

# NEWSLETTER



## AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

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Inc# A0054306V

May  
2021

Volume 8, Issue 4

### May news...!

Hello and welcome to our May '21, late Autumn edition... This issue is an absolute bumper! Which, with very much thanks, is due to Royce and Jeanne Raleigh, in their recent presentation (our April meeting) taking us through a huge array of absolutely stunning plants that they have grown at their Wartook Gardens. Royce, Jeanne & their garden are an inspiration to us all. I can only speak for myself, but I'm predicting everyone's planting wish list has grown exponentially after witnessing their presentation. I can't wait to visit Wartook Gardens in October (see meeting report from page 3).

For this month's meeting we will be turning to topics more local, with Paul Piko returning to speak on Spider Orchids - see page 2 for details.

The June newsletter will be due for issue on or within a few days of Monday June 14th. Contributions remain very greatly appreciated— if you can help out with items of interest please send them in by June 7th. Email to: [wattlegum@southernphone.com.au](mailto:wattlegum@southernphone.com.au)

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Above: *Conostylis robusta*

Below: *Dampiera pedunculata*

Photos: Royce & Jeanne Raleigh



I look forward to hearing from as many members & friends as possible, & seeing you at a meeting. In the meantime, the weather has turned, rains have fallen, & planting season is here - So happy gardening & cheers until next time, Jeanine

### GROWING Eremophila

*Growing Eremophila*, the new Russell Wait book, is coming soon. This is a reference book with all *Eremophila* species, subspecies, hybrids and undescribed species currently in cultivation.

For registration of interest, orders and information Email Russell Wait at: [eremophilabook@gmail.com](mailto:eremophilabook@gmail.com)

### Mitchell Diary Dates..

- In line with ongoing Covid-19 advice, restrictions may apply or affect APS related events. If in doubt, please [contact us](#) (see contacts list on page 13.)
- Please note: meetings will be held under the requirements of our [Covid safe facility plan](#); please [read the plan \(from page 18\) prior to attending](#).
- MONDAY MAY 17th 7:30pm Meeting - Guest Speaker: Paul Piko "Searching for Spider Orchids"
- MONDAY JUNE 21st 7:30pm Meeting - Guest Speaker to be advised.
- SATURDAY OCTOBER 16th - APS MITCHELL SPRING PLANT EXPO & SALE



## Gardens for Wildlife News...

### Recent news from [Birdlife Australia](#) on Birds in Backyards autumn surveys...

Gazing at Gang-gangs? Smiling at Spinebills? Join our [BIBY surveys this autumn](#) and tell us who's visiting your garden. Just 20 mins and some information about your garden helps to understand our local birds and gives us invaluable insight into their daily lives.



**How do I take part?** To do a [Birds in Backyards](#) survey, spend 20 minutes in one spot where you can view birds - your backyard, local parks, school, or other favourite outdoor place. Simply count how many you see of each bird species you see using that space and tell us about what the outdoor space is like. Then to enter your survey data, register your free [Birdata](#) account, read the instructions for the web or app or watch the video. If you download the Birdata app you can take your smartphone or tablet outside with you to do your count. [Birds in Backyards](#) website has many resources to create a bird friendly garden for wildlife.

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE  
3rd MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
(February to November)  
unless otherwise advised

Commencing 7:30 pm in the  
[John Taylor Room, Kilmore  
Library, Sydney Street,  
Kilmore Vic 3764](#)

Entry \$2.00 Gold Coin

Guest Speaker

Door Prizes

Plant Sales

Use of the APS Mitchell free  
Library

Supper & Chat

VISITORS VERY WELCOME

Members & Visitors are  
encouraged to bring along  
exhibits for our "Show & Tell"  
Flower Specimen Table

Please label plants



## May Meeting: Monday 19th 7:30pm...

With February's snap lockdown behind us, APS Mitchell is very pleased to announce that Paul Piko will now be returning at our upcoming May meeting, to present on:

"Searching for Spider Orchids".

Paul Piko is a native orchid enthusiast, and former committee member of the Australasian Native Orchid Society Victoria (ANOSVic). You might have seen some of his flora and fauna photos in the [APS Mitchell newsletters](#).

In this talk, Paul presents some of the orchid conservation activities that are being carried out in Victoria by individuals and organisations such as the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Bush Heritage Australia and ANOSVic. We will focus on some rare Spider Orchid species from the Goldfields. We will also hear about the discovery of a new location of a seldom seen Red Spider Orchid in Mitchell Shire, and the plans to expand the search for it this year.

The meeting will be held under the guidelines of our [Covid safe facility plan](#). Please read the plan (see back pages) prior to attending, & RSVP to Ian Julian: Ph: 0438 270 248 or email: [apsmitchell@gmail.com](mailto:apsmitchell@gmail.com) to assist in managing numbers.

Members & visitors are encouraged to bring along specimens for our evening "Flower Table".



*Caladenia clavescens*  
Photo: ©Paul Piko

## Memberships...

For all membership enquiries & information, please contact Christine Cram:  
Phone: 0458 238 270 or Email to the attention of the Membership Officer:  
[mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au)

Membership information, contact information, and current [membership form](#) can also be found at our website: <http://www.apsmitchell.org.au/membership/>

# April meeting report - Lesser known plants for the garden ...

By Jeanine Petts

It was great to see a slightly larger turnout than in April, with around 15 people come along to our May meeting. Again, Russell Wait brought along a range of delightful plants from his specialist *Eremophila* nursery for sale. As the meeting began, Norbert welcomed us all, announcing the great pleasure of having Royce and Jeanne Raleigh visit us, travelling all the way from their property, Wartook Gardens in the Grampians. As he handed the floor over to Royce, Norbert also noted (for those of us who may not be aware) that Royce regularly authors a series of articles in APS Victoria's *Growing Australian* magazine.

Royce began by sharing that he and Jeanne had both been school teachers, then ran a "farm stay" together whilst their "garden passion ran amok", eventually creating Wartook Gardens as it is today.

The opening slide shown was lovely image of *Phebalium nottii*, a pink flowered species endemic to NSW and QLD. Royce clarified that this species is not yet growing at Wartook, but that a visit was made to Marilyn Sprague's Wildflower farm as part of this trip, where they obtained a specimen from her. Royce further added that *P. nottii* is also found in a white form as well as its usual pink.

Providing a little more background history, Royce went on to explain that he and Jeanne lived in Montrose during the early 1970's, and were active members of the Montrose Environmental Group, along with Roger Elliot who was running the Austraflo Nursery.

Roger had found a 10 acre plot of land at The Grampians, selling for the princely sum of \$1,472.00. To purchase it, Roger formed a Co-op of families, each buying in at \$20.00 per family. Royce and Jeanne happily became members of the Co-op, spending many times camping on the property with their own 3 children (then under age 5). At times, along with other families, these trips involved 60-70 people. When stopping in Horsham on one such trip, Royce and Jeanne visited a local estate agent, who advised them that a local farmer was about to commence selling newly subdivided land at nearby Wartook. At that time Royce was teaching with Reg, Roger Elliot's father. He mentioned to Reg that land had become available at Wartook but he couldn't quite afford the deposit. Reg immediately took out his cheque book, lending Royce the sum needed to help meet the deposit, and now the rest is history.

