



Australian Plants Society Wangaratta Inc.

September 2024 Newsletter

Meetings – our meetings are usually held in the Masonic Lodge Hall, 101 Appin Street, Wangaratta, @ 7pm, on the 4th Thursday February thru' November. Our next meeting will be on Thursday September 26th. Details are on Page 3.

Outings - Visits to local gardens and places of natural beauty are organised on a Saturday or Sunday, usually following the monthly meetings. Our next outing will be on Saturday September 28th, to the Australian Botanic Gardens in Shepparton. Details are on pages 4 & 5. The date of the outing in October has been brought forward to Sunday October 20th. An update on planning for this event is on page 3.

Market stalls– are held several times a year.

Propagation Days -- are held on selected Saturdays in the warmer months. The next propagation day will be held on Saturday December 7th.

Visitors are always welcome.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
SEPTEMBER 2024		
Thursday, September 26 th	Club meeting.	Grand Spring Spectacular Display Table. 7pm. Freemasons Hall, Appin St. Details Page 3.
Saturday 28 th September	Outing.	Australian Botanic Gardens, Shepparton. 19 Botanic Gardens Avenue, Kialla. Meet for lunch at 12 noon in the car park . BYO Everything, including folding chair. Details on pages 4 & 5.
OCTOBER 2024		
Sunday 20 th October	Field Trip – location to be confirmed See page 3 for more information.	The Killawarra Forest. Leader --- Michael O’Sullivan NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
Thursday 24 th October	Club Meeting	Shared discussion and learning together. “The most successful plant you have grown in your garden”. --- Bring foliage, flowers; or ---- “A recommended ‘bomb-proof’ Australian garden plant”, --- or “Your favourite garden tool”.
NOVEMBER 2024		
November 23 rd & 24 th	Hosting APS Victoria quarterly Weekend	Including Committee of Management Meeting & AGM, Dinner, Outings and Guest Speaker. Details on pages 10 & 11.
DECEMBER 2024		
Saturday December 7 th	Propagating Day and Christmas Breakup lunch	From 9.00am to after lunch. @ 475 Shanley St, Wangaratta South.
JANUARY 2025 - in recess.		
FEBRUARY 2025		
Saturday February 8 th	Propagation Day & Committee meeting	Propagating from 9.00am. Committee Meeting following lunch. At 475 Shanley Street, Wangaratta South.
Thursday 27 th February	Club meeting.	Topic: Caring for our gardens during summer: display & presentation of irrigation equipment. Presented by Paul Derezyckj.
Sunday March 2 nd	Garden visit – evening, including shared BBQ tea	To Jenny Davidson’s garden @ Gooramadda. 5pm onwards. BYO meat & a salad or sweet to share. T & C & bread provided.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 26th September @ 7pm.

GRAND SPRING DISPLAY TABLE

It has been our custom for several years that our September meeting will feature a Grand Spring Display Table. Therese will have organised labels to help us all to sort the lovely blooms that we hope everyone will contribute. Please bring [at least] one lovely bloom from your garden [or from a friend's or neighbour's garden.] The conversation is guaranteed to be interesting and educational.



Some of the plants will be familiar and may be known by name. Others could be 'maybes' or 'maybe nots', and this has the potential to be a great learning experience for us all. **Above is a photo of the display table from 2023.** The star of the show was a **white waratah bloom which Therese proudly displayed.** Please bring as many lovelies as you would like, one, or more, or many---- both in flower or at the cusp of flowering --- or perhaps even some interesting foliage. Together we will learn about the wonderful variety of Australian plants that we grow in our local area.



For those who are keen to try their hand at propagating, there will be plenty of propagating material available at the end of the meeting. **Bring your snips and a plastic bag or two** if you would like to take some possibilities home to try your hand at cloning some of our local beauties.

UPDATE FOR OUR OCTOBER OUTING

Michael O'Sullivan will be the leader of our outing in October. He has checked out various locations for a worthwhile wildflower discovery excursion in our local area. Winter rainfall has been patchy, and some areas have been impacted by fire.

