

**FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB OF VICTORIA**  
**FNCV FUNGI GROUP FORAY - MOUNT WORTH STATE PARK, 16th July 2006**

**The aim of this series of fungal forays is to increase recognition of fungal species in the field.**

Mount Worth State Park is situated on the western rim of the Strzelecki Ranges, approximately 125 km south-east of Melbourne. It encompasses 1040 ha of Mountain Ash *Eucalyptus regnans* forest and regenerating native bush.

On this foray we had the pleasure of the company of several members of two other groups, the Friends of Mount Worth State Park and the Friends of Morwell National Park. Although the autumn flush of fungi had finished, there still proved to be much of interest.

The first fungus to attract attention was *Barya agaricicola*, a tiny yellow flask fungus that parasitises other fungi. From a distance it looks like little yellow spots or scales on the host fruit-body. It was growing on an old *Mycena* on a dead tree trunk next to the car park. Other fungi in the car park included Velvet Foot *Flammulina velutipes* with its golden caps and dark, velvety stems, and some old puffballs *Lycoperdon pyriforme*. Both species were growing on a *Cassinia* trunk.

As we proceeded along the track to the 'Standing giant circuit' we found more fungi growing on wood. Some of these, such as *Galerina patagonica*, *Ganoderma australe* and *Trametes versicolor*, were species that we see fairly often on forays. Others were less obvious. Old blackened 'King Alfred's Cakes' *Daldinia concentrica*, also known as 'Cramp Balls', were seen on a dead Silver Wattle *Acacia dealbata* trunk. If you cut one of these fungi open you can see the concentric growth zones inside. An especially sharp-eyed forayer spied a group of the uncommon *Chlorovibrissea melanochlora*, a very small pin fungus with a round green head and a dark stem, growing on a piece of rotting wood under the bridge spanning Lorkin Creek.

Three species growing on tree-fern trunks surprised us. The first was a yellowish, finely-branched coral fungus, possibly a *Ramariopsis*. Next came *Beenakia dacostae*, a creamy-white fungus with teeth on the underside of the cap, which we had previously seen only on dry, woody debris under logs. (Its microscopic features were examined later, to make sure it really was what it appeared to be.) Then we found both simple and complex (tiered) forms of the beautiful Pagoda Fungus *Podoserpula pusio* growing together on the one tree-fern trunk.

*Mycena clarkeana* was growing on a small dead stump beside the track. The pink, bell-shaped caps have a grooved margin. This pretty fungus grows in caespitose groups, and has been seen in several localities this year. Half buried in soil where lyrebirds had been scratching was the truffle-like *Zelleromyces* sp. – a small orange fungus that exudes a milky latex when cut – as well as some truffles that were white both inside and outside.

Two species of Vegetable Caterpillars, *Cordyceps gunnii* and *C. hawkesii* were seen. These specialised fungi parasitise moth larvae. A slime mould *Leocarpus fragilis* was also found, with its sporangia attached to a piece of grass lying on top of a gum leaf.

Needless to say there were many fungi that we could not identify, including several *Cortinarius* species, a small white fungus possibly related to *Mucronella*, and a strange yellow fungus covering some cut ends of Fireweed *Senecio linearifolius* twigs. Altogether 50 species, including 12 Fungimap Targets, were recorded. A big thank you to Paul George for leading the foray and giving us so much interesting information about the species seen.

**Virgil Hubregtse**

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**Vegetation:** Tall wet forest of Mountain Ash *Eucalyptus regnans*, Hazel *Pomaderris aspera*, Blackwood *Acacia melanoxylon* and Silver Wattle *Acacia dealbata*.

