

FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.

POSTAL ADDRESS: Email:

Web:

P.O. Box 45, Heidelberg West, Victoria, 3081 barry_white1@msn.com.au http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fernsvic/

Our Society's Objectives.

The objectives of the Society are:

- *to bring together persons interested in ferns and allied plants
- *to promote the gathering and dissemination of information about ferns
- *to stimulate public interest in ferns and
- *to promote the conservation of ferns and their habitats.

OFFICE BEARERS:		PHONE;	EMAIL;
President: Imm. Past President	Barry Stagoll	9844 1558	mirra@limetro.com.au
Vice President	Don Fuller	9306 5570	
Secretary	Barry White	9740 9306	
Treasurer	Don Fuller	9306 5570	
Spore Bank Manager	Barry White	9740 2724	
Librarian	Mirini Lang	9886 6109	
Editor	Brenda Girdlestone	9390 7073	macstone@hotkey.net.au

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Jack Barrett 9375 3670, Gay Stagoll 9844 1558, Norma Hodges 9878 9584. Brenda Girdlestone 9390 7073 and Mirini Lang 9886 6109.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

*Single	\$15.00	*Pensioner/student	\$12.00	*Family	\$17.00
*Pensioner Family	\$14.00	*Organisation	\$17.00		
*Overseas	\$22.00 (P	ayment by international banl	k cheque in \$A	please. Sent b	y Airmail.)

*Subscriptions fall due on 1st July each year.

MEETING VENUES: The Kevin Heinze Garden Centre at 39 Wetherby Road, Doncaster (Melway 47; H1). Other meetings at members' gardens or as advertised on the following page.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are the personal views of the authors and are not necessarily endorsed by the Society, nor does mention of a product constitute its endorsement.

Timetable for evening general meetings:

7.30 Pre-meeting activities - sale of ferns. Spore, books, merchandise and special effort tickets. Also library loans and lots of conversation.

8.00 General meeting

- 8.15 Workshops and demonstrations.
- 9.15 Fern identification and pathology, special effort draw.
- 9.45 Supper and another good yarn.

10.00 Close.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007

FEBRUARY MEETING

Thursday the 15th, at 8.00pm at the Kevin Heinze Centre Weatherby Road, Doncaster.

Our guest speakers will be Eddie and Robyn Sabljak on Growing tree ferns. Eddie and Robyn are the owners of Fern Acres in Kinglake.

Competition category: Tree Ferns

MARCH MEETING

Thursday the 15th, at 8.00pm at the Kevin Heinze Centre Weatherby Rd, Doncaster.

Conservation and management of State Parks.

Our guest speaker will be Josh Revell, Nursery Manager at the Warrandyte State Park, Parks Victoria.

Competition category: Victorian Ground Ferns.

PRESIDENTIAL PERORATION

In November we were fortunate to have the acclaimed natural history author and photographer Bruce Fuhrer at our meeting to talk about mosses, liverworts and lichens. Bruce's talk (the second he has been kind enough to give us - the first two years earlier being on the subject of Fungi) was again very well received. In appreciation, he was presented with a very finely crafted wooden box kindly donated by our member (and its creator) Reg Orr. Thanks very much, Reg. Bruce was delighted with his gift.

We also had two visitors at our meeting, Matt Dell and Linda Bester, who each follow careers centred on the natural environment, and who collaborated recently with Bruce in the production of a most attractive and informative brochure describing and illustrating the mosses, liverworts, fungi and lichens of Hochkins Ridge Flora Reserve (in the City of Maroondah). It was a pleasure to meet them as well.

Our Christmas Lunch function on the first Sunday in December was most relaxing and enjoyable as usual. Norma Hodges again did a fine job of organising lunch, with assistance from helpers Judy White, Noelle Cleak and Gay. And John Hodges looked after all the "logistics" matters at the Kevin Heinze Centre very efficiently as usual. Our sincere thanks to them all for the success of the function. Thanks also to everyone who contributed gifts for the auction (and to the bidders), and a special thanks again to Reg Orr for donating another of his fine boxes which became a prize for the raffle.

We have arranged a variety of activities and meeting subject for the early months of 2007 which we hope members will enjoy with us. See the list in this issue, and mark the dates in your diary. The excursion selected for first half 2007 is a visit to Pirianda Garden on Mount Dandenong (which has a large natural fern gully, in excellent condition, as well as a very fine selection of exotic trees and garden plants in a beautiful setting surrounded by endemic trees) followed by a picnic lunch. Pirianda, which is now managed by Parks Victoria, is not particularly well known, but it should be.

