARIACEAE

Utricularia dichotoma Brighton.

LINACEAE

Linum marginale Banks of Yarra. Dec.

LOGANIACEAE

Mitrasacme paradoxa Grassy situations Richmond and Brighton. Sept-Oct. A very small elegant plant, often not more than an inch in height and its stems smaller than the finest hair.

LORANTHACEAE

Loranthus melaleuca? Common. Jan.
Lysiana exocarpi Common. Jan.
Muellerina eucalyptoides Common. Jan.

LYTHRACEAE

Lythrum salicaria Banks of Yarra, lagoons. Common. Dec-Jan.

MALVACEAE

* *Sida pulchella*? Banks of Yarra. Nov-Dec.

MIMOSACEAE

Acacia mearnsii Everywhere common.

MYOPORACEAE

Myoporum tuberculatum? Melbourne. Sept.
M. parvifolium Lagoon near StKilda.

MYRTACEAE

Eucalyptus camaldulensis Common.
E. globulus Abundantly in some of the forest districts principally of the south.
E. sacchariflua Common everywhere. Possibly *E. viminalis*
E. odorata Peppermint gum.
E. obliqua Messmate.
E. resenifera?
Leptospermum laevigatum By the sea near Brighton. Aug.
L. grandiflorum Banks of Yarra. Jan.
L. lanigerum Banks of Yarra. Jan.
Melaleuca gunniana/ *poss M. ericifolia*? Very common around Melbourne.

ONAGRACEAE

Epilobium vanescens Grassy places frequent. Summer.

OXALIDACEAE

Oxalis microphylla Grassy places common. Dec. A small trefoil with yellow flowers.

PLANTAGINACEAE

Plantago lanceolata Waysides. Jan.
P. coronopus Waste places Not common.

POLYGALACEAE

Comesperma calyemegum/a Scrub towards Brighton. Jan.
C. sp? Scrub near Brighton.

Chapman, A (1991). Australian Plant Name Index Volumes 1-4. Australian Flora and Fauna Series Number 15 Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra.

Coming Events:

For IFFA events see back cover

Conferences/Workshops

9 March, 9.30 am - 1.30 pm. Natural History of La Trobe University Wildlife Reserves. A one day course presented by La Trobe University Wildlife Reserve. This course provides an introduction to the ecology of the La Trobe University, one of Melbourne's oldest and most significant habitat restoration programmes. Naturalists will lead participants through a field workshop covering how the area has been converted from degraded pasture and remnant woodland to a home for hundreds of species of native animals and plants. This guided tour is designed for birdwatchers, local residents, family groups, amateur naturalists and students alike. BYO binoculars, snack and picnic lunch, sturdy footwear, hat - outdoor clothing are essential. Morning tea and coffee provided. Melways map 19 H5. Cost \$36.00 full, \$27.00 concession. For bookings phone (03) 9479 2871.

21 March, 9.30 am - 4.00 pm. Managing Wetlands for Wildlife. A workshop presented by La Trobe University Wildlife Reserve. Wetland experts will cover all aspects of wetland design and management as it relates to wildlife habitat provision. The workshop will cover physical design improvements for farm dams and wetlands, aquatic plant establishment, wildlife breeding habitat provision, water quality management, typical problems and troubleshooting. Designed for rurauchanan on (03) 9870 5201.

16 - 18 April "Tread Lightly! on the World" Conference - Coffs Harbour, New South Wales. This Conference is designed to address the self management by people of their impacts on the environment. For further information contact: Tread lightly! Australia, On Public and Private Land Ltd, PO Box 123, Coorparoo Queensland 4151. Phone (07) 3397 3073, Free-call Ph. 1800 650 881, Fax (07) 3847 3449.

Sat 19 & Sun 20 April - Eighth Biennial Friends Conference. To be held at Lord Somers Camp. This is a weekend conference only. This year's conference will feature Wildlife, Wetlands and Workshops on Friends Groups and Friends Activities. Lord Somers Camp is close to the magnificent Coolart Wetlands. Coolart and other nearby wetlands will be featured in the program on Sunday morning in the Birdwatching and Wetlands visits. A good chance to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. The cost is \$85 for the full conference including Saturday night accommodation and all meals. Add \$5 for Friday night accommodation - no meals provided on Friday. Please contact Vivien Freshwater, from Friends of Sherbrooke Forest, for an application form if you wish to attend. Ph (03) 9754 3093.