The next two slides shown, were of a view from the property as it first was; a clear view across paddocks to the mountains. The second slide shows the same view as it is today; bare paddocks no longer in sight, instead a garden full of stunning colour, with the background trees and mountains beyond.

The question was posed: Did you have a plan? The answer being: not really, the only plan was to create a well-drained garden. To achieve this, pathways were formed by digging down, with the excess soil then being added to the garden beds. A three-inch deep layer of scoria (7mm fines) was used as mulch. Over subsequent years 1200 tons of scoria has been delivered then shifted by wheelbarrow to cover the garden beds at Wartook. Scoria has been chosen because it is highly permeable, allowing water to leach through to the soil underneath. It's a non-flammable mulch and also favours germination of seeds from the garden plants.

Initially there were some problems with plants not growing well when sited at the edges of the garden beds. Help was sought from Roger Elliot, who suggested that at the height of Summer, the soil temperature at the edges of unprotected garden beds was simply too high. To solve the problem, the beds were all edged with logs. As soon as the logs went down there were no further plant growth issues, and the logs also helped keep the scoria in place.

Next, Royce began to take us on a glorious A-Z photographic tour of individual species. Starting with a stunning image of *Acacia lasiocarpa*, a species from WA.

In a side note, there is great benefit in joining a plant Study Group such as the Acacia Study Group, which is free to join,

(Continued on page 4)



*Phebalium nottii*



Above: Wartook Gardens 1973

Below: Same view 40 years later



*Acacia lasiocarpa*

All photos: R & J Raleigh

*April meeting report continued...*

*(Continued from page 3)*

providing you are a member of an APS District Group (some other study groups may charge a small fee for printed newsletters). Each Study Group has an experienced leader, some groups organise field trips, garden visits and the like, with members sharing & learning from each other. (See *Growing Australian* for further information on Study Groups.)

Continuing on, further species were:

*Acacia pulviniformis* – Grows in damp areas, is very prickly, folds and spreads over logs. The original plant was sourced from Bill Pye.

*Anigozanthos* “Regal Claw” – The first hybrid ever produced, a cross between *A. flavidus* and *A. preissii*. Royce has a photo of *A. preissii* taken at Albany Cemetery WA.

*Babingtonia camphorosmae* Camphor Myrtle – A small shrub with arching branches and pink flowers that is endemic to the south west of WA. ([Pictured in last month's newsletter](#))

*Beaufortia cyrtodonta* – From the Stirling ranges in WA, and makes a great show of red flowers.

*Beaufortia sparsa* – Also from WA, and produces another great display with orange to red flowers appearing in summer and may extend into autumn.

*Beaufortia purpurea* – Has small flowers at the tip of branches. It responds well to watering. ([Pictured in last month's newsletter](#))

*Beaufortia shaueri* – Another small shrub from the Stirling ranges in WA with mauve or pink flowers. It flowers in November at Wartook. ([Pictured in last month's newsletter](#))

*Beaufortia squarosa* – Is striking when in flower and is found in red, yellow and white flowering forms.

*Boronia anemonifolia* subsp. *variabilis* – Is from the east coast of Tasmania and found in rocky sites. It is long lived, and makes a great display in flower.

*Boronia megastigma lutea* – From WA with lemon yellow flowers.

*Calytrix depressa* – Is found from Geraldton to Esperance in WA, with a variety of flower forms ranging from pinks, blue-violet, yellow-white.

*Calytrix drummondii* – A yellow flowered species from WA.



*Acacia pulviniformis*



*Beaufortia cyrtodonta*



*Anigozanthos* “Regal Claw”



*Beaufortia squarosa*



*Beaufortia sparsa*



*Boronia anemonifolia* subsp. *variabilis*



*Boronia megastigma lutea*



*Calytrix depressa*



*Calytrix drummondii*

All photos: R & J Raleigh

*(Continued on page 5)*

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 4)

*Calytrix fraseri* – A small shrub again from WA. It doesn't seem much of a plant until in flower, when it is covered in pink to purple flowers.



*Calytrix fraseri*



*Calytrix sapphirina*

*Calytrix sapphirina* – Another WA species with pink-blue-purple flowers. It is not currently growing at Wartook Gardens; however, it is on the “would love to grow” list.

*Calotis cuneifolia* – Endemic to NSW, a species once found in nurseries.



*Calotis cuneifolia*



*Billardiera variifolia*

*Billardiera variifolia* – A WA moderate climber that likes good light, and has lovely blue-purple or white to cream flowers.

*Calothamnus homolophyllus* – Endemic to WA, and has an upright habit, fleshy green leaves, and red claw flowers.

*Chamelaucium uncinatum* – Is from WA, and there are both coastal and inland forms. Both are growing at Wartook. The coastal form can have bigger foliage than the inland form. Flower colour ranges from white into pinks, with colour often deepening with age.



*Chamelaucium megalopetalum*



*Conostylis bealiana*

*Chamelaucium megalopetalum* – Again from WA, with both white and pink flower forms that bloom for long periods.

*Conostylis aculeata* – From WA and the genera is in the same family as Kangaroo Paws. At Wartook Gardens, *Conostylis* species are proving easier to grow than Kangaroo Paws.



*Conostylis setigera*



*Conostylis setosa*

*Conostylis bealiana* – A hardy plant from WA that flowers from winter into spring.

*Conostylis robusta* – Also from WA and the largest of *Conostylis* species. (See photo pg.1)

*Conostylis setigera* – Often sold under the name of Lemon Lights.



*Coopernookia polygalacea*



*Dampiera adpressa*

*Conostylis setosa* – Again from WA, and the only White *Conostylis*

*Conostylis vaginata* – From south west WA.

*Coopernookia polygalacea* – Grows near Ravensthorpe WA. *Coopernookia* are related to *Dampiera*.

*Dampiera adpressa* – From the Pilliga NSW, and QLD.

All photos: R & J Raleigh

(Continued on page 6)

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 5)

*Dampiera altissima* – Is endemic to NSW & QLD. There are two foliage forms; one green, the other grey.

*Dampiera linearis* – Another WA species. It puts on a terrific display of blue flowers and fits in small areas.

*Dampiera pedunculata* – A low growing WA species that reaches three inches high and bears masses of purple flowers. (See photo pg.1)

*Dampiera rosmarinifolia* – Native to both Victoria and SA. Grows to 2m across, and is found in a variety of colour forms; blues, white & pinks. *Dampiera* in particular are thriving at Wartook Gardens. Take soft tips for cutting material.

*Dampiera sacculata* – From WA, a species that naturally suckers widely.

*Dampiera teres* – Endemic to WA (north of Perth), The blue flowered form grows to 1m spread. The pink form is not as vigorous. *Dampiera* come back after fire.

*Darwinia oldfieldii* – A WA species that needs frost protection and is grown under other sheltering plants at Wartook.

*Darwinia taxifolia* subsp. *macrolaena* – Is found in both QLD and NSW. It bears prolific red flowers.

*Diplolaena velutina* – A WA species that is hard to find for sale.

*Epacris impressa* – Our Victorian State Floral Emblem. Along with Victoria, it is found in SA, Tasmania & NSW. Royce made a point of saying this species should be grown more often in gardens. A very old specimen at Wartook has lived long enough to develop two-inch stems, and has grown to between six to eight feet high.