As I write we're only a matter of days from being challenged by stricter watering restrictions when it comes to maintaining our gardens and fern collections, and can only hope that 2007 will be kinder and see a breaking of the drought. Unfortunately we have had to bow to the inevitable and the Fern Show which was to take place in April has been cancelled - we could not be confident that there would be sufficient suitable material to display, and the Rhododendron Society came to a similar decision.

Barry Stagoll

FROM THE SHOW COMMITTEE

It has been decided to cancel the forthcoming Fern Show in April, 2007. It is the belief of the committee that as the water restrictions increase here in Victoria, many of our supporters and participators of the show may not be in a position to display or contribute as they would normally be able. Without their participation the high standard of show which we always strive to exceed may be compromised, so for this reason we are cancelling the show.

There will be a normal meeting in April which will be announced in the next newsletter.

MOSSES, LIVERWORTS AND LICHENS A TALK BY BRUCE FUHRER AT NOVEMBER 16 2006 MEMBERS' MEETING

BARRY STAGOLL

Illustrating selected species with his superb close-up slides, photographed at a wide range of locations in Australia, Bruce Fuhrer gave us a fascinating explanation of the characters and life cycles of these smaller inhabitants of our landscape.

Most as individuals are so small as to attract little attention from the casual observer, except when they occur in large colonies on the ground, on rocks, or on the trunks and stems of larger plants. However, as Bruce was able to demonstrate with his enlarged images, the structure, coloration and general appearance of many would almost certainly make them most sought-after by gardeners were they only larger and therefore more easily observed and appreciated. They also, like fungi, have extremely important roles to play in the functioning of the natural environment.

Some examples are large enough to be observed with the naked eye, and these are sometimes cultivated as companions to ferns. One such is the so-called "Giant Bush Moss" (Dawsonia superba) which can be seen in its natural environment growing in association with ferns, and is reasonably easy to find in Gippsland and in forested areas in the hills nearer Melbourne. Bruce's photo reproduced here was taken in Badger Weir Park near Healesville. Other species often to be found on the trunks of treeferns in fern gullies are routinely mistaken for filmy ferns by the uninitiated, being of similar small size and possessing "fronds" generally quite similar in appearance. They can be distinguished by discovering stalked spore-cases under their fronds. Whilst these types are uncommon in fern collections, because like filmy ferns they require constant very high humidity, other species more adapted to less humid atmospheres are often tolerated growing in and around fern collections.

Unpopular among fern growers and others interested in gardening are certain of the liverworts, for instance species of Lunularia, which suppress and ultimately overwhelm small sporelings and potplants if left uncontrolled. However, whilst acknowledging certain types deserve to be placed in this category, Bruce also succeeded in educating us to the existence of many miniature liverworts which are highly attractive plants, and which need not be regarded as "weeds."

A small selection of Bruce's illustrations follows.

PHOTO CAPTIONS Polytrichum juniperinum (moss) page 7 Dawsonia superba (moss) page 7 Bryum billardieri (moss) page 11 Asterella drummondii (liverwort) page 11 Hypogymnia subphysodes (lichen - Grampians) page 11 Usnea (lichen) page 13

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FERN SOCIETY VISIT TO MELBOURNE MUSEUM OCTOBER 2006

We commented on this most successful visit in our last Newsletter, Subsequently, Robin Wilson arranged for us to receive a full list of the plants now established in the Forest Gallery. We're sure members will be interested to see what a wide range of species is represented, including an extensive representation of ferns endemic to Victoria (27 in all, as we've highlighted in the list). We acknowledge the co-operation of Luke Simpkin, Manager Forest Gallery & Live Exhibits, Alan Henderson, and the Live Exhibits team from Museum Victoria in making this information available for us to publish.

