



The Clematis



The Quarterly Newsletter of the
Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club Inc. A0006074C

P.O. Box 563, Bairnsdale Victoria 3875 www.bairnsdalefieldnaturalists.com.au



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Leafless Globe-pea (*Sphaerolobium vimineum*) see page 5 JW

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

www.bairnsdalefieldnaturalists.com.au

MEETINGS

General meetings take place at:

The Hub
27 Dalmahoy Street, Bairnsdale
as per program at 7.30pm *sharp*

Committee meetings take place at:

members homes as per
program at 10.00am.

THE CLEMATIS

The Clematis is issued quarterly.
Responsibility for the accuracy of information
and opinions expressed in this newsletter
rests with the author of the article.
All articles for Winter 2022 Clematis must be
sent to the Newsletter Editor by 1st June 2022.

SUBSCRIPTION FEES 2021

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

Subscriptions can be paid to the Treasurer at meetings
or excursions or by EFT or cheque by downloading a
Membership Application form from our web site.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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

FIELD TRIPS

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

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

Please take note of safety procedures in your
Bairnsdale & District Field Naturalists Club Inc.
'RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY' booklet.

This can be downloaded from our web site.

RULES TO OBSERVE DURING FIELD TRIPS

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

DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY FOR BUSH WALKS

Walks vary in distance between 10 to 16 km.

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

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

CONTACTS for Field Trips

James Turner:	5155 1258 m. 0427 290 838	Margaret Regan	045 856 2541
Noel Williamson	m. 0457 291 869		
Connie Tuck	m. 0409 421 390		

Date	Activity	Time	Meeting Place	Destination	Subject/ Rated	Leader/ Speaker
MARCH						
Fri 18th	General meeting	7.30pm	The Hub		Monitoring the Gippsland Lakes	Sean Phillipson EGCMA
Sun 20th	Excursion	9.00am	Bridge Club	Bengworden Reserve , Swallow Lagoon, Providence Ponds		James Turner & Margaret Regan
Sun 27th	Bushwalk	9.00am 9.30am	Bridge Club Bruthen	White Rocks—Tambo River	Moderate	Noel William- son
APRIL						
Sun 3rd	Junior Excursion	9.00am 9.45am	All Abilities Play- ground Mingling Waters	Snowy River Estuary, Marlo		Connie Tuck
Mon 4th	Committee meeting	10.00am	Margaret Regan's home			
Fri 15th	No General meeting			Good Friday		
Sun 17th	Special Excursion	9.00am 9.30am	Bridge Club Bruthen	Ensay North		James Turner
Sun 24th	Bushwalk	9.00am 9.45am	Bridge Club Red Knob	Buchan Reserve	Not yet rated	Noel William- son
MAY						
Sun 1st	Junior Excursion	7.00pm	All Abilities Play- ground	Astronomy Night, Sarsfield		Connie Tuck
Mon 9th	Committee Meeting	10.00am	Noel Williamson's home			
Fri 20th	General meeting	7.30pm	The Hub	TBA		
Sun 22nd	Excursion	9.00am 9.45am	Bridge Club Orbost Forest Park	Cabbage Tree Reserve		Paul Harvey
Sun 29th	Bushwalk	9.00am 9.45am	Bridge Club Late Tyers House Rd	Wombat-Hartland Di- vide Rd. Tostaree area	Easy	Noel William- son
JUNE						
Sun 5th	Junior Excursion	9.00am	All Abilities Play- ground	Landcare –TBA		Connie Tuck
Mon 6th	Committee meeting	10.00am	If required			
Sun 19th	Excursion	TBA				
Sun 26th	Bushwalk	9.00am	Bridge Club	Deptford Trail, Nichol- son River	Not yet rated	Noel William- son

By Margaret Regan

Our first stop was south of Orbost on the Marlo Road along the Snowy River. The vegetation along the river had been augmented with plantings some years ago. Here were the tree Black Wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) with bipinnate foliage, pale yellow flowers and glands at the junction of, as well as in between, the pinnae pairs; and the vulnerable Native Hemp (*Androcalva rossii*) which is a small tree with large cordate [heart-shaped] toothed leaves which are furry underneath and whitish flowers in showy clusters. The later capsules are soft-bristly. Climbing over the other plants was Forest Clematis (*Clematis glycinoides*) whose leaves have 3 glossy thin leaflets with entire margins. The plants are unisexual, and this one must have been female as it bore large feathered fruits.

Outside the Marlo Airport many plants were in flower. Trees were the gnarled Saw Banksia (*Banksia serrata*) with serrated leaves; and Scented Paperbark (*Melaleuca squarrosa*) with small dense leaves in four rows and creamy flowers in a terminal spike. A large shrub covered in bright white flowers was Wedding Bush (*Ricinocarpos pinifolius*) with fine long leaves. The flowers are in terminal clusters with usually 1 female to 3-6 males!! A pea shrub was mostly yellow Common Aotus (*Aotus ericoides*) whose linear leaves have rolled under margins. Smaller shrubs included white Slender Rice-flower (*Pimelea linifolia*) which also has terminal clusters of flowers and these are hairy outside. Others were Hairy Pink-bells (*Tetratheca pilosa*); and the wiry sprawling Prickly Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia acicularis*) which has needle-pointed leaves and flowers on long stalks. The iconic Small Grass-tree (*Xanthorrhoea minor*) has an almost entirely underground trunk and an erect tuft of long thin leaves. There were many plants of the pretty small perennial Blue Dampiera (*Dampiera stricta*) whose petals have rusty hairs outside. In the same family Goodeniaceae was the purple straggling herb Hairy Fan-flower (*Scaevola ramosissima*) whose leaves are long and hairy. Species in the family have irregular flowers whose petals usually have a thick central zone and thin wings.

A lily-like plant was Milkmaids (*Burchardia umbellata*) whose flowers have a central pink ovary. There was the carnivore Tall Sundew (*Drosera auriculata*) with insect-trapping sticky leaves. An iris-like plant was a tufted herb with grass-like leaves, Short Purple-flag (*Patersonia fragilis*) where the flowering stem is shorter than the leaves. A daisy was Swamp Daisy (*Allittia cardiocarpa*) with a basal tuft of linear leaves and an inflorescence with mauve or white ray florets and yellow disc florets. Two perennial herbs were the rare Varied Mitrewort (*Mitrasacme polymorpha*) whose 4-petalled flowers are in terminal clusters of 4-6 flowers; and prostrate Creeping Raspwort (*Gonocarpus micranthus*) with opposite round leaves and minute pendent reddish flowers. Orchids included the two donkey orchids [named for their two erect ear-like petals]; yellow and brown Tiger Orchid (*Diuris sulphurea*); and Purple Diuris (*D. punctata*). Others

were blue Spotted Sun-orchid (*Thelymitra ixioides*); and an onion-orchid (*Microtis* sp.). The only fern was the tiny Screw fern (*Lindsaea linearis*). We also noticed the mud towers built up around the burrows of land crayfish. They live only in damp environments. The crayfish spends most of its time at the bottom of its burrow, only emerging at night and bringing soil to the surface. It feeds mostly on decaying roots and buried plant matter, but sometimes eats worms or insects.

