

FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

NEWSLETTER

Volume 33, Number 6

November/December 2011



Fern Society of Victoria Inc.

ABN 85 086 216 704

mail: PO Box 45, Heidelberg West, Victoria 3081, Australia

email: barry_white1@msn.com.au

web: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fernsvic/>

Objectives of the Fern Society of Victoria

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

To promote the conservation of ferns and their habitats

Office bearers

President	Barry Stagoll	9844 1558	mirra@iimetro.com.au
Vice President	Don Fuller	9306 5570	
Secretary	Barry White	9740 2724	barry_white1@msn.com.au
Treasurer	Don Fuller	9306 5570	
Spore Bank Manager	Barry White	9740 2724	barry_white1@msn.com.au
Librarian	Mirini Lang	9886 6109	
Editor	Robin Wilson	9597 0742	rwilson@museum.vic.gov.au
Committee members	Mirini Lang 9886 6109, Gay Stagoll 9844 1558, Brenda Girdlestone 9390 7073, Warren Simpson 0419 594 524,		

Subscriptions

Single	\$17.00
Pensioner/student	\$14.00
Family	\$19.00
Pensioner family	\$16.00
Overseas	\$25.00 (overseas subscription

payments by international bank cheque in \$Aus, by airmail please)

Subscriptions fall due on 1 July each year

Meeting venues

The Kevin Heinze Garden Centre, 39 Wetherby Road, Doncaster [Melway 47 H1]

Other meetings as advertised in this Newsletter

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 Workshops and demonstrations

10:00 Close

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 endorsement.

Next Meetings

7:30 pm, Thursday 17 November 2011

Annual General Meeting and fern sales night

A wide range of ferns will be on sale tonight (see page 6 of this Newsletter for a list), an ideal opportunity to shop for your own gardens and containers, and also an ideal source of unique Christmas presents for friends.

Fern competition: 'Deciduous fern'

Sunday 4 December 2011

Christmas function, at a new venue, Mirini Lang's house.

Location: 25 Kennedy Street, Glen Waverley

Time: 12 noon

Bring; Crockery, cutlery, drink, salad and afternoon tea food to share

Activity: Bring a gift for the Christmas auction. Gifts may be wrapped if you want it to be an extra surprise.

Half the money raised will be donated to the Kevin Heinze Centre.

Please note that in Mirini's house, outdoor shoes are removed inside. Please bring appropriate soft clean footwear for inside, such as socks or slippers.

Cover image: Ripponlea Fernery, October 2011. Photo: Robin Wilson.

President's Note

Gay & I enjoyed an energetic trip in the “outback” in August/September, starting in Darwin and covering a considerable distance through the Northern Territory and Western Australia. Lots of walking and climbing. And yes - we found a considerable number of ferns, as well as a large number of other plants in which we're interested. We've been pretty occupied since we returned home – lots of things to get back to work on – so haven't attempted to cover anything about the ferns we saw on our travels in this issue. But we'll try to do so in a later Newsletter.

We missed two FSV meetings whilst we were away, but since then have caught up with some members at the excursion to Kinglake and Toolangi/ Murindindee in October, which proved rewarding – with the forest and the ferns looking very well in fine weather, and a very enjoyable visit with Eddy Sabljack at Fern Acres Nursery.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual General Meeting and Fern Sales Night at Kevin Heinz Centre on Thursday November 17. In the meantime, please don't forget that in the meantime, our Secretary Barry White will be pleased to receive nominations for Committee positions.

In my note in the last FSV Newsletter, I discussed an environmental rehabilitation project on the Mornington Peninsula where ferns are an important element. We have had some progress on the prospect of an invitation for the Fern Society to visit the property. I hope that in the near future we may be able to firm up a visit. We'll let you know as soon as we can.

If you've an idea for a FSV event or activity, please give us a call or drop us a line, and we'll see what we can arrange.

I'll take this opportunity, on behalf of myself and the other members of Committee, to wish all those members who are unable to attend the FSV Christmas function in December a safe and happy Christmas season. Thanks to all members for their interest and participation in the Society during 2011.

