

Latrobe Valley Naturalist

July – August 2021

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General meetings

Held at 7:30 pm on the fourth Friday of each month at the Newborough Uniting Church, Old Sale Road Newborough VIC 3825



Golden-tip *Goodia lotifolia* photographed by Phil Rayment during the Club's excursion to Horseshoe Bend in September 2020.

Upcoming events

<u>Bird Group:</u> Tuesday 3 August – Heyfield Wetlands. Meet 9am at the wetlands information centre. <u>Bird Group:</u> Thursday 19 August – EA Wetlands survey. Meet 9am onsite. <u>Botany Group: Saturday 31 July</u> – Liverworts and mosses under the microscope at Baiba's house. <u>August general excursion:</u> Saturday 28 August – Giffard with Mitch Smith. <u>Botany Group:</u> Saturday 4 September – Holey Plains annual plant survey <u>Bird Group:</u> Tuesday 7 September – Sale Wetlands. Meet 9am at the carpark near the roundabout. <u>September general excursion:</u> Saturday 25 September – Cranbourne Botanic Gardens <u>Botany Group:</u> Saturday 2 October – Mt Cannibal looking at recovery of plants after 2019 bushfires

Club spring camp: 8-12 October at Brisbane Ranges

Tyers Park excursion 25.07.2020

It was good to have Club activities returning to a limited extent with an excursion in the southwestern corner of Tyers Park on Saturday 25 July. In line with the limit of ten folk for outside gatherings under the Victorian COVID-19 restrictions, nine registered members met there with our leader Joe van Beek, a member of the Friends of Tyers Park. We were fortunate to have Joe guide us during the morning, as his good knowledge of the park was needed to get us safely to one of the key destinations, an interesting open cave high above one of the creeks that flow into the nearby Tyers River.

Our assembly point was a safe roadside parking space on Blairs Rd, under the high voltage transmission line, approximately 2 km from its junction with Manuels Rd, which is accessed from Brown Coalmine Road to the west of Tyers township. It was good to have the sun on our backs, which made for pleasant conditions on a bracing winter morning.

We began the excursion by following a 4WD track running for 600 m north-west from the assembly point, along the transmission easement. Some walked while others took advantage of places in two of our heavier-duty vehicles for the steepish descent, then climb.



Narrow-leaved Wattle in flower (Photo: Phil Rayment)

Regrouping on foot, Joe took us in a roughly northerly direction into quite floristically diverse terrain. Amongst four *Acacia* species noted by Ken, the Narrow-leaf Wattle *A. mucronata* was conspicuously in flower in many places. The Common Heath *Epacris impressa* displayed its deep red flowers for much of our way. Silvertop Ash *Eucalyptus sieberi* was prominent on the initial higher slopes, where Ken noted also what appeared to him to be the leaves of some young Red Box *E. polyanthemos.* We found some mature specimens of the latter later on at lower elevations, providing

some confirmation. The erect shrub *Pultenaea daphnoides* in bud represented the Fabaceae. On a much smaller scale, we spotted the small creeping Trailing Goodenia *G. lanata*. Ken recorded also as significant the Narrow-leaf Hop-bush *Dodonea viscosa*, being not very common in our area.

We next started a steep descent to a cave area which Joe was keen to show us. Ken soon observed a profusion of the Green Rock Fern *Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia* growing amongst mosses on conglomerate outcrops. Two other interesting plants shared that habitat: one was *Crassula sieberiana*

and the other was new to Ken but he thought it may be Water-blinks *Montia fontana.* He has subsequently planted a collected specimen in a pot for later identity confirmation, if it flowers. After much exertion, we reached a spectacular open cave in the form of a wide conglomerate overhang, just one of several in the area according to Joe. Conglomerates are widespread in the park – Petersons Lookout is located on a high outcrop of that rock type on the eastern side of the Tyers River, not far from where we were. Many of the patches of



Large-leaf Bush-pea (Photo: Phil Rayment)

exposed conglomerate at the site displayed a spectacular profusion of mosses, some of a really vivid green, and lichens. Two ferns found growing in rock crevices close to the cave entrance were Common Rasp Fern *Blechnum parrisiae* and a small Necklace Fern *Asplenium flabellifolium*.

"What goes down must come up!" After more exertion, we enjoyed our well-deserved lunch together on a sunny slope high above the cave, before the trek back to our cars. Our president David thanked Joe for introducing us to a part of the park that was new to many of us.

