

INDIGENOTES

Hyacinth Orchid (*Dipodium punctatum*) from The
Flowers of Toohey Forest 1995 Calendar.

IFFA Pleas for Conservation of Endangered Orchid and Native Grasslands

Editor's Note: As many readers may already know there have been many accusations of a complete lack of enforcement of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act since its enactment in 1988. In fact we have reported on these pages of recent disregard of the intent and probably substance of the Act at Merinda Park in Cranbourne. I am also told that there has never been an Interim Conservation Order enacted under the Act to protect endangered species and habitats. Well, IFFA is attempting to save a beautiful piece of native grassland in Altona, known as the Slough Estate, through focussing on one extremely rare species that occurs there. All is explained in our letter reprinted below.

16 February 1996

The Hon. G. Coleman
Minister for Natural Resources

Dear Minister

The endangered orchid *Diuris aff. lanceolata* (Volcanic Plains)

Diuris aff. lanceolata (Volcanic Plains), an undescribed Victorian endemic orchid species, is confined to the Keilor Plains; the species will be described in the near future by D. Jones of the National Botanic Gardens, Canberra.

Only about four populations of the orchid have ever been recorded (from the 1960's to the present), all to the west of Melbourne between Altona and Werribee. The species is now critically endangered. I understand that the species has been nominated for inclusion under the schedules of the FFG Act 1988 and that the Scientific Advisory Committee has made a preliminary recommendation for listing.

Diuris aff. lanceolata (Volcanic Plains) is now known from a single site on private land, near the junction of Burns Rd. and Harcourt Rd., Altona, where it is under immediate threat of extinction. Industrial development is a permitted use under the existing Planning Scheme zoning and the land is for sale. It seems inevitable that a purchaser would pursue the permitted land-use, thus it is timely to avoid a conflict before the situation advances further.

We request that you exercise your ministerial powers under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 in Section 26 (1) (b) to implement an Interim Conservation Order as a matter of priority to

protect the site from the destruction it faces. The site is unequivocally crucial habitat for the orchid, as is the adjoining habitat on which the native bee that pollinates the orchid is dependent (for nesting and feeding). In view of the critically endangered status in Victoria of Plains Grassland, and many plant and animal taxa that constitute the community in which the *Diuris* occurs, the site has far greater biological value than those residing in the orchid alone.

We understand that the staff of your department have information about the location of the orchid and other details, should you require these. Ken Walker of the Museum of Victoria has information about the bee pollinator and its habitat and Jeff Jeanes of the National Herbarium of Victoria has further details about its taxonomy. I am available to meet officers of your department to discuss this further.

Yours Sincerely

Geoff Carr

Honorary Threatened Species Officer, IFFA

Snippets:

Ecological Research

Australian Nature Conservation Agency (ANCA) is co-sponsoring a \$3.1 million research and development program to study the rehabilitation, management and conservation of remnant vegetation, with the Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation (LWRRDC).

Nine ecological research and development projects are being managed by LWRRDC during the five year program. A socio-economic research program is currently being designed to determine priority issues and approaches.

The nine ecological projects currently being conducted include:

Measuring our bushland's ability to recover

Stopping Extinction it's too Late

Researcher and Landholder Partnership Key to Success

Finding Simple Solutions for Rehabilitation

Genetics Playing the Judge in Animal Conservation

Conserving Biodiversity vs. Rare Species

Stopping Dieback the Practical Way

Citizens Wildlife Corridors

The remaining project is described below. For information on any of these projects contact the Landscape Conservation Unit on 1800 671 717.

Source: **Bushlines Newsletter No. 7 Feb. 1996**

Smoke Without Fire

A project investigating the role of smoke in germinating native seed could see better results for future revegetation efforts in Australia.

Project leader, Dr. Kingsley Dixon of King's Park and Botanic Garden in Perth, said many native plant species have a remnant seedbank dormant within the soil. "In many natural habitats, smoke has been found to be the key to breaking seed dormancy and bringing those plants to life," he said.

