



**AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP)**  
**Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter**  
**JUNE 2017 No 427**

Correa reflexa 'Grannys Grave'

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'Plants of the Great South West',  
 book on plants of South West Victoria



\$20, available from  
 Kevin Sparrow at  
[ksparrow93@gmail.com](mailto:ksparrow93@gmail.com)  
 Ph: 55626217

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Web: [apswarrnambool.org.au](http://apswarrnambool.org.au)

**EDITORIAL**

**Hi members,**

Last month was our Annual Meeting where all positions were declared vacant and nominations were again sought. All positions were filled with the following people declared elected.

**President:** Kevin Sparrow. **Vice President:** Bob Artis. **Secretary:** John Sherwood. **Treasurer:** Mike Halls. **Newsletter Editor:** Kevin Sparrow.  
**Committee Members:** Kerry Artis, Sue Sherwood. Dorothy and Michael Mattner **Group Historian:** Joyce Sparrow, **Supper Organiser:** Liz Halls

Last Month, **David and Barbara Pye** gave us a great presentation on the Melton Botanic Gardens and how they came to be established and their plans for the future. It gave us a great insight on what we can expect to see when we go on our group visit in October.

**APS memberships are now due, look for the registration form sent with this newsletter or it can be downloaded from our web site. Fees remain unchanged. Send completed form with total payment to Treasurer, Mike Halls.**

Following the success of the **Nature Reserves of Warrnambool** booklet released in 2012, we have decided to fund a reprint of this very popular booklet. Thank you to John Hargreaves, Michael Wright and Basalt To Bay Landcare Network who produced the last version for allowing us to publish this next one. John will also carry out the revision for this latest edition.

**Please Note: There will not be a members night or a committee meeting in July,** instead we will have a day trip to Dunkeld visiting Grampians, a garden and a nursery. More to follow in the newsletter next month.

We will have our usual meal at the RSL at 6.30pm before our next meeting where our speaker will be David Pitts. Hope to see you there or at our meeting, Cheers, Kevin

**Group Visit to Melton Botanic Gardens and Brisbane Ranges**

**Saturday 7th/Sunday 8th Oct.**

**Members to book own accommodation, try Bacchus Marsh Caravan Park on 5367 2775**

**We wish to acknowledge the Maar people as the traditional owners of the land on which we live and pay our respects to their elders past and present.**

**Next Meeting: Fri 23rd June—Speaker is David Pitts speaking on “Orchids of the South West”**

## Group Diary Of Activities

**23rd June** - David Pitts speaking on the Orchids of SW Vic.

**27th June** - Committee Meeting at Sherwoods at 5.00pm

**28th July** - No meeting planned

**29th July** - Day trip to Dunkeld and Grampians

**1st August** - No Committee Meeting

**25th August** - Jenny Emeny speaking on the review of Warrnambool's Coastal Vegetation Management Plan.

**26th August** - Walk around the coast with Jenny Emeny

**29th August** - Committee Meeting Sherwoods or Artis' at 5.00pm

**22nd September** - Geoff Lay speaking on "Fungi"

**26th September** - Committee Meeting Artis'/Sherwood at 5.00pm

**7/8th October** - Trip with Hamilton Group to Melton Botanic Garden and Brisbane Ranges

**27th October** - Members Night TBC

**28th October** - Visit to local Naringal Reserves.

**31st October** - Committee Meeting at Mattners at 5.00pm

**24th November** - Members Night speaker John Sherwood TBC

**28th November** - Committee Meeting at Halls at 5.00pm

**9th December** - Xmas Breakup at Mattners, from 12.00 noon

Michael will be showing off his new wood fired pizza oven.



**Please submit your articles for the newsletter by the end of the second week of the month**

**President:** Kevin Sparrow Phone: 55626217 **Vice President:** Bob Artis, Brown St, Allansford. Phone: 0417 321225

**Secretary:** John Sherwood. 26 McConnell St, Warrnambool Phone: 55628064 Email: jsher@deakin.edu.au

**Treasurer:** Mike Halls, 127 Rooney's Rd, Warrnambool 3280 Phone: 55626519 Email: mandehalls@bigpond.com

**Newsletter Editor:** Kevin Sparrow, 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool. Phone: 55626217 Email: ksparrow93@gmail.com

**Public Officer:** John Sherwood. **APS Reps:** vacant, **Group Historian:** Joyce Sparrow. **Supper Organiser:** Liz Halls.