**GPS reading at carpark: 38° 16' 58" S; 146° 00' 28" E**

**Table sorted into alphabetical order**

**No** = sequential numbering of species as they were found; **T** = Fungimap Target species; **S** = specimens taken for further examination

**See Fungi Group CD** = Field Naturalists Club of Victoria - Fungi Group CD 2005

**See FDU p. #** = *Fungi down under: the Fungimap guide to Australian fungi* by Pat Grey and Ed Grey. Fungimap 2005

**See Fuhrer #** = *A field guide to Australian fungi* by Bruce Fuhrer. Blooming Books 2005

**See McCann p. #** = *Australian fungi illustrated* by I. R. McCann. MacDown Productions 2003

(=...) = former name

No	S	T	Type	Species	Description	Substrate
48		T	Pore	<i>Amauroderma rude</i>	'Red-staining Stalked Polypore'. Cap velvety with concentric zones of brown; undersurface white. Old specimens are almost black. <b>See FDU p. 63; Fuhrer # 379; McCann p. 74.</b>	Buried wood
40		T	Gill	<i>Armillaria luteobubalina</i>	'Australian Honey Fungus'. Cap convex, yellow-brown, rough-feeling; gills white; stem yellow-brown, fibrillose, darker below ring; ring white. Usually grows in clusters, but this was a lone specimen. <b>See FDU p.23; Fuhrer # 20; McCann p.41.</b>	Living tree
9		T	Jelly	<i>Ascocoryne sarcoides</i>	'Purple Jellydisc'. Pale purplish pink jelly drop/disc. Both non-sexual (conidial) and sexual (disc) stages seen in different locations. <b>See FDU p.111; Fuhrer # 465; McCann p.111.</b>	Dead branches and logs
1			Flask	<i>Barya agaricicola</i>	Tiny yellow cones on surface of old <i>Mycena</i> cap. This fungus parasitises small gilled fungi. <b>See Fungi Group CD.</b>	Old <i>Mycena</i> on dead stump
35	2	T	Spine	<i>Beenakia dacostae</i>	'Beenak Long Tooth'. Small, smooth white caps (finely woolly when young) with lateral stems; teeth beneath cap white, changing to brown as spores mature. Spores pip-shaped, slightly ornamented, 9 x 4 µm. This is the first time we have seen this species on a tree-fern trunk. <b>See FDU p.74.</b>	Tree-fern trunk
22			Disc	<i>Bisporella citrina</i>	Tiny yellow discs, to 3mm across, on wood. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 470; McCann p.112.</b>	Dead <i>Acacia</i> trunk

