FERN

OFFICE-BEARERS

PRESIDENT: Doug Thomas, 17 Knaith Road, Ringwood East, 3135 Tel. 870 7229

VICE-PRESIDENTS: Albert Jenkins, 11 Morwell Avenue, Watsonia, 3087 Tel. 435 3863

Bill Taylor, 1 Princetown Road, Mr. Waverley, 3049 Tel. 277 4310

TREASURER: Jean Trudgeon, 13 Eden Street, West Heidelberg, 3084 Tel. 459 4859

SECRETARY: Keith Stubbs, 14 Afton Street, Essendon, 3040 Tel. 337 8284

EDITOR: Keith Hutchinson, 17 Grandview Grove, Rosanna, 3084 Tel. 45 2997

SPORE BANK MANAGER: Rod Hill, 41 Kareela Road, Frankston, 3199

LIBRARIAN: Bernadette Blackstock, 65 Hobson Street, Newport, 3015 Tel. 391 5571

PUBLICITY OFFICER: Geoff Echberg, 1 Railway Parade, Highett, 3190 Tel. 555 5115

AUDITOR: R. Fowler

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So much has been achieved by the Fern Society Administration that it becomes hard to believe that the society is but three years Despite this splendid success it is inevitable that changes in personnel have to occur from time to time. Some of these changes were revealed at the Annual Meeting and election of Office Bearers in August. However, these were not by any means sweeping changes, for we the present have in administration, a solid nucleus of experienced officers and committee members who with assistance from the new influx make up a very capable The financial organization. condition of the Society is strong and well managed with membership satisfactory and increasing.

I suppose that it is a fairly normal thing for a newly appointed officer to "take stock" of what he's getting into and pursuing this I set down a list of the facilities and services that are available to members. It's quite impressive:-

- (a) Monthly meetings: Held in airconditioned comfort to which the committee invites Guest Speakers who are experts in their particular fields of study. Education and information are the aims.
- (b) Society Library: New and functioning well.

- (c) Book Sales: A means of acquiring your own library at reasonable cost.
- (d) Spore Bank: A means of entry into another world; propagation of prehistoric plants.
- (e) Fern Sales: A very convenient means of adding new species to your collection.
- (f) Problem solving fern
 identification.
- (g) Society Newsletter presents a condensation of all activities month by month.
 - (h) Outdoor field excursions.

There may be others, in which case I apologize for not being able to remember them..

In addition to all this, a subcommittee is established to plan and organize fern exhibitions and public displays. On the week end of 14th, 15th August last I was privileged to see this subcommittee in action. excellent display of ferns was presented on behalf of the Society at a Wild Flower Show in North Ringwood. In this the work was outstanding and the selfless dedication of each member worthy of the highest praise. We have a group of members here who are ideal ambassadors for the Society. Should they need you to help them at any time please don't hesitate to agree.

To conclude the "stock taking", I must mention the Burnley Horticultural College Hall. This has proved to be an ideal venue for general and committee meetings; it is spacious, comfortable and centrally situated for members. We have room to move here and most importantly, room in which the Society can continue to develop, to inform fern lovers and grow in status. I look forward to my work with the Committee, to helping sustain all of the __nitiatives mentioned above and to the introduction of further innovative ideas.

On a personal note, I am encouraged and deeply appreciative of the warm hearted good wishes of members and particularly for those expressed by Chris Goudey. I feel optimistic that my association with everyone will be a happy and enjoyable one.

With kindest regards, DOUG THOMAS

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

The Society's Spore Bank Manager, Rod Hill, will be the speaker on Thursday, September 9th, on the subject "Tree Ferns".

A Request From Rod

As the only reasonably sized treeferns I have in pots are Cyathea cooperi, I am seeking members' help in providing demonstration material for my talk this month. If any members have one or two, potted treeferns, especially more unusual species, that they could bring for the specimen table, this assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Also if you have treeferns you are unable to identify, this might be a good opportunity to bring in the plant or a frond.

ROD HILL



Pay a visit to

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ANNUAL REPORT

FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

The following report was presented to the 3rd Annual General Meeting of the Fern Society of Victoria on Thursday 12th August by the Secretary, K.N. Stubbs on behalf of the Executive Committee.

The Fern Society continued healthy progress during its third full year of operation. This is clearly demonstrated by the interest shown by members and good attendances at the Society's meetings and functions.

Membership rose from 330 at the start of the financial year to 474 at 30th June, 1982. A large influx of members joined through attendance at the Annual Fern Show - in all, 83 new memberships have been received since March.

