

Australian Plants Society (Wangaratta Inc)

August 2022 Newsletter

In this Issue, see p2

MEETINGS:

Venue: Masonic Lodge, 101 Appin Street, Wangaratta.

Meetings will be held on the fourth Thursday of even months at 7pm.

Visitors are always welcome.

Thurs. 25th August AGM & Silent Plant Auction.

Thurs. 27th Oct. Chris Clarke, President, APS Victoria. Topic: Alpine Plants.

OUTINGS:

Sun. 25th September 10.30am at Rosemary Buchanan's property near Edi in King Valley. This will be a foray up a firetrail into the beautiful bushland where some of the orchids which abound here will hopefully be in flower. Bring morning tea to share, BYO lunch and a folding chair. 404 Edi-Meadow Creek Road, a very rough road, Moyhu. Rosemary says only the most intelligent people get lost, but for those who do, her number is 0428 998 336. If people bear in mind that the King River is her boundary to the west and that the road is her eastern boundary, they should keep on the track okay. 4.04kms east of Moyhu, turn right and travel 4.04kms along the dirt road, then turn up the steep drive (which has all the gravel at the bottom of the hill, of course). It is rough walking for we elderly folk, so she'll probably just take people up the fire track a bit to where she often finds orchids and other nice plants. We could also drive those who cannot walk up hill.

The Australian Plants Society (Victoria) is dedicated to promoting, growing and the conservation of Australian native plants, in gardens, community areas and their original environments.

This is a reminder that you can access the latest "**Growing Australian**" magazine through the APS Victoria website. For those who may not be familiar with this, here's the sequence: <https://apsvic.org.au>

Open the Members area with the password **22&epacris**. Scroll across the headers in the Members area & click on "**Growing Australian**". Open the latest edition posted here—it is listed as **Jun 22**, and click on the date.

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Membership renewals are now overdue. If you haven't yet renewed, see page 4

Your Committee:

President: John van Riet	5725 7207	helenvanriet@bigpond.com
Secretary: Alison Earp	5729 7518	kalisetptyltd@gmail.com
Treasurer: Vacant pending AGM		
Membership Officer: Gillian Anderson	5766 2397	pdga280@bigpond.com
Newsletter: Glenda Datson	(02) 6020 8104	gdatson@bigpond.net.au
APS Vic Representative & Specimen Table:	Therese Graham 0407 563 614	
	therese238@westnet.com.au	

Non Official Roles:

Joanne Diver	0412 985501	Jenny Davidson (02) 6032 8442
Michael O'Sullivan	5725 1784	Helen Wrigley 5722 2824
Rosemary Buchanan, Supper Roster	0428 998 336	
Helen van Riet (also APSV Lone Member Officer)	See above.	

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY WANGARATTA INC.

NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2022 – 2023

POSITION - (Please circle) **President** **Vice President** **Secretary** **Treasurer** **Membership Officer**

 Newsletter Editor **APS Victoria Representative** **Committee Member**

I.....(Name of proposer)

nominate (Name of person being nominated)

Signature of person being nominated

Signature of proposer.....

Name and signature of SeconderDate

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AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY WANGARATTA INC

Annual Membership Application 1/7/2022 - 30/6/2023

Name/s _____

Address (Postal) _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

In order for each member of APS Wangaratta to be covered by insurance, it is necessary to apply for both membership of APS Wangaratta AND APS Victoria. The option of joining only APS Wangaratta applies to those who have joined APS Victoria separately, or who have joined another APS district group through which they have already paid the APS Victoria membership component for the coming financial year.

Please tick as applicable:

- * I/We wish to receive our newsletter by email
- * I/We are applying as new members

APS Wangaratta and APS Victoria Single \$47 Family \$54 Student \$36

APS Wangaratta Only Single \$12 Family \$14 Student \$10

Optional payment for receipt of the ANPSA National Magazine "Australian Plants"

(4 editions per annum) \$15

To: Bendigo Bank

Account Name: Australian Plants Society Wangaratta

BSB: 633000 Account Number 122784283

Surname

Total Payment: \$.....

