



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP)
Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter
 July 2021 No 475

Correa reflexa 'Grannys Grave'

www.facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap



'Plants of the Great South West 3',
 book on plants of South West Victoria
 \$25, available now from
 Kevin Sparrow at
ksparrow93@gmail.com
 Ph: 55626217



New Edition
 out now.



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EDITORIAL

Hello members,

It was great to be back at a Members Night again last month with guest speaker, Royce Raleigh (see report on page 4) who gave us a fantastic presentation. It was also time for our Annual Meeting, it having been postponed from May due to Covid lockdown.

Elected for 2021 - 22 was:

Leader: Michael Halls, Deputy Leader: Dave Handscombe, Minute Secretary: Kevin Sparrow, Treasurer: John Sherwood, APS Vic. representative: Michael Mattner, Newsletter Editor: Kevin Sparrow, General Committee Members: Dorothy Mattner, Joan Krygger, Ross Dawson. Congratulations to all. A **big thank you** to Dorothy Mattner who has done a great job as Leader over the past 3 years, her report can be found on page 3.

Day trip to Colac and to Special Effects Nursery at Barongarook for a discussion on Bush Tucker plants. Meet at Paul Kennedy's garden at 10.00am at 210 Aireys St, Elliminyt (Colac) VIC 3250. BYO lunch. It will take about 2 hours to have lunch and walk around his garden then head of to the nursery at 1.00 - 1.30pm.

Our next Members Night will be speaker free, we are asking members to bring along their favourite piece of native art, favourite plant or something made of native timber of interest, to discuss. Members choice. Begin with dinner at the RSL at 6.30pm. Let me know if coming so I can book a table.

UPDATE: Due to the current lockdown, we may not be able to hold our Members Night on Friday 23rd. If this is the case, we can switch the night to the following Friday 30th July. I will let you know by email one way or the other so keep an eye out after next Tuesday.

Make sure you bring something along for the Display Table. Hope to see you next Friday night. Cheers, Kevin

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

Members Night: Friday 23rd July at Mozart Hall 8.00pm - No Speaker. Bring Along Something Native

<i>Members Activities</i>	<i>Members Activities</i>
<p>July 23rd or 30th: Members Night from 8.00pm. Please bring along something native to discuss. Could be art, something you have made, favourite anything as long as it is native,</p> <p>July 31st: Day trip to Colac and to Special Effects Nursery at Barongarook for a discussion on Bush Tucker plants. Meet at Paul Kennedy's garden at 210 Aireys St, Elliminyt (Colac) VIC 3250. BYO lunch.</p> <p>July 27th: Committee Meeting at 1.30pm: John Sherwood, McConnell St, Warrnambool.</p> <p>Aug 27th: Members Night from 8.00pm: TBD</p> <p>Aug 28th: Day trip to Hamilton members gardens</p> <p>Aug 31st: Committee Meeting at 1.30pm:</p> <p>Sept 24th: Members Night from 8.00pm: Trevor Kennedy speaking on butterflies</p>	<p>Sept 28th: Committee Meeting at 1.30pm:</p> <p>October 2/3rd: Weekend visit to Grampians. Book your own accommodation soon.</p> <p>October 22nd: Members Night from 8.00pm: Speaker Miriam Ford "Marvelous Mints and more besides".</p> <p>October 26th: Committee Meeting at 1.30pm:</p> <p>November 26th: Members Night from 8.00pm: TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Memberships:</p> <p>Just a note to remind members that Memberships are due again from July 1st 2021. Fees remain unchanged from last year, both for APS Vic. and our local subs. For those new members who only joined up this year, your membership will continue until July 1st 2022. As in previous years, payment can be made for APS Vic and our local subs together to Treasurer, John Sherwood and the Victorian part will be sent on for you. I have sent out a separate membership form so you can pay now.</p>	
<p>Please submit your articles for the newsletter by the end of the second week of the month</p>	
<p>President: Mike Halls, 127 Rooneys Rd, Warrnambool 3280 Phone: 0476 250 435 Email: mandehalls@bigpond.com Vice President: David Handscombe, 7 Settlers Lane. Illowa. 3282 Phone: 0429 866 862 Secretary: Kevin Sparrow 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool. Phone: 55626217 Treasurer: John Sherwood. 26 McConnell St, Warrnambool Phone: 55628064 Email: jsher@deakin.edu.au Newsletter Editor: Kevin Sparrow, 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool. Phone: 55626217 Email: ksparrow93@gmail.com Public Officer: John Sherwood. APS Rep: Michael Mattner, Group Historian: Joyce Sparrow. Supper: Liz Halls. Other Committee Members: Dorothy Mattner, Michael Mattner, Joan Krygger, Ross Dawson.</p>	
<p>The APS Warrnambool & District holds meetings on the 4th Friday of each month at the Mozart Hall Warrnambool at 8pm.</p>	
<p>APS Warrnambool & District is a District Group of the Australian Plants Society (Vic) All members are required to also be a member of APS Vic.</p>	
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APS Warrnambool and District President Report June 2021

