



**AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP)**  
**Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter**  
 APRIL 2023 No 496

*Correa reflexa* 'Grannys Grave'

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**On Eastern Maar Country**

**EDITORIAL**

**Hello members,**

Another month has passed us by, I can't believe how quickly time has flown. Next month will be time for our Annual Meeting again and reporting to members. Please let us know if you are interested in joining the committee and have a say on how our group is run.

**Just letting you know APS Vic** have successfully trialed an on-line membership renewal system using payment by debit/credit card. Payment by card completes your renewal in one step, They are now ready to go with on-line renewals for 2023/24 starting in June 2023. They expect most renewing members to use the new on-line process, if you are not able to do so, you will still be able to process your renewal the "old way". Contact our Treasurer, John Sherwood and he will be happy to receive your payment. The online renewal also collects your payment of APS Warrnambool membership and Australian Plants magazine subscription if selected. The APS Warrnambool memberships collected will be returned to our Treasurer each month. Don't be afraid of the change to this new system, we will all get used to it. We will let you know when you need to make your payment. Contact me if you have any questions.

**Our speaker this month** is our own Sue Blood who will do a presentation on Eco Dyeing. She will follow this up on Sat 29th with a demo from her home (9.30 start). All are welcome to come along. See page 3. Thank you everyone for their contributions this month. That's all, hope to see you on Friday the 28th, Cheers, Kevin.

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

**Next Members Night: April - Friday 28th 8.00pm- Sue Blood - Eco Dyeing**

<i>Members Activities</i>	<i>Visit to Colac &amp; Special Effects Nursery</i>
<p><b>April 28th:</b> Members Night 8.00pm - Sue Blood speaking on her experiences with Eco dyeing with Eucalyptus leaves.</p> <p><b>April 29th 9.30am - 11.30 :</b> Eco Dyeing demonstration at Ross and Sue' home. BYO lunch.</p> <p><b>May 2nd 3.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting - Sparrows .</p> <p><b>May 26th:</b> AGM &amp; Citizen Science presentation TBC</p> <p><b>June 23rd:</b> Zoom presentation by Kate Blood TBC</p> <p><b>June 24th:</b> Trip to Colac - Visit to Paul Kennedy's garden in the morning followed by a visit to Special Effects Nursey after lunch.</p> <p><b>July 28th:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Aug 25th:</b> TBD</p> <p><b>Sept 23/24th:</b> Weekend Trip to Bendigo TBC</p>	 <p>On Saturday 24th June, we will be visiting Colac beginning with a visit to Paul Kennedy's Garden in the morning followed by the Special Effects Native Nursery after lunch (byo) at 1.30pm.</p> <p>Owner, Mike Edwards will be giving us a guided tour of his nursery (a good chance to stock up on those special and hard to get Banksias).</p> <p>Address is: 215A Barongarook Rd, Barongarook VIC 3249</p> <p>Please put this date into your diaries. We will fine tune the times etc a bit closer to the date..</p>
<p align="center"><b>Please submit your articles for the newsletter by the end of the second week of the month</b></p>	
<p><b>President:</b> David Handscombe, 7 Settlers Lane. Illowa. 3282 Phone: 0429 866 862  <b>Vice President:</b> Mike Halls, 127 Rooney's Rd, Warrnambool 3280 Phone: 0476 250 435 Email: mandehalls@bigpond.com  <b>Secretary:</b> Kevin Sparrow 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool. Phone: 55626217  <b>Treasurer:</b> John Sherwood. 26 McConnell St, Warrnambool Phone: 55628064 Email: jsher@deakin.edu.au  <b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Kevin Sparrow, 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool. Phone: 55626217 Email: ksparrow93@gmail.com  <b>Public Officer:</b> John Sherwood. <b>APS Rep:</b> Michael Mattner, <b>Group Historian:</b> Joyce Sparrow. <b>Supper:</b> Liz Halls.  <b>Other Committee Members:</b> Dorothy Mattner, Michael Mattner, Linda Handscombe, Ross Dawson.</p>	
<p align="center"><b>The APS Warrnambool &amp; District holds meetings on the 4th Friday of each month at the Mozart Hall Warrnambool at 8pm.</b></p>	
<p>APS Warrnambool &amp; District is a District Group of the Australian Plants Society (Vic) <span style="float: right;">All members are required to also be a member of APS Vic.</span></p>	
<p>2 <span style="float: right;">Australian Plants Society - Warrnambool &amp; District Group April 2023 Newsletter 496</span></p>	

## *Eco Dyeing By Sue Blood*

Hi Fellow Gardeners,

I am presenting a talk at the April meeting - the topic being - My Experiences with Eco dyeing using Eucalyptus leaves.