Philip Rayment (with thanks to Ken Harris for much assistance with the plants)



Conglomerate rock and mosses at the overhang (Photo: Phil Rayment)

A second perspective...

From our car parking area on Blairs Rd, we walked into the park and those with various injuries elected to drive in. When we got to the termination loop in the track, I realised I had been here before when I carried out bird surveys for the Friends group some time ago, with the ambition of monitoring the population of birds every quarter, but this was impracticable, so we stopped. Our surveys terminated at the 'loop' but never ventured beyond.

The landscape beyond the loop was nothing like I have seen in the Valley before. The bedrock was conglomerate overlain with a carpet of moss. Going down the slope was steep – at least 45 degrees and in many cases near-vertical. At the end of our walk was a cave which was more like an overhang in the rock with a sloping sandy floor. There was some evidence of animal tracks in the sand but apparently there has been no evidence of any aboriginal occupation.

I found the conglomerate rock the most interesting. It is a sedimentary rock formed from rounded gravel and boulder-sized clasts cemented together in a matrix. The rounded pebbles and sand are usually held together by silica, calcite or iron oxide. They can be formed by strong water currents to

transport and produce the rounded shape on the particles. So, the environment of deposition when it was formed might be along a swiftly flowing stream or a beach with strong wave action.

There was ever-present bird life on our walk, but the birds proved difficult to see. There was an influx of honeyeaters (Yellow-faced, White-eared and White-naped) but they were in the canopy with poor light. We were serenaded by Lyrebirds along the ridge but not in the gully, and also heard Crescent Honeyeaters going down to the cave site but failed to see one.

Coming out of the cave site proved more difficult than going down, especially to those of us who carried injuries, but I didn't hear any complaints and we all managed to climb out to our lunch site. Despite the day's challenges, it was well worth the effort and we would like to express our thanks to Joe for showing us this significant and remarkable site.



Navigating the steep terrain near the cave (Photo: Phil Rayment)

David Stickney



Pink Purslane in October (Photo: Phil Rayment)

Editor's note: Several members made a follow-up visit to the cave site on 10 October 2020 to confirm the identity of the Water-blinks. The plant was observed in flower this time, and was identified as Pink Purslane *Calandrinia calyptrata,* which is in the same family as Water-blinks (Montiaceae). I also found this plant in bud, growing on a similar mossy conglomerate outcrop near Petersons Lookout in mid-September.

A plant list for this excursion is available in Appendix I.

An Invasion of Scarlet Honeyeaters in 2020

Since I arrived in the Latrobe Valley, I remember hearing very fragmented reports of Scarlet Honeyeater sightings and they were usually north of the Latrobe Valley. This year has been the exception with reports of a number of sightings at many locations throughout the Valley.

It is the smallest honeyeater in Australia (John Latham 1801), with a short tail and relatively long, down-curved bill. It is sexually dimorphic; the male is a striking bright red with black wings, while the female is entirely brown apart from a red wash on the chin. They range along the east coast of Australia from Gippsland in Victoria to Cooktown in Queensland but are more common north of Sydney. They are partially migratory and nomadic, moving to the southern parts of their range in summer.



Scarlet Honeyeater (Photo: David Stickney)

This species is commonly known as the Scarlet Honeyeater in

Australia and Scarlet Myzomela elsewhere, the latter name being adopted as the official name by the International Ornithological Committee (IOC).

I first heard of several local sightings this year at Wirilda, so my first outing when the lockdown ended in mid-September was to this location, where I found about a dozen feeding on planted *Callistemon* bushes. They were also recorded here later in the year, in December, during the Bird Challenge Count.

My next encounter was while participating in a bird survey of Morwell River Wetlands and Brodribb Road Wetlands. We were fortunate to have Brett and David who were able to hear and recognise their calls at the first location, and with patience and good eyesight we were able to get some decent views of the male bird. During the day the weather deteriorated and high winds developed before an approaching storm, so we were surprised to hear and see another Scarlet Honeyeater at Brodribb Road.

My next outing was to the Energy Australia Wetlands during the Challenge Count. Those of us who arrived early were lucky enough to see them on an isolated copse of bushes which included a dead tree on the access road to the wetlands. As we finished our survey, the male bird sat on the dead tree for an extended period allowing plenty of time for photography.

