



THE FERN
SOCIETY OF
VICTORIA

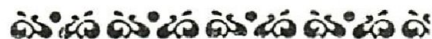
NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

The General Meeting of the Society to be held at Burnley Horticultural College on Thursday, 9th December, 1982 is one which winds up activities for the year. The main feature will be a "Fern Forum" which will be compered by our Secretary, Keith Stubbs. The members who have agreed to comprise the Forum are all experts in fern culture and you are invited to put questions to them on any fern matter that is perhaps causing you concern. The Forum will consist of Chris Goudey (General Management), Harold Olney (Adiantums and Glass House Management), Keith Hutchinson (Scientific Management) and Keith Ross (Tree Ferns).

In addition we have all of the usual features plus the drawing and distribution of the traditional Christmas Hamper, and a special supper. Would you please bring a plate of sandwiches or cakes and one of your ferns? The food will ensure the success of the supper and the fern will create interest and help to decorate the Hall. A really enjoyable night is envisaged; a night on which the operative word is "mingle".

I wish you a Merry Christmas and an interesting and Happy New Year.

Establishing an Outdoor Fern Garden
 (Continued from November issue)

SOIL PREPARATION continued

The use of small rocks and broken pieces of terra cotta roofing tiles simulated the state of most natural fern gully sub-soils, and in the garden situation it helped to prevent stagnation of drainage water.

Over the tilled surface we spread successive layers of fowl manure, heavy creek gravel (1 cm, 3/8"), and charcoal. These materials were lightly forked into the upper two or three inches of the developing plot.

Leaf mould which had been standing for about two and a half months was then spread over the whole surface to a depth of two or three inches and left unworked.

To make the leaf mould, we collected a quantity of English oak leaves which we passed through a garden mulching machine to produce shredded material to about the consistency of very coarse chaff. This material was laid in a compost heap to a depth of fifteen centimetres (6") and covered with a layer of dry fowl manure. This process was repeated layer by layer until all shredded oak leaves has been used.

3. FURNISHING:

Furnishings consisted of honeycomb rocks and small weathered tree branches. The rocks were used to define borders and to provide root protection for the ferns as they established. Some rocks were placed on the surface, some semi-submerged and some fully submerged. We had noted that in nature, ferns sent their roots down underneath rocks and boulders and that in such places the earth is cool and moist. Ferns also like to latch their roots around charcoal and bones. Hence the use of charcoal in soil preparation.

The tree branches used were those with some artistic form, some

arched, some twisted into graceful or decorative shapes. These too were dispersed in much the same way as the honeycomb rocks, most however being set into the soil a little way to provide stability and to provide future support for any epiphytic fern species that we might try to grow. At this point the "fern garden" was given a good watering and allowed to settle overnight. It was at last ready to receive the plants.

(To be continued)

With kindest regards
Doug Thomas

TREASURER'S REPORT

The bank account of The Fern Society of Victoria has a credit balance of \$2,239.90, with a further \$2,000.00 on fixed deposit.

Details of moneys received during the months of September and October are as follows:

Subscriptions	\$951.00
Plant Sales)	
Spore Sales)	\$191.37

Poster Sales)	
Tea Money)	\$126.65
Special Effort)	

Many thanks for gifts for Christmas Hamper.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those kind members who have given so generously for our Christmas hamper - once again it looks as if it will be a 'bumper' Christmas.

JEAN TRUDGEON

A warm welcome is extended to the following new members of
The Fern Society of Victoria.

Mr. Brindley, 10 Vickett Road, Donvale, 3111
Mr. Wolfgang Gohler, Lot 7-8 Amphlet, Cockatoo, 3781.
Mr Jeff Lynne, 34 Eddy Road, Chatswood, 2067
Miss Jane Hanson, 44 Church Street, Hawthorn, 3122
Mr. Harry Jackson, Idaho Nursery's, 410 Waverley Road, East Malvern, 3145
Mrs. Hazel Smith, 12 Canberra Street, Sylvania, 2224
Mrs. O.L. Surgey, P.O. Box 864, Mildura, 3500
9 Gilbert Street, Mildura South, 3501
Ms. Jan Williams, P.O. Box 10, Casterton, 3311

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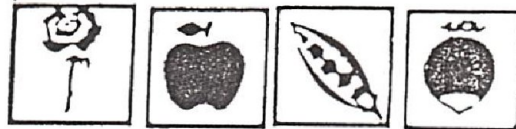


