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**NEXT MEETING**  
Tuesday 21st May 7:30pm  
Miriam Ford presents “Marvellous Mintbushes”  
Stawell Neighbourhood House  
Surnames L-Z please bring some Supper  
Meet us beforehand dine at the National Hotel 5.45pm

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## Announcements

*Phil Williams returns. Welcome back Phil!*

*And as if to celebrate, the executive of APS Victoria has approved our grant proposal (\$10,000) to rebuild our community nursery facilities at Phil Williams' Wildflower Nursery.*

**Pomonal Native Flower Show 2024**

***Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September 2024***

*It is our 40th show AND we are featuring edible Australian plants.*

*Our special guest is Clarence Slockee from 'Gardening Australia'.*

**Working Bee next month Sat. June 15th**

Come before the meeting from 12-2 and help make light work of mulching the Hall Garden

## May Meeting



### Our May speaker is Dr Miriam Ford

I am the current president of APS Victoria and have been a past president of APS Yarra Yarra. I graduated with a Ph.D in molecular and cellular biology in 1982 from the University of Queensland and spent 25 years in scientific research in London & Melbourne. I left that career in 2003 and retrained as a teacher but then decided to focus on other activities which involved growing and propagating Australian Plants. I recently established a small business called Mims Mints specializing in growing and selling a large variety of Prostanthera species in addition to other Australian Plants. My Mints and I featured in a recent ABC Gardening Australia episode

<https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/how-to/fresh-mint/14033624>.

## Australian Mint Bushes (Prostanthera species) - enchant with beauty, diversity & sensual delights.

I will speak about this wonderfully aromatic genus of Australian Plants, about the variety of species across Australia, the prevalence of rare endemics, the two types of flower morphology and how that informs us about the pollinators which include a large variety of insects and birds. I will also talk about studies on the essential oil profiles of various species and how these are assisting with taxonomy. I will conclude with my experience of their propagation and cultivation and examples from Gardens. I can briefly talk about their sister genus, Westringia and the national biennial conference ANPSA 2024 which APS Vic is hosting this year.

**Where: Stawell Neighbourhood House, 42 Sloane Street Stawell**

**When: Tuesday 21st May at 7.30pm**

## Pomonal Native Flower Show 2024

*From Jocelyn, Andrea and Fiona*

### **Pomonal Native Flower Show - 21st and 22nd September 2024**

Note the *earlier date this year* and

please put this in your diaries as it will be great to have as many helpers as possible over the weekend. Organisation of the show is progressing well.

We are very excited to have Clarence Slockee coming from Gardening Australia

We also have Anthony and Julie coming from Peppermint Ridge farm in Tynong North

They have an edible native plant nursery and will be helping us with our special feature, 'Edible Australian plants'.



# Pomonal Native Flower Show 40th Anniversary

Special Feature:

**Edible Australian Native Plants**

Special Guest:

**Clarence Slockee**

(ABC's Gardening Australia)

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> & Sun 21<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

**9am-4pm**

**Pomonal Hall**

**Entry: \$5 (Children Free)**

**Market - Refreshments - Plant Sales - Book Sales -  
Expert Speakers - Information & Advice**

Australian Plants Society Vic



Grampians Group



Ararat Rural City



## Signs of Hope

Phil Williams has discovered his “dead” *Calectasia intermedia* Tinsel Lily is cloning itself and the *Doryanthes palmeri* Spear Lily flowering is fire-responsive!



Brolga or Phoenix? And *Eucalyptus pulverulenta*  
Spinning Gum

### *Eucalyptus erythrocorys* 'Red-cap Gum'

Neil Marriott

*Eucalyptus erythrocorys* is a beautiful small tree that grows along the coastline north of Perth right up to Shark Bay, in WA where plants are smaller and of mallee habit. In its native habitat it grows on coastal limestone soils and as a result, likes a lot of lime in the soil to really thrive. Coming from the coast it is also frost tender when young, but is quite hardy once several years old. With its love for alkaline soils it is more popular in SA than it is in Victoria, and on a trip to Adelaide you will travel past some beautiful street specimens at Taillem Bend, Murray Bridge and other SA country towns.



Here in Stawell there is a beautiful specimen in Central Park on the northern boundary where it hangs over the fence into Hattis Lane. Sadly it is totally neglected, and has become rather overgrown by faster growing shrubs. Perhaps we will talk to the Council about this?

