

KEILOR PLAINS GROUP

MEETINGS

First Friday of the month (not January) at 8pm, Uniting Church hall,
corner Roberts Road & Glenys Avenue, Airport West.

Autumn/winter 2016



NUMBER 129

June 3

APSKP meeting: Louise Pelle (landscape architect of King Billy Retreat, Rushworth) on “Garden Design with Indigenous Plants”.

July 1

APSKP AGM + meeting: Yvonne Bischofberger (APSKP member & secretary of Friends of Newells Paddock) will update members on the amazing progress being made at Newells Paddock Urban Nature Reserve.

August 5

APSKP meeting: Speaker to be confirmed.

September 4

APSKP meeting: Chris Nicholson (APSKP member and head gardener, Royal Park, Parkville) will speak on the Australian Native Garden in Royal Park.

October 5

APSKP meeting: Plant table; bring along cuttings from your garden to celebrate the mass of colour and form that is spring.

November 4

APSKP meeting: Director and head of research at Currency Creek Arboretum, SA, Dean Nicolle will talk on “Eucalypts”.

December 2

APSKP meeting: Christmas break up



Dianella revoluta

The view from the courtyard

President Jason Caruso wins some and loses some

In the last newsletter, I was waiting (with bated breath) for flower buds on a potted *Eucalyptus rameliana* to open.

A few days before Christmas, the first operculum dropped, revealing a stunning large flower. All in all, six flowers opened over the following weeks – it was quite a sight. With a species like this that is rare in cultivation – and one that prefers a hotter climate than Melbourne – I am mindful that at any moment it may curl up its roots, especially during the cooler months. To ensure its survival, John Upsher has attempted a few grafts. If this proves successful, there's a possibility that you could own this stunning eucalypt in the near future.



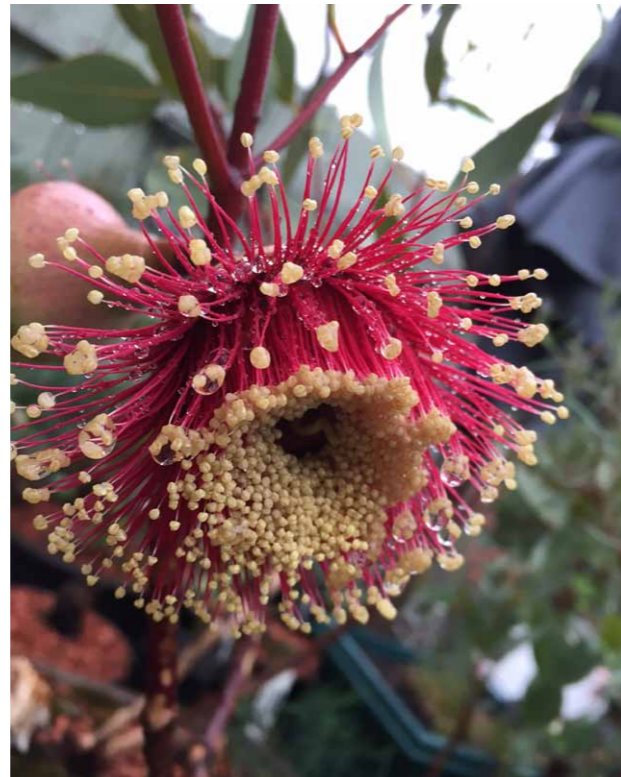
The other option is in hope that viable seeds have developed in the fruits.

With autumn just kicking in to gear, it's time for correas to shine. Over the past few months I had planted out various species and cultivars in our communal garden and many are performing well. Some were planted during the heat of summer directly under an established ornamental pear tree. These little correas had to deal with the root system of this tree as well as cope with bone-dry soil. I watered here-and-

there in an attempt to get them through the summer and to my surprise, they have survived and showing signs of 'relief' with the recent wet weather. The two main varieties are *Correa* 'St Andrews' and *Correa pulchella* 'Pink'.

But it's not all about the successes. I've recently lost two garden plants for unknown reasons. Our *Chorizema cordatum* (flame pea) that had performed so well for many years, suddenly died after its regular annual prune. The plant shot back quite well after the trim, but these new shoots soon withered away. Fortunately it grows well from cuttings so I can easily replace the plant with the material I had prepared a month earlier.