**Other Committee Members:** Kerry Artis, Michael Mattner. Sue Sherwood, Dorothy Mattner

The APS Warrnambool & District holds meetings on the 4th Friday of each month at the Mozart Hall Warrnambool at 8pm.

APS Warrnambool & District is a District Group of the Australian Plants Society (Vic)

All members are required to also be a member of APS Vic.

## Display Table by Dorothy Mattner

As it was our AGM, along with guest speakers, we did not have time for discussion on the display table. There was lots of colour however with many correas on show amongst other lovely plants.

Kevin had a very impressive twelve, Correas –*Correa* “Federation Belle”, *Correa mannii*, *Correa* “Ivory Bells”, *Correa reflexa* from Kangaroo Island, *Correa* “Autumn Blaze”, *Correa* “John Amor”, *Correa pulchella* the fine leaf form, *Correa* hybrid, *Correa* “Canberra Bells” and *Correa* “White tips” (photo below left). *Banksia tricuspis* and *Banksia menziesii*, also *Eremophila latrobei* and *Eremophila mackinlayi*. *Hakea scoparia*, *Hakea cycloptera* and *Hakea* “Burrendong Beauty”. Also *Lotus australis* and *Lysiosepalum involucreatum* (below right).



Mike displayed *Grevillea victoriae* - Royal Grevillea, *Grevillea* “Robyn Gordon” (photo right), also *Acacia podalyriifolia* the Mt Morgan wattle. *Hakea* “Burrendong Beauty”. *Thryptomene* “Paynes Hybrid”, *Templetonia retusa* the Cocky’s Tongue. *Banksia ericifolia* and *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. megalocarpa* “Rosea” – red flowering yellow gum.

June also had good representation of correas, *Correa baeuerlenii* that is thirty years old, *Correa* “Marians Marvel”, this makes a great hedge, *Correa decumbens* and *Correa reflexa* a good showy ground cover. Also *Hakea laurina*, the yellow tailed black cockatoos loves the nuts. *Brachyscome multifida* with blue flowers and is easy to grow. *Banksia integrifolia* this is five metres tall and twenty seven years old.

Thanks to members for your contribution to the display table.



## Trip To Melton Botanic Gardens

Just to whet your appetite for our group visit to the Melton Botanic Gardens on **Saturday 7th/Sunday 8th October.**

Clockwise are: *Eucalyptus pluricaulis* ssp *porphyrea*, *Verticordia grandis*, *Siegfriedia darwinioides*, *Eucalyptus wyolensis* and *Eucalyptus erythrocorys*



## *Presidents Report by Kevin Sparrow*

What a great and successful year we have had over the past twelve months. The highlight of the year was the Fred Rogers Seminar last October which we shared the running of with Hamilton SGAP group. While numbers were not as many as expected, the seminar was never the less, very successful with participants enjoying a well run and informative weekend with an interesting and entertaining range of speakers. Well done to all who participated and donated their time to assist.

We enjoyed a wide range of speakers over the year beginning with Paul Kennedy ("Dodonaea's" in May), Lachlan Farrington, NGT ("Wetlands" in June), Lynsey Poore (Royal Botanic Gardens in August), our own John Sherwood talking about his visit to the Galapagos Islands (September), Maree and Graham Goods ("Eremophilas" in November) and Royce Raleigh ("Plants of Grampians" in February). We also enjoyed a visit from Helen Lovel from Neutrog (October) who left us lots of free "Bush Tucker" samples. A change of pace saw members try out their propagation skills again in March when I presented a session on grafting eremophilas. And of course, in April we all celebrated our groups 40th anniversary at a dinner in the presence of APS Vic president, Chris Long at the Flying Horse Bar and Brewery. A big thank you to John and Sue Sherwood who found the time in their lives to put together our second history book which was launched at the dinner. It is a testament to their commitment to our group over many, many years of service.