The highlight of the Society's activities was the two day Fern Show, our second such effort, held at the Herbarium. Over 2000 attended the event including a Chinese delegation which was visiting Victoria at that time. Much of the credit for the successful show was attributable to Bill Taylor and his small band of workers. Bill has already formed a sub-committee for the 1983 Fern Show. It has met twice and has already formulated plans for a bigger and better event next year.

The affairs of the Society were conducted by the Executive Committee which, until May, was under the Chairmanship of the President, Chris Goudey. Chris resigned his position for personal reasons and this was received with regret by the Committee. Albert Jenkins was appointed Acting President for the remaining few months until the 3rd Annual General Meeting.

The Executive Committee Meetings were held in the past twelve months and the attendances by the officers and committee members were:

Meetings Attended

Chris Goudey	7 (Resigned 26/6/82)
Albert Jenkins	10
Keith Hutchinson	7
Jean Trudgeon	q
Keith Stubbs	10
Berenice Hale	10
Geoff Echberg	8
Kath Brown	10
Bill Taylor	10
Reg Siebel	8
Margaret Radley	9
Audrey O'Connell	9

Messrs. Hutchinson, Siebel and Echberg are not seeking re-election and the Executive Committee thanks them for their valued support. Geoff Echberg has served on the Committee for three years and has indicated his willingness to continue as Publicity Officer.

Some of the significant decisions taken by the Executive Committee during the year included:

- the re-affiliation with the Royal Horticultural Society.
- continued participation in the Herald Garden State Festival and several other district shows.

- Proposed two constitutional amendments for adoption at this Annual General Meeting.
- Formed a lending library (our thanks to Anne Bryant for running this operation).
- Restricted the number of ferns per member which may be sold at each monthly meeting.
- Introduced half subscription rates for new members who join in the second half of the financial year.

Attendances have been good at the regular monthly meetings with the largest audience (over 200) at the March 1982 meeting when the Society brought David Jones to Melbourne as the Guest Speaker. With only one exception, the speakers kept to their subjects and provided an excellent standard of the subjects nominated for their talks. The Christmas meeting featured a Fern Forum and this format will be continued for the 1982 Christmas Meeting.

Monthly newsletters have been edited by Keith Hutchinson. These newsletters contain regular highlights e.g. summary of the previous month's speaker's talk and are distributed prior to each monthly meeting. Keith has been assisted by his "folding bee" of Jean Trudgeon, Kath Brown and Margaret Radley. Their efforts in providing voluntary labour to fold and prepare the newsletter saves the Socity hundreds of dollars each month and we are grateful for their efforts.

Our Spore Bank continues to grow under the quiet guidance of Rod Hill. Rod's efforts each month and the service he provides for country and interstate members is greatly appreciated.

Brief mention was made previously of our Past President, Chris Goudey. Chris was the first elected President of the Society and held the position for almost three years. Those who worked with Chris on the Committee know how much effort he put into the Fern Society's activities. We pay a special thank you to him for those efforts and look forward to his early return to the Fern Society's activities.

There are many other "thank you's" which should be recorded:

The ladies who provide the "cuppa" each night; Lorraine Goudey (& recently Berenice Hale) who have conducted book sales at the monthly meetings; the groups which sell ferns at the monthly meetings under Albert Jenkins' guidance; the ladies who so nicely take our money at the door each month for the special effort and the donors; all who have contributed in some way to make the year most successful. Without the willing (few) workers, the Society would not have reached its current high performance level so quickly after three years. Thanks.

The year ahead promises to be just as exciting as 1981/82. Your Committee expresses the wish that all members take advantage of the many services which are provided. It is sure that the foundations are laid for a most successful 1982/83 year ahead.

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Attendance at August's Annual General Meeting was excellent. Approximately 120 members were present.

On the business side, the meeting proceeded smoothly with acting President Albert Jenkins in the chair. Our new President, Doug Thomas took over the meeting during the election of officers.

Those elected to the Executive Committee for 1982/83 are:

President

: Doug Thomas : Albert Jenkins

Vice Presidents

Bill Taylor

Treasurer Secretary : Jean Trudgeon: Keith Stubbs: Berenice Hale

Committee

Berenice Hale Kath Brown

> Audrey O'Connell Margaret Radley Joan Taylor

Albert Ward

Mark Forster , B. Coleman

Auditor

: R. Fowler

Earlier in the meeting the two constitutional amendments were passed. These were:

- to limit the term of office of a President to three years.
- (2) a change in distribution of funds if the Society is wound up to comply with the Raffles & Bingo Board's requirement in order to conduct raffles in the future.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

Jean Trudgeon presented the audited accounts at the Annual General Meeting which showed that the Society had a credit balance of \$3,832.34 at 30th June, 1982.

