THE FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST: PUBLICATIONS No. VBH3411

VOLUME 14 Number 8, September 1992

FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS:	Single		\$15.0	00	(Per	nsion	ner/S	tuden	t - \$1:	L.00)
	Family	-	\$18.0	00	(Per	nsion	ners -	- \$13	.00)	
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	Subscript	tions	s fall	due	on	1st	July	each	year.	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The Annual General Meeting is now behind us and I warmly welcome the new member of Committee, John Hooper, and sincerely thank those members from last year who agreed to continue on the Committee.

The new Committee will shortly be considering the programme for next year. Please let the Committee know if you have any ideas about topics, speakers, shows, excursions or other activities for the coming year. Either drop a note in the Suggestion Box or post it into the Secretary. Not all wisdom resides with the Committee - it needs input from the general membership.

Badger Creek: The meeting this month is replaced by the excursion to Badger Creek on Sunday, 20th September. This is a beautiful fern area close to the city, and an excellent opportunity to compare our puny efforts at fern growing with that of Nature. I look forward to seeing a good crowd there. Elsewhere in the Newsletter is a list of ferns which may be observed at Badger Creek, also directions on how to find the spot.

Open Afternoon: To repeat my message in last month's Newsletter, I invite members to spend part of the afternoon of Sunday, 13th October at my garden. Drop in any time after 1.30 p.m. Nothing special organised, just a chance to have a look at my garden (such as it is; hopefully, I will have it somewhat tidier by then), partake of a cup of coffee and fern chat, and perhaps look a little more closely at some of our native Maidenhairs.

Newsletter: The Newsletter is an important and successful feature of the Society. However, one aspect of the Newsletter which could be improved is the level of contribution by members. Articles - short or long, letters, comments on any aspects of growing ferns, the location of any fern areas you have visited and comments on ferns present - all (continued opposite)

SEPTEMBER ACTIVITY

TRIP TO BADGER CREEK

DATE: Sunday, 20th September

TIME: Lunch at 12.30 p.m. Fern Walk at 1.30 p.m.

VENUE: Badger Weir Reserve - reached by following Badger Weir Road east from the junction of Badger Creek Road and Don Road (Melway Directory Ref. 278 J9).

Notes:

(1) Please make your own transport arrangements.

(2) Meet in the vicinity of the rotunda in the Picnic Ground.

(3) Boiling water will be available.

(4) The ferns likely to be found in the area are listed on page 93.

Please note that there will not be a meeting in the Herbarium hall this month as it is not available.

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OCTOBER MEETING

For our next monthly meeting on Thursday, 15th October at the Herbarium we will be joined by the visiting group of American fernists from the Los Angeles International Fern Society.

There will be two speakers on the evening:

- Barbara Joe Hoshizaki will talk on Central American Ferns.
- Chris Goudey will give a talk about Australian Tree-ferns, a subject of great interest to our visitors.
- Please let Barry White know if you wish to join the bus trip to the Otways on Friday, 16th October.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: (cont'd)

are welcome. The Newsletter can act as an important means of exchange of information between members and I invite all members to participate.

Glen Waverley Show: I thank all those who assisted at the Show either by helping to man the display or by providing ferns. As this is written prior to the Show, a full comment on the Show will appear in the next Newsletter.

Regards, Barry White

SPEAKER REPORT - GENERAL MEETING - 20TH AUGUST, 1993

Speaker: Rob Hall, Holmesglen College of TAFE, Waverley Campus.

Subject: ESTABLISHING A SUBURBAN RAINFOREST

A decision was taken early in 1989 to re-develop an area at the Oakleigh campus of the Holmesglen College which was somewhat wet and under a large canopy of Eucalypts. The area had previously been planted unsuccessfully with West Australian natives.

Rainforest plants were chosen for the re-development, a decision which was encouraged by a statement in a book by David Jones on ornamental rainforests that many rainforest species will grow in a wide variety of conditions.

As the canopy was already in place to provide shelter for the new plants, initial work was concentrated on improving the aesthetics of the area with mounds, rocks and a series of bridges and paths. Rob expressed a strong preference for large rocks as these have more impact and are not overgrown by plants. The mounds were formed with 25 cubic metres of clay from a swimming pool excavation and were covered with a mixture of potting mix and sandy loam to a depth of about 15-20 centimetres. This simulated the conditions in most rainforests, which have only a shallow layer of fairly well drained topsoil. The potting mix / loam layer gave the young plants a good medium in which to establish while the clay base later helped hold the plants in place.