Payment by:

- * Cash
- * Cheque (Payable to APS Wangaratta), or
- * Direct Deposit

Please return a copy of this membership form to both:

Membership Officer –Gillian Anderson - pdga280@bigpond.com
& Treasurer -

Program for the APS Wangaratta Meeting on 25th August 2022

Our next APS Wangaratta meeting will include

THE AGM

Our AGM does not take any more time than is necessary. In the unlikely event that any positions on our committee do not have a nomination, we DO NOT put anyone ‘on the spot’ or accept nominations ‘from the floor’, unless the nominee has already agreed to that nomination.

LUCKY NUMBER SILENT AUCTION. To round out the evening, and by popular demand, our third HYBRID ‘SILENT LUCKY NUMBER AUCTION’ will keep us all on our toes.

How it will work.....

We will have purchased approximately 30 lovely Australian plants from various nurseries on which to try your luck. Each plant will have a receptacle into which identifying numbered voting slips for the corresponding plant may be placed.

Each person will be registered and given an identifying number. You will receive 20 voting slips with your identification number and space to write how much you would be willing to pay for a particular plant. You will be invited to place each of your 20 slips in the corresponding receptacles beside each plant you would like to purchase. We suggest that your nominated amount could be anything from \$1 upwards.

There may be just a few plants that you really want to win. You could put quite a few of your voting slips in one bucket, or not be fussed, and distribute your voting slips amongst the 30 buckets in any way you wish.

Lots will be drawn from the accumulated voting slips for each plant. The lucky winner gets to purchase the plant for the amount they have nominated on their slip. All payments will be collected at the conclusion of the silent auction, or you can make a direct deposit to the APS Wangaratta account:

To: Bendigo Bank

Account Name: Australian Plants Society Wangaratta

BSB: 633000 Account Number 122 784 283

Please add your identity - Surname & ‘plants’

To ensure that everyone gets an equal chance, once a member has drawn a winner, they will not be included in subsequent draws until everyone who has made a bid has drawn a winner. There will also be consolation prizes for those who don’t draw a winner. And swapping of plants among ourselves is always an option.

Please remember to bring some cash with you for the lucky number auction!

Or, if cash is a difficulty, you can do a direct deposit. Details will be available on the night.

Garden visits

Our July garden visits were to two suburban gardens in Wangaratta.

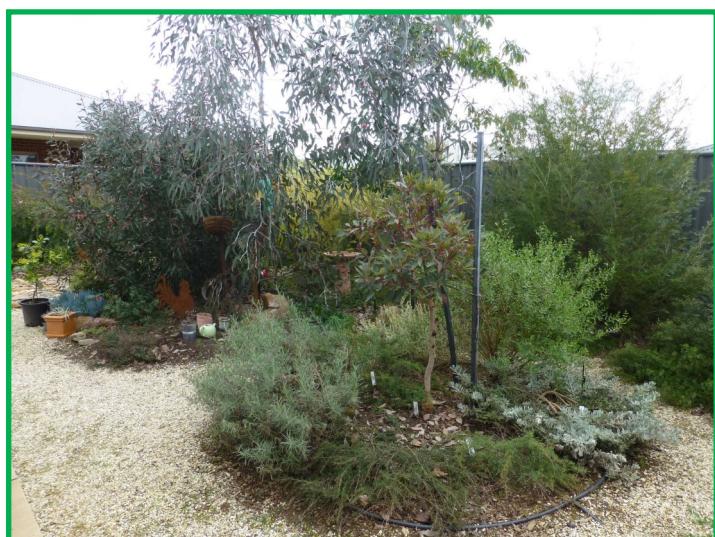
The first was to the garden of John and Joye Podubinski in Avalon Park. Driving around the estate, it appears that John and Joye are the only residents here who have realised the importance of creating a garden. It is an oasis in a modern estate of dwellings each surrounded by mown grass with little else to be seen other than mostly deciduous street trees forming a skeletal aspect in winter, an all too common scene in recent years. If changes were made to State Planning Provisions this lack of vegetation in new estates could be overcome by planners, with cooperation by developers, providing linkages and opportunities for wildlife and cooler microclimates in summer where the concrete paths, asphalt roads and dark roofs now provide heat sinks, reflecting back into street parking and dwellings. Such a vastly improved neighbourhood aesthetic could be so easily achieved.

