



## JULY MEETING

**Wednesday, 24 July, 2024**

Knox Park Primary School, Kathryn Rd,  
Knoxfield. 7.45pm.

### **AGM and Trivia**

Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting and we'll follow this with a fun trivia night, along with a free 'raffle'. More details on page 2.



Some winter cheer! This cheerful bunch of Xerochrysum flowers was brought in by Shirley to our last meeting. Whether you call them strawflowers, everlasting, or paper daisies, they remain a delightful addition to any garden.

## Karwarra Garden, Kalorama



Monika gives some compelling reasons for visiting Karwarra Garden. See page 8.

### **Weed Watch**

See who Chris is giving the flick to on page 9.

### **MEMBERSHIP renewals now due**

Please see page 7 for more details on how to easily renew your membership.

## Hi Everyone,

Well, here we are at the end of another financial year with an AGM coming up. How time flies.

There's a lot of important information in this newsletter with respect to the AGM. Some of it is the business of selecting a committee and adopting new updated rules. Then there is the fun bit – Trivia and 'Raffle'. Please make sure you read all about it, including the attachments.

Janet has done it and so have I, as well as a few other members, BUT we need more of you to renew your membership - **NOW**. Remember, only people with a current membership can vote at the AGM and we do need a quorum of current members at the meeting.

Our most recent member, Ruth Cauchi, came along to the June meeting. Welcome. We also had the pleasure of being able to say hello to Emma Morgan, one of the three sisters, for the first time. She has a challenging and scary drive from Emerald after dark, having to contend with animals like deer and kangaroos.

Jason Caruso gave us a great talk. He was engaging and informative with a clear passion for eucalypts. Read all about it as Janet gives us a snapshot of what it was all about.

By the time you get this newsletter the early bird rate for full registration at the ANPSA Conference 2024 will have expired. Of course, you can still register for the full conference at a non-discounted rate for a few months yet. If involving yourself for five days at a conference is just a bit too much for whatever reason, then please look at the ANPSA Conference 2024 website and use the dropdown box on the top line labelled 'Program' to have a look at what is on offer each day. It might entice you to come along for 1 or 2 days to hear what some interesting and qualified speakers have to say on a wide range of topics, many of them directly related to gardening at home. More details about the Wednesday presentations, where you get to choose 6 out of 15 topics on offer, can be

found in Newsletters 8, 9 and 10 which can be accessed on this same website.

Chris Larkin

## AGM and Trivia Night 24 July, 2024

Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting and we'll follow this with a fun trivia night, along with a free raffle.

### 1) AGM

The Agenda, Previous Minutes, Leader's Annual Report, and Financial Statements and Treasurer's Report for the AGM will be sent to you nearer the time.

You are reminded that we will be voting on a **special resolution** to change some of our rules. A notice to this effect, along with the relevant documents, has already been circulated to all members via email, but they are attached to this newsletter email again for your convenience.

A **new committee** is also chosen at our AGM each year, and we're looking forward to seeing some new volunteers this time round.

Your committee is currently very small, and even though we're seriously at risk of burning out, we've still been having to work hard to keep the group running for you. So, it would mean a huge amount to us if you could please support us, and in turn the rest of the group, by volunteering to join the committee.

Even if you just want to try it and give it a go for one year, that would still be very helpful. The committee only meets four times a year, and via Zoom, which makes things really easy. Most jobs are spread between us, but we are particularly looking for someone to be our *secretary*, or who can help with some of the secretarial duties. Now that we do our memberships online, this role has become much easier as there is much less admin work to do, so please consider volunteering for this role.

Even if you don't think you're suited for a specific role, please consider joining the committee as an ordinary member. You'll still be of great help, and you'll be able to get a feel of how things work and what we do to keep Foothills running. And... it's also a great way of giving back to the group as a whole. We look forward to welcoming you onto the committee!

NB: You need to be paid-up financial member to vote at the AGM, and if you want to volunteer as a committee member, so if you haven't renewed your membership yet, now's the time to do it.

## 2) TRIVIA

Yeah! Last year we had so much fun playing our inaugural trivia game with teams pitting their knowledge against each other, we'll do the same this year.

The rules are not set for how many in each team, so depending on how many people we have on the night we may have only a couple of teams, or even three or four teams. You'll be able to form a team and decide on a team name. Then the fun begins!