Another plant that was performing so well was a *Eucalyptus sepulcralis* (weeping mallee). The habit of this eucalypt is quite unusual, as it doesn't form a canopy. It is an open, spindly mallee with weeping foliage. Because of its form, I had planted this eucalypt in a narrow garden bed between a fence and a car-parking bay. I thought it would suit this site as it would add height (may reach 4-6 metres) but wouldn't take the form a large tree. One of our planted specimens was approaching 2.5m, and was looking stunning, but all of a sudden the leaves turned brown and it doesn't look



like it will recover. It can be frustrating when this happens in a garden as it takes so much time to establish a replacement; and as in this case the cause is unknown so will it happen again?

Like the seasons, a garden continues to change throughout the year. A plant flowering now may not be flowering in



six months' time, and a healthy looking plant today may not look so good down the track. We are constantly looking for interest in our gardens but we also should embrace the change. A plant not in flower still adds interest to a garden, and a plant that hasn't survived allows room to trial something new.

Clockwise from left: *Eucalyptus rameliana*, *Chorizema cordatum*, *E. rameliana*, *E. sepulcralis* in WA. Pictures: Jason Caruso, ANPSA.org.au, notley.smugmug.com

Under the Eaves

Think nothing grows there? John Upsher says think again

Those conditions, under the wide eaves of a house, on the north facing side with full sun all day and only the least of rain that might get blown in, are the best you could provide to grow some of the stalwart plants of the Australian arid interior.

These conditions especially suit some of the Eremophilas that have silver or white leaves with a dense covering of hairs. In the open air in Melbourne when we get a damp or rainy spell in winter, they may be attacked by fungi and whole stems, even branches die off. The plants are quite resilient and generally re-grow but of course it is better if there is no die-back.



The conditions provided under north-facing eaves have been found to be ideal for them. If you think about where they come from, with day temperatures in the 40s for weeks on end and little or no rain, then the Eremophilas that have evolved to withstand these conditions will welcome what the under-eaves situation can offer. Clearly this gives us the opportunity to grow successfully some of the more

delicate species and some of the more showy and spectacular species.

In a neighbour's garden in Maribyrnong I have these very conditions and have planted three species to try, alongside succulents and cacti that were the legacy of another era. *Eremophila ovata* hails from the southern parts of Northern Territory where a thunderstorm is generally as much wet as might ever be hoped for; not surprisingly it would be susceptible to die back in winter but under the eaves it grows through the whole year and has exquisite blue flowers for most of the time.

Eremophila mirabilis is a more open, wiry shrub from WA, between Geraldton and Kalgoorlie. It is not so susceptible to damp as some but is blessed with striking blooms, large pink sepals and long creamy corollas with bands of dark purple spots.

Eremophila warnesii is a more recently described species from the Meekatharra region – as hot and dry as you can get. The plant is covered with the densest white felt so in its prime, is a stand-out specimen

but in Melbourne conditions is quite susceptible to fungus. But under the eaves, it is very at home and suffers no die-back. Through winter and spring it has a constant show of purple-blue flowers arranged near the branch tips. It may only grow to half a metre at most but



that would enhance its value in a narrow border.

Clockwise from below: *Eremophila ovata*, *E. warnesii* and *E. mirabilis*. Photos: M. Fagg, Wikimedia commons and Goldfields Revegation.



Eremophila snippets

The Eremophila Study Group has a new leader, Dr Lyndal Thorburn. Here are some excerpts from the latest group newsletter:

● The Eremophila Study Group was formed in 1975 by Ken Warnes, who started studying Eremophila in 1963. He was a founding member of Project Eremophila, which was sponsored by the SA branch of the Society. He started the Study Group in 1975 and was granted an ANSPA National Amateur Award in 2011 for his contribution to the propagation and horticulture of Eremophila. He has also submitted a number of applications to ACRA for named Eremophila and Eremophila warnesii is named after Ken.

● There are two basic flower forms. Those which are pollinated by insects have a

little landing platform for the bee and are usually white, pink, mauve or blue. The other type is birdpollinated and these are usually are brighter and have a tendency towards oranges, yellows and hot pinks.

