

HFNC excursion to Wannan Flora Reserve & Wannan Falls Scenic Reserve – report for 21 June 2015

Rod Bird, Diane Luhrs & Dave Munro

At 10 am on Sunday Dave & Lyn Munro, John & Glenys Cayley, Diane Luhrs & Rod Bird, Janeen Samuel, Peter Hocking and Hilary Turner met on the Nigretta-Wannan Rd on the NE end of the Wannan Flora Reserve. We were lucky in having a sunny morning and the shelter of the reserve to block a chilly breeze.

We came equipped for a little work on any *Sparaxis*, Freesias and Sallow Wattles that we came across on our wandering through the 18-acre reserve. We were happy to find only a few dozen *Sparaxis* plants and one African Weed Orchid near the NW corner of the reserve, on the track that runs down the north side, and at one spot on the west edge of the Wannan-Nigretta Rd. However, there were many small clumps of Freesia some 60 m from the SW corner of the reserve, about 50 m from Powells Lane. These occurred in the area that had been used as a rubbish tip before 1960. Work had been done several years ago to eradicate the pest but more needs to be done. We were only able to herbicide-wipe those plants that we came upon in our cleared path through that corner of the reserve and clearly more plants will be found.

We found that most of the western half of the reserve is now densely stocked with *Acacia paradoxa*, so thick in places that it was difficult to find a way through. We resorted to pruning some branches to allow transit. The photos below show our group having emerged from the thicket in the western half.



Back in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s the club had working bees to pull up many thousands of seedlings in an effort to prevent the species from dominating the reserve. Perhaps we should now be preventing new germinants from invading the eastern half of the reserve, where the heath is still in fair condition.

The Shire is now the manager of both Crown Land reserves and they have organised the ripping of rabbit warrens. A backhoe appears to have been used and the damage to heath vegetation is limited but severe. The vegetation will recover. The photo (left) looking west to Manna Gums, shows a small destroyed warren.



We observed a fine specimen of Gorse Bitter-pea (*Daviesia ulicifolia*) among *Leptospermum myrsinoides* and other plants near the east side (photo, right, shows the shrub in the heath and Rod nearby).

Gorse Bitter-pea was recorded here as early as 1958 and is not found on any other area of the Wannon frontage and reserves.

While the reserve was noted in 1967 as having 21 species of orchid, fewer than half that number have been seen in recent years, probably because there has been only one fire (and that of limited effect) since the club has been associated with the reserve (beginning 1958). Today we found leaves and some buds of *Corybas incurvus* (Slaty Helmet Orchid – see photo) and leaves of a Sun-orchid and Nodding Greenhood (*P. nutans*).

A good number of fungi, some unknown to us, were seen on our walk around and through the reserve – see the list on p. 4 and selected photos. Birds were few but noteworthy were Brown-headed Honeyeaters.

We crossed to the Wannon Falls Scenic Reserve for a picnic lunch at the oval, then took a short excursion across the oval and into the bush beyond. We found some *Oxalis purpurea* (a few in flower) near the cricket pitch and they will need to be treated. Beyond, we found quite a lot of *Sparaxis* near the old track around the oval and a little way into the bush. There was no sign of Angled Onion which we had also battled against some years ago. We will need to tackle the *Sparaxis* again and it is far less a problem now than it was of late.



Striped Greenhood left and above

Slaty Helmet orchid with bud

A highlight of this little stroll was finding several flowering *Pterostylis striatum* (Striped Greenhood) at the spot where Liz Fenton found them a few years ago. This is indeed a lovely orchid and we were lucky to catch them in flower. The flower and emerging flowering stems are shown below. *P. alata* was found in the SW area of Wannon Flora Reserve in the 1960s and that appears to be the same species (with a new name now).



Omphalina umbellifera



Poronia erici Dung Buttons



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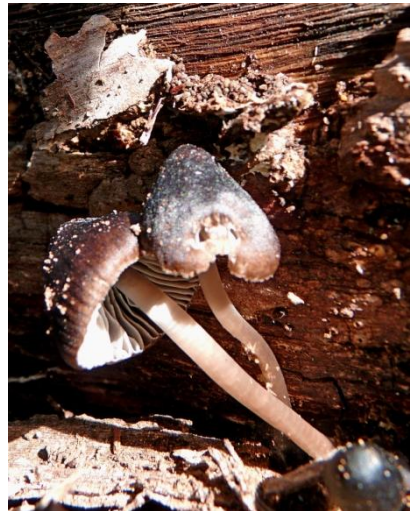
We finished our excursion at 2.30 pm, resolving to spend more time in future controlling invading weeds on these reserves.