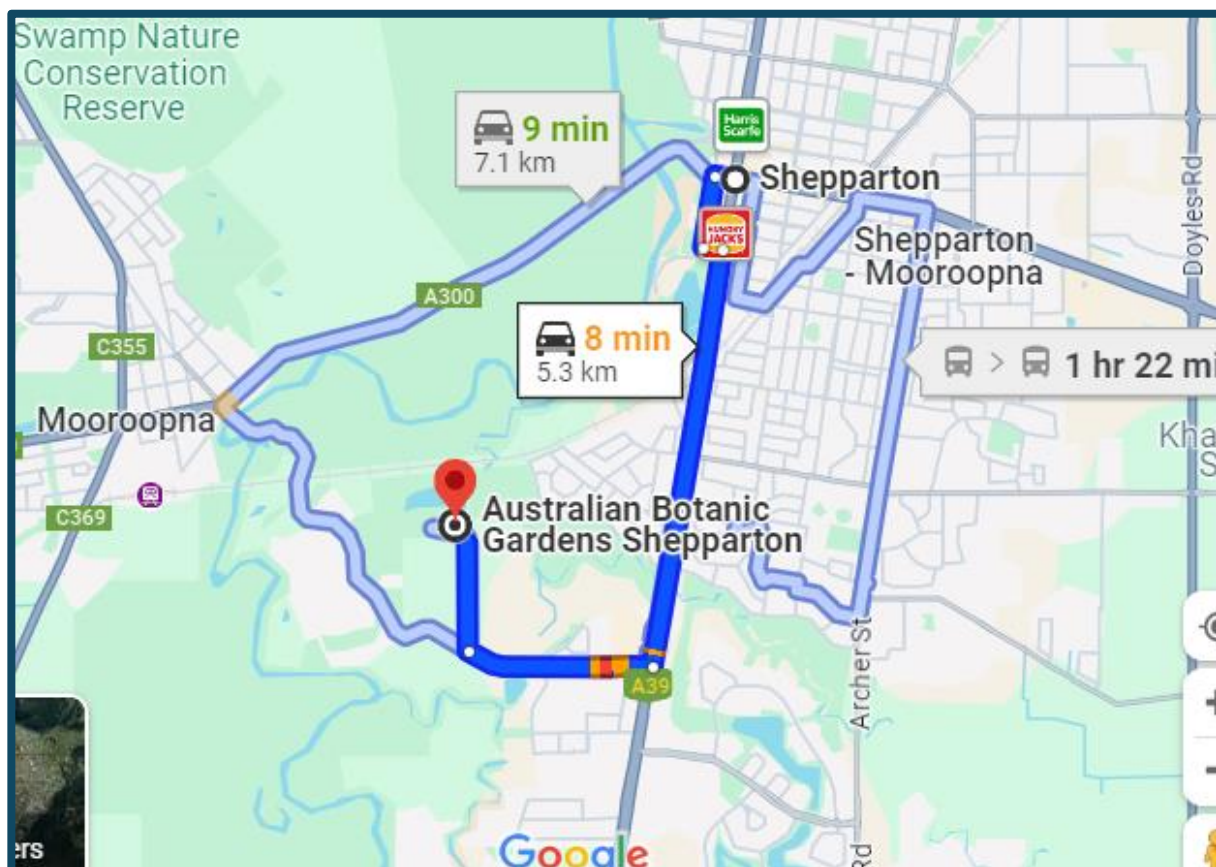
We have decided that it is not worthwhile to visit Taylor's Gap this year. An area with more potential interest is the Killawarra Forest. Details will be confirmed in the October newsletter.

OUTING

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH

AUSTRALIAN BOTANIC GARDENS, SHEPPARTON

The Australian Botanic Gardens Shepparton is located on Botanic Gardens Avenue (formerly Kialla Tip Road), off Riverview Drive, Shepparton. Turn west off the Goulburn Valley Highway onto Riverview Drive at Riverside Plaza.



TIME: Meet at the entry at 12 noon.

BRING: your own lunch, a drink and a folding chair.

PROGRAM: Following lunch, there will be options for a leisurely stroll through the various walking trails including a gentle climb along the zigzag pathway to Honeysuckle Rise.