As part of the Challenge Count, we also surveyed Traralgon Railway Reservoir Conservation Reserve, which is a small reserve surrounded by houses and farmland. Our first sighting of a Scarlet Honeyeater was a female, and we had great difficulty in identifying the bird because she was a good distance away and had no identifiable features, and it was not until Marja identified a male bird that we were able to confirm that we had seen the species.

I observed this species at every location I went to following the lockdown, with the exception of Morwell National Park, which is where I recorded my first sighting of the bird in the Latrobe Valley in 2017.

One has to ask why the species was here in such large numbers and in so many different locations. They are normally resident along the east coast of Australia and it is possible that their normal feeding areas were burnt during the recent bushfires in East Gippsland and NSW. Being a nomadic and migratory species, the lack of resources may have caused them to move further south than their normal range.

David Stickney

Excursion to Horseshoe Bend 26.09.2020

Eleven brave Club members met at the junction of the Tyers-Rawson Road and the road to Walhalla on the morning of 26 September – "brave" because the day before was the coldest September day for several years and Saturday's temperature was to struggle to reach 7°C! The excursion was a lastminute program change caused by the postponement of our much-anticipated Wilsons Prom Whale Cruise due to the continuing coronavirus limit on the number of places allowed on the boat.

Anyway, we welcomed the opportunity to see the result of the works conducted by the West Gippsland CMA to create a fishway in the section of the Thomson River impacted by the heritagelisted Horseshoe Bend Tunnel. This tunnel was constructed in 1911-12 to allow alluvial gold mining along the riverbed. Members may recall that the WGCMA CEO Martin Fuller gave a presentation to the Club back in early 2014, when it was anticipated that the rather controversial work would commence soon thereafter. It was not until August 2019 that the project was completed and public access restored.

We began by driving to the Platina Station site carpark on Coopers Creek Rd, approximately 4 km along the Walhalla Rd. In line with the limit of ten folk in outdoor gatherings, six of us chose to walk down to the tunnel outlet led by Phil while the rest botanised along the Walhalla Goldfields Rail Trail with Wendy and Mark.

The track down to the outlet had had to be widened for works machinery access, unfortunately necessitating the removal of a number of trees, but those trees have



Tetratheca ciliata (Photo: Phil Rayment)

been used to stabilise the steep verges and hopefully provide some habitat for invertebrates. The track passes through a diversity of eucalypts, including Silvertop Ash and Narrow-leaved Peppermint. A profusion of Pink-bells in flower greeted us, but we needed Wendy or Ken with us to identify the species.

Later in the day, Wendy found *T. ciliata* on the higher reaches, but noted that she has also seen *T. labillardierei* here in the past. On reaching the Thomson River, the great change was apparent with high flow both in the river above the outlet and from the tunnel, in line with the CMA's objective to achieve around 50% flow in each.



New river crossing point (Photo: Phil Rayment)

Our plan to walk upstream to the tunnel inlet was foiled by the water levels. Heading along the inlet track brings you to a checkpoint indicating that it will not be possible to cross the river on placed stepping stones further along if there is water over a marked height – which it was in our case! We walked as far as the crossing point to take in the view of a section of the fishway which is intended to allow two-way migration of native species such as the Australian Grayling. The small shrub Golden-tip *Goodia lotifolia* was attractive in flower along this track section.

Some folk in both groups walked along the rail trail in the northerly direction from Platina, towards Thomson Station. It was not possible to proceed more than about 600 m – the trail had been closed because of a major landslip abutting it, with consequent risk of falling trees as well. It is likely to be quite some time before it can be cleared.

The botanising group first walked in the northerly direction as far as that landslip before lunch, then after lunch explored the other direction on the rail trail. I'll just list some plants that were of particular interest...

Near the carpark was the Blunt-leaf Bitter-pea *Daviesia mimosoides*. As the species name suggests, at first sight it looks like a wattle, and not being in flower it could easily have been overlooked as a young Blackwood. Ken Harris recognised it, and once we looked at the leaves we could see they had a single vein in the centre, and were not phyllodes growing parallel to the stem and with parallel veins as in the wattles.

One of the Fireweeds, *Senecio pinnatifolius,* had the narrowest, most divided leaves I think I've ever seen. Its common name Variable Groundsel is due to the enormous variation in leaves, which can range in shape from undivided to tri-pinnatisect, and in thickness from thin to succulent. We were surprised to spot one plant of Derwent Speedwell *Veronica derwentiana* growing on a bank.