It is with pleasure that I present my final report as my three year term has come to an end. I have enjoyed my time as president and encourage you to consider a position on the committee at some stage in the future. I extend a warm welcome to our seven new members and look forward to getting to know you. Our membership is currently thirty four with an average meeting attendance of seventeen.

Due to Covid-19 we were forced to think of an alternative way to keep us connected, so we joined the ever-growing switch to Zoom meetings. Thank you all for embracing these meetings where we learnt to show our plants over the screen and interact the best we could. Thank you to John Sherwood for setting up the Zoom meetings and also for showing us the way with his presentation on his Grampian walks. Our next Zoom presentation was by Jacqui Balazs from the Warrnambool City Council speaking on the Gardens for Wildlife program. We also enjoyed Cathy Powers' talk on mini beasts and Kevin Sparrow's presentation on the third edition of Plants of the Great South West.

Sadly four of our members have lost love ones during this time and I would like you to know that you are in our thoughts as you undertake your new way of life.

Thankfully by our December break-up we could meet in small groups, so members enjoyed a long awaited catch up at the Mattners over lunch, followed by a garden walk. February saw 17 members enjoy a guided tour of Walkers Swamp and nearby wetlands in the Dunkeld area.

By now we were making up for lost time on our social calendar so we took on hosting the APS quarterly meeting. This was a great success that saw around 70 participants enjoy the weekend. The weekend started off with the Saturday morning delegates meeting, followed by lunch, unfortunately due to bad weather the launch of the book, Plants of the Great South West third edition was moved from Swan Reserve to the much appreciated shelter of the camp kitchen at Surfside Caravan Park. Congratulations Kevin on another great publication. Due to gathering restrictions at private gardens the garden visits were spread over both Saturday and Sunday, we all gathered on Saturday evening for a meal at the Flying Horse Inn. A big thank you to all involved in the preparation and thank you to those who opened their gardens, we had a very positive feedback on the weekend as a whole.

March found us back at the hall meeting face to face for the first time in 13 months, albeit with a few new restrictions; it was lovely to catch up with everyone. Gavin Prentice spoke on the Discovery Bay Estuary and his role as a Ramsar Coordinator.

Rob Wallace spoke to us on the history of Tower Hill at our April meeting. Also in April members were treated to a walk around Linda and David and Sue and Ross's gardens, thank you all.

We have lots planned for the coming months. Hopefully there will be no more interruptions so we can once again enjoy each other's company and share our interest in Australian Plants.

In closing I would like to thank you all for contributing to the group, we enjoy seeing the monthly display table and hearing about your plants. Thank you to our committee for keeping us running smoothly we do appreciate and value all you do. Also thank you Joyce and Kevin for setting up the Hall each month and Kevin for our monthly newsletter. I would like to wish the incoming committee all the best for the next twelve months.

Thank you
Dorothy Mattner- President

June Display Table by Linda Handscombe

It's officially winter and as close to the winter solstice as possible and still we managed to find some lovely specimens in our gardens.

Kevin Sparrow brought in a very nice red *Brachysema lanceolata* 'Swan River Pea' [now called *Gastrolobium celsianum*]. It's a low growing and sometimes scrambling shrub that benefits from tip pruning. It's hardy and tolerates a wide range of soils and light conditions and it can be propagated from cuttings.