*Epacris longiflora* – Ranges from eastern NSW to south-eastern QLD. There are three colour forms; pink & white, red & white, and all white.

*Eremaea asterocarpa* subsp. *histoclada* – Has orange flowers and comes from the Geraldton Sand Plains of WA. (Not yet grown at Wartook, but on the wish list.)

*Eremaea fimbriata* – Roger Elliot used to propagate this pink to pink-purple flowered WA species. It is now hard to find seed or cutting material for propagation. It has urn-like, woody seed capsules, and the urn needs to rot or requires fire to propagate.



*Dampiera altissima*



*Dampiera linearis*



*Dampiera rosmarinifolia*



*Dampiera teres*



*Darwinia oldfieldii*



*Diplolaena velutina*



*Epacris impressa*



*Epacris longiflora*



*Eremaea asterocarpa* subsp. *histoclada*



*Eremaea fimbriata*

All photos: R & J Raleigh

(Continued on page 7)

*April meeting report continued...*

*(Continued from page 6)*

*Eremaea beaufortioides* – Orange flowered, and endemic to WA.

*Eremaea purpurea* – A WA species that grows quite readily. Most *Eremaea* flower in summer.

*Eremaea violacea* – Endemic to WA. The younger branches have a hairy form, and flowers are a deep purple colour.

*Gastrolobium truncatum* – A great WA pea-flower well suited to cascading over banks or logs etc.

*Gossypium sturtianum* – AKA Sturt’s Desert Rose, and is found in all states except WA and Tasmania.

*Grevillea preissii* subsp. *glabrilimba* – A WA *Grevillea* that puts on a great display over winter-Spring of bright red flowers, contrasting against silvery foliage.

*Hibbertia selkii* – A small upright *Hibbertia* with orange/yellow flowers, occurring over a small range in south west WA. In June Royce & Jeanne’s daughter found and photographed this six-inch high specimen in the Stirling Ranges. It is on the wish list to grow at Wartook.

*Homoranthus flavescens* – Occurs in QLD and NSW. A great plant with a low flat-topped habit that would suit a Japanese styled garden. Usually reaching 1m or a little more in width, however, it has been seen to reach 7m across in optimum conditions.

*Hovea acanthoclada* – Royce & Jeanne obtained seed from Nindethana Seed Service to propagate this spiny stemmed species from the southwest of WA. Its mostly purple or blue flowers occur in autumn.

*Hovea pungens* – A prickly blue-purple flowered species from WA that sets lots of seed.

*Hypocalymma puniceum* – A small spreading shrub from inland south western WA that grows to 1m . It bears gorgeous masses of pink-red flowers from summer into autumn.

*Hypocalymma xanthopetalum* – This golden-yellow flowered species from WA bears flowers for 12 months of the year at Wartook Gardens.

*Isopogon anemonifolius* – Is endemic to NSW coastal regions and holds its striking yellow drumstick flowers above the foliage. It needs more rain in summer than usually falls at Wartook.



*Eremaea violacea*



*Gastrolobium truncatum*



*Gossypium sturtianum*



*Grevillea preissii* subsp. *glabrilimba*



*Hibbertia selkii*



*Homoranthus flavescens*



*Hovea pungens*



*Hypocalymma puniceum*



*Hypocalymma xanthopetalum*



*Isopogon anemonifolius*  
All photos: R & J Raleigh

*(Continued on page 8)*

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 7)

*Isopogon dawsonii* – Is another NSW species and bears soft creamy cone-flowers. It grows to 2m, seedlings come up in the garden and its leaves turn red with the winter cold at Wartook.



*Isopogon dawsonii*



*Kennedia prostrata* white form

*Kennedia prostrata* white form – This species generally has red flowers and is found in all states excepting QLD and NT. Although the white form is not that floriferous, it does set plenty of seed, and white in the garden is useful to set off/highlight other coloured flowers.

*Kunzea pauciflora* – Has pink flowers and is endemic to a small area on the south west coast of WA. In the garden it grows to 1m high.



*Kunzea pauciflora*



*Kunzea ericifolia*

*Kunzea ericifolia* – Has an upright form, hairy foliage and yellow flowers. It is endemic to the south west coastal corner of WA, and is sometimes sold under the name of *K. vestita*.

*Lechenaultia biloba* – From WA and is naturally found in a range of colour forms; commonly in vivid blues, paler blues, blue & white & pure white.



*Lechenaultia biloba*



*Lechenaultia* "Ultra Violet"

*Lechenaultia* "Ultra Violet" – Is a hybrid developed by Greg Lamont in Gosford NSW during the mid-1980's, and is a cross between *L. biloba* and *L. formosa*. Jeanne related that a specimen planted at Wartook had been thought lost, and was then cut off at ground level, but up it came the next year. So Jeanne's advice is: Don't pull out dead plants, just cut them off. They may reshoot and surprise you.

*Lechenaultia formosa* – Also from WA and is found in a variety of colours; red, orange, yellow and pinks. The species is easy to propagate from cuttings.



*Lechenaultia formosa*



*Leionema dentatum*

*Leionema dentatum* – Grows to 2.5m tall and is from NSW. It is planted in the wrong spot at Wartook so is regularly pruned.

*Malleostemon roseus* – A WA species that makes a great display of pink flowers, but is hard to propagate.



*Malleostemon roseus*



*Melaleuca conothamnoides*  
Photos: R & J Raleigh

*Melaleuca barlowii* – Endemic in the northern area of south west WA, and holds pink-mauve-purple pom-pom flowers at the end of branches.

*Melaleuca conothamnoides* – A WA species that is slow growing, long lived and keeps its rounded shape.

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*April meeting report continued...*

(Continued from page 8)

*Melaleuca micromera* – An interesting and unique *Melaleuca* from the south west of WA. It has tiny leaves and bears a profusion of small yellow flowers. Easy to propagate from cuttings as it strikes very well.



*Melaleuca micromera*



*Melaleuca eximia*

*Melaleuca eximia* – A WA species that has lovely red flowers and longer strap-like foliage.

*Melaleuca leptospermoides* – A low growing spreading shrub from WA that reaches to 2m across, and bears masses of purple-pink flowers. It never needs supplementary watering at Wartook.



*Melaleuca leptospermoides*



*Melaleuca urceolaris*

*Melaleuca macronychia* – A medium sized shrub growing to 3m from WA that bears large red flower spikes. It can get straggly, and can be cut back as it will reshoot following a hard pruning.

*Melaleuca spathulata* – Endemic to WA, grows to 2m high and is very showy in flower, bearing masses of bright mauve pom-pom flowers.



*Melaleuca urceolaris* – A low spreading shrub endemic to the south west of WA. This species bears prolific pale cream flowers that develop a pinkish tinge as they age.

*Micromyrtus ciliata* – A low growing, small shrub with softly arching branches. Endemic to NSW, Vic and SA, it bears masses of small white flowers that age to pink.



*Micromyrtus ciliata*



*Micromyrtus leptocaylx*

*Micromyrtus leptocaylx* – Is endemic to QLD, has yellow flowers and a semi-weeping habit. It suffers in the frost at Wartook.

