



THE LAUNCESTON NATURALIST

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The aim of the Launceston Field Naturalists Club is to encourage the study of all aspects of natural history and to support the conservation of our natural heritage

Patron : Prof Nigel Forteach
President : Mr Tom Treloggen, 0408 341 397
Hon. Secretary : Mr Phillip Brumby, 0407 664 554
Hon. Treasurer : Ms Karen Manning, 0363 442 277

Meetings 1st Tuesday of month, Feb-Dec at Scotch-Oakburn College, Penquite Rd Newstead

Program:

June – Tuesday 4

Fundraising – BBQ at Bunnings

General Meeting – Guest speaker – Genevieve Gates – *Ecuadorian Days and Nights: a Field Naturalist in the Amazon*

June – Tuesday 25

Fundraising - BBQ at Bunnings

June – Saturday 29

Christmas in Winter luncheon at Poatina Chalet (see page 2 for more details, RSVP 21 June)

June – Sunday 30

Skemps Day

July – Tuesday 2

General Meeting – Guest speakers – Darcie Leong & Toni Furlonge – *Tamar River*

July – TBA

Field Trip – Location on the Tamar River

July – Sunday 28

Skemps Day – Tree Maintenance on Skemps Creek (National Tree Day)

For further program details visit <https://www.lfnc.org.au/meetings.htm>

Skemps Report:

It is good to see rains and all the tanks full. After a prolonged dry spell if the water in the settling tank gets below our outlet the flow stops and will not restart by itself until the air is bled from the line using the tap near John's memorial stone. This should not be a problem again till September.

The damaged water tank is being turned into a wood shed. It has been cut around the centre and the top will be lifted up and set on wooden uprights with roofing iron used to complete the wall.

We have not seen a platypus for two or three years though we are regularly seeing the wombat captured by the wildlife camera and it does seem to be healthy. I discovered two new burrows just up from the one at the start of the Bedfordia nature trail and one of these was recently cleaned out by the animal so I repositioned the camera to record it.

Any help you can give at Skemps would be appreciated. Fern, grass and weed growth has slowed for the winter while fallen spars are a greater problem with the winds and rain and minor repairs around the property are an ongoing issue. If you can help out contact me or other committee members to sort a time to help out.

Noel Manning

Upcoming events:

Saturday 29 June - Christmas in Winter luncheon at Poatina Chalet commencing 12.30 pm.

Come along and enjoy a Christmas in Winter luncheon where you have majestic views of the mountains and down into the valley below. The meal will cost \$33 per person and will include three meats: turkey, ham and pork, seasonal and roast vegetables, and a choice of dessert, Christmas pudding, pavlova or fruit salad, and tea and coffee.

RSVP to Prue at program@lfnc.org.au or telephone 0438 410 192 before 21 June.

General Meeting - Tuesday 2 April

Guest Speakers – David Maynard and Simon Fearn – *King Island insect collection expedition*

Tom introduced David and Simon who were to talk on their survey of insects after a recent visit to King Island.

David started by explaining that they would tell us why they went to King Island, what they did there, what the results mean and importantly who helped them 'to get us out of the office'.

David then went on to explain that the museum has a focus on preserving a physical record of biodiversity in northern Tasmania and he has been working with Simon on insects and with John Douglas on spiders. They have made the north-west their own as there has not been much done in the area, David has a shack which helps reduce costs and there is an opportunity for mainland species to enter Tasmania via King Island. He compared this to the recent fruit fly incursion into Tasmania and said that to know what arrives we need to know what is already there. He also regularly visits Three Hummock Island, in the Hunter Group, and over the last five or six years has found species lost for some time and stating to come back.

He also listed climate change as a driver for their research. A graph showed the average minimum temperature from May till September for seven sites over the decade from 1996 to 2017 showing that the west coast is around 2.5 degrees C warmer than the north coast. The temperature lines on the graph for Cape Otway, King Island Airport, Three Hummock Island, Cape Grim and Marrawah were in a narrow band well above the lines for the temperature at Smithton and Wynyard and David suggested this would not

result in the lower winter temperatures that you expect to knock some species off. Other graphs he had seen showed that each decade was warmer than the previous.

Simon detailed the previous surveys starting with the Victorian Field Naturalists trip of 1878 when King Island was still being cleared with much natural vegetation intact and this collection end up in Victoria. The next, and last proper survey, was done in 1906 by Arthur Lea, the Tasmanian government entomologist with the Agricultural Department collecting hundreds of samples, mainly on the coast line.