Kevin also brought in *Scaevola porocarya*. (Photo above left) [Porocarya meaning a nut with a pore referring to a cavity in the woody layer surrounding the seed]. We brought a cutting of this plant back from Jurien Bay in W.A. It's a small spreading shrub with blue fan flowers but ours hasn't been long lived and Kevin's is a much nicer form with bigger and bluer flowers.

He also showed us *Eremophila mirabilis* (Photo bottom left). It's an upright shrub to 2m preferring well drained soil and full sun. It is frost tender. Its unusual flower colour is particularly striking and it retains its rusty sepals and these add to its charm. Apparently it makes an excellent container plant.

Dave Handscombe showed off his cute little *Banksia meisneri* (Photo bottom right) from south west W.A. It's a dainty and ornamental species, its flowers are only 3cm long and the plant grows to only 1.5m. It can be grown from cuttings but we haven't tried it yet.

Dave also brought a *Buckinghamia celsissima* 'Ivory Curl Tree' (Photo top right). Originating from Queensland, it can grow to 20m in the wild but only to 10m in cultivation. It's grown for its spectacular creamy white and sweetly fragrant flowers. It appreciates supplementary water during summer.



June Display Table by Linda Handscombe

Marilyn Berry brought a snippet from their 25 year old *Nematolepis phebalioides*!! It's a monotypic genus meaning there is only one species in the genus and that's phebalioides. Phebalioides means 'like a Phebalium' but I feel they got that wrong because it's W.A.'s excuse for a *Correa* as it features bright red tubular flowers. It should have been *Corrioides*.

Marilyn also brought *Grevillea stenomera* 'Lace Net Grevillea'. It's a rounded shrub to 2m with silvery, bluish grey foliage and lacy pinky orange flowers. It likes neutral or slightly alkaline soils and apparently has done well with a bucket of brickies rubble underneath. *Grevillea pinaster* is often mistakenly sold as *stenomera*. We bought the wrong plant in Bairnsdale years ago at a Fred Rogers Conference.

Sue Blood brought in her favourite *Leptospermum sericeum* (Photo above) that they purchased for \$2 from Ewan at Codrington in his seconds bin. Sericeus means silky and the stems, leaves and fruits are all clothed in silky hairs. It's a beautiful rounded shrub to 2.5m with lovely large pink flowers. It is apparently salt resistant but in Pomonal it was very frost tender.

Phil Fitzhardinge brought a lovely specimen of *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* (Photo bottom) in a very nice jarrah stand. It's a beautiful quick growing tree and is very variable in size ranging from small and stunted to 30m. It ranges from southern South Australia, through north and central Victoria and into NSW and it has white, pink or crimson flowers. They are a very popular tree in our estate and are currently alive with honeyeaters and wattlebirds. The Moyne Shire recommended *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* as a boundary tree on each property. Unfortunately they underestimated the height and they are rapidly blocking everyone's sea views.

Don't forget to bring along a few specimens next month. It's the highlight of the meeting for me.



Plant Profile By Dave Handscombe

Species: *Banksia prionotes* dwarf

Banksia named after Joseph Banks and prionotes from the Greek prion, a saw referring to the saw toothed edge to the leaves.

Common Name: Acorn Banksia

Dimensions: Height: 1.5m **Width:** 1.5m

Normal Form Dimensions: Height: 10m

Cultivar Name: Little Kalbarri Candles

Some of you may remember the regular form of *Banksia prionotes* that Kevin and Joyce Sparrow had in their front yard. It was a magnificent specimen of at least 4 metres tall until it unfortunately succumbed to the Warrnambool winds. Over the last ten years or so seed of dwarfing varieties of *Banksias* started to appear in catalogues from native seed suppliers. The dwarf form of prionotes is certainly worth considering as it should only get to about 1.5 metres so would be less likely to be affected by the wind and would be more suited to a normal suburban garden.

It occurs in WA from Shark Bay in the north to Kojonup in the south and is tolerant of coastal exposure (many of the dwarfing *Banksias* will tolerate coastal conditions because they originate from coastal areas where their taller cousins get blown over before they have a chance to set seed, natural selection at its best).