Most of the plants used were produced from seed in the College's own nursery. To aid acclimatisation of the plants, seeds were collected from the southernmost growing areas of the various species. Strike rates were very good and all the seedlings that were planted out not only survived but thrived, even those which grew naturally only in Cape York.

It was felt that the most significant factor in the success achieved was the good tree cover already existing. An adequate canopy to provide protection for the young plants is essential. Once the trees grow they can withstand the sunlight, but small ones will not survive without cover. The fact that the Oakleigh area is not subject to frost was also probably significant; frost may be a problem at Waverley.

The rainforest plants were given no special treatment after planting out other than large and continuing doses of 'Dynamic Lifter' as a slow-release source of nitrogen. Nitrogen from the decomposition of leaves and plant debris is by far the main fertiliser element in natural rainforests.

Rainforest species can be planted very closely, as their normal environment is highly competitive with very large numbers of species in a limited area. This is the reason why rainforest trees grow so tall in their native environment. The native Black Bean (*Castanospermum australe*) in NSW and Queensland forests grows to a height of about 18 metres with very little branching. A sample growing in uncrowded conditions in the Melbourne Botanic Gardens is a spreading tree of about eight metres. This species is very attractive, especially when it develops its bright red seeds.

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The plants in rain forests do not only compete for light but also for water, with the unexpected result that the soil in rainforests is quite dry below the top 10 centimetres. Hence many rainforest plants are capable of surviving in quite dry conditions and, conversely, will not grow well in boggy conditions.

During the course of his talk Rob displayed examples of some of the many rainforest plants suitable for horticultural use. A surprising number are already well known in the Melbourne area, though it is not generally realised that they were originally rainforest species.

The Silky Oak (*Grevillea robusta*), which is widely grown in Melbourne as a street and garden tree, is one such rainforest plant. This tree has beautiful orange-yellow flowers and grows vigorously under most conditions. However, its rapid spread from self-sowing of its winged seeds has led to it being declared a noxious weed in Hawaii. There are a number of rainforest Grevilleas in Queensland, most of which are shrubs rather than trees; all that have been tried, one being *G*. *hilliana*, have done well here.

The Red Cedar (*Toona australis*) is a another vigorous grower which has thrived at Oakleigh, but it is not found naturally in great numbers now as it does not regenerate well when cut out. Germination of the seeds tends to be inhibited by rapidly germinating species such as *Ligustrum*, a form of Privet. It was said in a television programme that *Toona* forests do not re-develop because it is such a slow grower, but Rob effectively disproved this by displaying a specimen about 1.8 metres high which was only the top third of a plant that had grown <u>from seed</u> in only two years. *Toona* is deciduous in the open but holds its leaves quite well under a canopy.

The Umbrella Plant (*Brassaia actinophylla*) is popular in southern areas as an indoor plant. One about three metres high in a tub in the College conservatory was planted out under the dense Eucalypt canopy two years ago when the conservatory was being re-developed. It has now grown through and above the canopy with no problems from sun or frost.

Plants of Yellow Pittosporum (*Pittosporum revolutum*) brought down from Queensland have grown successfully. One of its relatives is the Sweet Pittosporum (*P. undulatum*) which spreads rapidly by self-sown seedlings and is becoming a major menace in many areas.

Members of the Lilly-pilly group are among the most colourful of rainforest plants with their profuse flowers and brightly coloured berries. The most common one in cultivation is The Lilly-pilly (Acmena smithii), which has white blossoms and berries varying in colour from white through pink to mauve. A particularly good species is the Small Leaf Lilly-pilly (Syzygium leuhmannii) which is a small (in rain forest terms) shrub growing to about four metres. The new growth is an almost transparent pink which becomes richer as it hardens. In spite of its delicate look it is extremely hardy and its size can be readily contained by cutting it back. This tolerance of cutting back applies with most Lilly-pillies; some can even be successfully grown as bonsais.

There is an amazing assortment of Lilly-pillies. Some actually flower on the old wood right down on the trunk. Others produce very large berries, e.g., the Rose Apple (*S. moorei*) has edible fruit the size of apples in a bright pink colour that does not fade.

(continued page 92)

(Presented at Annual General Meeting held 20th August, 1992.)

The past year has been a successful one for the Society on many counts.

