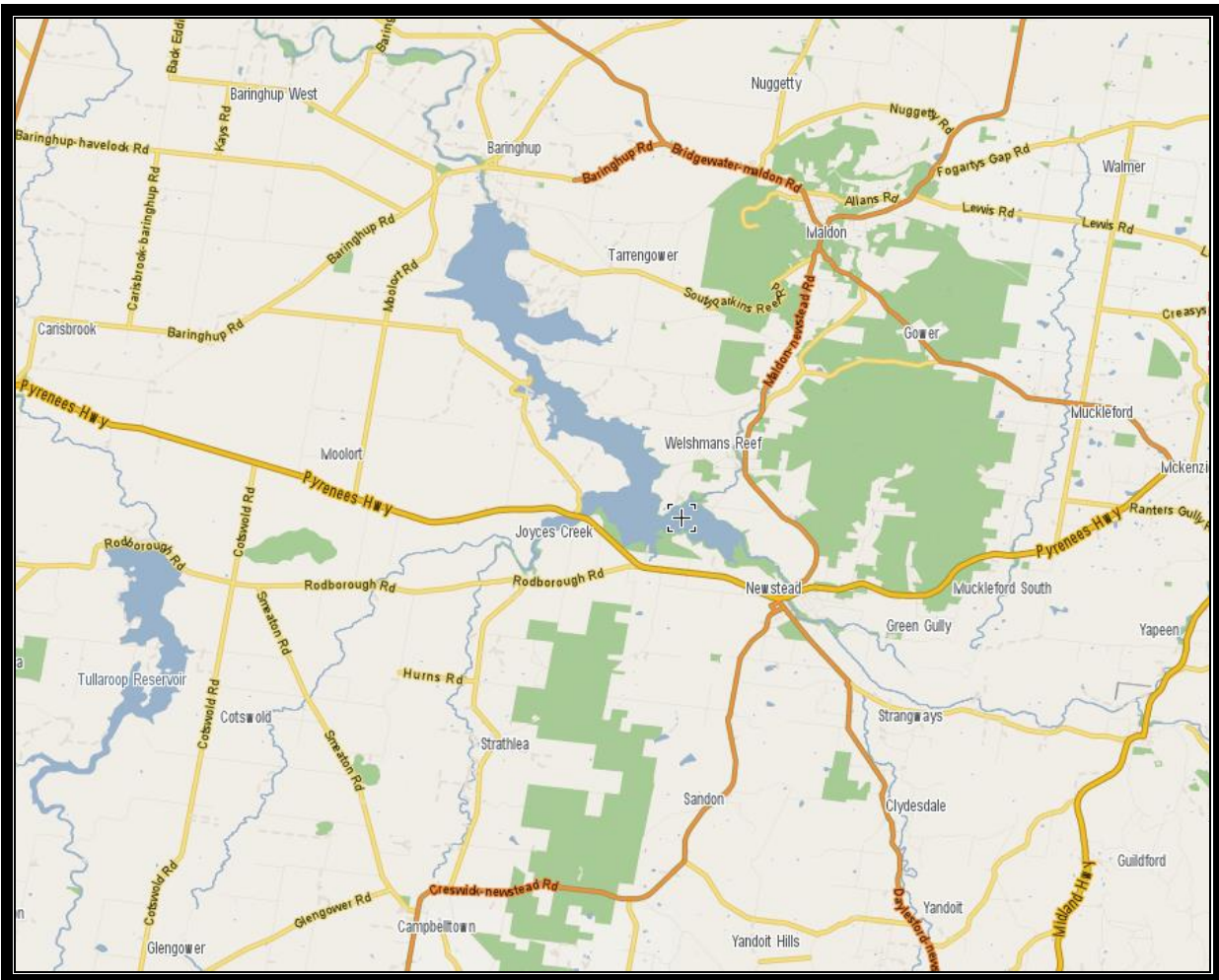
