Australian Alps

Kosciuszko, Alpine and Namadgi National Parks (Second Edition)

Deirdre Slattery CSIRO Publishing (2015)

- Discusses the characteristics of, and past and present land uses and their environmental effects, on the Australian Alps National Parks.
- I found the Foreword an interesting read, both encouraging and disturbing.
- Covers all aspects of the parks, geology, plants, animals, Indigenous and European history, science, and visiting.
- Richly presented with photos, maps, diagrams, in colour and quality paper.

Allan CunninghamLetters of a Botanist/Explorer, 1791 – 1839

A.E. & T.A. Orchard Privately Published (2015)

- This book is pure gold for historians of Australian botany and exploration.
- Allan Cunningham was a copious correspondent and it appears that most(?) of his letters regarding his collections of Brazilian, Australian and New Zealand plants, and to William Hooker at Kew, are reproduced in this book.
- Also included are letters from Sir Joseph Banks and others.
- The letters make fascinating reading not just regarding plants and the extensive exploration he carried out, but also shines a light on manners and life at that time.

Mountain Ash

Fire, Logging and the Future of Victoria's Giant Forests

David Lindenmayer, David Blair, Lachlan McBurney and Sam Banks CSIRO Publishing (2015)

- This book was written to describe the effect on the mountain ash forests of the Black Saturday fires of 2009, and explain what has been learned since then.
- The animals, birds and invertebrates of the forest are generously covered.
- It contains maps, charts and many photos to tell the story.
- Below each photo is a generous explanation.
- There are many 'myth-busting' boxes.
- The book is designed to be dipped into or read from cover to cover.
- One thing was strange only common names, with scientific names in brackets, appeared in the index. You cannot look up a scientific name.