It is too complicated to do any hands on work at the meeting so I am happy to offer anyone who is interested an exercise on the following Saturday 29th .....It would be 9:30 to 11:00(ish).

I can't accommodate a lot of people due to available equipment but we can see how it goes. I am happy to sell you a pair of white woollen socks (Australian of course) for \$10.00 Or you can bring your own woollen socks. You could bring a 50g ball of wool if you preferred.



You can choose your leaves, bundle them with your socks and put them in the dye pot. You then leave and have to trust me to monitor them for the next 4-5 hours. They stay in the pot overnight and are unwrapped the next morning. Another trip to Illowa?? or leave it to me?? It is more fun doing it yourself! You then leave them for a week and then wash them - they are ready to wear!

**ED: For more information or if you are not sure where she lives, phone Sue on 0407 386 987.**



## March Display Table - Dorothy Mattner

March can be a month where many plants have finished flowering and lots bursting into bud, despite this members managed to brighten up the hall with the display table looking lovely.

Mike brought along *Anigozanthos* 'Yellow Gem', it has a very vibrant paw, also *Epacris longiflora* (photo top right), endemic to eastern Australia, its bell shaped flowers are a stand out in the garden. It likes some sun but dappled shade is ideal. *Eremophila* 'Big Poly' is a medium shrub with creamy white flowers. Mike also brought along three *Grevilleas*, 'Ned Kelly' has orange-red flowers for most of the year, it is bird attractive and responds well to a light prune. *Grevillea* 'Robyn Gordon' (photo below left) is another great flowering plant, while *Grevillea* 'Peaches and Cream' grows to 1.2m by 1.5m and is very similar to 'Robyn Gordon', the flowers being cream and pink in color.

Michael's three were *Grevillea* 'Lollypops', like all *Grevilleas* this is great for the birds and the bees as it has flowers for most of the year, its deep raspberry pink color makes it a stand out in the garden and it only grows to 1.5m by 1.5m. *Grevillea* 'Ivory Whip' has large ivory white flowers. *Leptospermum petersonii* (Lemon scented tea tree) is a tall shrub that makes a good hedge, the leaves also can be made into a nice drinking tea.



John's collection was *Melaleuca nesophila*, this is an endemic from an area near Albany WA.

*Eremophila* 'Meringur Isaac' is a vigorous shrub with large purple flowers. *Alyogyne huegelii* has lovely large purple flowers in Summer and Autumn. Also *Alyogyne hakeifolia* is a long flowering, hardy shrub.



## March Display Table - Dorothy Mattner Page 2

Lou and Mick brought in *Viola hederacea* (photo above right) (native violet), this is a lovely low growing plant and is used together with *Lipia nodiflora* in their lawn, in doing so there is no need for a mower. Well done sounds like the way to go. *Melaleuca lanceolata* is a spreading shrub commonly known as black paperbark. *Mentha australis* also known as River Mint has been used by Aboriginal peoples to flavor their bushfood and it is also used as an insect repellent and medicinal herb. Lou said it is great used with Roo meat.

Brian's plants were, *Eucalyptus corymbia* with lovely cream flowers. *Grevillea rhyolitica* commonly known as Deua Grevillea or Flame Grevillea has red hot flowers that put on a great show.

Kevin's collection included, five *Eremophilas*, *cuneifolia* (bottom left), *phylopoda* (bottom right), *latrobei*, *splendens* (bottom centre) and 'Big Poly'. He also brought in *Banksia integrifolia*, *Banksia burdettii*, *Hibbertia dentata*, *Chorizema varium*, *Isotoma axillaris*. *Isotoma* 'Fizz n Pop - Pretty in Pink'. *Crowea exalata* white and *exalata* pink. Also *Crowea* 'Southern Stars'.

Thank you everyone.





## Plant Profile by Dave Handscombe

Species: *Banksia menziesii*

**Banksia:** Named after Joseph Banks, botanist and scientist on several expeditions most notably Cook's expedition to observe the transit of Venus. He later became the President of the Royal Society and remained a key figure in botanical and zoological investigations for over 40 years.