Questions will be on a mix of topics, not just plants. If your forte is in the non-plant realm, then you may very well be your team's secret weapon and lead them to victory! We've also got some tiebreaker questions/tasks in readiness should we need them.

## 3) RAFFLE

We want everyone who comes to please bring along something to donate to our 'raffle'.

It doesn't have to be a plant, although plants are always very welcome. Last year there were eggs and home-baked bread for instance. Everyone will get a free ticket on the night, and then it'll be the luck of the draw as to when your number comes up.

It should be great night all round, so we're looking forward to seeing you all there!

## Brainstorming Meeting Topics - a heads up for you

We like to keep our programme fresh and interesting with a variety of member's meetings as well as 'speaker' meetings. This is your group, so we want to hear from you about any topics you'd like to explore or hear about.

We recently had a suggestion from Liz. She says that at her work many people ask for **plants that flower year-round**, so thought it would be an interesting topic for us to investigate. It's a great idea. We could look at plants that flower consistently year-round, plants that are long-flowering, or plants that have a main flush in spring and then spot flower at other times.

We know there are lists out there that cover this sort of thing, but we want to know what you are growing and what your experience is with them.

The idea lends itself well to being member's meeting, although we haven't worked out the format of the meeting yet, or even when we'll hold it (maybe next year, maybe the year after). As it involves monitoring flowering times, we'll need time to see which plants we're growing might fall into this year-round flowering category, which is why we're giving you the heads up about it now. We reckon we'll need to go through at least one full cycle of seasons, so over the next 12 months or so, we'll keep checking in with you or reminding you about it.

So, start taking pictures of your plants and make some notes over the coming seasons to keep track of what they're doing and when. When the time comes, we'll work out how we're going to put it all together, but in the meantime, it should turn into a great project for all of us, and should result in a very useful resource.

If you have an idea for a meeting topic or a speaker suggestion, please drop us a line at [foothills@apsvic.or.au](mailto:foothills@apsvic.or.au) or chat to us at a meeting. Looking forward to hearing from you.

**Janet Hodgkiss**

## Eucalypts for the Home Garden – A Talk by Jason Caruso

Jason Caruso, by his own admission, is not an expert on eucalypts, but admits he is very enthusiastic about them, and this certainly came through at the superb talk he gave us at our June meeting.

From the very first slide we were drawn in by his engaging style and it was difficult not to feel as enthusiastic about eucalypts as he is by the time we came to the last slide!

The clear and logical explanations about the classification (taxonomy, systematics, and naming) of eucalypts put us at our ease about potential future name changes and groupings, and this led easily into an outline about growth habits and what characteristics make them suitable, or desirable, for growing in the home garden, or growing in pots or as bonsai specimens than others. We then had look at a range of different species that Jason thought would do well in a home garden, including several which he has grown himself and is trialling in his own garden.



*Eucalyptus pachyphylla* showing some very attractive bud caps (Photo: Jason Caruso)

We learnt, if we weren't already aware of it, that the name Eucalyptus is derived from the Ancient Greek words 'eu' (meaning good, well), and 'kalyptus' (meaning cover, conceal, hide), which refers to the operculum, a cap-like structure comprised of fused sepals and petals

that covers the flower buds of eucalypts. We also discovered that Eucalyptus trees have been around on earth for a long time, with the oldest fossils dating back to 52 Mya found in Argentina showing the genus had a Gondwanan distribution.

The term eucalypt covers (at present) three main genera, namely Angophora, Corymbia and Eucalyptus. Eucalyptus has the most species and is more widespread while Angophora is largely confined to the east coast of Australia.

Unlike Eucalyptus and Corymbia, Angophora has true sepals and petals, and of the three genera, Corymbia is seemingly most closely related to Angophora. We know that plants are generally grouped together according to physical characteristics that we can see, so plants with very similar characteristics are put into the same group. However, with the improvement of technology over the decades and the onset of DNA analysis, we can now look at other characteristics that can't be physically seen, but which may show some plants are more closely related to others than we previously thought, so need to be regrouped.

Jason touched on some interesting new research coming out as a result of DNA analysis work, where a group of researchers have found that some plants classified as Corymbia are not closely related to any of the other Corymbias or Angophoras. They propose these groups be split to form another genus called Blakella. It would have about 40 species and include the spotted gums, ghost gums, and lemon-scented gums.

