

MEMBER'S PAGE

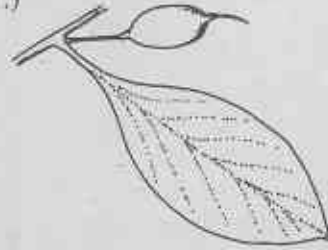
REGENERATION OF SNOTTYGOBBLES

THE two large Snottygobblers, *Persoonia elliptica* and *P. longifolia*, are quite common throughout the forested area of the south-west, but seedlings are seldom seen. It was thought that bushfire smoke might be the trigger, but still, in the jarrah forest, there are few young plants.

Rod Stone, of Gidgegannup, was interested to note a *P. elliptica* seedling growing well away from a parent tree underneath the possum feeding tray. When he checked the large old trees on the block, he found ample evidence that possums were climbing them, and eating the seeds. Then the clincher - nearby, in a scatter of partly decomposed possum droppings, a number of Snottygobble seedlings!

Thanks for this observation, Rod. You may have found another piece of the jigsaw. Could anyone else please check around and see if you can corroborate this relationship?

(Nb: for a method of growing Snottygobble cuttings, see WW 4/1.)



Ringtail Possum

if you go where Perup is moonfull
scrunchings round midnight will pull
you into pricklings of hakea
where you and the feasters are all
held by the moon-darkened branches

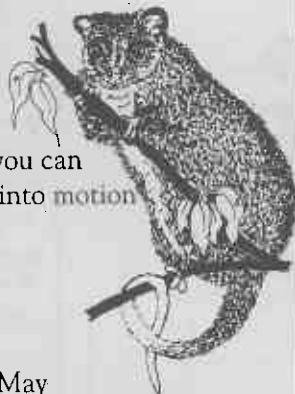
the ones who live here
- like monkeys - like lemurs
are bred of another dreaming
staccato surroundings

you must wait for your light-seeking eyes
to transmit slow-moving shadows
to link sound to visuals

the nearest turns two mini moons
sees you sees a stranger
instant deepfreeze
glazes eyes quells every hair
turns his distinctive ringtail
to an indistinct stick whose white
could be stripped branch moonlit

now that you see him
the ringtail believes in
invisibility utterly

while you stay as still as you can
in your willing him back into motion
he is
still as your photo



Jenny de Garis
Perup Forest Reserve in May



BAT BOXES FOR BANNISTER CREEK

It was reported in the last issue of Western Wildlife that bats are still using Bannister Creek, but that their roosting sites were now getting scarce. The Manual Arts department of Lynwood SHS decided to create some bat boxes for the Bannister Creek C.Gp. to install. Demonstrating the boxes, magnificently camouflaged with paperbark strips, are four of the students: Daniel Maclean, Louis Levissianons, Dean Burgess and Stephen D'Monte. The boxes have now been installed, let's hope the bats like them! Congratulations and thanks to the school and the students.

Georgia Davies - Bannister Creek CG