The talk moved onto forgotten species found by our speakers starting with an *Achthosus* beetle found in the higher rainfall areas of the east coast of the mainland from Cape York to Victoria with the last specimen collected south of there in 1932. David found that it was very common on Three Hummock Island and as it was cold sensitive it was assumed it may be in other parts of the climate window. A thorough survey of the Woolnorth property of the far north-west failed to find any.

An expert identified *Lissotes crenatus*, similar to our stag beetle, from Simon's collection, a beetle found by David on Three Hummock Island and not seen for some time. In the 1950s an American expert had amateur entomologists looking for it on Mount Wellington based on it being found in Tasmania by an expedition to here, including Wellington, some 200 years ago. David looked further and found that this expedition also visited King Island and he found the beetle within 800 metres of the expedition landing site and both these species were in the collection brought along by Simon.

David spoke about the funding for the trip starting with a donation of \$2,500 from the Friends of the QVMAG and acknowledging the generosity of a local farmer who lent them a ute for the week saving a \$1,000 in vehicle hire.

Simon then described the original landscape of King Island as the eastern half being covered in a dense forest of blue gums up to 400 foot tall while the western half, exposed to the prevailing winds, was covered in a dense forest of melaleuca, leptospermum and banksia scrub. The thick scrub and isolation meant it was not attractive for habitation until the 1870s when the government opened it up to free settlement then people started to go there and to clear the land of trees, first using fire, followed by the heavy machinery available after WWII, leaving a patch work of small islands of natural vegetation and even these degraded.

We know that the King Island emu, quoll and wombat went extinct very early on though no one documented the many other species which may also have disappeared from a landscape 99% given over to agriculture with small islands of native vegetation which are not big enough to be worth protecting as wildlife corridors. David described Grassy as a great place, although much modified, the river system and tributaries are heavily wooded.

While some time was spent by our intrepid explorers in these areas the rest was spent on the coast looking at daisy bush or *Olearia glutinosa*, the only thing in flower. David told us there were 44 sites visited in nine days and described the three habitats types visited starting with an almost tropical rain forest feel as the weather was hot and still with the usual Roaring Forties not happening till the last day, with the rest of the time spent in melaleuca swamp or coastal heath lands.

The many images showed Simon at work, the places they visited, including a map, and many of the animals found. One showed the incredible glow from the 240 watt mercury vapour lamp used for night work of which David said '*It's like a mini sun, ultra violet light, and you come out with a lovely tan and a lot of beetles*'.

Among the animals found as either being new to Tasmania, refound after many years or even new to science were a flightless stick insect, a wood moth, a large green cricket, stag and ground beetles, and a new colour morph of the red neck wallaby. There was also a new genus of wolf spider and something that Simon described as unusual, native insects on radiata pine. Insects not seen for hundreds of years or not known at all on the island were in surprising abundance and even common.

During some 18 minutes of questions and answers we learnt that a Western Australia cockroach, a sub-tropical praying mantis and sub-tropical orb weaving spider had established in Tasmania, after which Phil thanked David and Simon on behalf of the members and led the acclamation. Noel Manning

Fundraiser – Saturday 6 April – BBQ at Bunnings

A big thanks to the many members who manned our fundraiser barbecue at Bunnings north Launceston. We had a successful day raising more money than we had expected, which will allow us to reimburse guest speakers who may not be able to attend our meetings otherwise.

This was a well-organized event thanks to our coordinator Sarah and members, and thanks must also go to the experienced non-members who volunteered their time, offering expert advice or loaned equipment to make this a successful fund raising event for our Club on the busiest day, Saturday, of the Bunnings' barbecue week, an intense few hours for those involved and valuable experience for future events.

Noel Manning

Sunday 14 April - Launceston Historical Society talk given by Maureen Martin Ferris on Louisa Anne Meredith

Members attended a talk given at the Launceston Historical Society's meeting by Maureen Martin Ferris about Louisa Anne Meredith who was also known as Louisa Anne Twamley. Maureen is the curator at the East Coast Heritage Museum at Swansea, which has many items that belonged to Louisa who was born in 1812 in Birmingham, England and emigrated to Australia arriving in Van Diemen's Land in 1840.

Maureen talked about Louisa's family, the time and the place where she grew up and Louisa's very good memory. Louisa repeated words from poems that her mother had read to her and by an early age had learned to read them herself.