We made a short stop just past the airport on the north side of the Marlo Conran Road. There were masses of Milkmaids and the more mature Wedding Bush here had its bristly capsular fruits. New pea shrubs were the low yellow Common Wedge-pea (*Gompholobium huegelii*) whose leaves have small narrow leaflets; and the rare yellow and red Sword Bossiaea (*Bossiaea ensata*) with leaves that are mostly reduced to scales, so the flattened winged green stems (cladodes) photosynthesise. Other small shrubs were white Daphne Heath (*Brachyloma daphnoides*) with pointed leaves and sweet-scented tubular flowers; Broom Spurge (*Amperea xiphoclada*) which is also leafless with the green stems acting as leaves and tiny flowers in clusters along the stems; and Common Rice-flower (*Pimelea humilis*) with clusters of creamy flowers at the apices. An herbaceous daisy was yellow and white Button Everlasting (*Coronidium scorpioides*). There was also Oat Spear-grass (*Anisopogon avenaceus*), a tufted tall perennial to 1.3m whose inflorescence is a loose panicle of up to 8 large pendulous spikelets.



Cape Conran Coastal Park

JW

On to Cape Conran Coastal Park which was badly burnt during the Black Summer bushfires in 2019-20. We stopped at the beachside site called Sailors Grave. Sailors Grave has a colourful history. A number of passing ships came to grief on Beware Reef just off the coast in the 1880s and it is said those that perished during salvage attempts were buried at Sailors Grave. Just inland from Sailors Grave was a grass tree

plain edged by the tall shrub Scented Paperbark. There were a myriad of other plants enjoying this obviously favourable environment. There were many Onion-orchids, but also Pink Fingers (*Caladenia carnea*) which may be pink or white with the labellum having red bars; and the ovate upright leaves of a tongue-orchid (*Cryptostylis* sp.). Two vigorous creepers climbing through the trees were the pea Purple Coral-pea (*Hardenbergia violacea*); and Climbing Lignum (*Muehlenbeckia adpressa*) which has ovate leaves and unisexual flowers.



Climbing Lignum (*Muehlenbeckia adpressa*) JW

Lily-like plants were tufted Tasman Flax-lily (*Dianella tasmanica*) with long broad leaves and a large inflorescence of pendulous mauve flowers with pale yellow anthers; the much smaller Milkmaids; and Tufted Blue Lily (*Thelionema caespitosum*) which has folded leaves and erect flowers. Similar related plants were two tiny tufted herbs with single yellow flowers, Yellow Star (*Pauridia vaginata*) which has non-hairy linear leaves; and Golden Weather-grass (*Hypoxis hygrometrica*) with hairy linear leaves and flowering stem. This Golden Weather-grass was most odd in having a narrow folded back calyx.

Peas were the tiny creeping bright red Running Postman (*Kennedia prostrata*); and two quite similar small shrubs, erect Leafless Globe-pea (*Sphaerolobium vimineum*) with yellow and orange flowers; and Golden Spray (*Viminaria juncea*) with very reduced leaves and pendulous branches. In the family Goodeniaceae with irregular flowers was small upright Blue Dampiera; and prostrate Creeping Fan-flower (*Scaevola hookeri*) which has white or blue flowers with yellow throats. Two daisies were the tiny herbs Blue Bottle-daisy

(*Lagenophora stipitata*) with a basal rosette of hairy leaves and a hairy flowering stem; and Water-buttons (*Cotula coronopifolia*) whose hemispherical inflorescence has only yellow disc florets. Water-buttons is regarded as naturalised, not native, as it is widespread throughout the temperate regions of the world. In the family Pittosporaceae were two quite different looking plants. One was the climber Common Apple-berry (*Billardiera scandens*) with long leaves and tubular cream flowers; and the other was the tiny subshrub White Marianth (*Rhytidosporum procumbens*) with tiny leaves and starry flowers.

Small shrubs were white prickly Common Heath (*Epacris impressa*) and Woolly Xanthosia (*Xanthosia pilosa*) which has compound leaves with 3 leaflets. ['Pilos' is Latin for hairy.] Other interesting plants were the aquatic perennial, yellow Running Marsh-flower (*Ornduffia reniformis*), whose kidney-shaped leaves have long petioles (stalks) and the flower petals have wavy margins; the erect broom-like shrub Broom Spurge; and pink Grass Triggerplant (*Stylidium graminifolium*), a tufted perennial with grass-like leaves and an inflorescence with up to 25 flowers, each with a very unusual method of ensuring insect pollination. Plants we often see were mauve and white Ivy-leaved Violet (*Viola hederacea*); and a bluebell (*Wahlenbergia* sp.). Here we also saw an Eastern Grey Kangaroo. A fungal fruiting body was mushroom-shaped, but leathery with honeycomb pores below. The cap was brown with concentric rings of colour and a cream edge. It might have been Fairy Stool (*Coltricia cinnamomea*).

Another wonderful day, thank you to James, Len and Jacquie.



Running Marsh-flower (*Ornduffia reniformis*) JW

Plants:

Acacia mearnsii Black Wattle
Allittia cardiocarpa Swamp Daisy
Amperea xiphoclada Broom Spurge
Androcalva rossii Native Hemp
Anisopogon avenaceus Oat Spear-grass
Aotus ericoides Common Aotus
Banksia serrata Saw Banksia
Billardiera scandens Common Apple-berry
Bossiaea ensata Sword Bossiaea
Brachyloma daphnoides Daphne Heath
Burchardia umbellata Milkmaids
Caladenia carnea Pink Fingers
Clematis glycinoides Forest Clematis
Coronidium scorpioides Button Everlasting
Cotula coronopifolia Water-buttons
Cryptostylis sp. a tongue-orchid
Dampiera stricta Blue Dampiera
Dianella tasmanica Tasman Flax-lily
Diuris punctata Purple Diuris
D. sulphurea Tiger Orchid
Drosera auriculata Tall Sundew
Epacris impressa Common Heath
Gompholobium huegelii Common Wedge-pea
Gonocarpus micranthus Creeping Raspwort
Hardenbergia violacea Purple Coral-pea
Hibbertia acicularis Prickly Guinea-flower
Hypoxis hygrometrica Golden Weather-grass
Kennedia prostrata Running Postman
Lagenphora stipitata Blue Bottle-daisy
Lindsaea linearis Screw fern
Melaleuca squarrosa Scented Paperbark
Microtis sp. an onion-orchid
Mitrasacme polymorpha Varied Mitrewort
Muehlenbeckia adpressa Climbing Lignum
Ornduffia reniformis Running Marsh-flower
Patersonia fragilis Short Purple-flag
Pauridia vaginata Yellow Star
Pimelea humilis Common Rice-flower
P. linifolia Slender Rice-flower
Rhytidosporum procumbens White Marianth
Ricinocarpos pinifolius Wedding Bush
Scaevola hookeri Creeping Fan-flower
S. ramosissima Hairy Fan-flower
Sphaerolobium vimineum Leafless Globe-pea
Stylidium graminifolium Grass Triggerplant
Tetratheca pilosa Hairy Pink-bells

