

Australian Plants Society Wangaratta Inc. June 2024 Newsletter

Meetings – our meetings are usually held in the Masonic Lodge Hall, 101 Appin Street, Wangaratta, @ 7pm, on the 4th Thursday February thru' November, with a mid-winter break in July.

Outings - Visits to local gardens and places of natural beauty are organised on a Saturday or Sunday, usually following the monthly meetings. This month our meeting will focus on Dyeing with Australian Native Plants, to be followed by a workshop on the following Saturday. Propagation Days are held on selected Saturdays in the warmer months.

Visitors are always welcome.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2024 4 2025

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS		
		JUNE 2024		
Thursday 27th	Club Meeting & Guest Speaker	7pm. Guest presenter – Isabel Young. <i>Dyeing</i> materials using native plants. Article on pages 7,8& 9		
Saturday 29 th	Workshop	9.30am – 12.30pm. Workshop with Isabel Young. Dyeing materials using native plants. @ 475 Shanley Street Wangaratta South. Details on pages 8 & 9		
		JULY 2024		
Date to be confirmed	Preparation for Wattle Day	Preparing and labelling packets of seed and information handouts. Date and time to be confirmed. Page 3		
	A	UGUST 2024		
Friday 9 th	Packing up the cars and trailer for Wattle Day	475 Shanley St, Wangaratta South. Time to be confirmed. See Page 3.		
Saturday 10 th	Wattle Day Stall	Wangaratta Farmers Market @ Cathedral Lawns, Ovens Street, Wangaratta. 8am [setting up] to 12 noon. See Page 3		
Thursday August 22 nd	Club Meeting. AGM & Silent Auction	7pm. Freemasons Hall. Appin St. including Election of Committee for 2024/25 See page 10 Nomination forms page 11		
Saturday August 24 th	Outing.	Outing to Isabel Young's home, including helping to plan the design of her garden. Bring morning tea to share.		
	SEF	PTEMBER 2024		
Wednesday September 5 th	Committee meeting	5pm Freemasons Hall Meeting Room.		
Thursday, September 26 th	Club meeting.	Grand Spring Spectacular Display Table. 7pm. Freemasons Hall, Appin St.		
Saturday 28 th September	Outing.	Shepparton Botanic Garden. Meet for lunch in the Car park. BYO Everything, including folding chair.		
41-		CTOBER 2024		
Thursday 24 th October	Club Meeting	Details to be confirmed.		
Sunday 27 th October	Field Trip	Whorouly & Taylors Gap [near Myrtleford] Leader Michael O'Sullivan TBC		
		VEMBER 2024		
November 23 rd & 24 th	Hosting APS Victoria quarterly Weekend	Including Committee of Management Meeting & AGM, Dinner, Outings and Guest Speaker. Details to come.		
Coturdo		CEMBER 2024		
Saturday December 7 th	Propagating Day and Christmas Breakup lunch	From 9.00am to after lunch. @ 475 Shanley St, Wangaratta South.		
	JANUARY 2025 - in recess.			
FEBRUARY 2025				
Saturday February 8 th	Propagation Day & Committee meeting	Propagating from 9.00am. Committee meeting following lunch.		



CELEBRATING WATTLE DAY IN WANGARATTA



Saturday 10th August Holy Trinity Cathedral Lawns Corner of Docker 4 Ovens Streets, Wangaratta

Planning is underway for this special event. We will be:

- displaying buckets of wattle blooms,
- giving away little packets of wattle seeds suitable for growing in our local conditions with growing instructions,
- giving away small pin-on badges with sprigs of wattle,
- o demonstrating how to propagate Australian plants from cuttings and seed,
- o providing information about our own APS Club and flying the flag for APS & Growing Australian.
- o having a variety of plants to give away.

How you can help.....

- Do you have wattles in bloom that you could bring in buckets for display? [Water will be available
 at the site.]
- O Do you have some wattle seed that we can package up to give away?
- Can you help with a working bee to prepare everything before the big day?
- Can you help beforehand to help prepare for this joyful celebration, and/or help on Saturday 10th August?