Between morning tea and lunch, John and Joye walked us around their garden. This took a bit over 2 hours on this relatively small block. It's amazing how time flies when there is so much to be said, questions asked and answered on species choices, successes and failures, a sense of achievement by John and Joye and, of course, enjoyment by all.



Members discussing the front garden

Part of the back garden featuring
Eucalyptus caesia 'Silver Princess',
Eremophila spp., *Acacia spp.*,
grevillea, *leptospermum*, *corymbia* &
a mix of others



Garden visits

After visiting the Podubinski garden we moved onto Janice Jones' garden, in an older residential area where the house was built in the 1930s. Janice spoke so enthusiastically about the garden, about the removal of so many exotic trees and shrubs which allowed for the planting of what we see now, after 25 years. She left a few exotics along a side fence as a screen to the former 'interesting' neighbours.

Her favourite plants are Correas which have done so well and the various Geraldton Wax cultivars, *Chamelaucium spp.*, and *Eremophila nivea* 'Beryl's Blue'. She scatters seeds about quite often, amongst these have been Blue Flax Lily, *Linum marginale*, which has naturalised in the garden. The front garden has a cottage feel, sympathetic with the era of the house and picket fence.



Hakea 'Burrendong Beauty' with
Melaleuca bracteata 'Revolution Gold'
& groundcovers *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* with the edible *Eremophila debilis*, known as winter apple (see fruits below).



Chelsea Australian Garden at Olinda

Construction is now underway and the Garden will be completed before the end of the year. Needless to say, they are hoping for a mild Winter to achieve this gargantuan task!

Some key facts about the Chelsea Australian Garden at Olinda. The Garden will:

- cover an area just over 1.5 acres with a dramatic 14 metre level change
- include 6 different microclimate zones
- be home for 10,000 native plants from all around Australia
- feature 60-70 rare and endangered species, including 22 of the incredibly ancient [Wollemi Pines](#), some close to 3 metres in height from the Royal Botanic Gardens in NSW
- include an extensive collection of plant specimens from the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria

While keeping to the original award-winning design, the Garden will reference the original geography of the site at Olinda through the waterfalls flowing in the direction of the ancient lava flows that formed the local landscape. We are sourcing magnificent quarried rocks from throughout Victoria for the waterfalls and have also many rocks from the original site. The billabong will hold over half a million litres of water, and play a key role in Garden maintenance and fire management.

Phillip Johnson Landscapes, the People and Parks Foundation, and Parks Victoria are working together to ensure the Chelsea Australian Garden serves to connect as many people as possible to the beauty, diversity and importance of Australian native plants. Our ambition is that this Garden inspires and educates people to consider how they can bring more Australian natives into their own gardens, large or small.

Film footage of this historic build has begun and the vision is to produce a documentary that charts this Garden from its inception at Chelsea to the dream being realised in full and thriving glory at Olinda! Phillip Johnson Landscapes has pledged to maintain this huge and complex Garden pro bono for the first 10 years.

The People and Parks Foundation is now seeking donations for both the materials needed for ongoing maintenance of the Garden and to be able to produce the documentary.

If you or anyone you know would like to know more about either of these projects, please contact Alison Hill, Managing Director, on 0400 770 502.

Chimeras

Eremophila mckinlayi and E. hygrophana chimeras

Some of you may have noticed your *Eremophila mckinlayi* or *E. hygrophana* plants booming away. If you have extremely vigorous growth you may in fact have a chimera rather than the true species.

What is a chimera? A graft-chimera is an unusual growth stemming from the callus tissue at the graft union. This is different than the rootstock regrowth which may occur anywhere on the rootstock stem. In graft-chimeras, this growth contains a mixture of cells from both the root stock and the scion. Removal of a graft-chimera growth is a continual and repetitive process which requires shoot removal from the graft union and could trigger the ‘aggressive growth’ genetic material. Without due diligence, it can outgrow the original plant.

If you have a cutting grown plant which is exhibiting aggressive growth then it is likely you have a plant where the cutting material has been taken from a plant chimera.

