

Australian Plants Society Wangaratta Inc. July 2023 Newsletter

Meetings are held in the Masonic Lodge Hall, 101 Appin Street, Wangaratta, @ 7pm on the 4th Thursday of months February, March, April, May, June, August, September, October & November.

There will not be a meeting in July. There is an exhibition in the Bainz Gallery in the Wangaratta Library, and a garden visit to the garden of Gillian Anderson and Paul Derezyckyj at Hamilton Park on Sunday 23rd July.

Outings are held on a Saturday or Sunday following each meeting. Refer to the Calendar of Events for details.

Visitors are always welcome.

Membership Renewals Are Now Online

Go to apsvic.org.au/membership and follow the instructions.

Important: Keep your yellow Growing Australian envelope – when renewing your membership, you will need your membership number that is printed on the front. You must use the same email address that you have previously provided to our Membership Officer, Gillian.

If you do not have internet access, please contact Gillian Anderson, our District Group Membership Officer on 0411 111830 or contact APS Vic Membership Officer Marj Seaton on (03) 9570 6293.

Unless your membership renewal is received by 31st October, it will lapse.

Refer to 'Membership Matters' in the June 2023 Growing Australian Magazine for more details.

Visit to Therese and Gareth Graham's Garden – Sunday 25th June.

Thankfully the rain held off, and the ground was more or less gumboot-friendly underfoot. An enthusiastic and cheerful gathering of some twenty-plus Wang APS gathered at Gareth and Therese Graham's designer-built rammed earth home at Buffalo Creek. Following a concerted



grazing on a sumptuous morning tea – cake, bikkies, savories [great cooks!], the group scrambled and rambled across the garden, into the hothouse, and past the amazing veggie garden.

The gymea lilly was budding up, the orchard this unique bush setting

was in winter dormancy, and the views from were delightful. Then it was back inside for delicious veggie crock-pot soup and sourdough bread, more cake and yummy goodies and plenty of time to chat and mingle. We checked out Therese's seed-saving methods, the wonderful woodworking and structural skills of Gareth and discussed possible names for various yet-to-be-identified rooted cuttings. We left this cozy cocoon within the warm earth walls to venture up the hill and round the corner to Buffalo River Nursery, where we were greeted by Darrell Perkins with his terrific selection of Australian plants for sale. The rain held off --- almost --- to a manageable drizzle, and, laden with our purchases and inspiration, we departed, leaving towering Mt Buffalo with its snowy peaks in the rear vision mirror..... Many thanks to both Therese and Gareth for their warm hospitality to us all.





Must See During July

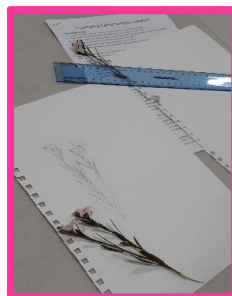


Exhibition of embroidered wall hangings of Australian native plants and John van Riet's original Botanical Illustrations. Location: The Bainz Gallery in the Wangaratta Library, Docker Street, Wangaratta.

Presentation and Hands-on Botanical Illustration with John Van Riet @ our Club Meeting in June.



John presented a short and fascinating history of this meticulous craft, from 14th Century European Renaissance, through the various explorers and 'discoverers' of the Great South Land. Plant names familiar to us today embody these explorers, their sponsors and early European botanists— names such as Franz Bauer, Joseph Banks, William Dampier, Matthew Flinders, Robert Brown, J.B. Leschenault de la Tour and Jonas Dryander have a familiar ring. Then the evening's entertainment was over to us, as we 'had a go'. Some botanical illustrators have been born!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please note that there will not be an outing in October. In lieu there will be a propagating day on Saturday 14th October. Learners and observers all welcome!

