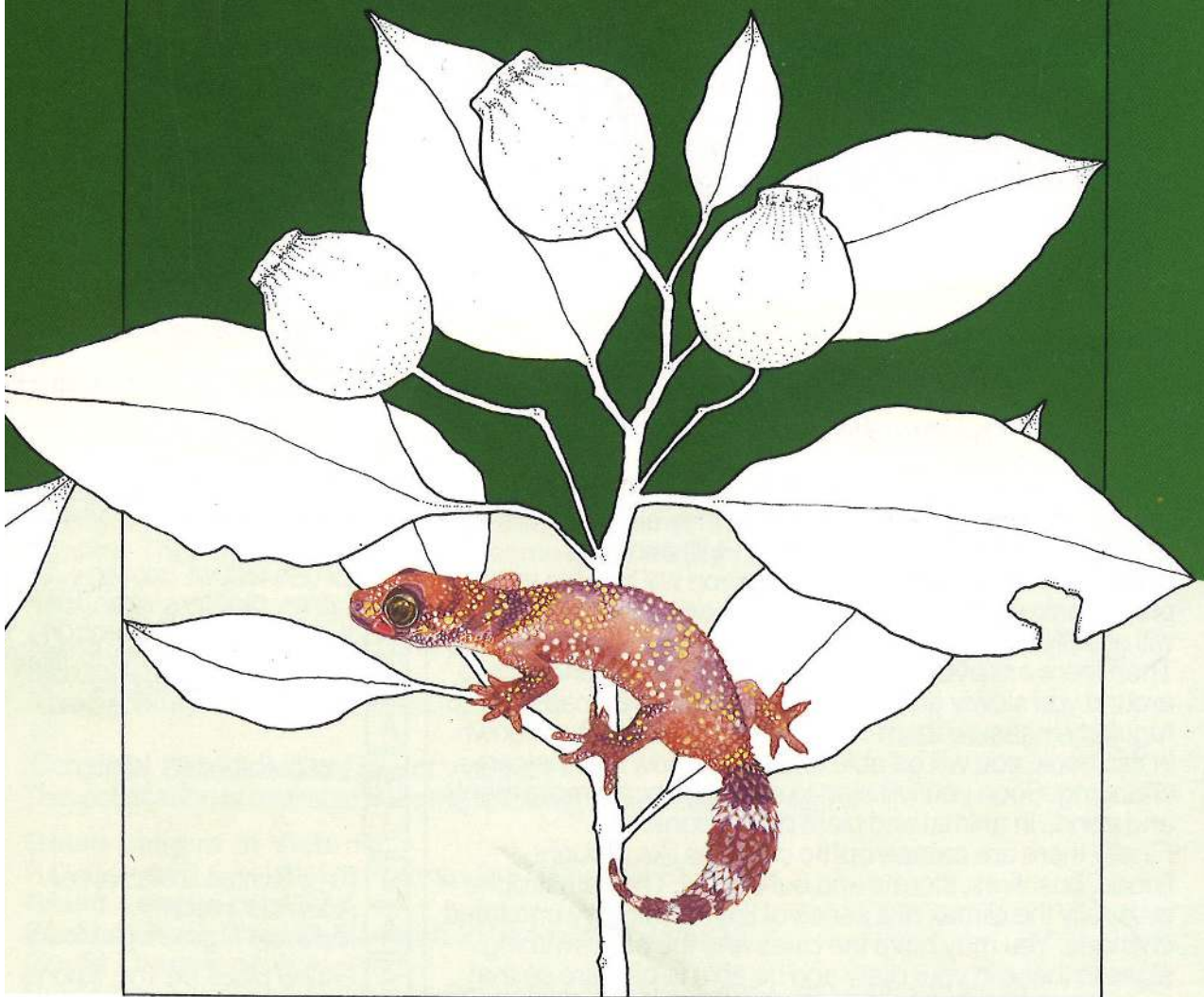


GUM LEAVES AND GECKOES



Gould League Nature Diary

'Gumleaves and Geckoes'

The Gould League Nature Diary

- A handy pocket sized book, 60 pages in full colour with wildlife illustrations appropriate for that week, notes on what to look for and plenty of room for your own reference.
- Not just limited to the present year, Diary records can be started immediately. Space for the name of the year on the spine.
- 19 additional identification pages at the back with over 300 clear line drawings of plants, birds, mammals, pond life, insects, fish, nuts and cones, shells and reptiles.
- Interesting introductory notes on how to write diaries, make sketches, conduct simple surveys and keep files.
- Compiled from life-long diary notes by naturalist Alan Reid and illustrated by Gould League artist Alexis Beckett.

