



Wimmera Growers of Australian Plants Inc

Registered No: A0010491R

WGAP PO Box 533, Horsham. 3402 Email: wimmera@apsvic.org.au

November/December 2023 Newsletter

Fri/Sat/Sun 3,4,5 November –

Visit to Warrnambool APS Group

**Please indicate to Mary 0417 059 312 or Graham
0491 091 115 if you are planning to go by
Wednesday 25 October.**

Please organise your own accommodation.

Program for the weekend:

Saturday 4th November:

9:00-10:00 am Meet at James Swan Reserve on the corner of Raglan Parade and Kepler Street. Park near the entrance in Kepler Street. APS Warrnambool Rep: Kevin Sparrow.

10:00-10:30am Travel to the Dawson/Blood Garden 632 Princess Hwy Illowa.

10:30am -1:00pm Dawson/Blood garden with morning tea & lunch provided.

1:00-3:30pm Handscombe garden with afternoon tea provided. 7 Settlers Lane

3:30–5:00pm Tower Hill Wildlife Reserve.

6:30pm Dinner at Images Restaurant 60 Leibig St Warrnambool.

Sunday 5th November

9:00am Meet at Swan Reserve to travel east along the coast to Port Campbell. Possible sites to visit Lake Gilleear, Childers Cove/Stanhope Bay Lookout, Bay of Martyrs/Islands, Sunset Lookout/Port Campbell Discovery Walk.

1:00pm lunch at Port Campbell (suggest we all bring our luncheon the day as Port Campbell will be busy over cup weekend)

Newsletter Editor

The WGAP committee is still searching for a **newsletter editor**. If you would like to have a go please do not hesitate and contact:

Mary 0417 059 312 or wimmera@apsvic.org.au

Christmas Breakup Sunday 26 November 2023

5pm: Garden of Gary Pilgrim and Ann Erskine
36 Penny Avenue, Horsham

6pm. Meal - Graham and Maree Goods
11 Harmer Court, Horsham

**7pm: Proposed Special General Meeting
to adopt new WGAP Constitution**

**Cost of Meal: \$15 per member
(Balance subsidised by WGAP)**

Please book with Mary on 0417 059 312
or wimmera@apsvic.org.au

**NOTE: Cost for non members is unknown. Still
waiting for a quote from the caterer.**

Special General Meeting Sunday 26 November 2023, 7pm

to adopt the new WGAP Constitution

The Constitution will be emailed to members to read through, at least two weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

See page 2 for further information and explanatory notes.

First Meeting for 2024

Thursday 1 February 2024, 7:30pm. Horsham CWA Hall:

Propagating by seed, cuttings, division and grafting

Specimen Table – please bring flowering plants from your garden for the specimen table even if you don't know the name of it. It will be great to see what is flowering at this time of the year.

Supper: to be decided

Plants for Raffle: G&M Goods

Sunday 4 February 1:30pm: Home Propagating Setup.

Venue: 180 Barnes Boulevard, Horsham. Home of Alan and Wendy Bedgood,
Come and see an example of a home propagating system.

What Plant is This?

This is a hybrid *Leptospermum* (Tea Tree) growing in the garden of Bevan and Jean Boschen. Its parents are unknown so if any one thinks they can identify the parentage of this plant please email wimmera@aps.vic.org.au

It is about 1.5m to 2m high on a single trunk and has a weeping habit. The white flowers tinged with pink are quite large for a *Leptospermum*.



Another shrub in the Boschen garden. Possibly *Banksia praemorsa*.



14 July 2023



17 October 2023

Please Read - this will effect every WGAP member

Changes to the Membership and Constitution for Wimmera Growers of Australian Plants Inc.

WGAP has always operated as an affiliated group of Australian Plant Society Victoria. It has been brought to our attention that our club has not always operated within the rules of the affiliation meaning that some of our members, who do not belong to APS Vic, may not be covered by Public Liability Insurance.

At a WGAP committee meeting held on 22 June 2023, two options were discussed:

1. WGAP would need to purchase their own public liability to cover members who do not belong to APS Victoria. This would add considerable cost to the membership for WGAP and in particular those who are already members of APS Vic. They would be paying for the privilege of the cover of Public Liability twice. The committee felt that in some circumstances this would not be a fair option for all members.
2. That all members of WGAP would be required to become members of APS Vic. This would then mean that all our members would be covered for Public Liability and everyone would be paying the same membership fees which would probably be the cheaper option.