Swamp Daisy (*Allittia cardiocarpa*)

JW

Native Hemp (*Androcalva rossii*)

JW

Creeping Raspwort (*Gonocarpus micranthus*) JW

Thelionema caespitosum Tufted Blue Lily
Thelymitra ixioides Spotted Sun-orchid
Viola hederacea Ivy-leaved Violet
Viminaria juncea Golden Spray
Wahlenbergia sp. a bluebell
Xanthorrhoea minor Small Grass-tree
Xanthosia pilosa Woolly Xanthosia

Birds:**Marlo Aerodrome**

Swamp Harrier
 Masked Lapwing
 Shining Bronze-cuckoo
 Fan-tailed Cuckoo
 Superb Fairy-wren
 White-browed Scrub-wren
 Brown Thornbill
 Spotted Pardalote
 Red Wattlebird
 White-naped Honeyeater
 Golden Whistler
 Rufous Whistler
 Grey Shrike-thrush
 Olive-backed Oriole
 Australian Magpie
 Grey Fantail
 Willie Wagtail
 Jacky Winter
 Eastern Yellow Robin
 Welcome Swallow

Marlo-Conran Road

Little Wattlebird

Salmon Rocks

White-bellied Sea-Eagle

West Cape Conran

Black-shouldered Kite
 Silver Gull
 Laughing Kookaburra
 White-eared Honeyeater
 Scarlet Honeyeater
 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
 Magpie-lark
 Silvereye

Cape Conran (Heathland Walk)

Pallid Cuckoo
 Dusky Woodswallow
 Pied Currawong
 33 species

Mammal:

Eastern Grey Kangaroo

Crustacean:

Land Crayfish

Fungus:

??*Coltricia cinnamomea* ??Fairy Stool



Cape Conran, East Gippsland

JW

By Margaret Regan

After meeting at Red Knob (the junction of Buchan – Nowa Nowa Road and the Bruthen – Buchan Road) we headed north to Buchan. From here we went east along the Buchan – Orbost Road to Basin Road and thence to Tullach Ard Road. Most of the day along Tullach Ard Road, we were passing through vegetation burnt during the Black Summer 2019-20, fires and we stopped many times along this road. Our first stop was on top of a rise. Many of the overstorey eucalypt trees were showing signs of recovery; with hundreds of leafy epicormic shoots sprouting from their trunks. Beneath the trees were masses of regrowth. Unfortunately there was also much growth of weeds along the roadside.



Recovering vegetation

DW

Two orchids seen were an onion-orchid (*Microtis* sp.) and yellow and brown Tiger Orchid (*Diuris sulphurea*). Daisy herbs were the tiny Blue Bottle-daisy (*Lagenophora stipitata*) which has a basal rosette of hairy leaves; and a New Holland daisy (*Vittadinia* sp.). There was the shrub Forest Burgan (*Kunzea* sp. [upright form]) which has become weedy in many places, particularly disturbed sites such as roadsides, sometimes forming extensive stands. It has bark which peels in long strips and white flowers. Two shrubs in the potato family Solanaceae were Gunyang (*Solanum vescum*), one of the kangaroo apples, with mauve flowers and large round green fruits; and the much smaller Forest Nightshade (*S. prinophyllum*) whose stems and leaves carry the most hideous prickles. Another small shrub commonly seen along the disturbed edges of roads was yellow Hop Goodenia (*Goodenia ovata*) with soft ovate leaves and irregular flowers. A subshrub was white Common Rice-flower (*Pimelea humilis*). Two small herbs in the lavender family Lamiaceae (with square stems, opposite aromatic leaves and irregular tubular flowers) were purple Austral Bugle (*Ajuga australis*) which has flowers in the axils of the leaves all the way up the stem; and mauve Dwarf Skullcap (*Scutellaria humilis*) with 2-lipped flowers.

Listed as vulnerable was the purple herbaceous pea Clover *Glycine (Glycine latrobeana)* which had trifoliolate leaves with rounded leaflets.

A lily-like plant was Pale Vanilla-lily (*Arthropodium milleflorum*) with a basal tuft of long thin leaves and a tall flowering stem with many gorgeous mauve flowers. Another tufted plant with long thin leaves was Tall Sedge (*Carex appressa*). Among the many other small herbs were some we commonly see, such as mauve and white Ivy-leaved Violet (*Viola hederacea*), white Small Poranthera (*Poranthera microphylla*), white Prickly Starwort (*Stellaria pungens*), Stinking Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle laxiflora*) with its inflorescence of offensively smelling flowers and Tall Bluebell (*Wahlenbergia stricta*). Other herbs not seen so often were Australian Carrot (*Daucus glochidiatus*) which has pinnate leaves and tiny flowers in umbels (the flower stalks all arise at one point); and the highly perfumed Sweet Hound's-tongue (*Cynoglossum suaveolens*).

Further along Tullach Ard Road was the rare Forest Leek-orchid (*Prasophyllum sylvestre*) which has a flowering spike to 50cm with up to 30 tiny perfumed yellowish-green flowers with pinkish tones. There was also the vigorous deep red pea creeper Dusky Coral-pea (*Kennedia rubicunda*) with densely hairy pods. Another climber was a native raspberry, Small-leaf Bramble (*Rubus parvifolius*) which has strong hooked prickles and pink flowers. In the same family Rosaceae were two species of burr with pinnate leaves, Bidgee-widgee (*Acaena anserinifolia*) which has its flowers in a dense globular head; and Sheep's Burr (*Acaena agnipila*) whose flowers were in a dense spike. Both species fruits have spines designed to facilitate dispersal, either by way of human's socks or laces, or animals' wool or fur!! A native daisy herb was yellow Indian Weed (*Sigesbeckia orientalis*) whose hairy leaves have serrated edges. It has glandular sticky seeds which are also designed to catch onto any passing animal or human!