*Mirbelia floribunda* – Is another plant on the Wartook Gardens wish list and not yet being grown. Seen growing road-side in WA, the species is endemic and widespread across the south west of WA. It bears vibrant blue-purple pea-flowers that contrast against its tiny whorled leaves.



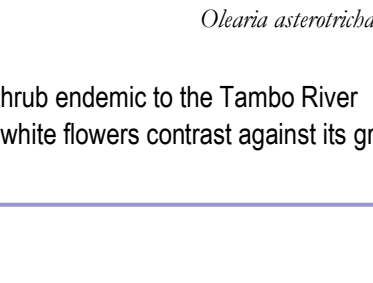
*Mirbelia floribunda*



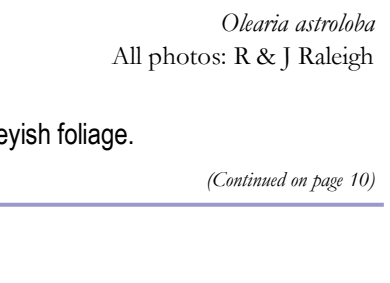
*Mirbelia oxylobioides*

*Mirbelia oxylobioides* – Endemic to NSW and Victoria, it has two forms; spreading low growing (six inches high at Wartook), or upright growing to 1.5m.

*Olearia asterotricha* – Endemic to Victoria (including Halls Gap) and a limited range in NSW, this small shrub bears large blue-mauve or white daisy-flowers with a 2-inch diameter. (Not yet grown at Wartook Gardens & on the wish list)



*Olearia asterotricha*



*Olearia astroloba*

*Olearia astroloba* – Is a very rare endangered sub-alpine shrub endemic to the Tambo River region where it grows on cliffs. Blue-mauve-violet, pink or white flowers contrast against its greyish foliage.

All photos: R & J Raleigh

(Continued on page 10)

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 9)

*Olearia homolepis* – Is endemic to WA and makes a great display of blue or white flowers. It is grown under a large *Eucalyptus* at Wartook Gardens.



*Olearia homolepis*



*Olearia pimeleoides*  
Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, WA

*Olearia pimeleoides*

*Olearia pimeleoides* – This species bears white flowers, and is endemic across WA, SA, Victoria and into QLD. Although Royce & Jeanne keep losing specimens grown at Wartook, it is a great plant.

*Persoonia chamaepitys* – Is endemic to NSW and is found in yellow and orange colour forms, with the orange flowered variety being the prettier of the two. The flowers can be subtly fragrant and contrast against bright green, fine, soft foliage.



*Persoonia chamaepitys* Orange form



*Pimelea physodes*

*Pimelea physodes* – AKA Qualup Bell, is from the Fitzgerald River region in WA, and has stunning pendulous flower heads. Successful specimens in cultivation are all grafted.

*Petrophile fastigiata* – A 35-year-old garden specimen of this was recently lost at Wartook. It is endemic to the southwest of WA, and puts on a great show of yellow cone-flowers.



*Petrophile fastigiata*



*Petrophile pulchella*

*Petrophile pulchella* – Is endemic to coastal NSW and south eastern QLD. It has an upright form and produces a profusion of creamy flower spikes. (Ed. A differentiating ID feature from *Isopogon*, is that *Petrophile* retain mature seed cones on the plant, whilst they are shed in *Isopogon*.)



*Pileanthus peduncularis* WA



*Phymatocarpus maxwellii*

*Pileanthus peduncularis* – Is a fabulously showy plant when bearing its masses of coppery orange flowers. It is a low spreading shrub growing to 1m and endemic to the mid west coast region of WA.

Photo: Ruth Raleigh

*Pileanthus peduncularis*

*Phymatocarpus maxwellii* – With its pink to purple pom-pom flowers, this species in the Myrtaceae family resembles many small *Melaleuca*. Endemic to the south west of WA, it is widespread across the Esperance and Ravensthorpe regions.



*Pseudanthus pimeleoides*

*Pseudanthus pimeleoides* – A small erect shrub from NSW that grows to 1m high, and bears creamy-white flowers. A great white flowering plant for setting off other colours in the garden.



*Pultenaea polifolia*

*Pultenaea polifolia* – While this species is endemic to both NSW and Vic, it is widespread in eastern NSW and considered uncommon/rare in Victoria being only found in the far north east corner. It bears masses of yellow/orange-red egg and bacon flowers.

All photos except *Pileanthus pedunculata* R & J Raleigh  
*Pileanthus pedunculata* Images:  
Ruth Raleigh  
(Continued on page 11)

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 10)

*Regelia velutina* – Endemic to the Esperance Plains area of coastal southern WA. It has velvety leaves and bears large clusters of bright red-orange flowers. Royce and Jeanne had believed the species to be frost tender. However, it is growing at Marilyn Sprague’s Wildflower Farm in Bendigo and apparently tolerating the local frosts.



*Regelia velutina*



*Regelia inops*

*Regelia inops* – Has tiny stem-clasping leaves and bears small bright pink-mauve flowers. It is endemic to WA and widespread across the south western province.

*Regelia megacephala* – Is from WA and found in a small range north of Perth. It bears purple-red flowers and is a great little plant for small spaces such as alongside driveways etc.



*Regelia megacephala*



*Ricinocarpos bowmanii*

*Ricinocarpos bowmanii* – A lovely low growing plant from NSW into southern QLD. It bears masses of white star-shaped flowers.

*Swainsona formosa* – AKA Sturt’s Desert Pea, and is endemic in arid areas across all states except Victoria. Mostly known for its bright red flowers, however, it is found in a range of hybridised colour forms, and a naturally occurring white form. It needs good drainage with bottom watering, so is best grown in containers.



*Swainsona formosa*



*Swainsona stipularis*

*Swainsona stipularis* – The Orange Darling Pea, is mainly found in arid regions of NSW, QLD, SA and is very rare in Victoria. Royce noted that it currently appears in the APS Vic Seed Bank lists.

*Swainsona tephrotricha* – AKA the Ash Pea, and is a rare species from the northern region of the Flinders Ranges of SA. It has brilliant rose-pink flowers contrasting with grey-green leaves.



*Swainsona tephrotricha*



*Thomasia grandiflora*

*Thomasia grandiflora* – Is native to the southwestern corner of WA and grows to 1m. Flowers are pinkish-purple, open, papery, crinkled and 2cm across, occurring mid-late winter into spring. There is also a white form.

*Thomasia pygmaea* – Endemic to a limited range in southwest WA, this small spreading shrub is stunning in flower. Bearing masses of pendant, lantern shaped, pinkish-purple, speckled flowers from late winter into spring.



*Thomasia pygmaea*



*Thryptomene hyporhytis*  
Photos: R & J Raleigh

*Thryptomene hyporhytis* – A fragrant small shrub endemic to southwest WA, north of Perth, up to the Geraldton region. Prolific small pink or white flowers cover the bush winter into spring.

(Continued on page 12)

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 11)

*Thryptomene strongylophylla* – Endemic to WA, north of Perth up into the Geraldton region. Masses of small pink-purple flowers occur late autumn into spring. A hard-to-find blue form is worth looking for.



*Thryptomene strongylophylla*



*Tricoryne elatior*

*Tricoryne elatior* – AKA Yellow Rush Lily is a rhizomatous, perennial, herb that is found in all states. It is best suited to a sunny position and can bear yellow flowers between October to March. Flowers open with warmth & sunlight.