Although fire produces smoke, it also produces some undesirable elements, such as nutrient-rich ash beds, that encourage weed growth. In comparison, smoke only stimulates seed germination in those species adapted to fire.

Researchers are currently testing the technology on representative sites with varying levels of disturbance and species diversity. The technique is not tied to the seasonal conditions required for burning but can be used at any time of year favourable for seedling establishment.

"Remnant bush owners will also have a very cost effective method for re-establishing species in areas with a remnant seed bank, without having to plant trees or burn the bush", Dr. Dixon said. The researchers are keen to obtain native species from eastern Australia which have proved difficult to germinate.

Contact: Dr. Kingsley Dixon on (09) 480 3637

Source: **Bushlines Newsletter No. 7 Feb. 1996**

Birds and Tree Hollows in Northern Victoria: Help Wanted

The Royal Australian Ornithologist's Union (RAOU) has just commenced a 12-month study of the use of hollow-bearing trees by birds in northern Victoria. This study will concentrate on Box-Ironbark habitat on private land and will complement tree and wildlife surveys undertaken by the DCNR in woodlands on public land. Since there are potentially few suitable hollows for roosting and nesting in Box-Ironbark forests, the information gathered will be assist in the management of this habitat for wildlife conservation. There will be two survey periods, February-July (non-breeding) and August-

December (breeding). Volunteer observers and sympathetic landowners are urgently sought for the project. For more information, please contact George Appleby at the RAOU National Office (Ph. (03) 9882 2622, Fax (03) 9882 2677).

Source: **Field Nat's News No. 41**

Australia Day Award for Indigenous Nurseryman

A long-term commitment to the preservation of indigenous flora in the Geelong region has earned Graeme Stockton a local Australia Day award. Graeme, who runs the Westcoast Indigenous Nursery in Geelong, was presented with his award on February 7 by Senator Rosemary Crowley and Corio MHR Mr. Gavan O'Connor. The citation acknowledges his work on many environmental programs, which has spearheaded a surge of appreciation of the region's diminishing reserves of indigenous flora. Graeme's assistance and support for displaced youth was also acknowledged by the award.

From **Geelong Advertiser 13/2/96**

New Recommendations: Flora & Fauna Guarantee Act

Recently many species, communities and threatening processes recieved the final recommendation to be listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act. The following are of particular interest to the Anglesea area:

1. Coast Blown Grass (*Agrostis billardieri* var *filifolia*)
2. Degradation of native riparian vegetation along Victorian rivers and streams.
3. Introduction and spread of *Spartina* to Victorian estuarine environments.
4. Invasion of native vegetation by environmental weeds.

Source: **ANGAIR Inc. Newsletter, No 2. March 1996**

Coastal News

The Coastal and Bay Management Council has presented a three year plan to the Minister for Conservation which maps out a program for a coastal strategy. Consultation will take place with various groups and individuals over the next two to three months. The strategy should be ready for public comment and reaction by August.

Regional Coastal Boards should be appointed by the minister very shortly. Applications were requested late last year from people who would like to be represented on these boards. Three boards will be established in Victoria, and each board will have four community representatives.

The Land Conservation Council has deferred its Marine and Coastal recommendations following an extended submission period. Publication is now expected in April.

Source: ANGAIR Inc. Newsletter, No 2. March 1996

Concerns of the VNPA, from Jenny Barnett

1. At the disbandment of the Environmental Assessment Branch, Dept of Planning & Development. This branch advised the Planning Minister on whether an Environmental Impacts Statement was necessary.
2. At the corporatisation of research within DCNR.
3. At the move of the specialist flora and fauna library from Arthur Rylah Institute to Victoria Pde where there is insufficient space for its contents. Many items have already been discarded because of amalgamating the forestry, soil conservation & water resources.

Source: Warrigal Conservation Society Inc. Newsletter, Vol. 26, No 2. March 1996

Books:

Bottlebrushes, paperbarks & tea trees and all other plants in the Leptospermum alliance.