On our short walk after lunch, Ken set the challenge to find 10 new plants to add to our considerable list from the morning. We were surprised how quickly we exceeded our goal. Mark found two species of Pomaderris which were not easily identifiable in the field. One was a small bush with small, shiny,



The outlet of the Horseshoe Bend Tunnel (Photo: Phil Rayment)

almost-round leaves and white flowers. It was *Pomaderris vacciniifolia* which is listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee act as endangered in Victoria. It is mentioned as growing in the Walhalla-Tyers area in VicFlora. The other was a tall shrub with bright yellow flowers named *P. lanigera*, the Woolly Pomaderris, due to its leaves being covered in fine hairs.

Turning finally, albeit briefly, to birding, Alix recorded the following species during the morning's walk: Striated and Spotted Pardalotes, White-browed Scrubwren, White-naped Honeyeater, Pied Currawong, Brown Thornbill, Golden Whistler and White-throated Treecreeper.

Philip Rayment & Wendy Savage

Purple Diuris surveys October 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic complicated our annual counts of the Purple Diuris *Diuris punctata*, but we were able to complete both counts without exceeding the 10 person limit for outdoor gatherings.

At Dawson on 14th October, we had seven counters and that was just right for the task. Dawson has been very poor recently, with only 6 plants in 2018 and 20 the following year. Perhaps because of the much wetter autumn this year, the situation was much improved and we located 217 plants, though the western half of the northern patch still looked very bare of any vegetation and contained no orchids at all. The Tiger Orchid *Diuris sulphurea* continues to thrive just outside the north-east corner of the main patch, with 28 plants found this year.



Purple Diuris at Longford (Photo: Ken Harris)

For counting the Longford Rd patch on 26th October, there were nine of us thanks to a few Sale Field Naturalists supplementing the group. The much wetter year meant that all the vegetation was growing well and we mostly walked through much taller grass than usual (especially a lot of speargrass *Austrostipa*). The Purple Diuris were extremely plentiful at both sites, resulting in a total higher than we have ever previously found in 30 years of continuous monitoring. Our total this year was 27,262, which is 3,647 more than we have ever counted previously; the previous best count was 23,615 in 2014.

Thank you to all who assisted with the counts, and especially to Mitch Smith who is going to take over the organising of these counts in future years; I took over from Bon Thompson

back in 2008. We now have results stretching back to 1990 for Dawson (31 years) and back to 1994 for Longford Rd (27 years).

Ken Harris

Details on the number of orchids counted in each section of the surveyed areas are available in Appendix II.

Mystery Orchids in the Tyers State Park

An invitation was sent to some of our Club members from Jim Stranger, a member of the Friends of Tyers Park, to join them on an excursion to try to identify an unusual orchid growing high up in a tree. It was thought to be a Sydney Rock-orchid *Dendrobium speciosum*, and if so, it should not be growing there. Questions abounded – How did it get there? Did it grow there by itself or did someone put it there? How could it have been put up so high?

The suggestion that it may have been attached to the tree when the tree was small, then moved upwards as the tree grew, was quickly scotched by Ken Harris. He pointed out that only the tip of the tree keeps growing up, so the height it was placed would be where it would remain.

The date for the excursion was set for 10th October 2020, hoping the orchid would be flowering to help identify it. This was during Victoria's second wave of COVID-19 infections, so only 10 people were allowed to meet outdoors. The Friends group generously allowed our Club five places so Ken Harris, Phil Rayment, Mark Watkins, Irene Proebsting and I were the lucky ones.

First we drove to Petersons Lookout to look at a clump of Pink Rock-orchids *Dendrobium kingianum* growing on the rocks below the lookout platform. We'd seen it on Club excursions in the past and wondered what it was doing there as its natural range is from the coast to nearby ranges between the Hunter River in New South Wales and Rockhampton in Queensland. It was flowering beautifully and Ken Harris photographed it and put an entry on iNaturalist. He also added another entry for the same plant which he had photographed there in 2006 when it was a much smaller clump.



Pink Rock-orchids at Petersons Lookout in October 2017 (Photo: Tamara Leitch)

Next we drove to the old lime kilns on W3 track

and then walked down the Pipeline Track to where McMillans Bridge crosses the Tyers River. Not far over the bridge, as the Pipeline Track headed up the hill, was the tree with the orchid in it. It was below the track and the orchid was not too far above eye level as we looked across to it, however as the bank dropped down so steeply, the foot of the tree was far below; I think, however, that a very tall ladder would have been sufficient to allow the orchid to be placed in position.

