

HFNC Excursion to Grampians Browns Creek Waterworks Track 24 July 1965

Margaret Corrick

Fourteen members attended, leaving town at 9.15, via Henty Highway to Sherwood turnoff and then left up the Waterworks Track to an intake pond 2.5 miles north of Browns Creek.

Before lunch the party walked up the creek for an hour and onto a slight rise. The ground cover was thick and varied; it appeared to be a good many years since it had been touched by fire. The vegetation was very similar to the area around Browns Creek.

A fern, *Gleichenia circinnata* [*G. dicarpa* – Pouched Coral-fern] and a Shrub Violet (possibly a *Hybanthus* sp.) which we found do not appear on Cliff Beaglehole's list for the area.

After lunch we climbed a rocky outcrop on the northern side of the intake pond. This gave us a splendid view up the valley and also a quite extensive view to the west.

We found a great variety of mosses and lichens on the rocks and several species of *Drosera* [Sundews]. Also two orchids in flower: *Pterostylis longifolia* [*P. melagramma* – Tall or Black-striped Greenhood] and a *Corybas* sp. [Helmet Orchid].

We then joined Murray Gunn who was bird-banding on the **Browns Creek** flats. Members were interested to see several birds at close quarters, including Crimson Rosella, Blue Wren, Brown Thornbill and Eastern Yellow Robin.

[Flora photographs in the Browns Creek area by Lionel Elmore on 21 Nov. 1964 are shown below]:



Eucalyptus alaticaulis LE



Thelymitra benthamiana LE



Clematis aristata LE



Todea barbata LE



Davesia brevifolia LE