Dwarf Skullcap (*Scutellaria humilis*)

There was Grey Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia obtusifolia*); and the very tall (with flowering stems to 1.8m) showy Silvertop Wallaby-grass (*Rytidosperma pallidum*) with bright orange-red anthers.



Grey Guinea-flower (*Hibbertia obtusifolia*) JW

A little way further near private property were many plants of Common Rice-flower and the greenhood orchid Common Ruddyhood (*Pterostylis squamata*) which has several small reddish flowers on its flowering stem. The lateral sepals are held down and the exposed ovate labellum has numerous side bristles and is attached by a highly sensitive strap.



Ruddyhood (*Pterostylis squamata*) DW



Coopernookia barbata JW

After lunch a little further along the road, was a very dry area with Silvertop Ash (*Eucalyptus sieberi*) which has lower bark fissured like ironbark, with the upper branches smooth and white; and Black Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*), a dark green tree with hard closely fissured bark, rusty brown male spikes and cones on female trees. Beneath we saw the rare small shrub Purple Coopernookia (*Coopernookia barbata*) which in Victoria only grows in East Gippsland in dry rocky open forests and shrublands. Its leaves have glandular and star-shaped hairs on their surfaces and the mauve flowers are irregular and also hairy.

Our next stop was just past New Guinea Track. Here were three genera of orchid. One was Copper Beard-orchid (*Calochilus campestris*) whose flowers are pale green with reddish stripes. The extraordinary labellum has a distinctive smooth purplish base, the central area is covered with long purplish-yellow tipped hairs

and the pointed apex is turned under. The blue Tall Sun-orchid (*Thelymitra media*) was in bud. Its flowering stem can be 100cm tall with up to 30 blooms; and there was Tiger Orchid again. A new rare plant was yellow Variable Goodenia (*Goodenia heterophylla*) which is a hairy perennial to 40cm with ovate toothed or lobed leaves. The flowers have two smaller and three larger petals, each petal with a thickened central area and wavy edges. These flowers are characteristic of the family Goodeniaceae, which also includes Purple Coopernookia, and Blue Dampiera (*Dampiera stricta*) which we also saw here.



Blue Dampiera (*Dampiera stricta*) JW

A pea was the small shrub yellow and red Twiggy Bush-pea (*Pultenaea largiflorens*) with narrow concave leaves. Two other shrubs were Elderberry Panax (*Polyscias sambucifolia*) whose pinnate leaves can be very variable in their number of leaflets; and smaller white and pink Shrubby Platysace (*Platysace lanceolata*) with soft ovate leaves and flowers in a compound umbel like carrot or parsley. Tailed Rapier-sedge (*Lepidosperma urophorum*) had leaves reduced to basal sheaths and flowering stalks to 150cm bearing slender dark spikes of flowers.

Further on again the area had been badly burnt. There were more species of beard-orchid. These were Purple Beard (*Calochilus robertsonii*) whose labellum has very long purplish hairs; and Red Beard-orchid (*C. paludosus*) whose hairy labellum has the apex protruding to form a long naked strap. There were many plants of Blue Dampiera. Two new peas were yellow Tall Shaggy-pea (*Oxylobium arborescens*) which can grow to 6m and has leaves in irregular whorls; and a new bush-pea was mostly yellow *Pultenaea forsythiana* which has linear sharp-pointed leaves. Two almost leafless small shrub species were the rare deep lilac-pink Leafless Pink-bells (*Tetratheca subaphylla*) whose leaves are usually reduced to scales and the flowers have long hairless stalks; and Broom Spurge (*Amperea xiphioclada*) with tiny flowers in small clusters up the stems. Both of these species use their green stems to photosynthesise and produce their energy. Other plants were the small widespread tussock Wattle Lomandra (*Lomandra filiformis*) with strappy leaves and short inflorescences of yellow male or female flowers; and the small shrub Curved Rice-flower (*Pimelea curviflora*) with yellow bisexual or female flowers.

On to Ash Saddle at the corner of Tullach Ard Road and Betts Track. Ash Saddle at 854m is presumably named for the magnificent huge Mountain Ash (*Eucalyptus regnans*) that grow here. Mountain Ash is the tallest flowering plant in the world and can grow to 95m. Its bark is subfibrous on the lower part of the trunk and smooth and ribbony higher up. It has long shiny green leaves and club-shaped buds with 7-12 per cluster. The trees are easily killed by fire, only regenerating from seed. Another tree was Southern Sassafras (*Atherosperma moschatum*), but most of these had been burnt. The fire here seems to have been a ground fire, rather than a crown fire. There was also Black Olive-berry (*Elaeocarpus holopetalus*), a dark dense tree whose stiff leaves have toothed margins and its fruit are black. Tall shrubs were Hazel Pomaderris (*Pomaderris aspera*) which has green leaves with sunken veins; and Musk Daisy-bush (*Olearia argophylla*) with large leaves which are green above and satiny-silvery below. 'Argo' is Greek for shining or bright, and 'phyll' is Greek for leaf. Other daisies were the smaller shrub Snowy Daisy-bush (*O. lirata*) with white flowers and thin leaves; and the tall annual herb Golden Everlasting (*Xerochrysum bracteatum*) which has bright yellow inflorescences with shiny outer bracts. They are common after fire or roadside disturbance. Here also were again Gunyang, Prickly Starwort and Ivy-leaved Violet. A new tiny herb was another pennywort, Forest Pennywort (*Hydrocotyle geraniifolia*) which as the species name suggest has geranium-like foliage; and minute white flowers. Climbing over other plants was the woody white Mountain Clematis (*Clematis aristata*) which has leaves with 3 leaflets and large clusters of starry male or female flowers.

Being a wet forest, there were also ferns, the largest of which was Soft tree-fern (*Dicksonia antarctica*) which has a stout trunk covered with matted roots and a large crown of dark green 3-pinnate fronds to 4m with marginal sori (where spores are produced). Ground ferns were Hard water-fern (*Blechnum wattsi*) with harsh dull dark green vegetative fronds with the lowermost pinnae reduced in length, and separate erect fertile fronds; and the much taller Bat's wing (*Histiopteris incisa*) which has pale green succulent fronds with continuous marginal sori.

