

# The Fort Bushland

## April 2007 Notes - by John Lahey

The Bushcare Group met on Sunday 1 April for our fourth working bee. Again this was well attended and progress was made in clearing more of the exotic plants such as Jacaranda, Privet, Camphor laurel, Ochna and Duranta from the base of the bank near Fort Road. We also cleared Cat's Claw and Ochna on the central corridor so that there is now a cleared path from the Fort Road area through to Eddystone Road. This provides access to the central areas which are heavily infested with Cat's Claw. During this session we found a plant of Lignum-vitae or Yellow hollyhock (*Vitex lignum-vitae*) which had not previously been recorded as growing on the reserve.

The next working bee is on Sunday 6 May.

While working in the reserve a few days ago, I found this relic from a previous era. It is a heavy copper kettle, but very much the worse for wear. I couldn't find the lid or missing spout.



The drought is now starting to take its toll on many of the smaller plants and some trees. Some have died and many look severely stressed. Even the Cat's Claw has wilted badly but I'm sure it will recover if we ever get some rain. Unfortunately the Ochna seems to be completely unaffected. Very few plants have flowered this season.

One of the few trees which has flowered this month is the Foam Bark (*Jagera pseudorhus*). It is one of the more



common trees in the reserve and usually produces a good crop of fruit. It will be interesting to see if that happens this year. The bark of this tree contains a high concentration of saponin, a frothing

compound - hence the tree's common name. This was used by the Australian aborigines as a fish poison. .



In the January 2007 notes I listed all the vines I had found growing in the reserve. Since then I have found four additional vines or scrambling climbers. However I have not yet been able to identify one of these so I will only include three here.



**Caelospermum (*Caelospermum paniculatum*)**

Caelospermum is a vigorous woody climber with thick twining stems. The leaves are thick and glossy and about 10cm long by 5cm wide. It is easily identified by the conspicuous domatia which are visible on both sides of the leaves. They can be seen in the photo as raised lumps on either side of the central vein in the leaf.

The flowers are white, to about 8mm in diameter, with conspicuous orange stamens. They are borne in dense, fragrant clusters in the upper leaf axils. The fruit is a fleshy, purplish-black globular drupe about 8mm across.

**Wombat berry (*Eustrephus latifolius*)**

Wombat berry is a reasonably vigorous twining plant but may also occur as a scrambling ground cover. The leaves are lance-shaped to about 80 mm long and have conspicuous longitudinal veins. Flowers are about 15 mm diameter and occur in spring in the upper leaf axils. They are usually white or pale pink with very hairy petals. The flowers are followed by orange berries containing a number of shiny, black seeds. The fruits usually remain on the plant for many months. The leaves and growth habit are superficially similar to the Scrambling lily (*Geitonoplesium cymosum*) but can easily be differentiated by the raised ridges on the leaves and the yellow fruit (The Scrambling lily has black fruit).



**Large Staff Vine (*Celastrus subspicata*)**

This is a very vigorous, woody climber and the plant I found had a horizontal spread on the ground of about 7 metres and had climbed into the tree canopy. The leaves are simple and alternate, to about 14cm long by 7cm wide. The fragrant flowers are small and carried on hairy terminal panicles in summer. The yellow-orange fruit ripens from April to May and is eaten by birds.



In the last 15 years several botanists have surveyed the plant species to be found in the reserve. The first of these was conducted by Paul Grimshaw in 1993 for general interest. The second was undertaken by Mike Olsen in ~2001 as part of the environmental survey for the possible sale and residential redevelopment of the land. Last month Graham McDonald spent about three hours looking at a small part of the reserve. I have also identified some additional plants which were not recorded in any of these surveys

From these surveys I have compiled the following list of the native plant species which have been identified as growing in the Reserve. However because of the habitat degradation caused by the infestation of Cat's Claw creeper and Ochna, it cannot be assumed that all the plants found in 1993 are still growing here.