After some consideration the committee chose to go with Option 2. This will take time to for the changeover to take place. Steps to be taken for the changeover are:

1. The operating year for the WGAP constitution will need to be changed from a calendar year to a financial year that is from 1 July to the 30 June. This will then bring WGAP operating year in line with APS Vic.
2. The current WGAP constitution is out of date and requires several changes therefore the current Incorporations Victoria Model Rules have been downloaded and the committee is currently inserting the appropriate wording to suit our group.
3. For the new WGAP Constitution to be adopted by the club, a special general meeting will need to be called. The Christmas breakup is the proposed date for this meeting. Watch this space for further notice.
4. The committee moved that current memberships for WGAP will not expire until 30 June 2024 thus giving all WGAP members 18 months membership. This will then bring it in line with WGAP new constitution and APS Vic membership year. In future both memberships can be paid at the same time on the APS Vic Website.
5. Not all members have the facility to pay their membership online. This is where the Membership Officer will be able to assist and do this for you.

Benefits of APS Vic Membership

- **Mix with like-minded people and share knowledge**
- **Growing Australian quarterly magazine:**
50 plus pages of articles and colour photographs on topics ranging from detailed information on Australian native plants, landscaping tips, reviews of the latest books on native plants, conservation issues and much more.
- **Free native plant seed:**
Choose up to 24 packets of seed per year from the member's seed bank which has hundreds of species available.
- **Books at members' rates:**
A superb collection of books are available at discount prices via mail order, or in person at Quarterly Gatherings.
- **Neutrog Fertiliser products:**
Members of participating District Groups can also buy Neutrog products through the Neutrog online store at special member prices, which are much lower than retail prices.
- **Website:**
Access the members-only section of the website.
- **Australian Plants quarterly magazine:**
APS Victoria members can also subscribe to the Australian Native Plant Society (Australia) national magazine *Australian Plants*.

Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

Cranbourne Gardens

Jill Burness, retired Landscape Planner for the Cranbourne Gardens gave us a brilliant presentation of *Introduction to the Australian Garden*. Thank you Jill for sharing with us.

The Australian Garden is located in the south-east urban growth corridor of Melbourne, in the City of Casey. It is 42 kilometres from the Melbourne Central Business District en route to Phillip Island, about 10 kilometres inland from Frankston.

The Garden consists of:

- 363 hectare site
- 19 hectare display garden
- 200,000 visitors/yr (+10% per yr)
- 50 plus Staff
- Active Friends Group
- A team of Volunteer Master Gardeners



Above and below: The Red Sand Garden representing the interior of Australia.



Chrysocephalum apiculatum growing in the Red Sand Garden.

The Red Sand Garden is the first part of the garden that visitors can see on entry. It has the WOW factor.



Plan of the Cranbourne Garden.

The challenge in the 1990's was to convince people that native plants are attractive and suitable for home gardening.

The time line achieved for the gardens were:

- 1994 – Master Plan Design Brief
- 1995 – Landscape Master Plan adopted
- 2002 – State Government funding secured
- 2003 – Construction commenced for Stage 1
- 2006 – May 26th – Stage 1 opened to the public (12 years)
- 2007 – State Government funding secured for Stage 2
- 2009 – Revision of Landscape Master Plan
- 2010 – Construction commenced for Stage 2
- 2012 – June – Stage 2 opened to the public (5 years)

Before the garden commenced a nursery was built. The nursery brief was to source material from across Australia – seed, cuttings and plants for propagation.



The Escapment Wall Sculpture

The Melaleuca Spits was inspired by the waterways at the coast that have Melaleuca's growing to the water's edge. Eg. Tidal River at Wilsons Prom.



The Melaleuca Spits.

One of our very own members, Steve Lowe, was involved with the construction of the Melaleuca Spits. He told us about the problems that the excavation team had getting this part of the garden to match the plans. However any problems that they struck were overcome as the finished result is very pleasing to the eye of the many visitors.



The Cultivar Garden.

The garden is one of Australia's best and certainly worthy, of not just one, but several visits, especially at different times of the year.

Graham and I have been fortunate enough to visit the garden on three occasions and plan to go again. Make sure you have a full day to cover the whole garden.

Excursion to Snape Reserve Saturday 9 September 2023

Mary Argall with Sue and Lindsay Smith led us on a tour around Snape Reserve. It was exciting to see how all the work of weed control, planting and protecting special sites has made this place worth the visit. We thank Mary, Lindsay and Sue for making our day very enjoyable.



Members of the WGAP exploring some of Snape Reserve.



Some of the early planting on Snape Reserve.



