

**THE QUEENSLAND MYCOLOGIST**

**Bulletin of  
The Queensland Mycological Society Inc.**

The Queensland Mycologist is issued quarterly. Members are invited to submit articles for publication (limit 200 words) to the editor. The deadline for contributions for the next issue is 1 May 2008.

Please ensure that the Secretary ([fungiqld@yahoo.com.au](mailto:fungiqld@yahoo.com.au)) always has your current email address. If you are on the mailing list but do not wish to receive future issues, please contact the Secretary to have your name removed from the email address list.

**Annual Subscription \$20. Members are reminded that 2008 subscriptions are due. Payment can be made by cheque mailed to the Treasurer, Queensland Mycological Society Inc., PO Box 295, Indooroopilly Qld 4068 or directly to the Treasurer at the next meeting. *Please note the change of postal address.***

**QMS CALENDAR**

**Meetings are held in the Bailey Room at the Herbarium, Mt Coot-tha, commencing at 7pm on the second Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise scheduled. Field trips are scheduled for the Saturday preceding the monthly meeting.**

**Field Trip: 5 April 2008.** Linda Garrett Park, Mapleton. Leader Patrick Leonard Ph 5456 4135 or 0403 592956

**General Meeting: 8 April 2008.** Presentation by Patrick Leonard "Fungi of New Zealand".  
Supper roster: Floss Wainwright & Ken Cowell

**Field Trip: 2 to 4 May 2008. Springbrook National Park.** Leaders Nigel Fechner with Diana Leemon

**Field Trip: 10 May 2008. Chermshire Hills.** Leader John Wrench Ph 3256 3310.

**General Meeting: 13 May 2008.** Presentation by Nigel Fechner

**Field Trip: 7 June 2008. Cunningham's Gap vicinity or Mount Mee.** Leader Klaus Querengasser Ph 3271 2510

**General Meeting: 9 June 2008,** Annual General Meeting and Election of 2008/9 Office Bearers.  
Guest speaker Joan Cribb.

**Field Trip: 5 July 2008. Venue to be decided.** Leader Ken Cowell Ph 3965 5304

**General Meeting: 8 July 2008.**

**Workshop 9 August 2008: Identification and microscopy.** Presenter Diana Leemon Ph 3202 8809

**General Meeting: 12 August 2008.**

**Field Trip 6 September 2008. Mt Hobwee, Lamington.** Leader Dr Tony Young

## MEETING SUPPER ROSTER

Supper time provides an ideal opportunity for members to informally chat about fungi. James Hansen has accepted responsibility for organising the supper roster and is in need of volunteers so please offer him your assistance. James can be contacted on 3263 2254.

## CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
QMS Calendar	1
Meeting Supper Roster	2
QMS Website	2
QMS Field Trip Programme in detail	3
Field Trip Reports	5
Find of the Field Trip	6
Fascinating Fungi:	
<i>Microglossum viride</i> (Green Earth Tongue) on Binna	6
Burra Walk by Fran Guard	
Fungi Around Moggill by Ray & Noreen Baxter	7
Summary of QMS Meetings	7
Email from Stacey McLean BCC	8
Office Bearers	9
Sponsor Acknowledgement	9

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## QMS WEBSITE: [www.qms.asn.au](http://www.qms.asn.au)

Have you logged onto the QMS website. It is up and running. Yes it does need some more work. It also needs ideas on further development from the QMS members. Please chat with Diana Leemon or any of the Committee members about any ideas you may have.



*Cartoon sent to Diana Leemon by Ian Bell*

## QMS FIELD TRIP PROGRAMME

*Please note: If the meeting date is changed then so will the field trip date. If you are unsure of a field trip date, or have nominated for a field trip and cannot attend please contact the field trip leader.*

Jon Atkinson Ph 3861 1738, mobile 0401 283148 (email [buildingbistro@hotmail.com](mailto:buildingbistro@hotmail.com)) is the QMS Committee member responsible for the Field Trip programme. All members are invited to consider leading a Field Trip or attending a Field Trip. If any member wishes to attend any of the field trips below, please contact either the trip leader or Jon Atkinson:

**5 April 2008 Linda Garrett Park Mapleton.** Leader Patrick Leonard Phone 07 5456 4135 email [patbrenda.leonard@bigpond.com](mailto:patbrenda.leonard@bigpond.com).

