



SGAP Shepparton & District Inc

A0011311182

15 Ross Street

MOOROOPNA 3629

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2020

MAY

Excursion - Cancelled

JUNE

APS Vic Committee of Management
Meeting - Cancelled

JULY

Excursion - Cancelled

President

David Doyle

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Vice President

Rob Slee

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Secretary

Jenny Polinelli

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Treasurer

Carolyn Edwards

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Newsletter

Jenny Polinelli

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Vic Delegate

Carolyn Edwards

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Dear Members,

Welcome to the Winter Newsletter.

Unfortunately all meetings and outings are suspended until Government restrictions allow us to continue, when the Corona Virus is controlled enough to allow this. Prevention is much better than bearing the consequences, therefore we can't complain about the inconvenience.

By being at home gives us a great opportunity to get our gardens in order, with the early autumn rains, and cooler weather it has been a perfect time to garden.

The Correa's in bloom at the moment are bringing a lot of colour into the garden.

APS Vic have cancelled the June Committee of Management meeting we were to host in Shepparton. APS Vic executive will make informed decisions needing immediate attention. I am sure there will be another date next year for us to offer again.

President David, passes on his best wishes to all and hopes we can all find solace in our gardens. David has never been busier with off grid solar installations and enquiries.

We started 2020 off well with many members attending our February meeting and enjoying each others company after the Christmas Break. The 'show and tell' at the end of our meetings are always well received and shows what members have flowering in their gardens.

Laurie reported for everyone to be on the look out for the weed- Spotted Scurge [*Euphorbia maculata*] This weed needs to be removed when small to try and keep it at bay.

March saw us join with the Congupna/Tallygaroopna Landcare Group, starting at the Pony Paddock at Congupna. This area is a project started by the Landcare Group in a small paddock where the ponies the students rode to the Primary School were kept many years ago. The garden is maturing nicely

Vic President, Rob, has been working on a visit to Nathalia Wildflower Group. This group have a big array of photos. There is an easy 30 minute walk named "Nathalia Botanical Walk", which follows the Broken Creek. Thanks Rob for your efforts, it sounds great, even if we have to wait 12 months for it to happen. The Broken Creek Drive is another interesting project which is suggested to take around 2 hours.



HYPOCALYMMMA XANTHOPETALUM – Golden Flowered Myrtle

This delightful Western Australian shrub has golden yellow small flowers massed along the stems from mid winter to mid spring. It has small leaves and a compact upright habit. Like a well drained soil in full sun to partial shade, and a low phosphorus native fertiliser. Prune after flowering to encourage a dense habit if required. The flowers are lovely for picking.

I have one of these shrubs growing in very harsh conditions in a narrow bed along the driveway, with concrete driveway one side and a colour bond fence behind. My next door neighbours grow conifers along the fence their side, so not ideal conditions, and this little shrub flowers most of the year. A very showy plant to grow.



LAURIE BAGLIN'S TIPS ON GROWING EUCALYPTUS SEED

Eucalyptus seed is easy to grow, but you must have viable seed.

One way to check if your seed is viable, if the seed is big enough, put seed between two pieces of cotton wool and as soon as the radicle root appears, very carefully place into a tube, you then know that lot of seed is viable and then use the bog method for the other seed.

When planting seed be very careful not to plant it too thickly. When seed appears, prick out at two leaf stage before it becomes too wet.

It is best to collect your own seed.

Some Eucalyptus seed takes 12 – 18 months to mature.

Thanks Laurie it might be something we could all look at having a go at.



Laurie also suggested in these 'stay at home' times to join Facebook. He assures me it is as easy as clicking onto the App Store on your phone or tablet and join up. Some of the Facebook sites Laurie enjoys are: Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton. Jeannette Graham's, where there are some wonderful photos, Grevillia Study Group, Hakea Study Group, the site called Gumnutter, and Australian Garden Group, to name a few.

Subscriptions

Society for Growing Australian Plants Shepparton & District subs are due in June and should be paid to Carolyn. These are \$15.00 p.a.

APS Victoria subs are due by June 30th, these can also be paid to Carolyn and are as follows:

Single membership \$35.00

Household membership \$40.00

Organisation membership \$44.00

Overseas Membership \$52.00

APSVic membership fee includes insurance cover for events organised by APS Groups. And the APSVic quarterly magazine "GROWING AUSTRALIAN", which is posted directly to you

These can be paid by direct debit, or drop it off at Carolyn's at 25 Oram Street, Shepparton. Carolyn's letter box is always locked.

Bank Details are: Bendigo Bank BSB Number 633-000 Account Number 119821759. Add your surname to the details.

Best wishes to all, we will all be keeping an eye on the Government decisions when the restrictions start to ease.

Remember any item for the newsletter would be gratefully received.

Regards to all,

Jenny