● The November 2015 issue of *Austrobaileya* (Queensland Herbarium) includes an article on "Eremophila woodiae: a new species from Queensland" E. woodiae is "a small resinous shrub with densely crowded linear leaves and purple tubular flowers." It is endemic to a small area near Opalton in western central Queensland (annual average rainfall 411mm), but is locally common. This species was described by Mark Edginton from the Queensland Herbarium (it is his photo) and named in honour of Aileen Wood, who has worked in the Herbarium for many years. Mr Edginton says: "Aileen's knowledge of cultivated plants,

including exotic and native cultivars, is unrivalled at the Herbarium. If we have an obscure cultivated plant to identify, Aileen is the person we turn to."



High country highlights

Flo Suter

Our Alpine Trip is one of the highlights of my year and this one was another memorable experience. When I think about it I can feel the wonderful mist swirling around the snow gums and filling the valleys. Yes, it did rain quite a bit at the start of our journey but it added to the magic and the atmosphere and the heightened perfumes of the bush.

There were about 26 of us including some visitors from other groups. At Wilson Botanical Gardens in Berwick we were met by members of the Wilson Park APS, who provided a scrumptious morning tea. It is a beautiful garden created from an old quarry and apparently home to some interesting fossils. We didn't have time to walk around it (too busy eating) so I have to go back sometime to learn more.



Next stop was Neerim South for lunch (eating again) then the serious stuff began. We made for the Trestle bridge at Noojee built in 1919 – a huge 100-metre high bridge made during the logging days. It has been restored and now offers a good rail-trail walk. We climbed up but the rain got the better of us and after taking in the gorgeous view from the top and the sight of huge tree ferns dripping with water we dived for cover.

Undaunted we went on to the Toorongo Falls, where a few people ventured out a short distance. It was agreed that we would do the walk on the way back. Some of us were very wet and already planning to get better rain gear.

The 45-kilometre winding road took us

to Baw Baw where we were to stay at Banksia Lodge. Wet gear was put to dry and forgotten about as we gathered at the restaurant for drinks and dinner. After the meal we had a talk from Alex Smart from the Wilson Park APS about *Viola eminens* that grows at high altitudes and could be found in these parts. At first glance it looks the same as any other viola but it has a broader, flatter leaf. The flower has a much longer stem and twisted side petals. Our challenge was to find it.

Next day we walked from the Lodge



through the fog where we did find the viola and Anne tells me we stood where Von Mueller had stood. I remember meadows of pink and white stylidiums together with alpine daisies; lovely against a backdrop of misted snow gums.

The next day we went to Mt St Gwinear via the Thompson River damn, a mind-

*Clockwise from top:
Mist swirling around
the snow gums;
meadows of stylidiums
with alpine daisies;
Viola eminens;
Acrothamnus hookeri;
Toorongo Falls.
Pictures: Chris Clarke
& Russell Best*



blowing engineering feat. There were two walks to choose from. A lovely day. The path was gentle, edged with *Senecio gunni* (Mountains Fireweed), buttercups, summer and mountain greenhoods, Billy Buttons and podolepis to name a few.

On the way home we did manage to walk to Toorongo Falls, which were flowing fast and strong. The tree ferns were the tallest I have seen and there was a large variety of other ferns. We saw a lot of flowering plants on the trip. Lots of greenhood and Leek Orchids, the alpine baekia and olearias and many ferns.

I am astonished how many I forget and plan to keep better notes this year.

A huge thankyou to Anne and Chris for organising such a great trip. I know how much work is involved and you did a



A tale of two Veronics

Neil Duncan introduces two sisters but no, they don't sing

Veronica perfoliata and *Veronica arenaria* are both beautiful hardy shrubs but looking at the foliage you could be excused for thinking they were totally unrelated.

These plants are the gypsies of the plant naming world, having been named Parahebes, Derwentias and now Veronics. *Veronica perfoliata* (below) is native to Victoria and Southern NSW while *Veronica arenaria* (right) is native to northern NSW and southern Queensland.

The leaf shape on *Veronica perfoliata* can vary from a narrow form to a broad leaf form. Generally the forms from the drier country have the narrower leaf – for

example the form we see when we visit the Brisbane Ranges – and the broader-leaf form is found on plants from moister areas.

Veronica perfoliata has sprays of nodding lavender flowers in spring but the Eucalypt-like foliage is an attraction all year round. It grows to about 80cm but often has a horizontal growth habit spreading over a meter.

Veronica arenaria grows more upright to about 50cm and has darker blue flowers from spring to autumn.

