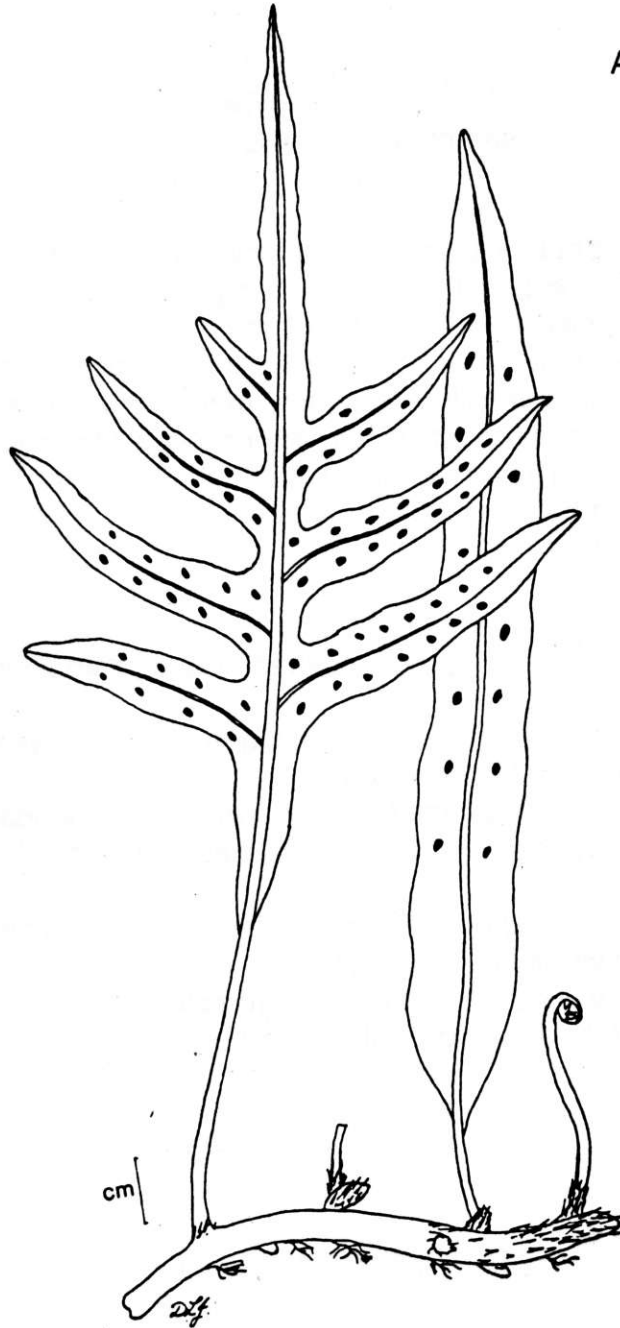




# ***EUCRYPHIA***

NUMBER 16

APRIL, 1994.



Kangaroo Fern

*Microsorium diversifolium*, a common fern on trees and rocks in local rainforests.

## NOTICE OF MEETING

Friday, 8th April, 1994. 7.30 pm

Robertson Community Centre

A talk about  
**THE EFFECTS OF BUSHFIRES**

will be given by  
 Professor Rob Whelan,  
 Head of Biological Sciences,  
 University of Wollongong

The 1994 fires in New South Wales have focussed attention on the need to protect human life and property, especially in urban fringe areas. There is a danger, once again, that broad-scale hazard-reduction burning will be seen as the simple "fix" for this situation. What might be the effects of frequent burning on populations of native animals and plants? This talk will review how much we know and don't yet know about the effects of hazard-reduction burning on plant and animal populations in the Wollongong region. The professor will also talk briefly about the types of studies that still need to be conducted, and how anyone can contribute to this vital body of information on fire effects.