No	S	T	Type	Species	Description	Substrate
23			Gill	<i>Campanella olivaceonigra</i>	Small greyish green caps on short stems. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 28.</b>	Dead <i>Acacia</i> twig
16			Disc	<i>Chlorociboria aeruginascens</i>	Small blue-green discs that stain the wood they grow on. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 474, #475; McCann p.112.</b>	
36			Pin	<i>Chlorovibrissea melanochlora</i>	'Dark-green Pin'. Globose top section greenish; stem very dark. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 477.</b>	Old log
37			Gill	<i>Clitocybe</i> sp.	Cap approx. 30 mm across, light yellowish brown, smooth, centrally depressed; gills light creamy brown, slightly decurrent; stipe light brown, longitudinally fibrous — two fruit-bodies appear to be fused together!	Ground
38			Gill	<i>Coprinellus (=Coprinus) disseminatus</i>	Young caps are creamy yellow, older ones grey, darkening as the caps autodigest. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 40; McCann p.12.</b>	Dead wood
17			Coral	Coral fungus	Coarse, beige, not many branches. Possibly ? <i>Ramaria</i> sp.	Ground
33			Coral	Coral fungus	Light brownish yellow, fine branches. Possibly ? <i>Ramariopsis</i> sp.	Tree-fern trunk
45		T	Club	<i>Cordyceps gunnii</i>	'Vegetable caterpillar'. <b>See FDU p.104; Fuhrer # 480; McCann p.107.</b>	Ground
47		T	Club	<i>Cordyceps hawkesii</i>	'Vegetable caterpillar'. <b>See FDU p.105; Fuhrer # 481; McCann p.107.</b>	Ground under <i>Acacia dealbata</i>
21			Asco	<i>Daldinia concentrica</i>	'Cramp balls'. With concentric growth zones inside. Most were old and black (hence the other name, 'King Arthur's cakes'). <b>See Fuhrer # 487; McCann p.119.</b>	Dead <i>Acacia dealbata</i> trunk
30		T	Pore	<i>Dictyopanus pusillus</i>	'Little Ping-pong Bat'. Very small polypore 'ping-pong bat' bracket with large pores. <b>See FDU p.64; Fuhrer # 229 (as <i>Panellus pusillus</i>); McCann p.45.</b>	Dead wood
42			Gill	<i>Entoloma</i> sp.	Cap 30 mm across, fawn, planate with raised dark central spot; gills light fawn; stipe brownish grey, smooth, cartilaginous.	Soil and leaf litter
3			Gill	<i>Flammulina velutipes</i>	Usually grows in dense clusters. Caps orange, slimy; gills pale; stems of mature specimens covered in a dark brown, velvety layer. <b>See Fuhrer # 90; McCann p. 5.</b>	Trunk of <i>Cassinia</i> sp.
8			Gill	<i>Galerina patagonica</i>	Cap yellowish brown with slight umbo; gills yellow-brown; stem pale brown above the small ring, brown below. <b>See Fuhrer # 93 (as <i>Galerina unicolor</i>).</b>	Dead wood, mossy logs
7			Bracket	<i>Ganoderma australe</i>	'Artist's Conk'. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 390; McCann p.75.</b>	Eucalypt trunk
15			Jelly	<i>Heterotextus peziziformis</i>	'Yellow jelly bells'. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 451; McCann p.91.</b>	Dead wood
41			Gill	<i>Hypholoma</i> sp.	Cap dark brown. Resembles <i>Hypholoma brunneum</i> but has no fibrillose scales on cap surface.	Dead wood
2			Gill	<i>Laccaria</i> sp.	With contorted pinkish brown cap, pink gills with white bloom, and thick stem.	Ground and leaf

No	S	T	Type	Species	Description	Substrate
						litter near <i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>
19			Gill	<i>Laccaria</i> sp.	With reddish brown cap, pinkish brown gills with white bloom, and thin, dark stem.	Ground near <i>Acacia dealbata</i>
24			Disc	<i>Lachnum pteridophyllum</i>	Minute, gregarious yellow cup-shaped discs, about 0.5 mm across. <b>See Fuhrer # 504.</b>	Rachises of dead tree-fern fronds
43			Disc	<i>Lachnum</i> sp. (? <i>virgineum</i> )	Minute, gregarious white cup-shaped discs, larger than <i>L. pteridophyllum</i> ; cup inside pale lemon, smooth; outside white, covered with white hairs; stem downy with white hairs. <b>Cf. Fuhrer # 505.</b>	Dead wood
18			Slime mould	<i>Leocarpus fragilis</i>	<b>See Fuhrer # 547.</b>	Grass stem on dead eucalypt leaf
4			Puffball	<i>Lycoperdon pyriforme</i>	These specimens had lost their spiny, or warty, covering. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 330.</b>	Trunk of <i>Cassinia</i> sp.
27		T	Coral / club	<i>Macrotyphula ?juncea</i>	'Fairy Hair'. Tall stem-like fruit body; head white; stem pale brown. Small, young specimen. <b>See FDU p.80; Fuhrer # 312; McCann p.87.</b>	Ground – not obviously on plant material as expected
13			Gill	<i>Marasmius crinisequi</i>	'Horsehair Fungus'. Caps very small, pale brown, on long, thin, horsehair-like stems. <b>See McCann p.51.</b>	Twigs and leaf litter on ground
26			Disc	<i>Mollisia cinerea</i>	Small grey discs.	Dead wood
28			Disc	<i>Mollisia</i> sp. 'yellow stainer'	Small white discs that stain yellow when bruised. The yellow fades after a while.	Dead wood
25	1		Coral?	<i>Mucronella</i> sp. (or relative?)	Small, white fungus hanging on short stipe. Caespitose to gregarious. Rather than the typical long, tapered 'icicles', the fruit bodies are blunt and somewhat folded, like capsicum; surface was slightly pruinose. Spores smooth, pip-shaped, mean = 5.2 x 3.6 µm; L:B = 1.4. Cystidia are abundant, narrowly utriform (fusiform with subcapitate apex), often encrusted with crystals adhering to neck and/or apex, approx 50 x 10 µm. Basidia cylindrical to clavate, approx. 26 x 4 µm. Sterigmata up to 4 µm, 4-spored.	Very rotten dead wood, secluded under a log
46			Gill	<i>Mycena clarkeana</i>	Caps conical to bell-shaped, translucent-striate with grooved margin, pink with a mauve tinge, changing to brown with age. Grows in clusters. <b>See Fuhrer # 193; McCann p.53.</b>	Dead stump
50			Gill	<i>Panellus stipticus</i>	Light yellowish brown caps, dry on top, with a short lateral stem; the gills exude sticky milky latex. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 230; McCann p.57.</b>	Log
11			Gill	<i>Pholiota</i> sp.	Fruit-body yellowish; cap approx. 30 mm across; central stem covered in brown scales. Grows in tight clusters.	Buried rotting wood