Splitting of genera has occurred before when there were only two recognised genera, Angophora and Eucalyptus, and Corymbia was split from Eucalyptus. With new research, there is also the possibility that Eucalyptus could also be split into a number of other genera.

Scientists are however debating the way forward, because there is another proposal that they are all put together into one large genus, i.e., Eucalyptus, which would have further subdivisions. These subdivisions would then

only be of interest to botanists but having a single genus may go a long way to reducing the confusion that splits like this can cause, especially if you're unfamiliar with the plants and all the name changes.

Jason brought all of this up to point out that while all of this essentially doesn't matter in terms of growing plants, it is still interesting. Research is also always ongoing which helps us learn more about plants, and there will always be those who are in favour of lumping groups together, or splitting groups. So, whether the groups are lumped or split, altogether there are about 1000 different species of eucalypt which means there is bound to be something suitable for growing in a home garden.

Then we looked at the growth habits and reproductive strategies of eucalypts, which helps us determine their suitability for a garden. Non-resprouters are generally short-lived. They grow fast, flower quickly, and produce lots of seed which germinates after a fire, so, as Jason says, in a way they are designed to die. This characteristic of non-resprouters means you can't prune or re-shape them, as they don't regrow if you cut into, or damage hard old wood. An example is the Mountain Ash which wouldn't be able to regrow if it was damaged by fire. There are about 80 species that fall into this non-resprouter category.

The rest of the eucalypts are all resprouters, and these regrow from old wood. Trees such as the stringybarks and ironbarks have tough bark that protects them from fire, and if the fire isn't too extreme, they will regrow from the epicormic buds along the stems. Other resprouters are those that form mallee roots or lignotubers which are found at or below ground level. These sorts of trees lend themselves to being useful in the garden in that if they get too big you can simply, as Jason says "replicate a bushfire", and manage them by cutting them down at the base, and they will then eventually regrow.

Jason then showed us a selection of species, saying that species choice is important depending on your location as this will affect

how they perform. Each garden situation is also different, and how you manage the plant, can also affect the form.

Some cold tolerant species to try include:  
*E. gregsoniana* – a small attractive snow gum. This species is being trained as an espalier at Cranbourne Gardens.  
*E. lacrimans* – an elegant weeping snow gum with an open habit.  
*E. pulverulenta* – a mallee with round silver round that can be cut to the ground each year to maintain a bushy habit.

Jason also said we need to consider what the climate is going to be like in the future so that we can selectively make better choices for long term success. Our climate has changed and will continue to change, with average temperatures getting warmer and conditions becoming drier. He showed us the climate assessment tool (<https://cat.bgci.org/>) which is being used to predict how individual species will fare in various places as the climate changes. For example, using this tool we can determine that *E. gillii*, which has a very similar growth habit to *E. pulverulenta*, may be a better choice as it is already adapted to growing in hot dry conditions but will still be okay in Melbourne.

A lot of eucalypts also have very different juvenile and adult leaves, and sometimes the difference between the juvenile and adult leaves can be quite extreme. *E. albida* has round silver juvenile leaves but if left, these eventually make way for plain green, regular eucalypt/gum leaves.

Some species have unusual leaf colour such as *E. redunca* subsp. *porphyria* which has a bluish purplish colour. Jason notes that there is a lot of genetic variation amongst eucalypts and plants can hybridise easily, so sometimes you may not get the rich purple leaves. *E. formanii* is a small to medium tree with very narrow linear leaves which makes it look more like an acacia than a eucalypt. The narrow silvery juvenile foliage will give way to green adult leaves but the masses of white flowers still stand out against them.

Plants that look similar but have a slightly different appearance can be useful when planted together as they will complement each other, such as *E. extrica* and *E. pleurocarpa*. Both have a similar habit but *extrica* has green leaves and *pleurocarpa* has a white glaucous bloom. The flowers stand out against the green leaves in *extrica* but although the flowers blend in on *pleurocarpa*, the white gumnuts really stand out. Likewise, *E. incerata* and *E. tenera* have similar features but while *incerata* has a powdery white bark *tenera* doesn't have the glaucous bloom.



***Eucalyptus preissiana*** (Photo: Jason Caruso)

Other plants Jason mentioned that are worth trying in your garden include:

*E. preissiana* – a lovely small eucalypt to start with but sensitive to frost. It is easy to manage in a small suburban garden.

*E. pimpiniana* – good for dry sites

*E. armillata* and *E. erythronema* – lovely clusters of red flowers but when not in flower has attractive ornamental bark.