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SPECIAL EFFORT WINNERS FOR NOVEMBER

- 1/ Maida Boothman
- 2/ Mrs. B. Stidston
- 3/ Rod McConchie
- 4/ Mark Forster
- 5/ Bernadette Blackstock
- 6/ Maureen Verhagen

As we come to the end of 1982 I would like to thank the
following:

- Jean, Kath and Margaret for their help in collating
folding, addressing, etc.
- Barry Stagoll for his excellent line drawings
- Rod Hill for his spore lists and very interesting articles
- Chris Goudey for writing up the Fern Of The Month
- Diana Crumpler for her excellent crossword and many others
whose assistance makes our newsletter possible.

My wish for 1983 would be for more members to contribute in
any way they feel possible with a question, an article, a
sketch, a request, or just a suggestion to improve our
newsletter.

I would like to wish you all a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and the
best of health for the coming year.

Your Editor
KEITH HUTCHINSON

INDOOR PLANTS - Watering is the Secret to Success

The secret to growing indoor plants successfully is good, even watering according to the November speaker, Harry Jackson, Idaho Nurseries.

"The reason why so many people fail to grow indoor plants is uneven watering", he said. "Some sick plants which come into the shop resemble the Simpson Desert but most plants in trouble have a "high water mark" caused by the growers putting them into a "bath of water".

Watering should be evenly distributed over the surface and plenty of it, time given to let the water drain through and then put the pot on a saucer, according to Harry Jackson. He had the distinction of training the top apprentice last year (she averaged 96.5% over 20 subjects) and the selection of house plants brought along by him demonstrated his knowledge and love for this subject.

Growing plants for cuttings needs a good "gutsy" stock plant. Harry likened the selection of plant growing to buying a steak - a good steak will be eaten whilst a tough one will be fed to the dog.

Cheap plants often finish up in the rubbish bin and, if they do make it, need a lot of nursing along to produce good cuttings.

House plants have become a feature of modern living. It is interesting that some plants are bought on impulse, others are chosen carefully. But the majority of people take a pot into the shop and want a plant to "fill that pot to go into a dark corner". Usually these people return in a couple of weeks complaining that the plant died.

To grow indoor plants successfully, it is necessary to find out a little about them and where they will grow. It is important to differentiate between those that need high light values compared with those that need little light. Others need a dry environment. If a little care is taken with these basic aspects, success will usually follow.

A very attentive audience was treated to an evening of demonstration of propagation techniques and growing tips for indoor plants, which could only have been delivered by an expert.

A Thank You.....

Harry Jackson brought along a number of plants which he donated to the Society. These realised \$44.00 to the Society. Thank you very much, Harry, for your kind gesture.

PESTS AND WEE BEASTIES

Now is nearing the time that our lovely ferns suffer from Caterpillars, Aphids and Scale.

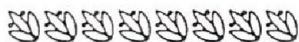
These pests can ruin a lovely fern in no time, so why not do something about it!

Over the last few years I have used "Carbaryl" spray with great success against all of these Beasties on all types of ferns.

To make it worthwhile, you must spray at least three (3) times at one (1) week intervals. In doing this you not only kill the pests that are there at the time but by spreading it over a period of time, you also kill the young as they hatch, before they have time to do damage. You can then give an occasional spray during the season ahead as a precautionary measure. (Use your own discretion).

Last season, I mentioned this to several members who had great success - hope you do as well.

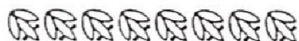
BILL TAYLOR



Note to our Bookworms:

Could all members who have overdue library books please return them at the Christmas meeting.

Thank you
BERNADETTE BLACKSTOCK



China Anyone?

Travman Tours have put together a Springtime Parks & Gardens Tour of China.

It departs from Melbourne on 21st February, 1983. The tour has been organised for those people who have a deep interest in the history and crafts of ornamental gardening.

For further information, please contact the Secretary. Incidentally, Keith and Berenice have recently returned from China and their tour was organised by Travman. They rated the organisation an outstanding success. "The ornamental gardens were outstanding", Keith said.

During the last 12 months I have had many requests for back copies of our Newsletter. Finally we have been able to have some printed. If you would like any of the following, the cost is 50 cents per copy including postage. Please send cheques made payable to Fern Society of Victoria to 17 Grandview Grove, Rosanna, 3084.