This evolving garden which was established on the old tip site at Shepparton has had many hours of volunteer work dedicated to establishing this unique

Australian plants garden. Our sister Australian plants group at Shepparton have had significant input into the design, establishment and maintenance of the garden. There is an active friends group which have regular working bees and continue to enhance is wonderful local Australian gem.



The site consists of native grassy bushland, wetlands, and a 7 hectare, 30 metre-high reclaimed landfill area with a lookout on top. This provides an expansive view of the local landscape and forms a significant landmark on the outskirts of the city, adjacent to the Goulburn and Broken Rivers.

This unique garden depicts the story of change. The garden themes follow a timeline and are revealed to visitors as they walk along the pathways.



On the top of



On the top of Honeysuckle Rise, the lookout offers an expansive view above the treetops across local landscapes. On Honeysuckle Rise there are beautifully designed themed gardens. The Zig-Zag path leads to the Weaving Garden. There are walks through regenerated bushland on the River and Native Forest walks.

We will discuss sharing transport at our Meeting on Thursday 26th.

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 0102 1448



FROM THE EDITOR.....

Our gardens are all looking wonderful and I'm getting excited about seeing what people will bring on Thursday evening for our Grand Spring Display Table. I had a quick walk around our garden yesterday. Here are some of the more interesting plants that are bursting into



bloom. ---
Philotheca spicata,
Hakea cinerea,
Acacia drummondii
 [dwarf], *Grevillea*
magnifica, *Dodonea*
boroniifolia, *Acacia*
cognata, &
Indigofera australis.



Delay in receipt of Growing Australian Magazine for September 2024

Some of us may not yet have received our *Growing Australian*. The mailing has been delayed for those who also receive the national magazine *Australian Plants* as these two publications are both mailed in the one envelope. There has been a delay in receiving *Australian Plants* from the publishers. You should be receiving your *Growing Australian* magazine very soon.

GARDEN DESIGN - AUGUST ACTIVITY REPORT

Our visit to Isabel, Adam, Edie and Eliose Young's garden on Saturday 24th August dawned bright and sunny. We were greeted with hot scones with jam and cream and an interesting challenge to discuss an almost blank canvas in the back garden and a developing garden out the front.

A lot of energy had already been expended to remove a kikuyu lawn and large rocks from the back yard and a newly erected shed on the north-east back boundary --- destined to



Before.... A blank canvas. The house in 2021.

accommodate Isabel's studio and Adam's workshop ---- was ripe for discussion about access paths, window views and judicious screening.

In the front garden, Isabel had established paths and feature areas around several large

Callistemons and a *Leptospermum petersonii* -- all ripe for some enthusiastic renovational pruning. Many newly-planted lovelies were growing well - some almost too well for their allotted positions. In future they will undergo rationalisation via thinning out and regular trimming. Some may even be relocated. Below are species which Isabel has planted so far.....

Acacia <u>baileyana</u>	Dianella <u>tasmanica</u>
Acacia <u>glaucoptera</u>	Dichondra repens
Acacia <u>iteaphylla</u>	Dodonea sp.
Acacia <u>pycnantha</u>	<u>Grevillea</u> Bronze Rambler
Acacia <u>verniciiflua</u>	Grevillea <u>bipinnatafida</u>
<u>Adenanthos cericeus</u>	Grevillea <u>lanigera</u>
<u>Allocasuarina</u> sp.	Grevillea <u>poorinda</u> Royal Mantle
<u>Alvogyne huegelii</u>	Grevillea <u>rhyolitica</u> Deua Flame
<u>Anigozanthus flavidus</u> x	Hakea <u>drupacea</u>
Banksia <u>blechnifolia</u>	<u>Hardenbergia</u> violacea ssp.rosea
Banksia species	<u>Isopogon</u> sp.
Callistemon sp.	Kennedia <u>prostrata</u>
Calothamnus <u>quadrofidus</u>	Leptospermum <u>petersonii</u>
<u>Carprobrotus glaucescens</u> -Aussie	Leschenaultia biloba
Rambler	<u>Lomandra filiformis</u>
<u>Carprobrotus</u> virescens – tucker bush	<u>Lomandra</u> sp.
Casuarina glauca	Pelargonium australe
Correa alba	<u>Philothea myoporoides</u>
Crowea <u>exalata</u>	Rhodanthe <u>anthemoides</u>
<u>Darwinia citriodora</u>	Scaevola aemula
Dendrobium <u>kingianum</u>	Xerochrysum bracteatum
<u>Derwentia perfoliata</u>	Xerochrysum <u>viscosum</u>

The block of land is wedge-shaped, opening out towards the back, and of generous size. There is scope for some interesting new plantings. John van Riet surveyed the property, marking the boundary and positions of fixtures - e.g. driveway, house, clothesline and shed.