*E. pachyphylla* and *E. sessilis* – large creamy yellow flowers open from deep pink buds.

*E. rhodantha* and *E. macrocarpa* – stunning silver leaf eucalypts, with large flowers. Need open space as they can be susceptible to mildew when wet and cold. Cut back if looking untidy.

*E. kruseana* – compact plant with tightly packed round silvery leaves; need lots of sun. Helps to grow near a wall to make use of radiant heat.

*E. minniritchi*, *E. websteriana* (non-glaucous) and *E. orbifolia* – rounded leaves with attractive minniritchi bark.

*E. caesia* Silver Princess – is the most-planted Western Australian eucalypt; minniritchi bark.

*E. tetraptera* – an attention-grabber with weird thick leathery leaves, big square fruits. Shrubby sprawling habit; highly variable.

*E. synandra* – light canopy with narrow wispy leaves and attractive flowers; does well in pots.

*E. sepulcralis* – also has a light canopy; needs well drained soil.

*E. lansdowneana* – has an open canopy, also does well on well-drained clay soils.

*E. desmondensis* – rich red to maroon buds and opercula stand out against the silvery white glaucous branches; buds open to yellow flowers.

Jason rounded out his talk with a mention of various resources that he's found helpful, places where you can see eucalypts, and places where your source eucalypts to grow.

\* Dean Nicolle's books on Smaller and Taller Eucalypts for planting in Australia.

\* Facebook pages: Nuts about Gums; Currency Creek Arboretum; Eucalypt Australia

\* EUCLID Eucalypts of Australia – web and app.

\* Where to see eucalypts: Royal Botanic Gardens (Cranbourne); Melton Botanic Gardens.

\* Nurseries: Melton Botanic Gardens (Melton); Kuranga Native Nursery (Mt Evelyn); Vaughan's Australian Plants (Pomonal).

\* Seed Suppliers: Nindethana; Australian Native Seeds (online service based in WA).

\* Victorian Native Bonsai club – if you want to try grow a River Red Gum (which Jason says is a good one to begin with).

At the start of his talk, Jason pointed out that there are some misconceptions around gum trees, especially with regards to their size, and while many people are firm in their belief that eucalypts are big, dangerous, drab, and boring, he showed us that they are anything but.

Thank you again, Jason, for an inspiring talk, for showing us there is much more to gum trees than 'messy' fallen leaves and thrown branches, and for encouraging us all to try one of your many suggestions in our gardens.

**Janet Hodgkiss**

## Membership renewals now due

\* You can renew your membership now by going online and using your email address and membership number to log in. Go to:

<https://apsvic.org.au/Login/>

\* Once logged in, the form will be pre-filled so be sure to check it carefully, and de-select/change any items that may not be relevant any more (e.g. a group you no longer belong to).

\* Fill in your card details and then scroll down to the “contribute” button to submit your payment.

\* NB: There may be a short lag once you click this button, so before clicking to submit a second time, wait a bit until the confirmation page pops up. You will also receive a confirmation email if your payment has been successful.

\* Something else to note is that when paying by card a little check box near the card details saying “save with Link” may appear.

This does not save or submit your payment – it merely remembers your card details for next time. You can select this option if you are comfortable with it, otherwise don't click on it and just scroll down to the “contribute” button to submit your payment.

If you get stuck or have problems please contact us so we can help you with the process or sort things out for you. If you've already renewed your membership, Thanks! We're so glad to have you back!

## Find us on Facebook and the Web

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## MEETINGS

**Venue:** Knox Park Primary School, Kathryn Rd, Knoxfield. (Melway 73 C3)

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month (Feb-Nov)

**Time:** 7.45pm

## Newsletter Contributions

Please email contributions for the next newsletter to Kerry Davis by no later than: 8pm Monday 5th August 2024.

Email: [foothillsnewsletter@apsvic.org.au](mailto:foothillsnewsletter@apsvic.org.au)

## COMMITTEE

**Leader:** Chris Larkin

**Deputy Leader:** vacant

**Secretary:** vacant

**Treasurer:** Deb McMillan

**Newsletter Editors:** Kerry Davis; Janet Hodgkiss

**Other Members:** Betty Wright; Janet Hodgkiss

**APS Vic Delegate:** Janet Hodgkiss

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*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet. We pay our respects to First Nations People throughout Australia and to Elders, past, present and emerging.*

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## VISITORS WELCOME!

