



Running Postman



Australian Plants Society - Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc



In this issue:

172, February 2019

Contents

Monthly Meeting Recap – Potting Up	2
Next Meeting – Oils.....	3
A Step Back in Time.....	4
Plant Profile – Hakea pycnoneura	9
Newsletters and information.....	10
Upcoming Events.....	10
Contacts:.....	11

Save the Date...

- Next meeting: Australian Essential Oils
- Botanica Springs Community Centre
- 249 Clarkes Road, Brookfield
- **Thursday, 28 February, 7.30pm**



Speaker: Neil Humphreys

Dinner at Tabcorp Park, 6pm
2 Ferris Rd, Melton South
All welcome

Supper Roster: Ash & Christine

Upcoming Meetings:

March –

Landscape Management for
Changing Climate

Supper – Sue & Ken
Ehrenberg

April –

Prostanthera and allied
Genera

Supper – David Johnstone

Monthly Meeting Recap – Potting Up

After some quick change of plans due to the weather being so hot, we managed to pot up our Hakea seedlings who have relished in the hotter temperatures. The little guys were bursting out of their little pots and I'm sure I heard little Yippee's as they were transferred to their new homes in bigger pots.

We have a fantastic selection this year, many haven't been seen at our sale that I know of, so keep a watch on the next couple of newsletters for a list of what we will have available.

Once again, it took only around an hour to have the 400 or so little gems in their new trays, then it was down to a picnic dinner and further conversation in the warm afternoon sun.

My thanks, as always to Barb and David for their excellent work in their seed raising technique and baby-sitting skills. It takes a lot of time and effort to arrange and nurture the seedlings.

Thank you also to those who were able to attend and get dirt under your nails.



Next Meeting – Oils

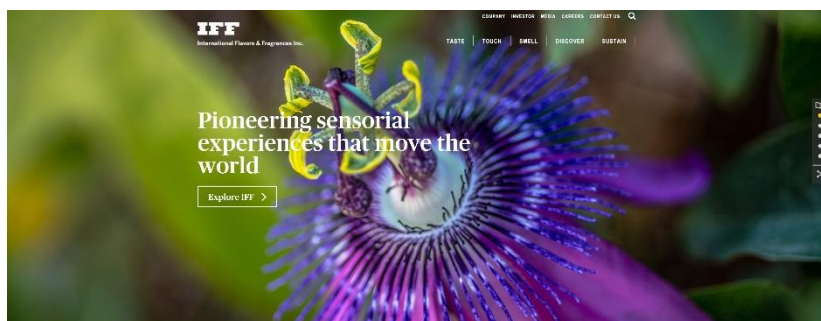
When we asked this month’s speaker, Neil Humphreys, to give a little bio on himself, he wrote the following in his email: “Worked 30 years until my retirement In the Flavor and Fragrance industry. In later years responsible for global marketing and product application laboratories.”

Well, I think he has sold himself short. I found out a little more about Neil, who has also been the president of the Mitchell APS.

- Vice President, Global Business Development Flavors and Functional Fragrances since December 2002;
- Vice President, Global Business Development, Flavors from January 2001 to December 2002;
- Vice President, Regional Manager, Asia Pacific, Flavors from July 1998 to January 2001;
- Senior Vice President, Asia Pacific, Givaudan-Roure, a flavor, fragrance and aroma chemical manufacturing company, prior thereto.

International Flavors & Fragrances Inc. (NYSE: IFF) announces that Neil Humphreys, Vice President, Global Business Development, Flavors and Functional Fragrances, will retire March 31, 2004. Mr. Humphreys has been with IFF for six years, first as Regional Vice President, Flavors - Asia Pacific and later as Vice President, Global Business Development, Flavors, prior to assuming his current role. Mr. Humphreys has worked in the flavor and fragrance industry for over 30 years and has brought a wealth of knowledge and expertise to IFF.