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
For the month of July there will not be a Club meeting.		
There will be a garden visit to Gillian & Paul's garden in Hamilton Park For the whole month of July there will be an exhibition of Botanical Embroidery, Fabric Art and Botanical illustration created by our past and present members in the Bainz Gallery in the Wangaratta Library, Docker Street, Wangaratta.		
JULY		
Wednesday 19 th	Committee Meeting	5pm. Freemasons Hall meeting room.
Sunday 23 rd	OUTING	10.30am for 11am. To Gillian Anderson & Paul Derezyckyj' s garden, 280 Orchard Drive, Glenrowan. (map on page
AUGUST		
Wednesday 2 nd	Working Bee in preparation for Wattle Day stall	At van Riet's 475 Shanley St, Wangaratta South. 10am to 12 noon. Bring Morning tea to share. Lunch provided. -- hot soup and crusty bread,
Friday 11 th	Final preparations and packing for Wattle Day.	From 10am.
Saturday 12 th	WATTLE DAY DISPLAY & SALES	Wangaratta Community Market . 8am – 12 noon. Setting up from 7.00am.
Thursday 24 th	AGM & Dutch Auction	7pm Freemasons Hall.
Sunday 27 th	Outing	To the garden of Jenny Davidson. 172 Up River Road, Gooramadda. 10.30am for 11am . Bring Morning tea to share. BYO lunch.
SEPTEMBER		
Wednesday 20 th	Committee Meeting	5pm Freemasons Hall meeting room.
Thursday 28 th	Club Meeting	Grand Spring Display table.
OCTOBER		
Sunday 1 st	Outing	10.30 for 11am. Waratah time @ Malcolm and Mirella McKinnon's Garden. 261 Wabonga Lane, Eurobin.
Saturday 14 th	Propagation Day	At van Riet's. 475 Shanley Street, Wangaratta South. 9.30am onwards.
Thursday 26 th	Club Meeting	Club meeting. Video and discussion. Details to come.
Sunday 29 th	NO OUTING.	In lieu of this outing, we are having a learn-as-you-go propagating day on 14th October. [see above].
NOVEMBER		
Wednesday 15 th	Committee meeting	5pm Freemasons Hall meeting room.
Thursday 23 rd	Meeting with Guest Speakers	Guest Speakers – Graham and Maree Goods. "Desert Discovery" - the protection and enhancement of the natural environment in remote regions of Australia.
Sunday 26 th	Outing	10.30 for 11am . Christmas Party. To the home and garden of Jenny & Richard Kjar, Sessions Rd, Killawarra.
DECEMBER		
Saturday 2 nd	Propagating Day	At van Riet's. 475 Shanley Street, Wangaratta South. 9.30am onwards.

SHOWS, CONFERENCES, PLANT SALES AND OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST 2023

Provided by Nicky Zanen, APS Victoria

IMPORTANT ----- PLEASE CHECK APS VICTORIAN WEBSITE FOR CANCELLATIONS

1st to 31st July. Wangaratta Library in the Bainz Gallery. Mon-Fri 9.30am – 6pm, Sat. 9.30am – 1pm. Sunday closed. Fabric Art & Botanical Illustrations of Australian plants by Wangaratta APS.

12 August. 8am – 12 noon. Celebrating Wattles. Wangaratta APS @ Wangaratta Farmers Market, Holy Trinity Cathedral Lawn. Free Acacia seeds & badges, Displays, information etc.

2 September 2023 – 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 2023 - 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 2023 – 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 2023 – APS Bendigo Flower Show, Victory College, Kairn Road, Strathdale (Bendigo).

23 & 24 September 2023 – APS Grampians host APS Vic September COMM.

30 September & 1 October 2023 – APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show, Pomonal Hall.

7 October 2023 – 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.

7 & 8 October 2023 – Open Days at Currency Creek Arboretum, South Australia. 9 am to 4.30 pm.

14 October 2023 – APS Mitchell Plant Expo and Sale. Wallan Community Centre, Bentinck Street, Wallan. From 9 am to 3 pm.

21 & 22 October 2023 - APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show. Flower show, plant sales etc. Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gilles Street, Ballarat. 10 am – 4 pm. Please check web for confirmation.

21 & 22 October 2023 - Cranbourne Friends RBGV Autumn Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Website: rbgfrienscranbourne.org.au

20th April 2024 - APS Yarra Yarra Autumn plant sale. Eltham Community and Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am-4pm

14 & 15 September 2024 APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo. Eltham Community and Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am - 4pm

30 September to 4 October, 2024 – ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference in Melbourne hosted by APS Victoria.



Coming up..... Outing for Sunday 23rd July 2023
Visit to “Paul & Gillian’s Paradise” @ Hamilton Park.
Map and details on page 11.



Gillian has been limited with helping with the garden as she continues to recover from injury and is still sporting a moon boot.

She says :- “We’re looking forward to sharing it with our members at the end of July. I’m hoping to get outside and help with the works!” The prospect of visitors has focused the attention of Paul.