Louisa developed an interest in nature and received tuition in art and sketching and, encouraged by her mother, started to paint miniatures. Her first exhibition was in 1832 and her first book of poems was published in 1835 and was followed by books on plants which she illustrated herself.

Louisa married her cousin Charles Meredith in Birmingham in 1839 and shortly after they sailed to New South Wales. Due to a severe economic depression their land lost value and they relocated to Tasmania, where they lived most of the time on properties around Swansea. Apart from raising her children, Louisa spent much of her time painting and sketching native flowers, plants, insects, fishes and animals. Her publications contained full colour illustrations that she had drawn and provided simple descriptions of the native flowers.

She founded the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in 1878, with Mary Selina Gellibrand, and the fate of animals and plants lay heavily on her conscience. As a result of her being first and foremost a conservationist on many occasions she did not agree with her father-in-law.

Louisa attended and performed in costume at many social events at Government House.

Due to her husband's ill health Louisa moved to Launceston in 1879 where he died in early 1880 from heart failure. As their marriage had been a happy one she was heart-broken. Louisa moved to Melbourne and lived with her devoted grand-daughter Louisa Anne and later moved in with friends where she died in relative poverty in 1895.

A well-received talk on someone little known to the wider community and her name came up again when we went to a talk on botanic artists and their art up to the start of the 20th Century at the Australian Plant Society of Tasmania, Northern Group.

Karen Manning

Skemps Day – Sunday 28 April & 5 May – Macroinvertebrate Monitoring

Members arrived to a warm sunny morning at Myrtle Bank for the autumn water monitoring on Skemps Creek. With John away, Noel collected the sample from below Bob's Bog on his own, while others set up the equipment.

It was a while before Noel arrived back with the water sample as he had experienced problems including low flow in the creek following the hot, dry weather experienced over the summer.

The water sample was left in the trays to settle, a few odd jobs were dealt with, then we had an early lunch. After lunch we collected the few species we could find and took images of the them to identify at home later and to forward to John for confirmation.

During the afternoon, Stephen, Jill and Taylor walked along Skemps Road above the ponds and excitedly reported seeing two wedge-tailed eagles circling above them at the far end of the road on their return. Packing up early we headed home.

Karen Manning

The images were sent to John along with my suggestions as to what was found and he confirmed the following taxa: Chironomid, beetle larva; Hemiptera water boatman; Plecoptera, stoneflies; Trichoptera, mayflies, cased caddisflies – I had only misidentified the beetle larva.

From the taxa collected and identified, John advised that the result indicated either toxic pollution (which was unlikely) or poor sampling, and suggested that we sample again fairly soon.

We agreed to redo the sampling on Sunday 5 May and John, Noel and I returned to Skemps for another attempt. There had been rain early in the week, so we hoped this would contribute to a better sampling. The three of us went to the site on the creek and in the second net sweep John saw a small *Astacopsis franklinii*, fresh-water crayfish, in the net so things were looking up.

The sample collected today gave a better score as more taxa were seen. The Signal 2 calculation of 5.5 indicates good water quality, with the following taxa being identified: Amphipoda - sideswimmers; Coleoptera - water penny; Decapoda - astacopsis; Diptera - chironomid, craneflies and blackflies; Ephemeroptera - mayflies; Hemiptera - water boatman, veliidae; Plecoptera – stoneflies; Trichoptera - cased and free-living caddis.



Mayfly (KM)



Stonefly (KM)

Tuesday 30 April ~ *Where? Where? Wedgie!* Workshop at Briggs House, Scotch Oakburn College, Penquite Campus

The Club hosted one of many community workshops being held, in relation to the *Where? Where? Wedgie!* surveys that are to be held over the weekends of 10 to 12 May and 24 to 26 May in Tasmania.

Clare Hawkins provided information to help everyone understand the aims of the survey and to ensure that we understood the methods that were to be used so that methods applied and the information gathered would be consistent. There were also images to assist with the identification of birds of prey and other species we may encounter.

We were shown over the pages from the website *Naturetrackers* and it was here we could access the many resources to enable us to adequately prepare for our day looking to the skies. Binoculars, compass, camera, GPS or smart phone with various apps, plus adequate clothing, food and drink to ensure our safety and comfort were suggested as the minimum equipment to take.

Nick Mooney spoke to us about bird identification and showed images of these birds and discussed with us how they could be misidentified due to the light or the distance. He suggested we try to keep a picture in our mind of the various features of the target species.

Twenty seven people attended this informative session including our two presenters, 9 club members and 16 people from the community.