After hosting Hamilton SGAP group to Warrnambool in May last year it was our turn to visit our friends in Hamilton in July. We especially enjoyed our visit to Brian and Betty Lacy's garden. Its great to hear that Brian Lacy is now recovering from the stroke he suffered late last year. Mayor Kylie Gaston launched our Indigenous Plants brochure on National Weed Day in July and the first of our Coastal Plants signs were erected along the foreshore in February. Both these projects were the idea of new member, Louise Sheba who was a breath of fresh air to our group. Unfortunately we were to lose Louise soon after, she was someone I greatly admired and enjoyed working with. RIP Louise. We also lost long time member, Pat Ryan earlier this year.

We again excelled with our floral displays, thank you to Bev Bell for putting together the displays at the Warrnambool Show and at the Warrnambool and Port Fairy Anglican Church's "Festival of Flowers" . Also thank you to Joyce for doing the display boxes for the Botanic Gardens 150th celebrations, Liz Halls birthday celebration and Louise Sheba's funeral.

A big thank you to Kerry Artis for writing up the display table each month for the newsletter, it gives me a great start when I sit down to do it. It would be great if other members could contribute something to the newsletter as well.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their continuing support over the past year in particular John and Mike. I would also like to thank those members who are always there helping out in the background, often unseen and unnoticed but very necessary for the smooth running of our group. Without the contributions of Joyce, Liz, Kerry, Dorothy and Sue, in particular, our group would not be as successful as it obviously is.

Kevin Sparrow (President)

## *New Picnic Tables Made For Tozer Reserve - Taken From Warrnambool Standard*

Picnickers at Tozer Reserve have another reason to enjoy the outdoors after teens in the “Hands on Learning” group have built a space to rest their legs. Two tables and chairs made predominantly from recycled materials were officially opened at the Wangoom Road parkland on Tuesday afternoon. Program coordinator Leon Carey said the 10 Warrnambool College students enjoyed constructing the seats.

“They’ve been working on them for about eight to 10 weeks,” he said. “It’s not just about providing new bench tops and seating, the kids have learned about sustainable practices and waste management in the process too.”

Mayor Kylie Gaston who attended the hand over said the handiwork would benefit the whole community. “The kids from Hands on Learning did a great job adding to the outside classroom,” she said. “This amazing reserve (is) being developed as an environmental education reserve for the benefit of the schools and the broader community.”

Warrnambool College, Brauer and Warrnambool Primary School all utilise this amazing reserve being developed as an environmental education reserve for the benefit of the schools and the broader community. Previously a pine plantation, it has since regenerated as a nationally endangered grassy woodland community, the largest in the local area!



**Australian Plants Society - Wilson Park (Berwick)**



# AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANT SALE



Wilson Botanic Park Berwick  
Princes Hwy, Berwick (Melways 111B7)

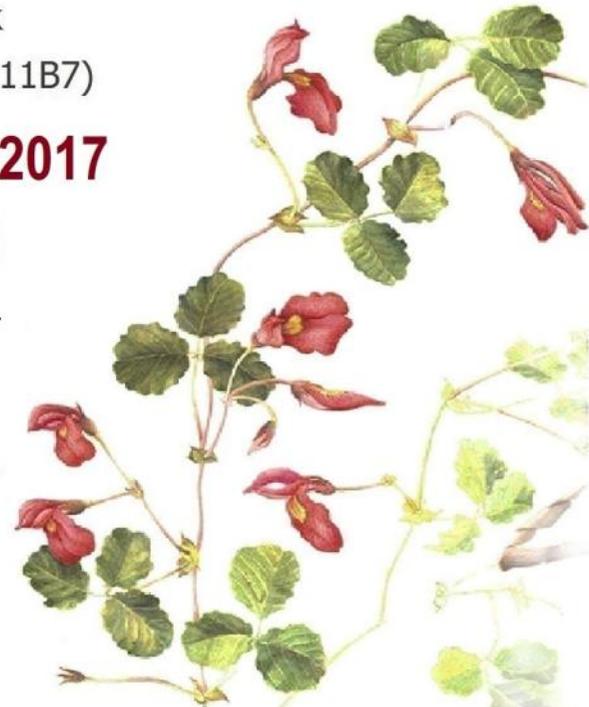
**Saturday 2 September 2017**  
**9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

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Native plant stalls      Raffle  
Specialist book stall      Flower display