By John W. Wrigley and Murray Fagg

352 pages, RRP \$45.00 (SGAP Vic Sales)

Hardcover. Angus & Robertson

From the attractive cover right through to the detailed and illustrated glossary, this definitive guide to the seventeen related genera of the family Myrtaceae is excellent. Callistemons, Leptospermums and Melaleucas are found in many gardens, and now, with this book, with its beautiful photographs and clear well labeled illustrations, identification will be a whole lot easier. Members will be inspired and helped to grow even more of this huge family of plants by using the full and detailed cultivation and propagation notes.

Small clear maps show the natural distribution of each species. The description of the plants are written in user friendly terminology which is very much appreciated by the many of us who have no formal training in botany. Symbols appear throughout, indicating horticultural properties such as whether the particular plant is suitable for culture in a pot or for that very wet patch in the garden. Where appropriate, the conservation status of the plant is also indicated.

Source: SGAP Victoria Newsletter, Vol 39:4 No. 156, March 1996. Reviewed by Newsletter Team.

The You Yangs Range

By Trevor Pescott

112 pages, RRP \$13.50 (SGAPVic Sales)

Soft Cover Published by Yauger Print.

The You Yangs is a small range west of Port Phillip Bay and a dominant feature of Geelong's landscape. They were one of the first places visited in Victoria by Europeans.

They are the subject of this delightful book which is written in the three parts which cover the formation of the ranges (geology), flora and fauna and the known human history from the time of the Koories through to European settlement.

Trevor will be known to many SGAP members as a naturalist writer and consultant whose magnificent photographs (many of which are included in this book) appear in books, calendars, brochures, magazines and newspapers. The photos which particularly appealed to me was the one of the pair of fledging Southern Boobook owls on page 61 and the wrap around cover is to greatly admired. The photo of the Brittle Greenhood (*Pterostylis truncata*) reminds us that the You Yangs are one of the last remaining areas where this beautiful terrestrial orchid can still be found. Like so many other orchids it is now threatened mainly by boneseed invasion and rabbits.

The You Yangs Ranges is deserving of a place on people's bookcases and is an excellent example of how to put together a book on a small natural area of our State. It will be a "vehicle by which visitors to the You Yangs may better appreciate what there is to see".

Source: SGAP Victoria Newsletter, Vol 39:4 No. 156, March 1996. Reviewed by Newsletter Team.

To order a copy of either book through SGAP Vic, or to obtain a copy of their Mail Order List (valid from 1/3 - 31/5/1996) contact (03) 9762 3910 or fax (03) 9761 3503.

For the cheaper SGAP Vic price you will need to arrange a pick up from SGAP Vic Sales, 29 Pope Avenue, Boronia 3155. To have it posted, send a Cheque (payable to SGAP Vic) to the above address. The You Yang Ranges will cost \$15.50 posted (13.50 pick up), and Bottlebrushes, Paperbarks & Teatrees will cost \$51.00 posted (pick up at a special price of \$45.00).

Coming events:

For IFFA events see back cover

Conferences/Workshops/ Talks

March Sunday 24th 1996 Friends Seminar, at Burnley Horticultural Institute, Swan Street, Richmond.

The theme of this seminar is "Hanging on to what we have", with particular reference to indigenous vegetation protection & enhancement. Details are available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Friends Network Committee, C/o VNPA, 10 Parliament Place, East Melbourne 3002.

March Sat 30th (10am - 4pm) or April Tues 2nd (9am - 3pm). Indigenous Plant seed collection. A free workshop sponsored by City of Knox and the Knox Environment Society. Learn identification skills, and visit various sites to collect seed which will be used to revegetate Knox. Speaker is Mark Elliston from Operation Revetation. For bookings & further details contact Darren Wallace on B/H 018 102 148 A/H 9729 3804. Lunch, morning tea and transport will be provided.

April Mon 1st, 8pm. "Possum Management and Urban Life". As part of the FNCV meeting, Peter Brown (Deakin University), a lecturer in wildlife management, will talk on these creatures. Venue is at FNCV Premises, 1 Gardenia St, Blackburn, 3130. Contact (03) 9877 9860.