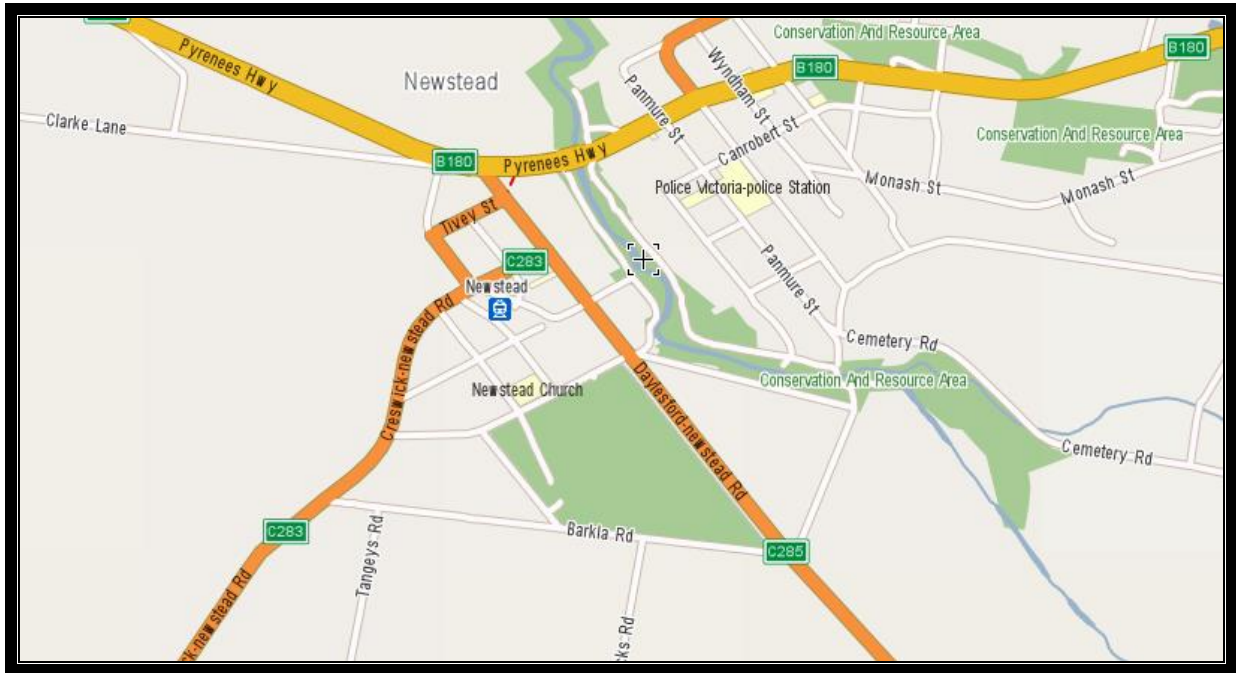