Acacia mitchellii (Mitchell's wattle)

[from Pina Tiso]

On a recent visit to the Euroa Arboretum, I came across a low growing juvenile shrub (30 cm high x 40 cm in diameter) with dark green bipinnate leaves. I found it rather lovely with its dark red stems covered in white hairs (pictured left). There were several plants of similar size located in the native grasslands and I was surprised to learn it was an acacia. Its foliage was quite different to the other feathery bipinnate leaved acacias (*Acacia dealbata* and *A. mearnsii*) that I am familiar with. I would not have guessed it to be an acacia, though the flowers you can see in Graham and Maree's photo, would have helped.

According to the VicFlora website *A. mitchellii* grows to two metres in height and has mostly single pale-yellow globular flowers on long peduncles originating from each axil. Peak flowering time is between November and January. *A. mitchellii* typically grows in poor sandy soils in open woodlands with a heathy understory and is widespread in the Gariwerd National Park and the South-western corner of Victoria. It can also be found in remnant bushland along the Hume Freeway near Euroa. It requires good drainage and can tolerate shade, though will not flower as prolifically as a plant positioned in full sun.



An exhibition of artworks is on display in the Bainz Gallery at the Wangaratta Library.

Members of the Goulburn and North East Arts Alliance are presenting an exhibition called **From Grasstrees to Wetlands.** The exhibition showcases a wide range of artwork by 14 artists taking inspiration from our unique local environment, including the grass trees in the



Warby Ranges and the wetlands in Winton. It is on display until June 28th.

GANEAA Members David Godkin, Cassandra Pollock, Paddy Milne, Andy Kimber and Terry Cameron are among the participating artists in "From Grasstrees to Wetlands" in the Bainz Gallery. [photo – Wangaratta Chronicle]

Our wetlands, grass trees celebrated in Bainz Gallery

AN exhibition of artworks inspired by the theme "from grasstrees to wetlands" is on display in the Bainz Gallery at the Wangaratta Library.

Presented by the Goulburn and North East Arts Alliance (GANEAA), it includes a wide variety of works which take inspiration from the environment that is unique to North East Victoria.

GANEAA is a regional arts group whose mission is, among other things, to foster the arts in the community, and educate the community in the arts.

It convenes biennial Across the Arts forums where artists



of national and international stature conduct workshops in music, drama, dance, photography, visual arts, writing, multimedia and graphic design.

GANEAA member Paddy Milne said the group has always been interested in environmental issues, so the decision was made to invite members to produce nature-inspired artwork for this exhibition.

"We also wanted to focus particularly on locations of interest in the North East - the grass trees in the Warby Ranges and the wetlands at Winton," she said.

"The exhibition then allows GANEAA to support these two local ecosystems.

"As an adjunct to it, Ian Davidson from Wangaratta Landcare and Sustainability will be our guest speaker for the opening (tonight) and discuss important issues surrounding both ecosystems."

There are 14 artists taking part in the exhibition, with 22 works on show in various mediums, including printmaking, textiles, photography, pastel,

mixed media and acrylic on canvas.

Two exhibits which speak directly to the theme are a 19-minute video by Terry Cameron capturing the sounds and sights of the Winton Wetlands, and a grass tree installation by Andy Kimber.

The official opening of From Grasstrees to Wetlands will take place today from 5pm to 6.30pm in the Bainz Gallery, in the foyer of the Wangaratta Library, with all welcome to attend

See the exhibition until Friday, June 28 during library during opening hours.

From your Editor.

Please consider writing an article or sending some interesting photos to me. Short or long, every contribution adds to this Newsletter's interest and relevance to our Club. Our Newsletter belongs to all of us! Please give me a ring or text or email if you would like to discuss an idea. Thank you all!

helenvanriet@bigpond.com 04 0102 1448

Exhibition @ Wangaratta Performing Arts Centre 31 May - 27 August 2024 Helen Heywood "Bloom"



Helen Heywood's paintings of native flora capture their extraordinary beauty in dramatic detail. Building on still life tradition, Heywood's scenes are depicted in striking realism while revealing a controlled simplicity of composition and arrangement. Whether depicting the flourishing bounty of a new blossom or the delicate underside of an ageing arrangement, Heywood's paintings



speak to hope, resilience, growth and transition.