An edition of *Growing Australian* some months ago discussed the features of this chimera plant, and stated that one grower’s experience was that it grew to 6 metres wide and above the eaves. So that is quite different to what we expect from a cutting grown from a true species whereby *E. hygrophana* is expected to be about 1.5m tall and *E. mckinlayi* to about 1 metre. Some of these chimera plants have been inadvertently sold in nurseries as true species and also as ‘plants of interest’. So if you think you may have one of these species exhibiting chimera characteristics you should consider its removal.

For more details and photos see: [Graft-chimeras on eremophilas | Australian Plants Society \(austplants.com.au\)](http://resources.austplants.com.au/stories/grafft-chimeras-on-eremophilas/)

<http://resources.austplants.com.au/stories/grafft-chimeras-on-eremophilas/>



Photo source: www.bing.com/images

Dave's Garden

Plant Sport Mutations

What Does It Mean When A Plant “Throws A Sport”

Whilst at Janice Jones garden we observed a plant sport on a camellia. But it wasn't just on one branch—across the shrub we observed two different flower colours, one a deep reddish-pink, the other pink with white flecky stripes and these two flowers were often located next to each other on the same branch. These sports are often observed on camellias but can also occur on natives.

The term plant sport is the **variation of the whole plant**, and a bud sport is the **variation of only a single branch**. Bud sports are also a common cause of the variegation that is seen on some plant foliage. The inability to produce chlorophyll in the leaf indicates that some mutation has occurred. And, from: *Gardening Tips & Information By: Susan Patterson, Master Gardener*, gardeningknowhow.com

If you've noticed something outside the norm in your garden, it could be the result of plant sport mutations. What are these? A sport in the plant world is a genetic mutation that results from a faulty chromosomal replication. The results of the mutation are a segment of the plant that is distinctly different from the parent plant in both appearance (phenotype) and genetics (genotype). The genetic change is not a result of unusual growing conditions; it is an accident, a mutation. In many cases the new trait can be handed down to the organism's offspring.

Plant sport mutations can add flecks of white to a flower or double the amount of flowers on a stem. The climbing hybrid tea roses are sports of regular shrub form hybrid tea roses; “Climbing Peace” is a sport of “Peace.”

Read more at Gardening Know How: Plant Sport Mutations – What Does It Mean When A Plant “Throws A Sport” <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/garden-how-to/info/plant-sport-mutations.htm>

Spotted at Janice Jones' garden

In the back corner there is a healthy specimen of *Eucalyptus forrestiana* (or Fuschia Mallee). The frost and/or sooty mould has always knocked off any attempts I have made to grow one in Albury or Baranduda. This one was well protected by a fence and galvanised iron shed wall. Pictured is a bud of this very ornamental small gum, yet to develop its beautiful shiny red colour. The buds open out with yellow stamens. It is well suited to smaller gardens, it is a mallet of scattered distribution in southern subcoastal areas from north-east of Ravensthorpe eastwards towards Mount Beaumont; endemic to Western Australia. It is best grown in deep or shallow sandy loams in semi-arid and warm temperate zones, but it is adaptable.

Similar species are *E. stoatei* and *E. dolichorhyncha*.



APS Victoria YouTube Channel

You may not be aware of APS Victoria's YouTube channel, so here are the links and some more information about it. Miriam Ford in particular has been making some terrific short videos on her travels around different groups. The amazing Handscombe Garden near Warrnambool, Paul Kennedy on Hakeas and Kevin Sparrow on the Swan Reserve are the latest offerings. We publicise them on Facebook – but many members choose not to be part of that.

Below you will find the link so that you can easily access the videos. It costs nothing and if you "subscribe" you will be notified of new videos. You can also share with friends to promote APS membership and what we get up to together.