## Karwarra Garden, Kalorama

I have not been to Karwarra Garden for some time so, needing a few more ground covers, I recently visited the garden and nursery. It is always a delight to meander and savour the variety of plants. The newly mulched paths defined the beds so well; I was constantly admiring how much had been achieved in the last months. The epacris and croweas were showing their colour, even a waratah had a flower on it. There are about six *Acacia cognata* 'Lime Magik' looking fabulous as they stand out in the landscape with their soft, weeping habit.



***Acacia cognata* 'Lime Magik'**  
(Photo: Monika Herrmann)

One plant, in particular, caught my eye. "What is that?" It was a brilliant, red-flowering *Beaufortia squarrosa* Red, in the Myrtaceae family, endemic to WA; it's a beauty commonly known as the Sand Bottlebrush. It is a compact plant growing about 0.5 -2m; this was still a young plant about 50cm high. Sadly, it's not suited to my garden.



***Beaufortia squarrosa***  
(Photo: Monika Herrmann)



**'Tawny' Messmate *Eucalyptus obliqua***  
(Photo: Monika Herrmann)



A new addition to the garden is the 'Tawny' Messmate sculpture standing about 2m high, her keen eye overseeing the entrance pathway. The artist, Renate Crow, has creatively made this from a fallen Messmate (*Eucalyptus obliqua*) with a small cubby space inside, ideal for a child. Within is also a notebook for comments.



***Stenocarpus sinuata***  
(Photo: Monika Herrmann)

There is a new exhibition opening at Karwarra: "Australian Nature by Street Artists" starting June 29 – Saturday August 3. So, indulge in the garden, the exhibition and the nursery. I found quality tubes with a really good selection available.

Also, if you missed Gardening Australia on June 21, there was a segment called 'Among the Gums', filmed at Karwarra, you can catch up on iView or their website. Millie Ross demonstrated plants that can be grown under the eucalypts and in shadier spots.

It is certainly worth a winter visit! And then the spring visits, of course.

**Monika Herrmann**

## **Flick weed or Hairy bittercress – *Cardamine hirsuta***

It is tempting to think that some weeds are operating with a sneaky intelligence when they just get lucky. In the middle of the picture below is a flick weed. How difficult is it to see when it's growing amongst dichondra!?



**Camouflaged flick weed** (Photo: Chris Larkin)

In the other picture you can clearly see what it looks like but of course it can grow taller and much more substantial although it will flower as small as you see it. What an opportunist!

If that one weed isn't caught in time, then dozens of seedlings will be flicked out in all directions after flowering, and many of them will find purchase in with the dichondra. And so the plague will spread. Flick weed has been coming up here in garden beds, and particularly gravel paths, after the first decent late summer/autumn rains.

You certainly need to check the pot plants you buy for any weeds and maybe even scrape off the top bit of soil, which may contain tiny seeds, and put it in the bottom of the planting hole to bury any possible problem.



**Flick weed** (Photo: Chris Larkin)

I'm certainly not suggesting you cultivate Flick Weed which is also known as Hairy bittercress, but apparently it is high in antioxidants and can be eaten as a salad green. It is widespread in the world and some people use it in cooking as a parsley replacement. The taste is mild and peppery, and it contains vitamin C, calcium, magnesium and beta-carotene.

Hang on, before you start to think too fondly of this plant remember it is considered a weed, i.e. not a plant you invited into your garden, knowingly planted, and certainly not one that is easy to control.

**Chris Larkin**

## **Themeda triandra – Kangaroo Grass**

Pam brought in several pots of this plant for the May raffle so it seems like a good time to learn a little bit about what is fondly called Kangaroo Grass. Thanks Pam.



**Themeda triandra** lasting well in a vase. Tall vase has *T. triandra* and *Poa labillardierei* (Photo: Chris Larkin)

There are four species of *Themeda* in Australia but the most widespread and commonly grown is *Themeda triandra*. It occurs in every state of Australia and is also found in other countries like South Africa. It grows in a range of soil types including acidic and alkaline, in sunny or semi-shaded positions that do not remain wet.

There is quite a lot of it in the grassland abutting my place, and it is notably in the drier areas. It was an important and common plant on the basalt grassland plains west of Melbourne of which little remains.

This is a showy plant with flower heads held aloft looking lovely and lively in a gentle breeze. It holds on to its flower stalks with flower/seeds for a very long time, and if you pick them to use as a cut flower they will last for years in a vase.