Upon closer inspection it turned out to be not a single orchid, but several different orchids growing all together, along with the Rock Felt-fern *Pyrrosia rupestris.* It appeared to be the Sydney Rock-orchid as thought, but it was not flowering; there were remains of old flowers from a previous time. Another flowering orchid there Ken Harris thought may be the Slender Pencil Orchid *Dendrobium mortii*. It had long, cylindrical, pendulous leaves and pale green flowers hanging down.

The eucalypt that the orchids were attached to was dead and had fallen back slightly to rest against another live eucalypt. Some green plastic-coated wire could be seen hanging down which would have been how the plants were attached. Further to the right of the clump of orchids we spotted yet



Flowering orchid in tree at McMillans Bridge, believed to be *Dendrobium mortii* (Photo: Ken Harris)

another orchid attached to some bark that had peeled off the dead tree but was still attached at the top. The leaves of this orchid were quite different to the others, and more similar to the Rock Felt-fern. They resembled a flattened lozenge with grooves on the surface and had sprays of flowers in bud. Ken thought they were the Tongue Orchid *Dendrobium linguiforme* – another one that is only found in NSW and Queensland.

As Irene was walking up the track photographing flowers she spotted another clump of orchids nearby growing on the rocky bank. These were much easier to look at as we could actually touch them. This orchid Ken thought was the

Streaked Rock-orchid *Dendrobium striolatum* and looked very similar to the orchid Ken thought was *Dendrobium mortii* growing in the tree. They were both flowering and had pale yellow sepals and lateral petals and a white labellum. *Dendrobium striolatum* does grow in Victoria (in East Gippsland) as well as in NSW as far up the coast as the Hunter River. We had seen it at Genoa Falls on a summer camp.

Growing here as well was the Rock Felt-fern and also the Cockspur Flower *Plectranthus parviflorus*. This also grows in East Gippsland, coming as far west as Licola but should not be in Tyers Park, so presumably was planted.

I was keen to return when *Dendrobium linguiforme* was in flower, so on 29th October Marja, Baiba, Mark and I visited the spot again. It was in full flower and the flowers were really beautiful – big sprays of pendulous, white, fine-petalled flowers. The flowers confirmed Ken's identification, but unfortunately it was raining so the light was too dull for good photos.

The mystery of who planted the orchids was solved on the excursion, as one of the Friends members, Joe van Beek, knew some of the history. Keith Lambert who lived in Tyers township until passing away eight years ago placed both the orchid at Petersons Lookout and those at McMillans Bridge. His son Ron is a member of the Friends group.

Ron was able to tell me that his father was an orchid enthusiast who visited the Pigeon House Mountain on the south coast of NSW and brought back orchids which he





Rock Felt-fern growing on tree at McMillans Lookout (top) and a microscopic view of the upper surface of a leaf, showing the typical stellate hairs of this species (Photos: Ken Harris)

grew in his orchid house. Ron clearly remembers helping his father place the orchids on the rock face below Petersons Lookout as he had to hold the rope while his father went down and attached them. Keith had decided that the microclimate at that spot was suitable for the orchids to grow, and that has certainly proved correct. This occurred over 30 years ago in the late 1980s. Ron didn't know exactly when the orchids were placed in the tree but presumably it was around the same time. He thought his father may have climbed up the tree or used a long ladder.

Interestingly Keith Lambert was a member of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalist Club in the 1960s and Ron remembered going on Club excursions. He remembered Bon and Ollie Thompson, and Ron's mother was a good friend of Jean Galbraith.

Now that we know where these orchids are and how they were placed there it will be interesting to check on them from time to time, particularly to see if the Sydney Rock-orchid flowers to confirm its identification.

Wendy Savage

Links to all of Ken's photos from this outing are available in Appendix III.

Excursion to Mullungdung State Forest 24.10.2020

Eight committed club members met up at Gormandale Hall in the morning – "committed" at least in the sense that the outlook for the day was for yet more rain as part of our wetter than average spring season. It was good to welcome new member Rosemary Race to our plants excursion in Mullungdung State Forest. In line with the COVID-19 restrictions, we had to limit the number of participants to ten at most.

