



Dianella admixta

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY  
**SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE REGION INC.**

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**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER 2023**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, February to December except November. **Visitors are always very welcome**

The venue is the Hughesdale Community Hall, Cnr Poath and Kangaroo Roads, Hughesdale (MEL 69 C7)

PRESIDENT: John Thompson [thomme@netspace.net.au](mailto:thomme@netspace.net.au)  
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 APS VIC DELEGATE: Marj Seaton  
 COMMITTEE: Amanda Loudon [amandalouden@icloud.com](mailto:amandalouden@icloud.com)

Please forward any newsletter contributions, comments or photos to Marj at 36 Voumard Street, Oakleigh South 3167 or to the email address above.

**\*\*\*\*\*DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER IS 21st SEPTEMBER\*\*\*\*\***

<u>Next Meeting</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>
<p><b>Hughesdale Community Hall</b>  <b>Cnr Poath and Kangaroo Roads</b>  <b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 8pm</b>  <b>Speaker: Chris Larkin</b>  <b>Topic: Hakeas</b></p>	<p>Page 1: Next Meeting</p>
<p>Chris is a long-standing member of APS Vic and a member of APS Foothills. Chris writes: From late autumn through to spring there is always a hakea or two or more in flower. At the moment I'm enjoying the view of the flowers <i>H. bucculenta</i>, held aloft and mobbed by honeyeaters or rather, the plant I bought from Philip Vaughan called <i>H. bucculenta</i>. More of that story on the night.</p>	<p>Page 2: Rainfall totals            AGM            August Meeting</p>
<p>The talk I'm giving is from personal experience and exploration. I live on a north facing slope of the Lysterfield hills, so drainage and sun are not an issue although not all hakeas require these conditions. Please join me in looking at this genus of plants – may they never join with grevilleas – by bringing along samples and tales of success and failure from your own garden. I will also bring along some examples from my garden. I am sure we will have things to learn from each other as we put hakeas under the spotlight. (Gloves may be necessary!) Chris Larkin</p>	<p>Page 3: August Meeting            August Specimen Table            Page 4: Pick of the Bunch            Page 5: Next meeting            Events Diary            Page 6: Promotions            Page 7: A Week away-            Quarterly/AGM/Pomonal Show</p>

**RAINFALL FOR 2023 (mm)**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Oakleigh South	15.1	36.8	47.6	99.1	119.2	73.7	28.8						420.3
Highett	10.7	27.5	49.2	80	82	54.2	20.7						324.7
Hampton	10.15	23.34	31.46	98.75									163.70
Cranbourne South	7	29	49	79	95	84	40						383
Elsternwick	10	23	37.5	100	91	54	23						338.5
Ashburton	25.7	29.7	53.2	100.0	92.2								

**AGM**

Held on 1<sup>st</sup> August at Hughesdale Community Hall, 8pm

Reports were presented by our leader John Thompson, Secretary Chris Bain and Treasurer Norm Seaton. Election of Officer Bearers followed - all unopposed, as follows:

Leader: John Thompson, nom Marj Seaton, sec Mandy Louden

Deputy Leader: vacant

Secretary: Chris Bain, nom Norm Seaton, sec Marj Seaton

Treasurer: Gillian Jervis, nom Marj Seaton, sec John Thompson

Newsletter Editor: Marj Seaton, nom Mandy Louden, sec Gillian Jervis

APS Vic Delegate: Marj Seaton, nom John Thompson, sec Ruth Evans

General Committee: Mandy Louden, nom Marj Seaton, sec Norm Seaton

Congratulations to all of these members. If you have any ideas for speakers or activities, please talk to any of these committee members – we do need your help.

General Business:

1. After discussion it was agreed that we would not hold meetings in May, June and July next year.

Attendance has recently been patchy due to cold weather and people taking holidays. Chris Bain will cancel the hall hire for those months.

2. Marj Seaton moved, Ivan Margitta seconded, that John Thompson be granted Honorary Life Membership of APS South East Melbourne Region Inc. The nomination read as follows:

John has been the leader of APS SE Melbourne at least since 2001 when I first joined the group. He has run our meetings and, over the years, been our tech person for guest speaker presentations.

For more than 15 years he produced our monthly newsletter and given at least one presentation to us every year. He is still producing a monthly article, “Pick of the Bunch”, for the newsletter whereby he gives in depth knowledge of one plant taken from that month’s specimen table.

His knowledge of Australian plants is extensive and he often gives background information on the specimens brought in by other members.

He has won an Imprensa Award granted by APS Victoria for services to our District Group.

Carried. Congratulations John.

**AUGUST GENERAL MEETING**

Before the meeting, books from our library made available for sale were displayed and members were able to buy according to individually priced books or to take those chosen to be given away free.

Those not sold will be available at our September meeting for members not present in August.