From our May Meeting

Due to COVID, our Guest speaker,

Sophie Enders from "Gardens for Wildlife"



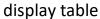


reflected the quieter

months of late autumn; nonetheless, hakeas, diplolaena, croweas, dainty thryptomenes and the long-flowering Acacia jibberdingensis were of interest.



was unable to be physically with us, but, Pina organised a Zoom gathering where we listened and learned about the opportunities to participate in **Gardens for Wildlife**. The







Visit to Winton Wetlands [from Pina Tiso]

Gillian Anderson channelled perfect weather for the visit to Winton Wetlands on the 25th of May. Members and friends, met at the 'Duck Pond' and took a short stroll around a small pond to view the



local flora, before returning to the carpark and sharing a delicious morning tea.



Unfortunately, many of the extensive plantings of understorey shrubs undertaken by the Friends of Winton Wetlands group that Gillian and Paul had been a part of several ago had not survived. Given the current extended dry spell it was not unexpected to find tinder-dry vegetation, and aside from a few very hardy acacia species, the occasional Fuzzy New Holland Daisies

(*Vittadinia cuneata* - pictured) and the remnants of some shiny everlastings there was very little native understorey in bud or flower.



Following morning tea, attendees took a longer walk around one section of the Duck Pond. Waterbirds, raptors and forest birds were much easier to spot than native plants, with Michael O'Sullivan recording 41 species before midday. Early arrivals to the car park had been lucky enough to see several turquoise parrots, while most people who ventured to the Duck

Pond itself were treated to sightings of various species of spoonbills, egrets, ducks and a large flock (>100 birds) of little corellas.

Some members completed the walk around the Duck Pond and continued birdwatching, while others ventured further afield to view the artworks on the water tanks. Amongst other bird sightings, there was a whistling kite (treating us to its tuneful call) and several Gold-headed cisticolas. This photo shows one well camouflaged in the dry grasslands. Everyone then reconvened at a picnic table near the Mokoan Hub for a



very pleasant lunch under the autumnal sunshine. After lunch, some members continued across to the lake behind the Mokoan Hub, to walk along the water's edge. Birds again won out over native plants, with 34 species recorded. These included flame robins, yellow-rumped thornbills, black swans and a swamp harrier. Overall, a very relaxed and enjoyable day!



An Exciting Foretaste for the June 27th Meeting and June 29th Dyeing Workshop



From Isabel's email of 4th June.....

Hi Helen & Pina.

I had to share some exciting natural dye samples with you from Helen and John's garden.

Helen very kindly walked me around her



garden and I came home with three garbage bags full of plants. Many have given me dull browns and yellows. But there were a few surprises: Eremophila



abietina gave a beautiful bright canary yellow as did the varnish wattle. The Indigofera australis was successful using the smoothie method and Jenny Davidson's Moon lagoon gave a beautiful orange. The native plant

dyes take to wool best rather than cotton or linen fabrics. See images attached.

MEETING ON THURSDAY 27TH JUNE

Date and Time: Thursday 27th June at 7pm

Location: Freemasons Hall, Appin St.

At this highly anticipated meeting, our guest speaker will be Isabel Young. Her subject will be dyeing with natural Australian Native Plant Dyes. The evening will include handson --- preparing fabrics and yarns for the Saturday 29th June workshop.

Important Preparation:

If bringing your own fabrics or yarns, apply a mordant beforehand to help the dye adhere. Attend the Thursday club meeting on 27th June at 7pm, where Isabel will premordant your materials.