<b>Plant</b>	<b>Common name</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>ID</b>
<i>Acacia aulacocarpa</i>	Salwood	Tree	O
<i>Acacia complanata</i>	Flat-stemmed wattle	Tree	G,O
<i>Acacia concurrens</i>	Black wattle	Tree	G,O
<i>Acacia falcata</i>	Sickle wattle	Tree	G
<i>Acacia fimbriata</i>	Fringed wattle, Brisbane wattle	Tree	G,O
<i>Acacia leiocalyx</i> subsp. <i>leiocalyx</i>	Brisbane black wattle	Tree	G
<i>Acacia maidenii</i>	Maiden's wattle	Tree	G,O
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Australian Blackwood	Tree	O
<i>Acacia podalyriifolia</i>	Queensland silver wattle	Tree	G
<i>Acalypha nemorum</i>	Southern acalypha	Shrub	G
<i>Acronychia laevis</i>	Glossy acronychia	Tree	O
<i>Acronychia oblongifolia</i>	Common acronychia	Tree	G
<i>Acronychia pauciflora</i>	Soft acronychia	Tree	L
<i>Adiantum hispidulum</i>	Rough maidenhair fern	Fern	G,O
<i>Aegiceras corniculatum</i>	River mangrove	Tree	O
<i>Alchornia ilicifolia</i>	Native holly	Shrub	G,O
<i>Alectryon subdentatus</i>	Hard alectryon	Tree	M
<i>Alectryon tomentosus</i>	Hairy alectryon	Tree	O
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black she-oak	Tree	G,O
<i>Allocasuarina torulosa</i>	Forest she-oak	Tree	G
<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i>	Red ash	Tree	G,O
<i>Alstonia constricta</i>	Quinine bush	Shrub	O
<i>Alyxia rusCIFolia</i>	Chain fruit	Shrub	G,O
<i>Amyema congener</i>	Variable mistletoe	Mistletoe	O
<i>Angophora leiocarpa</i>	Smooth-barked apple	Tree	G,O
<i>Aphananthe philippinensis</i>	Rough-leaved elm	Tree	O
<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i> *	Bunya pine	Tree	O
<i>Araucaria cunninghamii</i>	Hoop pine	Tree	O
<i>Argyrodendron trifoliatum</i>	White booyong, Brown tulip oak	Tree	O
<i>Aristida benthamii</i>	Bentham's wiregrass	Grass	O
<i>Aristida calycina</i>	Dark wiregrass	Grass	O
<i>Arytera divaricata</i>	Rose tamarind	Tree	O
<i>Astrotricha latifolia</i> ( <i>A. floccosa</i> )		Shrub	G
<i>Austromyrtus</i> sp. ( <i>Brookfield</i> )		Tree	O
<i>Avicennia marina</i>	Grey mangrove	Tree	O
<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i>	Gristle fern	Fern	G
<i>Brachychiton acerifolius</i> *	Flame tree	Tree	L
<i>Breynia oblongifolia</i>	Native coffee bush	Bush	G
<i>Bridelia exaltata</i>	Brush ironbark	Tree	O
<i>Caelospermum paniculatum</i>	Caelospermum	Vine	L
<i>Canthium coprosmoides</i>	Coast canthium	Shrub	O
<i>Capparis arborea</i>	Brush caper berry	Shrub	O
<i>Capparis sarmentosa</i>	Scrambling caper	Vine	O
<i>Castanospermum australe</i>	Black bean	Tree	L
<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	Swamp oak	Tree	O
<i>Celastrus subspicata</i>	Large staff vine	Vine	G
<i>Chionanthus ramiflora</i>	Northern olive	Tree	L
<i>Cissus opaca</i>	Small-leaf water vine	Vine	G
<i>Cordyline rubra</i>	Red-fruited palm lily	Shrub	G
<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>	Lemon-scented gum	Tree	O
<i>Corymbia intermedia</i>	Pink bloodwood	Tree	O
<i>Corymbia torelliana</i> *	Cadaghi	Tree	O
<i>Corymbia trachyphloia</i>	Brown bloodwood	Tree	O
<i>Croton insularis</i>	Silver croton	Tree	O
<i>Croton verreauxii</i>	Native cascarilla	Shrub	L
<i>Cryptocarya glaucescens</i>	Jackwood, native laurel	Tree	O
<i>Cryptocarya</i> sp.		Tree	L



