



**Fern Society
 of Victoria**

NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 1

NUMBER 1

OFFICE BEARERS.

Chris Goudy	President
Ian Buckmaster	Vice President
Albert Jenkin	Vice President
Irene Bolster	Secretary
Peter Franks	Treasurer
Lorraine Goudy	Book Sales.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Dear Members,

Welcome to the Fern Society of Victoria. Please accept our apologies for the quality and late arrival of our first Newsletter. We have now elected a sub-committee to look after our Newsletter and Magazine, and hope to keep you up to date with our activities. It is proposed to issue a Newsletter monthly and a Magazine, twice a year with interesting articles on ferns, such as cultivation, spore-raising, descriptions and photographs of species and cultivars.

We welcome news items, or articles for our Newsletter and Magazine, so let us hear from you.

At our July meeting, I gave a talk on Fern Books, as a result we received many orders for books, that were discussed. For those interested, we will have the following books for sale at our next meeting at a considerable discount.

'Ferns of Victoria and Tasmania' by N.A. Walkefield - \$3.00

'Australian Ferns and Fern Allies' by D.J. Jones and S.G. Clemesha - \$13.55.

'Ferns for Modern Living" By Elaine Davenport - \$2.37.

'Ferns' by Ian Buckmaster - \$1.40.

We also received orders for a number of overseas books, many of which we recommend as being exceptionally good. A list will be published in our next Newsletter, together with approximate prices (depending on the exchange rate). The first order for overseas books has been sent, and delivery is expected within three to four months. We did not order for stock, as our funds are limited at this stage, but we will accept further orders and process them as received.

My wife, Lorraine, has been elected to the committee to look after book sales.

At our August meeting, we had a competition, we hope the first of many to come. The fern chosen was an "Adiantum" (maidenhair fern). Very beautiful Maidenhair ferns were brought along and exhibited. The first prize was awarded to Mr. Harold Olney, for a magnificent specimen of Adiantum Peruvianum. (A. Silver-dollar of trade). The fern chosen for our next competition will be a hanging basket, so come along and bring your basket of fern, you could be the winner.

At our next meeting, I will be giving a talk and demonstration on spore-raising, and our aim is to have everyone propagating their own ferns from spore. We will also have a Spore Bank, so please, save your spore. If we can build up a good stock of spore, we will be able to exchange with overseas, Fern Societies. It is quite a thrill to raise your own ferns from spore.

Last June, I received a telephone call from Adelaide, from Mr. Alan Mortimer, who is the President of the Fern Society of South Australia. Alan has suggested, that we affiliate with an exchange of Magazines and Newsletters, so we will be keeping in touch. We have also affiliated with the British Pteridological Society and the Los Angeles International Fern Society.

Newsletters and Magazines that are received from other Fern Societies, will be included in our library and displayed at each meeting.

Chris Goudey.

PRESIDENT.

THANK YOU.

We offer our thanks to the Publishers of the Magazine "A.B.C. of Ferns and Palms" for giving us approval to use a page from their magazine for the cover of our Newsletter. This photograph was taken in the Stony Range Flora Reserve at Dee Why, New South Wales.

THE EDITOR.

REPORT FROM SECRETARY.

The response to the Fern Society has been most gratifying and we now have over 300 members including a number from Interstate.

We hope that members will be interested in our fern sales at our monthly meetings.

Suggestions for other activities are invited from members, please share any ideas you may have and help us grow not only in numbers, but in our interest in and love of ferns.

Quite a few people have asked whether they can share transport to meetings. If you need, or can offer help in this way, please let me know and I will pass on the information to those who are interested.

Our thanks are due to the various gardening experts who have given us publicity in their columns.

Noelle Weatherby, Gillean Dunk, and Peter Alston have all helped to make our activities known and so increased our membership.

Irene A. Bolster.

Telephone 755 1222.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

I am pleased to report that unlike Mr. Howard, my Government counterpart, our finances are in excellent condition. The present bank balance is \$1,069.52. Although this may not seem a great deal, we have a credit of approximately \$900.00 to be transferred from the book supplies account.

During the formation of our society we anticipated that our largest ongoing cost would be the production of the Newsletter.

Your committee will soon consider offsetting costs associated with the Newsletter by raising advertising revenue. As a guide, a rate for space of \$1 per 6.45 sq. cm (or 1 square inch for the oldies) is being considered.

Peter Franks.

TREASURER.

PATHOLOGY TABLE.

All members are asked to bring along to our general meetings any sick fern or frond for assessment. Please add your name and phone number and any notes about the fern which may help in assessment.

If the experts are overburdened with requests, it may be necessary to phone you in a few days or give you a written reply at our next meeting. Please do not be ashamed to bring along a sick plant, as we all have them!

Ian Buckmaster.

VICE PRESIDENT.

HINTS ON FERN GROWING

By: Ian Buckmaster.

1. Do not put them straight out in a fernery or garden at this time of year (September.)
2. Try to assimilate humid glasshouse conditions for newly bought adiantum ferns, and use an atomiser spray at least once a day.
3. Expect the plant to receive a certain amount of setback during its first season.
4. Remember gas and oil heaters are more drying than electrical heaters.
5. Talk to your ferns and give them encouragement.

Editor's Note :- Be sure to look at and buy Ian's book at \$1.40 - it is available on the pathology table. It is an outstanding book full of hints and includes principles of growing ferns in this latitude.

WANTED TO BUY.

Small examples of (1) Pyrossia Adnascens
(2) Humata Peltinata

Peter Franks - 613 Rathdowne Street, Carlton North. 3054.

DIARY DATES

13th Sept. Chris Goudy Spore Propagation
 John Pitchard Ferns of Lord Howe Island
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11th Oct. Peter Lumney and Roger Spencer
 Ferns in Melbourne Botanic Gardens
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8th Nov. Harry Jackson of Idaho Nursery
 Cultivating Ferns
 * * *

13th Dec. Alan Morrison Photographing Ferns
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Our August attendance was 150 so we hope to keep this good attendance for our last four meetings of 1979.

STOP PRESS

Unfortunately our Treasurer is departing for twelve months in England shortly so we will be calling for nominations for a new Treasurer at our next meeting.