The lush green foliage makes it look very unlike most Australian plants but it is surprisingly hardy. It would not look out of place in a European cottage garden and its habit of growth when it lets its branches cascade lends itself to mingling with other plants.

Both respond well to hard pruning after flowering and *Veronica perfoliata* is often used in floral arrangements for the foliage effect. They are both easily grown from cuttings.

I would thoroughly recommend these two plants for any garden or even grown in a pot on a balcony.



Veronica was originally named **Derwentia** after the Derwent River in Tasmania, as the original description of the type of the genus, *Veronica derwentia*, cited it growing "...on the banks of the Derwent....".

perfoliata means having 'perfoliate' leaves, wrapping around the stem, so the stem appears to be passing through the leaf, or in this case a joined pair of leaves.

V. perfoliata needs a well-drained site in half shade.



arenaria means sand loving.

V. arenaria grows on rocky slopes and river flats in sandy soils, often in eucalypt woodland, on the western edge of tablelands and slopes, north from Mendooran.

It is suitable for containers or a full-sun to part-shade position in the garden. 60cm x 1m

Plants in the news

THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER of Australia is a unique 'biodiversity hotspot', home to many plants and animals found nowhere else in the world.

More plants are pollinated by vertebrates here than anywhere on Earth. In fact, 15% of all flowering plants there need birds and mammals to transfer their pollen.

One of these important little mammals is the little-studied western pygmy possum. A new research project is looking into the secret lives of this tiny species.

"We live in an exceptional global biodiversity hotspot, and this research is exploring and testing ideas why this is so," said Professor Stephen Hopper from UWA.

– James O'Hanlon, *Australian Geographic*

THE PLANT LIFE OF AUSTRALIA's outback may have "given up", according to satellite-based maps tracking the impact of changing climatic conditions, such as rainfall and temperature, on the world's ecosystems.

The study suggests the vegetation of our interior does not respond to sudden increases in rainfall because it has "learned" that drought will soon follow.

It also indicates the Murray-Darling Basin is one of the world's most ecologically sensitive zones, and highlights the fact that Australian flora is most sensitive to changes in water availability.

The maps are part of a study, published today in the journal *Nature*, that analyses 14 years of satellite data measuring the key climate variables of air temperature, water availability and cloud cover.

– Dani Cooper, *ABC science*

Consider the gumnuts

Trevor Blake recommends growing at least one *Eucalypt* in your garden

On reading a recent Victoria State newsletter I was really interested in the selection of eucalypts suggested for growing in home gardens.

A whole group of these spectacular small mallee-type eucalypts have been difficult to grow, mainly caused by cold drizzly and overcast conditions but with the climate changing many of these are well worth trying.

Really built up well-drained beds that receive plenty of sun can help success. There are species that will do well and there are constant requests for small eucalypts for home gardens. Many of them have the spectacular flowers and the benefits to the ecology of your locality is well worth considering.

have done well in nature strips along with *Callistemon salignus* and *C. viminalis*, *Agonis flexuosa*, *Acacia implexa* and some glorious *A. pendula*. Middle Camberwell has had a spectacular success with an *E. erythrocorys* flowering magnificently. This species has also flowered well in Blackburn and Northcote.



Above: *Eucalyptus pimpiniana*. Below left: *E. eremophila*. Below right: *E. erythrocorys*.



E. youngiana does reside in some pretty arid areas so the transition may be just too much for it. But the story becomes entirely different as grafted plants become available.

Lets have a look at a few species that may have a chance of doing well in gardens. I've been fascinated at what has been growing here in Northcote. A high percentage of gardens have *E. caesia* 'Silver Princess' doing superbly where they receive plenty of sun. We have inherited a magnificent *E. macrocarpa* that flowers from April until the end of November, but this is one of those beauties that shouldn't grow here at all. These around Melbourne just shouldn't exist.

E. stoatei, *E. forrestiana*, *E. lehmanniana* and *E. macrandra*



E. synandra and a similar *E. rosacea* are beautiful in flower with mallee habit. The true species of *E. caesia* is well worth looking at with smaller more delicate flowers. The recommended *E. pimpiniana* has stunned me with the masses of flower and the attractiveness of the buds which take over 12 months to mature.