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Marasmius sp.?



Paneolus sp.



Russula lenkunya



Fomitopsis lilacegilva



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Pisolithus tinctorius

Dermocybe splendida & sanguinea

Lycoperdon sp. Smoky Puffball

?



Fungi identified HFNC Excursion 21 June 2015 – Wannan Flora Reserve (18 Acre Reserve)

Name	Common Name	Type	F-map	Comments
<i>Agaricus augustus?</i>	The Prince	Gilled		Single specimen under <i>A. paradoxa</i>
<i>Agaricus campestris</i>	Field Mushroom	Gilled		2 specimens near track on N side
<i>Amanita ananiceps</i>		Gilled		In grass
<i>Amanita xanthocephala</i>	Vermillion or Pretty Grisette	Gilled	Y	2 specimens, in grass
<i>Amanita</i> spp. x2				
<i>Amauroderma rude</i>	Red-staining Stalked Polypore	Pored	Y	1 seen
<i>Calocera sinensis</i> gp	Pretty Horn	Jelly		Very small (3-5mm) on decaying log
<i>Crepidotus variabilis</i>	Variable Crep	Gilled Bracket		White shells on dead tree
<i>Dermocybe clelandii</i>	Cleland's Cortinar	Gilled		Several troops, brown capped, rusty gills
<i>Dermocybe sanguinea?</i>		Gilled		Wine red caps with orange gills and stem.
<i>Dermocybe splendida</i>	Splendid Red Skinhead	Gilled	Y	Red-brown cap, paprika red gills
<i>Fomitopsis lilaceogilva</i>	Lilac Shelf Fungus	Pored Bracket		2 Spectacular colonies on dead Euc. logs
<i>Hexagona vesparia</i>	Honeycomb Fungus	Pored Bracket		Large pored bracket on decayed tree
<i>Laccaria</i> spp. x2	“deceivers”	Gilled		Uniform red-orange in troops through Res.
<i>Lycoperdon</i> sp.		Puffball		
<i>Marasmiellus</i> sp.		Gilled		Small, on twigs
<i>Mycena</i> sp.		Gilled		Grey-brown with fragile stem
<i>Omphalina umbellifera</i>	Brown Belly Button	Gilled		Growing on algal mat with moss
<i>Oudemansiella radicata</i> gp	Rooting Shank	Gilled		Stately brown cap, white gills on white stem
<i>Panaeolus</i> sp.	Mottlegill	Gilled		On dung; small pixie cap brown or grey
<i>Pisolithus tinctorius</i>	Horse Dropping Fungus	Earthball	Y	On roadside; dark brown spores used in dyes
<i>Poronia erici</i>	Dung Buttons	Pored Disc	Y	Small discs on macropod dung
<i>Rickenella fibula</i>	Little Pin	Gilled		Small yellow, growing in moss
<i>Rhodocollybia buteracea</i>	Buttery Collybia	Gilled		Several colonies seen; waxy feel to cap
<i>Russula lenkunya</i>		Gilled		Purple cap, white gills.



Amanita sp.



Fomitopsis lilaceogilva

Fungi identified HFNC Excursion 21 June 2015 – Wannan Falls Scenic Reserve

Name	Common name	Type	F-map	Comments
<i>Amaurodrema rude</i>	Red-staining Stalked Polypore	Pored	Y	Single specimen, in grass
<i>Entoloma</i> sp.		Gilled		Single specimen, grass-green & bluish centre
<i>Galerina hypnorum</i>	Moss Galerina	Gilled		Yellow bell shaped caps in moss
<i>Laccaria</i> sp x2		Gilled		Many colonies
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Turkey Tails	Pored bracket		Old specimen on stump
<i>Ramaria</i> sp.	Coral Fungus	Coral		Pinkish red