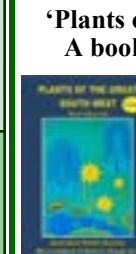




**AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP)**  
**Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter**  
 APRIL 2024 No 508

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[www.facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap](http://www.facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap)



**'Plants of the Great South West 4',**  
 A book on plants of South West  
 Victoria, available now  
 from Kevin Sparrow at  
[ksparrow93@gmail.com](mailto:ksparrow93@gmail.com)  
 Ph: 55626217  
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[warrnambooltreasurer@apsvic.org.au](mailto:warrnambooltreasurer@apsvic.org.au)

**On Eastern Maar Country**

**EDITORIAL**

***Hello members,***

Its great to see our gardens start to recover after the very welcome rain we have had over the past few weeks. I guess winter is on its way.

The book launch last week was a great success with 68 people attending the launch. Lots of books were sold. I hope you all enjoy it. Thank you to all members for your support and assistance. It has been a huge effort to get it to the this stage, special thanks to Jodie Honan who has edited the whole book.

We are planning a weekend visit in September to our fellow members in the Fleurieu Peninsula in South Australia. This will be a joint visit with members from the Wimmera and Grampians group, we plan to stay at either Goolwa or Victor Harbour. Day 1 - Saturday 7th September: Garden visits on the Fleurieu Peninsula Day 2 - Sunday 8th September: Currency Creek Arboretum (79 km south of Adelaide and 8 km north of Goolwa) was established and is managed by Dean Nicolle. The arboretum has the largest collection of eucalypt species in the world, with over 900 species and subspecies (and over 8000 individual plants) having been planted on the site, more than double the number of eucalypt taxa being grown on any other one site elsewhere. Dean Nicolle is the author of many books. In the afternoon there will most likely be another garden visit. More details to follow.

Just a reminder that next month it will be time for our Annual General Meeting again, all positions will be declared vacant, don't be put off by this, it will be over quickly and we have members nominated for all positions. Hope to catch up on Friday 26th. Cheers, Kevin

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**We acknowledge the Eastern Maar people as the traditional owners of the land on which we meet and pay our respects to their elders past and present.**

**Next Members Activity: Friday 26th 8.00pm at Mozart Hall - speaker is John Sherwood - Ningaloo.**

<i>Members Activities</i>	<i>Members Activities</i>
<p><b>April 26th 8.00pm:</b> Members Night at Mozart Hall - speaker John Sherwood - Ningaloo.</p> <p><b>April 29th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting - Brian Waters - 70 Barries Road, Bushfield.</p> <p><b>May 24th 8.00pm: AGM night.</b> No speaker - "What's in a Name" Video.</p> <p><b>May 27th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting TBA</p> <p><b>June 28th:</b> No Members Night planned.</p> <p><b>July 27th - Saturday 10.00am - 4.00pm:</b> Giant Plant Table.</p> <p><b>July 29th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting TBA</p> <p><b>August 23rd 8.00pm:</b> Members Night - TBA</p> <p><b>August 26th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting: TBA</p>	<p><b>September 7th and 8th:</b> Trip to South Aust, visiting Currency Creek Arboretum and local S.A. APS Member gardens.</p> <p><b>September 27th 8.00pm:</b> Members Night TBA</p> <p><b>September 30th to October 4th:</b> – ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference in Melbourne. Pre &amp; Post Conference Tours to Warrnambool.</p> <p><b>September 30th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting TBA</p> <p><b>October 25th 8.00pm:</b> Members Night TBA</p> <p><b>October 28th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting TBA</p> <p><b>November 22nd 8.00pm:</b> Members Night TBA</p> <p><b>November 25th 2.00pm:</b> Committee Meeting TBA</p> <p><b>December Christmas Breakup:</b> TBA</p>
<p><b>Please submit your articles for the newsletter by the end of the second week of the month</b></p>	
<p><b>President:</b> David Handscombe, 7 Settlers Lane. Illowa. 3282 Phone: 0429 866 862  <b>Vice President:</b> Mike Halls, 127 Rooneys Rd, Warrnambool 3280 Phone: 0476 250 435 Email: mandehalls@bigpond.com  <b>Secretary:</b> Mike Halls, 127 Rooneys Rd, Warrnambool 3280 Phone: 0476 250 435 Email: mandehalls@bigpond.com  <b>Treasurer:</b> John Sherwood. 26 McConnell St, Warrnambool Phone: 55628064 Email: jsher@deakin.edu.au  <b>Newsletter Editor:</b> Kevin Sparrow, 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool. Phone: 55626217 Email: ksparrow93@gmail.com  <b>Public Officer:</b> John Sherwood. <b>APS Rep:</b> Vacant <b>Group Historian:</b> Joyce Sparrow. <b>Supper:</b> Liz Halls.  <b>Other Committee Members:</b> Linda Handscombe, Ross Dawson, Peter Robertson, Brian Waters.</p>	
<p><b>The APS Warrnambool &amp; District holds meetings on the 4th Friday of each month at the Mozart Hall Warrnambool at 8pm.</b></p>	
<p>APS Warrnambool &amp; District is a District Group of the Australian Plants Society (Vic) All members are required to also be a member of APS Vic.</p>	
<p><b>2 Australian Plants Society - Warrnambool &amp; District Group April 2024 Newsletter 508</b></p>	