Mordant Information:

"A mordant is a substance that has an affinity with both the material to be dyed and the natural plant

dyestuff. Acting as a bond between the two, a mordant helps the dye to become permanently fixed to the fibers." - Jenny Dean, *Wild Colour*

Recommended Materials for Best Results:

Wool and silk absorb dye well from Eucalyptus (Red/Orange), Acacia (Yellow/Brown), and Mistletoe

(Orange/Yellow). Bring natural or lightly colored silk scarves or shirts for dyeing.

NATURAL DYE WORKSHOP

Saturday, 29th June, 9:30am-12:30pm

Location: Helen & John van Riet's place – 475 Shanley Street, Wangaratta South. [locality map below]

Workshop Details:

Join Isabel to explore natural dyeing using Australian native plants. Learn to bundle steam and pot boil

plant materials from Helen & John's garden. You can also bring plant materials from your garden.

Materials Provided:

Some pre-mordanted wool and fabric will be available for dyeing on the day.

Important Preparation:

If bringing your own fabrics or yarns, apply a mordant beforehand to help the dye adhere. Attend the Thursday club meeting on 27th June at 7pm, where Isabel will premordant your materials.

Mordant Information:

"A mordant is a substance that has an affinity with both the material to be dyed and the natural plant

dyestuff. Acting as a bond between the two, a mordant helps the dye to become permanently fixed to

the fibers." - Jenny Dean, *Wild Colour*

Recommended Materials for Best Results:

Wool and silk absorb dye well from Eucalyptus (Red/Orange), Acacia (Yellow/Brown), and Mistletoe

(Orange/Yellow). Bring natural or lightly colored silk scarves or shirts for dyeing.

What to Bring:

- Something to share for morning tea and your lunch
- Warm clothes (we'll be working outside)
- Snips & scissors
- Bucket
- Washed and dried wool skeins and/or fabrics (wool, silk, cotton, linen, hemp)
- Lightly colored clothes & scarves (silk, wool, cotton, linen) for dyeing
- Apron & kitchen gloves
- Elastic bands & string

Optional Equipment (recommended for enthusiasts):

- Camp stove
- Large kitchen pot (10-30 liters) for natural dyeing (aluminum, stainless steel, or copper)
- Small pots (1-2 liters) for samples
- Tongs
- Clean 2-liter milk bottles for taking dyes home

We look forward to seeing you there for a day of creativity and exploration!

LOCALITY MAP

475 Shanley St, Wangaratta South. [Corner of Shanley St & Cox Road]

PARKING: In the paddock - first gate on right.



ADVANCE NOTICE FOR OUR AGM & SILENT AUCTION MEETING ON 22nd AUGUST

Our August APS meeting will include

THE AGM

Our AGM does not take any more time than is necessary. In the unlikely event that any positions on our committee do not have a nomination, we DO NOT put anyone 'on the spot' or accept nominations 'from the floor', unless the nominee has already agreed to that nomination.

<u>LUCKY NUMBER SILENT AUCTION.</u> To round out the evening_ and by popular demand, our fourth HYBRID 'SILENT LUCKY NUMBER AUCTION' will keep us all on our toes.

How it will work.....

We will have purchased approximately 30 lovely Australian plants from various nurseries on which to try your luck. Each plant will have a receptacle into which identifying numbered voting slips for the corresponding plant may be placed.

Each person will be registered and given an identifying number. You will receive 20 voting slips with your identification number and space to write how much you would be willing to pay for a particular plant. You will be invited to place each of your 20 slips in the corresponding receptacles beside each plant you would like to purchase. We suggest that your nominated amount could be anything from \$1 upwards.

There may be just a few plants that you really want to win. You could put quite a few of your voting slips in one bucket, or not be fussed, and distribute your voting slips amongst the 30 buckets in any way you wish.

Lots will be drawn from the accumulated voting slips for each plant. The lucky winner gets to purchase the plant for the amount they have nominated on their slip. All payments will be collected at the conclusion of the silent auction, either by cash or you can make a direct deposit to the APS Wangaratta account:

To: Bendigo Bank

Account Name: Australian Plants Society Wangaratta BSB: 633000 Account Number 122 784 283 Please add your identity - Surname & 'Silent Auction'

To ensure that everyone gets an equal chance, once a member has drawn a winner, they will not be included in subsequent draws until everyone who has made a bid has drawn a winner. There will also be consolation prizes for those who don't draw a winner. And swapping of plants among ourselves is always an option.

