



Dianella admixta

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY
SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE REGION INC.

A00131128P

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DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2021

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, February to December except November.

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

Visitors are always very welcome

COMMITTEE:

- PRESIDENT: John Thompson thomme@netspace.net.au
 SECRETARY: Helen Appleby
 TREASURER: Norm Seaton normarjs@bigpond.com
 PUBLIC OFFICER: Helen Appleby
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Marj Seaton normarjs@bigpond.com
 APS VIC DELEGATE: Marj Seaton
 COMMITTEE: Amanda Louden amandalouden@icloud.com
 Chris Bain

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

*******Note: Deadline for the FEBRUARY newsletter is JANUARY 24th*******

Meetings

**8pm, Hughesdale Community Hall
 Cnr Poath and Kangaroo Roads, Hughesdale
 Tuesday 7th December 2021**



Our December meeting will go ahead with a slightly altered format from past years. We will firstly hold our "Clear the Decks" plant sale, followed by our AGM then a members' slide show and finally a Christmas break-up supper. Bring a festive plate for the supper and a drink if you wish. Masks must be worn in the hall.

We are desperately in need of a new Secretary (Helen has moved to Drouin) and extra committee members. Please help if at all possible.

If you have slides to show, please get them to John in plenty of time for him to load them.

The committee hopes that you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, especially now that we can gather with friends and family. Stay safe.

| | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | Ma y | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|---------|------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|-----|--------|
| Oakleigh Sth | 83 | 11.6 | 63.3 | 78.3 | 50 | 77.8 | 37.4 | 52.4 | 84.7 | 124.5 | | | 663 |
| Highett | 71.7 | 12 | 55.3 | 61.5 | 52 | 44.5 | 33.2 | 27.5 | 87 | 86 | | | 530.7 |
| Hampton | 66.5 | 11.8 | 22.6 | 33.7 | 50.3 | 58 | 68 | 38.3 | 66.8 | | | | 416 |
| Cranbourne Sth | 70 | 51 | 65 | 59 | 49 | 78 | 75 | 44 | 129 | 115 | | | 735 |
| Caulfield Sth | 79 | 8 | 50 | 36.5 | 37 | 50 | 54 | 25 | - | - | - | - | 339.5 |
| Elsternwick | 85.8 | 8.5 | 63.5 | 43.5 | 57.5 | 49.1 | 38.9 | 21.48 | 82 | 116.5 | | | 566.78 |
| Drouin (Helen) | | | | | | | | | 170 | | | | 723 |

The Native Garden in January

The weather is generally at its hottest during January, making it unpleasant to do anything too strenuous in the garden but routine weeding and watering should be maintained. The best time to work in the garden is early in the morning or the evening taking advantage of daylight saving and if you have to garden in the middle of the day remember to wear a hat and apply sunscreen.

Watering is an essential chore over the hotter months and to make it more effective a deep, thorough watering once a week allows the roots to penetrate the soil deeply. You may only do a few plants each evening but you won't need to do them nearly as often. Soils that have dried out completely can often be difficult to rewet so the use of soil wetting agent can be beneficial.

As well as providing water for the plants don't forget our feathered friends. While it is essential to have water available in the garden all year round it is particularly important during the summer months, so consider a strategically placed bird bath or two placed out of the full sun and away from the cat.

One shrub worth considering for its bright green pine-like leaves and bright yellow flowers is the Pine leafed Geebung (*Persoonia pinifolia*). The flowers are seen from summer through to autumn. They are followed by greenish, olive-like fruits. The common name 'geebung' is a corruption of an Aboriginal word 'jibbong' used to describe the fruits of certain species collected for food.

Other plants in flower in January include, Lightwood (*Acacia implexa*), Lilac Hibiscus (*Alyogyne huegelii*), *Crocea exalata*, Common Emu Bush (*Eremophila glabra*), *Grevillea* 'Superb', *Grevillea* 'Coconut Ice', Robin Red Breast Bush (*Melaleuca lateritia*) and Bower Climber (*Pandorea jasminoides*).

DIARY

APS South East Melbourne Meetings:

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|--|
| 2021 | December 7 | AGM. "Clear the Decks", slide night, Christmas break-up |
| 2022 | January 24 | Committee meeting: Possibly Seatons. TBC |
| | February 1 | Speaker Malcolm Dow: "Sustainable Gardening" |
| | March 1 | Speaker Chris Long: "Boronia Oil" |
| | April 5 | Propagation night. |

APS Victoria

11 – 16 September - ANPSA Biennial Conference 2022 – Kiama, New South Wales.