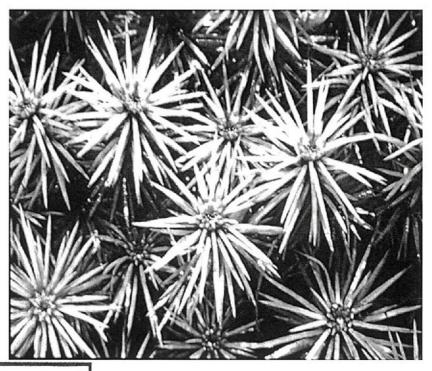
Forest Gallery Live Components - Plants

Acacia dealbata Acacia melanoxylon Acacia obliguinervia Acaena novae zelandiae Asplenium bulbiferum Astelia australiana Atherosperma moschatum Australina pusilla muelleri Bauera rubioides Bedfordia arborescens Billardiera longifolia Blechnum cartilagineum Blechnum chambersii Blechnum fluviatile Blechnum minus Blechnum nudum Blechnum patersonii Blechnum penna-marina Blechnum wattsii Brachyscome multifida Bursaria spinosa Calochlaena dubia Carex appressa Carex fascicularis Carex inversa Cassinia aculeata Coprosma quadrifida Correa lawrenciana Crassula hemsii Cyathea australis Cyathea cunninghamii Dennstaedtia davalioides Dianella caerulea Dianella tasmanica Dicksonia antarctica Dicondra repens Doodia media Drosera binata Dryopoa dives Eleocharis acuta Eucalyptus cladocalyx Eucalyptus cypellocarpa Eucalyptus mannifera

Silver Wattle Blackwood Wattle Mountain Hickory Wattle Bidgee-widgee Mother Spleenwort Tall Astelia Black Sassafras Shade Nettle Wiry Bauera Blanket-leaf Purple Appleberry Gristle Fern Lance Water-fern Ray Water-fern Soft Water-fern Fishbone Water-fern Strap Water-fern Hard Water-fern Cut-leaf Daisy Sweet Bursaria Common Ground-fern Tall Sedge Tassel Sedge Common sedae Common Cassinia Prickly Currant Bush Mountain Correa Swamp Crassula Rough Tree Fern Slender Tree Fern Lacy Ground-fern Paroo Lily Tasman Flax Lily Soft Tree Fern Kidney Weed Common Rasp-fern Forked Sundew Giant Mountain Grass Common Spike-sedge Dwarf Sugar Gum (exterior of FG) Mountain Grey Gum Brittle Gum continued page 12



Polytrichum juniperinum (moss)



FERN ACRES NURSERY Retail. Specialising in elks, stags, bird's nest ferns, native epiphytic orchids; species and hybrids. 1052 Whittlesea-Kinglake Rd, Kinglake West (opposite Primary School) Melway 510 NII. Phone (03) 5786 5031. For full list and photos; www.fernacres.com.au also; www.ferns.com.au Dawsonia superba (moss)

Wide range * low prices.

AUDITORS REPORT

I have examined the account books, bank records and receipts of the Fern Society of Victoria Inc. and consider these accounts to be a true record of the finances for the operation of business for the year ending 30th June, 2006.

1.

Bernadette Thomson

2005	BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th JUNE 2006.	
2005 \$		2006 \$
	SUMMARY	•
2,623.95	Income - General Account	3,072.78
2,558.64	Less - Expenditure	2,826.16
65.31	Operating Surplus	246.62
314.72	Plus Fern Show Profit	579.19
380.03	Operating surplus for year	825.81
	MEMBERS FUNDS	
18,526.49	Brought forward from previous balance	18,906.52
65.31	Surplus/Deficit from General Account Profit from Fern Show	246.62
314.72 18,906.52	Profit from Fern Show	579.19 <u>\$19,732.33</u>
101700001		<u> </u>
	REPRESENTED BY CURRENT ASSETS CASH AT BANK	
2,981.07	General Account	2,944.58
	270.01/	
92.85	<u>STOCK</u> Mugs	
60.06		
91.50	Miscellaneous Goods	
	Magnifying glass	23.00
	INVESTMENTS	
15,938.10	Term Deposits	16,869.69
19,103.5	2 TOTAL ASSETS	19,897.33
	CURRENT LIABILITIES	
77.00	Prepaid Members subscription	165.00
122.00	Unpresented cheques	-
<u>\$18,906.52</u>	TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$19,732.33

<u>The Fern</u> <u>society of Victoria Inc</u> <u>STATEMEMNT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR</u> <u>ENDNED 30TH JUINE 2006</u>