Karen Manning

Tuesday 7 May ~ John Skemp Memorial Lecture, presented by Sarah Lloyd ~ *My Life in Slime*

After Noel gave the background to the John Skemp Memorial Lecture (JSML), Tom introduced Sarah as the presenter of the lecture which would detail her knowledge of plasmodial or acellular slime moulds – myxomycetes.

Sarah started by telling us that she would be talking about what slime moulds do in the environment and the first of her many images showed a 1.5 mm slime mould taken with a camera using a compound microscope. Sarah showed this image as many people think it looks like a marine organism. Sarah agreed saying that slime moulds are thought to have emerged from the oceans about the same time as land plants, between 500 and 600 million years ago. They feed on bacteria and other single cell organisms recycling nutrients and enriching the soil preparing the way for land plants.

At the start of her study of slime moulds Sarah was interested in their interaction with other organisms and she found that the most common was the *Collembola* or springtail which is also found in the gills of fungi or around detritus. Slugs, flies, beetles and other insects also feed on the moulds with some mating on them and larger moulds in the field eventually become a mass of crawling larvae. Moulds break down decaying matter and insects feeding and mating on moulds also play a role in dispersing spores making the moulds an important part of the eco system.

The talk moved onto possible human uses for slime moulds starting with *Fuligo septica* which accumulates zinc, cadmium and other heavy metals and could be used for bioremediation of soils such as cleaning up old mining sites. Others are known to feed on bacteria and the plasmodium of *Physarum flavicomum* contains glycoprotein that temporarily inhibits the growth of hay bacteria while other species have compounds that inhibit the growth of golden staph and *E. coli*. Anti-cancer compounds have been found in *Arcyria denudata* and other species and a neurotransmitter precursor used in the treatment of Parkinson's disease has been found in *Stemonitis herbatica*. As the moulds are quite small commercialization would be a problem.

Sarah then posed the question 'what are they?' and told us that they had been a mystery for naturalists and scientists for many centuries. Around 1750 when Carl Linnaeus was devising his system of classification, using the binomial genus and species name, he also divided living things into the plant kingdom and the animal kingdom and slime moulds were thought to be fungi which were placed in the plant kingdom. On closer examination fungi were seen to very different to plants and the fungi kingdom was added which included the moulds. Then the moving, feeding plasmodium stage was observed and they were placed in the animal kingdom for a while and then the amoebic stage was observed and they were placed in the Protista kingdom and are classified as Amoebozoa.

Sarah explained the introductory image to this section as a gum nut about 10 mm across covered in slime mould fruiting bodies about 1 mm high and invited us to look at her collection of moulds during supper. Unlike fungi, which dry out and shrivel up, the moulds retain their shape and their small size allows her to store them in match boxes.

She then described a typical life cycle starting with the fruiting body which produces spores, the first of the microscopic stage, and these produce the amoeba which goes through a binary fission stage splitting into more cells. Next is the fusion stage where they combine to eventually form a zygote and then a plasmodium. As the plasmodium grows it becomes visible and eventually produces fruiting bodies. At the

amoeba stage the organism will be flagellated (called a swarm cell) in wet conditions and not flagellated (called myxamoeba) in dry conditions and can switch between each as conditions change. At both the amoeba (called microcyst if dormant) and the plasmodium (called sclerotium if dormant) stage the organism can become dormant if the conditions are unfavourable from being too dry or due to a lack of food, then will restart when conditions improve. Sarah suggested this was only a typical life cycle based on laboratory observations and could vary in the wild and there are species variations on the typical cycle.

While the amoeba stage feeds on microorganisms, such as bacteria, for the plasmodium stage some slime moulds are saprotrophic, breaking down decaying matter, and others are fungivores feeding on fungi.

The plasmodium stage is well studied as it consists of many nuclei with no cell walls, effectively one huge cell. During these studies it was found slime moulds can find the shortest path through a maze, construct networks as efficient as those designed by humans, solve computationally difficult puzzles and, to the amusement of those present, even behave irrationally. If you observe a slime mould in the wild and take a photo from a fixed position every minute you may notice that it moves and it moves by what is known as cytoplasmic streaming.

As you might expect from Sarah the presentation included many impressive images, showing the variety of the plasmodium while those of the fruiting bodies showed the incredible variety and beauty on a very small scale. One showed a network of trails on a standing, dead eucalypt which Sarah said was excrement.