Led by Phil Rayment and with the benefit of Ken Harris' expertise, we drove to the intersection of the Carrajung-Woodside Rd and Pogues Rd to first check out the southern side of this intersection. Here we found a really good diversity of plants. The representatives of the Orchidaceae included the White Caladenia *C. catenata,* a lovely specimen of Tiger Orchid *Diuris sulphurea,* Waxlip Orchid *Glossodia major,* a tall Spotted Sun-orchid *Thelymitra ixioides* (whose attractive multiple buds would have been spectacular had the sun been out) and the Slender Sun-orchid *T. pauciflora.* Other Monocots included both Mat-rushes, *Lomandra filiformis* and *L. longifolia.* One of several Small Grass-trees *Xanthorrhoea minor* was coming into flower. There were lots of Milkmaids *Burchardia umbellata* blooming too.

At this site, the most common eucalypt was Messmate *E. obliqua.* The members of the Asteraceae found included Shiny Cassinia *C. longifolia,* Curling Everlasting *Coronidium scorpioides* and Snowy Daisy-bush *Olearia lirata.* Ken pointed out four different acacias in this small area: Spreading Wattle *A. genistifolia,* Blackwood *A. melanoxylon,* Hop Wattle *A. stricta* and Sunshine Wattle *A. terminalis.* Peaplants included Creeping Bossiaea *B. prostrata,* Hop Bitter-pea *Daviesia latifolia,* Erect Hovea *H. heterophylla,* and two Platylobiums, Handsome Flat-pea *P. montanum* and Common Flat-pea *P. obtusangulum.* The Common Rice-flower *Pimelea humilis* was true to its name here. Ken found one widespread plant not on the Club's plant list for this area from the 2008, 2017 and 2020 visits, namely Blue Pincushion *Brunonia australis.*

Throughout our time at Pogues Rd, we were serenaded by an Olive-backed Oriole.

Our second site was at a point just over 1 km along Anzac Rd from its intersection with Old Rosedale

Rd. On the way there, Ken noted a Saw Banksia *B. serrata* and we had recorded Silver Banksia *B. marginata* back at Pogues Rd. The best addition to our orchid list at Site 2 was Brown Beaks *Lyperanthus suaveolens* magnificently in flower, and we found the heart-shaped leaf of an *Acianthus* species. Among other finds were Holly Lomatia *L. ilicifolia* and Prickly Currant-bush *Coprosma quadrifida*.

The light drizzle was progressing to well-set-in rain as we drove on along Anzac Rd to its intersection with the grandly-named Harraps Highway, identified as a good orchid site from previous excursions. During this short drive, Ken noted a further Acacia, Varnish Wattle *A. verniciflua*, and then Hedge Wattle *A. paradoxa* at Site 3. In short order, we added Musky Caladenia *C. gracilis*, Tall Greenhood *Pterostylis melagramma* and a third Sun-orchid, *Thelymitra media* (in bud) to our list.

At this point, around noon with the temperature dropping, the popular vote was to abandon proceedings and to drive on to Yarram, to warm up in the bakery whilst enjoying one of their wide selection of award-winning pies and a much-needed hot coffee or chocolate! Two final plant observations: Ken noted a



Brown Beaks flowering at Mullungdung (Photo: Phil Rayment)

large patch of Bulbine Lilies *Bulbine bulbosa* in flower at the eastern end of Big Tower Rd as we exited the state forest onto the South Gippsland Highway, beside which were seen many Black Wattles *Acacia mearnsii*.

All in all, a rewarding if truncated excursion. Hopefully the Club can include the Mullungdung Flora & Fauna Reserve within the state forest in a later visit.

Philip Rayment

Latrobe Valley Naturalist is the official publication of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club Inc. The Club subscription includes the "Naturalist".

Brief contributions and short articles on any aspect of natural history are invited from members of all clubs. Articles, including those covering Club speakers and excursions, would typically be around one A4 side in length, should not exceed 1,000 words, and may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. Photos should be sent as an attachment and be a maximum of 1 megabyte in size.

