

Winter fungi surveys – enroll now

By Roz Hart

In 2009 the Perth Urban Bushland Fungi (PUBF) project collaborated with many community groups including the Friends of Ellis Brook Valley, Friends of Island Point, Busselton Naturalists' Club and the Youngnats and Darling Range groups of the Western Australian Naturalists' Club. Many of our experienced fungi volunteers assisted on the inaugural coordinated fungi survey of Kings Park and with the 10th anniversary fungi survey at Bold Park. We also joined forces with Bush Skills for the Hills and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy and produced the first fungi reports for six more local bushlands.

Surveys by the PUBF project in 2009 included FR Berry Reserve (Gidgegannup), Ellis Brook Valley Reserve (Gosnells), Paruna Wildlife Sanctuary (Avon Valley), John Forrest National Park, Locke Nature Reserve and Captain Baudin's Reserve (Busselton). In all cases, these are the first comprehensive fungi reports produced for these bushlands.

PUBF project is continuing to collect fungi that are new to WA and in some cases, new to science. Mycologist Dr Neale Bougher (DEC, WA Herbarium) observes that there are still many new fungi to be discovered in our local bushlands. In 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, join us in June–July and be part of this exciting project to discover fungi and learn how to identify some of our colourful, ephemeral local fungi.

Information will be posted on our website in April or May and we encourage you to sign up early as we get oversubscribed. If we could find ourselves a generous benefactor, we could offer many more fungi events for the community. We have the ability, just not the funds. *To sign up for a fungi event or to access bushland fungi reports visit www.fungiperth.org.au.*



*Collecting fungi in John Forrest National Park as part of the PUBF project surveys in 2009.
Photo – Jeff Langley*