Hi everyone, I thought I'd better remind everyone (although you should have had an email from Monique Farrell from Neutrog) reminding you that if you want to place an order for any of the Neutrog products you have until 8:00am on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May. I have asked Monique to register the group for all 4 of the ordering sessions so we can now place our orders in Winter, Spring, Summer or Autumn.

I thought we might introduce a new section to the Warrnambool APS newsletter called 'What's wrong with this?' Members can send in a photo of a plant in their garden that, for one reason or another, is not looking the best. Include a brief description of the problem, how long you have had the plant, how long has the problem been present, what your growing conditions are, what you have done to try and remedy the problem etc. If other members have had a similar problem with a plant but found out what the issue was and what they did to remedy it they would write a reply in the following newsletter or if you resolved the problem yourself then include that to. It could be another way we can share our knowledge of the plants we are growing. I'll kick things off with a problem with some Grevilleas. The two photos of Grevillea 'Bush Lemons' (also next page) show the type of damage but you can see healthy new growth starting to emerge.



What's wrong with this?

For those of you that grow Grevilleas may have been disappointed to see new growth starting to develop which dies back after a short time leaving you with a cluster of dead material along the branches. The other issue you may experience is the mature leaves browning off giving the plant an untidy appearance. In both instances the plants effective leaf area is being reduced with the end result of the plant losing vigour, which may ultimately result in the death of the plant. The cause of both these symptoms is a small mite called the Grevillea bud mite. Some Grevilleas don't seem to be affected by this little mite while others, particularly some of the subtropical cultivars seem to be particularly susceptible. The photos included are from Grevillea 'Bush Lemons', one of several Grevilleas in our garden that shows signs of mite damage. The remedy recommended by Neil Marriot is to spray with a systemic insecticide called Metasystox, a product I am not familiar with. Another propagator we know uses a mixture of Eco-oil and Neem-oil at the rates recommended on the product label. I have used this on several Grevilleas without harm to the plant. New growth soon emerges that looks healthy and these shoots continue to grow without being stunted. You may need to spray the plant on a regular basis whenever signs of the bud mite reappear. The included photos show the type of damage the mite can inflict



## *Plants of the Great South West Book Launch - by Peter Robertson from notes by Kevin Sparrow*

In his opening remarks, Kevin Sparrow, a long-time member of the Society for Growing Australian Plants/APS recognised the funding bodies for the book, the Australian Plants Society - Warrnambool and District Group who had supplied funds from the sale of previous editions to fund the printing costs, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority (GHCMA) and Warrnambool City Council have also supplied funding to cover the expenses in having this book published.

Adam Bester, Chief Executive Officer of the GHCMA came down from Hamilton to officially launch the book with 68 people in attendance.