The Society showed a surplus for the year of \$1,812.34 on its activities. Cash Receipts were \$14,141.19 for the period.

Details of income and expenditure are included elsewhere in this Newsletter.

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()	481.00 311.00 405.69 279.64 29.45 28.45 332.00 64.10 4,455.16 70.00 25.00 15.05 80.60 1,812.34	\$ 14,141.19
Expenditure	Postage Hire Fees Printing & Stationery Library Newsletters Investment Transfer Show Promotion Bank Fees Interest Adjustment Speakers Fees Fromotional/Prizes Show Sales - Sellers Dept. Crown Lands R.H. Society Treasurers Expenses Book Deposits Sundry Expenses Sundry Expenses	

<u>DEMONSTRATIONS KEPT AUDIENCE INTERESTED AFTER</u> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Four members spoke to an attentive audience after the Annual General Meeting on a divergence of topics.

Retiring Vice-President, <u>Keith Hutchinson</u> took up the statement posed by the July Speaker, Dr. French, that "simple questions of how trees grow, for instance, are not easily answered". Keith produced on a blackboard a diagram of a plant's structure and showed how plants transpire an enormous amount of water during one day. One statistic quoted by him was that an average tree would transpire about 90 gallons (405 litres) per day. One hectare of grass in a paddock would transpire about 14 1/2 tonnes of water per day.

Keith also discussed chlorosis. This is a condition which starts in the soil which results in ferns not able to manufacture chlorophyl. This results in fronds and leaves turning yellow.

Rob Dowsett gave an entertaining demonstration on how dead tree ferns may be used to create decorative items in ferneries. He also showed how these can be used for mounting or containing ferns. However, if this is done, he cautioned that good drainage must be provided in the bottom of any containers. One good way to avoid pots drying out is to line pots with peat moss or put a layer of peat moss on top of the soil. Rob's message was clear just because a tree fern may die, it does not have to be discarded.

<u>Harold Olney</u> brought along a mini hot box made mostly from recycled materials which is effective and inexpensive to make. His heat source is a 15W light globe which is controlled by a thermostat. The major component used was "poly" fruit boxes which are readily available. Running costs are about 1 cent per day.

The final demonstration was a "quickie" by Alan Bone who brought along a bottle which had been used to plug a Yabbie-hole in the back yard of his Montrose property 20 years ago. Somehow spore had entered the bottle resulting in a fern growing in this unusual position!

CLEARANCE SALE

Handmade Pottery Pots & Wall Hangings, Ceramic Dishes, etc.

Some Hand Painted Ceramic Chess can be ordered for Xmas.

Saturday, 2nd and Sunday, 3rd October at 13 Eden Street, Heidelberg between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.

JEAN & KATH

FERN SHOW COMMITTEE HOLDS SECOND PLANNING MEETING

Bill Taylor's Fern Show Committee held its second meeting on 1st August with eight of the group attending.

Some of the ideas being discussed to improve the Show are:

- * Use the stage as a display area for Victorian Ferns.
- * Redesign the pergola as a walk-through exhibition.
- * Have samples of the various soils used in order if potting up ferns.
- * More seats for the elderly.
- * Sales tables to be relocated either side of the steps in the outside area.

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FERN SOCIETY AT RINGWOOD

Over the weekend of 14th, 15th of August, our Society again (4th Year) put on a display of native ferns at the Maroondah S.G.A.P. Annual Show of Australian native flower and plant spectacular.

There were over 4,500 people through the exhibit over the weekend, and a very strong interest was shown in our fern display. So here's hoping we receive some new members, as we handed out some 1,500 of our pamphlets on ferns.

I would like to thank Rita and Harold Olly, Reg and Jan Siebel, Ted and Irene Balster, Bernice Hale and Keith Stubbs. Also to our new President, Doug Thomas and his wife Ella, who lent a hand in their own way to Joan and myself.

By putting on displays like this, it is very important to the growth of our society, in keeping with the societies' name in front of the public. So keep an eye out as you may be able to organise something with the aid of a few members in your own area, it's good fun and very rewarding.

Bill and Joan Taylor

SPORE LIST - Species in Short Supply - September

Spore samples may be purchased at monthly meetings, or by sending a list of your requirements with 20 cents for each species requested <u>plus</u> 40 cents for packaging and postage to Mr. R. Hill, 41 Kareela Road, Frankston, 3199.