Well back to a selection – how many have tried *E. verrucosa* (now

Eucalyptus synandra, found on sandy and gravelly soils in southern WA, is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act. It needs good drainage but tolerates cold; it has flowered in the National Botanic Gardens in Canberra. It can flower when only 15cm tall.

Picture and information: Graeme O'Neil, ANPSA



E. verrucata) the dwarf species from Tasmania south-west mountains – grows well in Melbourne gardens? *E. orbifolia* is a splendid grey-leafed mallee with attractive flowers.

E. torquata has attractive fruits and red flowers that appear for many months. *E. behriana* is the mallee that grows closest to Melbourne near Bacchus Marsh. *E. aquilina*, a small mallee with interesting fruits a little like *E. preissiana* ssp. *lobatam*, (the large flowered form) with its striking yellow flowers. *E. cooperana* is a mallee with white trunk and greyish foliage that grows from a lignotuber. *E. doratoxylon* would fit in here too. *E. diversifolia* that flowers at a very young age and always looks attractive.

E. erythronema is another attractive mallee.

Of course there are a number with round or unusual silver juvenile foliage and the flavour of the month is *E. latens* 'Moon Lagoon'; others are *E. crucis*,



E. kruseana (both more difficult) *E. crenulata*, *E. perriniana* 'Spinning Gum', and *E. pulverulenta*.

A magnificent very fine-leafed one is *E. formanii* and if the juvenile foliage is kept by judicious pruning it can be special. This is a real specialist species and another in the sporting chance category if you can get it. *E. polybractea* is a mallee with grey foliage and a species that has been regularly harvested for distilling oils and grows well in most soils.

There is a group of 'Scribbly Gums' with white bark that won't scribble outside the distribution of the insect that



does the work but nevertheless are worth a look at – they can get a little taller than Mallees but in the Melbourne area I have not known them to reach their full height: *E. haemastoma*, *racemosa*, *sclerophylla*, *rossii*, *signata*.

For a good talking point, the unusual fruit and leathery leaves of *E. tetragona* and *E. tetraptera* should do the trick.

E. sepulchralis is a fascinating wispy weeping species that requires a little water during dry times for a mallee.

E. leptopoda, *E. leptophylla*, *E. eremophila*, *E. fasciculosa*, *E. gregsoniana*, *E. grossa*, *E. stricta*, *E. viridis* are all worth looking up.

Some of these species you may roll your eyes at and there are plenty of others I have not mentioned such as the dwarf *Corymbia eximia* or the



Above: *Eucalyptus youngiana* buds and (top) the red, yellow and pink flower forms. Left: *E. tetraptera*. Pictures: Esperance Wildflowers blog; Bill Dowling, Friends of Great Vic Desert

hybrids like 'Torwood' and the specky *C. ficifolia/ptychocarpa* cross and don't forget local indigenous species.

Others may have great success with species not mentioned that are worth growing so let's hear of them – one of the greatest things we can do is share and record our knowledge.

Some of the species I have mentioned will be very difficult to track down but there are growers out there with 'odd bods' and well worth ferreting out.



Further reading and picture credits:

www.communitywebs.org/fgvd/ooldea.php
saseedbank.com.au/
helenfitzgerald.com/
www.perthseed.com/
esperancewildflowers.blogspot.com.au/
anpsa.org.au/

Left: *Eucalyptus macrocarpa* by Helen Fitzgerald

Cutting and snippets

A collection of news from APS newsletters, from Neil Duncan

Potash trial success

The February 2016 Grevillea study group newsletter had an interesting article by Max MacDowell.

Max had found some native plants were growing well but flowering poorly. For years gardeners had been told to apply Sulphate of Potash to promote flower growth, but probably because we are wary of what fertilisers we apply to natives we don't seem to have used Sulphate of Potash to good effect in the garden.

Max wrote of using Sulphate of Potash on Grevilleas, a *Eucalypt preissiana* and a *Melaleuca decussata* with excellent results and was going to use it on a banksia, regelia and hakea that all were reluctant to flower.

It would be interesting to try some on the shy flowerers in your garden and see what effect it has.

Acacia hybrid abundance

There were a couple of interesting articles from the March 2016 Acacia study group newsletter.

Is anyone growing a hybrid Acacia – I didn't even know one existed?

Brendan Stahl was growing an *Acacia cognata x verniciflua* 'Curtain Call' and Bill Molyneux was growing *A. floribunda x genistifolia* 'Abundance'. 'Abundance' is available in nursery trade.