“Coming up to 10 years on our acre, Paul is having a renovation spurt. Replacing some older plants and bringing in new ones. He’s just taken out all the Naked Ladies, divided my Kangaroo Paws into many new plants, spread mulch, weeding and making the place look amazing.”

.....

In my June Garden --- by Helen Wrigley



Walking around the garden on June 1st I was delighted to see the *Acacia beckleri* coming out. This is an early wattle and often the blooms are browned off by frost, but this year it was earlier than usual. A few days later it was in full bloom and the perfume was

apparent metres away – gorgeous. Wednesday June 7 it rained heavily all night leading to a flood warning for the King River. In the morning, not too early, the first thing I saw was my lovely wattle on its side. The ground was saturated but it is not in a wet spot. It was mainly the weight of the wet flowers that took it over. I lost another *beckleri* in last year’s wet winter. This wattle had been



pruned by at least one third every year. They respond very well to pruning. I will prune it back now and try to prop it up.

The wattles in the garden bring great delight as they bud up, which is months before they flower. The colour of the whole bush changes when they bud up. The Whirrakee wattle goes a lovely



lime green, contrasting well with the Beryl's Blue emu bush in front. Both *Acacia boormanii* and *A. cultriformis* become silver when they bud up. The local *A. aspera* is also very early this year,



beginning to flower this week; *A. flexifolia* has been flowering since late April. All the wattles seem to be early this year.

The hakeas *peteolaris* and Burrendong Beauty have been stunning this year. I am particularly pleased with the young *peteolaris X laurina*. I hope it doesn't fall over. Note the leaf shape which is intermediate between the 2 species. These hakeas

and the hardy *H. salicifolia* were able to tolerate the wet winter. I have previously lost hakeas in a wet year. I recently planted a couple more but chose a more well drained spot.

The grevilleas have budded up and are starting to flower. The dwarf Callistemon *salignus* has colourful foliage. The other plants in the pictures are the pretty pink hybrid correa “perfect pollinator”, *Austrostipa elegantissima* and *Acacia restiacea*, an interesting wattle that is stunning in flower. This is a difficult bed under some large gums.

Happy gardening!

Helen.

From your Editor.

Please consider writing an article or sending some interesting photos to me. Short or long, every contribution adds to this Newsletter's interest and relevance to our Club. Our Newsletter belongs to all of us! Please give me a ring or text or email if you would like to discuss an idea. Thank you all!

helenvanriet@bigpond.com 04 01021448

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 24th August.

The Committee are responsible for assisting in a many different ways to ensure that our Club an function effectively and can offer an interesting and informative program. We encourage everyone to consider whether they could help our group by nominating and/or being nominated for an office-bearer or general committee member position.

The Committee met on 19th July, and received nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, APS Victoria Representative, and four general committee positions.

To date we have not received nominations for the positions of Secretary or Membership Officer. Both these positions are essential for the good-functioning of our Group. The Committee ask that you consider offering yourself or talking to another APS member about nominating for one of these positions.

Nomination forms are on Page 12.

Following the AGM we will enjoy the traditional a Dutch Auction. It's lots of fun, and everyone wins one or more bargain-priced plants of their choice. Cash or direct debit are accepted. Details will be included in the August Newsletter.



CELEBRATING WATTLE DAY IN WANGARATTA

Saturday 12th August

Holy Trinity Cathedral Lawns
Corner of Docker & Ovens Streets, Wangaratta



Planning is well underway for this special event. We will be:

- displaying buckets of wattle blooms,
- giving away little packets of wattle seeds suitable for growing in our local conditions with growing instructions,
- giving away small pin-on badges with sprigs of wattle,
- demonstrating how to propagate Australian plants from cuttings and seed,
- providing information about our own APS Club and flying the flag for APS & Growing Australian.
- having a variety of plants for sale and to give away.

Please help us make this a blooming success!

How you can help.....

- Do you have plants suitable for sale or giving away?
- Do you have wattles in bloom that you could bring in buckets for display? [Water will be available at the site.]
- Do you have some wattle seed that we can package up to give away?
- Can you help with a working bee to prepare everything before the big day?
- Can you help on the day?
- Will you order wattle seed from the APSV seedbank ready to propagate this year so that we have a variety of plants for sale for next year?