NEUTROG ORDERS

When you renew or register your membership, you will be prompted to check the box to include you in emails from Neutrog about their 4 x a year special-price orders for APS Victoria Members. If you do not wish to receive these special offers, DO NOT check the box on the on-line form.

If you have received Neutrog emails previously, and are renewing your membership, but do not wish to continue to receive these offers, you should advise Neutrog directly by clicking on the 'unsubscribe' post at the bottom of their email.

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY WANGARATTA INC. NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024 – 2025

POSITION - (Please circle)	President	Vice P	resident	Secretary	Treasurer	Membership Officer	
	Newsletter E	ditor	APS Vic	toria Repres	entative	Committee Member	

	I nominate
	Name & signature of proposer
	Name & signature of Seconder
	Signature of person being nominated Date
	Nomination forms to be returned to the Secretary before 7pm on 22/8/24.
	AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY WANGARATTA INC. NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024 – 2025
POS]	ITION - (Please circle) President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Membership Officer Newsletter Editor APS Victoria Representative Committee Member
	I nominate
	Name & signature of proposer
	Name & signature of Seconder
	Signature of person being nominated

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

It is that time of year again! Except for new members who joined since the start of 2024, everyone's membership with APS Vic and APS Wangaratta runs out at the end of June. So you need to renew for 2024-2025 to remain an active member.

This year all renewals must be done online through the APS Victoria website.

Details are as follows:

- Go to apsvic.org.au/login, fill in your username (email address), then password (membership number which is on the front of the Growing Australian envelope) and login via 'captcha'. This takes you to your membership page.
- Your name/s, address, phone number, email address will already be filled in and can be altered if need be.
- Select Single or Household, tick if you want Australian Plants, check that Wangaratta is selected as your district group with correct type (single, household)
- Select payment method. The easiest method to use is a credit or debit card, but payment can also be made by bank transfer. The bank transfer option needs to be followed up by paying into the APS Vic bank.
- If you use a credit/debit card for payment a confirmation screen will appear after a minute or so, and a receipt will be emailed to you
- There is no logout button so I suggest closing your browser once you have the confirmation screen

<u>Do not send your membership renewal money to APS Wangaratta</u>. All membership money (both APS Vic and District group membership) goes to APS Vic and then they send the Wangaratta portion back to us.

If you have any questions please get in touch. I can be reached by email (wangarattamemberships@apsvic.org.au) or phone (0439 608 130). I will bring my computer to the June meeting in case anyone needs some help.

Thanks in advance,

Linda

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you are a lapsed member, you need to start again on the APS Vic website as a NEW MEMBER. You will be assigned a new Membership Number.

SHOWS, CONFERENCES, PLANT SALES AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

IMPORTANT --- PLEASE CHECK APS VICTORIAN WEBSITE FOR CANCELLATIONS

2024

30 June 2024 - RBGC winter afternoon talk by Dr Garry Price on Alf Salkin: Botanist, Conservationist, Environmental Educator. The Spitfire bomber pilot who brought banksias to Cranbourne. At 2.00 pm in the Auditorium at Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Cost \$20 RBGC members, \$25 non members. Details from https://cranbournefriends.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events/

27 and 28 July 2024 – APS Bendigo host COM and full weekend of activities. Quarterly Committee of Management Meeting & Bendigo's 50th Birthday Celebration Dinner Saturday July 27th and Sunday 28th July, 2024, hosted by APS Bendigo. The meeting is at "Chasers", Bendigo Greyhound Racing Track, Bendigo.

Self-drive tours to local public and private gardens, Bendigo forests and Landcare projects.