*Verticordia plumosa* var. *grandiflora* – Is found in the coastal regions of southwest WA. It bears white flowers with pink centres, that when fully open at 1cm diameter are the largest among *Verticordia* species.



*Verticordia plumosa* var. *grandiflora*



*Verticordia chrysantha*

*Verticordia chrysantha* – A small, slow growing, bushy shrub with bright yellow flowers that is widespread throughout southwestern WA. A garden specimen at Wartook lived for 45 years.

*Verticordia chrysostachys* var. *pallida* – Is a recent addition to the garden at Wartook. It usually bears yellow to cream flowers from spring into summer. It is still currently in flower at Wartook with summer watering.



*Verticordia chrysostachys* var. *pallida*



*Verticordia fastigiata*

*Verticordia fastigiata* – A small low to prostrate, sometimes rounded shrub. It is endemic to southwestern WA and bears flowers that can vary in colour from greenish-golden-yellow and orange to dark red. The species is slow growing and a specimen at Wartook Gardens is 40-years-old and only 200mm high.

*Verticordia grandis* – Is a straggly slender shrub from southwestern WA, north of Perth up to around Geraldton. It can be variable in size from 0.5m up to 4m in height, bearing strikingly bright red flowers spiking out along its upper branches for four to five months of the year; from late winter into early summer. There are also two pink forms available.



*Verticordia grandis*



*Verticordia mitchelliana*

*Verticordia mitchelliana* – Is a low, spreading to prostrate shrub that can reach up to 3m wide. It is endemic across southwestern WA and there are two subspecies. Flowers contrast against soft silvery foliage and are generally bright red, but can also be pink, yellow or orange.

*Verticordia monadelphica* - Is a dense, rounded, variable sized shrub from 0.7-2m that is endemic southwestern WA. It can be covered in masses of pink to magenta or white flowers in spring and early summer. It is among the 60 plus species of *Verticordia* that are grown by Marilynn Sprague in Bendigo.



*Verticordia monadelphica*

All photos: R & J Raleigh

## April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 12)

*Verticordia muelleriana* – Endemic to southwest WA, north of Perth and up towards Geraldton. It is variable in height growing from 0.45m to around 2.5m, with mid-green foliage and bears bright pink-purple-red-deep maroon flowers in spring-summer.

*Verticordia ovalifolia* – An open branched shrub that usually grows to around just under 1m with flower colour forms ranging from pinkish-cream and soft to deep pinks. It is endemic to southwest WA.

Wrapping up the slide show, the last image shown was that of an unknown plant, found roadside in WA, possibly a *Mirbelia* that has beautiful blue pea-flowers and rounded oval leaves.

A brief discussion followed with Royce and Jeanne commenting that they swear by scoria for mulch, citing that during some of the heaviest local rainfalls, particularly those referred to as “the Grampians floods in the 1990’s” downpours soaked right into the garden beds, filtering through into the soil without washaway.

A side note also mentioned (with regard to sourcing native plants), is that Bunnings is now stocking plants from Mt Gambia based Native Plant Wholesalers.

In closing, Royce reminded us that Wartook Gardens will again be open this year. They are hosting a weekend open day fund raiser for the hospital on first weekend in October; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, which, is the same weekend as the Pomonal Flower Show. Why not make the full weekend of it and take in both the Gardens and Flower Show?

With the main presentation complete, we moved on to announcements, the evening plant raffle, discussion on a selection of flower table specimens before breaking for supper and chat.

Items of note included:

Russell Wait has a new book coming out (see front page for details.)

Raffle winners were: Bill, new members; Debbie and Jan, and (I think, if I remember correctly) either Chris or Ian. The prize selections were:

*Darwinia citriodora* – A small to medium spreading shrub 1-2m high x 1-2m wide with oval lemon scented foliage. Reddish flowers occur spring & summer. It prefers some shade, but tolerates full sun and requires well-drained soil.

*Correa pulchella* – A dense small, bird-attracting shrub that grows from 0.2-1m high x 1m wide with smooth green oval leaves. Orange or pink tubular flowers occur in autumn, winter and spring. It prefers dry or moist well-drained soils in full to filtered sun.

*Eremophila maculata* – A variable shrub growing from 0.5-2m high x 1-2m wide and has dark green leaves. Bird-attracting spotted tubular flowers of pink, purple, red, yellow or orange can occur sporadically year-round with a main flush winter to spring. It is reliable and long-lived in cultivation, suiting range of soil types with reasonable drainage. Grows best in full sun to light shade and tolerates dry periods.

*Verticordia x Chamelaucium* – A hybrid that forms a bushy erect shrub growing to 1.2-2m & has fragrant spicy foliage. Prefers well-drained, sandy soils in a part to full-sun



*Verticordia muelleriana*  
Photo: R & J Raleigh



*Verticordia ovalifolia*  
Photo: R & J Raleigh



*Darwinia citriodora*  
Photo: Brett Montgomery  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwinia\\_citriodora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Darwinia_citriodora)



*Correa pulchella*  
Photo: Brian Walters  
<http://anpsa.org.au/c-pulc.html>



*Eremophila maculata*  
Photo: Brian Walters  
<http://anpsa.org.au/e-mac1.html>

(Continued on page 14)

# April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 13)

position. Showy rose-pink flowers occur in spring-summer. Tolerates drought & light to possibly moderate frost (-4c). Is good for cut flowers. Known to have several hybrid varieties: 'Eric John' 1.5m, 'Paddy's Pink' 2x2m, and 'Susie' 1x1m

Lastly, some of the flower table specimens displayed and discussed were:

A *Correa* - From the garden of Ray Barnes, the species name has been lost. However, Ray described it as growing 1.5m high & wide with dark grey-green leaves and was currently covered in flowers (Ed. Apologies folks, I failed to note the flower colour and my memory has lapsed).

*Grevillea treueriana* – AKA Mt Finke Grevillea. The books say this showy bright orange red flowered species grows to 1m x 1m. However, the 20-year-old specimen in Ray's garden has reached 3.5m tall x 2.5m wide.

*Acacia beckleri* – The Barrier Range Wattle, a medium, generally erect, open shrub growing from 2-4m High x 1.5-3-4m wide. Grows in well-drained soil, & partial to full sun. Golden, large flower heads occur June-Oct. Frost hardy, although can be subject to tip damage in heavy frosts.

*Boronia crenulata* – This WA species forms a small compact shrub growing to 1m x 1m. Pink flowers occur most of the year.

*Callistemon* "Injune" A hardy semi-weeping large shrub to small tree growing to 2-5m. Soft pink flowers appear in Spring and often again in Summer or Autumn. The flowers fade to cream. Great screening plant or small feature tree. Great for attracting birds to the garden.

*Correa* 'Little Cate' – A pink flowered *C. pulchella* cultivar that reaches to 50-60cm X 1-1.5m. It grows in full sun to part-shade, prefers well drained soil, is bird attracting, and drought and frost hardy. Occasional tip pruning will keep the plant dense.

*Correa* 'Pink Mist' – Another mid-pink flowered *C. pulchella* cultivar and is a compact shrub growing to 75cm X 1m that is suited to full sun or part shade. It does best in moist soil but is drought tolerant. Also suitable for tubs & rockeries, and is bird attracting.