*Here's how..... Log onto the APS Victoria website and into the Members' Only section [password is **22&epacris**] and scroll across to 'seeds'. The list and info of how to order is easy to follow. Remember, all members are entitled to 6 packets of seeds four times per annum.*

A roster is below.

DATE	ACTIVITY	VOLUNTEERS	TIME
Late July or early August Date to be confirmed.	Working bee to Prepare packs of seed, preparing pin-on badges, Labelling & tidying up plants for sale & to give away.	Helen Wrigley Pauline Luz Marianne Beggs Gillian Anderson Helen van Riet Janice Jones	From 10am @ 475 Shanley Street, Wang. South. Hot soup and crusty bread will be provided.
Friday 11 th Aug.	Sorting plants for sale, packing the trailer with everything needed.	Janice Jones Helen van Riet John van Riet	From 10am @ van Riet's
Saturday 12 Aug. Cathedral lawns.	Setting up gazebos, tables, displays, plants for sale, buckets of flowers, etc.	Helen & John van Riet Janice Jones	From 7am. Vehicles need to be out by 7.45am
12 Aug. Cathedral lawns.	Manning the stall	Helen Wrigley Helen van Riet Janice Jones	8 – 10am
12 Aug. Cathedral lawns.	Demo on propagating plus giving away & sales	Helen van Riet Janice Jones Pauline Luz	11am – 11.30am
12 Aug. Cathedral lawns.	Manning the stall	Rosemary Buchanan Natalie O'Connell	10- 12 noon.
12 Aug. Cathedral lawns.	Packing up	Richard Jerome Paul Derezyckj John van Riet	From 12 noon. Vehicle access only after 12 noon.

Outing for Sunday 23rd July 2023

TIME – 10.30 am for 11am.

To the Garden of Gillian Anderson and Paul Derezyckyj

280 ORCHARD DRIVE, GLENROWAN.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: FROM WANGARATTA CENTRAL

Travel south on Tone Road, Turn right into Shanley Street [Discount Chemist is on the corner], cross the railway line and continue to the Warby Range Road intersection [South Wangaratta Fire Station is on the corner].

Turn left into Warby Range Road. Continue on Warby Range Road, crossing the dog-leg intersection at Taminick Gap Road. Continue on Warby Range Road, Turn right into Wurrinya Avenue. Continue on Wurrinya Avenue. Turn left into Orchard Drive. No. 280 is the first house on the left.

WHAT TO BRING:

- Morning tea to share
- Your own lunch
- Folding chair
- Coffee mug



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 by clicking on the date.

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY WANGARATTA INC.

NOMINATION FORM FOR OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

2023 – 2024

<u>POSITION</u> - (Please circle)	President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Membership Officer
	Newsletter Editor	APS Victoria Representative			Committee Member

I nominate (Name of person being nominated)

Name & signature of proposer

Name & signature of Seconder

Signature of person being nominated Date

Nomination forms to be returned to the Secretary before 7pm on 24/8/23.



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Drone seeding program provides hopes for river red gum restoration at Winton Wetlands

By Callum Marshall



Up to 40,000 native grass and wetland plant seeds are being dropped across a 33-hectare site of the wetlands this week as part of the project. The seeds are being deposited by a specially designed heavy-duty drone known as Artemis which is operated by the company AirSeed.

Winton Wetlands restoration manager Lisa Farnsworth says this

week's activity followed an earlier drop of river red gum seeds in a 50-hectare area of the wetlands in March. "If [that] does turn out to be successful ... we would be looking to upscale that technique across hundreds of hectares," Dr Farnsworth said.

Benefits through drone drops

The Artemis aerial drops provided a range of benefits to prior seeding methods across the wetlands such as traditional tube-stock planting and helicopter seeding. The drone allowed them to be way more specific about where seeds could be dropped across the wetlands.



Dr Farnsworth says she's hopeful the Artemis drone will increase the success rate of seed planting across the wetlands. "For us it's about reaching places on a 8,700-hectare reserve that we just can't ordinarily get to on foot and potentially dropping seed at scale that's going to be meaningful for the project," Dr Farnsworth said.

"We've got an area that's about a couple thousand hectares of dead river red gum that we need to re-establish and it [the aerial seed drops] could be a really good way to do it."