In Vietnam they are growing another hybrid *A. auriculiformis x mangium* as forestry trees for pulpwood and sawlogs.

A seed's progress

Wendy Marriott had an interesting article on the flowering and seeding of

Acacia implexa the Lightwood. After prolific flowering last summer the seeds finally ripened this summer, attracting the Sulphur-Crested Cockatoos which would leave a mess of broken twigs and seed pods on the ground. Shortly after ants would have scattered the black seeds as they collected the nutritious white appendage (aril) on the seed.

Bronze-winged Pigeons then come to feast on the remaining black seeds.

Roger Thomas wrote in the same newsletter that different birds eat the seeds of *Acacia melanoxylon* in varying ways. Mature seeds are eaten by the Bronze-winged Pigeons but immature seeds are preferred by rosellas and cockatoos. These Acacia seeds have a red-coloured funicle (the stalk attaching the seed to the seed pod), which is attractive to currawongs but the seeds minus the funicle are then regurgitated.



Left: *Acacia melanoxylon* seed.
Above: *Acacia implexa* seed.

Pictures: www.apstas.com/, www.elster-creek.org.au/, www.treeproject.org.au/



Blocking out the blackbirds

I suspect old hands at gardening might have 'twigged' to this, but we can always learn...

I'm sure we've all experienced the chagrin and dismay we feel on watching a band of blackbirds (or others) rooting out the protective mulch around our newly planted plants. These guys follow the moisture gradient around your watered plants in their search for worms, grubs, etc.

If you're not around to render rapid aid, a couple of hot dry days can spell the end of your (unprotected) plants. Sure, the birds have to survive, but so do your plants.

My suggestion is for you to save some of the prunings from your larger (particularly twiggy – e.g., callistemons, eucalypts) shrubs. Set them aside and let them dry

out. Then, break them up into shortish lengths of about a foot (30cm to you youngsters).

Work these shorter lengths into an interlocking matrix around your newly planted plant; preferably with the foliage ends out and on top of the existing mulch. I have found that this is an effective barrier to bird excavations and it allows the plant to enjoy the water you may be adding for its growth.

You don't have to use dried out prunings – you can use fresh ones and let them dry out in situ.

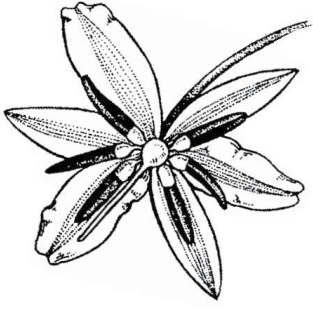
In time, when the plant is established, you can remove this barrier; or just leave it there.