Barry Stagoll

Boolarra Plants

Gippsland Fern Specialists

Specialising in tree ferns, ground ferns, stag ferns, elk ferns, landscape ferns, water features

Retail and wholesale

55 Tarwin St Boolarra

Ph/Fax: (03) 51 696 355

Editor's Note

This October I visited Ripponlea to avail myself of some tomatoe plants from their annual sale of heritage tomatoes and other vegetable seedlings.

High quality plants, with many interesting varieties, and a warm feeling generated by supporting a good cause while also generating tomatoes to put under olive oil, cracked pepper and a crystal or two of coarse sea salt later in the summer. Of course a quick walk through the fernery was obligatory. It is looking great after the wet winter we have had. I thought a picture gallery of images might be of interest to members.

Thanks very much to Barry Stagoll for some tentative identifications, and in a moment of madness I attempted a couple of identifications myself - I have owned up to those in the captions. (I would be grateful if any members can provide names for any of the others, so that I can update records.) See pages 7-10.

I will reiterate Barry's best wishes to all for a happy and safe Christmas and New Year.

Hopefully some of you will have sufficient leisure to pen some articles for the first two issues of 2012, which come out in quick succession at the start of the year.

Robin Wilson



Blechnum penna-marina (from the "Tasmanian fern" competition). Photo: Barry White.

Fern species for sale at the fern sale night/Annual General Meeting, 17 November 2011

Adiantum foloum

Asplenium bulbiferum x surrogate

Christella dentate

Davallia fejeensis

Davallia fejeensis 'false plumosa'

Davallia griffithiana

Davallia pyxidata

Doodia sp./spp.