**menziesii:** named after Archibald Menzies, a surgeon and naturalist on board HMS Discovery during the expedition that named King George Sound near Albany in 1791.

**Common Name:** Firewood Banksia.

**Family:** Proteaceae

**Dimensions:** Height: variable from 2 to 10 or more metres, width up to 10 metres.

There are no registered cultivars on the ACRA site and no Plant Breeders Rights current.

*Banksia menziesii* occurs in the coastal plains of southwest WA from Pinjarra in the south to the Murchison River in the north with a few isolated populations inland from Perth.

*Banksia menziesii* grows in areas with rainfall in the range of 350 – 900mm in well-drained sandy soils, but will grow in heavier loams as long as they are free draining. The pH of the soil should be in the range of lightly acidic to neutral.

It tolerates full sun to partial shade, is hardy to moderate frosts, dry conditions and having a lignotuber, can be pruned heavily once established. Flower colour is quite variable ranging from bronze, chocolate, salmon, yellow and shades of red. Flower colour may vary from season to season depending on temperature and rainfall. It is more common to find the shrub form in nurseries as these are more suited to smaller gardens.

Propagation is relatively easy by seed but flower colour may not be true to type.





*Plant Profile by Dave Handscombe*



**Photo Captions**

**Photo 1:** *Banksia menziesii* shrub form.

**Photo 2-5:** Various stages of the development of the inflorescence.

**Photo 6-7:** Some of the colour forms of the flowers.

**Photo 8:** The inflorescence with all of the flowers open.

**Photo 9:** The inflorescence from above.

**Photo 10:** The distinct patterns on the cone are revealed after the flowers drop, which is another feature of the plant.



## ANPSA Biennial Conference 2024 - Melbourne



ANPSA Biennial Conference 2024 – Melbourne  
<https://apsvic.org.au/anpsa-biennial-conference-2024/>  
“Gardens for Life”

Hosted by Australian Plants Society Victoria 30th Sep – 4th Oct 2024

Held at the Melbourne Conference and Exhibition Centre, the conference topics include:  
Gardens for Wildlife and Habitat,  
Restoration and Revegetation of Wetlands, Grasslands and Verges,  
Care for the Rare, Insects and Biodiversity, Garden Design,  
Indigenous Food Plants and many more.

Tours before and after will go to Victoria’s best wildflower areas and day excursions will feature new botanic gardens, private gardens and wild areas.

To register your interest go to:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeseytb9Z872EABLHpeWypQ\\_rqiEGfmbqDA-jG9PRYKhgUPFA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeseytb9Z872EABLHpeWypQ_rqiEGfmbqDA-jG9PRYKhgUPFA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0)

A promotional video can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/8ApdryKIIwA>

Read most recent news & information in the March 2023 “Gardens for Life” newsletter:

<https://apsvic.org.au/documents/ANPSA/2024/ANPSA%202024%20Newsletter%2020230301.pdf>



## Coastal Connections By Jarred Obst

Hello everyone and welcome to the first edition of Glenelg Hopkins CMA's '**Coastal Connections**' email for 2023.

The year is off to a flyer – and apologies this newsletter is well overdue – I hope you're all well and have enjoyed a positive start to the new year.

### **Seasonal Weather**

After an extremely wet spring and early summer of 2022, things settled down on the rainfall front during January and February resulting in somewhat typical rainfall totals for most of our coastal region. To date March has followed a similar rainfall pattern, but a changing season has also been felt over recent weeks with rapidly shorter daylight periods, along with cool, calm and dewy autumn mornings now more frequent. Interestingly, this coincides with a recent report by the BoM that the La Nina system which has dominated weather in eastern Australia for the last 2-3 years is now officially over – and that La Nina has the chance of arriving on our doorstep later in 2023...

*For details on recent conditions, along with upcoming weather predictions, please refer to the following [BoM Update](#).*

### **Estuary Update**

Relatively stable conditions have been mostly observed on our regions estuaries in 2023 due to reduced rainfall and warmer summer conditions. There are always exceptions though, and on February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> our coastline was hit by a extremely large and unseasonal 8m swell event, which pushed significant volumes of seawater into all of our estuaries, rapidly increasing estuary water levels and dramatically changing the size and shape of sand bars at our estuary mouths. Fortunately, most of our estuaries were able to absorb this with outflows in the week following, however the Surry River estuary at Narrawong was left with a very large beach berm, and highly salty and elevated estuary water levels. This prompted the CMA and Parks Victoria to undertake an authorised river mouth opening on Feb 10th to reduce future inundation risks and serious river health issues during the upcoming autumn period.