So, who are IFF? *“IFF is a leading innovator of sensorial experiences that move the world. At the heart of our company, we are fueled by a sense of discovery, constantly asking “what if?” That passion for exploration drives us to co-create unique scents and tastes for fine fragrances and beauty, detergents and household goods, and well-loved foods and beverages. For over 130 years, we have made it our business to practice the art of discovery. We iterate and evolve, adapting to rapidly shifting consumer preferences and customer demands. Dreamers and doers, we work tirelessly to discover flavors and fragrances that inspire customers and delight consumers.*



We are the catalyst for discoveries that spark the senses and transform the everyday

Passionate, creative, empowered and expert, we are constantly looking for new challenges—and developing new-to-world solutions that answer them.”

<https://www.iff.com/en/company/who-we-are>

Neil spoke to us about Eucalyptus oils some time ago and passed around strips with

delightful scents on them. I can’t wait to discover what he has for us this time.

A Step Back in Time

We continue our journey back to our beginnings with an article written by Adrian Mitchell, published in Newsletter No 3 of The Melton Melaleuca. I have added a few photos of interesting sounding ones (blue text will indicate which plant goes with the photo).

Ground Covers

In recent conversations with members, I have found much interest in ground cover plants. There are many attractive and hardy plants that can form a living mulch and some are so dense as to inhibit weed growth. I have listed a few of which I have had experience. This list is not complete but may be a guide to members.

Acacia

Acacia aculeabissima. Fine needle foliage reflexed (pointing backwards), yellow balls. I have seen this falling down roadside cuttings near Broadford.

Acacia amblygona. Wiry straggly plant with short pointed phyllodes. Yellow balls.

Acacia comebles. A low spreading bush to 30cm, but spreading to 2 metres. Hairy needle foliage. Yellow balls.

Acacia farnesiana. Low wiry shrub with flat phyllodes and yellow balls. Will straggle over and around rocks.

Acacia reddens. Grey ovoid phyllodes. Covers 3 – 4 metres. Bright yellow balls.

There are also prostrate forms of Acacias that are generally large trees. Three of these are *cubrifomis*, *baileyana* and *pravissima*. Generally prostrate wattles will take from cuttings.

Banksia

Banksia prostrata. Ovoid serrated leaves. New grown reddish and woolly. Erect terminal flowering spikes.

Banksia repens. Similar to the above but leaves are deeply divided and have a bluish/grey colour.

Brachyscome

Brachyscome multifida. Finely divided bright green foliage. Mauve daisy flowers 2 cm across. Suckers and layers. Covers to 1 metre.



1 –
up

Brachyscome pullagensus. Toothed spathulate leaves, straggly suckering. Pink daisies 3 – 4 cm across.

Brachysema

Brachysema latifolium. Round leaves, numerous red and yellow pea flowers. Layers. Covers 2 – 3 metres. Will hang down over rock walls

Brachysema praemorsum. Straggly plant with blunt leaves. Sickle shaped reddish pea flower.

Brachysema sericeum. Very hardy. Bright green foliage, cordate leaves. Covers 2 – 3 metres. Flowers creamy and not very obvious.



Calocephalus

Calocephalus lacteus. Fine grey foliage. Suckers and layers. Very hardy. If has water just keeps spready further. Has small whitish globular flower heads on stalks 8 – 10 cm. Dense matting foliage is the main feature. Grows at Toolern Vale.

Calotis

Calotis scapigera. Proliferates rapidly from runners up to 25 cm long. Flowers white daisies 1 – 2 cm. Will grow very strongly with some water. A Keilor Plains plant.

Conostylis

A WA genus. There are many species with tubular flowers, some single and some in heads. All flowers are a variant of yellow. Related to Kangaroo Paws. Form mats and clumps and ideal for rockeries.

Convolvulus

Convolvulus erubescens. Grows in Melton. Pink 'morning glory' flower 3 – 4 cm. Finely divided foliage. Suckering. Hardy.



Correa

Correa decumbens. Dark green ovoid leaves. Tubular purple flowers with green tips. Stamens protrude. Covers up to 1 metre.

Dampiera

Dampiera deresifolium. Mat like, suckering plant with bright green foliage. Masses of deep blue flowers in Spring. With some water will spread to 1 – 2 metres.

Eremophila

Eremophila glabra. Many forms, some are completely prostrate and some are a low spreading bush. Leaves are ovate and vary from green to a woolly grey. Flowers are green, yellow, orange and red.

Eremophila maculata aurea. Prostrate form. Bright green foliage and bright yellow tubular flowers.