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-  [plantsale@pswilsonparkberwick.org.au](mailto:plantsale@pswilsonparkberwick.org.au)
-  [www.pswilsonparkberwick.org.au](http://www.pswilsonparkberwick.org.au)
-  Australian Plants Society - wilson park berwick



**Note: Cash Sales Only**

## *Plant Propagation By Seed - Taken From <http://anpsa.org.au/seed.html>*

Seeds of Australian plants can be purchased from several commercial suppliers and some regional groups of the Society can provide seed of a range of different species to their members. Not all seed germinates easily. Some seeds have a physical or chemical inhibitor to germination designed so that the seed will only germinate in natural habitats when conditions are favourable. In some cases the inhibitor can be overcome by pre-treatment of the seed before sowing but with others, successful germination has defied all attempts. Beginners are advised to select seed of species which are known to give reliable results. These include *Acacia* (wattles), *Banksia*, *Callistemon*, *Eucalyptus*, *Hakea*, *Hardenbergia* and *Melaleuca* to name just a few.

### **Pre-treatment:**

For those species where the seed has a natural inhibitor to germination (or dormancy), pre-treatment must be provided before successful germination will occur. There are several pre-treatment methods which can be used:

### **Boiling Water**

This is the most common pre-treatment method and is most commonly used with seeds in the 'pea family' (Fabaceae) such as *Senna*, *Acacia*, *Hardenbergia* and *Kennedia* in which the hard seed coat forms a physical barrier which is impervious to water. These plants are often native to areas where bushfires occur at regular intervals - the heat of the fire cracks the hard coat and allows moisture to reach the embryo inside. Pouring boiling water over the seeds simulates this effect. The seeds to be treated are placed in a container, covered with boiling water and allowed to stand overnight. Seeds that soften and swell to 1.5-2 times their original size can be sown; those that don't swell are retreated. Any seeds which float are usually infertile and can be discarded. Seed that does not swell after several repeated soaking may need to be treated differently, such as by abrasion. In some cases seeds will not tolerate excessive time in boiling water and respond better to a one minute immersion in boiling water followed by cooling down. *Acacia* species native to areas where relatively quick grass fires occur may be in this category.

### **Abrasion**

This can be used as an alternative to boiling water. Seeds are abraded between two sheets of fairly fine sandpaper to reduce the thickness of the seed coat. This can be cumbersome and an alternative is to glue sandpaper to the inside surfaces of a small plastic container, put the seeds in and then shake the container vigorously.

### **Stratification**

A type of dormancy often encountered with seed of species native to alpine or semi-alpine habitats is a requirement for a period of cold conditions prior to germination. This requirement can be accommodated by placing seed in a closed container (containing moist vermiculite or similar material) in a refrigerator for 1-3 months before sowing. This procedure is referred to as "stratification" and examples of seed requiring this treatment are *Banksia canei*, *B. saxicola*, *Eucalyptus kybeanensis*, *E. pauciflora*, *E. regnans* and *E. delegatensis*. The method has also been applied with some success to non-alpine plants such as *Anigozanthos* sp. (Kangaroo Paws).

## Plant Propagation By Seed - Taken From <http://anpsa.org.au/seed.html>

### Fire

Apart from the pea family, some other seeds seem to require the passage of a bushfire to germinate. Flannel Flowers (*Actinotus helianthi*), for example, are usually seen at their best in the wild in the seasons immediately following a bushfire. This effect can be simulated by sowing the seed in a terracotta pot (not plastic for obvious reasons!) and setting fire to leaf litter and twigs placed on top. The fire should be maintained for 2 - 3 minutes. This method has worked but is really a "last resort" method as it is difficult to have any real control over the amount of heat delivered to the seeds. Once the ash has cooled, the pot is watered and maintained as for any other seed raising container.