Leader notes advise that a normal walking track will be followed. **Meet 0900 at Mapleton Pub car park** which is approximately 2 hours drive from Brisbane. The last km of access road to the starting point at Linda Garrett Park is unsealed. Time in field will be about 3 hours.

From Mapleton Pub take the Obi Road and soon turn right into Delicia Road. This is a wet sclerophyll forest. Coming from Brisbane this trip, including travel time, will take most of the day so it is suggested that attendees bring their lunch as well as morning tea.

**2 to 4 May 2008 Springbrook National Park.** Leaders Nigel Fechner with Diana Leemon Ph 3202 8809 email [diana.leemon@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:diana.leemon@dpi.qld.gov.au). Diana Leemon is not available until after 12 April so contact Jon Atkinson to book for the weekend.

Leader notes on trip: This will be a preliminary “survey” of sites in Springbrook to decide upon future project work. The week-end camp cost will be \$20 per person per night (2 nights = \$40 pp) excluding food.

Focus: This will be a “look see” on which we can base our planning for any future involvement in the Springbrook rainforest recovery project.

We will collect and ID interesting specimens and note the abundance of more well known species for our QMS records.

I see this trip as an opportunity to go to Springbrook, stay in moderately priced accommodation in the forest and carry out an informal survey of what is there in different sites. Of course a review of what we have seen each day needs to take place at night while consuming wine and cheese. The sites to look at will be decided primarily from the suggestions of Aila Keto and advice from Nigel. Aila Keto is involved with the Australian Rainforest Conservation Society (ARCS) - [www.rainforest.org.au](http://www.rainforest.org.au) - who are involved in a unique project looking at rainforest recovery in the Springbrook section of the Lamington Plateau.

The government, with suggestions from ARCS have been buying up private properties in this area with the aim to bring them into the already existing areas of national park. This means the new areas will have to undergo a recovery process to be returned to the same state as the already existing rainforest. The project that Aila envisions will be looking at various ways of speeding up the recovery process and being able to evaluate this by recording as many aspects of it as possible through a very sophisticated monitoring processes. The monitoring will take in all aspects of the environment both abiotic and biotic. ARCS hope to work with groups representing different parts of the biotic environment eg. bird groups, frog groups etc.

In this I see an opportunity for the involvement of QMS well into the future. Fungi as we know (but as many in ecosystems' research fail to know) are an important part of any healthy environment, nowhere more so than in a rainforest ecosystem where they are driving the recycling vital to these systems. Aila is very keen for our involvement. I see this as something that can give us a focus to carry out meaningful survey work in the context of a much larger project. It gives us an umbrella under which we could seek environmental funding as well. However, the first step is to go there and look at a few sites, make a few notes and then sit down and discuss what we can achieve that fits with the aims of the Springbrook Recovery project and the objectives of QMS, but is within the capability of our membership.

**10 May 2008 Chermside Hills.** Leader John Wrench email [win\\_john@bigpond.net.au](mailto:win_john@bigpond.net.au) Ph 3256 3310. Leader notes advise that the terrain will be undulating along a formed track with some off track walking following gullies. Numbers will be limited to 15. **Meeting point is the NW park entrance off Althorp Rd (off Beckett Rd).** **The sign-on time is 8:00.** Time in Field will be 2 to 3 hours.

The circuit will be east of January's foray through heath vegetation and open Eucalypt forest. John is interested in visiting the Chermside hills under different times of year to detect differences and is keen to hunt for Ramaria species for Nigel Fechner's research.

**7 June 2008 Cunninghams Gap vicinity or Mount Mee.** Leader Klaus Querengasser Ph 3271 2510 email [klaus.querengasser@uqconnect.net](mailto:klaus.querengasser@uqconnect.net).

**5 July 2008 Venue to be decided.** Leader Ken Cowell email [Ken48@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Ken48@optusnet.com.au) Ph 3965 5304

**9 August 2008 Identification and Microscopy Workshop.** Presenter Diana Leemon Ph 3202 8809 email [diana.leemon@dpi.qld.gov.au](mailto:diana.leemon@dpi.qld.gov.au).