April 2 Tues "South American Marsupials". Peter Temple-Smith (Dept. Anatomy, Monash University) talks on these mammals. Venue is at FNCV Premises, 1 Gardenia St, Blackburn, 3130. Contact (03) 9877 9860.

April Sat 13th (10am - 4pm) or April Tue 16th (9am - 3pm). "Indigenous Plant propagation". A free workshop presented by City of Knox & Knox Environment Society. Learn how to grow Knox's plants either from seed, cuttings or divisions. Visit the Operation Revegetation Nursery and see a great community greening venture in action. Speaker is Mark Elliston from Operation Revegetation. For bookings & further details contact Darren Wallace on B/H 018 102 148 A/H 9729 3804. Lunch and morning tea will be provided.

Landcare for Educators Vacation Course, Creswick. Course 1: 15 - 19 April 1996 and Course 2: 30 Sep - 4 Oct 1996. A course designed for teachers, community educators and anyone with an interest in landcare education. Presented by the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources & The University of Melbourne - School of Forestry Creswick Ltd. For further enquiries contact Trish Kevin & Geoff Park, DCNR - Creswick Nursery & Landcare Centre. Tel 053 452 200 or Fax 053 452 795.

April Sat 27th (10am - 4pm) or April Tues 30th (9am - 3pm). "Wildflowers and ecological relationships in our reserves". Learn of the successful Sword-grass Brown Butterfly food plant project. Listen to the

Possum Lady's (Yvonne Cowling of Boronia Wildlife Shelter) informative session on her wildlife shelter and how you can help wildlife in the suburbs. Learn how to build your own nest box with Ian Kitchen (Knox Environment Society). For bookings & further details contact Darren Wallace on B/H 018 102 148 A/H 9729 3804. Lunch, morning tea and transport will be provided.

April 17 - 21 1996 "Coast to Coast '96" - Australia's Coastal Management Conference. To be held at The Grand Hotel, Glenelg, Adelaide, South Australia. The conference aims to focus on community action through integrated coastal zone management, and capacity building for coastal managers. For more information, or if you are interested in submitting a paper, contact Coast to Coast '96 Secretariat, Sapro Marketing, PO Box 8253 Hindley Street, Adelaide SA 5000. Tel (08) 212 7555, Fax (08) 212 7148.

April 24 Wed "Effects of the Permian Ice-Age on Australia, Gondwana and Pangea". 8pm. A Geology meeting of the FNCV. Neil Archbold (Deakin University) discusses the visible effects of the ice-age on these three land masses. Venue is at FNCV Premises, 1 Gardenia St, Blackburn, 3130. Contact (03) 9877 9860.

April 25, Thur "Thornbills" 8pm. A Bird Observers Club Study meeting. The guest speaker is Jill Plowright. You will need to book early. To be held in the BOCA library at the rear of 183 Springvale Rd, Nanawading. Supper is provided. Cost is \$5 members or \$10 non-members. For bookings contact (03) 9877 5342.

September 30 - October 3 1996 "Australian Weeds Conference". The Weed Science Society of Victoria Inc., in conjunction with the Council of Australian Weed Science Societies, will be hosting the eleventh of these triennial conferences at Melbourne University. The conference will focus on the significant land use systems - cropping pasture, public lands, forest rangelands and urban areas. For further information contact Chris Knight, Promotions officer, Australian Weeds Conference, PO Box 987, Frankston, Vic 3199. Tel (03) 9619 2603, Fax (03) 9619 1756.

27 - 31 October 1996 13th Conference - Fire & Forest Meteorology - "International Perspectives on Landscape Fires". These series of conferences have been open, research meetings organised by the American Meteorology Society and the Society of American Foresters. This 13th conference will be the first one to be held outside of North America and is to be held at The Cumberland Resort Lorne, Vic Australia. Topics will include: fire ecology, fire management, fire disaster planning, media issues, smoke, meteorology/climatology, fire physics, modelling, and urban interface issues. A second announcement will be distributed by the organisers mid year calling for papers and registration forms. If interested in finding out more contact IAWF, PO Box 328, Fairfield, Washington, USA 99012.

Excursions and field trips

Sat 23 March Seasonal Wetland Plants at Bolin Bolin Billabong. A field trip organised by the Field Natu-

ralists Club. Damian Cook will point out some of the more inconspicuous, yet fascinating flora of Yarra River billabongs, starting at Bolin Bolin. Meet 10.30 am at the 1st car park into Bulleen Park (Melways 32 C9) Contact Noel Schleiger on (03) 9435 8408.

Sat 30 March "Get to Know our Tracks". A walk organised by ANGAIR, around Denham track in Aireys Inlet. Meet at cnr Bambra & Great Ocean Road, Aireys Inlet. Contact Margaret on (052) 896 888.

Sat 30th - Sun 31st March "Autumn Plant Sale", 10am - 5pm. Plant native, plant autumn, save water. Presented by the Society for Growing Australian Plants - Geelong, & SGAP -Victoria. Book sales, information. Thousands of plants for sale. Garden open, light refreshments & BBQ. Held at "Kamo" gardens. 680 Pettavel Road, Freshwater Creek. Melways Daytour Map 283:E8 or Vicroads map 93 E6.

Sat 30th - Sun 31st March. The Fern Show Open 10am - 5pm. Presented by the Fern Society of Victoria. Native & exotic ferns. Plants, spore and book sales. Free sample fern. Held at Homeshglen College of TAFE, Waverly campus auditorium (next to Victorian Schools Nursery). 585 Waverly Rd, Glen Waverly (Melways ref 70 K3). Adults \$3, Concession \$2, Children free.

Sat 13 April "Breakfast at Toorourrong Reservoir Park", organised by Friends of the Platypus. For more details contact the Australian Platypus Conservancy on (03) 9716 1626.

Sat 13 April "Stagwatch", Stagwatching and spotlighting for Leadbeater's Possum in Victoria's Central Highlands. Organised by the Fauna Survey Group of FNCV. Contact Ray Gibson (03) 9874 4408 AH.

Sun 21 April "Wattle Park - fungi survey" with the the Botany group of FNCV. Meet 10am at the Chalet car-park, Wattle Park (Melways 60 K3) for the continuation of our pioneering survey of an urban park. Contact John Julian (03) 9830 4795. 10Sat 27

Thur 25 - Sun 28 April "Anzac Day Camp at Wilsons Promontory National Park". Organised by the Fauna Survey Group of the FNCV. Post fire surveys and trapping for New Holland Mouse at Wilsons Promontory National Park. Contact Russell Thompson (03) 9434 7046.

April Sat 27, Boneseed at Seawinds, 10 am. Removal and Monitoring. Help to protect native vegetation from Boneseed invasion in the afternoon, look at seaweeds on the beach nearby. Organised by the FNCV. Meet at the main car park, Seawinds, Arthurs Seat State Park (Melway 171 D1). Contact Noel Schleiger (03) 9435 8408.

May Tue 9th Illustrated Talk on "Melbourne's Platypus". Organised by the Friends of the Platypus. For more information contact the Australian Platypus Conservancy on (03) 9716 1664.

Spotlight on Restoration Activities

April Wed 3rd & Sun 28 - 10am. FO the Helmeted Honeyeater Healesville Nursery Days at Healesville

Sanctuary. Also this month: Thur 11th & 25th - Yellingbo Nursery Days 10am at Yellingbo Ranger Office, Sun 14th - Revegetation day 10am meet at Yellingbo Store (BYO lunch). April Wed 10th - FO Sherbrooke Forest Project Morning. 9am. Dave's Gully Site. Meet at barrier, south end Grant's Picnic Ground (Melways Ref 75 K4). Will be targeting ivy. Bring your hands. Contact Marten Finger on (03) 9754 3548.

April 27th, FO Werribee Gorge & Mallee Project Day. Long Forest: surveying and mapping, fence removal & tree guard maintenance. Meet 9.30am at Happy Valley car-park off Long Forest Road. Bring hat, sturdy shoes, pencil, gloves, pliers, wire cutters, pruning saw, pick, mattock & spade. Contact Janet Leversha (053) 674 229.

The Candlebark Community Nursery, Croydon North - open Wed 10am - 3pm & Sun 10am - 4pm. Volunteers welcome. Contact Debbie (03) 9720 6141 or Lyn (03) 9729 3538.

Regular Restoration Activities

1st Saturday of the month:

Greenlink Box Hill - also every Monday and Tuesday at 10am. Minette Russell-Young (03) 9898 1364.

FO Gellibrand Hill State Park - 9.45am. Mark Corr (03) 9557 2783

Loughies Bushland - Nth Ringwood 9.30 am. Meet cnr Kubis & Werac Drv. Carole Clarke (03) 9870 8126.

1st Sunday of the month:

FO Evans Street Grasslands - 9.30am. Helen Graesser (03) 9744 4097 (Mel 113 B10)

FO Fourth Hill - 10 am - 12 noon. Meeting place varies. Dave V. Bockel (03) 9844 2659.

Heathmont Bushlinks - works in 5 different areas 10 am - 1 pm. Roger Lord (03) 9870 5262.

2nd Saturday of the month:

Wuurundjeri Garden - 10am. Dorothy Sutherland (03) 9818 4706 (Mel 45 A11)

FO Timber Reserve - 2 - 3pm. Brian Phefley (03) 9844 2659 (Mel 35 G3)

Tereddan Drive Reserve, Kilsythe - in July working bee is the 3rd St. Graham Lorimer (03) 9728 5841.

2nd Sunday of the month:

Greenlink Camberwell - 3pm. Diana Burgess (03) 9809 2092 (Mel 60 E7)

Friends of the Yarra - 10am. Also Wednesdays. Judy Rutherford (03) 9347 2252 (Mel 2D D7)

Gad's Gang at Stony Creek - Mark Gardner (03) 9844 3799 (Mel 23 C9)

FO the Hundred Steps - Keith Vagg (03) 844 1457.

FO the Common - Kim Dowcra (03) 9876 3807, Deb Parker (03) 9846 2214.

FO the Point (Nepean) - 2pm. Meet at Information Centre. Contact Stuart Sherren (059) 841 953.

3rd Saturday of the month:

FO Bradshaw Park - 10am (9am in Nov & Dec). Dave Bainbridge (03) 9580 5992 (Mel 87 E10)

3rd Sunday of the month:

Men of the Trees - 10am. Minette Russell-Young (03) 9898 1364 (Mel 2D D6)

Meander (Menzies Creek & Emerald Tourist track) - 10am. Kate Forster (059) 685 828 (Mel 125 F12)

Brunswick Tree Group - 10am. Eric Ward (03) 9388 2123

FO One Tree Hill - Diane Silveri (03) 9710 1331

Osborne Peninsula Landcare - Margaret Dimech (03) 9844 3812 (Mel 23 J9)

FO Pigeon Bank Creek - 2pm. Linda Bromilow (03) 9844 2541 (Mel 23 J6)

FO Tindals Wildflower Reserve - 11am. Kim Docwra (03) 9876 3807 (Mel 35 A3)

Fourth Sunday of the month:

FO Collins Settlement Historic Site, Sorrento - 2pm in carpark. Contact Stuart Sherren (059) 841 953.

Last Saturday of the month:

FO Organ Pipes National Park - 10am. Carl Rayner (03) 9331 2810

Last Sunday of the month:

Friends of Royal Park West - 10am. Mick Arundell (03) 9380 8075 (Mel 29 C12)

JB Hubbard Reserve - Nth Ringwood. Carole Clarke (03) 9870 8126.

FO the Helmeted Honeyeater - 11am. Nursery activities - Healesville. Jeff Dickinson (03) 9568 2768.

Week day activities:

FO the Koornong - first Wednesday of the month at 10am. Cathy Willis (03) 9844 1841.

Fred Rogers Reserve - Heathmont 12 am - 2 pm. Gwen Elliot (03) 9879 1427

FO the Koalas inc - Koala counts are held at the Koala Conservation Centre, Phillip Island, every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Contact (059) 522 407.

FO Stane Brae - second Wednesdays 10am. Ron Taylor (03) 9844 4285.

