## **Flora**

Terrys Creek includes an area of Blue Gum High Forest growing on shale derived soil. The canopy trees along the walk include Sydney Blue Gum, Turpentine and Blackbutt. However in gully areas Grey Myrtles, Sydney Red Gums, Water Gums and Coachwoods are the common canopy trees. The understorey along the creek is a highly diverse mix of rushes, ferns, vines and shrubs.



#### Rasp Fern / Doodia aspera

The habit of this fern can vary from scattered individuals to large dense colonies with the length of the fronds (leaves) varying from 10 cm to 40 cm. The fronds are a fishbone shape, often bright pink in colour when young and later turning pale to dark green.

## Fauna

Very little of Sydney basin's original vegetation has survived since European settlement. It is important to remember that without suitable habitat, wildlife can become threatened or even extinct. The Terrys Creek corridor provides shelter, food and habitat for a wide variety of native animals, some of which are shown below and overleaf. Keep an eye out for them, you might just spot one!

#### Eastern Snake-Necked Turtle

This turtle is found in the water and feeds on invertebrates, tadpoles and small fishes. It does however move over land in search of water. It is also known by the name 'stinker' because it gives off a strong smelling liquid as a defence if disturbed.



#### Blackbutt / Eucalyptus pilularis

Blackbutt is a flowering gum tree with smooth bark on its upper trunk and branches. On the main part of the trunk it has rough flaky bark. It is a tall tree in height and is often confused with the Sydney Blue Gum.



This small insect-eating bird spends most of its time high up in the eucalypt canopy of forests and woodlands. At times this bird will nest in places such as garage roll-a-doors. It is often recognised by its continuous 'sleep-may-be' call it makes during its breeding season.

Spotted Pardalote



### Pastel Flower / Pseuderanthemum

This plant is a common small herb growing 7 - 15 cms in height. The leaves are glossy, dark green and opposite along the stem. The flowers can be white or pale blue, mauve or pink.



#### Grey-Headed Flying-Fox

This very social mammal travels at night to its feeding source, which can be up to 30 kms away from its camp. The native trees long Terrys Creek form an important food source for these unique animals.



# **Terrys Creek** Walk

Terrys Creek Walk, Eastwood is a pleasant easily accessible 1 hour walk situated north-west of the Sydney CBD. It is a short walk that can be enjoyed by almost everyone.



For more information contact Parramatta City Council's Natural Resources Team on (02) 9806 5050 or visit www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/environmental



Terrys Creek Walk DL fdlyer.indd1 1 3/12/2009 11:18:44 AM