Another benefit was that the drone seeds were enveloped in nutrients, which helped with the germination of the seeds when they hit the ground. It would hopefully increase their success rate across the wetlands as well as the ease of using river red gum seed. River red gum seed is

difficult to collect and hard to come by. There are other areas that require red gum restoration that may well take up this same technique."

Despite heavy rains hitting the region during the week the AirSeed team involved in the aerial seed drops said they were confident it could reach a 40,000 seed target this week.

Invasive plant species on the increase in Victorian Alps, raising conservation concerns

By Anna Chisholm and Susan Oong -Article sourced from ABC Goulburn Murray and contributed by Pina Tiso

Non-native plants are on the rise in Victoria's alpine areas and their spread is causing concern among conservationists.

A study, published in March in the journal *Nature Ecology and Evolution*, found a 16-per-cent increase in non-native species in mountainous regions across 11 international sites over the past decade. The study included weed surveys from five areas across Victoria's high country. Plots near Mount Beauty, Falls Creek, Mount Hotham, Dargo and Mount Howard were monitored for the prevalence of exotic or non-native plants.

Plant ecologist and study co-author John Morgan said some of the invasive plant species had spread with the helping hands of humans while others were moving under their own steam, with just a little help from the wind for seed dispersal.

"They're aggressive. They're tall. They grow fast and they outcompete native plants," Professor Morgan said. The research showed that the flora and fauna of the Bogong High Plains, and other alpine summits, was rapidly changing. Some plants had made the jump from lowland areas as garden ornamentals and agricultural plants, while others were introduced to high altitudes as garden exotics.

Many unwanted arrivals, however, had migrated into the mountains by using roadsides as corridors for dispersal.

Regardless, the sprawl into higher altitudes is threatening endemic species such as the silky snow daisy, which can only be found between Mount Bogong and Mount Hotham. Exotic species are less attractive to native insects and animals, and their encroachment risks damaging the "habitat quality" of these ecosystems.

Professor Morgan said the findings were concerning, and advised that people needed to consider the plants they choose to grow on their properties. This is especially true if the property is near to – or below — valuable ecosystems, such as National Parks in Victoria's high country.



"It's just as important to be interested in the types of plants that we grow at the bottoms of the mountains, because ultimately, they're the ones that grow at the top," he said, "Mountain ecosystems are thought to be some of the most native ecosystems anywhere." He said that climate change could also accelerate the spread of invasive plants.

Baranduda Landcare's Glen Johnson is passionate about north-east Victoria's biodiversity. "Native vegetation is a backbone for our fauna community," he said. Mr Johnson advocates for "looking after our best bits first" and that



Victoria's alpine region hosts some of the state's best environments.

"Probably 90 per cent of them are OK and aren't going to jump the back fence and become invasive species," Mr

Johnson said. "Potential

invasion is not just because we might live on the edge of the bush. "It's all about understanding and recognising that some of our plants are really high-threat compared to others, so we should do our best to avoid those." It is most important that people self-report if they've come across exotic species.

Professor Morgan said that there are **three main approaches to maintaining this concerning spread.**

- The first is early detection.
- The second is good hygiene, by being careful not to spread seeds accidentally in car tyres or socks.
- The third is awareness, so visitors and users of the region understand the importance of conservation.

Lemon Myrtle Cheesecake

This recipe was enthusiastically discussed at the gathering at Therese & Gareth's home during the happy social time and garden visit at the end of June. It has been recommended by Malcolm and Mirella McKinnon as 'dead easy' and very, very yummy.

Ingredients

BASE

1 cup biscuits crushed
1 cup macadamias crushed
125 g butter melted

FILLING

125 g soft butter
250 g cream cheese softened
1 cup caster sugar
2 tsp vanilla essence
2 tsp gelatine powder
60 ml hot water
2 tbs ground lemon myrtle

Method

1. Base: Mix crushed macadamia nuts, crushed biscuits and butter.
2. Press into base of dish and refrigerate while making filling.
3. Filling: Place softened butter, softened cream cheese, caster sugar, vanilla essence and ground lemon myrtle into a large bowl and cream with an electric mixer.
4. Dissolve gelatine in about 60 mL of hot water and when cool gradually add to the mixture.
5. Beat until light and fluffy.
6. Pour over the biscuit base and place in the fridge overnight.



This cheesecake is best made one or two days ahead as the lemon myrtle infuses throughout.

Your Committee:

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