24 - 27 March "California and the World Ocean" - San Diego, California USA. California has recently published a landmark report, *California's Ocean Resources: an Agenda for the Future*. A focus of the conference is policy developments or implications particularly in areas of ocean and coastal resource economics, governance, habitats and ecosystem management, fisheries, water quality, shoreline erosion and processes, and science research and

education. For more information contact Orville Magoon, Conference Chair, CWO97, PO Box 279, 2100 Butts Canyon Rd, Middletown, California 95461, USA. Ph +(707) 987 9351, Fax +(1 707) 987 0114. E-mail: otmagoon@aol.com

9 - 12 December "The Other 99% - The Conservation and Biodiversity of Invertebrates". Sydney, NSW. The objective of this meeting is to demonstrate the importance of invertebrates in biodiversity research and in nature conservation. Probable symposia topics include: Assessing the Other 99%; Describing the Other 99%; and Invertebrate Conservation through Legislation and Policy. For further information contact the Australian Museum, Invertebrate Biodiversity Conference, 6 College St, Sydney NSW 2000, Fax (02) 9320 600, E-mail: invert@amsg.Austmus.oz.au

Excursions & Field Trips

March Sat 8, Sun 9 and Mon 10 (Labour Day Weekend) Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo Autumn Survey 1997. Survey to be held in south-eastern SA and south-western Vic, between Frances, Penola, Dartmoor and Natimuk. A survey sheet is provided to record observations. Any sighting record will be more than useful. Currently there is estimated to be only 1000 Red-tailed Black-cockatoos left. This spectacular bird is officially listed as endangered and the population appears to be declining. Agriculture, firewood and fire seem to be responsible for the loss of the cockatoos' food and nest trees. To ensure the survival of this cockatoo it is essential to know more accurately the number of birds, their location, and breeding success so that conservation measures can be directed to the right areas, and be more accurately monitored. Stay overnight or do a day trip. For more details and a survey sheet contact Mick Fendley RAOU, or Barry Clugston, Land for Wildlife Officer DNRE, PO Box 201, Stawell 3380. Phone (053) 581 588 or (053) 583 672.

17 March 8.30 - 11.00pm. Gresswell Forest Nature Reserve by Night. Take a guided spotlight tour through one of Melbourne's hidden treasures. Visit the sleepy River Red Gums woodland of Gresswell Forest by night and the nocturnal wildlife they support. Learn about the work La Trobe is undertaking to protect and enhance these native habitats of special significance. Wear sturdy footwear and dress for the weather. BYO insect repellent, torch, portable snack and drink. Cost \$8 adult, \$6 conc, \$20 family. Meet at car park entrance, Greenwood Dve, Bundoora. For bookings phone La Trobe Wildlife Reserve (03) 9479 2871.

Sun 23rd March - Banyule Festival Day at the Heidelberg Oval. Visit the Warringal Conservation Society's Stall. Melways 32 C3.

Sun 24 March Friends of St. Helena Bush Reserve - Nightwalk. Discover the nightlife in this pretty beautiful reserve. Meet Eskdale Court, St. Helena (Melways 11 G11)

Restoration Activities

March Sat 8, Sun 9 and Mon 1.30am. Friends of Loughie's Bushland - monthly working bee. Meet at Kubis Drive, Ringwood Nth, opposite Werac Dve

(Melways 49 E12/F3) Contact Carol Clarke (03) 9870 8126 or Eva Buchanan (03) 9870 5201.

Sun 2 March, 9.00am. FO Brushy Creek Wetlands - monthly working bee. Meet at Village School, 9 - 13 Holloway Rd, Croydon North (Melways 37 B6). Bring gloves, gumboots and a smile. Tools and refreshments provided. Contact Kay Vine (03) 9727 2771.

Sat 8 March, 10.00 am to 11.30 am. Angair Coastal Weeding - Aireys Inlet. Meet at Lands End. Contact Ian (052) 52 896 634.

Sun 2 March, 10.00am - 1.00pm. Greenlink Oakleigh Seed collecting & BBQ. Seed collecting also on 16/3. Pricking out and sowing activities on 23/3. Contact Doug Evans (03) 9568 4090 AH, (03) 9556 4433 BH.

Sun 9 March 9.30 am. FO Sherbrooke Forest - Mapping Survey. If you would like to join us in recording both indigenous and introduced plants, but feel that you are not confident with identifying plants, be assured that the sooner you join the group the sooner you will become an expert in this field. Meet at entrance to Neumann's Track, Melways 124 C6). Bring clipboard, compass and pen. Contact Vivien Freshwater (03) 9754 3093.

Wed 12 March, 6pm - 8pm. Warringal Conservation Society - Twilight weeding. Meet at the Warringal Swamp and bring a drink for a gentle couple of hours work. Melways 32 C3. Contact Karen Rawady (03) 9458 4152.

Sun 16 March, 9.00am. FO Warriem Reserve - bush regeneration working bee. Meet at the reserve, Warriem Rd, Croydon Nth (Melways 36 K10). Contact Gavin Anderson (03) 9725 9460.

Sat 23 March, 9.30am. RAOU - VicGroup: Boneseeding at the You Yangs. Meet at the park gate and spend the morning removing the noxious South African Bone-seed. BYO lunch. Birding in the afternoon. Contact Tim Cartwright (03) 9380 4287 (AH).