MEMBERSHIP:

The membership of the Society has stabilised. Total membership at 30th June, 1992 was 273, compared with 280 the previous year. It is necessary to keep membership at least at this level in order to keep the Society functioning at its present standard. Members should not pass up any opportunity to recommend membership of the Society to any keen fern grower they may encounter.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

The monthly meeting programme has concentrated on topics specifically related to ferns. The talks included Ferns of Zimbabwe, Ferns of the Otways, Problem Ferns, Propagation of Ferns by Means Other Than Spore, Members' Fern Night, Fern Essentials night, Potting Mixes and Ferns, and Pteris Ferns. The interstate speaker this year was Kevin Handreck from the CSIRO Division of Soils in Adelaide. Kevin is one of the top experts in Australia on potting mixes, and he talked on this in relation to ferns. A feature of the meetings has been the number of ferns brought in by members for display. The range and quality of the ferns at the meetings is a tribute to the members and adds much to the interest of the evenings. The members ferns night in which members brought along ferns and discussed them was very successful and worthwhile having on a regular basis. The October meeting was saved by Chris Goudey who covered the non-appearance of the guest speaker with an excellent impromptu question and answer session on ferns.

Members of the Society contributed greatly to the monthly meetings. Speakers included Terry Turney, Bill Taylor, Keith Hutchinson, Chris Goudey and many individuals who contributed to the discussion sessions. There is plenty of talent and knowledge within the Society; the challenge is to expand this and pass it onto others.

The only disappointing aspect of the monthly meetings has been the continuing tendency for the numbers attending to decline. For some people there are obvious practical reasons for their non-attendance. However, for many of the remainder it would appear that they do not consider that the content of the meeting is worth the effort of attending. I think the above programme was an excellent one and should have attracted a greater percentage of our members. I would be interested in hearing comments from members.

EXCURSIONS:

The excursions during the year were also very successful in terms of areas visited, ferns seen, and a pleasant social atmosphere. The day trip to Healesville was a rare opportunity to visit some special areas which are normally closed off to the public and thanks go to George Start for arranging access. The Otways are always a wonderful spot to visit and the weekend excursion there in November was no exception. The trip was voted extremely successful by those attending, and a further opportunity to enjoy the Otways will be presented with the visit by the Los Angeles group on October 16th. And the weekend in Wangaratta in May gave members an opportunity to see Mary Frost's garden and an area of the State not usually associated with ferns. A wide range of fern and fern habitats was enjoyed by members on all these excursions.

SHOWS:

The display at the Melbourne Fern Show in April was of the usual very high standard, and the range and quality of plants for sale was not diminished. The Show Committee was chaired by Bob Lee and Committee members were Betty Allgood, Julian Basser, Ian Broughton, Derek Griffiths, John and Norma Hodges, Gay and Barry Stagoll, Bill Taylor, Barry White and Bernadette Thomson.

A lot of work is put into this Show by members, and the Show serves an important function in promoting interest in ferns. However, the Show was disappointing this year in terms of the number of visitors and plant sales. All aspects of the Show will need to be re-evaluated in an effort to get better value for the effort put in by members.

The Wangaratta show, which was the first organised by the Society in a country location, was very successful, thanks largely to the work of Mary Frost.

The Society also put on a display at Prahran Council's Spring Festival. This attracted considerable public interest but little tangible benefit for the Society.

NEWSLETTER:

The Newsletter continues to function as a major organ of the Society. It is even more important when only a small proportion of members are involved in meetings or excursions. Its production on a monthly basis is a large commitment for the Editor, Bob Lee, who has maintained the Newsletter at a high standard. Thanks also go to those who assist in the production and mailing of the Newsletter: Jean Trudgeon, Margaret Radley, Kath Brown and John Oliver. The Newsletter is a vital link with our members, and must continue to receive high priority in the running of the Society.

FINANCIAL:

Unfortunately, the financial report for the year could not be completed in time for this meeting, and will be presented next month. The Society has appointed a new Auditor and it is hoped that this will lead to improvements in the financial reporting.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT:

The degree of success of a Society is directly proportional to the effort put in by members. The Society has benefited from the band of willing workers who have contributed in many ways, and the many who have contributed for a goodly number of years.

My sincere thanks go to Bob Lee, our Immediate Past President, for the way he has held my hand and guided me in my year as President, for his work as Newsletter Editor, and as the Chairman of the Show Committee. I also thank members of the Committee of Management, especially Bernadette Thomson, our retiring Secretary, who has been Secretary for eight years; also Marilyn Wood, our retiring Treasurer, who as a brand new member stepped in to fill the Treasurer's position; and the other Committee members Terry Turney, Don Fuller, Margaret Radley and George Start for their strong support over the year.