When Kevin began this long journey some 20 years ago, he could never have imagined that by now he would be completing the fourth edition of what has been a very popular book. That first book consisted of 160 pages featuring 185 species. This fourth edition today has 528 pages featuring 725 species.

Kevin discovered digital photography in the mid 2000's and set out to photograph as many plants as he could find. This became a passion, some might even say an obsession for Kevin!

His devoted wife Joyce has assisted him in all of this, where she is known as his spotter, with Joyce finding the plants and Kevin taking the photos. They are a team and enjoy travelling around together looking for plants, especially orchids. The second edition was published in 2013 with Jodie Honan as editor, with some 368 pages and 490 species.

In 2014, it was pointed out to Kevin that the only record he had of where the photographs of plants were taken was in his head! He was introduced to Citizen Science and began uploading his many photos onto the Natureshare website. This fortunately records where the photographs were taken on a map and this data then finds its way into the national records of where things occur in nature. Natureshare has since been absorbed into the iNaturalist site, and today all the information of the photos taken are shared on this site.



Left to right: Adam Bester, Kevin Sparrow, Brett Clarke, Dave Handscombe.  
(Photo by Ross Dawson)

*Plants of the Great South West Book Launch by Peter Robertson from notes by Kevin Sparrow*

Kevin endeavors to try and reinvent the book each time it is published and in 2019, with Jodie Honan again as editor, the book was published in its third edition with 448 pages and 608 species.

Kevin is grateful to all who have assisted him with the books over time, especially the authors of the specific chapters. Jodie Honan has been a great help with the last 3 editions being edited by her, correcting all Kevin's mistakes and it was often her inspiration to regularly improve the contents of the book.

Kevin has always wanted to include more indigenous content in the new editions. He has been conscious of the fact that our traditional owners have been looking after country for thousands of years, nurturing and caring for the plants and animals and he wanted to find ways of recognising this aspect in this new edition.



Lee-Anne Clarke pictured with Kevin Sparrow (Photo Ross Dawson)



Some of the interested audience attending the launch.  
(Photo: R. Dawson)

Lee-Anne Clarke was introduced to Kevin and she painted the artwork featured on the front cover of the fourth edition on a canvas frame, which features Murnong (Yam Daisies) and describes the way that the traditional owners used them.

The launch was accompanied by Brett Clarke to share his culture and by writing the 6 Seasons Chapter in the edition.

Kevin is very grateful to everyone who has assisted with the publication of this fourth edition with this publication now being used for the Conservation Eco System Management Course at South West Tafe.

*Plants of the Great South West Book Launch by Peter Robertson from notes by Kevin Sparrow*



## Display Table by Dorothy Mattner

At our March meeting, Kevin brought along a lovely collection of *Eremophila*, *Eremophila cuneifolia*, *Eremophila splendens* (photo top right), *Eremophila* 'Meringur Isaac' (photo lower right), *Eremophila* 'Summertime Blue', *Eremophila nivea*, *Melaleuca fulgens* and *Hakea* 'Burrendong Beauty'.

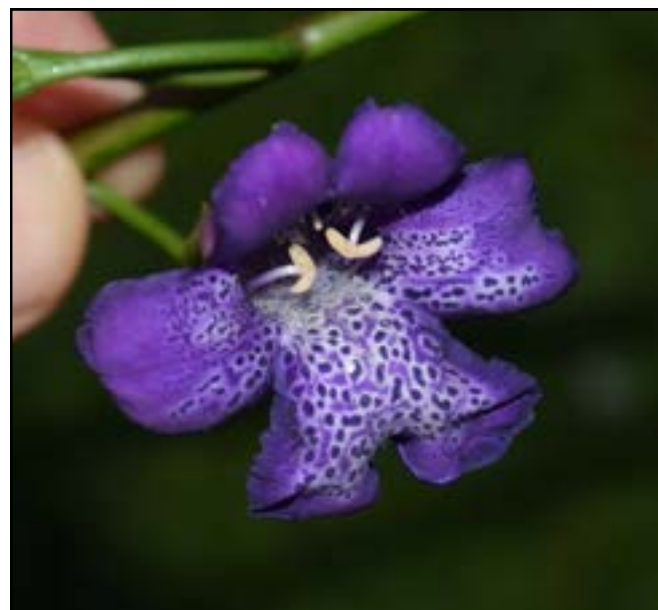
Ross brought in *Banksia spinulosa*, *Banksia spinulosa* compact form, and *Hibbertia scandens*, Ross has it climbing on Rio as shade for the shed.