She described the bush around her home at Black Sugarloaf, Birrallee as Melaleuca swamp forest on one side and wet eucalypt on a shaded south east facing hillside on the other, a great spot for slime moulds. She lives there and walks the forests often and moulds are starting to appear at the moment while the last few months have been poor due to the dry conditions. Sarah started researching slime moulds about seven years ago when asked to collect samples for Tom May of the Victorian Herbarium sending the herbarium about 500 samples.

Sarah made the mistake during her early studies of moving sample to take a photo then returning the sample to the original location only to find that it had not developed when she returned later. Most slime moulds do not like being disturbed and will not develop further after disturbance. During her studies Sarah found a species associated with the tropics and sent a sample for examination by an expert. It turned out to be a new species which has been named *Alwisia lloydiae* and it is common, proving how little slime moulds are studied.

We also learnt that certain trees attract slime moulds and Sarah wondered if it was the nature of the bark with dead *Clematis aristata* being a fine example attracting moulds she has not seen on any other substrate while *Bedfordia salicina* is another tree attracting many species. At about this time of the year, when consistent rains have soaked these trees, the moulds soon appear. Leaf litter collecting at the top of the trunk of a soft tree fern (*Dicksonia antarctica*) is another place to find a variety of moulds some only seen there. Sarah told us tree ferns near her house are the right height to see into while the ones at Notley Fern Gorge are too tall for her. A picture showed goblet shaped fruiting bodies and Sarah had estimated there were around 3,500 of them on the many the moulds found on one tree fern.

How many are there? Having posed the question Sarah said it was estimated there were between 120 and 180 in temperate regions although she had found around 120 species within a kilometre of her home.

Sarah told us that due to the expense of travel and the expense of extended stays for field work much of the study into moulds consists of bringing collected samples, including the substrate of living and dead vegetable matter, into the laboratory and culturing these in petri dishes. While it is productive it is far from ideal as the samples are only from what is there at the time of the visit and follow up visits are rare.

After nearly 20 minutes of questions and answers Tom presented the JSML Medallion, a copy of the Fifth Edition of the Club book and thanked Sarah on behalf of the members and led the acclamation.

Noel Manning

Sunday 12 May – Where? Where? Wedgie! Survey

Helen, Karen and I went to our Where? Where? Wedgie! square near Bridestowe Lavender Farm on a fine cool Sunday morning with varying levels of threatening cloud throughout the day. Our task was to do six surveys for ten minutes on the hour or half hour and we were permitted to take a break.

Our first issue was that the location grid on my iPhone was in degrees, minutes and seconds while the map had it's as a percentage of a degree so we relied on Karen's knowledge of the roads to know we were inside our chosen square.

Our first stop was at the side of Gillespies Road with an unobstructed view and at the early stage of this survey forest ravens were seen flying and a currawong was seen perched. With only 2 minutes to go, a wedgie circled to the east, passed overhead and then went out of sight to the North West.

We moved further down this road and finding nowhere open enough for a full view we entered the Bridestowe Lavender Estate. The main car park provided an excellent all round view and with permission we walked into the rows of lavender to our chosen viewing spot. Half way into this survey a wedgie circled around to the east before sweeping close past us before disappearing over the hills and trees to the south west while being harassed by two forest ravens. There was much to suggest these first two sightings were different birds and I was so surprised that I forgot to take a photograph till they had moved away! We were on a roll and celebrated with drinks and treats at the Bridestowe Cafe.

After the success of the earlier surveys the third seemed a disappointment with only forest ravens and a wattle bird seen. As we were getting into the car I saw a wedgie fly past just over the nearby trees and it joined another two circling away to the north. A few minutes before we were in place for the fourth survey, where we also lunched, an eagle swooped past and joined another two and I assume they were the same three seen earlier. Helen suggested that one may have been a swamp harrier interacting with the wedgies.

A swamp harrier was seen two or three minutes after the fifth survey ended and Helen identified a wedgie call to the north though it was not seen. Just before the sixth survey we saw a swamp harrier twice and again after that last survey.

A successful day for us with the excitement of so many sightings and we are looking forward to the follow up on Saturday 25 May.

Noel Manning

Saturday 25 May ~ Where? Where? Wedgie! Survey

On a miserable day, weather wise, with rain predicted and overhead clouds threatening Claire, Karen and I headed to our 'Where? Where? Wedgie!' monitoring site to look for raptors.