1979	Sept	Vol 1	No. 1
	Oct	"	No. 2
	Nov	"	No. 3
	Dec	"	No. 4
1980	Feb	Vol 2	No. 1
	Mar	"	No. 2
	April	"	No. 3
	May	"	No. 4
	June	"	No. 5
	July	"	No. 6
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	Sept	"	No. 8
	Oct	"	No. 9
	Nov	"	No. 10
	Dec	"	No. 11
1981	Feb	"	No. 1
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	July	"	No. 6
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	Sept	"	No. 8
	Oct	"	No. 9
	Nov	"	No. 10
	Dec	"	No. 11

The following is an extract from a letter from Mrs. Jill Graham of Manjimup W.A. We thank her for her interest in writing to let us know of her discovery.

"I am particularly interested in Aspleniums and would have liked to have been present at your October meeting to hear Betty Duncan's speech.

One particular Asplenium, "Asplenium aethiopicum": In the notes it says it is only found in The Grampians of Western Victoria. This is not so. It is found growing as an epiphyte on Casuarina Trees in our Karri forrest here in Western Australia.

My husband is a Tree-feller and has come across Asplenium aethiopicum on a number of occasions. They are always under deep shade with running water nearby.

There is no doubt that it is Asplenium Aethiopicum because some time ago we had it identified.

This same fern up until about twelve months ago was known as Asplenium falcatum bipinnatum (W.A. Sledge). It has since been found to be Asplenium Aethiopicum."

SPORE LIST - DECEMBER

Spore samples may be purchased at monthly meetings, or by sending a list of your requirements with 20 cents for each species requested, plus 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").

Many species are still available from the list published in the November Newsletter, but if ordering from this list, please include a supplementary list in case supplies of some species are depleted.


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

REGULAR SPORE LIST - DECEMBER

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ADIANTUM CAPILLUS-VENERIS (8-82) | DICKSONIA ANTARCTICA (3-82) |
| FORMOSUM (5-82) | FIBROSA (6-81) |
| RADDIANUM 'GRACILLIMUM' (3-82) | LANATA (2-82) |
| SP. (S.E. QLD) (10-82) | YOUNGIAE (N.QLD FORM) (8-81) |
| AMPHINEURON TERMINANS (2-82) | YOUNGIAE (S.QLD FORM) (8-81) |
| ARACHNIODES STANDISHII (12-81) | DIPLAZIUM AUSTRALE (2-82) |
| ASPLENIUM BULBIFERUM (NATIVE) (12-80) | DOODIA ASPERA (3-82) |
| FLABELLIFOLIUM (11-80) | MEDIA (3-82) |
| ATHYRIUM FILIX-FEMINA 'CRISTATA' (8-81) | DRYOPTERIS CARTHUSIANA (7-82) |
| THELYPTEROIDES (7-81) | MARGINALIS (7-81) |
| BELVISIA REVOLUTA (7-81) | SP. (BLACK KOREAN CROWN-FERN) (3-82) |
| BLECHNUM ARTICULATUM (11-80) | SP. (FILIX-MAS?) (8-82) |
| CARTILAGINEUM (1-82) | GLEICHENIA DICARPA (9-82) |
| FLUVIATILE (9-82) | MICROPHYLLA (3-82) |
| GIBBUM (4-81) | RUPESTRIS (8-81) |
| NUDUM (3-82) | LASTREOPSIS ACUMINATA (12-80) |
| PENNA-MARINA (1-81) | HISPIDA (10-81) |
| VULCANICUM (4-82) | WALLERI (8-81) |
| WATTSII (5-82) | SP. (RUFESCENS?) (8-81) |
| CHEILANTHES DISTANS (1-81) | SP. (TENERA?) (8-81) |
| SP. (S.E. QLD) (1-81) | LINDSAEA MICROPHYLLA (1-82) |
| CHRISTELLA DENTATA (3-82) | LUNATHYRIUM JAPONICUM (5-82) |
| CYATHEA AUSTRALIS (3-82) | LYGODIUM CIRCINNATUM (3-81) |
| BROWNII (2-82) | SP.A (MALAYSIA) (10-80) |
| CELEBICA (8-81) | SP.B (CIRCINNATUM?/MALAYSIA) (10-82) |
| COOPERI (1-82) | MICROLEPIA SP. (N.QLD) (8-81) |
| LEICHHARDTIANA (9-82) | ONOCLEA SENSIBILIS (8-81) |
| REBECCAE (8-81) | OSMUNDA CLAYTONIANA (24-5-82) |
| SMITHII ('80) | PELLAEA FALCATA (3-82) |
| SP. (NEW GUINEA) (1-82) | FALCATA NANA (12-81) |
| SP. (PRICKLY/MALAYSIA) (10-82) | PARADOXA (12-81) |
| SP. (SLENDER/MALAYSIA) (10-82) | PITYROGRAMMA CALOMELANOS (8-81) |
| SP. (SLENDER/SINGAPORE) (10-82) | PLATYCERIUM SUPERBUM (6-81) |
| CYRTOMIUM FALCATUM (4-81) | PNEUMATOPTERIS SOGERENSIS (12-80) |
| CYSTOPTERIS BULBIFERA (8-81) | POLYSTICHUM ACROSTICHOIDES (7-81) |
| DENNSTAEDTIA DAVALLIOIDES (12-81) | FORMOSUM (5-82) |
| | LENTUM (3-82) |
| | PROLIFERUM (1-82) |