15-16 October – FJC Rogers Seminar on "Peas"

CAN YOU HELP?

Margittas and Seatons both have bird's nest ferns that are showing their age. Does anyone know if these ferns can be cut in the same way as tree ferns (ie sawn off at the base, fronds also cut off) and replanted? They'd like to rejuvenate them if possible as the bases of the ferns are currently looking rather tatty!

AWARD PRESENTATION

John Thompson is finally to be awarded his Impressa award from APS Victoria at a Quarterly meeting in Mornington on November 27th. John won this award last year for services to our group but Covid restrictions/lockdowns prevented him receiving it at any APS Vic. function. Congratulations John.

3.

KURANGA VISIT

It was a bit chilly on the verandah but all twelve of us had dressed appropriately and managed to keep warm as we packed in tightly to have lunch. We all had to be doubly vaxxed and wear masks initially, but of course not while we were eating and drinking.

Luckily the rain stopped after lunch so we could get out and about. There were quite a lot of customers in the nursery after lunch and some of us took full advantage of being there to purchase plants and gifts from the gift shop. As usual, Kuranga had some very floriferous offerings and some beautiful pots. The new book on Eremophilas was occupying a prominent place on the book shelves. Did anyone else take any photos?



Petra and Peter and more of that gorgeous garden backdrop.



4.

Monthly Photo Gallery

Some recent photos from Ray and Eva's garden:

Grevillea eriostachya



Grevillea dielsiana



Grevillea maccutcheonii

Two yellow tailed black cockatoos came breakfast – can you find them?



Calytrix acutifolia

Duck and Eutaxia



5.
Too many Indian mynas



Dampiera linearis



Gastrolobium bilobum



6.

Pityrodia terminalis



Hakea bucculenta



Pimelea sylvestris



Rhodanthe chlorocephala ssp Rosea

Ray writes: "It's taken me a very long time to finally wake up how to get a good crop of Rhodanthes going. This year, I did direct seeding in three separate caged areas to keep the blinkin' rabbits away from them and they look a real treat this season."



7.

Norm and Marj had a good flowering of their *Leptospermum rotundifolia* "Lavender Queen"



PROMOTIONS



11 – 16 September 2022 - ANPSA Biennial Conference 2022 – Kiama, New South Wales.

Preliminary details of the Conference, pre- and post-Conference tours and the beautiful town of Kiama can be found on the APS (NSW) website

26 to 30 September 2022 - 7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress, Melbourne. *Influence and Action: Botanic Gardens as Agents of Change*. Includes a youth program for future gardens' leaders aged 18 to 24.

15 & 16 October 2022 - 14th FJC Rogers Seminar. Topic: Fabulous peas (the typical 'pea-flowered' plants from the sub-family Faboideae. York on Lilydale, Mt Evelyn. . Expressions of interest and queries to fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com



Fabulous Peas 2022 **FJC Rogers Biennial Seminar** **15th - 16th October 2022**

Discover the extraordinary world of Australian pea plants.

Saturday York on Lilydale, Mount Evelyn

Speakers with expertise in identifying, growing and propagating peas. Learn about current research into propagation and growing-on techniques. Evening dinner and an entertaining speaker.

Plant sales of common and unusual pea species. Book sales. Displays. Raffle.

Sunday Coach tours to public and private native gardens which include a wide variety of pea species.

Art exhibition and sale featuring pea plants from 8th – 16th October at Karwarra Australian Botanic Garden. Plant sales.

Expressions of interest: fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com

<https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2022/>

Hosted: Australian Plants Society Maroondah Inc.

8.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

For APS South East Melbourne Region Inc A00131128P

Notice is hereby given that the AGM for APS South East Melbourne Region Inc will be held at **8pm on Tuesday 7th DECEMBER 2021 (if COVID restrictions allow)** at the Hughesdale Community Hall, corner of Poath and Kangaroo Roads, Hughesdale.

- Agenda items:
1. Presentation of Reports by the President, Secretary and Treasurer
 2. Election of Office Bearers for 2021/2022.

The following positions are declared vacant: Leader, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Members (3), Newsletter Editor.

If you are able to nominate for one of the above positions, please complete the form below. Nominations can also be made at the meeting.

The AGM will be followed by an extended specimen table, "Clear the Decks" plants sale and a members' slide night featuring all those interesting things you've done and grown whilst in lockdown. Please get your slides to John in the week before the meeting.

NOMINATIONS FOR POSITIONS

(Run off as many of this page as you need)

I wish to nominate

.....

For the position of

.....

Nominator: (Name and signature)

Seconder: (Name and signature)

Date: