



The Whistler

Newsletter of the Ringwood Field Naturalists Club Inc.

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From the Editor

Spring is a wonderful time of year. I can just about guarantee that I start each October edition of The Whistler with the exact same sentiment, but I can't help it! Birds are chirping, flowers are flowering and Field Nats are field-natting...

The past 6 months, starting with our weekend away to Nagambie, have taken us to some great locations for our excursions – revisiting Badger Weir now it's re-opened after the October 2016 storms, Grantville and the Gurdies, where the weather was "challenging", and our fern excursion in the Dandenongs led by Graham Thomas. We're such a lucky Club to have members willing and able to lead these outings.

Orchids feature heavily in the Field Naturalist world. While summer was very dry, which resulted in a pretty average season for the "winter" orchids, the "spring" orchids have been putting in good showings on the back of late-autumn and winter rains. I've noticed *Pterostylis curta* in particular – an orchid I've only seen once before – common in several bushland reserves. Right now, the greenhoods are making way for the Sun Orchids as the weather warms up. I've also seen lots of chocolate and bulbine lillies, getting ready to flower. The excitement continues.

In just over a week, we'll be heading down to Anglesea for our spring weekend away. Anglesea is an orchid hotspot so it should be a fantastic time to visit. Fingers-crossed for blue skies and some sunshine.

Jack Airey
Editor



Pictured is one of the beautiful flower arrangements that Alison Rogers prepares for our meetings. The flowers are from Alison's and Marion King's gardens. One of the many little things that makes a great Club. Photo courtesy of Nicky Zanen

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"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

President's Report

The past year has been another successful one for the Club with very good attendances both at meetings and on excursions. There have been some excellent talks both by members and outside speakers on a variety of topics and some memorable outings to many different venues. Highlights of the year included the two club camps; to Bendigo in October led by Don and Sandra Redmond and to Nagambie in May led by Peter and Alison Rogers. My thanks go to all those members who gave talks or led excursions.

The smooth running of the Club is largely due to the hard work put in by all the Committee members and I would like to thank them all for their commitment and loyalty. In particular I would like to thank Eleanor, our wonderful secretary; Ray our very efficient Treasurer; Alison for coordinating the programme; Jack for producing the Newsletter and maintaining the website; David for his expertise in displaying images at the meetings and especially to Alan for his unwavering support at all times. I would also like to thank the other committee members Peter, Lynn, Inta, Roger and Graeme for their contributions.

Roger and Graeme are retiring from the Committee after many years of service and I thank them for all their hard work. Also, thanks once again to Loris Peggie for auditing our accounts.

Although the Club is in a strong financial position and current attendances are good, I feel there is a need to continue to attract more new members to ensure the long-term future of the Club.

By Hazel Veevers





Member News

Life Membership Award – Ray Wall Wednesday 11th September 2019

Honorary Life Membership is awarded to someone who, for a long period of time, has provided outstanding service to both the Club and towards furthering the Club's aims.

Our recipient certainly lives up to this by providing a commitment for years. I am talking about Ray Wall who has been a member for 21 years having joined the Club in 1998.

He has provided contributions to the Club including providing mini talks on member's nights, leading Club excursions and assisting with Club weekends away.

We have had 2 very successful SEANA weekends in 2008 and 2017. In both instances, Ray was pivotal in these successes with:

- detailed budget estimates,
- detailed spreadsheets of attendees, income and expenditure, other requirements,
- assistance with registration and other matters during the weekends,
- often remaining onsite to provide any necessary assistance,
- regular reconnaissance prior to the weekends.



But his major contribution has been a commitment to the operations of the Club. He joined the Committee in 2003 and immediately assumed the duties of Treasurer, a position he has held for the past 16 years. In this time, he has:

- obtained grants for equipment,
- kept and presented meticulous accounting reports,
- ensured our financial membership is up to date,
- been able to forecast expenditure whilst maintaining a healthy balance.

Ray continues to provide ongoing service to the Club, so the Committee have no hesitation in considering him for Honorary Life Membership.

