



Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Strickland Avenue to Middle Island Fire Trail Fungi Foray

16th August 2013

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Participants: Elizabeth Bicevskis (author), Annabel Carle, Geoff Carle, Genevieve Gates, Carolyn Hall-Jones and Margaret Warren.

Wearing full wet weather gear we gathered on a cold windy morning at Bus Stop 3, Strickland Avenue South Hobart. There had been another night of soaking rain and fresh snowfalls on Mt. Wellington and morning showers were forecast.

The plan was to survey an unmarked track starting opposite Bus Stop 35 and the southern end of the Middle Island Fire Trail (MIFT). The northern-most end of the MIFT, entered from Old Farm Road had been surveyed the previous Monday.

Ahead was a gradual climb on a muddy track up a ridge through wet sclerophyll forest. The dominant eucalypts were *Eucalyptus globulus* (Tasmanian Blue gum), and *Eucalyptus obliqua* (Stringybark). The open canopy allowed development of a scrubby understorey of *Bedfordia salicina* (Tasmanian Blanket Bush), *Coprosma quadrifida* (Prickly Currant Bush), *Olearia argophylla* (Musk Daisybush), *Pomaderris apetala* (Common Dogwood), and *Zieria arborescens* (Stinkwood).

On the unmarked track we passed many small troops of *Coprinellus disseminatus*, the emerging caps creamy yellow becoming grey when expanded. *Anthracoephyllum archeri* was in abundance, colonising dead branches and twigs beside the track. A bright orange group of *Cantharellus concinnus* appearing late in the season shone through the bush, while nearby was *Mycena kurramulla* with pink cap and arched decurrent gills with pink edging, as well as *Pholiota multicingulata* with a large mature cap marked faintly with scales and a dark red stipe. There were many LBF (little brown fungi), some of which we were surprised to learn were *Cortinarius* sp., including one specimen with a dark brown and very prominent umbo. The wind blew strongly through the tree tops and a noisy flock of Sulphur-crested Cockatoos passed overhead.



Cantharellus concinnus. Photo Geoff Carle

Arriving at the MIFT we were concerned to see many tall stands of flowering *Erica lusitanica* (Spanish Heath) invading the native vegetation. Spanish Heath is a declared weed in Tasmania. We walked north along the MIFT to its junction with the Inglewood Fire Trail and stopped for morning tea under a Blue Gum. Above head height on the trunk of this large tree was a single small brownish yellow cap with similar coloured gills and little or no stipe. This was identified as *Crepidotus eucalyptorum*. We were excited to learn that this was only the second time this species had been identified on Mt. Wellington. Under a Stringybark nearby in damp litter was a single *Leotia lubrica* and three young *Cortinarius rotundisporus* with deep indigo-blue viscid caps and pale lilac gills.

During our return to Bus Stop 35, an *Entoloma* sp. with dark shiny stipe, basal tomentum and pink flushed gills was observed growing on disturbed ground. Nearby, an extensive colony of *Marasmiellus affixus* was growing on the

trunk of a large Stringybark. The distinctive creamy discolouration caused by mycelium prior to the appearance of fruit bodies was present. A small fungus with a big smell!

Species List:

Basidiomycetes.

Fungi with simple gills: *Anthracoxyllum archeri*, *Cantharellus concinnus*, *Clitocybe clitocyboides*, *Collybia eucalyptorum*, *Coprinellus disseminatus*, *Cortinarius rotundisporus*, *Crepidotus eucalyptorum*, *Entoloma* sp., *Galerina patagonica*, *Gymnopilus* sp., *Hypholoma fasciculare*, *Inocybe* sp., *Laccaria* sp., *Lactarius eucalypti*, *Marasmiellus affixus*, *Melanotus hepatochrous*, *Mycena carmeliana*, *Mycena kurramulla*, *Panellus stipticus*, *Pholiota multicingulata*.

Coral fungi: *Clavulina cristata*.

Spine fungi: *Hydnum repandum*, *Steccherinum* sp.

Woody Pore-fungi: *Polyporus melanopus*.

Leathery Shelf Fungi: *Byssomerulius corium*, *Stereum illudens*, *Trametes versicolour*

Jelly Fungi: *Tremella fuciformis*.

Ascomycetes:

Bisporella citrina, *Chlorociboria aeruginascens*, *Daldinia grandis*, *Leotia lubrica*, *Urnula campylospora*.

A total of thirty four species were recorded on the day and of these six were Fungimap Target Species:

Anthracoxyllum archeri, *Cortinarius rotundisporus*, *Hydnum repandum*, *Leotia lubrica*, *Tremella fuciformis*, *Urnula campylospora*.