PSILOTUM NUDUM (7-82)
 PTERIS PACIFICA (8-81)
 TREMULA (1-82)
 UMBROSA (1-82)
 VITTATA (1-82)
 RUMOHRA ADIANTIFORMIS (CAPE FORM) (2-82)
 ADIANTIFORMIS (NATIVE) (3-82)
 SPHAEROSTEPHANOS HETEROCARPUS (8-81)
 STENOCHLAENA PALUSTRIS (10-82)
 STICHERUS TENER (1-81)
 THELYPTERIS SPP. (CANADA) (8-81)
 TODEA BARBARA (1-82)

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Notes from a talk given by Chris Goudey at the first meeting of The Fern Society.

WHAT IS A FERN?

Like gum trees, fuschias, or even violets, ferns have stems, roots and leaves. Some have a characteristic appearance that we recognise at once as being a fern, but others don't.

In studying ferns one soon recognizes that these plants differ from seed-bearing, or flowering plants in several ways.

The most significant is in the method of reproduction. Instead of seeds, ferns produce minute objects called *sporangia*, and are usually filled with countless numbers of spores (sometimes up to 50 million per plant), which are the means by which the plant reproduces its self.

Grouped with the ferns are other kinds of unusual plants, such as club-mosses, horse tails, adderstongues, nardoo, comb ferns and others. They have similarities with ferns but differ somewhat in their structural features, they are usually referred to as fern allies. Many other plant families reproduce by means of spores, but are not allied to ferns, such as liverworts, fungi, lichen and algae for example.

Fossil records indicate that ferns have been a part of the earth's vegetation for millions of years. The species that survive today are only a handful compared to the countless number that once flourished.

In the carboniferous age some 350 million years ago ferns were the dominant form of vegetation, tree ferns, giant clubmosses and horsetails flourished. It was these giant ancestors of today's ferns that laid down our rich seams of coal.

Today, although our vegetation is dominated by flowering plants, over 10,000 species survive in tropical and temperate regions around the world. This is a relatively small number compared to the more than 325,000 species of seed-bearing plants.

Many ferns are found in temperate or subtropical countries, such as Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the Himalayas.

However, the richest fern areas occur throughout the tropics, such as Central and South America, the West Indies, Tropical Africa and the Indo-Malayan area. In these countries ferns grow in abundance, particularly on the cooler mountain slopes in the cloud zone.

Ferns can be found growing almost everywhere, from the Polar regions to the Equator, at altitudes ranging from sea-level to over 14,000 feet in altitude.

Some ferns are worldwide in their distribution, such as the Annual fern *Anogramma leptophylla* and the Moonwort *Botrychium lunaria*. Some are cosmopolitan, that is, they occur right around the world at much the same latitude, some of these include The European Maidenhair Fern *Adiantum capillus - venerus*, The Brittle Bladder Fern *Cystopteris filix - fragilis* and the Shield Hares Foot Fern *Rumohra adiantiformis*.

Others can be restricted to only one State, or just one small area. One local example is our Skirted Treefern *Cyathea marcescens*, or perhaps Tasmania's Dwarf Coral Fern *Gleichenia abscida*.