**6 September 2008 Mt Hobwee Lamington.** Leader Dr Tony Young. Leader's note: The single species we want to find is ONLY to be found at that time, and no more collections of it are needed, although I will probably take a reference sample if required. The idea will be to bring cameras and enjoy a day out. It is ALL on Lamington NP trails, so it is not a bush bashing exercise. If you can walk 20km over a full day over graded paths you will be fine. It needs only comfortable foot wear, hat, shorts or slacks, light jumper and raincoat, torch, camera and lunch pack according to requirements of person. Water will have to be carried. I'd expect to be out at Hobwee well and truly by about midday and even after an hour for lunch and looking at the fungi, we'd be back somewhere between three and four pm. It's a gentle slope all the way up to Hobwee, but downhill all the way back, except for about 200 metres at one point. I'd expect to do a gentle amble out, but walk a bit faster on the way back. The tracks are not really very demanding, but again, it is all a matter of a person's physical fitness and only the individual can tell if they are up to the walk or not. The views of the crater rim are marvellous and you will not be disappointed. Also, Hobwee is the holotype locality for the fungus we are going to look for.

**11 October 2008 Visit to a commercial Mushroom farm.** Leader Jon Atkinson Ph 3861 1738, mobile 0401 283148 (email [buildingbistro@hotmail.com](mailto:buildingbistro@hotmail.com)).

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

The **9 February Field Trip was to Nancy Cramond's place in Carindale**. Jan McNicol had contacted Nancy Cramond and arranged for QMS members to visit her family property, which covers 18 hectares of priceless regenerating bushland at Belmont Hills. In 1996 Nancy's father signed a Voluntary Conservation Agreement with Council to protect and restore the land. Nancy, accompanied by two of her bushland regeneration friends from SCRUB (Save, Care for, Regenerate Urban Bushland) kindly led the six QMS members through her property. The area covered was over a distance of approximately 350m west and east of 27° 30' 46"S and 153° 06' 59E on a meandering route through the regenerating area.

Following the recent rain fungi were plentiful, and as every gardener knows so were the weeds!!. Once again, not all the fungi seen could be recorded. Most fungi were found in the litter or on fallen wood under the trees (mainly eucalypts and acacias) and a stand of *Araucaria bidwilli* on the southerly aspect of the hillside. Interestingly, no fungi were found along the creek banks.

In all, 28 of the fungi seen were recorded. There were a large number of what appeared to be *Clavaria sp.* on a mound of soil beside the gate, and to the side of the gravel drive, part way up the hill, were some *Agaricus augustus*. Six groups of *Amanita sp.* were recorded, all displaying the volva at the base – although some were well below ground level. One, possibly two, were *Amanita punctata*. Of the others, two were bright lemon-yellow, and one had a striate rim and a yellow "skirt" with a hint of orange midway up the stem. The other two groups were white with some veil remnants. Other fungi identified were some old and new fruiting bodies of *Pycnoporus coccineus*, *Polyporus arcularius*, and *Lycoperdon sp.* – both white and brown, and numerous sightings of hard old woody bracket fungi, which were thought to be *Ganoderma sp* and *Phellinus sp.*

### 29 February to 2 March Lamington Review 2008

Seventeen members, eight of whom were first time participants, took part in the Lamington Review 2008. Due to heavy rain in the area over the preceding weeks, information was received that the tracks to some of the sites could be muddy and slippery, so for safety reasons the 1100m sites were not visited.

In all, seven of the IBISCA sites were surveyed. Preliminary figures are as follows:

Date	Site Surveyed	Fungi recorded
29.2.2008	300A	13
29.2.2008	300D	27
1.3.2008	700A	15
1.3.2008	700D	25
1.3.2008	900A	12
1.3.2008	900C	25
1.3.2008	900D	14
	Total	131

The information obtained at the sites is still being collated. Unfortunately, the validity of the data collected appears to have been compromised by the standard of the information recorded. This raises some issues for QMS and survey team members to focus on for any future surveys. Team members, or entire teams, who would like to review the records and photos of the sites which they worked on, are welcome to do so, just ring Ray or Noreen on 3202 5008 to arrange a convenient meeting time.