At home here in the Black Range, we have overcome our acid soils by adding lots of lime as well as broken lumps of cement and bricks to the soil when planting. Our plants have loved this and flower freely during the autumn months from an early age. One of our plants became old and leggy so I cut it off above the lignotuber and it has now re-shot into a beautiful multi-trunked mallee. The trunks are attractive and creamy-white so this is a real bonus. The fruits (gum-nuts) are huge and heavy so need to be removed every few years or they can weigh the branches down and cause them to break. It is called the Red-Cap Gum due to the attractive and beautiful red bud caps. As in all Eucalypts, the bud cap is deciduous and correctly known as the operculum.

## Last Meeting

### 16th April 2024 Royce Raleigh on Hakeas

In April, we enjoyed our first meeting this year at the Pomonal Hall when Royce Raleigh introduced the genus *Hakea* from A-Z. We heard that it is the hardiest and the easiest genus of plants to grow in the family of Proteaceae, and only one species mentioned is frost tender. Related to *Grevillea*, these similar size bushes are just as varied: *Hakeas* include prostrate plants to bushy trees and are from across the country; Royce even showed one that occurs in all states. (below, from Royce's Photos: *Hakea clavata* WA, *H. purpurea* QLD).



Our local hakeas are to me the most important - *Hakea rostrata* and *H sericea*. Royce also encouraged us to grow some for the variety in their leaf shape (we saw *Hakea flabellifolia* with Ginkgo shaped leaves and *H conchifolia* with cup-leaves seeming to hug the flowers) and for their interesting fruit, such as the cricket ball fruits of *Hakea platysperma* or the *H megalosperma* with its 2 horns. *Hakeas* are often bird pollinated so the flowers will bring in several different types of honeyeaters for the nectar and other birds for the protection offered by the dense (and sometimes prickly) foliage. A few are well known and widely available like *Hakea* 'Burrendong Beauty' named after a New South Wales Arboretum (by member Neil Marriott!), or *Hakea francisiana* and *H bucculenta* with their different hybrids in various shades of pink. But I was also taken with the other flower colours Royce showed us like *Hakea cinerea* with yellowish-orange flowers such a beautiful contrast to its ashy-grey foliage. Many species tend to flower creamy to white, so are insect attractive, and support the native bees and flower wasps, although Royce also had a lovely picture of the Blue Hakea *Hakea lehmanniana*.

We send many thanks to Royce for his presentation and for spending the evening with our group.

( below Ross Simpson, Jo Gardner, Angus Stewart, right *Hakea bakeriana* NSW)



Our members Kevin and Sandy Moulynnox are good friends of Royce and Jeanne so they organised an excellent dinner beforehand at Spirit of Punjab. It was also lovely to greet some special guest visitors to the meeting, Angus Stewart and Jo Gardner, (above left) who took a break on their business trip and we thank them sincerely for treating us all to the dinner and for their attendance at the meeting.

Royce and Jeanne's garden outing will be organised later in winter, when many of their Hakeas will be at their best.

## Kevin Moulynnox



It is with great sadness and loss to our group that we record the sudden passing of our valued member Kevin Moulynnox. Last month forward-looking Kevin was planning his own planting and communicating great ideas to help members after the Pomonal fires. Kevin was a practical man, he built our library cupboard, and during his presidency the hall was rebuilt and in a large marquee, we held the Show around a huge native foliage installation. Our sympathies to Sandy and family.

## From the President



*It has been a busy month in the floristry industry with Grampians Grape Escape 2024 being the highlight. This annual wine and food festival held on the Halls Gap oval attracts over 8,000 people. This year I was asked to participate in a floral master class which*



*focused on Australian native plants. It was a collaboration between Three Blooms florist designing and installing the arrangements with Woodlands Foliage providing the majority of the product. I was able to talk through the various elements of the arrangements*



*highlighting the diversity of Australian plants for use in floristry. Examples of this include Acacia aphylla, Thryptomene calycina & Hakea laurina as foliage, Banksia marginata (even though they don't have a 'terminal' flower). The variety of grevillea was appreciated, and even bark and dried bracken were used. It may take experience and a good designers eye to use some of these more unusual elements, but the audience were inspired to know more about how and what Australian plants to grow for their own gardens so they too can pick flowers for their homes.*

*Also*

*- I too wish to acknowledge the passing of our valued member Kevin Moullynox. Kevin has been a President of our group and was actively involved right up until this month when he hosted our guest speaker for the April meeting and arranged the pre dinner gathering. This has been a shock to Sandy and our thoughts are with her at this difficult time. At time of writing this, there is no set date for a service, but we will keep you informed via email.*

