



Patersonia occidentalis

Australian Plants Society
South Gippsland Newsletter
February, 2021

We are proud to acknowledge Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of these lands and waters



Hypocalymma puniceum Large Myrtle. Alan Lacey December 2020 (Family Myrtaceae)

Inside this Newsletter:

6 pm Wednesday 10th February
Mossvale Park Twilight Picnic
6 pm Wednesday 10th March
Melaleuca Nursery Twilight Picnic

Followed by :

7 pm Wednesday 10th March AGM
2020-2021 Presidents Report
Nomination form for office bearers
Other contributions.

Twilight Walk and BYO picnic
6.00 pm Wednesday 10th February
At Mossvale Park, Berrys Creek

BYO food, drinks, cups, plates, cutlery & chairs. Insect repellent. Toilets & shelter available. Wear solid shoes & suitable clothing for outdoors.

All Welcome

Please bring all covid safe requirements, eg Face masks, hand sanitiser and practice safe social distancing of 1.5m

The APS committee encourage you not to share any of your picnic items with other attendees as per covid safe practices.

How to get there : Travel from Leongatha toward Mirboo North approximately 12 km. Mossvale Park is off the Strzelecki Highway on your left.

More about Mossvale Park

APS members Rodney Emmerson, Coral Hughes and Dick Lester (& Jill Vella) work as volunteers at this spacious public park. It has mostly exotic trees but also natives, especially indigenous along the river. There are some magnificent old eucalypts along the river.

Visit the Prom Country website. There is a history of the park and list of plants.

Individual named trees can be viewed on Google Earth.

<https://www.visitpromcountry.com.au/attractions/mossvale-park>



Pileanthus filifolius Summer Coppercups (Family Myrtaceae) Alan Lacey December 2020

Australian Plants Society South Gippsland Group Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting of the Australian Plants Society South Gippsland Group Inc. will be held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 10th March 2021 at 50 Pearsall's Roads, INVERLOCH. (Meet at 6 pm)

The business of the Annual General Meeting is to receive reports and elect officers and a committee for the forthcoming year.

Nominations for the offices (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) and committee should be in writing, signed by two members, and have the written consent of the candidate.

The nominations must reach the Secretary not less than seven days before the AGM. Please ensure it reaches the Secretary (Geoff Trease, 170 Kardella-Fairbank Rd, KARDELLA VIC 3951) by Wednesday, 3rd March.

geoff.trease@basscoastlandcare.org.au

If, at the AGM, there is only one nomination for each officer, they are declared elected. An election is held for positions that have more than one nomination. If there are insufficient nominations to fill all the committee vacancies, those positions are declared vacant and further nominations can be received at the Annual Meeting.

Please also think about nominating for our committee including the position of newsletter editor.

Presidents Report 2020-2021

Due to coronavirus our Group only met three times in 2020 and despite the best efforts of our committee we had to abandon the Flower Show, even the limited outdoor version we planned for some time. We had well attended meetings in February, March and December, the last being outdoors in Jenny and Paul's magnificent garden.

The weather has been kind in South Gippsland so our native gardens have been looking good all year. Many of my banksias have had their

best flowering ever, eg *Banksia attenuata*,
serrata, *aemula*, *saxicola*.

It is still difficult to plan ahead due to changing risks and rules, so for the time being I am not arranging indoor meetings. After discussion with some members, we will try some day time meetings when possible, especially in winter, as I and some others are reluctant to drive at night.

We have outdoor meetings arranged for February and March.

Stay well.
Jim Lyons

March Twilight Picnic & AGM at Inverloch

At the home of
Megan Hewett and Brendan Eishold and Kei
Melaleuca Nursery, 50 Pearsalls Road,
Inverloch. **6.00 pm Wednesday 10th March.**
Pearsalls Road runs north off Bass Highway
about 2 km from Inverloch and 8 km from
Wonthaggi
Phone 0487 335 606 or 5674 1014

BYO food, drinks, cups, plates, cutlery &
chairs. Insect repellent. There is shelter if it
rains ear solid shoes & suitable clothing for
outdoors.

BBQ available if fire bans permit
Hot & cold water, coffee & tea available
All Welcome

Please bring all covid safe requirements, eg
Face masks, hand sanitiser and practice safe
social distancing of 1.5m

The APS committee encourage you not to
share any of your picnic items with other
attendees as per covid safe practices.

“How Non-Native Plants are contributing to global insect decline.”