Further north again, lower in altitude and drier, was our last stop. The small Creamy Candles (*Stackhousia monogyna*) were flowering everywhere. A 1m high Tall Sun-orchid was excitingly measured. A new small climber was Common Apple-berry (*Billardiera scandens*) with its long cream pendent tubular flowers. There was the small herb yellow Lanky Goodenia (*Goodenia elongata*) with a basal rosette of leaves and some on the long flowering stem; and an ?? unidentified violet (*Viola* sp.) with very upright tiny toothed leaves in rosettes. One new water-fern in this drier area were Fishbone water-fern (*Blechnum nudum*) which has mid-green pinnate fronds which have thick shiny black stalks. In a more primitive family Gleicheniaceae were two other ferns, characterised by repeated forking of the axis of the frond. The fan-fern was probably Spreading fan-fern (*Sticherus lobatus*) which has harsh broad fronds with fan-shaped laminae with up to four tiers. Pouched coral-fern (*Gleichenia dicarpa*) has a scrambling habit and can form dense and

extensive thickets. It has tiny pouched pinnae, each with two sporangia.

Even on a pretty damp day, we had a very interesting trip, thanks to James, Len and Jacquie.



Mist at Ash Saddle

JW

Shade Nettle (*Australina pusilla*)

JW

Lanky Goodenia (*Goodenia elongata*)

JW

Plants:

Acaena anserifolia Bidgee-widgee
A. agnipila Sheep's Burr
Ajuga australis Austral Bugle
Allocasuarina littoralis Black Sheoak
Amperea xiphoclada Broom Spurge
Arthropodium milleflorum Pale Vanilla-lily
Atherosperma moschatum Southern Sassafras
Australina pusilla Shade Nettle
Billardiera scandens Common Apple-berry
Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern
B. watsii Hard water-fern
Calochilus campestris Copper Beard-orchid
C. paludosus Red Beard-orchid
C. robertsonii Purple Beard
Carex appressa Tall Sedge
Clematis aristata Mountain Clematis
Cooperookia barbata Purple Cooperookia
Cynoglossum suaveolens Sweet Hound's-tongue
Dampiera stricta Blue Dampiera
Daucus glochidiatus Australian Carrot
Dicksonia antarctica Soft tree-fern
Diuris sulphurea Tiger Orchid
Elaeocarpus holopetalus Black Olive-berry
Eucalyptus regnans Mountain Ash
E. sieberi Silvertop Ash
Gleichenia dicarpa Pouched coral-fern
Glycine latrobeana Clover Glycine
Goodenia elongata Lanky Goodenia
G. heterophylla Variable Goodenia
G. ovata Hop Goodenia
Hibbertia obtusifolia Grey Guinea-flower
Histiopteris incisa Bat's wing
Hydrocotyle geraniifolia Forest Pennywort
H. laxiflora Stinking Pennywort
Kennedia rubicunda Dusky Coral-pea
Kunzea sp (upright form) Forest Burgan
Lagenophora stipitata Blue Bottle-daisy
Lepidosperma urophorum Tailed Rapier-sedge
Lomandra filiformis Wattle Mat-rush
Microtis sp. an onion-orchid
Olearia argophylla Musk Daisy-bush
O. lirata Snowy Daisy-bush
Oxylobium arborescens Tall Shaggy-pea
Pimelea curviflora Curved Rice-flower
P. humilis Common Rice-flower
Platysace lanceolata Shrubby Platysace
Polyscias sambucifolia Elderberry Panax
Pomaderris aspera Hazel Pomaderris
Poranthera microphylla Small Poranthera
Prasophyllum sylvestre Forest Leek-orchid
Pterostylis squamata Common Ruddyhood
Pultenaea forsythiana a bush-pea

P. largiflorens Twiggy Bush-pea
Rubus parvifolius Small-leaf Bramble
Rytidosperma pallidum Silvertop Wallaby-grass
Scutellaria humilis Dwarf Skullcap
Sigesbeckia orientalis Indian Weed
Solanum prinophyllum Forest Nightshade
S. vescum Gunyang
Stackhousia monogyna Creamy Candles
Stellaria pungens Prickly Starwort
Sticherus lobatus Spreading fan-fern
Tetradthea subaphylla Leafless Pink-bells
Thelymitra media Tall Sun-orchid
Viola hederacea Ivy-leaved Violet
V. sp. a violet
Vittadinia sp. a New Holland daisy
Wahlenbergia stricta Tall Bluebell
Xerochrysum bracteatum Golden Everlasting

Birds:**Red Knob**

Superb Fairy-wren
 Striated Pardalote
 Eastern Spinebill
 Yellow-faced Honeyeater
 Red Wattlebird
 Eastern Whipbird
 Golden Whistler
 Grey Shrike-thrush
 Australian Magpie
 Grey Fantail
 White-winged Chough
 Common Blackbird
Tullach Ard Road (1)
 Painted Button-quail
 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
 Crimson Rosella
 Laughing Kookaburra
 Superb Lyrebird
 Spotted Pardalote
 Olive Whistler
 Pied Currawong

Tullach Ard Road (2)

Fan-tailed Cuckoo
 White-throated Treecreeper
 Satin Bowerbird
 Rufous Whistler

Tullach Ard Road: Lunch stop (3)

Australian King Parrot
 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
 Common Cicadabird
 Olive-backed Oriole

Ash Saddle (4)

Brown Thornbill
 Lewin's Honeyeater
 Eastern Yellow Robin

Ash Saddle to Dingo Hill (5)

Australian Wood Duck
 Masked Lapwing
 Little Raven
 Flame Robin (male)
 Australasian Pipit

36 species

By Margaret Regan

After meeting at Forestech we checked out some vegetation close by. Birds noted were Crimson Rosella and Sulphur-crested Cockatoo. One of our missions for the day was to see the four species of hyacinth-orchid (*Dipodium* spp.) found in this area. The Victorian species are all leafless epiparasites (they derive nutrients from another plant via a parasitic mycorrhizal fungus). We had especially come to this spot to see the rare Spotted Hyacinth-orchid (*Dipodium pardalinum*) which was discovered here just after the publication of the 1st edition of our club's book: Orchids of East Gippsland. It was previously only known from central and western Victoria. It has a flowering stem to 90cm with up to 40 very pale pink to white flowers with dark pink spots. The labellum is similar to the rest of the tepals, but with a central callus with white hairs.



Spotted Hyacinth-orchid (*Dipodium pardalinum*) DW

The more common Rosy Hyacinth-orchid (*D. roseum*) was also here. It can be taller with more flowers. Its tepals have strongly recurved tips and more diffuse spots and its labellum is striped.

