

Unexpected Finds

Wandering on a bush track in late May, I was looking for *Coltricia oblectans* (Plate D7). I had found some smaller specimens nearby but needed a larger one to paint. Suddenly, there in front of me was a spectacular bracket fungus at eye level, growing straight out of a jarrah tree. It was the Beefsteak Fungus, *Fistulina hepatica* (Plate D1). This was an older specimen, which is brown with yellowish flesh. When young the bracket is a spectacular cerise colour (Plate L3). Right beneath the old bracket was a lovely example of the *Coltricia oblectans* that I had been looking for. I subsequently found many of these through the winter, growing singly or in groups on the tops of fallen logs and around the bases of jarrah stumps.