Summer to Autumn 1997, Coastal Conservation Projects - Vic., S.A., and Tasmania. Australia's largest practical conservation organisation, The Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers (ATCV), will undertake a conservation program in remote coastal areas. Supplementary Coastcare funding has been approved by the Commonwealth to enable coastal projects of high conservation value to be undertaken in areas where there is no local community group capable of completing the work required. The program will provide an opportunity for volunteers to assist in a range of projects likely to include dune stabilisation, access improvement, revegetation, weed eradication, board walk construction, surveying and heritage protection. Projects will normally be of one or two weeks duration, and ATCV is inviting contact from volunteers interested in participating. For further details contact ATCV on (03) 9602 4066 or 1800 032 501 for country callers.

St Kilda Indigenous Nursery has Volunteer Days every Tuesday from 11.30 am - 2.00 pm. If you are interested in becoming involved in anything specific they'd be happy to hear from you. Contact the nursery on 9645 2477.

Candlebark Community Nursery - Activities every

Sunday (10am - 4pm) and Wednesday (10am - 3pm). Activities include seed cleaning and data entry, landscaping, nursery maintenance and propagation. Limited plant sales. All welcome. Enquiries: 0419 362254 or Debbie on (03) 9720 6141. Call in for a cuppa and a browse. The nursery is located in the Village School, 9 - 13 Holloway Road, Croydon North (Melways ref. 37 B6).

CRISP Community Nursery - Activities every Friday, 9.30am to 12.30 pm. Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood, just near Jubilee Park. Enquiries Dale Morgan on (03) 9870 1067 or Eva Buchanan on (03) 9870 5201.

The Royal Australasian Ornithologists Union (RAOU) is running a national program to engage volunteers in exciting recovery activities for threatened birds in every State of Australia: namely Hooded Plovers in WA, Southern Emu-wrens in SA, Gouldian Finches in NT, Gould's Petrels in NSW, Golden-shouldered Parrots in Qld, Orange-bellied Parrots in Tas and the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo in Victoria. For more information contact RAOU (03) 9882 2622.

Clean Up Australia Day is happening again this year on Sunday 2nd of March. Help make difference! Come along and bring a friend. Clean Up bags will be supplied. BYO gloves, hat, sunscreen. Clean Up sites will be advertised in Saturday 1/3 Herald Sun or contact Clean Up Australia Victorian Branch (based in Greening Australia Victoria Offices). If anyone is interested in volunteering their time to help out in the Melbourne based Tally Room on the day we'd be very grateful! For more information or if you would like to register a Clean Up site contact Sarah, Linda or Elissa on (03) 9457 3024.

Visitors/participant are welcome to all events listed in Indigenotes.

Thank you to all the people who have contacted us regarding on-coming events their groups are organising. Stay tuned for the new look "Regular Restoration Activities" Insert! Elissa Kerassitis (03) 9486 6768. If you want a regular event published in our directory for the rest of 1997 please send your schedule to us as possible.

Weeds or Wild Nature?

Editor's Note: The following article appeared in the "Permaculture International Journal" (PIJ) recently (No. 61 Dec-Feb 1997). It is reprinted here with permission to highlight what other people are saying about an issue that IFFA members have been concerned about for many years. I also believe that permaculturists have the same overall objective as indigephiles: good sustainable land management in a sustainable society that accounts for all of the values inherent in human society and the natural world. This piece is presented to aid the discussion and to bring people and information together for common goals. With this in mind we want responses to the many issues highlighted here. Lisa Pittle and I have already written a response for the PIJ, it will be in the next issue of that journal as well as Indigenotes. We would like feedback, letters etc for Indigenotes and I suggest you send any thoughts to PIJ as well (P.O. Box 6039, South Lismore NSW 2480 Fax (066) 220579).

The world's striving for racial tolerance doesn't always extend to plants. A key criticism of permaculture's approach to building sustainable organic systems has been its perceived willingness to favour the introduction of exotic species. Is it better to build systems that include exotics or should reforestation aim only to replace what has been taken away? Is a rampant exotic a weed, or nature's most effective first aid treatment?

It is a philosophical divide which has sparked heated debate within the permaculture community and strained relationships between groups that have otherwise much in common.

Bill Mollison, the co-ordinator of the permaculture concept is predictably blunt in his appraisal, he advocates fixing up the land first and worrying about the weeds later - they can always be mulched. "Eco-fascists", he argues, should be more worried about monoculture-produced wheat, cotton, oats and other exotics we eat and wear everyday. "We must look to new systems not to the past, because the continent has been so badly damaged," he says.

Permaculture educator Ms. Robyn Francis, however, argues responsibility in plant selection is essential. "We have to balance the fact we have to feed ourselves with the impact these plants may have on the local gene pool and ecosystem," she says. "A lot of permaculturists try to teach that where a native exists for a purpose, use that in place of an exotic. In a vegetable garden it is reasonable to expect that there will be more exotics and fewer natives while in outer zones, we should try to increase the ratio of natives to exotics. We should find a balance between exotics and natives to responsibly create the most productive systems," she says.