One of the overhead trees was Coast Grey Box (*Eucalyptus bosistoana*) which has grey subfibrous bark on the lower part of the trunk with smooth pale bark above. It has long narrow leaves and the fruits have 5-7 cells. There were few large shrubs except for Shiny Cassinia (*Cassinia longifolia*) which has long very narrow leaves and whitish flower heads in dense clusters. Much of the ground cover were herbs, except for Small Grass-tree (*Xanthorrhoea australis*) whose extremely long and narrow leaves form a tuft with a single woody flowering spike with many cream flowers at the top. Lily-like plants with yellow flowers were Bulbine Lily (*Bulbine bulbosa*) which has a basal tuft of narrow fleshy leaves and a flowering stem with many flowers; the sprawling Yellow Rush Lily (*Tricoryne elatior*) with a few flat linear leaves and branches

with several flowers; and tiny Yellow Star (*Pauridia vaginata*) with a single flower on a hairless stalk. A tall daisy herb was a yellow Rough Fireweed (*Senecio hispidulus*) which has stalkless toothed leaves. A subshrub whose oak-shaped leaves and stems bear large scary prickles was Forest Nightshade (*Solanum prinophyllum*). ["Prino" is Greek for a kind of oak and "phylum" is Greek for a leaf.]

Other small herbs were Small St John's Wort (*Hypericum gramineum*) which has orange-yellow flowers with up to 50 stamens; cream Common Rice-flower (*Pimelea humilis*); Creamy Candles (*Stackhousia monogyna*); and a bluebell (*Wahlenbergia* sp.). An endangered grass was the tufted Bushy Hedgehog-grass (*Echinopogon caespitosus*) with rough flowering stems and leaves, and an interrupted inflorescence. There was a very pretty fungal gilled bracket attached to the trunk of a tree. It had a 10cm mid-brown cap with cream gills. Astride its web was a small black chunky spider with spines, 2 on its back of the abdomen and 2 on each side. It was probably a Spiny Orb-weaver.

We drove north into the forest and on to Blackfellows Road to find another hyacinth-orchid, this time the rare Slender or Blotched Hyacinth-orchid (*Dipodium variegatum*). Its white

petals are almost obscured by large dark pink blotches which also cover the ovary and flower stalk. An overstorey tree was Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus tricarpa*) which has thick hard furrowed black bark and buds in threes (*tricarpa*). The ring of stamens of the flowers can be cream or pink to red. As the buds ripen the ring of stamens is shed. They are the "tutus" of May Gibbs' "gumnut babies". A large shrub which is prolifically flowering this January was Sweet Bursaria (*Bursaria spinosa*) whose branchlets are often spine-tipped and it has dense inflorescences of white sweet-smelling flowers. An effective sun-screening agent can apparently be extracted from the leaves!! Much smaller plants were the very pretty climber Twining Fringe Lily (*Thysanotus patersonii*) whose gorgeous mauve flower petals have fringed edges; and two tiny white related herbs which have separate male and female flowers. These were Small Poranthera (*Poranthera microphylla*) with flowers in small clusters; and Thyme Spurge (*Phyllanthus hirtellus*) whose leaves are covered with bristly hairs and are wider above their centre. Two birds here were the pigeon Common Bronzewing and White-browed Scrubwren.

On a side track near the corner of Blackfellows Road and Lyle Bridge Road we found Blotched Hyacinth-orchid and Rosy Hyacinth-orchid growing side by side. On the way to this site a Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike was seen. A smaller overhead tree here was Black Sheoak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*), a dark green tree with fissured bark. Male trees have rusty-brown flower spikes and the female trees bear cylindrical cones with flattened ends. Herbaceous daisies were the common tiny Blue Bottle-daisy (*Lagenophora stipitata*) with a hairy flowering stem; and two everlastings, yellow Button



Satin Everlasting (*Helichrysum leucopsideum*) JW

Everlasting (*Coronidium scorpioides*) which has grey-green hairy leaves and solitary flower heads with wrinkled outer bracts; and Satin Everlasting (*Helichrysum leucopsideum*) whose outer bracts are white and the central disc florets yellow. There was a small flax-lily, Pale Flax-lily (*Dianella longifolia*) whose blue flowers had stamens with orange filaments and yellow anthers.

In a damp area two small plants were erect Angled Lobelia (*Lobelia anceps*) which has very pretty irregular 5-petalled blue and white flowers with the stamens fused into a tube around the style; and the even smaller Swamp Goodenia (*Goodenia humilis*) with irregular yellow flowers whose petals have a central thickened area and thin wings. A very beautiful pored fungal fruiting body was probably Rhubarb Bolete (*Boletellus obscurecoccineus*). It had a red cap (to 70mm) and stalk, and golden pores. It was suggested by a Field Nat artist that the colour was Indian Red.

We were then off to Lake Bunga and walked along the track to the sewage ponds. Birds here were Lewins Honeyeater, Grey Shrike-thrush, Eastern Whipbird, Grey Fantail, and excitingly about 30 Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoos and two White-bellied Sea-Eagles. There were Chestnut Teal on the sewage ponds. Here we found yet another hyacinth-orchid, Purple Hyacinth-orchid (*Dipodium punctatum*). This is very similar to Rosy Hyacinth-orchid, but the tepals are forward-pointing with mostly definite dark pink spots. There were three different species of flax-lily. One was Pale-Flax-lily again, but two new ones were Coast Flax-lily (*Dianella brevicaulis*) whose inflorescence is shorter than the foliage which has smooth midribs and margins, and whose flowers have brown anthers; and Paroo Lily (*D. caerulea*) where the inflorescence is taller than the foliage which has toothed midribs and margins, and the anthers are yellow.

The dense overhead canopy along part of the track was Coast

Teatree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) with grey-green leaves and white flowers. A much larger tree was the contorted Saw Banksia (*Banksia serrata*) which has toothed leaves. Small shrubs were Sea-box (*Alyxia buxifolia*) with elliptic dark green leaves and flowers with an orange tube and 5 white lobes; yellow Hop Goodenia (*Goodenia ovata*) which has large soft leaves; and Coast Beard-heath (*Leucopogon parviflorus*) with cream berries. A daisy subshrub was Scented Groundsel (*Senecio odoratus*) which has bluish-green stems and foliage with terminal inflorescences of up to 500 flower heads made up of yellow florets with no rays. This area seems to be the most easterly occurrence of this species in Victoria.