5 September 2024 – Wimmera Biodiversity Seminar. Goroke.

7 September 2024 – APS Cardinia Regional Annual Plant Sale, Akoonah Park, Berwick from 8 am to 4 pm.

7 September 2024 – APS Mitchell Expo and Plant Sale, Wallan Multipurpose Centre, Bentinck Street, Wallan.

14 & 15 September 2024 APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo. Eltham Community and Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am - 3pm.

21 & 22 September 2024 – APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show, Pomonal Hall.

21 & 22 September 2024 – Angair Wildflower Show & Art Show, Anglesea Memorial Hall, McMillan Street, Anglesea. 10 am to 4 pm. Wildflower display, indigenous plant sales, art show and painting sales.

28 & 29 September 2024 – APS Bendigo Flower Show, Victory Christian College, Kairn Road, Strathdale, Bendigo. 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. \$5 entry, children free. Specialist native plant nurseries, books, garden accessories and more.

30 September to 4 October, 2024 – ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference in Melbourne hosted by APS Victoria. Visit https://www.anpsa2024conference.com/.

2 October 2024 - 3.30 pm. AJ Swaby Address by Phillip Johnson - "Connected Through Nature". As part of the ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference, this session is open to the public, free of charge, at The Round, Nunawading. Phillip Johnson is a Landscape Designer and 2013 Gold and Best in Show winner at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in London. "By healing our environment, we heal ourselves at the same time".

5 October 2024 – Echuca Moama Native Flower Showcase. Masonic Lodge Hall, 426 High Street, Echuca.

12 & 13 October 2024 - Cranbourne Friends RBGV Spring Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Website: rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

19th October, 2024. – APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show, Robert Clark Horticultural Centre, Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Gillies Street, Ballarat. (Next to the Conservatory). 10am to 4pm. Native Plants for Sale.

November 23rd & 24th 2024 – APS Wangaratta host APS Victoria Committee of Management meeting and AGM. Details to follow.

2025

24 to 30 March 2025 – Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show (MIFGS), Carlton Gardens and Royal Exhibition Building. Website: https://melbflowershow.com.au.

16 to 24 August 2025 - A focus on banksias - title to be advised. Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Includes plant sales, plant walks, exhibitions and displays in the auditorium.

Date to be confirmed, **August 2025 15**th FJC Rogers Seminar 2025 on Epacridaceae hosted by APS Mornington Peninsula in the Mornington Secondary College.

APS Wangaratta now has its very own Facebook Page.

We look forward to reaching a broader audience with social media. Our facebook page is public to anyone searching to find out information about APS Wangaratta Inc online. We will keep it up-to-date with current information by sharing events, articles and posts from other APS clubs and the like. Please like and share with other facebook users. https://www.facebook.com/apswangaratta/

Our profile picture is the grass tree logo and the current cover page image is a tray of propagated plants. We are on the hunt for a **cover page image** that best represents the area. If you have an image of a plant/plants in a landscape format, we'd love to use it with your permission.

If you have **photos or articles** you'd like to share please send them to Isabel via email **isabelninayoung@gmail.com** or tag the Facebook page in comments and she will share on the page.

Your **Privacy** is our concern: addresses and phone numbers will not be shared on this public FB page. A photo consent form is now available for members to fill out, please let us know if you DO NOT want your image shared and you do not want to be photographed at events, meetings, around the specimen table and on garden tours.

Please return signed consent form to our secretary Pina via email apswangaratta1@gmail.com This form will also be available at club meetings and outings for your convenience.

Australian Plants Society Wangaratta

Facebook Photo Consent Form

As APS Wangaratta venture into the world of social media, we would like to take this opportunity to ask for your consent to use images of you taken at events, meetings, around the specimen table and on garden tours.

Please select your preferred option and enter your name

	By submitting this form I
	Or
	By submitting this form I
,	Date
)	Signature

Your 2023/2024 Committee:

President: John Van Riet 04 2812 9007 <u>helenvanriet@bigpond.com</u>
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Membership Officer: Linda Huzzey 0439 608 130 <u>huzzey@westnet.com.au</u>
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