NON-ELECTED POSITIONS:

A range of people have worked assiduously for the Society over the year in various non-elected positions. Our thanks go to Jean Boucher and Norma Hodges for their work in providing supper every month; to Margaret Radley and Joy Horman for their work in selling the raffle tickets each month; to David Radford for looking after the Library; to Derek Griffiths for his work in handling book sales and as Publicity Officer for the Society; to John Hooper who as a brand new member volunteered to assist with the Spore Bank; to John Oliver as Property Manager; to Chris Goudey for his handling of the Fern Table each month, for agreeing to judge the fern competition, and for stepping in at the meeting last year when our guest speaker failed to appear; and last but not least, to all those individuals who helped give interest to the meetings by bringing along ferns and contributing to the discussions.

In conclusion, I thank all members for their support over the year, I look forward to their continuing support, and to a year of prosperity for the Society.

Barry White President

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ESTABLISHING A SUBURBAN RAINFOREST

(continued from p. 89)

Two more interesting plants shown were the Native Frangipani (Hymenosporum flavum) and a dwarf version of it. The former is a slender tree which flowers on the crown, making the flowers invisible from the ground below. The dwarf variety grows to only one metre and so is more use for the home garden; it sells in large numbers.

The Elaeocarpus family, generally known as Quandongs, are very interesting plants which have beautiful flowers, produce brightlycoloured berries and have very interesting bark and leaves. They are valuable as sustainable colour in the garden. The Blueberry Ash (Elaeocarpus reticulatus) has spotted bark and grows to eight metres. It has forms with white or pink frilly flowers and blue or pink berries. As the leaves age and are about to drop they turn bright orange. It should eventually become a common suburban garden plant as it goes well with exotics and is extremely hardy.

The plant of Bolwarra (*Eupomatia laurina*) displayed had striking rich coppery-red foliage which it develops in winter. It also defoliates a little then.

The Bleeding Heart Tree (*Omolanthus populifolius*), which self-sows widely in gardens, is also a rainforest tree. It is a wide spreading plant here but a slender tree in its native environment. (to be continued.)

FERN LIST

BADGER CREEK AREA (Healesville)

This list is a <u>guide</u> to the ferns which may be found in the Badger Creek area. It is not meant to be definitive; advice on any additions or deletions would be welcome.

FAMILY	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME
Adiantaceae	Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair
Blechnacea	Blechnum nudum "minus "patersonii "watsii "cartilagineum "fluviatile "chambersii	Fishbone Water-fern Soft Water-fern Strap Water-fern Hard Water-fern Gristle Fern Ray Water-fern Lance Water-fern
Dicksoniaceae	Dicksonia antarctica	Soft Tree-fern
Cyatheacae	Cyathea australis " cunninghamii	Rough Tree-fern Slender Tree-fern
Dennstaedtiaceae	Hypolepis muelleri "rugosula Culcita dubia (Calochlaena dubia) Histiopteris incisa Pteridium esculentum	Harsh Ground-fern Ruddy Ground-fern Rainbow Fern, False Bracken Bat's-wing Fern Bracken
Aspidiaceae	Polystichum proliferum Lastreopsis acuminata	Mother Shield-fern Shiny Shield-fern
Atyhriaceae	Diplazium australe (Allantodia australis)	Austral Lady-fern
Osmundaceae	Todea barbara	Austral King-fern
Gleicheniaceae fern	Gleichenia microphylla	Scrambling Coral-
Psilotaceae	Tmesipteris billardieri	Long Fork-fern
Aspleniaceae	Asplenium bulbiferum ssp. gracillimum	Mother Spleenwort
Grammitidaceae	Grammitis billardieri	Finger Fern
Davalliaceae	Rumohra adiantiformis	Leathery Shield-fern
Polypodiaceae	Microsorum diversifolium	Kangaroo Fern
Hymenophyllaceae	Hymenophyllum flabellatum "australe Polyphlebium venosum	Shiny Filmy-fern Austral Filmy-fern Veined Bristle-fern

Barry White

SPORE LIST

Ordering: The following spore is free to those who donate spore. Otherwise, members 20 cents each sample, non-members 50 cents, plus \$1.00 to cover p. and p.. Available at meetings or by mail from Barry White, 24 Ruby St, West Essendon, Vic. 3040. - Ph. (03) 337 9793. There is no charge to overseas members, but to cover postage two International Reply Coupons would be appreciated. A booklet on spore collection and cultivation is available for 40 cents, or free to spore donors.