FO Warrandyte State Park nursery activities - every Thursdays at 10am. Afternoon activities: walk, flora fauna park skills. Margaret Burke (03) 9844 1060

A large range of activities such as bushwalks and "Friends" activities are published by the Victorian National Parks Association in their newsletter. For details contact VNPA on (03) 650 8296.

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

Thank you to all the people who contact us regarding on-coming events their groups are organising. If you wish to have your events covered, or you can see corrections that need attention, please contact Elissa Kerassitis AH on (03) 379 1116 or through IFFA's mailing address.

Timelines of Middle Yarra

The Timelines Committee has developed an interim seasonal wheel. Returning to cyclical passage of time rather than the prevailing linear time model, the Seasonal Wheel won't tell you if you are late for work but it may help acclimatise to an environmental time zone.

It is a model and concept that may be difficult to come to grips with, given that hours and minutes, rather than natural phenomena, generally dominate perceptions of time.

Glen Jameson, Conservation Ranger at Yarra Valley Parklands, says that the seasonal wheel was developed after analysing a substantial quantity of information on the natural phenomena of the Middle Yarra region. "The Committee wanted to investigate whether the data could describe new seasonal divisions of inter-related events, or substantiate the European four season division of the year."

The Seasonal Wheel depicts six seasons that cluster together similar seasonal themes. The sequence of events that make up a particular season, rather than where a season occurs in time, is the critical factor.

In the past, humans have divided up the year into a calendar using a variety of combinations but Aboriginal calendars have used a range of natural phenomena that equate with seasonal periods and trends.

For more info call Glen Jameson at Westerfolds Park on (03) 9846 4499.

Source: Understorey (The Quarterly Environment Newsletter of Melbourne Parks and Waterways) Issue 2, February 1996

IFFA activities:

IFFA (Vic)

Next meeting:

Tuesday 26 March, 7:30 pm at the Astonomer's Residence at the Botanic Gardens, South Yarra (Melways 44 A12).

Paul Ryan, Conservation Officer of the Bird Observer's Club of Australia will speak on the "Conservation of the Bush Thick-knee and other projects of BOCA".

Everyone welcome!

Committee meeting:

The next Committee meeting will be at Lill Gillan's House in Blackburn on April 1st. Please give her a ring if you want to come for directions.

SPIFFA

Meetings and Venue:

At 7:30 pm on the first Monday of each month at Waterfall Gully Community Centre, Bayview Rd. and Nixon Ave., Rosebud. Contact the Secretary (059) 868347 for details.

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.*

Table of Contents:

IFFA Pleas for Conservation of Endangered Orchid and Native Grassland	2
<u>Snippets:</u>	2
<u>Coming Events:</u>	5
<u>Books:</u>	4
Timelines of Middle Yarra	7

The Seasonal Wheel (please refer to page 7)

Office Bearers:

President: Roger Jones, 106 McConnell St., Kensington 3031. Ph. (03) 372 1582 (ah) or (03) 9239 4555 (bh). Fax (03) 9239 4 88. Email: roger.jones@dar.csiro.au

Vice-President: Peter Tucker, (03) 9818 1537 (ah).

Secretary: Lill Gillan, P.O. Box 192, Blackburn South 3130, Ph. (03) 9878 0858.

Membership Secretary and Treasurer: Neil Gardiner, P.O. Box 2055, East Ivanhoe 3079, (03) 9499 7048.

Committee members: Libby Anthony (03) 9807 2834, Geoff Carr (03) 9481 7679(bh) and (03) 9380 8582.

Editorial team: c/o P.O. Box 228, Preston, Victoria, 3072.

Editor: Lincoln Kern, (03) 481 4682 (ah).

Coming Events: Elissa Kerassitis (03) 9379 1116 (ah).

Contributions to *Indigenotes* should be sent to the editors — the deadline for the next issue will be April 12th. 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.*

*Before reproducing any material from *Indigenotes*, please ask the author and editor for permission, and please include an acknowledgement of the form "Reproduced from *Indigenotes*, the newsletter of the Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association".*