GENERAL ACCOUNT

INCOME

2005 \$			2006 \$
1,215.50 95.00 1,310.50 1,669.00	Renewals	SUBSCRIPTIONS New Members	1,405.00 264.00
17.50 5.00 191.10 -197.25 -	Spore Bank Sales Commissions on fe Misc. Sales to Mem -less cost of goods Sales of Mugs (2) Sales of unwanted	nbers	23.40 24.60 165.40 -72.06 15.00 120.00
-	Sale of video tape a	& postage	10.00
<u>16.35</u>			<u>283.34</u>
212.50	General	SPECIAL EFORTS	97.00
126.00 201.50 201.60	Advertising Christmas Auction	OTHER INCOME	141.00
3.00 <u>330.50</u>	Donation		9.00 <u>351.60</u>
1,869.35		TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	2,400.94
0.24 754.36 671.57 754.60		NON OPERATING INCOME Bank Interest General Account Interest on Term Deposits	.27 <u>671.84</u>
<u>\$2,623.95</u>		INCOME TOTAL	\$3,072.78

<u>The Fern Society of Victoria Inc.</u> <u>STATEMEMNT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR</u>

ENDED 2006

2005 \$	<u>GENERAL ACCOUNT</u> <u>EXPENDITURE</u>	2006 \$	
1,042.02 398.21 1 <u>440.23</u>	NEWSLETTERS Printing Postage	1,057.92 433.92 <u>1491.84</u>	
150.00 35.80 64.71 137.00 225.00 - 24.90 56.00 100.00 270.00 55.00 - - - 1,118.41	ADMINISTRATION Honorariums Registions/Subscriptions Admin/Secretary Supper/meals Meeting venue hire Guest Speaker (4 mugs) Bank Account Debits Tax P.O.Box Rental Donation Kevin Heinze centre Insurance Library Books Magnifying glasses -less sale of glasses	150.00 56.70 82.90 209.18 370.00 21.84 .70 60.00 100.00 260.00 - 92.00 -69.00 <u>1,334.32</u>	
2,558.64	TOTAL	2,826.16	
FERN SHOW (Held jointly with Australian Rhododendron Society)			

J0INT RECEIPTS/EXPENDITURE

	John RECENTEREDITORE	
1254.10	Receipts	1589.40
1,594.86	Expenditure	1,635.73
-340.76	Joint deficit/surplus	-46.33
-170.38	Fern Society share 50%	-23.16
	INCOME FERN SOCIETY	
4,413.15	Fern Sales	4732.00
-3,792.27	Less payment to sellers	-3997.25
50.00	Donation	50.00
670.88		784.75
	EXPENDITURE – FERN SOCIETY	
75.78	Display Expenses	62.40
110.00	Travel & trailer hire expenses	120.00
185.78		182.40
	PROFIT- FERN SOCIETY ACTIVITIES	
485.10	Income less expenditure	602.35
-170.38	Share of joint surplus/deficit	
\$314.72	FERNS SHOW PROFIT	579.19



Below: Asterella drummondii (liverwort)

Bryum billardieri (moss)

Below: Hypogymnia subphysodes (lichen - Grampians)







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- · Harden plants during periods of stress
- Establishes plants quickly after planting or transplanting

Multicrop & Maxicrop products are available at all leading garden supply outlets.



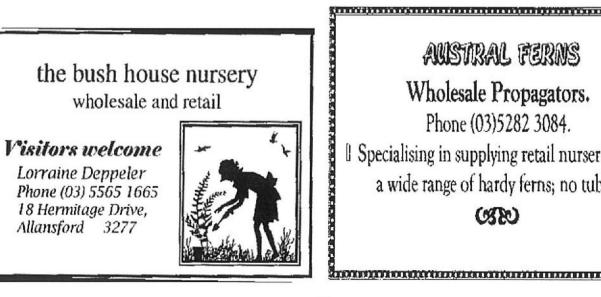
Continued from page 6

Eucalyptus obligua Eucalyptus regnans Eucalyptus rubida Eucalyptus viminalis Fieldia australis Gahnia sieberiana Geranium solanderi Gleichenia miiecrophylla Goodenia elongata Goodenia ovata Goodia lotifolia Grammitis billardieri Hedycarya augustifolia Hibbertia empetrifolia Histiopteris incisa Hydrocotyle geranifolia Isolepis inundata Lastreopsis microsora Lepidosperma elatius Lepidosperma laterale Libertia pulchella Lomandra longifolia Lomatia ilicifolia Mentha laxiflora Microsorum pustulatum Myriophyllum varifolium Neopaxia australasica Nothofagus cunninghamii Olearia argophylla Olearia lirata Olearia phlogopappa Parsonsia brownii Persoonia chamaepeuce Phebalium bilobum Phebalium squamulosum Phebalium wilsonii Pittosporum bicolor Platylobium formosum Poa morrisii Poa sieberiana

Messmate Mountain Ash (juveniles only) Candlebark Gum Manna Gum

Red-fruited Saw-sedge Austral Crane's Bill Scrambling Coral-fern Lanky Goodenia Hop Goodenia **Clover Tree Common Finger-fern** Austral Mulberry Tangled Guinea-flower **Bat's Wing Fern** Forest Pennywort Swamp Club-rush **Creeping Shield-fern** Tall Saw-sedge Variable Saw-sedge Pretty Grass-flag Spiny-headed Mat-rush Holly Leaf Lomatia Forest Mint Kangaroo Fern Varied Water-milfoil White Purselane Myrtle Beech Musk Daisy Bush Snowy Daisy Bush Dusty Daisy Bush Twining Silkod Dwarf Geebung Notched Phebalium Forest Phebalium Shiny Phebalium Banyalla Handsome Flat-pea Velvet Tussock Grass Tussock Grass

continued page 13



AUSTRAL FERNS

Wholesale Propagators. Phone (03)5282 3084.

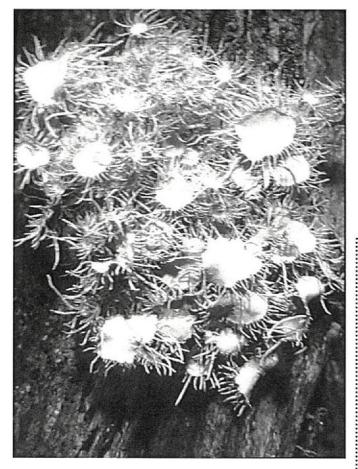
Specialising in supplying retail nurseries with a wide range of hardy ferns; no tubes.

(KR)

Continued from page 12

Polyscias sambucifolia Polystichum proliferum Pomaderris aspera Prostanthera lasianthos Prostanthera mellissifolia Pteridium esculentum Pteris tremula Richea continentalis Rubus parviflorus Rumohra adiantiformis Sambucus gaudichadiana Senecio linearifolius Solanum aviculare Solanum prinophyllum Stelaria pungens Sticherus lobatus Sticherus tener Stylidium graminifolium Tasmannia lanceolata Tetrarrhena juncea Todea barbara Triglochin procera Viola hederacea Wahlenbergia stricta Zieria arborescens

Elderberry Panax Mother Shield-fern Hazel Pomaderris Christmas Bush Balm Mint Bush Austral Bracken **Tender Brake** Candle Richea Small-leaf Bramble Leathery Shield-fern Wild Elderberry **Fireweed Groundsel** Kangaroo Apple Forest Nightshade **Prickly Starwort** Spreading Fan-fern Silky Fan-fern Trigger Plant Mountain Pepper Forest Wire Grass King Fern Water Ribbon Ivy-leaf Violet Tall Bluebell Stinkwood



Usnea (lichen)

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FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA SPORE LIST

<u>ORDERING</u> Fern spore is free to members of the Fern Society of Victoria who donate spore. Otherwise the cost to members is 20 cents per sample, non-members 50 cents, plus \$1.00 to cover postage and handling. Available at meetings or by mail from Barry White, 34 Noble Way, Sunbury, Vic. 3429, Australia , phone (03) 9740 2724. There is no charge for spore for overseas members, however to cover postage two International Reply coupons would be appreciated. Coupons can be purchased at the Post Office. Overseas non-members may purchase spore at three packets for each International Reply Coupon, plus two coupons per order to cover postage and handling. There is a limit of 20 packets per order. As some spores are in short supply please include alternatives.