Mike and Liz brought along *Grevillea* 'Ned Kelly', *Grevillea* 'Billy Bonkers' (photo lower left), *Grevillea* 'Peaches and Cream', and *Xerochrysum bracteatum*.

David and Linda showed us *Grevillea* 'Tirari Blaze', this is a medium shrub, *Grevillea* 'Lollypop', a medium shrub, *Grevillea* 'Pink Surprise', a large shrub and *Grevillea* 'Bush Lemons', a medium shrub. *Eucalyptus nutans* is a small tree from the South West of WA, *Eucalyptus pulverulenta* is a tree to five metres and *Eucalyptus* 'Baby Blue' is great for cut flowers.

Despite the dry conditions, we were able to still have some plants on display.

Thank you all for bringing along your flowers for the Display Table.





*Melbourne International Garden Show*



Look what they found among the bushes at the Melbourne International Garden Show.

## Plant Profile By Dave Handscombe

Information on this plant was obtained from various reference books, the internet and from personal experience

**Species:** *Stylidium adnatum*

Stylidium – from the Greek stylos meaning a column, referring to the united stamens and style.  
adnatum – from the Latin, adenatus meaning growing closely together, attached.

**Common Name:** Common Beaked Trigger-plant.

**Family:** Stylidiaceae

**Dimensions:** up to 50cm H X 100cm W

**Cultivar Name:** There are no registered cultivars listed on the ACRA site and no current plant breeders rights in place.

*Stylidium adnatum* occurs in coastal areas of Western Australia from south of Mandura to Cape Arid.

Stylidium are called trigger-plants because of the way they are pollinated. The column containing the fused male (stamen) and female (style) parts of the flower is located behind the petals and is triggered when an insect's proboscis is inserted into the flower to obtain nectar. When triggered the column rapidly swings around and clubs the insect depositing some pollen on its head or back and hopefully picking up some pollen from the insects previous visit to a trigger plant. After about 15 minutes or less the column resets itself. You can observe the trigger action by inserting a fine piece of dry grass into the centre of the flower however only do this once so as not to take to much energy from the plant.



*Stylidium adenatum* had 3 varieties, var *abbreviatum*, var *adenatum* and var *propinquum* although these are no longer recognised by the Western Australian herbarium. It is a low, dark green rounded shrub with whorls of leaves attached to a stem topped with a short flower spike of pink and white flowers that age to pale yellow. It flowers from late winter and spring and occurs in a variety of habitats from jarrah and karri forests, paperbark swamps and near streams in heathland. It is a fast growing plant that will form a nice rounded shape and will tolerate full sun through to partial shade and mild frosts. In the wild it grows in sandy and sandy loam soils sometimes with a limestone base so should grow well in coastal situations. If planted in the garden some protection may be required against pest species including rabbits, slugs and snails. Because of this it may be wise to consider it as an ideal container plant but from personal experience we haven't had an issue with any grazing pests on our plants.

Propagation is easiest from fresh seed, stem or leaf cuttings.

**Photo Captions:**

Photo 1: *Stylidium adenatum* showing typical rounded habit.

Photo 2: Whorled leaves and flower stalks.