According to Western Australian permaculture educator, Mr. Ross Mars, the onus is on people practising permaculture to carefully avoid over-simplifying the solution to our environmental and food production problems. "The belief in permaculture that natural systems and people systems have a capacity to recover

from environmental degradation through the introduction of exotic species is apt, but not at the expense of losing genetic diversity or a host of other concerns," he says. "An appropriate management response would be firstly to define the remnant values of an area, inclusive of endemic species and the risk level of dispersal of an introduced species."

David Holmgren, the other co-ordinator of permaculture, while not straddling the opposing camps, does suggest that both groups need to get together to clear up growing confusion on the issue. He believes that "getting rid of all the weeds" without thorough investigation of values of non-indigenous ecosystems is foolhardy, if not a tragedy. Here he explains why:

The permaculture movement's development since its origins (1) in the 1970's has been closely connected to revegetation and Australia's Landcare movement. Permaculture's main aim since then has been to assist people to become more self-reliant by designing and creating sustainable gardens and farms.

The design principles which are the conceptual foundation of permaculture were derived from the science of systems ecology (2) and study of pre-industrial examples of sustainable land use. They suggested agricultural systems needed fundamental redesign rather than fine tuning. A much greater role for trees and other perennial plants to stabilise the landscape and provide for human needs was one of the cornerstones of the permaculture strategy. From one perspective, permaculture is a revegetation strategy. The initial permaculture vision involved forests of "useful" species planted in arrays to mimic natural systems. Although food species dominate the strategy for intensive systems around the home (zone 1 and 2), in more broadacre areas the "uses" of revegetation include fibre, animal fodder and timber, and wildlife habitat. My revegetation manual (3) concentrates on these broadacre landscapes and functions of revegetation. What identifies it as permaculture is the design system approach and the integration of the productive and environmental functions of farm landscapes.

Meanwhile, the Landcare movement in Australia has been concerned with the repair and restoration of productive land. Its origins were from diverse rural groups which emerged simultaneously in the early 1980's in several regions affected by land degradation, most notably salinity and tree decline (4). Many permaculturists were, and still are, involved in these groups.

The solutions to salinity, erosion, acidification, tree decline and other symptoms of ecosystem breakdown

demanded fundamental changes to agriculture. Revegetation with perennial and in particular woody vegetation has been an almost universal element in the response to rural land degradation.

Planting Trees One-Handed

At the same time, there has been widespread recognition that indigenous (5) species have an important role for utilitarian, environmental and cultural reasons. Many extension workers and funding groups have gone further in suggesting only indigenous species are appropriate, and where farmers have little experience this view has been accepted as the "expert opinion". But the farmers with more experience in revegetation who are driving the landcare push recognise that new resource values must be generated by revegetation if it is to become part of farming. Farm forestry and fodder trees are the dynamic expanding edge of landcare which is promising to generate wealth. In this context restriction to local native species is akin to trying to plant a tree with one hand tied behind one's back.

In urban areas people have been more protected from the direct effects of land degradation. However, increasing awareness of the loss of indigenous species and their under-estimated values has become a central issue for many urban environmentalists who are now campaigning against the destruction of indigenous ecologies by environmental weeds and spending less time fighting bulldozers and developers. The new focus on the concept of environmental weeds (invasion of non-indigenous species into bushland) has been helped by government funding. This State and Federal funding supports an urban Landcare model of recreating native ecosystems in public open space and urban wasteland. It has seen the rapid growth in projects involving the community as well as spawning an urban revegetation industry. The vision involves reestablishment of native ecosystems as the backbone of productive urban and rural landscapes. Although well-intentioned, I see a major flaw in this vision.

Increasingly, government and community resources are being used to destroy healthy existing vegetation. The tragedy is that the considerable ecological and other values of this non-indigenous vegetation are not considered. In addition, the adverse impacts of removal methods (eg herbicide) are not properly assessed. The problems of pockets of indigenous revegetation surviving in isolation from surrounding land use are ignored or vaguely addressed by grandiose schemes to progressively get rid of "all the weeds".

The Place of Wild Nature

Implicit in permaculture strategy is the acceptance that nature is an active designer herself and that it will be the co-evolutionary development of wild systems which may be the real keys to sustainability. Wild nature is evolving new ecosystems from a mix of self-reproducing species at an ever increasing speed. This "ecosynthesis" (6) is nature's self-organising response to the disturbances since European settlement and follows patterns described by systems ecology.

In some areas, especially along streams, the ecosynthesis process is advanced to the point where forests of mixed native and exotic species are beginning

to show systemic characteristics. Study of these advanced examples of ecosynthesis is conspicuous by its absence apart from a few informal permaculture inspired projects (7).

Recognition of the amenity values of these areas is begrudging at best while their hydrological and soil-building values remain undocumented. Any discussion of current or future resource values is dismissed as something irrelevant to economic well-being in a high-energy affluent society. In a low energy future (which I believe is inevitable (8)) this process is likely to be more important in stabilising resource degradation (erosion, salinity, acidification, eutrophication etc.) and in generating economically harvestable resources (timber, fodder, food etc.) than either our chosen crop systems or native vegetation.