On a fallen limb of Coast Teatree was an array of the large pale funnel-shaped caps (to 200mm) of the Ghost Fungus (*Omphalotus nidiformis*). ["Nidi" is Latin for a nest.] This fungus is best known for its bright greenish luminescence at night. Another fungus also digesting fallen timber was bright Orange Bracket (*Pycnoporus coccineus*) with a lower pored surface from which the spores are released. A tiny climber was Common Apple-berry (*Billardiera scandens*) with long tubular cream flowers. Two other climbers associated with rainforest gullies were the vigorous much-branched Scrambling Lily (*Geitonoplesium cymosum*) which has wiry twining green stems, a few remote leaves and tiny white to mauve flowers; and the more slender Bearded Tylophora (*Tylophora barbata*) with ovate pointed leaves and flowers with purple-red hairy petals. A very common coastal scrambling shrub was Seaberry Saltbush (*Rhagodia candolleana*) which has stalked hastate fleshy leaves and sprays of minute flowers. At this time of the year, the plants bore deep red flattened berries, much loved by Crimson Rosellas. Another coastal plant was the prostrate succulent pigface Karkalla (*Carpobrotus rossii*) with triangular leaves and large bright pink flowers with rows of up to 200 petaloid staminodes and inner rows of up to 250 stamens. A rather uncommon small (to 30cm) tufted plant was Leek Lily (*Bulbine semibarbata*) whose yellow flowers have 3 of their 6 stamens with bearded filaments.

We returned to the Colquhuon Forest to the corner of Blackfellows Road and the Princes Highway. Under the power lines in this damp area the vegetation is kept slashed, which can make finding interesting plants easier. Again we saw Swamp Goodenia, the tufted Pale Grass-lily (*Caesia parviflora*) with linear leaves and white flowers; the tall erect tufted Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) with reddish flowering stalks; and tiny Screw fern (*Lindsaea linearis*). Being a damp environment, we also found some mud-built land crayfish towers.

An orchid here was the uncommon Horned Orchid (*Orthoceras strictum*) which has grass-like leaves forming a small tussock. The flowering stalk can have up to 8 greenish-brown flowers which have a hooded dorsal sepal, long narrow erect lateral sepals, small hidden petals and a labellum with a central yellow patch. Other orchids were Slender Onion-orchid (*Microtis parviflora*) with a single erect round leaf and

a green inflorescence with up to 80 minute flowers; and the truly weird Large Tongue-orchid (*Cryptostylis subulata*) whose upside-down flower's prominent labellum is reddish, leathery, curved over and held downwards with a dark knobby appendage on the underside!!! In 1927, Edith Coleman from Blackburn, Melbourne, observing the Small Tongue-orchid, noticed a male wasp mating backwards with the labellum of the orchid. In the process the wasp picked the pollen of the orchid. The flowers produce a scent which mimics the sex pheromones of the female wasp. The shape and colour of the labellum also somewhat looks and feels like a female wasp. She published her findings in the Victorian Field Naturalist, the journal of our Melbourne Club. All the known members of the genus *Cryptostylis* are pollinated by the wasp commonly called the Orchid Dupe Wasp, whose behaviour is called pseudocopulation.

Further east along the Princes Highway we drove a little way down Burnt Bridge Track beneath Black She-oak, Red Ironbark and White Stringybark (*Eucalyptus globoidea*) where we were introduced to another truly weird orchid, the tiny Elbow Orchid (*Thynniorchis huntiana*) whose flower is again designed to dupe a male wasp into attempting to copulate with it and thus spread its pollen. Like the hyacinth-orchids, Elbow Orchid has no leaves and is reliant on its association with a mycorrhizal fungus for its nutrients. It has a thin wiry stem to 20cm with up to 10 tiny insect-like flowers. The most prominent feature of the flower is the hinged mobile labellum covered with hairs and warts which looks somewhat like a female thynnid wasp. A male lands on the "female" and is then thrust head-first into the column where sticky pollinia (with pollen) become attached to its back. It then carries these to another flower where the pollinia are crushed against the female stigma. A tiny herb was Golden Weathergrass (*Hypoxis hygrometrica*) with linear leaves and bright yellow tepals. A new fern was the tiny delicate Maidenhair (*Adiantum aethiopicum*). Here we saw an Eastern Yellow Robin.

Under the power lines over the Old Nowa Nowa Road we were thrilled to find a small Red-bellied Black Snake swimming in a puddle, and a Pobblebonk frog was heard. Let's hope the snake didn't find the frog!! In this new damp environment was again Swamp Goodenia, but also yellow Lanky Goodenia (*Goodenia elongata*) which has long lax stems. A tall shrub which doesn't seem to flower very often was yellow Narrow-leaf Geebung (*Persoonia linearis*) whose leaves are often crowded around the branchlets; and there was Pale Grass-lily (*Caesia parviflora*) with scattered pale lavender flowers on slender axes. Further west on this road to the Stony Creek Trestle Bridge we found the vulnerable Nowa Nowa Grevillea (*Grevillea celata*) which is known only from the Colquhuon Forest east of Bruthen, where it is growing on red siliceous or pale granitic sands in dry sclerophyll forest. It is a root-suckering shrub to 1.8m with entire oblong leaves with recurved margins and red or pink and yellow flowers. A larger shrub was Large-leaf Hop-bush (*Dodonaea triquetra*) which has thin leaves, unisexual flowers and greenish-red capsules with 3 narrow wings. A Golden Whistler was calling.

The Stony Creek Trestle Bridge was built in 1916 when the rail line extended from Bairnsdale to Orbost. This 97km extension through rugged terrain was reputed to have been the most difficult rail project undertaken in Victoria. In service for over 60 years, the bridge was damaged by bushfire in 1980, with the last train crossing in 1988. At 247m long and 20m high, it is the largest standing bridge of its kind in the State. It was built of red ironbark and grey box timber, thus utilising materials found on site. The small shallow Stony Creek was running fast over the robust aquatic Water Ribbons (*Triglochin procerum*) which have long strappy leaves to 350cm. The flowering stalk has a long terminal spike with up to 350 round fruits. Much of the area beneath the bridge was wetland. The only orchid was the very pretty Austral Ladies Tresses (*Spiranthes australis*) with many pink



Austral Ladies Tresses (*Spiranthes australis*) DW

flowers in a spiral up the flowering stalk. Each flower has a crystalline white labellum. Other damp area plants were a knotweed (*Persicaria* sp.); the dwarf Swamp Mazus (*Mazus pumilio*) with a basal rosette of leaves and mauve irregular flowers; the scrambling perennial Variable Crane's-bill (*Geranium* sp.2) which has round dissected leaves and pink regular flowers; and the naturalised small herb Self-heal

(*Prunella vulgaris*) with purple flowers in short dense terminal spikes. [A naturalised plant is a non-native that can reproduce and disperse on its own in a new environment.] Birds here were King Parrot, Yellow-tufted Honeyeater, Welcome Swallow and Olive-backed Oriole.

flowers with duck-like dark labellae on a trigger mechanism. This propels any likely pollinator onto the column containing the pollinia. The Small Duck-orchid is smaller and its labellum is covered in warty calli. We also saw a tiny violet, *Viola cleistogamoides*, which has tufted leaves with toothed edges and cream flowers. [Cleistogamous flowers keep their reduced petals closed, so that the flower pollinates only its own stigma.]