AUGUST MEETING continuedMEMBERS' SLIDES

Most of Mandy's slides concentrated on the plants and wildlife in her own garden. Of particular interest were the photographs of her burning a grass tree. The plant burnt easily, with the smoke channeling up through the centre. Mandy was trying to get it to flower as it is 25 years since she grew it from seed, and it hasn't yet flowered.

Chris showed the wildflowers at his property in the Strathbogies, including podolepis daisies, blue *Brunonia australis*, *Cheiranthra linearis*, *Burchardia umbellata* and white, blue and pink/mauve *Wahlenbergias*.

Marj showed pictures taken of the Phillip Johnson "Chelsea Garden" at Olinda. It was later agreed that we would visit this garden as our outing in November.

John's collection was varied and included the blue ringtail damsel fly, musk lorikeets, fruits of the native raspberry, *Rubus probos*, and *Lambertia uniflora* from WA, amongst others.

AUGUST SPECIMEN TABLE

Mandy's *Dodonea sinuolata* has green hops which age to red, and fine foliage. Hers came from a seedling. It can be grown from cuttings or from the seeds which need hot water



pretreatment. Birds love her *Gastrolobium celsianum* (Swan River Pea). Her *Acacia phasmoides* (Phantom wattle) has grown to 2m high and wide. It has fine foliage and small flowers. (Photo left: Australian Plant Image Index)

*Olearia pimelioides* is growing well in shade, height 1m, width 0.5m. It flowers for a long time – white, yellow centres. *Rhodanthe anthemoides* (right Photo: National herbarium) is a popular perennial everlasting and can be grown from cuttings.



Amongst Marj's pieces were: *Olearia homolepis* (below right) with its purple flowers and yellow centres, a useful low shrub for adding colour, *Scaevola porocarya* which has thin leaves and quite large pale blue typical one sided flowers, *Acacia guinetii*, left, a low wattle with grey foliage and single yellow balls,



and *Coronidium elatum*, a bushy shrub to 1m with white daisy flowers and yellow centres. *Acacia imbricata* dominates one corner of the Seatons' garden (right).



John too had a piece of *Scaevola porocarya* (left) but he intimated that his plant was taller than Marj's with flowers to 60cm. He had the Tasmanian form of *Pimelea linifolia* with pink flowers. *Grevillea sericea* was grown from a seedling, is tough and has pink/mauve flowers. This species can be seen at Valley Reserve in Mount Waverley.



*Homoranthus porteri* is a small shrub to about 1m high, listed as vulnerable and comes from far north QLD (right)

(Photo right: Brian Walters, ANPSAWebsite)

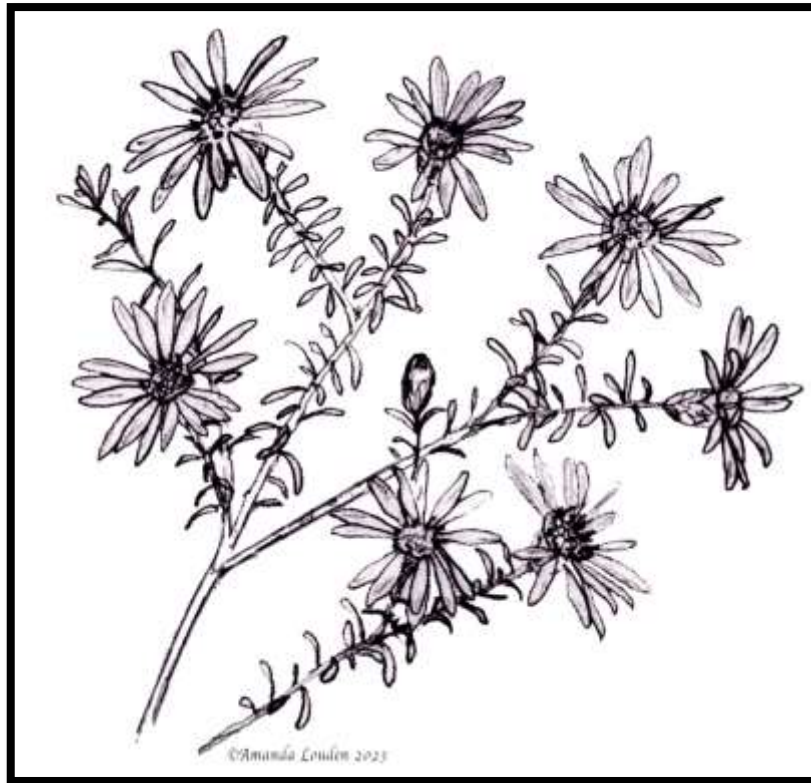




4.

**PICK OF THE BUNCH**

*Olearia pimeleoides* (DC.) Benth. Pimelea Daisy-bush,  
Specimen grown by Amanda Loudon



*Olearia pimeleoides* is small erect shrub to 1 metre in height by 1 - 1.5m in width. It is found in southern Australia (SW Western Australia, SE South Australia, Victoria and Western New South Wales) where it grows in mallee woodlands. It has greyish foliage and the flower heads are sessile, solitary and terminal. They are produced in profusion between August and October. The ray florets are white and the disc florets are yellow.