The back garden will be designed around an area for entertaining with access to Isabel's studio and Adam's workshop. This is a great block with heaps of possibilities. We will be observing the enthusiastic development of this Aussie garden with great interest.



WILDFLOWER WANDERING

By Isabel Young

**Wangaratta Common Nature Conservation Reserve ~
Currently a meadow of wildflowers**

HOW TO GET THERE -- Entry point via Greta road, plenty of on street parking, take the second entry point next to Merriwa Industries. Follow the path for a good 300 meters and you'll discover a sea of wildflowers both left and right of the track. This is a flat, easy walk, pram and wheelchair friendly. If visiting after rain though, the clay track becomes slippery and sticky and is best for walking only.

DISCOVERIES: Spotted in bloom on our Sunday morning walk; *Goodenia pinnatifolia*~Cut Leaf Goodenia, *Podolepis linearifolia*~Basalt Podolepis, *Crospedia variabilis*~Common Billy-Buttons, *Diuris chryseopsis*~Common Golden Moth or the Small Snake Orchid, *Bulbine bulbosa*~ Bulbine Lily, *Wurmbea dioica*~Common Early Nancy and many more species yet to be identified with my untrained eye.

You can often spot a mob of kangaroos and Birdlife is rich, the trees are lovely and shady. A great spot to have a picnic and play with little ones. Just be careful where you step.



President's Annual Report

Thanks to the Committee's quarterly planning meetings, well prepared Agendas by secretary Pina Tiso, the well-presented Newsletter by editor Helen van Riet, keeping us up to date with Finances by treasurer Joanne Diver, and ensuring that the Supper Roster provides for our well-being by Rosemary Buchanan, our APS group has had another splendid year.

We are sorry that Pina has resigned from her position as Secretary, but wish her well in her studies. Our Membership Officer, Linda Huzzey, keeps the membership list up to date. Membership (as at July 2024) stands at 33 families, i.e. 43 individuals. There are some 21 unpaid members. Linda sends reminders. Committee member Therese, as our rep. to its meetings, keeps us informed about APS(Vic).

Our monthly meetings featured the following themes:

September '23 – our Annual Grand Spring display. A standout was a white waratah, brought by Therese.

October '23 – a grafting workshop on *Eremophila* was well received by our members.

November '23 - Graham and Maree Goods from Horsham were our guest-speakers on the topic of 'Desert Discovery', showing their travels to the dry and remote lands of Australia with the purpose of ensuring the protection of the natural environment.

February '24 – Guest-speaker and local Andy Kimber gave a talk about the fungal root rot 'phytophthora cinnamoni', and the threat to the grass trees, *Xanthorrhoe glauca*, in the Warby Ranges, inviting us also to participate in the work to protect the grass trees with the Friends of the Warby Ovens National Park.

April '24 – Our members Gillian Anderson and Paul Derezyckj did a splendid job filling in for Lisa Farnsworth (manager of the Winton Wetlands) in a presentation on the Winton Wetlands.

May '24 – Guest-speaker Sophie Enders (via video link), Project Coordinator for Swamps, Rivers and Ranges, presented "Gardens for Wildlife".

June '24 – Our member Isabel Young gave a presentation on "Dyeing materials using native plants". This was followed up with a workshop that same month, held at van Riet's. Some magnificent colours were gained.

August '24 – AGM & Silent Auction

Outings

Oct. 23- visited Malcolm and Mirella McKinnon's garden in Eurobin.

November 23 – visited Jenny and Richard Karr's garden in Killawarra and had our end-of-year Christmas party.

February '24 – visited Philippa and Neil Duggan's garden at Boweya.