Some ferns are climbers, they can be seen climbing their way up, 50ft. or more into the tree canopy. Some grow on water, others grow under water. Many grow as hosts on other ferns, such as filmy ferns. Some species grow on coastal rocks where they are constantly splashed with sea water, others grow at such high altitudes that they are buried with snow for a whole season.

One remarkable group of ferns *Lecarnopteris carnosa* actually provide a home for ants; they have a swollen hollow rhizome which provides the ants with shelter. The theory is that the ants help feed the plant by bringing mineral substances from the ground and also with nitrogen in their excreta.

The life history of ferns is a most fascinating one, and it is only within the last hundred years that the mysteries of their sexual processes have been discovered. Until the advent of the microscope no one had any idea how they reproduced, for this reason they were named the **Cryptograms**, which means 'hidden marriage'.

Spores are ejected from the parent plant by a complex mechanism and float around in wind currents. If you collect and press fertile fronds you will often see the spore cases burst open, scattering their granular contents into the air. Large numbers of spores are floating around in the air currents, so it only takes a suitable site and they will show their presence.

When a spore lands on a suitable site it absorbs moisture and grows into a small membranous, usually heart shaped object, called a **prothallus** or **gametophyte**, which is usually less than a quarter of an inch long even in large tree ferns.

On the underside of this tiny plant are the male sexual organs, called **Antheridia**, and the female organs called **Anchegonia**. When the female egg is ready to be fertilized it secretes a fluid which attracts the sperm from the antheridia, and fertilization takes place. A film of water must be present on the prothallus to allow the sperm to swim to the archegonia.

On rare occasions the sperm from one prothallus fertilizes the female egg of another species, this will result in a hybrid being produced. Natural hybrids do occur in the wild but they are by no means common. Once fertilization has taken place the **gametophyte** becomes a **sporophyte**, which is the familiar fern as we usually see it, with stems roots and leaves.

As the young sporophyte develops, the prothallus disintegrates. If fertilization does not take place the prothallus can live on for quite some time, years in fact, if conditions remain favourable.

The Annual Fern *Anogramma leptophylla* which occurs in this state has a prothallus, and the sporophyte, or adult fern as we know it is only short lived.

The fronds of this small fern usually appear towards the end of summer and last through the winter, sporing in spring before dying back again, but the prothallus lives on.

As well as reproducing by spores many ferns also reproduce vegetatively. They produce what are known as **proliferous buds** such as the Hen and Chicken Fern *Asplenium bulbiferum* or the Mother Shield Fern *Polystichum proliferum*. These proliferous buds can either take root as the old frond dies or drop off and then take root.

Other ferns send out long adventitious shoots called **stolens**. These stolens produce buds which can develop into separate plants if conditions are favourable, examples of this are the Lace Ferns *Nephrolepis*, some tree ferns such as *Cyathea rebecca* and *Dicksonia squarrosa* and many of the fishbone water ferns such as *Blechnum nudum*.

Many ferns are known to people by their common names, names that are easy to remember, and no doubt useful when dealing with a small number of plants.

But the trouble is with common names, elsewhere people may have different names for the same plants. Or, the same common name may be used for several different plants.

Scientific names may be long and difficult to pronounce, and remember, but they are understood and accepted the world over by people who are acquainted with them.

Every species of fern known to science has a legitimate scientific name which is used only for that particular plant. The scientific name of a plant consists of two words. The first is like the surname of a person such as Smith, the second is like a Christian name, such as John.

The first word denotes the genus or group to which the plant belongs. The second word denotes the particular plant in the group. For example, *Adiantum eathropicum* is the scientific name for the Common Maidenhair Fern. The first word, *Adiantum*, is the name of the genus to which this fern belongs. The second word, *eathropicum* is the species.

There is a similar fern called *Adiantum raddianum*, it is obvious that this fern is related to the Common Maidenhair Fern as it belongs to the same genus, (*Adiantum*) but it has a different species name because it is a different fern.

The Botanist who names a particular plant is known as the Author of that name, and his initials or an abbreviation of his name appears after the scientific name of the plant, for example: *Adiantum ealhiopicum* L. is the correct scientific name for the Common Maidenhair Fern.

The letter L. indicates that the species name was given by Linnaeus the famous Swedish Botanist who began the system of giving species two names. (The Binomial System)

Most of the maidenhair ferns sold in shops today are not true species. They are plants which show in most cases, considerable variation from the species from which they originated.

They can be either cultivars which are abbreviated CV., sub species which are ssp., forma which can be f. or forma or varieties which is var.