ADIANTUM concinnum 3/92 ADIANTUM formosum 7/91 ADIANTUM fournieri 3/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Blue Moon' 4/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Crested Pacottii' 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Gracillimum' 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Grandiceps' 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Legrand Morgan' 3/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Micropinnulum' 3/92 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Pacific Lady' 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Pacific Maid' 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Variegate Tesselate 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Victoria's Elegans' 1/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Weigandii' 3/92 ADIANTUM whitei 3/92 AGLAOMORPHA meyeniana 2/91 ALSOPHILA capensis 4/91 ANEMIA mexicana 7/91 ANEMIA phyllitidis 7/91 ASPLENIUM milnei 4/92 ATHYRIUM filix femina 1/92 ATHYRIUM niponicum v. pictum 3/92 ATHYRIUM nipponicum pictum crested /91 ATHYRIUM nipponicum pictum, large form /91 BLECHNUM braziliense 6/92 BLECHNUM camfieldii 6/91 BLECHNUM cartilagineum 1/92 BLECHNUM chambersii 11/91 BLECHNUM discolor 6/92 BLECHNUM fluviatile 10/91 BLECHNUM gibbum 1/92 BLECHNUM minus x watsii 7/91 BLECHNUM minus 6/92 BLECHNUM nudum 10/91 BLECHNUM orientale 7/91 BLECHNUM sp. (Philippines) 1/92 BLECHNUM wattsii 4/92 CONIOGRAMME intermedia 1/92 CTENITIS languinosa 4/91 CYATHEA australis 4/92 CYATHEA brownii 3/92 CYATHEA cooperi 3/92 CYATHEA dealbata 2/92 CYATHEA howeana 3/92 CYATHEA medullaris 5/91 CYATHEA princeps 7/91 CYATHEA robertsiana 3/92 CYATHEA smithii /91 CYATHEA tomentosissima 5/92

CYATHEA woolsiana 3/91 CYRTOMIUM caryotideum 3/91 CYRTOMIUM falcatum 3/92 DICKSONIA antarctica 3/92 DICKSONIA sellowiana 3/92 DIPLAZIUM centripetale 2/92 DIPLAZIUM dilatatum 2/91 DOODIA aspera 1/92 DORYOPTERIS pedata 6/92 DRYOPTERIS affinis 'Polydactyla' /91 DRYOPTERIS atrata 1/92 DRYOPTERIS erythrosora 1/92 DRYOPTERIS guanchica /91 DRYOPTERIS hondoensis 1/92 DRYOPTERIS inaequalis 4/91 DRYOPTERIS purpurella 7/89 DRYOPTERIS sieboldii 12/91 HYPOLEPIS punctata 1/92 LASTREOPSIS hispida 6/92 LASTREOPSIS tinerooensis 2/91 LYGODIUM microphyllum 7/91 MACROTHELYPTERIS torresiana 1/92 MICROSORUM parksii 8/91 NIPHIDIUM crassifolium 5/92 OSMUNDA schraderi cv contorta 3/92 PELLAEA cordifolia 6/92 PELLAEA hastata 2/92 PELLAEA guadripinnata 4/91 PELLAEA viridis v. macrophylla 2/92 PITYROGRAMMA calomelanos v.aureoflava 7/92 PLATYCERIUM alcicorne 4/91 PLATYCERIUM elephantotis 10/91 PLATYCERIUM stemmaria 5/91 PLATYCERIUM superbum 7/91 PLATYCERIUM wallichii 4/91 PNEUMATOPTERIS pennigera 3/92 POLYPODIUM formosum 8/91 POLYSTICHUM acrostichoides 4/92 POLYSTICHUM braunii /91 POLYSTICHUM fallax 7/91 POLYSTICHUM formosum 3/92 POLYSTICHUM munitum 6/92 POLYSTICHUM onocolobatum 7/91 POLYSTICHUM proliferum 1/92 POLYSTICHUM setiferum'Divisilobum'/91 POLYSTICHUM setiferum cv. 3/91 POLYSTICHUM tsus-simense 3/92 /91 POLYSTICHUM vestitum POLYSTICHUM whitelegii 12/91

PTERIS cretica 'Parkeri' 3/91 PTERIS dentata 6/92 PTERIS ensiformis 'Victoriae' 3/91 PTERIS hendersonii 1/92 PTERIS quadriaurita cv 'Argyrae' 11/91 PTERIS semipinnata 3/91 PTERIS umbrosa 7/91 RUMOHRA adiantiformis (native) 4/92 RUMOHRA adiantiformis (S.Africa) 3/92 SADLERIA cyatheoides 7/91 SADLERIA pallida 7/91 STENOCHLAENA tenuifolia /90 STICHERUS lobatus 6/92

Spore Donations:

Thank you to the following who have contributed spore : Les Vulcz, Bob Halley, Ed Brown and Phyllis Bates.