Professor Whelan has conducted studies on:

- \* The effects of fire in the Western Australian Sandplain (University of Western Australia),
- \* Plant herbivore interactions: slug grazing in North Wales woodlands (University College of North Wales),
- \* Effects of fire on longleaf pine forests (University of Florida),
- \* Pollination ecology, especially marsupials as pollinators (University of Wollongong)
- \* Fire ecology, focussing on the effects of fires on animal and plant populations (University of Wollongong)
- \* Industrial ecology, examining ways of afforesting industrial waste emplacements (University of Wollongong).

ALL WELCOME  
 SUPPER PROVIDED

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**BUSINESS MEETING**  
 Friday, 13th May 7.30 pm  
 Robertson Community Centre  
 All members welcome.

## ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

## ROBERTSON NATURE RESERVE -

Wednesday, 6th April.

Wednesday, 4th May.

Wednesday, 1st June.

Join Helen at 10.00 am to remove unwanted weeds. Stay for an hour or two. Learn to identify the rainforest plants and help with the weeding at the same time.

## GENERAL MEETING

Friday, 10th June 7.30 pm

Ferns - a talk by Peter Hind from the Sydney Botanic Gardens.

All welcome. Supper will be served.

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 REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE

Robertson Show: Thanks to all who helped. Comments on our display which explained the kinds of plastic which can and cannot be recycled indicate that a lot more education is needed on this subject. Robyn Williams printed some very good signs and we will encourage Council to put these up at recycling bays.

National Landcare Program: Our application has been posted. Six members of REPS are taking part, with plans to fence off rainforest on their properties, plant additional trees and hold field days. We will know in July whether we have been successful.

REPS is now a member of Greening Australia ACT and SE NSW. With our membership we received an interesting book on planting trees in the Southern Highlands which will be available from our library.

Trees for Revegetation: Trees grown from local seed are needed by REPS for its various projects and by others who are doing regeneration work. The Committee decided that members of REPS who are willing to grow trees for the Society could be reimbursed for the materials they use or these might be bought in bulk and supplied to them. If you are interested in taking part in this scheme let Steve Douglas or any of the Committee know.

Robertson Nature Reserve: Unfortunately the vandalism on signs and certain plants continues in the Nature Reserve. As it generally takes the same form each time, we suspect it is one person or one group that is doing it each time. NPWS at Fitzroy Falls would welcome any information.

Caalang Creek Park: The trees are looking good and this year will see more planting and weed removal in co-operation with the Council. The Streamwatch Program will get under way, probably in May. A training day will be held when members can learn how to do the water quality tests.

The Committee is looking at the idea of a simple badge for REPS members.

Creative Village: The application through Council for inclusion in their NSW Arts Council Creative Village Program was unsuccessful. Only three villages are chosen each year. We might try again at the end of this year. Would some members like to form a sub-committee for this?

Council Heritage Study will be released at Harper's Mansion, Berrima on 23rd April. This long awaited event is open to the public and concerns the whole of Wingecarribee.

Robertson Railway Station: OHS, who have leased the land, will hold a meeting on 27th April at the School of Arts to discuss the proposed developments. Everyone is encouraged to come along and see what is planned.

An Upper Nepean Sub-Catchment Management Committee is to be set up following those for the Upper Shoalhaven and the Wollondilly. This means that all the REPS area will have Total Catchment Management (TCM) Committees we can work with on environment protection.

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## MEMBERSHIP

You are invited to become a member of REPS. Public meetings, open to all, will be held in the Community Centre at 7.30 pm on the second Friday of April, June, August, October and December. Business Meetings, to which members are welcome, will be held on the second Friday of May, July and September. The November meeting will be the AGM. Please contact the Secretary, PO Box 45, Robertson 2577.

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*Eucryphia*, the journal of the Robertson Environment Protection Society, is named after a beautiful local rainforest tree, the leaves of which form our logo. Editor: Allan Stiles.

The serialised article by Anders Bofeldt on rare plants will be continued in the next issue.

The drawing on the cover is from *Australian Ferns and Fern Allies* by D.L.Jones and S.C.Clemesha and is used with permission and thanks.