No	S	T	Type	Species	Description	Substrate
10			Gill	<i>Pleurotus purpureoolivaceus</i>	Caps dark olive; gills grey. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer # 240; McCann p.57.</b>	Old log
39		T	Leather	<i>Podoserpula pusio</i>	'Pagoda fungus'. Both simple and complex (tiered) forms growing close together. <b>See FDU p.61; Fuhrer # 437; McCann p.66.</b>	Tree-fern trunk
31		T	Jelly	<i>Pseudohydnum gelatinosum</i>	'Toothed Jelly'. Brown to grey jelly brackets with spines on lower surface. <b>See FDU p.82; Fuhrer # 452; McCann p.91.</b>	On living eucalypt trunk
5			Gill	<i>Rhodocollybia</i> sp.	Cap light creamy brown; stipe light grey, smooth, widening toward base.	Ground under <i>Cassinia</i> sp.
34			Gill	<i>Rickenella</i> sp.	Some resembled <i>R. fibula</i> , but larger ones were brown. <b>Cf. Fungi Group CD; cf. Fuhrer # 250; cf. McCann p.58.</b>	Moss on ground
44		T	Gill	<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	'Splitgill'. Fan-shaped brackets, furry on top; beige gills are split lengthways. <b>See FDU p.57; Fuhrer # 261; McCann p.82.</b>	Rotting stump
29			Disc	<i>Scutellinia scutellata</i>	'Eyelash Fungus'. Small orange-brown discs with stiff brown hairs on the margin. <b>See Fuhrer # 528.</b>	Ground or rotting wood
20			Crust	<i>Steccherinum</i> sp.	White, toothed crust fungus. <b>Cf. Fuhrer # 378.</b>	Old log
49		T	Leather	<i>Stereum ostrea</i>	'Golden Curtain Crust'. <b>See FDU p.79; Fuhrer # 442; McCann p.84.</b>	Dead wood
6			Pore	<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	'Rainbow Fungus'. Thin fan-shaped brackets striped in various shades of brown, and with a pale margin. These specimens had water droplets on underside. <b>See Fungi Group CD; Fuhrer #424; McCann p.78.</b>	Mossy log
32		T	Jelly	<i>Tremella fuciformis</i>	'White Brain'. White, translucent, lobed jelly fungus. <b>See FDU p.83; Fuhrer # 457; McCann p.92.</b>	Log. Actually grows on another fungus that is on the wood.
14			Truffle	White truffle	Small, irregular shaped truffles, white inside and out.	Partly buried in ground
12			Truffle	<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp.	Small, orange, subglobose fruit-bodies exposed by Lyrebirds scratching for food. The inside is much paler and produces a milky latex when cut. <b>See Fuhrer # 371.</b>	Half buried in ground