Much of the criticism of permaculture has revolved around its potential to spread environmental weeds. The depth and intensity of criticism of permaculture by some environmentalists seems to revolve around the suggested use of plants which have potential to naturalise. In fact mainstream urban and rural revegetation activities are major contributors to past and future plant naturalisation but do not draw such vociferous condemnation perhaps because this process is not an intentional outcome. In other words it is the "bad" intentions rather than the "bad" results of permaculture which have attracted such negative attention.

In general permaculture has made little impact on public land management policies and actions because efforts to introduce more productive species have not been very successful. Proposed and actual plantings tend to divide into types which; require too much care and attention for public land or, naturalise (given the right conditions) and are therefore deemed environmental weeds.

Most permaculturalists have focussed on getting their own house in order, leaving the public land to others. Others have themselves adopted a segmented view of land use where small scale food gardens on private land would be surrounded by indigenous systems on public land. However, permaculturalists along with gardeners and horticulturalists, generally reacted strongly in 1994 when Eltham Shire in the State of Victoria, Australia, attempted to declare noxious, and demand the destruction of, an additional 54 species of plants on private lands (9). This led to a minor sectarian war between environmentalists of the permaculture and native persuasion. Leading proponents of indigenous revegetation (10) acknowledge that a legislated approach to environmental weeds will be ineffective and unenforceable but feel that the public education value overrides any adverse effects on people's landuse rights.

Clearing up the confusion

What needs to be done following this conflict is to set out clearly the fundamentals of the two conceptual frameworks. Unaddressed contradictions in both positions need to be worked through and practical strategies developed. These can then be applied by private landholders and managers of public land who find themselves in an understandable state of confusion.

Ecosynthesis is a reality which few ecologists would deny. From a permaculture perspective concerned with ecological sustainability, ecosynthesis of native and migrant (11) systems is likely to provide the most effective solutions to land and water degradation. In addition, ecosynthesis will yield the information on which to base more deliberate design-based approaches (permaculture) to productive rural and urban land use.

In the process of dealing with both technical uncertainty and a range of environmental values and agendas, we need to accept that a diversity of approaches will provide the most useful results for the next generation to evaluate and use. Inevitably these will all be real ecological experiments on the edges of the gigantic experiment we call modern industrial society. Wild nature may turn out to be a critical fall-back resource for society in crisis and even contribute to new biodiversity adaptive to a planet changed forever by 10 billion people and the mining of 750 million years worth of stored solar energy.

If we are serious about reducing the environmental impact of our towns and suburbs then we need to focus a lot more on our unsustainable use of transport and home energy, and the need to produce more food in our backyards, and a little bit less on whether our backyard supports three or four species of honeyeater. After all, most of the plants we eat come from exotic species that take up vast areas of land and would be considered weeds by those strongly favoring native plants.

Urban ecologists have done well in fighting to save native bushland but have made little impact on the structural basis of unsustainable urban development and consumption.

I believe the real reason that more people prefer to grow native plants is that it involves less work and skill than growing your own food and that food remains so cheap (while farmers go broke and the land degrades) that most householders can't be bothered. For those of us committed to household environmental responsibility an apple is a better symbol than a gum nut.

Footnotes:

1. Mollison B & Holmgren D (1978) *Permaculture One* Corgi, Melbourne.
2. Odum HT (1984) *Systems Ecology*. Wiley. This is the definitive text. Also Odum HT Living with Complexity in The Crafoord Prize in the Biosciences 1987, from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences provides a good overview.
3. Holmgren D (1994) *Trees On The Treeless Plains: Revegetation Manual for the Volcanic Landscapes of Central Victoria*. Holmgren Design Services.

Weed Snippet: A constant battle against every weed in the book

Jennifer Wilkinson writes in *The Saturday Age Extra* (11/1/1997, p10):

Weeds are part and parcel of gardening. They spring up wherever there is any type of cultivation. But knowing this did not prepare me for the huge array of weeds we contend with at our farm. Here in a remote part of the Gippsland Ranges, we have almost every weed in the book. ...

Perhaps the showiest weed in our region at this time of year, turning the forest floor golden, is St John's Wort *Hypericum perforatum*. This is said to have antiseptic