John Shepherd

Shows, conferences, plant sales

Compiled by APS secretary Nicky Zanen

- June 4 **RBG Cranbourne Fabulous Fungi Workshop.** Saturday from 9.30am to 4pm. Speakers include Dr Tom May, a senior mycologist from Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Dr Noushka Reiter, an orchid conservationist and botanist from Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, Geoff Lay from the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, Dr Simone Louhwoff, an expert on lichens, and John Thompson. Topics include an overview of fungi, orchid-fungi relationships, fungi of Victoria, lichens and a cultural history of fungi. These talks will be followed by a question and answer session with our panel of experts, before taking a walk around the Cranbourne bushland to forage for some fascinating fungi! RBGC Friends members \$60, non members \$75, Students \$30.
- June 11-13 **Bookfest 2016** Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) Cranbourne, from 10am to 4pm in the auditorium. (Mel 133 K10).
- June 25-26 **APS Ballarat Winter Flower Show and plant sales.** Robert Clark Horticultural Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens. 10.30am to 3.30pm. Entry fee includes a cup of hot tea or coffee.
- July 23-24 **Growing Friends Spring Plant Sale –** RBG Cranbourne. 10am to 4pm. (Mel 133 K10)
- September 3 **APS Wilson Park Plant Sale,** Wilson Botanic Park, Princes Highway, Berwick. 9am to 4pm
- September 3-4 **Bendigo Native Plants Group Flower Show,** Rotary Gateway Park, 26 High Street, Kangaroo Flat.
- September 10 **APS Yarra Yarra Native Plants Sale** (no Expo this year). Venue to be advised. 10am to 4pm.
- Sept 17-18 **Angair** (Anglesea and Aireys Inlet Wildflower and Art Show), Anglesea Memorial Hall, McMillan St, Anglesea. 10am to 4.30pm. Small entry fee.
- October 1-2 **APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show,** Pomonal Hall. 9.30am to 5pm.
- October 7-9 **Horsham Garden Festival Weekend** hosted by Wimmera Growers of Australian Plants Inc.
- October 8-9 **FJC Rogers Seminar in Hamilton** "Native Terrestrial and Epiphytic Orchids". Saturday full day conference and formal dinner, Sunday field trips to Hamilton, Casterton and Grampians. Register your interest with Kevin Sparrow, ksparrow93@gmail.com.
- October 15 **APS Mitchell Annual Spring Plant Expo and Sale,** from 9am to 3pm Memorial Hall, Sydney Street, Kilmore.
- October 15-16 **South Gippsland Native Plant Sale & Flower Show.** South Gippsland Historical Automobile Club Pavilion, Leongatha Recreation Reserve. 10am to 4pm.
- October 22 **APS Echuca Moama Native Plant Society – Native Flower Showcase.** Echuca Uniting Church Hall, Hare Street, Echuca. From 9am to 4pm. Native plants to attract bees and birds to the garden.
- October 22-23 **APS Ballarat Annual Spring Flower Show,** book and plant sales. Robert Clark Horticultural Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens. Saturday 10.00 am to 5.00 pm, Sunday 10am to 4.30pm.
- October 22-23 **Growing Friends Spring Plant Sale –** RBG Cranbourne. 10am to 4pm. (Mel 133 K10).
- October 29-30 **Wimmera Growers of Australian Plants 40th Anniversary & APS Vic Quarterly Meeting** "Mallee to Mountains".
- Nov 24-26 **Kangaroo Paw Celebration** November 2016 at Cranbourne Gardens. A special three day symposium which will cover aspects of the Kangaroo Paw Family (Haemodoraceae).
- 2017-2018**
- June 11-22, 2017 **ANPSA 12 day Natural History Kimberley Camping Tour**
- January 12-20, 2018 **ANPSA 2018 Conference,** Hobart. Pre and Post Conference tours to King Island and Tasmanian Alpine areas. To receive updates email asgapan18@gmail.com



Newsletter deadlines

Newsletter articles and photos are always warmly welcomed. Members are strongly encouraged to send in anything of interest, whether it be a copy of an article read elsewhere, notes of a garden visit, gardening tips, specific problems or questions, details of a much-loved garden plant or – best of all – pictures of your own garden or its plants. The deadline for the May newsletter is flexible (let me know if you have something in mind) but approximately early-mid April.

Supper roster

Each month we need: 1 litre milk, sweet and/or savoury nibbles etc for about 30 people. Tea bags, sugar and coffee are in the group's cupboard (see Anne or Doug for key).

A fixed remittance of \$20 will be paid to cover costs. Please arrange a swap if you are unable to attend when rostered.

June: Linda Jones

July: Anne Beaumont

August: Marge & Lyn Paul

September: Norma Sands

Contact Flo Suter on 9370 0908

Set up before the meeting:

Fill the urn in the mini kitchen with water for tea/coffee.

Switch on the urn. Do NOT try to have the kettle boil at the same time; it will overload the circuit.

Get out:

Cups and saucers (overhead cupboard in the main kitchen)

Teaspoons and other cutlery (main kitchen drawers)

Any serving plates needed (in boxes under main kitchen bench behind curtain)

Tea, coffee, sugar etc (box in storage cupboard in hall)

Thanks to our sponsors

Keilor Plains Australian Plants Society would like to thank its many members and supporting nurseries for their generous contribution of plants for the monthly raffles..

Our thanks also to those who supply the delicious suppers at monthly meetings.

2015-16 Committee

President: Jason Caruso 0421 662 186
Vice president: Chris Clarke 9480 1780
Secretary: Anne Langmaid 9336 3228
Treasurer: Doug Down 9336 1797

Immediate past president: Neil Duncan 9337 7397
Committee members: Linda Jones 9333 3796; Jane Canaway 9378 3762; John Upsher 0404 424 126; Yvonne Bischofberger 0425 747 133.

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Librarian: Jason Caruso
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