*Eremophila maculata* "Prolific Pink" – A small, low growing, Spotted Emu Bush cultivar that grows to 0.9m. It prefers heavier soils in full sun and is both frost and drought tolerant. It puts on a stand out show of bright pink flowers with orange buds.



*Verticordia x Chamelaucium* Image: <https://gcln.org.au/genus/chamelaucium-x-verticordia/>



*Grevillea treueriana*  
Photo: Brian Walters  
[//anpsa.org.au/g-tre.html](http://anpsa.org.au/g-tre.html)



*Acacia beckleri* Image: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acacia\\_beckleri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acacia_beckleri)



*Boronia crenulata*  
Photo: J Petts



*Callistemon* "Injune" Image: <https://www.nativeshop.com.au/products/callistemon-injune>



*Correa pulchella* "Little Cate"  
Photo: J Petts



*Correa pulchella* "Pink Mist"  
Image:

<https://www.plantmark.com.au/correa-pulchella-pink-mist>



*Eremophila maculata* "Prolific Pink"  
Photo: J Petts

(Continued on page 15)

## April meeting report continued...

(Continued from page 14)

*Persoonia chamaepitys* the Mountain Geebung (yellow flower form) – Is a ground cover growing to 0.20m x 1.5m with bright green crowded leaves. Grows in well-drained soil, with full sun to part shade. Lightly perfumed flowers occur in summer and autumn. It grows well under eucalypts and can withstand periods of dry weather but dislikes humid or wet conditions.



*Persoonia chamaepitys* Photo: J Petts

*Prostanthera monticola* Buffalo Mint-bush – A sprawling open shrub growing 0.3-2.5m high x 1-3m wide. It is endemic to the Mt Buffalo area where it is locally common in *Eucalyptus delegatensis* forest or *E. pauciflora* woodlands. Grows in full sun to part shade, in a well-drained soil. Summer flowering, pale bluish-green flowers occur Dec-Feb.



Above: *Prostanthera monticola*  
Below: *Solanum laciniatum*  
Photos: J Petts

*Solanum laciniatum* – The Large Kangaroo Apple is a very fast growing local/regional species of variable habit that in full sun and moist soils can grow to reach 4m x 5m. It has large dark green leaves and large blue-purple flowers that are followed by yellow/orange berries. When found in local shaded woodland conditions it is often much smaller growing. It prefers well-drained soil, is bird attracting as a large specimen provides both feed and shelter for small birds. It can however, be can be very readily spread by said birds. It may be listed as a bush-tucker plant but take careful note that its berries are poisonous when green/immature. It is very hardy in more moist soils & useful as a screen plant.



*Prostanthera monticola*  
Photo: Richard Hartland  
[https://apps.lucidcentral.org/plants\\_se\\_nsw/text/entities/prostanthera\\_monticola.htm](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/plants_se_nsw/text/entities/prostanthera_monticola.htm)

## Local Xerochrysum species...

By Norbert Ryan

The genus *Xerochrysum* includes species variously referred to as “strawflower, paper daisy or golden everlasting”. These flowers are distinguished by the presence of numerous dry, papery bracts resembling petals, which surround central florets. (The designation “strawflowers” is not restricted to this genus, there are other genera in Australia that belong in this category e.g. *Rodanthe*, *Chrysocephalum*, *Ixodia* etc.). The most recognised *Xerochrysum* species is *X. bracteatum*. Although this species occurs in a range of extreme environments Australia-wide, it is considered to be locally rare around Melbourne. The species caught the attention of early botanists; it was first cultivated in England in 1791 then taxonomically described as a *Helichrysum bracteata* in 1805. By 1850 it was popularized in Europe by a German horticulturist who bred cultivars of colours ranging from white to purple. It is thought that colours other than cream and gold arose from hybridization with *Helichrysum* spp. From Africa, Madagascar and Asia. The overseas interest in *H. bracteata* led to their introduction as garden plants in Australia in the 1860’s. There are now numerous cultivars available with enhanced colour and flower size. These are generally erect to 80cm, but can be sprawling plants with leaves 1.5-10cm length and 0.5-2cm width.

The genus has undergone several name changes. *Helichrysum bracteata*, the principal species studied, was renamed when the “strawflowers” were transferred to a new genus, *Bracteantha* in 1991. However this work was

# Local *Xerochrysum* species continued...

By Norbert Ryan

(Continued from page 15)

preceded in 1990 by a Russian botanist who had already grouped these species as the genus *Xerochrysum*. The name *Bracteantha* continued in use for some years, especially in the horticultural industry but the earlier precedence prevailed and *Xerochrysum* became the official nomenclature from 2002. The name is derived from xeros and chrysos meaning dry and golden. Despite species sharing common characteristics the genus is recognised as polyphyletic, or not sharing a common source. Nevertheless some hybridization of species has been reported.

In keeping with other Asteraceae (daisies), the central flower head of *Xerochrysum* spp. contains numerous florets. In this genus the florets vary in form, generally the outer layer are female while central ones are hermaphrodites. The modified calyx or pappus carries bristles that surround the florets. These bristles persist as the seed matures and aid in the wind dispersal of seed which is 2-3 mm long. The colourful bracts attract a variety of insects, especially butterflies. Flowering time can extend from Spring to March. Propagation can be from cuttings, splitting of rhizomes or from seed. Germination is from 4-30 days after sowing.

In contrast with the more robust *X. bracteatum*, local species are compact. *X. viscosum* or sticky everlasting is an erect perennial ranging from 20-80cm with multiple stems. Flowers 20-30mm wide, occur at the tips of stems, their colour is derived from the papery bracts which can vary in colour from lemon-gold-orange-bronze, flowering can extend from Spring to Autumn and flowers are long lasting. Foliage is dark green, leaves 30-100mm x 2-10mm with recurved margins. The young foliage is sticky to touch. Bushes should be pruned heavily in late Autumn-Winter to encourage new growth. With the wetter season in 2020 this species has flowered heavily, it can be seen in profusion along the Northern Highway from Pyalong onwards, also found in reserves such as Monument Hill, Mt Piper and in the Pretty Sally area. This species has been largely overlooked as a garden plant but it is an ideal candidate for a long-lasting splash of colour, particularly suited for growing in a wildflower meadow. Although self-seeding occurs, the odd plants that occur are initially quite small and easily accommodated.

*X. palustre* or Swamp Everlasting is also perennial and is far more restricted in distribution, this can be attributed to draining of swamplands and the foliage being attractive to grazing livestock. In a recent survey of Merri Creek headwaters, this species was found in Herne's swamp, located south of Wallan. It is considered to be critically endangered in Victoria. The leaves are lance shaped, 3-10 cm x 3-8mm, with a pointed tip. The upper sections of stem are covered in cobweb type hairs. This species is very useful for mass planting in bogs or in wet areas surrounding ponds. With tall flower stalks it is thought to have potential for the cut-flower industry.