By Hazel Veevers



Out and About

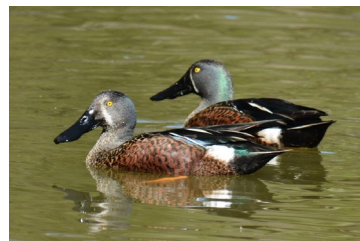
Serendip Sanctuary

Sunday 14th April 2019

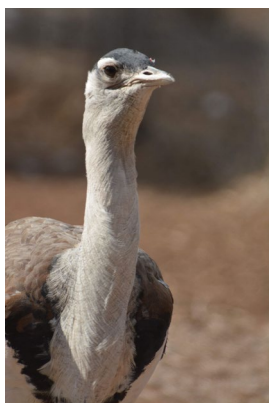
Leaders: Inta & Roger Needham

Thirty-two members gathered by 10am in the Serendip Picnic area. The day was an Autumn spectacular – mild and calm with intermittent sunshine. The Picnic area contained a number of flowering eucalypts and New Holland Honeyeaters were easily seen chasing one another from blossom to blossom. A tame Emu wandered the area, Superb Fairy-wrens bounced around the undergrowth and Magpie-larks attacked their own image in the car windows.

The Wetland Walk was our morning activity. Serendip was very dry, with Serendip Lake and any natural water features being empty. However, the North Arm Lake contained water and there were plenty of waterbirds to be seen. Magpie Geese, Australian Shovelers, Freckled Ducks and Red-kneed Dotterels being most notable. Remarkably a Rufous Fantail was seen by a few people, in the bush below the dam wall.



Australian Shovelers



Australian Bustard

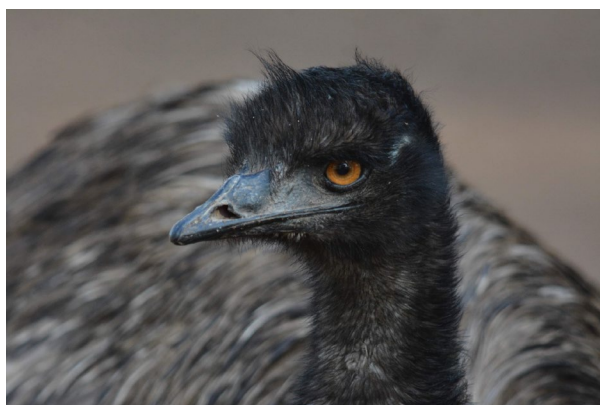
After lunch in the Picnic area we headed for the Wildlife Walk where aviaries and enclosures contained birds and animals no longer easily seen in Victoria, such as Bush Stone-curlew, Brolga, Australian Bustard, Masked Owl and Spotted Quoll. On the way to the enclosure, a Rose Robin was spotted, and most members had good views. (The Robin was seen again on the way back from the walk). There are a number of bird hides overlooking small wetlands through the area where wild birds are able to feed and good views were had of Australian Shovelers, Black-fronted Dotterels, Masked Lapwings and Grey and Chestnut Teal. A group of members gathered at the enclosure exit and while looking for a Whistling Kite noticed two White-bellied Sea-Eagles spiralling up on a thermal until lost from view.



Rose Robin

Back at the Picnic area, many members gathered for afternoon tea and a chat, before heading off, completing a most enjoyable day.

By Inta & Roger Needham



Old Man Emu



"... to further the study of Natural History in all its branches"

Autumn Camp-out to Nagambie

Friday 3rd to Sunday 5th May 2019

Leaders: Alison & Peter Rogers

Over the weekend 4th & 5th May, 25 members travelled to Nagambie to spend the weekend studying nature from around the area.

Saturday was spent driving through the Heathcote-Graytown National Park and Whroo Historic Reserve. The first stop was a visit to the Graytown POW ruins which was interesting for those who were unfamiliar with the area. From here we travelled through the national park, stopping frequently to check out the bush and look for birds. One such stop allowed members to look at one of the large stands of grasstrees on the hillside.



First stop at Graytown POW ruins



Australian Grass Tree

Our morning tea stop was at the Mt Black Quarry where we saw Speckled Warblers and an obliging Echidna. Continuing, we stopped numerous times including a stop at a water-filled, disused quarry. This proved a good birding spot with Noisy friarbirds calling and the flowering and fruiting mistletoe providing food for Yellow-tufted honeyeaters, Eastern spinebills and Mistletoebirds.