THE MAGIC DIARY

Diaries are like magic. They can predict the future.

To perform this magic we look for patterns of change in the things we write about. However, there are several kinds of changes taking place in the environment around us. First there are **seasonal** changes. If you keep regular notes, your diary will help you work out the usual pattern of events in your locality and the places where they happen. This will let you build up local timelines (see P. 7) and local distribution maps (see P. 12). Soon you will be able to predict next year's events and where animals and plants will usually be found.

Then there are **evolutionary** changes. Things and places around you slowly grow up and grow old. If you can regularly measure them in some way and note them down in this book, you will be able to work out how fast they are changing. Soon you will start to see large scale movements and trends in animal and plant populations.

Finally there are **catastrophic** changes like drought, floods, bushfires, storms and bulldozing. The catastrophe is usually the climax of a series of tiny, apparently unrelated changes. You may have the clues and the early warning signs to these in your diary and be able to prepare so that the catastrophe does not become a disaster. Listing wildlife casualties, describing bush damage or noting reactions will make an excellent base for future survey or census work as the bush recovers.

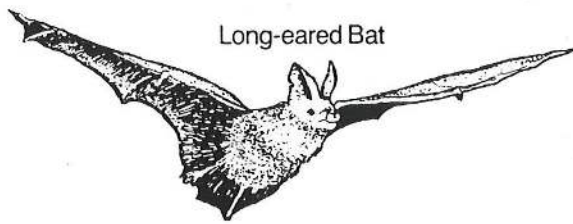
You can see how valuable diaries can be. They can even help to save lives and make important scientific discoveries.

MY BEACH TIMELINE

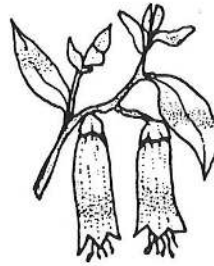
- J** Salps washing in
- F** Jellyfish abundant
- M** Double-banded Dotterels return from New Zealand
- A** Baby squids washing up
- M** Prions out to sea
- J** Sea cucumbers at low tide
- J** Dolphins following boats
- J** Shark eggs washing in
- A** Nudibranch egg-strings laid
- S** Siberian waders return
- S** Dotterels begin nesting
- O** Cuttlefish eggs washing in
- N** Skuas return from Antarctica
- D** Blue bottles in waves

MY BUTTERFLY TIMELINE

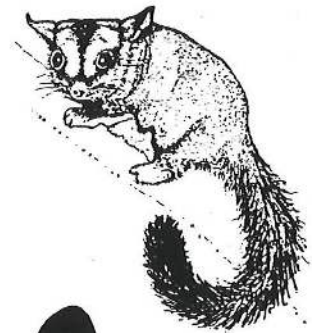
- J** Grass Yellows appear in South
- F** Large skippers abundant
- F** Wanderers come through
- M** Shouldered Browns in mountain
- A** Silver Xenicas appear
- M** Last Cabbage White
- J**
- J** First Painted Ladies appear
- A** Admirals hatch
- A** Meadow Argus on paddocks
- S** Grass blues on the lawns
- O** Pea Blues passing through
- N** First Klug's Xenica
- D** Caper White migration begins
- D** Dinky Swallowtails hatch