**LIST OF PLANTS OBSERVED AND IDENTIFIED BY  
MEMBERS OF THE RINGWOOD FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB INC.  
FIELD TRIP TO NEWSTEAD, CENTRAL VICTORIA  
19-21 SEPTEMBER 2014  
COMPILED BY JUDITH V COOKE**

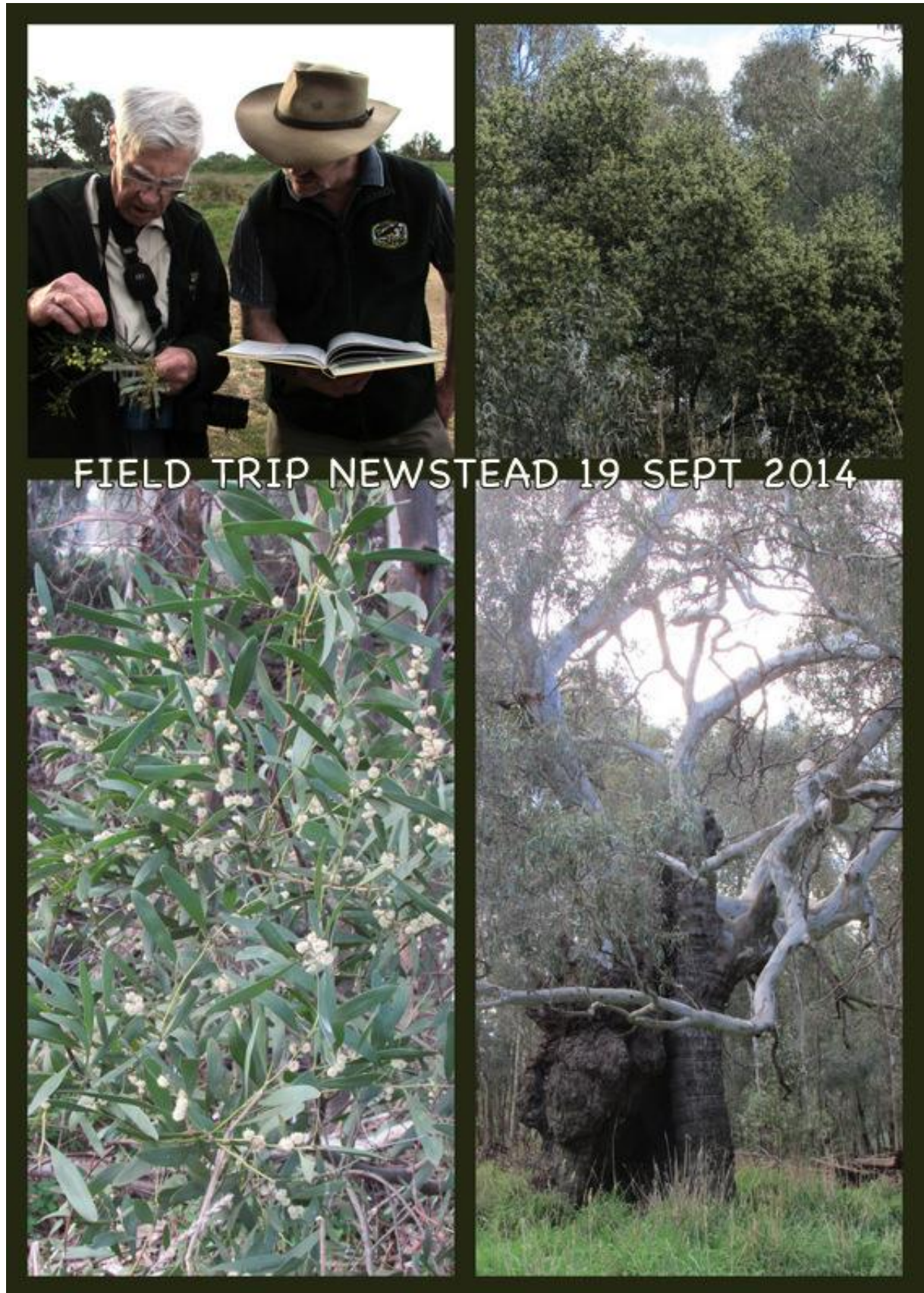


Muckleford Forest 20 09 14



Map of Newstead and surrounding area





Loddon River Walk





Flora of Muckleford Forest





Flora and Geology of Muckleford Forest



<i>Botanical Name</i>	<b>Common Name</b>	<b>19 09</b>	<b>20 09</b>	<b>21 09</b>
<b>ORCHIDS</b>				
<i>Caladenia carnea</i>	Pink Fingers		<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>
<i>Caladenia dilatata</i> group	Greencomb Spider Orchid			<b>F</b>
<i>Caladenia phaeoclavia</i>	Brown-clubbed Spider-orchid			<b>F</b>
<i>Corybas</i> sp	Helmet Orchid			●
<i>Diuris chryseopsis</i>	Small Golden Moths			<b>F</b>
<i>Diuris pardina</i>	Leopard Orchid		<b>F</b>	
<i>Glossodia major</i>	Waxlip		<b>F</b>	<b>F</b>
<i>Microtis</i> sp ?	Onion Orchid			●
<i>Pterostylis nutans</i>	Nodding Greenhood			<b>F</b>
<i>Thelymitra</i> sp 1	Sun Orchid		●	●
<i>Thelymitra</i> sp 2	Sun Orchid			●



*Caladenia carnea* Pink Fingers



*Glossodia major* Waxlip

Orchids in Muckleford Forest

<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>	19 09	20 09	21 09
<b>FERNS</b>				
<i>Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia</i>	Rock Fern		●	●
<b>FUNGI</b>				
<i>Laetiporus portentosus</i>	White Punk			●
<i>Psathyrella sp?</i>				●
<b>MOSESSES AND LICHENS</b>				
<i>Polystichum juniperinum</i>	Moss			●
<i>Triquetrella papillata</i>	Moss			●
<i>Menegazzia sp?</i>	Lichen			●