Dryopteris erythrosora

Humata tyermannii

Microsorium diversifolium

Microsorium howenea

Polypodium aureum

Polypodium formosanum

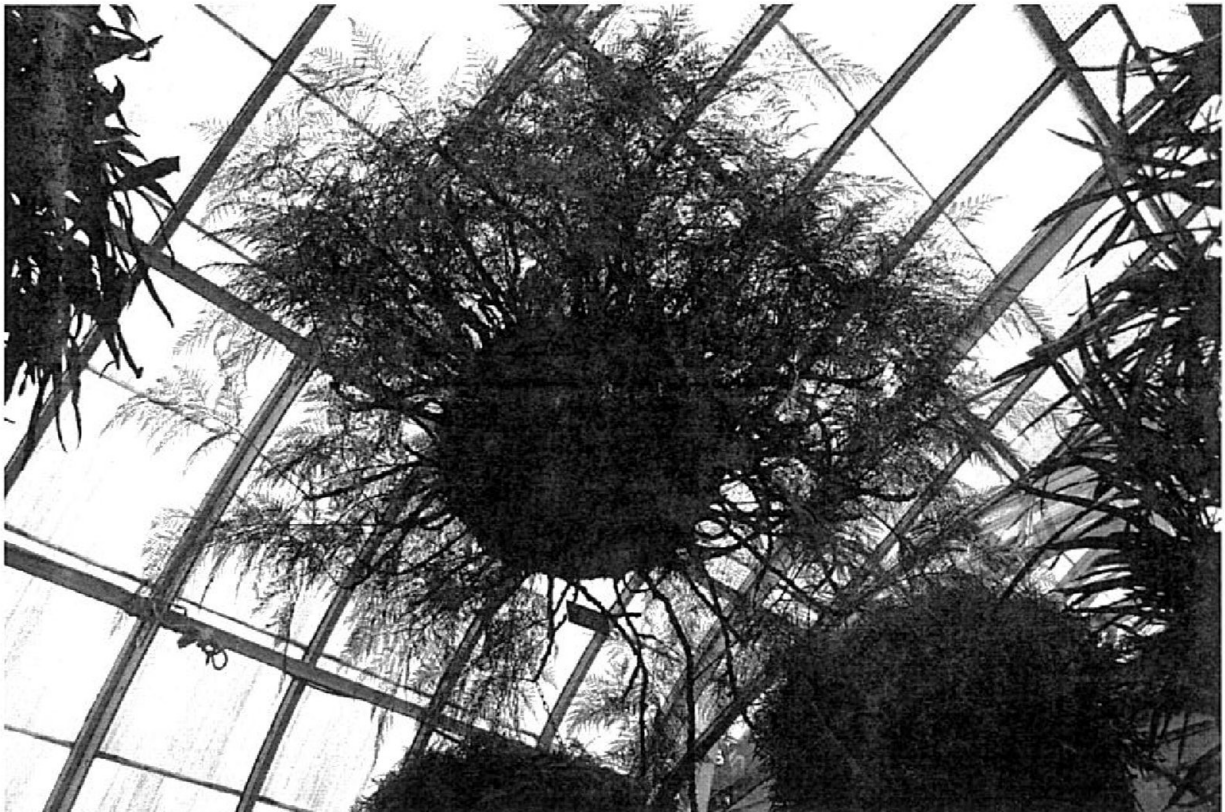
Pteris dentata

Pteris umbrosa

Pteris victoriae

Pteris ryukyuensis

Rumohra adiantformis



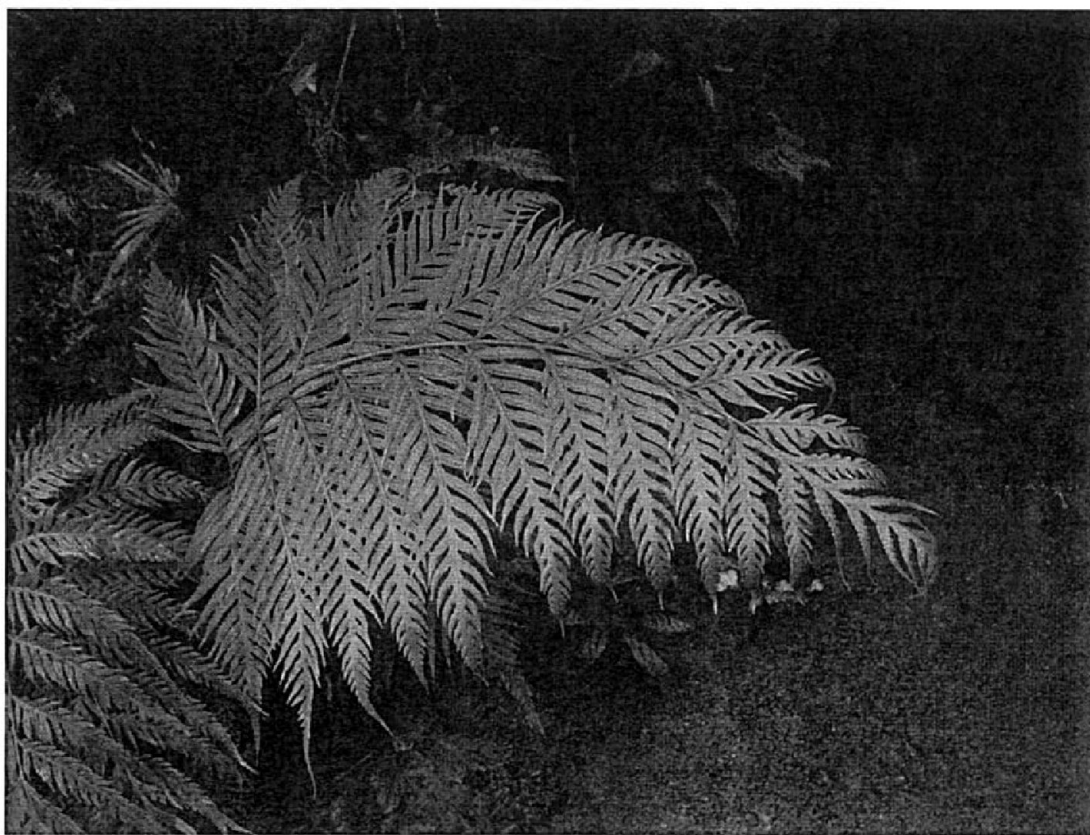
Davallia fejeensis "false plumosa" photographed at the New York Botanical Gardens in the Bronx. Reproduced here under Creative Commons. Photo: Ryan Somma.