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AUGUST FERN COMPETITION

Congratulations to the following winners in the Fern Competition at the August Meeting:

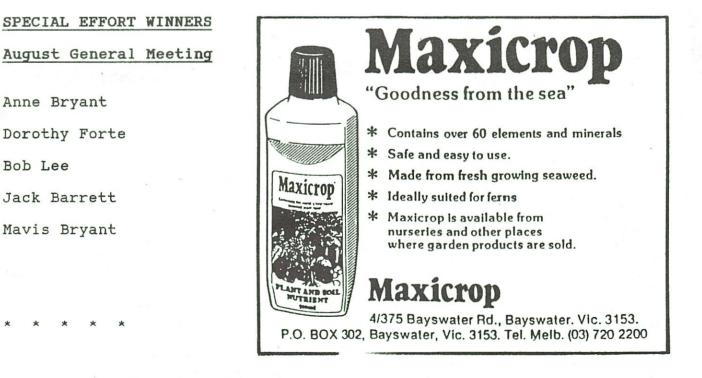
First:	Dorothy Forte	Blechnum	contiguum
Second:	John Hooper		nudum
Third:	Barry White	"	gibbum

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MODIFICATIONS TO SOCIETY RULES

The two proposed amendments to the Rules of the Society, as published in the August Newsletter, were approved by the members present at the Annual General Meeting.

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Opinions expressed in articles in this Newsletter are the personal views of the author and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society.

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BUYERS' GUIDE TO NURSERIES

VICTORIA:

Andrew's Fern Nursery - Wholesale and Retail. Melbourne Road, Arcadia, 3613. Ph: (058) 26 7285. Large range of ferns for beginners and collectors. Open daily 10 am - 5 pm except Christmas Day.

Austral Ferns - Wholesale Propagators. Ph: (052) 82 3084. Specialising in supplying retail nurseries with a wide range of hardy ferns; no tubes.

Dingley Fern Market - Wholesale and Retail. Ph: (03) 551 1868. 233 Centre Dandenong Road, Dingley, 3172. Specialising in Ferns, Palms, Indoor Plants, Orchids and Carnivorous Plants. Open daily except Christmas Day.

Fern Acres Nursery - Retail. Kinglake West, 3757. Ph: (057) 86 5481. (On main road, opposite Kinglake West Primary School). Specialising in Stags, Elks and Bird's-nest Ferns.

Fern Glen - Wholesale and Retail. Visitors welcome. D. & I. Forte, Garfield North, 3814. Ph: (056) 29 2375.

<u>R. & M. Fletcher's Fern Nursery</u> - Retail. 62 Walker Road, Seville, 3139. Ph: (059) 64 4680. (Look for sign on Warburton Highway, 300m east of Seville shopping centre). Closed Tuesday, except on public holidays.

Ridge Road Fernery - Wholesale and Retail. Weeaproinah, 3237. Ph: (052) 35 9383. Specialising in Otway native ferns.

Viewhaven Nursery - Wholesale and Retail. Avon Road, Avonsleigh (near Emerald), 3782. Ph: (059) 68 4282 Specialists in Stags, Elks, Bird's-nests and Native Orchids.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Jim & Beryl Geekie Fern Nursery - Retail. By appointment. 6 Nelson Street, Thornleigh, 2120. Ph: (02) 484 2684.

Kanerley Fern Exhibition and Nursery - Wholesale and Retail. 204 Hinton Road, Nelsons Plains, via Raymond Terrace, 2324. Ph: (049) 87 2781. Closed Thursdays and Saturdays. Groups of more than 10 must book in advance, please.

Marley's Ferns - Retail. 5 Seaview Street, Mt. Kuring-gai, 2080. Ph: (02) 457 9168.

QUEENSLAND:

Moran's Highway Nursery - Wholesale and Retail. Bruce Highway, Woombye (1 km north of Big Pineapple; turn right into Keil Mountain Road). P.O. Box 47, Woombye, 4559. Ph: (074) 42 1613.