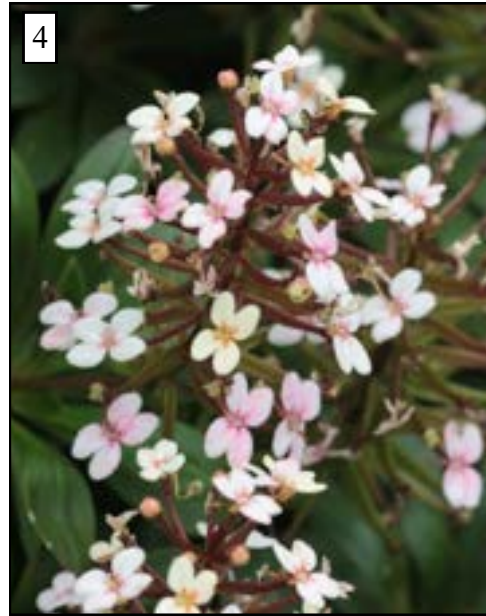
Photo 3: A single flower stalk with varying ages of flowers.

Photos 4-5: A closer look at the flowers showing different colours as flowers age.

Photos 6-7: Photo 6 shows both columns set, photo 7 shows one column set and the other triggered.

Photo 8: Leaf cuttings in peat plugs.





## *Shows, Conferences, Plant Sales and Other Items of Interest.*

### **IMPORTANT PLEASE CHECK APS VICTORIAN WEBSITE FOR CANCELLATIONS**



20 April 2024 - APS Yarra Yarra Autumn plant sale. Eltham Community and Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10.00 am-3.00 pm (new times)

27 April 2024 – APS Mornington Australian Native Plant Sale, The Briars, Nepean Highway, Mt Martha. No dogs. 10 to 3.30 pm. Free talks on propagating plants, pruning and maintenance, book sales and kids corner.

11 May 2024 - APS Mornington host the next APS Vic COM Meeting at Fenton Square, and a visit to the Seaford Banksia Arboretum in the afternoon.

11 May 2024 – APS Melton Bacchus Marsh Plant Sale, at St Andrews Uniting Church, Bacchus Marsh, 9 am to 1 pm. For more details from David Pye, Ph 0417 289 369.

30 June 2024 - RBGC winter afternoon talk by Dr Garry Price on Alf Salkin: Botanist, Conservationist, Environmental Educator. The Spitfire bomber pilot who brought banksias to Cranbourne. At 2.00 pm in the Auditorium at Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Cost \$20 RBGC members, \$25 non members. Details from <https://cranbournefriends.tidyhq.com/public/schedule/events/>

27 and 28 July 2024 – APS Bendigo host COM and full weekend of activities.

5 September 2024 – Wimmera Biodiversity Seminar. Goroke. Further details to follow.

7 September 2024 – APS Cardinia Regional Annual Plant Sale, Akoonah Park, Berwick from 8 am to 4 pm.

7 September 2024 – APS Mitchell Expo and Plant Sale, Wallan Multipurpose Centre, Bentinck Street, Wallan.

14 & 15 September 2024 APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo. Eltham Community and Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am - 3pm.

21 & 22 September 2024 – APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show, Pomonal Hall.

21 & 22 September 2024 – 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.

## *Shows, Conferences, Plant Sales and Other Items of Interest.*

28 & 29 September 2022 – APS Bendigo Flower Show, Victory Christian College, Kairn Road, Strathdale, Bendigo. 9.30 am to 4.00 pm. \$5 entry, children free. Specialist native plant nurseries, books, garden accessories and more.



30 September to 4 October, 2024 – ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference in Melbourne hosted by APS Victoria. Visit <https://www.anpsa2024conference.com/>.

During the Conference AJ Swaby Address as part of the ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference. A public event, at The Round, Nunawading. Phillip Johnson speaking on the Chelsea Flower Garden and Garden Design.

5 October 2024 – Echuca Moama Native Flower Showcase. Masonic Lodge Hall, 426 High Street, Echuca.

12 & 13 October 2024 - Cranbourne Friends RBGV Spring Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Website: [rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au](http://rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au)

November 2024 – APS Wangaratta host APS Victoria Committee of Management meeting and AGM. Details to follow.

2025 15<sup>th</sup> FJC Rogers Seminar 2025 on Epacridaceae hosted by APS Mornington Peninsula.

2026 ANPSA 2026 Biennial Conference, planned to be held in Alice Springs.