We returned to our first site, left the car in light rain, and saw forest ravens, a magpie and a kookaburra was heard calling. Today, for our second survey, we travelled to the site of our fourth survey from 12 May knowing that as we returned we would be at Bridestowe for lunch. Forest ravens were seen at this second site, native hens heard while we were there, and the native hens were seen as we left. As we arrived at the third site, number three from the first survey, we saw a basson thrush on the road, fairy wrens flittering about and native hens in the paddock with the sheep. There was obviously a forest Raven convention to the west of north as a hundred or so headed in that direction. Far out to the west they flew to the north, north-west in groups of up to a dozen while from the north and closer to us smaller groups were flying in the same direction. Near the end of this survey two wedgies were seen to the north east by east.

Moving to the lavender farm we saw a sea eagle not long after arriving and at the end of our survey the sea eagle returned and then we saw a grey goshawk being harassed by two forest ravens and ten or so smaller birds. The cook was a no show at Bridestowe so we settled for toasted sandwiches and drinks, a cuddle with the resident cat and a look around the shop before heading off to our last two stops.

As we passed the third survey site we saw two wedgies to the N by NE. We were again just short of the property Dunbarton for our fifth survey and feeling chuffed at the success so far. Here we saw a wedgie to the SE maybe 5 km out. We moved to our last position and a swamp harrier circled to the south east eventually going out of site more to the south. In the middle of our last survey a brown goshawk was seen

to the SE by E some 2 or 3 kilometres out. I would not put money on the identification of the harrier and goshawk though they were certainly mid-sized raptors.

Again a rewarding survey even in the wet, muddy and cold conditions.

Noel Manning

Sunday 26 May ~ Slime moulds at Skemps with Sarah Lloyd & Ron Nagorcka

Members recently had the pleasure of Sarah and Ron's company at Skemps to look for slime moulds following Sarah's presentation for the John Skemp Memorial Lecture on the subject. The morning was sunny but cool as we set off to walk along the Forest Track then down into the Fern Gully to look for slime.

We found a large variety of fungi as we potted around for some time in the leaf litter. What appeared to be our first slime mould disappointingly was a fungus called *Torendiella eucalypti* found on Blackwood leaves. We also checked in the tops of the *Dicksonia antarctica* ferns as Sarah had indicated during her talk that this was a moist place where she had discovered moulds in the leaf litter that accumulate there. We were thrilled when Jill found *Physarum viride* (about 2mm) a stalked yellow mould on decaying wood.

Leaving the Forest Track we headed down into the Fern Gully where we found plasmodium on leaf litter and *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa*, which Sarah called 'ice crystal', growing in a crack on the underside of a very wet log. We were unable to look at it with a hand lens due to its position. The species looked flat, but the camera lens showed the gorgeous little crystal forms.

In the gully Sarah noticed that *Didymium squamulosum*, a stalked white fluffy topped mould, growing up the fronds in the tops of the *Dicksonia antarctica*. We also noted a variety of fungi growing in large quantities along many of the fallen trees. Jill found a large yellow plasmodium growing on a white fungus on a log and Ron was impressed with this find.

As our walk had been very slow, we headed back to the Centre along the Tyre Track and at the Power Track stopped to look at the colourful variety of fungi along there.

Following lunch we used microscopes to look at the specimens collected during our walk, some still had minute insects wandering around in them, and also the dried specimens that Sarah had brought along. We had a very interesting walk with Sarah and Ron and appreciate them both coming out to the property today, luckily it was dry during their time with us.

Karen Manning



Plasmodium on leaf litter (KM)



Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa - ice crystals (KM)

Other slime moulds seen today were: *Comatricha* sp., *Trichia* (mouldy) and *Cribraria* (mouldy/old)

Additional Information

Club Outings:

- All outings depart from Inveresk carpark (near Museum entrance) at 9 am unless otherwise specified. Internet site updated regularly to reflect short notice changes. Saturday all-day parking cost is \$3.00. Sunday parking free.
- Provide your own food and drinks for the outing and wear/take clothing/footwear suitable for all weather types.
- When travelling by car in convoy, each driver is responsible to ensure that the vehicle behind is in sight immediately after passing a cross road or fork in the road.
- When carpooling, petrol costs should be shared between all the passengers, including family of the driver, and based on other clubs the Committee suggested \$11 per 100 km. This is a guideline only.

Name Tags: Please wear your name tags to meetings and on outings.

Tea/Coffee: A levy of 50c is currently charged for supper provided at meetings.

Field Centre: All members have access to the John Skemp Field Centre, but should contact our booking manager, Phil Brumby, on 0403 845 000 or bookings@lfnc.org.au regarding availability and keys.

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