Fungimap Target species recorded during the survey includes: *Cymatoderma elegans* var. *lamellatum*, *Cyptotrama aspratium*, *Favolaschia calocera*, *Hericium clathroides*, *Mycena leaiana*, *Mycena viscidocruenta*, *Oudemansiella radicata*, *Pseudohydnum gelatinosum*, *Schizophyllum commune* and *Stereum ostrea*.

## FIND OF THE FIELD TRIP

### February: *Amanita sp.*

*Amanita sp.* Possibly *A. xanthocephala* x 2. The cap was yellow and smooth under some squamose veil remnants. The cap rim was striate. In the midst of the stipe was a ring with a skirt remnant of the veil. The saccate volva was yellow with a hint of orange.



Photo by Ray Baxter

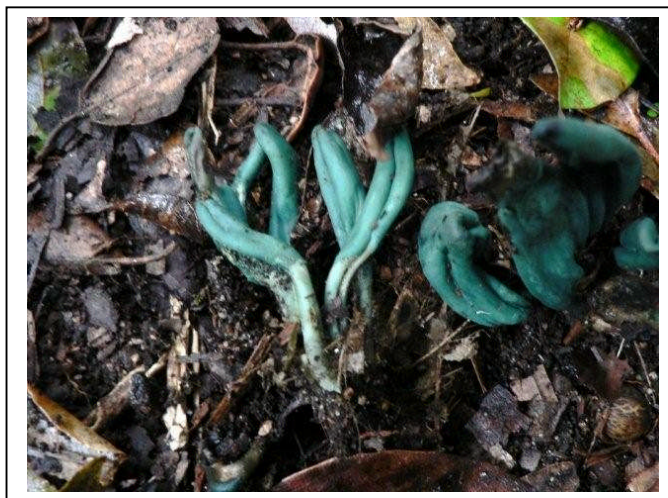
### March: *Microporus xanthopus*

Nigel Fechner nominated this fungus and committed valuable time to providing appropriate scientific information in the text. Unfortunately, as frequently happens in this computer age the photo arrived but not the text so both will be included in the next edition.

## FASCINATING FUNGI

### *Microglossum viride* (Green Earth Tongue) seen at Binna Burra submitted by Fran Guard

Fran Guard and Bob Phillpot found this species growing in leaf litter on a walking track on the Shipstern Range at Lamington National Park. The specimens were a very vibrant turquoise-green, approximately 50mm tall and 5-10mm wide; somewhat club shaped, though rather flattened and with a distinct vertical groove. The stipe appeared to be a continuation of the head, though a little paler in colour and narrower, approximately 3mm diameter. The flesh was rubbery in texture.



Photograph by Fran Guard

There were two or three groups of up to 6 to 8 individual bodies, at only one site about 10 kms from Binna Burra.

Fran has identified it as the Green Earth Tongue, (*Microglossum viride*), which is an Ascomycete in the Geoglossaceae family. It is listed in both Fuhrer and Young. It is said to occur in the subtropics and Northern hemisphere (Fuhrer), and has been recorded in NSW and Vic. (Young). Young (2006) doesn't mention it in his list of fungi for Lamington NP.

**Fungi around Moggill** submitted by Noreen & Ray Baxter

It has been amazing to see the fungi burst forth everywhere following the recent rains.

The once brown, now green, lawns seemed to break out into large communities of what used to be known as *Chlorophyllum molybdites* after every shower. Early morning walks are frequently interrupted by magical visions that have included the sighting of a most glorious *Amanita egregia*, and a lemon-yellow *Amanita sp.* that was initially thought to be *A. xanthocephala*, but on closer inspection had a glorious skirt, and the volva lacked any hint of orange. This description stands in contrast to the criteria detailed in Fungi Down Under for *A. xanthocephala*.

By far the most outstanding occurrences in the Moggill area have been the constant eruption of phallic fungi – the discovery always heralded by the foetid smell!! In early December, the Moggill State School was alive with amazing numbers of *Phallus rubicundus*, up to 50 on any one day. This abundance continued for six weeks.

In November we spread Hoop pine mulch in our garden (consisting mainly of native plants with some Papaya, Citrus and Mango trees). By mid December a few *Phallus rubicundus* and masses of *Phallus multicolor* burst forth. Now, in February/March, the show and smell continues. One can only surmise that the combination of Hoop pine mulch, rain, and the moderate temperatures was the trigger for this event. The only draw-back is explaining to visitors that the smell is not really emanating from our house, just the garden.