- We welcome another new member this month - Robert Friend from Pomonal.*
- Welcome back to the area Phil Williams and a very special well done to Neil and Wendy for the successful grant application for the community nursery via APS Vic.*
- Library update: A soft copy will be sent out via email of books available to borrow and for sale that are now available. This email will include details of how to borrow and purchase. Thank you to Catherine Pye who has spent hours collating this list into a manageable and active resource.*
- Our next meeting with Dr Miriam Ford who is speaking on the Prostanthera species is not to be missed. Miriam is our APS Vic current president so amongst all her other duties we are fortunate to have her speak to us. Please invite a friend.*

*Why grow Australian plants? -*

*Whatever style of garden you want: cottage style, formal or bush style, you will be able to find Australian plants that meet your needs.*

*-From 'Growing Australian' – a resource for growing a home garden in Victoria. Written by APSVic2009 Fiona Lucas President Ph: 0418366362 / fionarlucas@gmail.com*



# Grampians Plants



Grampians Peppermint  
*Eucalyptus falciformis*

Previously known as *Eucalyptus willissii* ssp *falciformis*, it was raised to become a species in its own right in 2008. It is restricted to SW Victoria and adjacent areas of SA, from the Anglesea heath to the Otways and inland to the Grampians, where it occurs from around Wartook south to Dunkeld. My observations are that it is more common in the south of the Grampians in open heathy-woodland. It makes a lovely small tree, often a multi-trunked mallee 5-18m tall with lovely aromatic peppermint leaves and massed white flowers in late winter to summer.

Photographed on lower slopes of Victoria Range NMarriott, also found on the WAMA lease of Neal Road reserve.

*Euc.falciformis* is listed as vulnerable in Victoria.

# Adelaide Botanic Gardens



Phil Williams may have been exiled but made the most of it. Let's try to action the ideas he has come back with.



# Grampians Group Calendar 2024

We meet monthly on the 3rd Tuesday 7.30pm, except 3rd Saturday 2pm in June & July, recess January  
Even months at PH (Pomonal Hall, Ararat-Halls Gap Rd) or a member's garden.  
Odd months at SNH (Stawell Neighbourhood House, 42 Sloane Street Stawell) or a member's garden.  
Outings/activities communicated in this newsletter; subject to change - eg with an eye on the weather

**May** Tue 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting 7.30pm: SNH, Speaker: Miriam Ford "Marvellous Mint Bushes"

**June** Sat 15<sup>th</sup> 12 noon- 2pm: PH Working Bee (before the meeting)

**June** Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2pm: PH, Speaker Marilyn Sprague 'Native Cut Flowers'

**July** Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2pm:SNH, Speaker Alan Bedggood Grasses and pressing specimens

**August** Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting 7.30pm: PH, Speaker Helen Lovell, Neutrog TBC

**September** Sat, 7<sup>th</sup> Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Outing: Currency Creek Arboretum

**September** Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting 7.30pm: SNH, Show planning, Neil Marriott 'My Top 20 Grevilleas'

**September** Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> Event: 40th Pomonal Native Flower Show with Clarence Slockee

**October** Tue 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting 7.30pm: PH, Ben Gunn 'Archaeology of the Grampians/Gariwerd'

**November** Tue 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting 7.30pm: SNH, Phil & Monica Coleman 'Bushwalking in the Grampians'

**December** Tue 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting 7.30pm: Christmas breakup Marriotts

APSVictoria Committee of Management quarterly meetings - all members welcome:

11<sup>th</sup> May at Mt Martha Community House 9.30am plus Seaford Banksia Arboretum p.m visit.

27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July full quarterly weekend hosted by APS Bendigo

23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November, quarterly weekend & AGM, hosted by APS Wangaratta.

30<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October at The Round, Nunawading. "Gardens for Life"  
- 32nd ANPSA National Biennial Conference hosted by APS Victoria

2025 - 15th FJC Rogers Seminar: "Epacridaceae" hosted by APS Mornington Peninsula

2026 - South Australia Biennial conference will be held in Alice Springs.

[See also plant shows & sales of other APS Vic district groups](#)

To all members: Your contributions are sought for future editions,  
Your pictures, your experiences or research are welcome; send to  
[grampiansnewsletter@apsvic.org.au](mailto:grampiansnewsletter@apsvic.org.au)

Thank you to those who contributed to this edition

*Grevillea dimorpha* painting by our member the late Ena Graham, botanic artist



## APS Vic Grampians Committee

President: Fiona Lucas

Hall Committee Representative: Lisa Ashdowne

Vice President: Neil Marriott

Flower-show coordinator: [Jocelyn King](#)

Secretary: [Margot Galletly](#)

Neil Macumber

Treasurer: John King

Newsletter Editor: [Wendy Marriott](#)

Memberships: John King

Ross Simpson