Acrostichum sp. 6/04 Adiantum concinnum 1/05 Adiantum cunninghamii 1/05 Adiantum formosum 6/05 Adiantum radd. 'Fragrans' 3/05 Amphineuron opulentum 2/05 Anemia phyllitides 6/06 Anemia tomentosa 6/06 Angiopteris evecta 7/05 Anogramma leptophylla 12/06 Arachniodes aristata 11/06 Arachniodes webbianum /05 Asplenium aethiopicum 6/05 Asplenium flabellifolium 11/06 Athyrium filix-femina 07/06 Athyrium filix-femina 'Victoriae' 1/07 Athyrium filix-femina (red stipe) 12/06 Athyrium niponicum 'Pictum' 5/06 Athyrium otophorum 12/04 Belvisia mucronata 12/06 Blechnum cartilagineum 12/06 Blechnum chambersii 4/06 Blechnum discolor 08/06 Blechnum fluviatile 4/06 Blechnum magellanicum 4/06 Blechnum minus 5/05 Blechnum moorei 10/06 Blechnum novae-zelandiae 1/05 Blechnum procerum 12/06 Blechnum spicant 12/06 Blechnum spicant 'lobatum' 12/04 Blechnum wattsii 4/06 Bolbitis quoyana 7/06 Cheilanthes alabamensis /06 Cheilanthes kuhnii 1/06 Cheilanthes tomentosa 1/05 Christella dentata 3/06 Coveniella poecilophlebia 7/06 Cryptogramma crispa /05 Cyathea autralis 4/05 Cyathea baileyana 8/06 Cyathea brownii 2/04 Cyathea cooperi 05/06 Cyathea cooperi (blue stipe) 1/07 Cyathea cunninghamii 1/07 Cyathea dealbata 1/05 Cyathea exilis 7/06 Cyathea medullaris 7/05 Cyathea rebeccae 8/06 Cyathea robertsiana 8/06 Cyathea robusta 3/06 Cyathea smithii 5/06 Cyrtomium caryotideum 5/06 Cyrtomium macrophyllum 5/05 Dennstaedtia davallioides 2/04 Dicksonia antarctica 2/04 Diplazium australe 4/06 Diplazium dilatatum 8/06 Diplazium queenslandicum 7/06 Doodia australis 12/04 Doodia dissecta 6/05 Dryopteris affinis 'Cristata' 12/06 Dryopteris athamantica 4/05

Dryopteris cycadina 12/05 Dryopteris dilatata 'crispa whiteside' 12/05 Dryopteris erythrosora 2/04 Dryopteris filix-mas 11/06 Dryopteris guanchica 12/05 Dryopteris sieboldii 12/06 Dryopteris tokyoensis 12/04 Histiopteris incisa 1/07 Hypolepis amaurorachis 4/06 Hypolepis glandulifera 1/05 Hypolepis rugosula 12/06 Lastreopsis decomposita 12/06 Lastreopsis hispida 11/06 Lastreopsis marginans 1/07 Lastreopsis microsora 12/06 Lastreopsis windsorensis 8/06 Matteuccia orientalis /06 Oreopteris limbosperma 08/06 Pellaea viridis 2/05 Phlebodium aureum /06 Platycerium hillii 12/06 Platycerium superbum 8/04 Pneumatopteris costata 7/06 Pneumatopteris pennigera NZ 12/05 Pneumatopteris sogerensis 7/06 Polystichum aculeatum 06/06 Polystichum australiense 12/06 Polystichum formosum 1/07 Polystichum onocolobatum 4/05 Polystichum proliferum 4/06 Polystichum retroso-paleacum 10/06 Polystichum setiferum 07/06 Polystichum setiferum 'Congested' 12/06 Polystichum setiferum 'Congestum' 12/05 Polystichum tsus-simense 3/06 Polystichum xiphophyllum 12/05 Pronephrum asperum 07/06 Pteris biaurita 2/06 Pteris cretica 12/05 Pteris cretica 'albo-lineata' 1/05 Pteris cretica 'Wimsettii' 1/06 Pteris dentata 12/05 Pteris hendersonii /06 Pteris macilenta 12/05 Pteris quadriaurita 4/05 Pteris sp. (Nepal) 1/06 Pteris tremula 1/05 Pteris umbrosa 3/04 Pteris vittata 6/05 Pyrrosia lingua 'variegata' 5/06 Revwattsia fragile 2/06 Rumohra adiantiformis (native) 4/06 Rumohra adiantiformis (S.Africa) 12/06 Sadleria pallida 6/05 Thelypteris navarrensis 1/07

Thank you to the following spore donors: Brenda Girdlestone, Don Fuller, Lorraine Deppeler, Nada Sankowsky, Frank Hardung and Crosby Chase.

NEWSLETTER

If undeliverable return to: FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC. P 0 Box 45, Heidelberg West, 3081 Victoria Australia. print post approved PP334633/0002

1.10

SURFACE MAIL

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