Eremophila metulluca. Similar to the above. Flowers are a greyish translucent colour.

Eremophila serpens. Seems to need a little water. Leaves bright green, stems purple, flowers greenish.

Eremophila subtertifolia. Fine foliage 1 – 2 cm long. Extends over ground with long branches. Masses of orange tubular flowers.

Eutaxua

Eutaxua microphylla. Fine grey-green foliage. Mat plant to ½ - 1 metre. Masses of small red and yellow pea flowers.



Grevillea

Grevillea brownii. Small leaves, multiple orange flowers.

Grevillea gaudu-chaudu. Natural hybrid, deeply lobed leaves, burgundy flowers in toothbrush form. Purple new foliage.

Grevillea juniperinum. Prostrate and low bushes. Flowers in spider flower form. Yellow, apricot and orange forms. Small, sharp leaves.

Grevillea laurifolium. Ovate, laurel-shaped leaves. Burgundy flowers.

Grevillea repens. Holly-shaped leaves. Purple new growth. Burgundy toothbrush flowers.

Grevillea tridentifera. Bright green leaves. Masses of small sweet smelling white flowers. Very vigorous.

Grevillea Poorinda Royal Mantle. A good hybrid. Variable leaves. Pink, toothbrush flowers.

Gastrolobium

Gastrolobium truncatum. Truncated dark green leaves. Bright yellow pea flowers.

Goodenia

Goodenia varia. Round but toothed leaves held vertically. Masses of yellowish flowers. Exceptionally easy to strike. Layers.

Hakea

Hakea crassinerva. Extinct in the wild. Low prostrate shrub with single nerved pointed leaves. Burgundy flowers.

Hakea myrtoides. Very small leaves, ovate and pointed and crowded on stems. Masses of small deep burgundy flowers.



Kennedia

Kennedia cocconeae. Trefoil leaves with brown hairs on stems. Will climb if given support. Masses of scarlet, yellow and orange pea flowers held on erect 10 cm stalks. Will cover many square metres on optimal conditions.

Kennedia microphylla. Tiny trefoil leaves. Tiny brown and brick-orange flowers. Dainty. Ideal for rockery.

Kennedia prostrata. Crinkled, bright green trefoil leaves. Scarlet pea flowers with yellow throat. White form does occur.

All other Kennedias are generally climbers but can be useful ground covers where there is no support.

Lechenaultia

Lechenaultia formosa. Very fine often greyish leaves 3 – 4 cm long. Forms a mat or low mound. Yellow, red and two-tone forms exist. Some are suckering. Flowers are very dainty and beautiful.

Myoporum

Myoporum parvifolium. Leaves variable, from 2 x 15 mm to 5 x 40 mm. Flowers are small and star-like about 5 mm across. Flowers are numerous. Flowers can be white or pale pink. The var *purpurea* form has purple stems and new growth. The flowers are white with purple spots.

Pultenaea

Pultenaea pedunculata. Is a dark green mat plant to 2 – 3 metres. The leaves are 1 x 5 mm. It layers and has masses of small yellow and red, and sometimes pink, pea flowers.

Phyla

Phyla nodiflora. Small crenate leaves. Layers readily. Small globular heads of pink flowers held above the mat on erect stalks of 5 – 10 cm. Keeps on spreading if gets moderate water.



Scleranthus

Scleranthus uniflorus and biflorus. Spreading mat plants that look like moss. Hard to tell apart. Flowers are tiny yellow and insignificant. Excellent for rockery. Large specimens seen by those who visited Syd Whellers garden.



Thank you to Adrian for compiling this list. I hope that some of these give you some inspiration, not only to beautify your own garden, but to use some of these plants to fight against the gardener's nightmare – weeds! I know that in my garden, the use of ground covers are not only an effective layering technique, they help the plants around them by keeping the soil covered (cool in summer, warm in winter) and there is far less use for mulch. Happy planting!

Plant Profile – *Hakea pycnoneura*

I'm not going to try to pronounce this one. But I will tell you about it. We may only have around 7 of these seedlings, but I'll bet they go quick. Name derivation: from *pycno-*, Greek for dense or thick and *neuro*, Greek for nerve, a reference to the prominent veins on the leaves of this species.