March '24 – visited John and Trish Gibbons's garden in Mt Beauty. Great to catch up with these distant members and to hear of their work in the local community.

May '24 – visited the Winton Wetlands as a follow up to Gillian and Paul's presentation the previous month.

Other events :

Propagating days at van Riet's in Sept., Dec. 23, Febr. 24.

Off-Grid Living Festival in Chiltern- April '24: we used the weekend to inform the public about APS, and sold plants, raising over \$600.

Open Garden Sunday in April at van Riet's, 475 Shanley St, South Wangaratta. Initiated by the Greta Valley Landcare Group, focusing on Gardens for Wildlife. Also a fundraiser for our group and Oxfam.

Celebrating Wattle Day on 10th August at the Wangaratta Farmers Market with a stall, giving away acacia seeds and plants. Raised APS profile. Our members were kept busy responding to enquiries.

Many thanks to all who wrote articles for the Newsletter and to Isabel Young for work related to our Facebook Page. <https://www.facebook.com/apswangaratta/>

During the year we thought to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our group, but discovered, with the help of past foundation member Elspeth Jacobs (now lives in Canterbury Rd, Melbourne) that our group started in 1987. We can celebrate in 2027!

*John van Riet,
President.
August 2024.*

QUARTERLY WEEKEND -- NOVEMBER 23RD & 24TH TO BE HOSTED BY THE WANGARATTA AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY

It is the custom of the state body of Australian plants Society to hold quarterly gatherings for all the groups across the State in various locations throughout the year. These gatherings incorporate the Committee of Management of the Australian Plants Society Victoria, together with an interesting programme to showcase the unique Australian plants and gardens of the local area host group. Wangaratta last hosted a quarterly gathering in 2017, and our turn has come around again this year.

We are delighted to be hosting a Quarterly Weekend on 23rd & 24th of November. This will include the Committee of Management meeting, the AGM of the Victorian Australian Plants Society including the presentation of Awards and visits to local gardens and areas of natural beauty. There will be the special opportunity to purchase Australian Plants books from the bookstall which will be managed by Bill Aitchison and Sue Guymer.

Quarterly weekend gatherings are a wonderful opportunity to get to meet other people with a passion for growing Australian plants. The planning group consisting of Jenny Davidson, Helen van Riet and Linda Huzzey have put together a programme which we anticipate will be enjoyable and interesting for both our own members and to those who are visiting from across Victoria.

There is no registration fee for the weekend. Morning and afternoon teas will be provided, with participants purchasing their own main meals. Catering for the Saturday morning tea is being outsourced to our friends from the Wangaratta OXFAM Group. Our group will be organising the catering for afternoon tea on Saturday 23rd, and morning tea on Sunday 24th.

We encourage all our members to make this weekend a priority. The organising committee will be seeking assistance for various tasks, and a roster will be drawn up closer to the date.

The Quarterly Weekend will replace both our normal meeting and outing for November this year.

A draft program [subject to adjustments] is on page 11.

Registration forms are included in the September 2024 issue of Growing Australian magazine.