<i>Cryptocarya</i> sp. Worlds End Pocket	Totem Pole	Tree	L
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo	Tree	O
<i>Cupaniopsis parvifolia</i>	Small-leaved tuckeroo	Tree	G
<i>Cymbopogon refractus</i>	Barb-wire grass	Grass	G,O
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Couch grass	Grass	O
<i>Cyperus gracilis</i>	Slender Flat-sedge	Sedge	O
<i>Daviesia villifefa</i>	Prickly bitter pea	Shrub	G
<i>Decaspermum humile</i>	Silky myrtle	Tree	O
<i>Denhamia celastroides</i>	Denhamia	Tree	O
<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Flax lily	Herb	O
<i>Dianella longifolia</i>	Flax lily	Herb	O
<i>Diospyros fasciculosa</i>	Grey ebony	Tree	M
<i>Diospyros geminata</i>	Scaly ebony	Tree	G,O
<i>Diploglottis australis</i>	Native tamarind	Tree	L
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	Sticky hop bush	Shrub	O
<i>Doodia aspera</i>	Prickly rasp fern	Fern	O
<i>Doodia caudata</i>	Small rasp fern	Fern	O
<i>Doodia media</i>	Common rasp fern	Fern	O
<i>Drypetes deplanchei</i>	Yellow tulip	Tree	O
<i>Elaeocarpus obovatus</i>	Hard quandong	Tree	L
<i>Elattostachys xylocarpa</i>	White tamarind	Tree	M
<i>Embelia australiana</i>	Embelia	Vine	G,O
<i>Entolasia stricta</i>	Wiry panic	Grass	O
<i>Eragrostis parviflora</i>	Weeping lovegrass	Grass	O
<i>Eriachne pallescens</i>		Grass	O
<i>Eucalyptus acmenoides</i>	White mahogany	Tree	O
<i>Eucalyptus carnea</i>	Broad-leaved white mahogany	Tree	G,O
<i>Eucalyptus fibrosa</i>	Broad-leaved ironbark	Tree	G,O
<i>Eucalyptus henryi</i>	Large-leaved spotted gum	Tree	G
<i>Eucalyptus major</i>	Grey gum	Tree	G,O
<i>Eucalyptus nigra</i>	Queensland white stringybark	Tree	G
<i>Eucalyptus propinqua</i>	Small-fruited grey gum	Tree	M
<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i>	Grey ironbark	Tree	G,O
<i>Eucalyptus trachyphloia</i>	Brown bloodwood	Tree	G
<i>Eustrephus latifolius</i>	Wombat berry	Vine	O
<i>Everistia vacciniifolia</i> var. <i>nervosa</i>	Small-leaved canthium	Shrub	L
<i>Excoecaria agallocha</i>	Milky mangrove	Tree	O
<i>Ficus fraseri</i>	Sandpaper fig	Tree	L
<i>Ficus obliqua</i>	Small-leaved strangling fig	Tree	O
<i>Flindersia australis</i>	Crow's ash	Tree	O
<i>Flindersia bennettiana</i>	Bennett's ash	Tree	G
<i>Flindersia collina</i>	Leopard ash	Tree	O
<i>Flindersia schottiana</i>	Cudgerie, Bumpy ash	Tree	G,O
<i>Flindersia xanthoxyla</i>	Long jack	Tree	O
<i>Gahnia aspera</i>	Sawsedge	Herb	O
<i>Geitonoplesium cymosum</i>	Scrambling lily	Vine	O
<i>Geodorum neocaledonicum</i>	Pink nodding orchid	Herb	G
<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>	Cheesewood	Tree	G
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky oak	Tree	L
<i>Guioa semiglauca</i>	Guioa	Tree	G
<i>Hibiscus heterophyllus</i>	Native rosella	Shrub	G,O
<i>Hippocratea barbata</i>	Knot vine	Vine	L
<i>Hovea acutifolia</i>	Pointed-leaf hovea	Shrub	G,O
<i>Hypserpa decumbens</i>		Vine	O
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Blady grass	Grass	G,O
<i>Jacksonia scoparia</i>	Dogwood	Shrub	G,O
<i>Jagera pseudorhus</i>	Foam bark	Tree	O
<i>Jasminum simplicifolium</i> subsp. <i>australiense</i>	Stiff jasmine	Vine	L
<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	Variable sword sedge	Herb	O
<i>Leucopogon juniperinus</i>	Prickly Beard-heath	Ground	O
<i>Lomandra confertifolia</i>	Mat-rush	Herb	O
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed mat-rush	Herb	O
<i>Lomandra multiflora</i>	Many-flowered mat-rush	Herb	O
<i>Lomandra spicata</i>	Mat-rush	Herb	O
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush box	Tree	G,O