Payment for orders may be made by postage stamp (27 cent stamps preferred where possible) or by cheque (payable to "Fern Society of Victoria").

If ordering species from this list, please include a supplementary list in case supplies of some species are depleted. All species listed in the August newsletter should be still available.

Instructions on propagation from spore are also still available for an extra 5 cents.

SPORE LIST

ADIANTUM CONCINNUM (10-79) PERUVIANUM (4-81) RADDIANUM 'SLEEPING BEAUTY' (3-81) ANOGRAMMA LEPTOPHYLLA (11-80) ARACHNIODES ARISTATA (8-80) ATHYRIUM FILIX-FEMINA 'FRIZELLIAE' (6-82) BLECHNUM MINUS (8-80) CHRISTELLA PARASITICA (5-80) CIBOTIUM CUMMINGII (10-80) REGALE (5-82) SCHIEDEI (12-78) CYATHEA DREGEI (3-82) PHYSOLEPIDOTA (7-81) CYCLOSORUS INTERRUPTUS (3-81) DICKSONIA SP. (QLD) (5-80) DOODIA CAUDATA (6-82) DRYOPTERIS AEMULA (?) INTERMEDIA (7-81) SPARSA (7-80) SP. (OREADES?) (6-80) HISTIOPTERIS INCISA (VARIEGATED) (4-82) LASTREOPSIS TINAROOENSIS (1-80) LINDSAEA LINEARIS (1-82) LORINSERIA AREOLATA (11-79) MATTEUCCIA ORIENTALIS (?) MICROSORIUM SP. (SCOLOPENDRIA?) (4-82) MOHRIA CAFFROROM (?) POLYSTICHUM MUNIYUM (9-80) SETIFERUM 'ACUTILOBUM' (6-81) SCHIZAEA BIFIDA (5-82) STENOCHLAENA PALUSTRIS (2-81) SYNGRAMMA ALISMIFOLIA (12-80)

ADDITIONAL SPECIES ON THE REGULAR SPORE LIST ACROSTICHUM AUREUM (7-82)
ADIANTUM CAPILLUS-VENERIS (8-82)
DRYOPTERIS CARTHUSIANA (7-82)
PSILOTUM NUDUM (7-82)

One of the ideas presented by your Show Sub-Committee, is a children's table owing to requests for cheaper plants, and to encourage the children to grow plants, we are again on the BOT.

We need donations of plants in tubes which we will be replaced with empty tubes if donor requires. The idea is to sell plants to young children, cheap (20cents). So if you can help in any way contact one of your Show Sub-Committee members which consists of:-

Bill and Joan Taylor, Barry and Gay Staggoll, Bernard and Bernadette Coleman, Bernadette Blackstock, Peter Duel, Greg Bunting and Bob Lee.

Hope to hear from you, your Show Sub-Committee.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to the following people, who joined the ranks of Fern Society of Victoria members during the past month.

Mr. Bill Brierly, 315 Lum Road, Mulgrave, Vic. 3170

Mr. Geoff Eishold, 34 Bayview Street, Altona, Vic. 3018

Mrs. Janet Duro, "Ocean Road", Princetown, Vic. 3269

Mr. Peter Walter Kamen, 225 Maroondah Highway, Healesville, Vic. 3777

Mr. Alex Fekete, Railway Road, Elphinstone, Vic. 3448

Mr. William John Bottrill, 8 Perroux Street, Gulliver, Townsville, 4812

Mr. Charles McDaniel, 1880 Carambola Drive, West Palm Beach, Florida, U.S.A.

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NEW SOUTH WALES: 4th Floor, 309 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000. Phone: (02) 235 8100.











SPEAKER PROGRAMME

SEPTEMBER 9TH

ROD HILL : "TREE FERNS"

OCTOBER 9TH

BETTY DUNCAN & GOLDA ISSAC:

JOINT PRESENTATION, TOPIC

TO BE ADVISED

NOVEMBER 11TH

HARRY JACKSON : "INDOOR PLANTS"

DECEMBER 9TH

CHRISTMAS MEETING & FERN FORUM

NOTE: In the event of a power strike on the evening of any meeting, we regret that the meeting must be cancelled.

VENUE OF MEETINGS:

Burnley Horticultural School Hall, Burnley

TIME OF MEETINGS:

8 p.m.

PREPARED AND PRINTED FOR THE FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA BY



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