### SUMMARY OF QMS MEETINGS

**General Meeting 12 February:** Acting President, Diana Leemon was unable to attend, so Nigel Fechner chaired the meeting which was attended by 20 members. The forecast tropical storms on the Sunshine Coast resulted in the members from that region sending in their apologies as no one wanted to be on the road in the unpredictable weather.

Rachel Griffiths, Treasurer, advised that:

1. She had just finalised the purchase of the computer and digital projector which was financed by a grant that Michael Powell had organised. The meeting moved a vote of thanks to both Michael and Rachel for achieving this milestone.
2. QMS had now been given an ABN Number by the ATO. This must be listed on all QMS correspondence.
3. If members approve slight changes to the Constitution, QMS will become eligible to apply for Tax deductible Donation status. It is planned to notify members of the proposed Constitution changes in time for the motion to be voted on at the March meeting.

The meeting concluded with a workshop on “Describing Fungi” led by Ray & Noreen Baxter.

**General Meeting 11 March:** Unfortunately this meeting had to be cancelled due to illness of the presenter. The Acting President and the Committee apologise to members for any inconvenience caused by the late cancellation of the meeting. Unfortunately, mid afternoon Nigel Fechner was taken ill and unable to conduct the microscopic workshop also it was too late to organise access to the building in Nigel’s absence. Those who attended the Lamington Review 2008 know that Nigel Fechner was unwell even then but determined to keep on working. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

## **BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL: CONSULTANCY IN RELATION TO MACROFUNGI AND IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE**

The QMS Secretary has received the following email from Stacey McLean:

“Attention Fungi Interest Groups,

I wish to inform your respective organisations of the following consultancy work underway in Brisbane City in relation to macrofungi and impacts of climate change.

Some Background: In March 2007 an independent Climate Change and Energy Taskforce delivered its final report to Brisbane City Council on how to prepare the city for climate change and when the global supply of oil begins to fall.

The Taskforce report was subsequently debated by full Council on 30 April 2007, and recommendations adopted - Brisbane’s Plan for Action on Climate Change and Energy (the ‘Plan’). The Plan contains 31 actions, several of which relate to impacts upon the city’s natural resources, environment, and associated consequences. Action 27 specifically calls for action and greater understanding of these impacts and consequences:

“Increase bushland reserves and connectivity between them as a vital component of the Regional Carbon Sink and to provide additional protection of natural areas from changing micro-climatic conditions.”  
“Investigate the vulnerability of significant local natural areas (e.g. wetlands) to climate changes.”

To facilitate a timely and informed response to the above, I commissioned Mr Tim Low, a recognised authority on Brisbane’s biodiversity, to identify: key vulnerabilities faced by the city’s biodiversity; priority actions; and associated information gaps requiring redress. The Low report effectively provides the starting point for the risk assessment process that is now underway. Macrofungi was excluded from the Tim Low report due to the need to secure quite specialist advice.

The Tim Low report is on the Brisbane City Council website: [http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE:1609740369:pc=PC\\_2867](http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE:1609740369:pc=PC_2867). Alternatively, I can mail a copy to you upon request. Impacts Upon Macrofungi

Given the fundamental role macrofungi play in Australian ecosystems, in both food webs and ecosystem cycles (eg energy and nutrients), a specific appraisal of macrofungi vulnerabilities is needed to enable the broader risk assessment project to proceed and deliver its intended outcomes.

Dr Tony Young and Mr Nigel Fechner have been commissioned to undertake this important work. It is envisaged a report will be available mid 2008. If you have queries, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

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QMS acknowledges and appreciates the sponsorship that has been given to the Society by the Queensland Herbarium, SEQ Catchments and Brisbane City Council.



To assist those not in attendance at meetings, notes on the addresses given are included in issues of the Queensland Mycologist. However, the notes never do justice to the topic as they do not reflect the enthusiasm of the speaker or cover the questions and discussions that were raised on the topic. So remember, where possible it is far better to attend the meetings, get the information first hand and participate in the invaluable information sharing opportunity.

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Members please note the change in QMS postal address:

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