### The Growing Medium

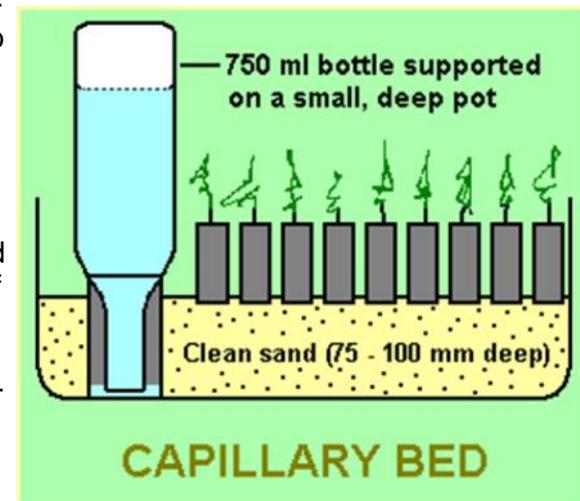
A good medium both for seed raising and for subsequent potting-on consists of 80-85% washed river sand and 15 - 20% peat moss. This mix has been used successfully by many growers over a long period although, given the environmental problems associated with peat extraction, an artificial peat moss would most likely be substituted by many propagators. There are a number of these "artificial" peats available made from waste products such as coconut fibre. Of course, commercial seed raising mixes can also be used. The medium should be reasonably moist before sowing the seed.

### Planting the seed

Seed can be sown into punnets, small pots or tubes and is normally covered to a depth of about double the seed diameter. Fine seed is usually sprinkled over the surface of the seed mix and need only be pressed down firmly onto the mix without being actually covered. Large seed needs to be well spaced to facilitate later transplanting. The use of individual tubes is an advantage when only small quantities of plants are required. This allows large seed to be sown one to a tube while fine seed can be thinned out as germination occurs to leave the strongest single seedling.

### Care and attention

After sowing, the seed bed needs to be kept moist and sheltered from drying winds and from rain. Some sunlight is an advantage. With overhead watering, a fine spray is necessary to avoid damage to small seedlings. A good method of watering for small quantities of seed is the use of a capillary bed (as shown in the diagram). With this arrangement, overhead watering is not needed and the seed and seedlings can be left unattended for 2 or 3 days (up to a week or more in cooler weather). The seed mix in the containers needs to be fairly moist before the containers are placed in the capillary bed otherwise the capillary action may not occur. A similar method is the so-called "bog method" where the pot containing the seed is placed into a saucer of water until germination occurs.



### **Pest and Diseases**

'Damping-off' causes rotting of the stems of seedlings at soil level, particularly in seed mixes that are over-wet. The problem can be difficult to control without the use of a fungicide. The use of sterilized seed raising mixes and sowing so that seedlings are not crowded are the most effective ways of preventing infection. Snails and slugs can cause rapid destruction of small seedlings. If these can't be controlled by physically removing them, the usual baits should give protection. Any caterpillars that appear are best removed by hand...the use of chemical sprays is hardly justified for this situation.

### **Pre-germination**

This is a useful technique for large seeds (ie those which can be handled easily individually). It involves sowing seed into a sealed container containing a layer of moist vermiculite or even a moist paper towel. Any required pre-treatment needs to be carried out as normal before sowing. The container is then placed in a cool, dark place and checked every week or so until germination commences. Any seeds which have germinated are carefully removed and potted into small pots or tubes as described below. The remaining seeds are re-sealed in the container which now needs to be checked every 1 - 2 days as germination of the remaining seeds usually occurs quickly once germination has commenced.

### **Transplanting**

Seedlings growing in punnets or the like can be potted into individual tubes (or small pots) when they are large enough to be handled. This is usually when the second pair of leaves appears. Individual seedlings are carefully removed from the seed bed using a knife or narrow spatula (eg. a piece of aluminium about 100 mm long by 10 mm wide is suitable). Each seedling should be placed into a partly filled tube and potting mix gently firmed around it preferably using a gentle water spray from a hand-operated spray bottle. A small amount of slow release fertilizer in the potting mix is an advantage at this stage.

### **Growing-on**

After transplanting, the seedlings need to be placed in a protected position for a couple of weeks and gradually moved into a situation where full sun is available for at least part of the day. The seedlings must not be allowed to dry out and the tubes containing the seedlings could be placed in a capillary bed to minimize this possibility. After 1-3 months tubed seedlings will be ready to transplant into larger pots.

### **Planting out**

Plants will be ready for the garden when good root development has occurred. This can be checked by carefully tapping the plant out of the pot. The roots of the plants should not be allowed to become "pot-bound" (ie. develop into a tight, coiled mass). If this does occur, some root pruning will be needed before planting to ensure that the roots of the plants can easily spread into the surrounding soil.