Some examples are *Adiantum raddianum* cv. Crested Majus which is a horticultural cultivar of *Adianbum raddianum*. *Adiantum pedatum* forma *imbricatum* is a form of *Adiantum pedatum* that was reportedly found in the wild. *Asplenium trichomanes* ssp *quadrivalens* which is a subspecies of the Common Spleenwort. And lastly *Doodia caudata* var *laminosa* is a variety of *Doodia caudata*, the small raspfern which occurs in N.S.W. and Queensland.

If you are interested in collecting and growing ferns, it can be quite frustrating when your local Nurseryman only has a few different ferns, and you are not allowed to collect them in the wild.

What do you do?

There are several specialised Fern Nurseries in Victoria, most of which advertise in garden magazines such as *Your Garden*. These Nurseries carry a large range of ferns, some common, and others quite rare. Also in garden magazines you will occasionally see an advertisement from interstate Nurseries who are prepared to freight your plants to you, such as *Sonters & Kamahale Nurseries* in N.S.W. and *Limberlost* in North Queensland.

Hopefully through The Society you will meet people who have a common interest, and you will be able to exchange ferns, spore and ideas with fellow members.

If you are a serious collector there are all sorts of avenues open to you, such as joining overseas Fern Societies and writing to collectors in other countries with the view to exchanging spore or even ferns. You can also visit interstate Nurseries and collectors on your annual holidays; quite often you can exchange ferns through the post. Some Nurseries overseas will ship plants, but most will not go to all the trouble unless you have something they particularly want.

If you are buying a fern, make sure first of all that the fern you wish to buy will grow in your environment. Don't expect a tropical fern to flourish in an open fernery, unless of course it comes from a high altitude in the tropics. Also don't expect a cold climate fern such as an alpine or British fern for example to do well in a heated glasshouse. There are of course a few exceptions such as *Blechnum penna-marina*.

Once you have decided what fern you wish to purchase, examine the plant carefully, make sure that the growing tip or crown is healthy and not shrivelled. A good indication is, if the plant is sending up new fronds that are as large or larger than the existing mature fronds. You can usually tell if a new frond is going to be large or small by the size of the *crozier* or the length of the *stipe* as the new frond uncoils. (The *crozier* is the new uncoiling frond, the *stipe* is the stem of the frond from the leaf base down to the crown or rhizome.) If the *stipe* is as long or longer than other *stipes* on the plant you have a good indication that the frond is going to be a good size.

If you buy a treefern, make sure it has a Department of Agriculture tag on it (I'm not sure about Queensland treeferns), but southern ones - Victoria and New South Wales - must have tags. Don't buy a fern that looks an off colour, or one that has deformed or diseased growth. If ever you see aphids, mealy bug, scale or any other disease on a plant, you would be well advised to leave it alone.

The soil mix is another important factor, different Nurseries use different mixes. Some Nurseries in the tropics use a very heavy mix. That is quite O.K. for their climate, but no good this far south. A fern grown in such a mix will probably grow alright for you through the warmer months of the year, but could quite easily die through the winter because the soil is too heavy, and holds too much water and not enough air.

In Victoria we need a good open spongy soil mix with at least two thirds of the mix organic.

The following is a good basic mix:-

1 Part of good friable garden loam
1 Part of coarse washed sand (Pylon Sand)
and 2 to 3 Parts humus (Peat moss, leaf mould, old rotted manure)
1 tablespoon of Hoof & Horn can be added to each gallon of the mix.

Also a small amount of ground limestone can be added, particularly if the mix is to be used for maiden hair ferns. Maiden hair ferns (*Adiantums*) like a mix that is about neutral whereas most other ferns prefer a slightly acid mix.

We have been most fortunate during the past year to have some beautiful line drawings by Barry Stagoll.

The drawing on the opposite page is a reprint of one of these, for members' enjoyment.



CYRTOMIUM
FALCATUM

BJS
2/82.

by BARRY STAGOLL

LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR

Thursday
DECEMBER 9TH

CHRISTMAS MEETING
AND FERN FORUM

This seems an appropriate spot to record our thanks to all those people who have given so generously of their time and their expertise to speak at our meetings. The number of people who attend our monthly meetings is an indication of the quality of the speakers we have had. Thanks to you all!

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.

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, FROM



JUDY BIELICKI'S
EXECUTIVE SERVICES



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