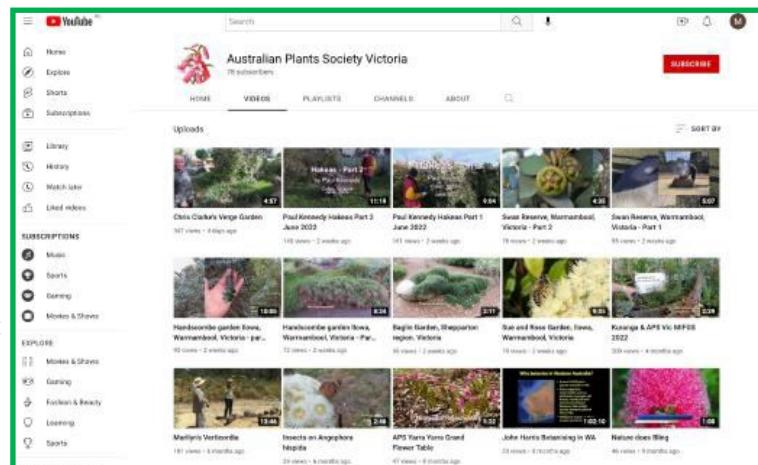
This is the link to the APS Victoria YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWUr8e-AhjROA0GEDqga0aA/videos>

You can also contribute to the YouTube channel. Our APS Vic secretary, Chris Long, says "Why not make a video of your next garden visit? Miriam can assist with how to go about it and upload them."

Some videos are essentially slideshows of photographs, and others are video footage.

If you are interested then you can contact Miriam via email: miriamdfc30@gmail.com.



Gardening Australia

Our favourite gardening show on ABC, Gardening Australia, has a segment due to be aired on Aug 26 –

Miriam's Mints with Jane Edmanson. Miriam is a long term member of APS Vic and is currently our Vice President. She was the leader of the FJC Rogers seminar on Mint Bushes and Allied genera in 2020 and this led to her passion for mints.

Prostanthera by Leonora (Ellie) Enking

Flickr.com

Did you know?

"Napoleon's Empress, Josephine, created a garden on the Paris outskirts that was 'the most beautiful and curious garden in Europe', as she called it. Curious because it contained the most impossibly exotic creatures that Europeans had ever seen. Kangaroos, emus and black swans, creatures of unimagined oddness, roamed the 700 hectares of Malmaison.

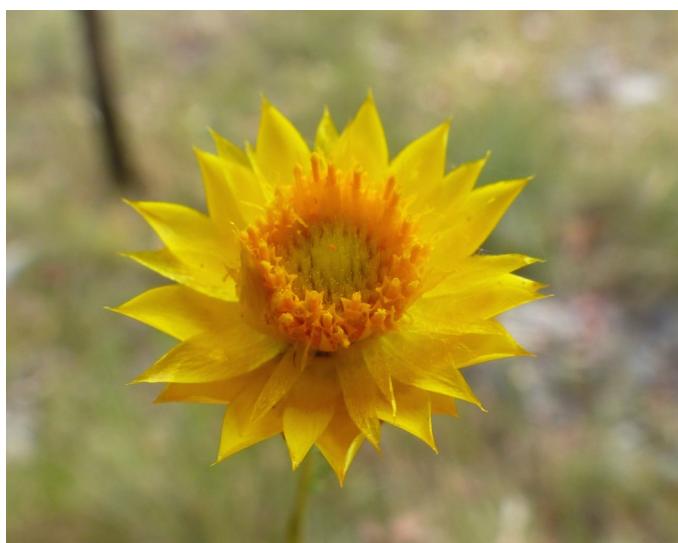
Josephine painstakingly planted the gardens with exotic flora including wattle, gum and melaleuca.

The French explorer Nicolas Baudin collected the precious specimens during his 1800-1804 voyage to Australia, the Holy Grail of European botanists and zoologists. He even kicked some of his officers out of their ships' cabins to make his prized kangaroos comfortable.

Napolean at first was angry with his wife for buying an expensive manor while he was away campaigning in Egypt, and called the cultivated English design of the gardens "silly". But later, when he was exiled to the island of Sant Helena, he planted golden wattle and Australian Golden Everlasting, or paper daisies, to remind him of Josephine and Malmaison. They grow on the island to this day....."

Footnote #1. The above extract is from an article "*How to escape the Great Oblivion*" by Peter Hartcher, The Nation, P42 The Age. Sat., July 23, 2022 on the release of the 2021 State of the Environment Report by our new Environment and Water Minister, Tanya Plibersek,

#2. Saint Helena is a volcanic tropical island in the South Atlantic Ocean, 4,000 kilometres east of Rio de Janeiro and 1,950 kilometres west of the Cunene River, which marks the border between Namibia and Angola in southwestern Africa. It is part of the British Overseas Territory of Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha. Saint Helena measures about 16 by 8 kilometres and has a population of 4,534 . It was named after Saint Helena of Constantinople.