Ripponlea fernery



The inviting vista at the entrance to Ripponlea fernery. Photo: Robin Wilson.

Ripponlea fernery (continued)



Woodwardia sp.? Ripponlea fernery. Photo: Robin Wilson.

Fern Acres Nursery

Retail

Specialising in elks, stags, bird's nest ferns, native epiphytic orchids, species and hybrids

1052 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road,
Kinglike West

Melway 510 N11

Ph/Fax: (03) 5786 5031

For full list and photos:

Web: www.fernacres.com.au

or: www.ferns.com.au

The Bush House Nursery

Wholesale and retail



Visitors welcome

Lorraine Deppeler

Phone: (03) 5565 1665

Fax: (03) 5565 1656

18 Hermitage Drive

Allansford 3277

Web: www.bushhousenursery.com.au

Ripponlea fernery (continued)



Ripponlea fernery. Photo: Robin Wilson.



Arthropteris sp.? (stab in the dark identification by the photographer - not to be trusted!).
Ripponlea fernery. Photo: Robin Wilson.



Adiantum sp. (perhaps *A. formosum*) Ripponlea fernery. Photo: Robin Wilson.

Ripponlea fernery (continued)



Tree fern trunk and epiphyte (*Blechnum cartilagineum*). Ripponlea fernery. Photo: Robin Wilson.



Christella sp.? (another wild identification attempt by the photographer) Ripponlea fernery.

Photo: Robin Wilson.

Fern Society of Victoria Newsletter Volume 33 number 6, page 10



Australia's original liquid SEAWEED plant food concentrate

- Stimulates vigorous root development
- Builds resistance to insect and fungal attack
- Enhances fruit and flower formation
- Non-burning, easy to use on all plants
- Minimise transplanting shock
- Harden plants during periods of stress



Deciduous ferns - a postscript

Barry Stagoll

I realized after presenting on Deciduous Ferns, and providing a summary for FSV Newsletter, that I had omitted to mention the genus *Drynaria* (often called “basket ferns” as a common name) as being an example of the deciduous ferns. This genus is well represented in Australia, also extending in range to other continents (Gay & I saw many *Drynaria* plants in China, for instance).

In their deciduous period (the dry season), fronds of *Drynaria* turn from green to a lifeless-looking brown; a pretty good imitation of brown paper – as good or better than the leaves of most deciduous trees and shrubs which turn brown.

In my book, the most spectacular example of this is *Drynaria quercifolia* (the “oak-leaved” *Drynaria*).

It dawned on me that I had left it off my list when we encountered this fern in its deciduous period when visiting Ubirr Rock in Arnhem Land, N.T. in the “dry” in August. It grows in abundance at this location, much visited because it has some of the finest, readily-accessible Aboriginal rock art in the Northern Territory. The accompanying photo provides an impression of it.

Can’t fathom how I overlooked giving it a mention – it’s long been one of my favourites! Sadly, I no longer have a plant of my own – didn’t like our growing conditions.

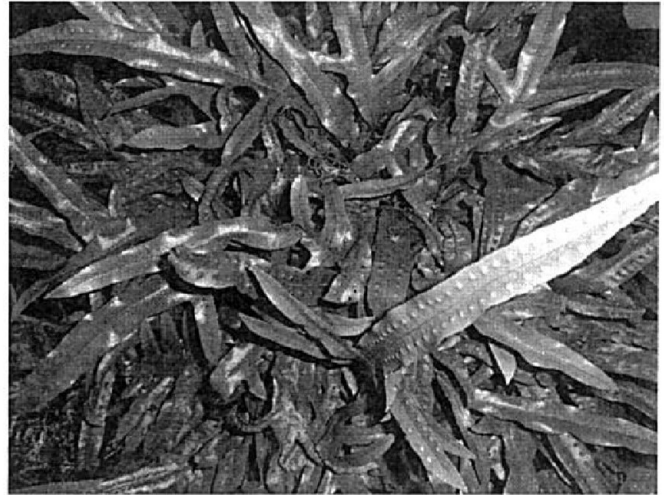
Barry Stagoll



Drynaria quercifolia, Arnhem Land, Northern Territory. Photo: Barry Stagoll.