Mosses and spore capsules, Rise and Shine Bushland Reserve

<i>Botanical Name</i>	<i>Common Name</i>	<b>19 09</b>	<b>20 09</b>	<b>21 09</b>
<b>OTHER FLOWERING PLANTS</b>				
<i>Acacia aculeatissima</i>	Thin-leaf Wattle		F	
<i>Acacia aspera</i>	Rough Wattle	F		
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle	●		
<i>Acacia genistifolia</i>	Spreading Wattle		F	
<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Black Wattle	F		
<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle		F	F
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden Wattle		F	F
<i>Acacia retinodes</i>	Wirilda	F	F	
<i>Amyema miquelii</i>	Box Mistletoe		F	
<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Cranberry Heath		●	
<i>Brachyscome perpusilla</i>	Rayless Daisy			F
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria			F
<i>Calocephalus citreus</i>	Lemon Beauty Heads		F	
<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	Common Fringe Myrtle		F	
<i>Cassinia arcuata</i>	Drooping Cassinia		●	
<i>Centrolepis sp.</i>	Centrolepis			●
<i>Craspedia variabilis</i>	Billy Buttons		F	
<i>Daviesia ulicifolia</i>	Gorse Bitter-pea		F	
<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Black-anther Flax Lily		F	
<i>Drosera peltata</i>	Tall Sundew		●	●
<i>Drosera whittakeri</i>	Scented Sundew			●
<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath		F	
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum	●	●	●
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i>	Yellow Gum		●	●
<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	Grey Box		●	
<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemus</i>	Red Box			●
<i>Eucalyptus tricarpa</i>	Ironbark			●
<i>Exocarpus cupressiformis</i>	Cherry Ballart		●	
<i>Geranium solanderi</i>	Native Geranium			●
<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort			●
<i>Grevillea alpina</i>	Cat's Claw Grevillea		●	●
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Purple Coral-pea			●
<i>Hibbertia riparia</i>	Erect Guinea-flower			F
<i>Hibbertia sp</i>	Guinea Flower		F	
<i>Hydrocotyle sp</i>	Pennywort		●	
<i>Hypoxis glabella</i>	Yellow Star			F
<i>Juncus sp</i>	Native Rush		●	●
<i>Lagenifera huegelii?</i>	Coarse Lagenifera			F
<i>Leucopogon virgatus</i>	Common Beard Heath		F	
<i>Microseris aff. lanceolata</i>	Yam Daisy		F	
<i>Olearia teretifolia?</i>	Cypress Daisy-bush			●
<i>Pelargonium rodneyanum</i>	Magenta Stork's Bill			F
<i>Pelargonium sp</i>	Pelargonium/Geranium			●
<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower		F	
<i>Plantago sp?</i>	Native? Plantain			F
<i>Pultenaea pedunculata</i>	Matted Bush-pea		●	
<i>Senecio quadridentatus</i>	Cotton Fireweed		F	F
<i>Stackhousia monogyna</i>	Creamy Candles			F
<i>Tetratheca ciliata</i>	Pink Bells		F	
<i>Wurmbea dioica</i>	Early Nancy		F	F
<i>Xerochrysum viscosum</i>	Sticky Everlasting		F	

**F** = plant species in flower

Refs: *Muckleford Forest Plant List* - Ern Perkins  
Cryptogam Identifications - Bruce Fuhrer



## LODDON RIVER

The Loddon River is the second longest river in Victoria. Located in the north-central catchment, part of the Murray-Darling basin, it crosses the lower Riverina bioregion and Central Highlands. At Newstead, the Loddon River flows under the Pyrenees Highway in a northerly direction where it empties into Cairn Curran Reservoir.

Wikipedia

<http://newstead.vic.au/venue/loddon-river-newstead>

The Loddon River at Newstead has been subject to considerable physical and ecological modifications due to extensive historic mining activities and other anthropogenic influences. Of recent years bank erosion has been an issue for both landholders adjacent to the Loddon River and pile fields were constructed on several bends of the river in 2003. The Loddon River at Newstead was subject to a series of flood events during late 2010 and early 2011, causing significant damage. Majestic specimens of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* line the banks south of the highway, however the understorey has been significantly altered with the introduction of several species of *Acacia*.

<http://7asm-2014.p.asnevents.com.au>

## MUCKLEFORD FOREST

Muckleford State Forest covers an area of approximately 3,152 hectares. Located immediately to the south of the Maldon Historic and Cultural Features Reserve, it surrounds the Maldon Nature Conservation Reserve, which is in the centre of the state forest block. Muckleford State Forest is a large proportion of the total area of public land in the wider Maldon region.