Mature stand of *Eucalyptus arenacea* growing on Snape Reserve.

Organic Fertiliser from Neutrog

APS members can order Neutrog fertiliser online:

<https://shop.neutrog.com.au/>

Orders are delivered to Horsham for you to pick up.
Usually at 29 Pryors Road Horsham, Anthea Garth. You
will be notified if any changes to delivery place.

Orders Close for:

- **Summer 2023** Thursday 16 November, delivered early December.

Members of WGAP who are registered with Neutrog will
receive an email as a reminder closer to the date/s.

If you do not receive an email and are unsure if you are
registered or not, contact:

Alan Bedggood on 0429 827 200.



On her recent trip overseas, Mabel saw this display of Scaevolas in the Netherlands. Nice to see some of our Australian plants being showcased.

Excursion to Duffholme and Greening Australia Property at Nurcong

A very big thank you to Harvey Champness and Rae Decker who organised the day with such detail and thought.

We started the day off meeting at the Duffholme Memorial site. Harvey explained the history of the site with the information on the three children lost in the bush for nine days and how they survived. Many of us could remember our Grade 4 Reader with the story of *Lost in the Bush*.

We filled in the morning with a wonderful walk around the reserve and were in awe of so many wildflowers and orchids that were on show.

From the road, the site appears to be a eucalypt woodland with large areas of grass suitable for camping. How wrong one can be. This was a fine example of getting out of the vehicle and exploring.

Lunch was at the Mitre Hall and here we had Jess Gardner join us from Greening Australia. Jess has worked for Greening Australia for many years and is very passionate about her work. Jess lead us onto a Greening Australia property which originally had been grazed. Seed had to be collected and a large area was sown by direct seeding. With all the work Jess has done trying to eradicate rabbits many of the trees and shrubs were now starting to regenerate. It is truly a wonderful demonstration site which shows the community and visitors what can be done to assist a piece of land to return to its natural state.

From there Jess led us to the natural bush area explaining to us how much of it had returned since the sheep and rabbits had been excluded from the site.

Thank you Jess for giving up your time to show us around and tell us about all the wonderful work you have done and are continuing to do.



Harvey with his Grade 4 reader telling us about *Lost in the Bush*.



Some of the bush that has returned on the Greening Australia property since the exclusion of stock. Here we see *Micromyrtus ciliata*.

Fred Rogers Memorial Walk in the Horsham Botanic Gardens

Photos: Wendy Bedggood



Showing some of the understorey planting from 12 months ago.



Eremophila Kalbarri Carpet and *Clematis microphylla*.



Indigophera australis and *Acacia glaucoptera*.



Acacia leprosa Federation Wattle in a planting nearby.

Displays

Horsham and District Community Groups Expo

Thank you to Mabel Brouwer and Sandra Savage for setting up and representing WGAP at Horsham and District Groups Expo. Expo.



Horsham and District Orchid Show

Thank you to Anthea Garth for setting up our display at the Horsham and District Orchid Show. Thank you to Mabel Brouwer for supplying some of the flowers.

Horsham Spring Garden Festival

A very big thank you to all those who helped out with our display at the Horsham Spring Garden Festival. Those who were there at sometime over the two days had a ball with so much interest, particularly with the propagating. People of all ages were willing to have a go at propagating. Out of this we gained several new members even though the registration system was a bit of a challenge at times. APS Vic was offering a halfprice membership over the two days so this was a drawcard for some. We welcome all the new members and hope we get to know you more at some of our meetings/functions in the future.





A very big thank you to Mabel Brouwer and Anthea Garth for providing the flower arrangements at the three displays we have had over the last month. We are very fortunate to have such ladies with artistic talent in arranging flowers. This takes time and all the flowers looked superb.



Some of us have no idea that they are talking to a TV personality, Vasili Kanidiadis who has his own TV gardening show, 'Vasili's Garden.' At least he took it in good humour.

Vale - Libby Gulline

Our deepest sympathy to Graeme and family over the loss of our much loved member, Libby Gulline. Libby and Graeme joined WGAP soon after the group formed in 1976. Libby was always smiling and offering encouragement to many of our members. We are going to miss you deeply.



GARDENS FOR LIFE

ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference - Melbourne

Hosted by Australian Plants Society Victoria
30th September to 4th October 2024

Register your interest for the Gardens for Life ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference - Melbourne on <https://apsvic.org.au/anpsa-biennial-conference-2024/>

Once you have registered you will receive newsletters and up to date information on the Conference and pre and post Conference Tours.

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