



# Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club Inc.

Peter Murrell Reserve (PMR) Forays,

15th & 17th July 2013

*Elizabeth Bicevskis*

Participants.

Day 1: Elizabeth Bicevskis (author), Geoff Carle, Christine Fitzgerald, Beth Heap, Margaret Warren.

Day 2: Geoff Carle, Genevieve Gates, Beth Heap.

## Field Report Day 1.

The group gathered in the Huntingfield Avenue entrance car park for our first foray of the season at PMR. The weather was fine, cold and overcast, with no breeze, but we knew the forecast was for rain later. It had been just one year since the group had first visited PMR, and we were on a mission to find and photograph what had been identified last year as *Humidicutis arcohastata*. We were also on the lookout for tiny *Nidula emodensis* (Bird's-nest Fungi) which had been spotted so cleverly by Margaret on 2nd July 2012, camouflaged amongst the leaf litter beside Coffee Creek Track.

The vegetation in the area we were to cover is primarily *Eucalyptus amygdalina* (black peppermint) and *Eucalyptus viminalis* (white gum) woodland, with a bracken and heath understorey.



*Cortinarius rotundisporus*. Photo Beth Heap

The day began by searching for *H.arcohastata* in the same area as last year. A small pink chewed cap and stem were observed, and after some intense searching through dense wet bracken in the vicinity, a small, blackish, immature fungus was spotted beside an old, frayed, pale brown fruiting body lying on the ground. Was this what we were looking for? Many photos were taken with the plan being for group members to monitor the fungus until it is mature enough for identification purposes.

We continued walking at a mycological pace along Coffee Creek Track, and off track as well, until branching off in an easterly direction to follow Line A, a taped pad along which the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club sets traps to monitor invertebrates and mammals. The photographers amongst us were hard at work recording what we were finding along the way. One delightful find was a colony of *Cortinarius archeri* at all stages of development, gleaming like purple jewels on the forest floor. Some were growing singly, others in tight clusters. With the aid of our mirrors we could observe the underside of the fungi. We could see younger fungi with partial veils still intact and covering the immature gills, the more mature fungi with mauve gills tinged with rusty brown and the remains of the cortina trapping rusty brown spores, and the older fungi with brown gills. Our lunchtime choraleists were Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos, no doubt forewarning a change in weather.

We continued further along Line A, until the rain came and we retreated to Coffee Creek Track, planning to return to the cars, until Christine remembered that she wanted to check if *Cortinarius rotundisporus* had returned to where it had been last year. Christine led us to the side of the track, near Heron Pond, where *C. rotundisporus*



*Nidula emodensis* – Bird's nest fungi

Photo Geoff Carle

could be seen singly and in clusters from the track to 10 metres within the bush. The deep blue slimy caps with yellow umbo had pale lavender to rusty brown gills depending on age. There were masses of white mycelium at the bases of the stems.

And, yes, Geoff found and photographed *N. emodensis*.

### **Species List: Day 1 and Day 2**

#### **Basidiomycetes:**

Fungi with gills: *Collybia eucalyptorum*, *Cortinarius archeri*, *Cortinarius austroalbidus*, *Cortinarius archeri*, *Cortinarius cystidiocatenatus*, *Cortinarius rotundisporus*, *Cortinarius* 2 spp., *Crepidotus variabilis*, *Crepidotus 'orange'*, *Dermocybe aff clelandii*, *Descolea recedens*, *Entoloma amarum*, *Entoloma austrorhodocalyx*, *Hebeloma kammala*, *Hohenbuehelia* sp., *Laccaria* sp., *Lactarius eucalypti*, *Leucopaxillus eucalyptorum*, *Lepista nuda*, *Marasmiellus* sp., *Mycena albidocapillaris*, *Mycena austrofilopes*, *Mycena carmeliana*, *Mycena aff.eipterygia*, *Mycena kuurkacea*, *Mycena subvulgaris*, *Mycena vinacea*, *Psathyrella echinata*, *Psilocybe hepatochrous*= *Melanotus hepatochrous*, *Resupinatus subapplicatus*, *Russula persanguinea*, *Russula* sp., *Rickenella fibula*, *Tricholoma* sp.

Coral fungi: *Clavaria amoena*, *Clavaria* sp., *Ramaria* sp.

Hard-skinned puffballs: *Scleroderma cepa*.

Spine fungi: *Steccherinum ochraceum*.

Woody pore-fungi: *Polyporus melanopus*

Bracket fungi: *Fomitiporia robusta*, *Ganoderma asutrale*.

Leathery Shelf Fungi: *Byssomerulius corium*, *Stereum hirsutum*, *Stereum illudens*, *Stereum ostrea*.

Jelly Fungi: *Heterotextus peziziformis*, *Tremella fuciformis*, *Tremella mesenterica*.

Corticoid Fungi: *Peniophora cinerea*, Corticoid 'jelly'

#### **Ascomycetes:**

Cup fungi: *Aleurina ferruginea*, *Discinella terrestris*.

A total of fifty three fungi that could be identified to genus and sometimes species level were recorded over both days. Corticoid 'jelly' is awaiting classification.

Six were Fungimap Target Species: *Cortinarius austroalbidus*, *Cortinarius rotundisporus*, *Stereum hirsutum*, *Stereum ostrea*, *Tremella fuciformis*, and *Tremella mesenterica*.