Before we stopped for lunch, we looked at the historic 'Puddling Wheel' in the Whroo forest. Lunch was held in the picnic area at the Balaclava Mine Visitor Centre. Moving on after lunch, we travelled through the forest and around the bottom end of Reedy Lake, again stopping frequently to investigate the bushland. The day concluded with a visit to the Goulburn Weir where we had afternoon tea and a look at the weir.

The Sunday morning activity was a 4 km walk through the Tahbilk Wetlands and Wildlife Reserve. As we crossed the first bridge, we were entertained by a Whistling kite swooping over the water. This was a pleasant stroll around the wetlands with sightings of an Azure kingfisher, numerous waterbirds, Red-browed finches and a couple of Wedge-tailed eagles.



Crossing the bridge into the wetlands

Nearing the end of the walk, members had to negotiate around a Red-bellied Black Snake lying near the path. Snakes aside, 33 bird species were recorded for the morning.



Red-bellied Black Snake



Tawny Frogmouth

After lunch, the afternoon was spent on the Tahbilk Wetland Cruise looking at the wetlands from a different angle. The highlight here was a pair of Tawny frogmouths, one of which was perched just 70cms above the water.

By Alison & Peter Rogers



Saturday attendees at Mt Black Quarry



Badger Weir

Sunday 16th June 2019

Leaders: Cathie & Ray Wall

On Sunday morning, 25 RFNC Inc. members made their way to Badger Weir Picnic Ground nestled in the Coranderrk valley, 6km (10 mins drive) from Healesville. We met in the furthest carpark opposite the new toilet block.

There is a story that says the name "Badger" is derived from the early settlers calling our beloved wombats 'badgers' as they were seen regularly in the area.

Following some significant storm damage in 2016, the transformation of the site has been significant and has included:

- Rebuilding the toilet,
- Refurbishing the old toilet and converting it into a picnic shelter,
- Rebuilding of pathways,
- Replacing picnic table and BBQs,
- Reinstating the grass areas,
- Replacing old bollards with new rock barriers,
- Fixing damaged sections of the road,
- Replacing of signs,
- Reinstating of damaged steps and boardwalks, and
- Replacing the pedestrian bridge.

We walked the Coranderrk Track (1.1km long) following a vehicle track and aqueduct to Badger Weir, taking in the devastation from the storm. Along the roadside, numerous types of fungi were seen, as were a few birds (see Appendix), but birds were few and far between.

From Badger Weir we returned via the Lyrebird Track to the Picnic Ground carpark. Lyrebird track follows Badger Creek for 1.1km (there are a few stairs) beneath towering Mountain Ash trees and through spectacular tree fern rich riparian vegetation. Further fungi types were seen. The sun appeared from behind the clouds as we enjoyed our lunch before heading home.

My sincere thanks to Judith Cooke, with contributions from Carol Page and Don Redman, for compiling the fungi list and I am grateful to Graeme Fernandes for compiling the bird list.

By Cathie & Ray Wall

Riparian Forest

This tall forest tends to occur on the beds and alluvial terraces of swift-flowing streams. It is normally dominated by Manna Gum, with Silver Wattle, Blackwood, Hazel Pomaderris, Victorian Christmas-bush and Prickly Coprosma in the shrub layer. Some ground-dwelling species are Tall Sedge and Fishbone Water Fern.

Slender Tree Fern



Grantville & The Gurdies

Saturday 13th July 2019

Leaders: Hazel & Alan Veevers

A stormy weather forecast did not deter the 22 intrepid members who attended this excursion. Meeting at Grantville Jetty in blustery conditions, the tide was seen to be very high with the rough sea causing waves to shoot in the air and crash over the sea wall; an exhilarating sight.

The group drove first to Candowie Reservoir and braved the cold wind to see various waterbirds including Black Swans, Hardheads and both Freckled and Blue-billed Ducks. A flurry of hail then hit the cars as we drove in convoy to Grantville Cemetery. A large number of orchids were found both around the carpark and beside the track on which we walked into the Gurdies. These were from 3 species; Nodding Greenhoods (*Pterostylis nutans*), Autumn Bird Orchids (*Chiloglottis curvicalvia*, formerly *C. reflexa*) and Mosquito Orchids (*Acianthus caudatus*).



Our intrepid members



Nodding Greenhood



Cobra Greenhood

Flowering Pink Heath in various shades and a number of fungi including *Cordyceps cranstounii* were also of major interest. Mistletoe flowering in huge old eucalypts was attracting Brown-headed Honeyeaters and Eastern Spinebills, while White-throated Treecreepers, a Grey Shrike Thrush and a male Golden Whistler foraged in the same area.