References: Everlasting Daisies of Australia, 2002, Australian Daisy Study Group; *Xerochrysum viscosum*, Australian National Herbarium; *Xerochrysum bracteatum*, Wikipedia; *Xerochrysum palustre*, Merri Creek management Committee; Plants of Melbourne's Western Plains 2nd edition 2012, Australian Plants Society, Keilor Plains Group; Flora of Melbourne 4th edition 2014, Marilyn Bull



Above: *Xerochrysum viscosum* Bushland setting on dry hillside (November) showing mature flowers and numerous buds. Mature flowers show orange central florets surrounded by lower fringe of yellow bracts  
Photo Norbert Ryan  
Below: *X. viscosum* In garden  
Photo: J Petts



*Xerochrysum viscosum* - Shows seeds, some with attached pappus, which, is covered in bristles; remains of central style also visible in some.  
Photo: Norbert Ryan



## Reminders, APS Victoria Diary Dates & Other Events

### Thank you

- For the various contributions of articles, answering pesky questions, event information, photos, feedback, proof-reading, researching & providing other information as needed and general support...

#### A BIG THANK YOU TO:

Janis Baker,  
Christine Cram,  
Ian Julian,  
Paul Piko,  
Royce & Jeanne Raleigh,  
Norbert Ryan,  
Russell Wait.

#### APS VIC DIARY DATES...

In line with ongoing advice on COVID-19 (coronavirus), restrictions may apply or effect APS-related events.

APS Victoria will endeavour to keep event status updated on the APS Victoria website: <https://apsvic.org.au/events/>

Or check with the event organiser.

**May 8 & 9 - Cranbourne Growing Friends Weekend Plant Sale.** Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne 10am - 4pm. Check [www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au](http://www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au) for plant list and to ensure that the sale is going ahead prior to the sale.

**June 2021 - APS Vic COM Shepparton.** Date & details to be advised.

**June 26 & 27 - APS Ballarat Winter Flower Show.** Flower show, plant sales etc. Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gillies Street, Ballarat. 10am - 4pm.

**September 11 & 12 - APS Grampians Group host APS Victoria COM Meeting.**

**September 25 & 26 - APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo,** Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 903 Main Rd, Eltham. 10 am - 4 pm.

**October 2 & 3 - APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show,**

Pomonal Hall. 9am-5pm on Saturday, 9am-4pm on Sunday.

**October 9 - APS Echuca Moama Native Flower Showcase,** Echuca Masonic Lodge Hall, 426 High Street, Echuca. A huge flower display, plant sales, floral art, Native Bonsai, basket weaving and other displays and demonstrations. 9 am - 4 pm.

**October 16 - APS Mitchell Annual Flower Expo and Sale,** Memorial Hall, Kilmore.

(Continued on page 18)

## Committee & Contact Information

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY, MITCHELL GROUP INC.

PO Box 541, Kilmore, Victoria, 3764

No. A0054306V

Email: [mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au)

Website: [www.apsmitchell.org.au](http://www.apsmitchell.org.au)

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Vice President: Dawn McCormack  
Secretary: Ian Julian 0438 270 248  
Email: [secretary@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:secretary@apsmitchell.org.au)  
Treasurer/Memberships:  
Christine Cram 0458 238 270  
Committee: Bill Barker, Jeanine Petts,  
Victoria Morris.  
Group Librarian: Volunteer position open  
Plant Sales: Volunteer position open  
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Gardens for Wildlife Coordinator: Gerry Ho Email:  
[g4w@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:g4w@apsmitchell.org.au)

#### Newsletter contributions:

Contributions should be sent to Jeanine Petts  
Email: [wattlegum@southernphone.com.au](mailto:wattlegum@southernphone.com.au)

Post: PO Box 381, Pyalong Vic 3521

For inclusion in the next Newsletter please forward contributions prior to the first Monday of each month.

## Local Nurseries open for business ...

Please remember to support our local native nurseries...

**Valley of 1000 Hills Nursery** (David & Helen Laurie)  
Supplying indigenous tubes stocks.  
150 Reid Rd, Reedy Creek.  
Open Saturdays 10am to 5pm. Phone: 03 5784 9286

**Ironstone Park** (Peter & Joan Broughton)  
Specialising in rare, unusual & hard to find native plants.  
Lot 33 Paling Rd, Heathcote.  
Open by appointment: The garden is looking fabulous with many unusual natives worth looking at. Call Pete on: 0419 878 950 if you would like an appointment or arrange to have plants dropped off.

**Russell Wait** - Eremophila specialist  
Russell grows *Eremophila*, some standard *Grevillea*, and does occasionally have a small quantity of other species. Held in his garden is the Botanical Collection of Eremophila for Plant Trust: which, he has held for approximately 25 years.  
11 Tranter Close, Riddells Creek.  
Open by appointment: Visitors need to telephone first to arrange access. Mobile reception in the area is very poor, so the landline is the preferred & most reliable method of contact.  
Telephone: 03 54287956 Mobile: 0428 388 211

## *Diary Dates & Other Events continued...*

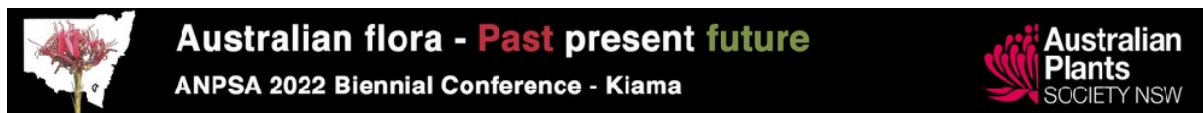
*(Continued from page 17)*

**October 23 & 24 - APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show.** Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gillies Street, Ballarat. 10 am – 4 pm.

**November 13 & 14 - Garden DesignFest, Metro Melbourne & Mornington Peninsula.** Further details at [www.gardendesignfest.com.au](http://www.gardendesignfest.com.au)

**November 20 & 21 - Garden DesignFest, Regional Victoria: Ballarat, Euroa, Geelong and Macedon Area.** Further details at [www.gardendesignfest.com.au](http://www.gardendesignfest.com.au)

### 2022



**September 11 – 16, 2022 - ANPSA Biennial Conference 2022 – Kiama, New South Wales.** Preliminary details of the Conference, pre- and post-Conference tours and the beautiful town of Kiama can be found on the APS (NSW) website:

<https://austplants.com.au/ANPSA-Biennial-Conference-2022>

**September 26 to 30, 2022 - 7<sup>th</sup> Global Botanic Gardens Congress, Melbourne.** *Influence and Action: Botanic Gardens as Agents of Change.* Includes a youth program for future gardens' leaders aged 18 to 24.

**October 15 & 16, 2022 -14<sup>th</sup> FJC Rogers Seminar.** Topic: Fabulous peas (the typical 'pea-flowered' plants from the sub-family Faboideae). York on Lilydale in Mt Evelyn. Expressions of interest and queries to [fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com](mailto:fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com)

## *Other Events...*

### ***Paddock Trees; Prime Real Estate - 24hrs in the life of a Paddock Tree***

***On Thursday 27th May 2021, from 10.00am-12.30pm in Broadford***

*South West Goulburn Landcare are hosting Ron Litjens in an informative discussion about Paddock Trees as prime real estate.*

***Please contact Sonia Sharkey on 0409 515 630 or [swg\\_landcare@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:swg_landcare@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au) for registration or further information.***

### ***Walk and talk with night photos...***

***Saturday 29th May 2021, 1.30pm until approximately 4.00pm***

Steve Sinclair and friends are planning an afternoon walk and talk and photos, at the Bush Shed: 320 Jeffrey's Lane, Broadford.