Muckleford State Forest falls within the Loddon River catchment and is just to the east of the Cairn Curran Reservoir. It is the source of at least two creeks, Nuggetty Creek and Fryers Creek, which flow west. This forest is very well linked to other forests to the west. Preliminary analysis has identified that the forest is generally of medium conservation significance. Two Ecological Vegetation Classes that are considered endangered within the Goldfields bioregion are present within Muckleford State Forest: Alluvial Terraces Herb-rich Woodland (16 ha) and approximately 5 ha of Creekline Grassy Woodland. The vulnerable Alluvial Terraces Herb-rich Woodland/Creekline Grassy Woodland Mosaic is also present. The area is home to a range of significant woodland bird species, including the state-listed and vulnerable Diamond Firetail and Powerful Owl and the nationally endangered Swift Parrot. Significant mammals recorded in the forest include the state-listed Brush-tailed Phascogale.

<http://specialplaces.vnpa.org.au/reports/Muckleford.pdf>

## CAIRN CURRAN RESERVOIR AND MUCKLEFORD SWAMPS

Cairn Curran Reservoir is located on the Loddon River, about 10 km west of Maldon. Cairn Curran Reservoir was constructed between 1947 and 1956. A secondary spillway situated 21 km south-west of the main structure will spill before the embankment is overtopped.

The Moolort Plains are a very different environment to the goldfields landscapes closer to Newstead. The plains country is part of the Victorian Volcanic Plains bioregion, once dominated by native grasslands and largely un-timbered. Silver Banksia, Tree-Violet and Bursaria were some of the predominant shrubs in this verdant landscape, prior to European settlement. A feature of the Moolort Plains is its wetlands and swamps, many of which have been actively managed for conservation values by local farmers. The Moolort swamps were also highly valued for their aesthetic value.

<http://www.visitmaryborough.com.au/things-to-do/cairn-curran-reservoir>

<http://geoffpark.wordpress.com>

## RISE AND SHINE BUSHLAND RESERVE

The track crosses the course of an ancient river bed which flowed northward from the Great Dividing Range between 5 and 35 million years ago. There are two local native plants that dominate the vegetation. *Cassinia arcuata* (Drooping Cassinia, Coffee Bush or Chinese Scrub) is the fine-leaved light green shrub that stands about a metre high. It is a very important coloniser of disturbed ground. It stabilises the soil and catches leaf litter and seeds, which helps other plants to regenerate. Cassinia is used by many birds both for nesting in and for nesting material. *Acacia paradoxa* (Hedge Wattle) is the large prickly shrub with short green leaves lying along the branches. It too provides very important habitat for many small birds. The ground here is covered with a crust of lichens and moss. These reduce erosion and catch seeds of other plants, helping with regeneration. The mosses come to life after rain and remain green throughout the cooler months. Here the variety of stones from the old stream is apparent. The Jaara people used larger, rounded rocks as grinding stones to make flour from the seed of the many wattles that can be found in this reserve. They made damper and Johnnycakes from the flour and cooked them on hot rocks. The Jaara also fashioned cutting tools out of quartz and various types of sandstone were used as different grades of "sandpaper". Gravel quarrying has left a number of "artificial" waterholes. They now provide habitat for frogs. Birds have carried in native water plants such as *Juncus* and *Schoenus*.

<http://geoffpark.wordpress.com>

## MUCKLEFORD GORGE

Muckleford Gorge is a rarely visited local treasure. A privileged visit to Ian Garsed's property provides access to this interesting geological feature. Ian has excluded the gorge from grazing under the Bush Tender system – a good example of what VEAC has recommended for conservation on private land - allowing natural regeneration to restore the beauty and ecological value of the location. The gorge is towards the end of the Muckleford Creek before it drains into the Loddon River just east of Newstead. The creek has cut its way along the western edge of the basalt flow that makes up the Muckleford plateau – creating a spectacular feature with steep sides dropping down to the narrow waterway. Being well protected from summer extremes it has some lush areas of native grasses including Kangaroo Grass, Wallaby Grass and *Microlaena* (Weeping Grass). There are lots of large old trees in the Gorge, mainly Red Gum and Yellow Box. There are some magnificent specimens of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, which provide important protection and habitat for a range of other species, including Wedge-tailed Eagle. There are some fine examples of sedimentary rock laid down in layers and uplifted by earth movements. These rock formations support an altogether different range of plant life, principally fungi and mosses. The gorge is perfect habitat for other species - pools of water attracting flying insects and hundreds of hollows to choose from.

<http://geoffpark.wordpress.com>

<http://www.fobif.org.au>