It will grow in full or part sun in most well drained soils including alkaline soils. *Olearia pimeleoides* is drought tolerant and moderately frost hardy. Responds well to pruning. The flowers attract a wide variety of insects. Propagation is from cuttings or seed.

*Olearia* is a member of the large Asteraceae (alt. Compositae) family. Other Australian genera include *Brachyscome*, *Calotis*, *Chrysocephalum*, *Microseris*, *Podolepis*, *Rhodanthe*, *Waitzia* and *Xerochrysum*. The genus *Olearia* consists of c.180 species of which Australia has c.130 species that are all endemic. *Olearia* is also found in New Guinea and New Zealand

The derivation of the generic name is unclear, possibly being named after named in honour of German botanist, J.G.Oelschlaeger (1635-1711) (Latinised as *Olearius*) or after the Latin, *olea* ; olive, in reference to the leaves of the original species which resemble that of an olive. The specific epithet, *pimeleoides*, means *Pimelea* like.

**NEXT MEETING**

**SUPPER:** Mandy Loudon (please bring milk)

**WRITE-UP:** Marj Seaton

**EVENTS DIARY**

**APS South East Melbourne**

**September 5th** Speaker: Chris Larkin – “Hakeas”

Tuesday Sept 19<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting Mandy Loudon’s, 7:45pm, 3 Royal Terrace, Highett.

**October** TBA

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** Outing to the ‘Chelsea Garden’ in Olinda – details later

**December 5<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Break-up. Members’ Slides, plants for sale (gold coin).

**APS Victoria**

**2 September** – 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** - 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** – 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** – APS Bendigo Flower Show, Victory College, Kairn Road, Strathdale (Bendigo).  
– APS Grampians host APS Vic September COMM. APS Vic AGM

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

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

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

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

**2024**

**20 April** - APS Yarra Yarra Autumn Plant Sale

**14 & 15 September** – APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo

**30 Sept – 4 Oct** – ANPSA Biennial conference in Melbourne hosted by APS Vic

6.

## PROMOTIONS



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.

Register your interest through the APS Vic website: <https://apsvic.org.au>

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See: [rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au/2023/05/acacia-artwork-to-be-displayed-at-cranbourne/](https://rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au/2023/05/acacia-artwork-to-be-displayed-at-cranbourne/)

## 7. A WEEK AWAY

A reminder that APS Grampians is hosting the **APS Victoria Committee of Management Meeting** and **AGM** on the 23rd of September at Pomonal Hall.

In addition, they have organised a wonderful range of garden visits and excursions from Sunday 24th to Wednesday 27th September followed by their **Pomonal Flower Show** on 30th September and 1st October. See program below.

**Please consider attending - it is not just for committee members. Accommodation is filling fast so book soon.**

Here is a perfect opportunity to see the Grampians in all their spring glory and the chance to visit special areas such as the new WAMA indigenous garden with expert guides.

### Program of Activities

Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> - 9:00am onwards, register at the Pomonal Hall, Pomonal 3381

10:00am APS Vic committee meeting will be held at the hall

Those not attending the meeting are free to do their own thing; Grampians members will be on hand to provide suggestions, as required

12:30pm Lunch for all at Pomonal Hall

2:00pm APS Vic AGM will be held at the hall

3:00pm Garden & Nursery Visits

5:30pm arrival for 6pm dinner at Barney's Bistro, Pomonal (3447 Ararat-Halls Gap Rd)

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> - 10:00am WAMA (Wildlife Arts Museum Australia <https://wama.net.au/>) site tour & lunch

2:00pm Neil & Wendy Marriott's Panrock Ridge for garden tour and afternoon tea

Mon 25th-Wed 27th

Following the COMM, APS Grampians will host free conducted bird walks, Grampians flower walks & hikes and winery visits (Thursday & Friday we'll be setting up the show, where you're welcome to get involved!).

You are welcome to do your own thing and Grampians members will be pleased to offer suggestions, such as nursery visits, trips to local lakes and wetlands, likely orchid locations, walking destinations for views, flowers, waterfalls and picnics.

The **Pomonal Flower Show** will be held on the 30th of September & 1st of October.

### **Registration**

You need to register for the activities you want to attend by filling out an online form.

The link to the form is below – copy and paste into your browser.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScb0lecVaKsFzS0f7Q5BNirKWLLaVr\\_ALT4rmhHAnMPaPJcPA/vi/ewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScb0lecVaKsFzS0f7Q5BNirKWLLaVr_ALT4rmhHAnMPaPJcPA/vi/ewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0)

Note that when you click on the link you will have to enter details on 4 pages. Click on Next button to move from the completed page to the next one and then finally click the Submit button.

There is no pre-payment - you will pay when you arrive.

Finally, many of us miss the old style Quarterly Weekends as they were a great way of socialising with other APS members and seeing a different part of the country with expert guides. Here is your chance to experience one!!