QUARTERLY WEEKEND PROGRAMME

November 23rd & 24th 2024

DRAFT PROGRAM - subject to alteration

SATURDAY

9.00 am– onwards.	Uniting Church Hall, 10 Rowan St, Wangaratta Car parking available at the rear.	Cuppa & morning tea provided by OXFAM Committee. Registration – helpers required! Book sales - Bill Aitchison & Sue Guymmer Welcome, & outline of the weekend activities.
10.00am	Uniting Church Meeting Room	APS Victoria Committee of Management meet. Concludes by approx.12.30pm.
10am – 12.30 - <i>for non- committee members.</i>	Uniting Church, 10 Rowan Street, Wangaratta. [base for the morning -come and go as you please.] Book Sales & cuppas. Morning tea available all morning. Car parking available at the rear. Self-guided walks	Optional Self-guided walks – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullawah Trail – along the Ovens River • Kaluna Park , Wangaratta • Wareena Park, Wangaratta • Merriwa Park , Wangaratta • Wangaratta Common • Winton Wetlands, Chesney Vale • Warbies Friends Track • Killawarra Camp walking trail • Garden of Michael & Carole O’Sullivan @ Tarrawingee • Garden of Janice & Glynn Jones @ Wangaratta • Another town garden ?? TBA
12.30pm – 2.00pm	BYO Lunch. Uniting Church Hall, 10 Rowan Street, or eat out at one of the many cafes in town.	Book Sales. Tea & Coffee provided at the hall. BYO Lunch or purchase from many cafes in Wangaratta CBD
2.00 – 2.15pm	Uniting Church Hall - Introduction to afternoon activities. Close of book sales.	Provision of information about Glen & Heather Miles’ Garden & re-vegetated quarry area
2.15 – 2.45pm	Drive in convoy to Garden of Glen & Heather Miles. Sessions Road, Killawarra.	Observing grass trees on Sessions Road. DO NOT PARK.
2.45 – 4.00PM	Garden visit to Miles’ garden, including afternoon tea	Guided tour of the garden, and optional revegetated quarry area. Afternoon tea [to be provided by our group, plus remainders from morning tea]
4.00 – 5.15	Free time	
5.30 – 10.00pm	Old Town and Country Tavern (Corner of Greta Road C523 & Mason Street, Wangaratta). .	5.30pm APS Victoria AGM, including presentation Followed by evening meal (Purchase your own). Guest Speaker - Ian Minns – Encouraging children to become involved in caring for places of natural beauty. Lucky door prizes. [donations gratefully received by the Committee.
SUNDAY		
9.00am	Gather at Carpark adjacent to Mullimur Wetlands ,Cambridge Terrace, Wangaratta.	
9.15 – 11.15AM	Guided tour of Mullinmur Wetlands, Cambridge Drive, Wangaratta.	led by Ian Minns
11.15 12.30pm	To the van Riet Garden @ Wangaratta South. Late morning tea. Conclusion of weekend activities.	475 Shanley street. Garde stroll. Concluding thankyous. Tea and Coffee, toilet facilities, plant sales. TBC.

THE APS VICTORIA SEEDBANK

All current members are entitled to six packets of seed from the list of available species, upon receipt of each quarterly edition of Growing Australian.

HOW TO ORDER

Log on to the APS Wangaratta website members area using the email address that you paid your membership with, and the password, which is your membership number, printed on the front of the envelope in which you received your Growing Australian Magazine.

Click on – Seeds and follow the instructions.....

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Write down a list of your six preferred species and then also include a further list of alternatives in case one or more species are no longer available.
2. Prepare a self-addressed envelope that includes postage. a. This envelope should preferably be DL size (22cm x 11 cm) as it is difficult to fit seed pockets in anything smaller.
[b.] The postage currently required is a \$1.50 stamp or equivalent concession stamp. [c.]If requesting seed that is of a Brachychiton species, then please provide \$2.20 of postage due to the large size of its seeds.
3. Place both the list and self-addressed envelope in an envelope marked to

APS Victoria Seed Bank,
c/- Marj Seaton,
36 Voumard Street,
Oakleigh South, VIC 3167.

The Seed Bank Curator will send you 6 packets in order of your choice. If any of these have run out in the meantime, they will send you those species that are listed as alternatives by you. Up to six alternatives are recommended. Email enquiries can be directed to normarjs@bigpond.com, however orders must still be made by post.

Your 2024/2025 Committee:

President: John Van Riet 04 2812 9007 helenvanriet@bigpond.com
Secretary [shared position] : Isabel Young 0476 306 607 apswangaratta1@gmail.com
 & Jenny Davidson 0418 169 917 jennyld.jd@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joanne Diver 0412 985 501 divers@aapt.net.au
Membership Officer: Linda Huzzey 0439 608 130 huzzey@westnet.com.au
Newsletter Editor: Helen van Riet 0401 021 448 helenvanriet@bigpond.com
APS Vic. Rep. Isabel Young 0476 306 607 apswangaratta1@gmail.com
Specimen Table: Therese Graham 0407 563 614 therese238@westnet.com.au

Non-official Roles:

Rosemary Buchanan (Supper Roster) 0428 998 336 rosie_buchanan@hotmail.com
 Gillian Anderson 0411 111 830 pdga280@bigpond.com
 Jane Bracken 0468 924 146 jnbracken@gmail.com