*Themeda triandra* is an important habitat plant, a food source for grazing animals including birds, providing shelter for insects, and hosting the larvae of some butterflies. Aboriginal people used the seeds for flour, and the flower stalks and foliage for string and nets.

References: Marilyn Bull, *Flora of Melbourne*; Elliot and Jones, *Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Vol 9*.

**Chris Larkin**

## Out and About

In June the Nature Stewards course finished. For ten weeks we had lectures and outings each Saturday morning which covered subjects such as the importance of being in nature and forest bathing, geology and soils, and waterways and water life. The best was that there was a mix of all ages attending with the majority of course participants under 50 years of age. I would encourage all Foothills members to take part when the opportunity comes round again in future.

Highlights for me included a walk with Graeme Lorimer at Lakewood Nature Reserve and another walk with one of the Knox bushland managers at Bateman Street Reserve. With Graeme we hardly walked out of sight of our cars; he had so much to tell us about identifying the trees and understorey. The Bateman Street Reserve walk was with an eye on the different methods of fire management which included mowing, candling and mechanical grooming, and also how to assess the fire risk by taking into account the canopy, bark fuel and surface fuel layer.

In the reserve we spotted one nodding tall greenhood flower and a patch of little nodding greenhoods beginning to flower. Also flowering epacris and correas.

Talking about epacris, on a visit to Karwarra Gardens yesterday we saw epacris growing on steroids. Some of them were taller than me. These gardens are looking so good at the moment and full of colour - surprising for the middle of winter, or maybe not.

Back at home today I brushed past my *Acacia leprosa* 'Scarlet Blaze' and found one stem flowering. The rest of the bush is in bud. This is surprisingly early for this tree. It is in a large plant pot but I suspect the roots have escaped. It reaches up to the top of my pergola and the branches keep growing longer and whip me or soak me as I make my way to the compost bin



**Karwarra Garden view along path**  
(Photo: Nicky Zanen)



***Acacia leprosa* 'Scarlet Blaze'**  
(Photo: Nicky Zanen)

Just around the corner is my *Persoonia pinifolia*. This too has grown too large for the spot it is in and will be pruned shortly. But hark! At the end of one of its branches were a couple of yellow flowers. Again, it is the 1st July and I wonder if these are left over from March?

**Nicky Zanen**

APS Foothills Calendar 2024			
2024	Date		Topic
July	24	Wednesday	AGM & Trivia
	27	Saturday	Winter Working Bee: Knox Park Primary School 10.00 am – 12 noon ( <i>to be confirmed</i> )
August	28	Wednesday	Robyn Tyson – A Mornington Peninsula Reserve
September	25	Wednesday	Deb McMillan – A Collector’s Garden
October	23	Wednesday	Jean Bellis – Geraldton to Perth
November	27	Wednesday	Chris Larkin – Melaleucas
December	7	Saturday	End of year get-together ( <i>venue to be confirmed</i> )



*Rhodanthe anthemoides* (Photo: Kerry Davis)

## Shows, conferences, plant sales and other items of interest

27 & 28 July 2024 – Quarterly Committee of Management Meeting & APS Bendigo's 50th Birthday Celebration; full weekend of activities. Venue: "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 Mitchell Expo and Plant Sale, Wallan Multipurpose Centre, Bentinck Street, Wallan.

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

21 & 22 September 2024 – APS Grampians 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 2022 – 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, The Round, Nunawading, Melbourne. Host: APS Victoria. See: <https://www.anpsa2024conference.com/>

2 October 2024 – AJ Swaby Address by Phillip Johnson, 3.30 pm, "Connected Through Nature". Phillip Johnson is a Landscape Designer and 2013 Gold and Best in Show winner at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in London. This is part of the ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference, open to the public, and free of charge.

5 October 2024 – Echuca Moama Native Flower Showcase. Details to follow.

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. Web: [rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au](http://rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au)

23 and 24 November 2024 – APS Victoria Committee of Management meeting and APS Victoria AGM. Host: APS Wangaratta.

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2025 – 15<sup>th</sup> FJC Rogers Seminar 2025: Epacridaceae. Host: APS Mornington Peninsula.

2026 – ANPSA 2026 Biennial Conference, planned to be held in Alice Springs.

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*Persoonia pinifolia* (Photo: Nicky Zanen)