<i>Maclura cochinchinensis</i>	Cockspur thorn	Vine	O
<i>Mallotus claoxyloides</i>	Green kamala, Smell-of-the-bush	Shrub	O
<i>Mallotus philippensis</i>	Red kamala	Tree	G,O
<i>Marsdenia rostrata</i>	Common milk vine	Vine	O
<i>Maytenus bilocularis</i>	Orange bark	Tree	G
<i>Maytenus disperma</i>	Orange bush	Tree	O
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White cedar	Tree	O
<i>Mischocarpus pyriformis</i>	Yellow pear-fruit	Tree	O
<i>Myrsine variabilis</i>	Muttonwood	Tree	L
<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	Sword fern, Fishbone fern	Fern	G
<i>Notelaea longifolia</i>	Large mock olive	Tree	G,O
<i>Notelaea longifolia forma glabra</i>	Long-leaved mock olive	Tree	L
<i>Notothixos cornifolius</i>	Kurrajong mistletoe	Mistletoe	L
<i>Olea paniculata</i>	Native Olive	Tree	O
<i>Oplismenus hirtellus</i>		Grass	O
<i>Ottochloa gracillima</i>	Shade grass	Grass	O
<i>Owenia venosa</i>	Crow's apple, Rose almond, Rose apple	Tree	L
<i>Pandorea sp. Ipswich K.A.Williams 86020</i>	Wonga wonga vine	Vine	L
<i>Parsonsia straminea</i>	Common silkpod, Monkey rope vine	Vine	G,O
<i>Pellaea paradoxa</i>		Fern	O
<i>Pittosporum multiflorum</i>	Orange thorn	Shrub	O
<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>	Hairy pittosporum	Tree	G,O
<i>Platycterium bifurcatum</i>	Elkhorn fern	Fern	O
<i>Pleogyne australis</i>	Pleogyne	Vine	O
<i>Podocarpus elatus</i>	Plum pine, Brown pine	Tree	O
<i>Polyscias elegans</i>	Celerywood, Silver basswood	Tree	G,O
<i>Pouteria chartacea</i>	Thin-leaved coondoo	Tree	L
<i>Pouteria pohlmaniana</i>	Yellow boxwood	Tree	O
<i>Pseuderanthemum variabile</i>	Love Flower	Herb	L
<i>Psyrax odorata form buxifolia</i>	Stiff canthium	Shrub	O
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Bracken fern	Fern	G
<i>Pultenaea euchila</i>	Orange pultenaea	Shrub	G
<i>Pultenaea petiolaris</i>	Bush pea	Shrub	O
<i>Rhodosphaera rhodanthema</i>	Tulip satinwood	Tree	O
<i>Schefflera actinophylla *</i>	Umbrella tree	Tree	O
<i>Sida cordifolia</i>		Herb	O
<i>Siphonodon australis</i>	Ivorywood	Tree	L
<i>Smilax australis</i>	Barbwire vine	Vine	G,O
<i>Solanum densevestitum</i>	Felty nightshade	Shrub	O
<i>Tabernaemontana pandacaqui</i>	Banana bush	Shrub	L
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo grass	Grass	G,O
<i>Tinospora smilacina</i>	Snake vine	Vine	O
<i>Toechima tenax</i>	Pitted-leaf steelwood	Tree	O
<i>Trema tomentosa var. viridis</i>	Poison peach bush	Shrub	G
<i>Trophis scandens</i>	Burnie vine	Vine	O
<i>Vitex lignum-vitae</i>	Lignum-vitae, Yellow hollywood	Tree	L
<i>Wilkiea huegeliana</i>	Veiny wilkiea	Tree	L
<i>Xanthorrhoea johnsonii</i>	Grass tree	Shrub	O
<i>Xanthorrhoea latifolia</i>	Grass tree	Shrub	G

Legend: ID G = Paul Grimshaw, O = Mike Olsen, M = Graham McDonald, L = John Lahey

\* These plants are not indigenous to this area. They may need to be eradicated as weeds.

Vine includes scrambling climbers