4. Holmgren D. "The Landcare Movement" in Burgess G. (in press 1996) *Building Community*. RAAI.
5. Indigenous means native to a particular area or region. The term native is often used in this context but also refers to any Australian species.
6. Nanninga P, Tane H & Dann P "Exotics Versus Natives - Why Not Both?" in *Proceedings 1994 Greening Australia Conference* provides an overview of the case for a mixture of plant materials in urban landscapes and uses the term ecosynthesis coined by Haikai Tane.
7. Spring Creek community forest project in Hepburn, outlined in the following *Greening Australia seminar proceedings*, is a good example of permaculture principles applied to public land weedscape management. *Is there a Role for Indigenous Permaculture? Integrating the Goals of Ecological Restoration and Permaculture*. Greening Australia. For copies of the Proceedings contact Greening Australia Victoria, PO Box 525 Heidelberg VIC 3084. Ph: 03 9457 3024. Cost \$15.
8. Holmgren D. "Energy and Permaculture" in *The Permaculture Edge*, Vol 3, No.3, Oct. 1993.
9. Pest Plant Law No.10 (1994) failed because of strong public opposition. It required the destruction of 54 species (in addition to the species listed in the state noxious weeds legislation) and required control of propagation of a further 29 species. The amalgamated Shire of Nillumbik has since attempted to use planning controls to the same effect based on much larger lists (216 species) included in the Pest Plant Management Strategy 1992, and based on a plant survey (McMahon 1989) which identified half the flora of Eltham as weeds. The current Inquiry into Pest Plants in Victoria by the Environment and Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament sees this attempt at control moving to a statewide stage.
10. Lincoln Kern, Randall Robinson and others at Greening Australia Forum in 1996.
11. Migrant is a term I have coined for introduced or exotic species which have become naturalised. It makes the connection with human migration, a process which is now widely accepted as the basis of a healthy multicultural society. *Migrant Plants and Animals: Ecological Imperialism or Ecological Evolution* is a book I am writing on ecosynthesis which aims to balance the gloom and doom which predominates public discourse on these matters.

properties and a few years ago an effort was made to turn the pest into profit in north eastern Victoria. A particularly thick patch of St John's Wort was mechanically harvested and sold to a medicinal herb company. While such wildcrafted herbs are considered good quality, the market required a dried, chaffed product that contained no foreign material and, at a bout \$6 a kilogram, the venture proved unprofitable....

Controlling weeds is a responsibility shared by all landholders, yet it is tedious, unrewarding and costly. I find a mattock-like hoe does a wonderful job on isolated weeds. Continuous mowing or slashing prior to flowering will control certain species that are wide-spread, but where weeds grow in inaccessible places it is difficult to avoid using herbicides.

Timboon Bushland Co-op

Inspired by the cooperative ownership and conservation management of a bush block in their area, the Timboon Field Naturalists Club decided to launch the Timboon Bushland Co-operative. The purpose of the cooperative is to fund the purchase of 71 acres of bushland with high conservation value adjacent to the Timboon Railway Reserve.

The Railway Reserve wildlife corridor runs from Timboon to Camperdown and has outstanding conservation values, supporting populations of yellow bellied gliders, rufous bristle birds, glow worms and tree ferns. The bushland block is an example of the now diminished original forest of the area. The higher ground supports Messmate/Stringybark forest with an open understorey - it has been selectively logged in the past but the only evidence now is an occasional rotting stump. There is then a steep drop down to Powers Creek. This creek runs through Timboon township as a concrete drain, but is in its natural state in the bushland block. The original creek vegetation is present: beautiful mature Manna Gums, Blackwoods and six of the eight fern species on the block. The Rufous Bristle Bird and the Netted Brake Fern are two of the "rare" species sighted so far.

In 1995, this 71 acre bushland block was offered for sale. The Timboon Field Naturalists decided that purchasing the land would ensure secure conservation management. Another option was to lobby for the block to be reserved as Crown land but, even if lobbying were successful, there is little guarantee that the land would be managed primarily for conservation in the long term. The Timboon Field Naturalists were given first option to buy the block and they began fundraising through issue of shares in the Co-op. 240 shares worth \$250 each need to be sold to cover the purchase price of \$60,000. So far about half of the purchase price has been raised. Fortunately, the Trust For Nature (TFN) has purchased the Co-op property and will resell to the Co-op on 1/9/97 - if the Co-op can raise the outstanding funds. If not TFN will put a conservation covenant on the land and resell on the open market. This option at least provides some protection for the flora and fauna on the block.

As a result of advertising through conservation groups locally and state wide, friends groups, field naturalists clubs, bird observers, local newspaper and ABC regional radio etc, Co-op members come from all over Victoria.

Timboon Bushland Co-op membership is a fantastic way to save the bush - \$250 constitutes a lifetime membership, much cheaper than the MCG and definitely more exclusive! It is also a great example of yet another approach to conserving flora and fauna on private land.

For more information about the Timboon Bushland Co-op, contact Rosemarie Bufton, RMB 8297, Timboon 3268, Ph 0355 983 516

Timboon Bushland Co-op Fundraiser

To further the fundraising effort, the Melbourne Chapter of the Timboon Bushland Cooperative will host a

**Trivia Night
at the Brunswick South Primary School
(Melways K10) on
Saturday 22nd March 1997 at 7.30pm.
Cost: \$12 per person, nibblies provided,
BYO food and drink.
For more information and bookings,
call Andy Ingham on (03) 9384 1694.**

Snippets:

Inquiry Into Pest Plants In Victoria

The Environment and Natural Resources Committee is holding Public Hearings across Victoria on issues associated with pest plants. The first Public Hearing for the Inquiry was held in Geelong in November 1996. Further Hearings will be conducted during February through to May 1997 in Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Bendigo, Benalla, Horsham, Mildura and Melbourne. The Committee will hear evidence from local government representatives, farming groups, landcare and other community groups, individual farmers, landholders and local residents.