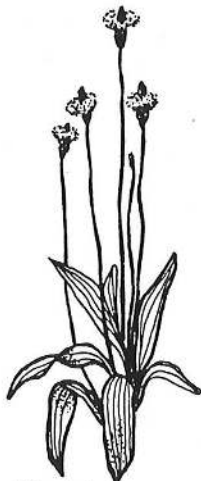
Long-eared Bat



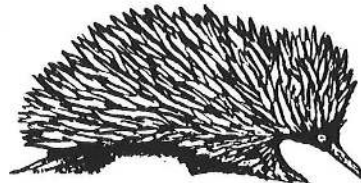
Correa



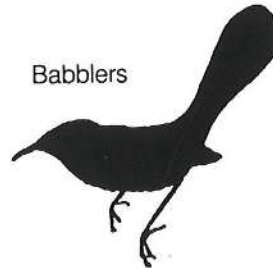
Sugar Glider



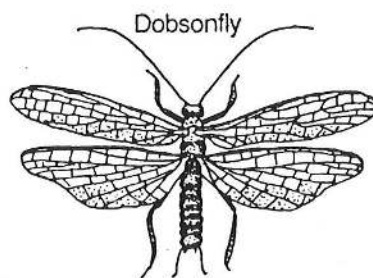
Plantain



Echnida



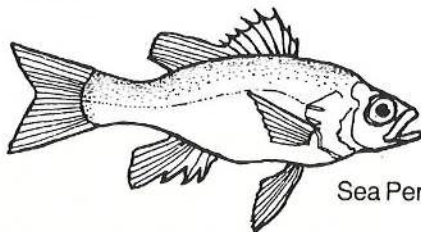
Babblers



Dobsonfly



Volute



Sea Perch



Quail



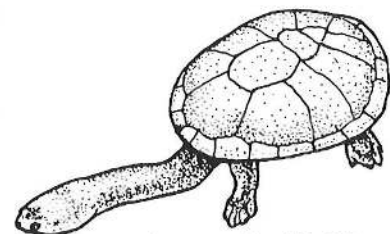
Callistemon

ANIMAL AND PLANT CHECKLISTS

The comprehensive checklists in the back of the diary mostly represent typical members of plant and animal families. They will help you to identify some of the wildlife you see.

They may be ticked off as you see them, but it is a far better idea to place the diary page number of your record beside the drawing.

This becomes an excellent cross-reference.



Long-necked Tortoise

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This publication is available from the following Gould League offices:

Gould League of Victoria

P.O. Box 446, 67 High St, Prahran 3181. Ph: (03) 51 1701.

Gould League of N.S.W.

Public School, Mary St, Beecroft 2119. Ph: (02) 84 6235.

Gould League of W.A.

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Gould League of Central Australia

P.O. Box 1734, Alice Springs 5750. Ph: (089) 50 8211.

Please see current order form for up to date prices and mail order facilities, or purchase direct from your nearest Gould League office.

SEPTEMBER 1st - 8th

BUSH- Leopard Orchid, Silver Banksia & Travellers' Joy Clematis in flower; Ringtail Possums carrying young; reptiles basking in the sun; yellow flowers of the Boneseed weed throughout the coastal scrub.

GARDENS- Admiral Butterflies & red cockchafer beetles appear; Song Thrushes building nest; new leaves on oaks.

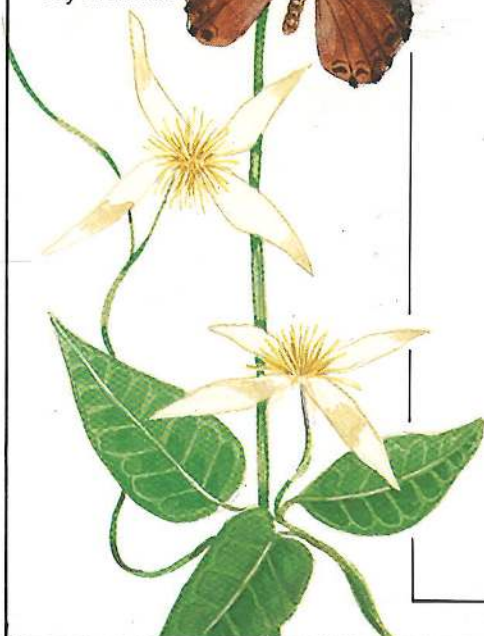
Leopard Orchid



Admiral Butterfly



Travellers Joy Clematis



HOW TO USE THE DIARY

Using brief notes and symbols put down WHEN, WHERE, WHAT and WHO of every observation.

For example:

"The 27th of September 1985 was a day of heavy rains. At Blackburn Lake, Peter Mason and I saw 16 crimson Rosellas flying to the south-west".

Could be written:

37 Sept.
Blackburn Lake:
Cr. Rosellas (16)
A. Reid, P. Mason