*Photo source: Friends of Chiltern.
Flickr.com*

Xerochrysum viscosum

Sticky or Golden Everlasting



*Photo source:
R.J.Bayer. Flickr.com*

Shows, conferences, plant sales and other items of interest 2022

Important: Please check APS Victoria website Events Calendar for any cancellations & updates.

See [Australian Plants Society Victoria \(apsvic.org.au\)](http://Australian Plants Society Victoria (apsvic.org.au))

26 August 2022 - ABC Gardening Australia features a segment called "Miriam's Mints with Jan Edmanson". After 7.00pm.

27 & 28 August 2022 - APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo, Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Road Eltham. 10.00am to 4.00 pm both days.

1 September 2022 - Wimmera Biodiversity Seminar 2022. Details to follow. A one day in-person event but exploring options to make the seminar available to an online audience. Theme "Image of Biodiversity" which aims to explore how imagery is used to monitor, engage and inspire people towards greater biodiversity conservation efforts. Follow on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wimmerabiodiversityseminar>.

1-11 September 2022 - The Acacia Project Exhibition, illustrating Rare, Endangered and Unusual Acacia in the Royal Botanic Gardens of Melbourne will be mounted in the Visitors Centre at the RBGV Melbourne. 9am to 5pm daily.



11 to 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.

17 & 18 September 2022 Angair Wildflower Show & Art Weekend. Strictly indigenous this year! A special display of the late John Landy's fascinating collection of local butterflies and insects, guided wildflower walks around the district, indigenous plant sales and stalls by local environmental groups. 10 am to 4 pm. Anglesea Community Precinct in McMillan Street, Anglesea.

24 & 25 September 2022 - APS Bendigo Flower Show, Victory Christian College, Kairn Road, Strathdale, Bendigo. 9.30am to 4.00pm. Entry \$5, children free. Specialist native plant nurseries, books, garden accessories and more.

24 & 25 September 2022 - APS VIC COMM and Quarterly Gathering: Hosted by APS Loddon Murray . AGM 6pm Saturday 24 September at Swan Hill Club, 5/17 McCallum Street, Swan Hill.

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.

1 & 2 October 2022 - APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show, Pomonal Hall. 9.30am to 5pm on Saturday, 10am to 4pm Sunday.

8 October 2022 - APS Echuca Moama Native Flower Showcase, Echuca Masonic Lodge Hall, 426 High Street, Echuca.

8-16 October 2022 - 'Fabulous Peas' Art Exhibition hosted by APS Maroondah, at Karwarra Gardens, 1190 Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd, Kalorama. Tuesday—Friday 10am—4pm, Saturday & Sunday 1pm—4pm.

15 October 2022—APS Mitchell Annual Flower Expo & Sale. 9am—3pm. Memorial Hall, Sydney St, Kilmore. \$2 entry.

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

22 & 23 October 2022 - Cranbourne Friends RBGV Spring Plant Sale. 10am to 4pm. Free entry. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. For more information see: <https://rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au/>

22 & 23 October 2022 - APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show. Flower show, plant sales etc. Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gillies Street, Ballarat. 10am to 4pm.

22 & 23 October 2022 - Cranbourne Friends RBGV Spring Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Free entry.

Website: rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au

12 & 13 November 2022 – Garden DesignFest Metro Melbourne & Mornington Peninsula organized by various Rotary Clubs. For details visit <https://gardendesignfest.com.au/>
19 & 20 November 2022 – Garden DesignFest Regional Victoria.

19 or 26 November 2022 - APS Victoria Committee of Management November quarterly meeting hosted by APS Keilor Plains at the Iramoo Grasslands Centre and reserve. <https://www.friendsvic.org/2017/01/05/iramoo-grassland-centre-and-nursery/>

Dates for 2023 – more details to follow.

1 April 2023 – APS Geelong Plant Sale. Details to follow.

22 April 2023 - APS Yarra Yarra - Autumn plant sale.

9 & 10 September 2023 – APS Yarra Yarra Plant Expo.