Placings for Tasmanian fern competition at the September meeting

1. Don Fuller - *Microsorium pustulatum*
2. John Hodges - *Asplenium flabellifolium*
3. John Hodges - *Blechnum cartilagineum*



Microsorium pustulatum grown by Don Fuller.
Photo: Barry White.

Fern Competition category for November:
“Deciduous fern “



Asplenium flabellifolium grown by John Hodges.
Photo: Barry White.



Blechnum cartilagineum grown by John Hodges.
Photo: Barry White.

2011/2012 MEMBERSHIPS NOW DUE

Membership subscriptions for the Fern Society of Victoria for the financial year 2011-2012 are now due. Prompt payment would be appreciated - not only does this save your society money, but it makes the job of the Committee much easier. Membership costs for different categories of membership are located on the inside cover of this and all issues of the Newsletter, as are contact details for mailing your subscription.

As from July 2011, it is also possible to pay membership online via membership page of the Society's website <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fernsvic/Member.html>. Online payments are possible either by credit card or via PayPal account. When you fill out the form online, don't forget to click "update total" before you start entering payment and address details. Thanks to Barry White for setting up this very convenient facility (I have used it myself this year) - Barry White's email address is on the Membership page in the unlikely event anyone has problems.

Austral Ferns

Wholesale Propagators

Phone (03) 5282 3084

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



Pyrrosia rupestris (also from the September "Tasmanian Fern" competition). Photo: Barry White.



Todea barbara (also from the September "Tasmanian Fern" competition). Photo: Barry White.

Calendar of activities — Fern Society of Victoria

7:30 pm, Thursday 17 November 2011*

Annual General Meeting and fern sales night

*A wide range of ferns will be on sale tonight (see page 6 of this Newsletter for a list), an ideal opportunity to shop for your own gardens and containers, and also an ideal source of unique Christmas presents for friends. *(NB NOT 19 November as was mistakenly printed in the previous Newsletter. 19 November 2011 is a Saturday and there will be no meeting that night!)*

Fern competition: 'Deciduous fern'

Sunday 4 December 2011

Christmas function, at a new venue, Mirini Lang's house.

Location: 25 Kennedy Street, Glen Waverley

Time: 12 noon

Bring; Crockery, cutlery, drink, salad and afternoon tea food to share

Activity: Bring a gift for the Christmas auction. Gifts may be wrapped if you want it to be an extra surprise.

Half the money raised will be donated to the Kevin Heinzè Centre.

Please note that in Mirini's house, outdoor shoes are removed inside. Please bring appropriate soft clean footwear for inside, such as socks or slippers.

Fern Society of Victoria Spore Bank

Fern spore is free to members of the Fern Society of Victoria who donate spore. Otherwise the cost is members 50 cents per sample, non-members \$1, plus \$1.00 to cover postage and handling. Available at meetings or by mail from Barry White, 34 Noble Way, Sunbury, Vic. 3429 Australia, Ph. (03) 9740 2724.

There is no charge for spore for overseas members, however to cover postage two International Reply Coupons would be appreciated; or alternatively spore may be exchanged. International Reply Coupons are being phased out in favour of PayPal via the FSV website. 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. Some spores are in short supply please include alternatives. Queries can be emailed to: Barry White barry_white1@msn.com.au. The following list is current as of January 2011, but consult the web page at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fernsvic/Sporlist.html> for updates and for details of payment options for spore purchases.