Wear suitable clothing and shoes.

Refreshments will be available.

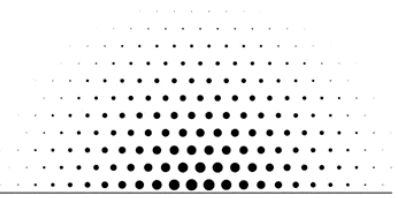
**RSVP Required.**

**Contact Janis:**

**Phone: 0418310323 or email: [drjanisbaker@hotmail.com](mailto:drjanisbaker@hotmail.com)**

# MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

## COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



### COVID Safe Plan For APS Mitchell Group Inc. Organisation

#### PURPOSE

Mitchell Shire Council requires a COVID-19 Safe plan for groups and organisations who wish to return using Council owned or managed facilities. The following plan supports a safe approach for building use. Council welcomes the inclusion of any special guidance from your peak bodies and associations where this has been provided.

#### SCOPE

This plan applies to all people entering the **KILMORE LIBRARY JOHN TAYLOR ROOM** building located at **12 SYDNEY STREET KILMORE** in line with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions identified by the Department of Health and Humans Services.

#### PLAN

##### 3.1 Pre-Return Risk Assessment

Prior to people attending the site a Risk Checklist must be completed identifying how the requirements for physical distancing and people density will be maintained. A checklist to enact the plan is attached in Appendix 1

##### 3.2 Considering groups needs

**Organisers will discuss potential vulnerabilities with all group members and encourage individual participants to consider their own risk and need to attend.** The group may need to consider supporting different members depending on their circumstances. Circumstances may have changed post COVID-19, for example they may now have additional carer's responsibility or family members with specific health risks.

Social and physical vulnerabilities that might affect a person attending the facility include:

- Immune-compromised: may limit attendance or may require additional controls
- Social isolation: managing return to social settings may not be easy for some people
- Need to assist family with child minding or other activities

Our plan for managing our members is:

- Sending Covid-19 safe plan to all members with the meeting groups notice
- A copy of the Covid-19 Safe plan with the meeting registration book
- Limit numbers to current DHS prescribed restriction number's
- Update all members as circumstances change

Any person who is unwell should not enter the building. This includes presenting with cold or flu symptoms including fever, runny nose, coughing, sore throat, aches or diarrhea. People with symptoms will be asked to leave.

This plan has been communicated to all affected members of the group.

# MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

## COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



(Continued from page 19)

### 3.3 Return to facilities

#### 3.3.1 Physical distancing measures

Physical distancing measures mean that people from separate households must be more than 1.5 metres from each other. In addition, a minimum space of 2 metres x 2 metres is required for every person in any room they access.

Spaces (e.g. corridors) where there is a potential for people to come in contact with each other may exist in the building. It is acceptable that people walk past each other in these spaces as the amount of time they are together is minimal. However, they are not to stop in these spaces and, if possible, the movement of members should be managed so that people will not physically brush past each other in this space.

Rooms in the building and the maximum number of people allowed (subject to current restriction limits on total numbers):

Room Name	Size (width X depth)	Max people (width x depth/2)
John Taylor Room		Max 40 people

Signs will be placed into any room where the maximum occupancy is less than the maximum allowed into the entire facility to advise that people are to wait until the room is vacated.

#### Cleanliness

*Cleaning arrangements for the building are to be documented.*

On entry to the building it is advised that every person wash their hands with soap and water or carries hand sanitiser to apply at entry. Everyone should avoid touching their faces.

For this building, at the end of every session any equipment and all tables and chairs used by the members need to be cleaned by the meeting organiser using soap and water with washable or disposable cloths. Spray and wipe is also satisfactory for cleaning.

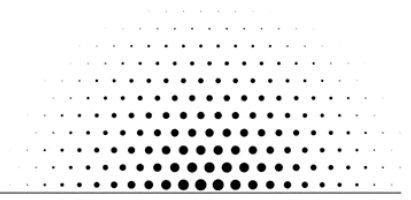
Chairs with soft covers will, where possible, not be used as these are difficult to wipe down.

Council clean as per schedule arranged with the Contracts Management Coordinator at Mitchell Shire Council. This this has been communicated to each building manager.

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# *Covid Safe Meeting Plan...*

## **MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.** *COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan*



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### **COVID-19 Infection**

If a member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the following process will apply:

- Notify members who may have had contact with the person per DHHS guidance
- Ensure the privacy of the individual is maintained
- Seek assistance from Council contact
- Inform Council to arrange a deep clean of the building

### **3.6 Breach of the policy**

Everyone will be treated with respect and it is expected that members will adhere to guidelines to physical distancing to help minimise the risk of COVID-19 being spread. Should someone test positive who attended a meeting space their privacy will be maintained, however Council will need to support a contact tracing regime to inform others.

### **3.7 Legal Sources of policy**

- [National COVID-19 Safe Workplace Principles](#)
- [NCCC COVIDSafe plan](#)
- *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (VIC)*
- *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (VIC)*
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (VIC)*

Appendix 1 – Checklist (to be completed for each session and retained by user group)

#### **Before activity**

- Date and time of activity \_\_\_\_\_
- Activity type \_\_\_\_\_
- Rooms used (e.g. hall and kitchen) \_\_\_\_\_
- Responsible person name (must be present throughout activity)

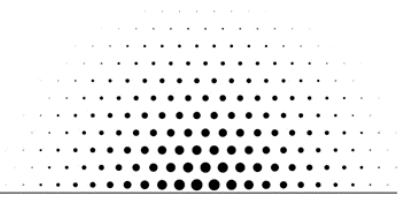
#### **The following available:**

- Advice on COVID-19 available to everyone –  
e.g. [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/staying-safe-covid-19](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/staying-safe-covid-19)
- Specific vulnerabilities determined and vulnerable group members encouraged to participate in other ways or to make arrangements with organisers for any special requirements to facilitate attendance
- Room sizes and number of people in each room signed

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- Places where it will be difficult to maintain 1.5m spacing identified
- Signs for 1.5m and COVID-19 displayed
- Attendance sheet available and completed by all people entering facility
- Consideration for leaving doors open to allow access through doors without touching
- Advised patrons to hand wash/ hand sanitise as soon as they enter the building (consider leaving the outer toilet door propped open to avoid touching)
- Soap and water or disinfectant spray and disposable cloth (e.g. paper towel) available to clean surfaces touched
- Gloves available

Other risks to be managed (please list, use reverse of sheet if more space required)

### **During activity**

- Encourage participants not to bring belongings into centre (less to contaminate and clean)
- All attendees have been asked if they are unwell or have a temperature
- All attendees have been asked to wash their hands upon entry
- All attendees have provided their contact information on attendance sheet
- All attendees have been informed about safe distancing (1.5m)
- All attendee have been advised of other risks to be managed (please see list, use reverse of sheet if more space required)

### **After activity**

- All items used (including tables and chairs) washed with soap and water or sprayed and wiped with a disinfectant. This is the responsibility of the meeting organiser
- This form and the attendance sheet completed and stored in a centralised location (e.g. office) – to be made available upon request

### **Plan completed by:**

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