Responsibility for the accuracy of information and opinions expressed in this magazine rests with the author of the article.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX I – Plant list for Tyers Park excursion, 25 July 2020 (K. Harris)

Ferns		
Adiantaceae	Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia	Green Rock Fern
Aspleniaceae	Asplenium flabellifolium	Necklace Fern
Blechnaceae	Blechnum parrisiae	Common Raspfern
Dennstaedtiaceae	Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken
Monocotyledons		
Asparagaceae	Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Matrush
	Lomandra longifolia subsp. longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
Cyperaceae	Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge
	Gahnia sieberiana	Red-fruited Saw-sedge
Liliaceae	Burchardia umbellata	Milkmaids
Orchidaceae	Caladenia sp.	
	Thelymitra sp.	
Poaceae	Austrodanthonia sp.	Wallaby-grass
	Tetrarrhena juncea	Forest Wire-grass
Dicotyledons		
Asteraceae	Brachyscome multifida	Cut-leaf Daisy
	Cirsium vulgare*	Spear Thistle
	Hypochoeris radicata*	Cat's-ear
	Olearia lirata	Snowy Daisy-bush
	Ozothamnus ferrugineus	Tree Everlasting
	Senecio hispidulus	Rough Fireweed
	Senecio phelleus	Narrow Groundsel/Rock Fireweed
Campanulaceae	Wahlenbergia sp.	Bluebell
Crassulaceae	Crassula sieberiana	Sieber Crassula
Cunoniaceae	Bauera rubioides	Wiry Bauera
Droseraceae	Drosera auriculata	Tall Sundew
Epacridaceae	Acrotriche serrulata	Honey Pots
	Epacris impressa	Common Heath
	Monotoca scoparia	Prickly Broom-heath
Ericaceae	Erica lusitanica*	Spanish Heath
Fabaceae	Acacia dealbata	Silver Wattle
	Acacia melanoxylon	Blackwood
	Acacia mucronata	Narrow-leaf Wattle
	Acacia verniciflua	Varnish Wattle
Fabaceae	Daviesia latifolia	Hop Bitter-pea
	Daviesia ulicifolia	Gorse Bitter-pea
	Platylobium montanum	Handsome Flat-pea
	Pultenaea daphnoiodes	Large-leaf Bush-pea
Geraniaceae	Pelargonium inodorum	Kopata
Goodeniaceae	Goodenia lanata	Trailing Goodenia
	Goodenia ovata	Hop Goodenia
Montiaceae	Calandrinia calyptrata	Pink Purslane
Myrtaceae	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Mountain Grey-gum
	Eucalyptus obliqua	Messmate

Plantaginaceae Rhamnaceae Rosaceae Rubiaceae Sapindaceae Thymeliaceae Violaceae Eucalyptus polyanthemos Eucalyptus sieberi Kunzea ericoides subsp agg Leptospermum continentale Plantago varia Pomaderris elliptica Rubus fruticosus* Galium sp. Dodonea viscosa Pimelea humilis Viola hederacea Red Box Silver-top Burgan Prickly Tea-tree Variable Plantain Yellow Dogwood Blackberry Bedstraw Narrow-leaf Hop Bush Common Rice-flower Ivy-leaf Violet

*Introduced species

APPENDIX II – Results of Purple Diuris surveys, October 2020 (K. Harris)

DAWSON 14.10.2020

Diuris punctata

South side	113
North side	73
Outside marked areas	31
Total for Dawson	<u>217</u>
Diuris sulphurea	
In north side patch	1
Outside to north	27

LONGFORD 26.10.2020

South/west end of Tanjil Road to 17km sign	11983
North side of Tanjil Road to 17km sign	210
Beyond 17km sign north side	0
Beyond 17km sign south side	approx. 1000
Area between notices (south side)	1304
North side of road between markers	7718
<u>Tanjil Road total</u>	<u>22215</u>
Eastern area from Chessum Road	
South side to second pole	1334
South side second pole to third pole	2195
South side beyond third pole	305
South of line of poles	60
Fenced area on north side of road	1068
Beyond east end of area	85
Chessum Road total	<u>5047</u>
Total for Longford Road	27262

APPENDIX III – Tyers Park orchid outing, 10 October 2020: links to Ken Harris' photos on iNaturalist

Petersons Lookout

- Dendrobium kingianum (Pink Rock Orchid): <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62260282</u>
- Same plants as above on 4th October 2006: <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62259384</u>

McMillans Bridge

- Dendrobium sp. possibly mortii: <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62279911</u>
- Dendrobium sp. possibly speciosum: <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62289837</u>
- Dendrobium linguiforme (Tongue Orchid): <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62290213</u>
- Dendrobium striolatum (Streaked Rock Orchid): <u>https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62292129</u>
- Pyrrosia rupestris (Rock Felt Fern): https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/62287526
 - Final picture is a microscopic image of the upper surface of a leaf and shows the stellate hairs typical of this species.