<i>Acrostichum speciosum</i> 4/09	<i>Cyathea cooperi</i> 1/09	<i>Microsorium punctatum</i> 1/09
<i>Aleuritopteris kuhnii</i> 6/10	<i>Cyathea cooperi</i> 'Brentwood' 3/08	<i>Ophioglossum pendulum</i> 7/08
<i>Amphineuron opulentum</i> 4/10	<i>Cyathea felina</i> 10/08	<i>Pellaea cordata</i> 7/09
<i>Anemia phyllitides</i> 6/09	<i>Cyathea howeana</i> 10/10	<i>Pellaea falcata</i> 1/11
<i>Anemia tomentosa</i> 8/08	<i>Cyathea macarthuri</i> 10/10	<i>Pellaea hastata</i> 5/10
<i>Angiopteris evecta</i> 11/09	<i>Cyathea medullaris</i> 11/08	<i>Pellaea viridis</i> 1/08
<i>Arachniodes simplicior</i> 1/09	<i>Cyathea robusta</i> 9/10	<i>Platycterium superbum</i> 4/08
<i>Arachniodes aristata</i> 11/10	<i>Cyathea rebecca</i> (crested) 9/10	<i>Pleisioneuron tuberculatus</i> 12/08
<i>Arachniodes mutica</i> 10/08	<i>Cyrtomium caryotideum</i> 8/10	<i>Pneumatopteris sogerensis</i> 12/08
<i>Arachniodes standishii</i> 6/10	<i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i>	<i>Pneumatopteris costata</i> 12/08
<i>Asplenium milnei</i> 10/10	'Butterfieldii' 3/08	<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i> 7/09
<i>Asplenium nidus</i> 5/08	<i>Cyrtomium fortunei</i> 6/10	<i>Polystichum australiense</i> 5/10
<i>Asplenium nidus cv.5/08</i>	<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i> 12/10	<i>Polystichum formosum</i> 6/09
<i>Asplenium pellucidum</i> 12/10	<i>Diplazium australe</i> 5/10	<i>Polystichum proliferum</i> 12/10
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> (red stipe) 12/10	<i>Diplazium assimile</i> 6/09	<i>Polystichum retroso-paleacum</i> 10/10
<i>Athyrium niponicum</i> 'Pictum' 5/10	<i>Diplazium dilatatum</i> 12/10	<i>Polystichum whiteleggei</i> 10/10
<i>Athyrium otophorum</i> 12/10	<i>Doodia australis</i> 6/10	<i>Polystichum xiphophyllum</i> 3/08
<i>Blechnum ambiguum</i> 1/08	<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> 'Cristata' /08	<i>Pteris aspericaulis</i> 8/10
<i>Blechnum braziliense</i> 5/10	<i>Dryopteris dilata</i> "Crispa Whiteside" 11/10	<i>Pteris dentata</i> 12/10
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i> 9/10	<i>Dryopteris erythrosora</i> 10/10	<i>Pteris hendersonii</i> 12/10
<i>Blechnum spicant</i> 12/10	<i>Dryopteris guanchica</i> 12/10	<i>Pteris pacifica</i> 6/10
<i>Blechnum sp.</i> (New Caledonia) 6/10	<i>Dryopteris sparsa</i> 8/10	<i>Pteris tremula</i> 11/10
<i>Blechnum patersonii</i> 9/10	<i>Dryopteris wallichiana</i> 1/09	<i>Pteris umbrosa</i> 6/10
<i>Blechnum wattsi</i> 12/08	<i>Hypolepis glandulifera</i> 12/08	<i>Revwattsii fragile</i> 12/10
<i>Chingia australis</i> 6/10	<i>Lastreopsis acuminata</i> 12/10	<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i> (Cape form) 2/08
<i>Christella hispidula</i> /09	<i>Lastreopsis decomposita</i> 6/09	<i>Sphaerostephanos heterocarpus</i> 7/08
<i>Christella subpubescens</i> 12/08	<i>Lastreopsis microsora</i> 6/10	<i>Thelypteris patens</i> 9/09
<i>Cyathea australis</i> 9/10	<i>Lastreopsis nephrodioides</i> 10/10	
<i>Cyathea baileyana</i> 12/08	<i>Lygodium japonicum</i> 2/10	
	<i>Macrothelypteris torresiana</i> 6/10	

Thank you to the spore donors who are listed on the web page.

NEWSLETTER
If undeliverable return to:
Fern Society of Victoria Inc.
PO Box 45, Heidelberg
West, Victoria 3081,
Australia

ABN 85 086 216 704
print post approved
PP334633/0002
SURFACE MAIL

Postage Paid
West Heidelberg
Victoria 3081
Australia

MRS K C STOCKS
P.O. Box 1531
BATEMANS BAY NSW 2536