

## PORT CAMPBELL CAMP-OUT

Highlights of the W.V.F.N.C. are the camp-outs, none more so than the Autumn camp-out, this year at Port Campbell.

We arrived at the Guide House on the Sherbrooke River on Friday night, then to Port Campbell for the dance and supper, then home. With perfect weather for the week-end we started with an early morning ramble along the coast. In the coastal heaths were many honey-eaters and other small birds, and also two wallabies. A visit to the Bay of Islands and a spot of beach-combing, then to Clifton where the cliffs have collapsed, followed by another beach-walk to the mud cliffs to see several fossil sea-shells.

In the evening some of us visited Melba Gully to see the glow-worms which really are the larvae of fly-like insects called fungus gnats. This is a fantastic sight on the banks of the creek and elsewhere. There are thousands of tiny bluish lights which "go out" if the worm is disturbed in any way. Then back to Port Campbell, some very interesting slides, and supper.

Sunday saw us off to Melba Gully and its beech trees, blackwoods, and further up, messmates, all shading a riot of small trees and some of our most beautiful ferns.

Lunch followed, and we said our farewells to the stirring sound of bagpipes.

Our thanks to our hosts, the Timboon Club for a job well done.

Lindsay Fink.

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## BRISBANE RANGES OUTING

On a lovely sunny Saturday afternoon a small group of us went to the Brisbane Ranges in search of Autumn orchids. Due to the dry conditions the orchids were not numerous and were very small.

The autumn greenhood *Pterostylis revoluta*, the dwarf greenhood *P. nana*, and the autumn bird-orchid *Chiloglottis reflexa* were sighted along Track 21. Birds seen included numerous crimson rosellas, several honeyeaters, and a pair of powerful owls which made our day. There was also a koala in a black wattle.





Fink, Lyndsay. 1980. "Campout – Port Campbell." *The Ballarat Naturalist* 6–6.

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