Brown Honeyeater

Lunch was eaten in the Grantville Memorial Gardens during a rare sunny interval. Most of the members then drove in convoy via Dunbabbins Road to the highest point of the Gurdies where a short walk was taken. Here many fine specimens of Cobra Greenhood (*Pterostylis grandiflora*) were flowering along with 2 Tall Greenhoods (*Pterostylis melagramma*) and many more of the morning's orchids. On returning to the carpark, a Nankeen Kestrel was hovering over an adjacent paddock which brought the day's bird count to 39.

Despite the obvious degradation of the vegetation due to weeds, it was still felt to have been a worthwhile outing with hundreds of orchids seen along with other plants and fungi. Members felt fortunate to have largely dodged the rain and hail, especially when they returned to Ringwood to discover how heavy the storms had been at home.

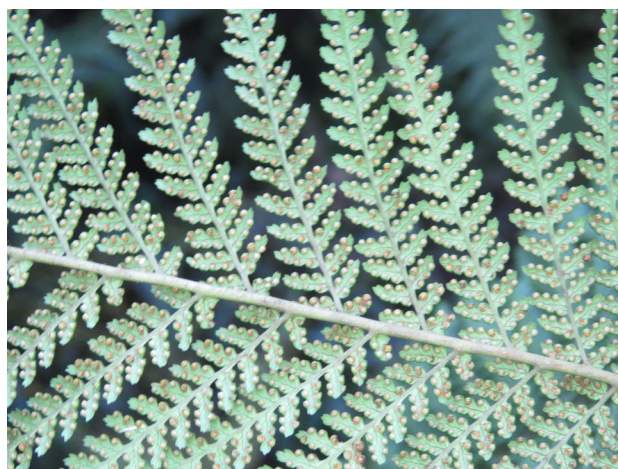
By Hazel & Alan Veevers

Sassafras-Kallista Fern Excursion

Saturday 17th August 2019

Leader: Graham Thomas

Blessed with perfect weather, 14 members gathered at the Sassafras Hall carpark, for the first of three fern gully walks in the Sassafras - Kallista area of Mt Dandenong. A fern list had been made available to members, and after some introductory remarks about the structure of fern fronds, we made our way down the Sassafras Creek walking track. Members were quickly involved in identifying Rough and Soft Tree Ferns, by feeling the stipes, and also in investigating the shape of the sporangia on Shield Hare's Foot and Mother Spleenwort ferns, which were growing as epiphytes on Soft Tree Ferns. The presence of massive tall Eucalypts, and a sub-story of trees and shrubs that thrive in a fern gully environment, added extra interest to the walk.



Soft Tree Fern

Being able to see a small stand of rare Slender Tree Ferns, and masses of Long Fork Fern growing on a large Soft Tree Fern, were the standout highlights of the walk, which finished up giving us a fern count of 14 species.

Returning to the car park after a stiff 450m uphill climb, we drove down to Grants picnic ground in Kallista, where we had an early lunch. During our lunch stop, another five members joined the excursion, and shortly after midday, we set off on our second walk.

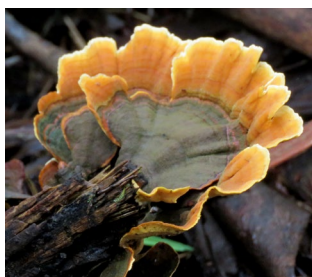
Mountain Helmet Orchid



Common Finger Fern

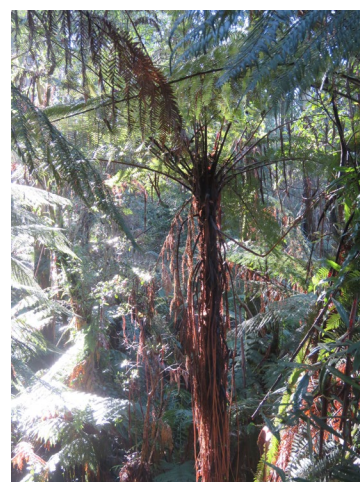


Leaving the picnic ground, we took the Hardy Gully walking track in Sherbrooke Forest and saw large numbers of Mountain Helmet Orchids (*Corybas grumulus*) flowering on Soft Tree Ferns. We also saw several species of filmy ferns, including the Common Filmy Fern, which is not common in the Mt Dandenong area.