The next Public Hearing will be held in Ballarat at the Balanada Room at the Mercure Inn, 1845 Western Highway, Ballarat on Thursday 27 February 1997, commencing at 11.30am. Dates for Bendigo, Benalla, Horsham, Mildura and Melbourne Hearings have not yet been advertised. Anyone with an interest in this Inquiry is welcome to attend the Hearings. Interested groups and individuals wanting to present verbal evidence to the Committee at the Ballarat Hearing can contact the Committees Executive Officer Ms Sarah Walters on (03) 9651 3530.

Snippets Cont.:

UltraViolet Weed Killer

From Vernon Terrill

The New Scientist (30 March 1996, p22) reports on a weed destroyer described in patent application PCT 95/33374. Danish inventors Niels Mathieson and Knud Andreasen strapped mercury vapor lamps underneath a train and powered them from the engine. The leaves of the vegetation growing on the railroad track absorbed much of the ultra-violet light with the result that they overheated and died. The system worked even when the train ran at 150 kph. Radiation from less powerful lamps, UV lamps that is, also works if delivered repeatedly over several days. Perhaps this idea, if suitably modified, could be used for destroying weeds in other circumstances.

Victorian Landcare

Magazine

Victorian Landcare is a joint publication of the Victorian Farmer's Federation (VFF), Alcoa of Australia Limited and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, with the support of the Catchment and Land Protection Council, Greening Australia Victoria and Farmsmart. It's a glossy magazine with lots of information about what groups are doing, the State Government's support of Landcare, grants, etc. It's definitely mostly for farmers but it will be of interest to many non-farmer types. Contact the VFF at 24-28 Collins St., Melbourne 3000 for a copy.

Books and Resources: Wild Places of Greater Brisbane

**Published 1996 by the Queensland
Museum**

Brisbane is fortunate in being surrounded by bushland. Toohey Forest, on the other hand, is surrounded by Brisbane. *Wild Places of Greater Brisbane* is a brilliant guide to the bushland surrounding Brisbane - and to the pockets of bush - including Toohey Forest - still remaining within the city limits.

Following on from its runaway bestseller of last year, *Wildlife of Greater Brisbane*, the Queensland Museum published *Wild Places* just in time for the Xmas 1996 market.

The most outstanding feature of the book is the photographs. They are numerous, colourful and superb, ranging from panoramas to close-up detail. How much wilderness can you show in a small paperback book of just over 200 pages selling for just under \$20.00? With its careful choice of Bruce Cowell's quality photographs, *Wild Places* has probably achieved the maximum. Elegant line drawings by Robert Allen and Sally Elmer perfectly complement the photography.

However, despite its beauty, this is not a showy coffee table book. It is a guide book. Put it in your backpack and start travelling.

The introduction includes a section on the history of land development in Brisbane, illustrated with photographs from the John Oxley Library collection, and brief descriptions of various habitat types in the greater Brisbane region: rainforests, eucalypt forests, heath, dunes and wetlands. The book is then divided into wild places within the metropolitan area, within 100 km and within 180 km.

With nearly 40 entries, the descriptions are necessarily brief but good writing and editing have packed a lot of useful information into a very readable format. Each entry gives a description and a locality guide - how to get there and what to expect in the way of facilities.

Quite often, there is a sidebar of information on something that is particularly well-illustrated in this location: Antarctic Beech in Lamington National Park, Aboriginal culture at White Rock. The sidebar for the Toohey Forest entry is on 'edge effects' - 'external factors which either individually, or in combination, can affect the quality of natural habitats'.

**Available from the Queensland Museum
or ask your local bookshop to order a**

copy for you.

Source: Grass Tree Gazette, Newsletter of the Toohey Forest Protection Society January 1997

Flora of Victoria, Vol. 3, Winteraceae to Myrtaceae.

**By Walsh, N. G. and Entwistle, T. J.
(Inkata Press, Melbourne 1996)**

The third volume of Flora of Victoria is as hefty as the Vol. 2 - and every bit as good. It is the definitive identification for taxa of 66 families, including Fabaceae (peas), Chenopodiaceae (saltbushes), Mimosaceae (acacias), Myrtaceae (eucalypts etc.) and so on. However, at \$295 this is definitely a book for the professional. Look for it in the library.

Please Note: The Greens Bookshop on Flinders Lane in the city has beaten the price down on this book to \$207.00 for IFFA members, their regular retail \$230.00 minus the special discount of 10%. It is probably the cheapest place to get it for you privileged readers.

A Non-Book Review: Urban Landscape Management

**By James Hitchmough (1994). Inkata
Press**

This book is a 1994 tome by former Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Burnley lecturer J. D. Hitchmough plus others. It could well be subtitled "a guide for Australians" considering the multitude of examples it draws on from recent research and practice on this continent.

At 594 pages of small type and hundreds of small photographs this is no coffee table piece and to attempt a review in the limited space of Indigenotes would be an undeserved insult to what may become the bible for local government in much the same way as Ernest Lord's tome did for a previous generation.