Native to WA, this will grow into a rounded shrub, 2 – 3 metres high (in ideal conditions). Long, narrow leaves, it will give a flourish of pinky purple and cream flowers from May to August and it appears that it is not too picky for what it likes. If you have a sandy area, even sand over granite, clay or loam, it will do well.



If you are planting for the birds, the honeyeaters will love this one, and you will be attracted by the scent also. Due to the nature of the growing habit, it will hedge well. Woody seed fruit will follow the flowers and open up, displaying two seeds.

Propagate with these seeds, or give cuttings a go.



Information from:

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2198>

<https://austplants.com.au/Hakea-pycnoneura>

Newsletters and information

Remember to check out the dropbox account for new newsletters from other APS groups, study groups and more. They are added regularly and will be left there for a couple of months before being removed.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o4khqv1wrfmeg3/AABZ9PD-6KLqoLnz75N3MOM0a?dl=0>

Upcoming Events



The poster features the logo of Cranbourne Friends at the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, which includes a stylized golden tree. The text is arranged in a vertical column on the left, with a small illustration of pink flowers on the right. The event details include the dates Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 March, and the time 10.00am to 4.00pm. The website www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au is provided at the bottom.

CRANBOURNE FRIENDS
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS VICTORIA

GROWING FRIENDS
AUTUMN 2019
PLANT SALE
in the gardens
Saturday 16
Sunday 17 March

10.00am – 4.00pm

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria - Cranbourne

Plant list available one week prior to sale
www.rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

09052818
86-43 552 000 600

2 March – APS Maroondah host APS Victoria Committee of Management Meeting and one day event at Federation Estate, 32 Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood. (Coincides with Mullum Mullum Creek Festival).

19 March – APS Geelong. Guest speaker is Maria Hitchcock OAM speaking about Correas. Visitors are welcome. The Ballroom, Hamlyn Park, 1 Carey St, Hamlyn Heights starting at 7.30 pm. For more information call Bruce McGinness on 5278 8827.

13 April - APS Yarra Yarra Native Plant & Book Sale. At Eltham Senior Citizens Centre, 903 Main Road, Eltham from 10 am to 4 pm.

16 April - APS Geelong. Guest speaker is Dr Dean Nicolle speaking about Eucalypts. Visitors are welcome. The Ballroom, Hamlyn Park, 1 Carey St, Hamlyn Heights starting at 7.30 pm. For more information call Bruce McGinness on 5278 8827.

27 April – APS Geelong Australian Native Plant Sale at 'Wirrawilla', 40 Lovely Banks Road, Lovely Banks. (Mel 431 D6). Entry is \$2 per adult or \$5 per car, children free of charge. From 8.30 am to 5.00 pm (sale is one day only). A BBQ, tea, coffee and refreshments, book sales, childrens' activities and a great selection of native plants.

Contacts:

Australian Plants Society – Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc.

Incorporated in Victoria: A0026204P

ABN: 68 053 689 781

APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh Committee 2017/18

<i>President</i>	<i>Christine Huf</i>	<i>0412 081 074</i>	
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Russell Wait</i>	<i>0428 388 211</i>	
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>(vacant)</i>	<i>email: apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com</i>	
<i>Public Officer</i>	<i>David Pye</i>		
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Cathy Powers</i>		
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Lucille McCarthy, Barb Pye, Norris McCarthy</i>		
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	<i>Christine Huf</i>	<i>0412 081 074</i>	<i>email: c.phot.804@gmail.com</i>

Find us on Facebook!

All contributions to the newsletter are gratefully received. Please send a word document and photos to the group's email address. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me via email or phone. I am also happy to research a subject for an article if you give me a topic you would like to see explored.

Postal address:

PO Box 946

Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Bank details: Bendigo Bank, Bacchus Marsh

Acc: Australian Plant Society – Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc

BSB: 633 000 Acc No: 158993733

MEETINGS: 4th Thursday of the month, Feb – Jun, Aug – Nov (doors open at 7.30pm)

VENUE: Botanica Springs Community Centre, 249 Clarkes Rd, Brookfield

URL for relevant internet websites:

Website: www.runningpostman.org.au

APS Victoria website : <http://www.apsvic.org.au/>

ANPSA website: <http://anpsa.org.au>

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