**Estuary Photos – February 2023**



**Glenelg River  
estuary mouth,  
Nelson VIC.**

### **Community Information**

If you're interested to stay in touch with other events and regional coastal information, please check out the following links:

[Single-use plastic ban](#) – In February a significant announcement was made to ban problematic single-use plastics from sale or supply in Victoria!

[Glenelg Hopkins CMA Newsletter](#) – Read about other CMA news through our latest region-wide newsletter, including some new instream fish habitat in the Hopkins River estuary.

[EstuaryWatch & WaterWatch Newsletter](#) – 2023 is a big year for the EstuaryWatch and WaterWatch program who celebrate 30 years! More information to come in my next instalment.

[Marine and Coasts Newsletter](#) – Read about the latest marine and coastal news from DEECA (formerly DELWP) through their seasonal newsletter.

Lastly, you may have seen this through our socials, but this Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup>, the Glenelg Hopkins CMA are joining forces with Beach Patrol to undertake a **Beach Clean-up event at the lower Fitzroy River estuary**. We'll be on-site from 11am til 3pm, so please feel free to join us if you're interested and available to come down. We'll meet at the day picnic area (approximately 100m past the camping reserve) and will have a BBQ lunch and snacks available to all helpers! An event flyer is attached; please pass this onto to anyone you think may be interested & feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions.

Thanks everyone & all the best until my next instalment,

Regards

Jarred



OFFICIAL

Surry River estuary mouth, Narrawong VIC.



## SHOWS, CONFERENCES, PLANT SALES AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST 2023

15 April 2023 – APS Heathcote Plant and Flower Show. Mechanics Institute, 121 High Street, Heathcote.

22 April 2023 - APS Yarra Yarra Autumn Plant Sale, Eltham Community & Reception Centre, Eltham. 10 am – 4 pm.

29 April 2023 - APS Mornington Peninsula Plant Sale. 10 am to 3 pm. The Briars, Mt Martha.

13 May 2023 – APS Melton and Bacchus Marsh Plant Sale. 9am to 1pm.

The venue is expected to be St Andrews Uniting Church at Bacchus Marsh, to be confirmed.

3 June 2023 – APS Victoria Committee of Management Meeting at 10am at Deep Creek Reserve Function Room, 62 Cameron Way, Pakenham.

24 & 25 June 2023 – APS Ballarat Winter Flower Show. Flower show, plant sales etc. Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gilles Street, Ballarat. 10 am – 4 pm.

22 & 23 July 2023 – Cranbourne Friends RBGV Autumn Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Website: [rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au](http://rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au)

2 September 2023 – APS Cardinia Region Group Plant Sale at Akoonah Park, Princes Hwy, Berwick, from 9 am to 3 pm. To be located in the undercover fruit and vegetable market area.

9 & 10 September 2023 - APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo, Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Road Eltham. 10.00 am - 4.00 pm both days.

16 & 17 September 2023 – 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.



23 & 24 September 2023 – APS Bendigo Flower Show, Victory College, Kairn Road, Strathdale (Bendigo).

23 & 24 September 2023 – APS Grampians host APS Vic September COMM.

## SHOWS, CONFERENCES, PLANT SALES AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST 2023

30 September & 1 October 2023 – APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show, Pomonal Hall.

7 October 2023 – APS Echuca Moama Native Flower Showcase, Echuca Masonic Lodge Hall, 426 High Street, Echuca. 9 am to 4 pm. Flower show, native plant sales, basket weaving display, floral art and painting sales.

14 October 2023 – APS Mitchell Plant Expo and Sale. Wallan Community Centre, Bentinck Street, Wallan. From 9 am to 3 pm.

21 & 22 October 2023 - APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show. Flower show, plant sales etc. Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gilles Street, Ballarat. 10 am – 4 pm.

21 & 22 October 2023 - Cranbourne Friends RBGV Autumn Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Website: [rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au](http://rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au)

30 September to 4 October, 2024 – ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference in Melbourne hosted by APS Victoria.



Overseas – United Kingdom

3 – 9 July 2023 - The Australasian Plant Society based in the UK is putting on a joint display with the Hebe Society in the Floral Marquee at the 2023 RHS Hampton Court Flower Festival, on the theme of 'Australasian plants for a Changing Climate.'