A browse through the 36 page index had me sold:
Themeda triandra - 36 references;

C4 grasses - 8;

children... - 11;

environmental weeds - 2;

Stipa... - 14;

Nassella... - 3;

although
cats - 0

dogs - 0

might be different if the writing was being done

today.

At \$195 retail this is a must for every local library if the community is to be well enough informed to judge how a major slice of its rates are being spent. May I suggest you suggest?

Eric Ward

Ernest Lord (1962). *Tree and Shrubs for Australian Gardens*. Lothian, Melbourne?.

Wildlife Corridors and the Conservation of Biodiversity: A Review

By Anne-Marie Wilson and David Lindenmayer (1996).

Published by the Australian National University, Australian Nature Conservation Agency and Greening Australia.

A useful summary of the research into corridors with guidelines on planning corridors as part of landscape management for nature conservation. Contact Greening Australia Victoria (03) 9457 3024.

More CD-ROMs on Natural History

All of these titles are available from:

Natural Learning Pty. Ltd.

P.O. Box W124

West Pennant Hills NSW 2125

or call (02) 9629-5448 with credit card details or

Fax on (02) 9629-5450 or E-mail to

natlearn@ozemail.com.au or order from our Web

site: <http://www.natlearn.com.au>

Reptiles of Australia II

Reptiles of Australia II is based on the Cornstalk edition of *Australia's Reptiles* by Stephen K. Wilson and David Knowles. The new CD-Rom contains over 800 photographs of Australia's terrestrial reptiles. Reptile species can be selected by Latin name, Common name, Genus or Family. Each species record includes the full text of Wilson and Knowles' book as well as notes on scientific status and a distribution map. \$29.00

Australian Native Fishes for Aquariums

Australian Native Fishes for Aquariums contains care and breeding details for 75 native fish species. The CD is accompanied by over 178 photographs of native fishes and their habitats. \$29.00

Bird-Book Book

The Bird-Book Book by Ken Simpson is a bibliography listing over 4600 bird books and reports from Oceania and Australasia. The CD is designed for libraries and ornithologists with an MPC standard PC. Extensive search facilities allow the user to quickly locate a desired listing and make the CD an essential reference work for anyone engaged in ornithological research. \$29.00

Bush Tucker Man CD-ROM: From the Rainforest to Cape York

The Bush Tucker Man is an exciting new CD-ROM produced in conjunction with the ABC. The CD follows Major Les Hiddins, the Bush Tucker Man, as he journeys from the rainforests of northern Queensland through to the west coast of Cape York in search of survival resources. Included is a comprehensive bush tucker database for northern Queensland with details on the identification and location of every food item. \$49.00

Coastal Fishes of SE Australia

Based on the work of Rudie Kuiter the CD Coastal Fishes of S. E. Australia lists over 850 fish species and contains over 850 fish species and contains nearly 1800 photographs of species and their habitats plus over 30 minutes of MPEGI video footage. The most complete CD reference on Australian coastal fishes ever published. \$49.00

Birds of Australia

Based on the newly released 4th edition of "Simpson and Day's Field Guide to the Birds of Australia" the CD-ROM contains 793 bird pictures, over 480 birdsong recordings from the Bird Observers Club of Australia and a complete list of the bird families of the world. The CD is designed for schools, libraries and naturalists and ornithologists with an MPC standard PC. \$79.00

IFFA activities:

IFFA (Vic) Meeting Tuesday, 28 January, 1997, 7:30 PM

**Astronomer's Residence, Birdwood
Avenue, South Yarra**

**Glen Jamieson, Conservation Ranger,
Yarra Valley Parklands, will speak on
the "Timelines Project of the Middle
Yarra".**

Its history, the information it has produced, how the data can and is being used and its potential for use as a model for other places. This talk will be of interest to all those who have and would like to contribute to the database, and to people who may want to set up a similar project elsewhere. People may already be doing something similar in their catchment or region, and you are welcome to come along and share your thoughts and information.

Committee meeting:

The Committee meeting is now the second Monday of every month.

SPIFFA

**Public meetings are on the first Monday of every month at 7:30 pm at the Waterfall Gully Community Centre, corner of Bayview Rd. and Nixon St., Rosebud.
Contact Jon Greening (03) 5985 5561.**

Membership

IFFA membership costs
\$40 for non-profit organizations,
\$50 for corporations,
\$25 for individuals and families,
or \$20 concession.

**Membership includes
11 issues of Indigenotes per year.**

*Memberships should be sent to the
Membership Secretary.*

*Include your name,
address and phone numbers,
and a bit about yourself.*

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P.O. Box 228, Preston, Victoria, 3072.

Editor: Lincoln Kern, (03) 9480 4680 (ah).

Coming Events:

Elissa Kerassitis (03) 9486 6768 (ah).

Contributions to Indigenotes should be sent to the editors — the deadline for the next issue will be November 9th. Contributions can be typed or hand written but computer disk copies on IBM-compatible format is preferred.

The views expressed in Indigenotes are not necessarily those of the Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association.