Stereum ostrea

Moving on, we took the Lyrebird walking track, and stopped to explore a beautiful fern gully that crossed the track. Many fern species were seen here, including Austral Lady Fern, Shiny Shield Fern, Common Finger Fern, several Blechnum Water Ferns, and some lovely Austral Filmy Ferns.



Slender Tree Fern

Diverting on to the Neumann walking track, our walk finished at another fern gully, where King Ferns were prominent. On our 1km walk back to the picnic ground, we stopped to examine the very different looking fertile and sterile fronds of a Fishbone Water Fern. With our second walk completed, the total fern count for the day had risen to 23 species, and 16 members set off by car to Beagleys Bridge picnic ground.



King Fern



Kangaroo Fern

After pausing in the picnic ground for a cuppa, we examined some Soft Water Ferns, before setting out on a short walk to see Victoria's only endemic Tree Fern - *Cyathea marcescens* - the Skirted Tree Fern, several of which were growing downstream in the Sassafras Creek Reserve. By the end of the excursion, all 26 species of ferns on the fern list had been ticked off, and members expressed their appreciation in the usual way.

By Graham Thomas (photos by David Hewitt)



Mother Spleenwort



Skirted Tree Fern

Kinglake National Park

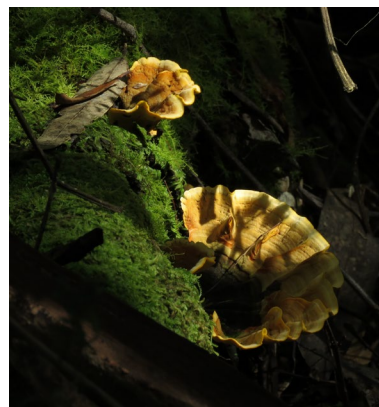
Saturday 14th September 2019

Leaders: Eeva and David Hewitt

We gathered on a perfect sunny spring morning at Jehosaphat Gully picnic ground, near Kinglake, before a leisurely walk along the Jehosaphat Gully and Laver's Walk loop. It was fascinating to see the dramatic regrowth of undergrowth since our last Club visit in 2014. During the first part of the walk we were serenaded by frequent calls from the Eastern Whipbird which some of us managed to see. We then travelled to Mason's Falls where we had lunch before walking to the Falls which were flowing well. On the way, most of us had a reasonable sighting of a female Superb Lyrebird. There were a few fungi and a number of wattles, including *Acacia leprosa* and *Acacia melanoxylon* in flower.



Sundew flower



We next travelled towards St Andrews and onto the Everard Track. Although the area seemed very dry in contrast to the first two stops, there were a large number of flowering plants. There were particularly good displays of Early Caladenia (*Caladenia praecox*), a few Nodding Greenhoods (*Pterostylis nutans*) and several Leopard Orchids (*Diuris pardina*). We also found some leaves of Bird Orchids (*Chiloglottis valida*), Waxlip Orchids (*Glossodia major*) and Sun Orchids (*Thelymitra* sp.).



Early Caladenia (*Caladenia praecox*)



Leopard Orchid (*Diuris pardina*)

The weather remained fine and warm for the whole day and we managed to see 28 species of birds.

By Eeva and David Hewitt



Member's Articles

Tumuli Lava Blisters

Mount Napier in Victoria is one of the youngest volcanoes in Australia. It erupted about 32,000 years ago. Mount Napier State Park is located 270 kilometres west of Melbourne and 17 km south of Hamilton.

The Mount Napier Lava Flow followed the Harman Valley west from the volcano, and then turned south towards nearby Mount Eccles, which is 25 km south-west of Mount Napier. Lava blisters or tumuli occur along the flow and are house-sized mounds of basalt rocks.



The Mount Napier Lava Blisters are one of three unique sites world-wide. They are the best developed examples of lava blisters but are located on private land, so access is limited. The other two sites are in Iceland and Africa.

Geographically, the tumuli are formed when lava flow spreads and forms a thin crust. The accumulation of pressure beneath the crust causes it to rise to the surface while thickening the crust. Some of the tumuli crack open releasing hot lava and resulting in characteristic bulges. In the end, the whole mass solidifies resulting in the characteristic, unique formations that you see today.