Afternoon tea was at Costick Weir, on Mundic Creek. The widespread and disastrous 1939 bushfires prompted the construction of this weir as a reliable water source. John Costick was the forester of the day who supervised the building of the weir. Again local materials were used to provide a water supply for fire fighting. A very large black and yellow striped Lace Monitor (Goanna) was partially secreted under vegetation near the stream. All goannas are carnivorous, while large goannas are often scavengers of carrion. All are egg layers, with the Lace Monitor exclusively using termite nests to incubate their eggs. We heard a Crescent Honeyeater.

Thank you, James, for a day full of interesting plants.

A little further west again on the Old Nowa Nowa Road we found both Large Duck-orchid (*Caleana major*) and Small Duck-orchid (*C. minor*), which are often found growing together. Both have a single narrow reddish leaf and upside-down



Dipodium collage. All of these Hyacinth-orchids are found in East Gippsland

Plants:

Adiantum aethiopicum Maidenhair
Allocasuarina littoralis Black Sheoak
Alyxia buxifolia Sea-box
Banksia serrata Saw Banksia
Billardiera scandens Common Apple-berry
Bulbine bulbosa Bulbine Lily
B. semibarbata Leek Lily
Bursaria spinosa Sweet Bursaria
Caesia parviflora Pale Grass-lily
Caleana major Large Duck-orchid
C. minor Small Duck-orchid
Carpobrotus rossii Karkalla
Cassinia longifolia Shiny Cassinia
Coronidium scorpioides Button Everlasting
Cryptostylis subulata Large Tongue-orchid
Dianella brevicaulis Coast Flax-lily
D. caerulea Paroo Lily
D. longifolia Pale Flax-lily
Dodonaea triquetra Long-leaf Hop-bush
Dipodium pardalinum Spotted Hyacinth-orchid
D. punctatum Purple Hyacinth-orchid
D. roseum Rosy Hyacinth-orchid
D. variegatum Slender or Blotched Hyacinth-orchid
Echinopogon caespitosa Bushy Hedgehog-grass
Eucalyptus bosistoana Coast Grey Box
E. globoidea White Stringybark
E. tricarpa Red Ironbark
Geitonoplesium cymosum Scrambling Lily
Geranium sp. 2 Variable Crane's-bill
Goodenia elongata Lanky Goodenia
G. humilis Swamp Goodenia
G. ovata Hop Goodenia
Grevillea celata Nowa Nowa Grevillea
Helichrysum leucopsidium Satin Everlasting
Hypericum gramineum Small St John's Wort
Hypoxis hygrometrica Golden Weather-grass
Lagenophora stipitata Blue Bottle-daisy
Leptospermum laevigatum Coast Teatree
Leucopogon parviflorus Coast Beard-heath
Lindsaea linearis Screw fern
Lobelia anceps Angled Lobelia
Mazus pumilio Swamp Mazus
Microtis parviflora Slender Onion-orchid
Orthoceras strictum Horned Orchid
Pauridia vaginata Yellow Star
Persicaria sp. a knotweed
Persoonia linearis Narrow-leaf Geebung
Phyllanthus hirtellus Thyme Spurge
Pimelea humilis Common Rice-flower

Poranthera microphylla Small Poranthera
Prunella vulgaris Self-heal
Rhagodia candolleana Seaberry Saltbush
Senecio hispidulus Rough Fireweed
S. odoratus Scented Groundsel
Solanum prinophyllum Forest Nightshade
Spiranthes australis Austral Ladies Tresses
Stackhousia monogyna Creamy Candles
Themeda triandra Kangaroo Grass
Thynniorchis huntiana Elbow Orchid
Thysanotus patersonii Twining Fringe Lily
Tricoryne elatior Yellow Rush Lily
Triglochin procerum Water Ribbons
Tylophora barbata Bearded Tylophora
Viola cleistogamoides a violet
Wahlenbergia sp. a bluebell
Xanthorrhoea australis Small Grass-tree

Birds:

Chestnut Teal
 White-bellied Sea-Eagle
 Common Bronzewing
 Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo
 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
 Crimson Rosella
 King Parrot
 Welcome Swallow
 White-browed Scrubwren
 Lewins Honeyeater
 Yellow-tufted Honeyeater
 Crescent Honeyeater
 Eastern Whipbird
 Eastern Yellow Robin
 Grey Shrike-thrush
 Golden Whistler
 Olive-backed Oriole
 Grey Fantail
 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike

Reptiles:

Red-bellied Black Snake
 Lace Monitor

Amphibian:

Pobblebonk frog

Spider:

?Spiny Orb-weaver

Fungi:

Boletellus obscurecoccineus Rhubarb Bolete
Omphalotus nidiformis Ghost Fungus
Pycnoporus coccineus Orange Bracket

By Pauline Stewart

Eleven members met on the corner of the Princes Highway and Tyers House Road about 5-6km east of Nowa Nowa on a pleasant late summer morning. Being the first Field Nat. bushwalk since November 2021 everyone was keen to get out into the bush and stretch their legs on the eleven km walk. After parking the cars at the corner of Pettmans Beach Road and Morass Break Road the group headed south along the track to the Ninety Mile Beach. A break was made for morning tea before crossing the sand dune and down onto the deserted golden ocean beach.



After about 3km there was access back across the sand dune and onto Gibbs Track where lunch was enjoyed sitting along a low embankment. We turned onto Morass Break Road and completed the circuit back to the cars ending a very satisfying day out. Thank you Noel.



Plants (not all in flower):

Banksia marginata Silver Banksia
B. serrata Saw Banksia
Brachycome multifida Cut-leaf Daisy
Cassinia longifolia Shiny Cassinia
Casuarina littoralis Black She-oak
Comesperma ericinim Heath Milkwort
Coprosma quadrifida Prickly Currant-bush
Dodonaea triquetra Large-leaf Hop-bush
Epacris impressa Common Heath
Leptorhynchos tenuifolius Wiry Buttons
Linum marginale Native Flax
Olearia lirata Snowy Daisy-bush
Persoonia linearis Narrow-leaf Geebung
Pittosporum undulatum Sweet Pittosporum
Rapanea howittiana Muttonwood
Scaevola ramosissima Hairy Fan-flower Scaevola
Solanum prinophyllum Forest Nightshade
Stackhousia monogyna Creamy Candles
Stypandra glauca Nodding Blue-lily
Tetragonia tetragonioides Warrigal Greens



Muttonwood (*Rapanea howittiana*) in fruit.