Recent research provides new evidence that the
displacement of native plant communities is a key
cause of a collapse in insect populations and is
affecting birds as well.

https://e360.yale.edu/features/how-non-native-plants-are-contributing-to-a-global-insect-decline?fbclid=IwAR1Zd0c_W4nvY9CVSOJbuUYO3_xGOCnW0pdzFDE5tNrKuLzV3KhsTwu70KA in Yale Environment 360 by Janet Marinelli
Dec 8th 2020



Photos of Koala and Blue Tongue Lizard by
Dick Lester from his Leongatha North
property, December 2020. Dick says
“Australian plants are a pleasure, but when the
wildlife arrives we have realized true success.”



Book Review “Australian Magpie: Biology
and Behaviour of an Unusual Songbird” by
Gisela Kaplan. This book is available at the
West Gippsland Libraries. I found it
fascinating and it enhanced my enjoyment and
respect for these unique, complex and
extraordinarily intelligent birds.

Gisela is a scientist who has spent decades
studying and handling magpies. I skimmed
through some parts but I think there is plenty
of information and stories to interest everyone.

Websites of Interest

Australian Plant Society Victoria (APS)
<https://apsvic.org.au/>
ANSPA Australian Native Plants Society Australia
(ANPSA) <http://anpsa.org.au/>

Black Spur Creek Wetland Project
Platypus are now officially listed as vulnerable in Victoria.

This makes our project and the work of the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and Landcare all the more important. Platypus inhabit the Tarwin River and we see them in the Black Spur Creek Wetland project area

The giant Gippsland Blue Gum (effectively irreplaceable because of its age) and other vegetation on the ridge has been felled to make way for the highway realignment. There were ecologists and arborists on site for wildlife relocation. Some habitat logs, with natural or constructed hollows, were relocated to the vegetation offset site and we are hoping that suitable nesting boxes will be placed in other remaining trees at some stage.

A huge thankyou to Coral Hughes and Geoff Trease (with his Leongatha Indigenous Seed Bank hat on) and CPB contractors who worked to ensure that seed was salvaged from the freshly fallen branches. Because it comes from a tree population rather than a single isolated paddock tree, this seed should have reasonable genetic diversity and will be very valuable for local revegetation.

People are not the only animals that the traffic wardens safely shepherd along the rail trail. Apparently at least one echidna walks quite regularly through the adjacent works area.

For effective weed control, NTV encourages coordinated, consistent efforts across land tenures. It is being undertaken along the rail trail and in the offset site by Indigenous Designs and we are expecting Regional Roads Victoria to address the weeds along the current (soon to be old) South Gippsland Highway.

During October NTV Landcare Group was privileged to have a fascinating zoom presentation on the Koonwarra fossils by Steve Poropat. The presentation was wide-ranging, detailed and described fossil discovery and past and recent work at the site. Steve talked about the interpretation of the fossils and their outstanding global significance. There is the potential to discover and learn much more.

If you find a fossil, leave it in place if possible but take a photo with something, like a coin, to show the scale. Record the GPS or locality and sediment type if known. Contact Steve Poropat or Pat or Tom Rich via the Melbourne Museum. A palaeontologist is on site during the highway

realignment and fish scales have been found near Minns road.

As long as Covid protocols and constraints are adhered to, **anyone is welcome to join our regular informal bird monitoring walks** (see Nerrena Tarwin Valley Landcare Group website for times and dates but currently 5pm, 3rd Wednesday of the month).

To access email updates directly, go to Nerrena Tarwin Valley Landcare Group website <https://www.nerrenatarwinvalleylc.org.au/> To subscribe go to Newsletter and you'll see newsletter options. This will enable you to subscribe and unsubscribe simply to our updates.

“Australian Plant Society - South Gippsland Group” **Follow us on Facebook**

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Leptospermum “Outrageous” Alan Lacey Oct2020

**Australian Plants Society South Gippsland Group Inc.
Nomination for Office Bearer or Committee Member
for the year 2021-2022**

We and
[Name: printed] (signature) [Name: printed] (signature)

Being members of APS South Gippsland Group nominate
[Name: printed]

For the position of: (tick appropriate box)

- President
- Vice- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee

If this nomination is for **Vice-President** or **Committee** you may wish to suggest a designated task for your nomination (tick appropriate box)

- Newsletter Editor
- Flower Show Co-ordinator
- APS (Vic) Quarterly Meeting Delegate
- Librarian
- Membership Officer
- Raffle Co-ordinator

Person nominated: I consent to being nominated for this position. (Signature)

To reach the Secretary, Geoff Trease, 170 Kardella-Fairbank Rd, KARDELLA VIC 3951 by Wednesday, 3rd March, 2021. geoff.trease@basscoastlandcare.org.au

Date received by Secretary: / / 2021

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