Preservation of this unique site is an on-going issue. Initially the owner-farmer was using the readily available rocks to erect stone fences around his property. Although this practice appears to have ceased there is nothing to stop it recurring or the general public removing stones.

It is however a very interesting geological site.

By Peter Rogers (photo by Alison Rogers)

ORIGIN "Coranderrk"

In March 1863, after 3 years of upheaval, the surviving leaders of the Woi Wurrung, Taungurong and Bun Wurrung tribes, among them Simon Wonga and William Barak, led 40 people over the Black Spur. They squatted on a traditional camping site on Badger Creek near Healesville and requested ownership of the site from the Government. They were anxious to have the land officially approved so that they could move down and establish themselves.

An area of 9.6 km² was gazetted on 30 June 1863 and called 'Coranderrk', at the Aboriginal people's suggestion. This was the name they used for the Christmas Bush (*Prostanthera lasianthos*), a white flowering summer plant which is indigenous to the area.

Information provided by Cathie & Ray Wall

Caspian Terns

Recently whilst on holidays at Phillip Island, I saw two Caspian Terns on some off-shore rocks at Ventnor Beach. An easy Tern to identify because of its size (48-54cm) and its bright red bill. It flies with its large bill pointed down in the direction of the water, ever watchful for fish which is its main food item. They are usually in pairs, sometimes small flocks. They don't breed in colonies like other Terns but in isolated pairs. The breeding season is September through to February on islands or sometimes on headlands along coastal inland waters.

My observation took place on the second week of June. The two birds seemed to be taking part in an out of season mating ritual. Both birds bowed slowly to each other, gently touched bills, and then repeated these graceful movements. I wondered if Terns like other species of birds have extended their breeding season because of the unusually warm weather this Autumn and Winter? The daily temperature was 17deg - 18deg every day we were at Phillip Island this time.

On the circuit drive from The Nobbies I was delighted to also see Black-browed Albatross with its 2.1m - 2.4m wingspan. It was blowing a gale and still the birds flew in a slow deliberate flight, it was hard to keep myself and the binoculars steady in the strong wind and many people also doing the drive were content to watch the birds from the protection of their cars. It was well worth the effort, after all it is sightings like these that make bird watching so exciting and Phillip Island a magic place for Naturalists.

A Friendly Tawny



Eastern Rosella

Just recently, whilst resting after a bad fall on uneven concrete, I decided to record all the birds that visited our back garden. I have a notebook on the windowsill for this reason. I was confined to a couch where through a large window, overlooking a small pool of water and two elevated water bowls in our large garden, birds are constantly calling in to bathe and drink. A few days previously we had five Eastern Rosellas bathing together and then using the small post and rail fence to sit and preen. As well as the Eastern Rosellas, we have Crimson Rosellas, Rainbow Lorikeets, lots of Noisy Miners and Musk Lorikeets. The Noisy Miners dive bomb the Eastern Rosellas who hold their ground looking up in defiance until the Miners fly off.

I was busy photographing the Musk Lorikeet when my husband called, "come quickly and bring your camera" He was in the kitchen and to our surprise a Tawny Frogmouth had landed just outside the window on a rail beside a grey lattice fence. It's lovely mottled grey and brown plumage melded in with the lattice work. The Tawny nodded off to sleep and spent the whole day snoozing, oblivious to me taking photographs through the window. A friend who called by that day said "it was meant to be". An injured and very keen bird watcher for the last fifty years needed cheering up, so the tawny came and provided much pleasure for me until nightfall, when it flew off to search for food.



Tawny Frogmouth

The photos I took will feature on gift cards for my overseas penfriends and for birdwatching friends and family for years to come. Not once during the day did the Frogmouth extend its neck in the defence pose although I am sure it was aware of us close by. I thought the photo of the Eastern Rosella was to be my highlight for the day, but the Tawny Frogmouth (one of my favourite birds) was really special.

Articles and photos by Cecily Falkingham



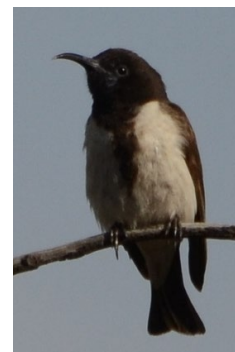
Great Places for Naturalists to Visit - Griffith

Griffith, (population 19,000) is a town in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area 460 km north of Melbourne. It is a good centre from which to explore places such as:

- Lake Wyangan,
- Campbell's Swamp,
- Nericon Swamp,
- Leeton Swamp,
- Cocoparra National Park,
- Binya State Forest, and
- Pulletop Nature Reserve.



In good years, the area teems with bird life - over 150 species having been recorded in Cocoparra N.P. including Painted, Black and Striped Honeyeaters, Turquoise Parrots, Crimson Chats, Diamond Firetails and Speckled Warblers. The lakes and swamps in the area attract lots of waterbirds including Spotted and Baillon's Crake and Glossy Ibis, while Bitterns breed in the rice paddies.



Crimson Chat & Black Honeyeater

Native pine forests clothe the hillsides alongside a wide variety of forest eucalypts, acacias and dry country species such as kurrajongs. In spring there are great wildflower displays.

There are plenty of hotels, motels and B&Bs as well as caravan parks and free camping areas such as at Lake Wyangan and Woolshed Flat in Cocoparra N.P. 20 km east of Griffith.

The best time to visit is, as with most places, spring. Summers are very hot and winter nights can be very cold.

The area also has wineries, orchards, museums and art galleries to visit.

By Roger Needham



White-browed Woodswallows



Australian Spotted Crake, Campbells Swamp

Australian Spotted Crake



Appendix

Serendip Sanctuary bird list

Compiled by Inta & Roger Needham

Wild Birds		
Emu	Red-kneed Dotterel	Grey Shrike Thrush
Magpie Goose	Black-fronted Dotterel	Magpie-lark
Cape Barren Goose	Masked Lapwing	Willie Wagtail
Black Swan	Black-winged Stilt	Grey Fantail
Freckled Duck	Galah	Rufous Fantail
Australian Shoveler	Rainbow Lorikeet	Common Starling
Chestnut Teal	Musk Lorikeet	Welcome Swallow
Grey Teal	Crimson Rosella	Silvereye
Pacific Black Duck	Red-rumped Parrot	Little Grassbird
Australasian Grebe	Superb Fairy-wren	European Goldfinch
White-faced Heron	Spotted Pardalote	House Sparrow
Straw-necked Ibis	Brown Thornbill	Dusky Woodswallow
Whistling Kite	Red Wattlebird	Australian Magpie
Black Kite	Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater	Little Raven
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	White-plumed Honeyeater	Red-browed Finch
Dusky Moorhen	Rose Robin	
Eurasian Coot	Golden Whistler	49 species
Aviary Birds		
Musk Duck	Australian Bustard	Masked Owl
Brolga	Bush Stone-curlew	Tawny Frogmouth
Buff-banded Rail	Australian King Parrot	Blue-faced Honeyeater

Badger Weir fungi list

Compiled by Judith Cooke, Carol Page and Don Redman

<i>Amanita</i> sp.	<i>Mycena</i> sp.1
<i>Armillaria luteobubalina</i>	<i>Mycena</i> sp.2
<i>Artomyces piperatus</i>	<i>Mycena</i> sp.3
<i>Clavulina</i> sp. - White coral fungus	<i>Mycena</i> sp.4
<i>Clitocybe</i> sp.	<i>Mycena</i> sp.5
<i>Coprinus/Coprinella</i> sp.	<i>Mycena</i> sp.6/ <i>Lichenomphalia</i> sp.
<i>Cortinarius</i> sp.	<i>Pisolithus tinctorius</i> - Horse Dropping fungus
<i>Favolaschia calocera</i> - Orange Pore fungus	<i>Ramaria</i> sp.
<i>Geastrum triplex</i> - Earth Star	<i>Scleroderma</i> sp. - Earth Ball
<i>Hemimycena</i> sp.	<i>Stereum illudens</i>
<i>Hemimycena</i> sp. 'marasmioides'	<i>Stereum ostrea</i>
<i>Hypholoma</i> sp.	<i>Trametes versicolor</i> - Rainbow Fungus
<i>Inocybe</i> sp.	<i>Tremella fuciformis</i> - White Jelly Fungus
<i>Laccaria</i> sp.	<i>Xerula radicata</i> group – Rooting Shank
<i>Mycena interrupta</i>	



Badger Weir bird list

Compiled by Graeme Fernandes

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo	White-throated Treecreeper	Magpie-lark
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Superb Fairy-wren	Australian Raven
Australian King Parrot	White-browed Scrubwren	Eastern Yellow Robin
Crimson Rosella	Brown Thornbill	Australian Magpie
Laughing Kookaburra	Grey Shrike-thrush	
Superb Lyrebird	Pied Currawong	16 species

Grantville & The Gurdies bird list

Compiled by Hazel & Alan Veevers

Black Swan	Black-shouldered Kite	Little Wattlebird
Blue-billed Duck	Nankeen Kestrel	Brown-headed Honeyeater
Australian Wood Duck	Masked Lapwing	Eastern Spinebill
Grey Teal	Pacific Gull	Flame Robin
Chestnut Teal	Silver Gull	Golden Whistler
Freckled Duck	Galah	Grey Shrike-thrush
Hardhead	Rainbow Lorikeet	Magpie Lark
Pacific Black Duck	Crimson Rosella	Grey Butcherbird
Australasian Shoveler	Eastern Rosella	Australian Magpie
Australasian Grebe	Laughing Kookaburra	Little Raven
Little Pied Cormorant	White-throated Treecreeper	Red-browed Finch
White-faced Heron	Superb Fairy-wren	Silvereye
Australian White Ibis	Brown Thornbill	Common Starling
39 species		

Kinglake National Park bird list

Compiled by Eeva & David Hewitt

Collared Sparrowhawk	White-throated Treecreeper	Eastern Yellow Robin
Masked Lapwing	White-browed Scrubwren	Eastern Whipbird
Laughing Kookaburra	Brown Thornbill	Grey Shrike-thrush
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Striated Thornbill	Golden Whistler
Australian King Parrot	Red Wattlebird	Grey Fantail
Eastern Rosella	Australian Magpie	Australia Raven
Crimson Rosella	Pied Currawong	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Lewin's Honeyeater	Welcome swallow
Superb Lyrebird	White-eared Honeyeater	
Superb Fairy-wren	Crescent Honeyeater	28 species

Sassafras-Kallista Fern Excursion fern list

Compiled by Graham Thomas

Type	Species		Walk		
			1	2	3
Tree Ferns	<i>Cyathea australis</i>	Rough Tree Fern	x	x	x
	<i>Cyathea cunninghamii</i>	Slender Tree Fern	x		x
	<i>Cyathea marcescens</i>	Skirted Tree Fern			x
	<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i>	Soft Tree Fern	x	x	x
Water Ferns	<i>Blechnum chambersii</i>	Lance Water Fern	x	x	x
	<i>Blechnum fluviatile</i>	Ray Water Fern		x	x
	<i>Blechnum minus</i>	Soft Water Fern			x
	<i>Blechnum nudum</i>	Fishbone Water Fern		x	x
	<i>Blechnum wattsii</i>	Hard Water Fern		x	x
Filmy Ferns	<i>Hymenophyllum australe</i>	Austral Filmy Fern		x	x
	<i>Hymenophyllum cupressiforme</i>	Common Filmy Fern		x	
	<i>Hymenophyllum flabellatum</i>	Shiny Filmy Fern		x	x
	<i>Polyphlebium venosum</i>	Veined Bristle Fern	x	x	x
Ungrouped Ferns	<i>Allantodia australis</i>	Austral Lady Fern		x	
	<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i> spp.	Mother Spleenwort	x	x	x
	<i>Grammitis billardieri</i>	Common Finger Fern		x	
	<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	Bat's Wing Fern	x	x	x
	<i>Microsorium diversifolium</i>	Kangaroo Fern	x	x	x
	<i>Polystichum proliferum</i>	Mother Shield Fern	x	x	x
	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken	x	x	x
	<i>Pteris tremula</i>	Tender Brake			x
	<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i>	Shield Hare's Foot	x	x	x
	<i>Tmesipteris billardieri</i>	Long Fork Fern	x	x	
	<i>Todea barbara</i>	King Fern		x	
	<i>Hypolepis rugosula</i>	Ruddy Ground Fern	x		
	<i>Lastreopsis acuminata</i>	Shiny Shield Fern	x	x	
			14	21	19

Mountain Helmet Orchids (*Corybas grumulus*) – seen at Sherbrooke (Jack Airey)