It is frost tolerant down to -3 degrees and grows best in full sun in a well drained sandy or loam soil. If grown from seed, expect it to flower after 3 to 5 years between February and August and prune regularly to promote more flowers, but don't prune too hard as it doesn't have a lignotuber. Seed is fairly easy to obtain online these days and you quite often see the dwarf form in nurseries. I have grown this form for a number of years now and plants have generally flowered for me at the 3 or 4 year stage.



Plant Profile By Dave Handscombe



Photo Captions
Top Left to right

Photo 1: Emerging inflorescence bud
Photos 2 - 5: (5 on page 7) The growth stages of the inflorescence.

Bottom: Photo 6 :A different viewpoint
Photo 7 - 8: 4 year old plants

Casuarina Indigenous Nursery, Reborn, - Warrnambool.



Originally Ngalawoort later Worn Gundidj native nursery has been reborn as Casuarina Indigenous Nursery. This is the only nursery growing local indigenous plants in Warrnambool.

They grow an amazing array of plants native to the Great South West with a particular interest in local bush foods. They can be found at 1 - 3 Rooney's Road, Warrnambool. Don't be afraid to check them out, I did.

Hello and welcome to the May/June instalment of Glenelg Hopkins CMA's '**Coastal Connections**' email.

The changing season is definitely upon us; I hope this finds you well & warm..!

Seasonal Weather

After a productive autumn-break and a promising start to the 2021 flow season, it has been great to see on-going rainfall continue into June. Temperatures have definitely dropped in recent weeks and many parts of our catchment are starting to become evidently wet, turning the seasonal cycle into winter mode. From a coastal perspective, we've continued to see a range of low-front induced swells sweep across our region, particularly during June 7th to 10th which also resulted in a significant storm tide event due to relentless onshore winds. Looking ahead, rainfall predictions remain promising, and when combined with good sub-soil moisture levels, it may result in an encouraging riverine flow season ahead.

For details on recent conditions and upcoming weather predictions, please refer to the following [BoM link](#).

Estuary Update

It has been a fascinating two months on the estuary front with the power of the southern ocean arm-wrestling with early winter streamflow for mouth state dominance! We've continued to see several large swells and storm tide events, which at times have contributed to high estuarine water levels and intermittent mouth closure. On every occasion however, all systems that were previously open had the ability to naturally re-open due to sufficient stream-flows and subsequent rises in estuary water level. This is an extremely interesting process to witness, and also suggests that the highly important annual winter flushing cycle of our estuaries is almost upon us.

For estuary specific information, along with Before & After images of the natural opening of the Surry River mouth on the 18th and 19th of June, please refer to the Estuary Update & Photo attachments.

Community News & Engagement Events

Here is some important information and engagement opportunities that you may be interested in. *Please follow links for further information:*

[Abalone Disease \(AVG\) Update, Cape Bridgewater & Portland](#) – a reduced Control Area is now in place following surveys, testing and surveillance, however please be aware that risk remains high and all restrictions must be followed when in this area.

[On the Tail of the Eel](#) – This is a fascinating article recently released by ABC's Landline on recent eel research being undertaken on the Budj Bim landscape!

[EstuaryWatch Watchwatch Victoria - Autumn Newsletter](#) – the latest newsletter has been released and provides a great collection of citizen science monitoring programs, along with various events and opportunities to get involved in.

[Tangaroa Blue Winter Newsletter](#) – the latest newsletter by Tangaroa Blue has been released for anyone interested in marine debris and litter management, which includes a great article about Warrnambool's new 'Let's Strain the Drains' project.

[Marine & Coasts Newsletter June 2021](#) – DELWP have also recently released their June newsletter which contains some great information on projects and events occurring across our states coastline.

[New EPA Environmental Law reforms](#) – The EPA have recently updated *the Environment Protection Act 2017* which introduces new environmental protections aimed to improve the way we regulate pollution, waste and contamination.

Lastly if you're interested to stay in touch with regional wide activities that the Glenelg Hopkins CMA are delivering, please check out our latest [newsletter](#) and/or subscribe to automatically receive future instalments. Of particular note, a fantastic Cultural Burning video is contained within the latest newsletter which highlights a really important program and partnership being delivered on the Victorian Volcanic Plain, [Wadawurrung Cultural Burn Video](#).

Please make contact if you have questions relating to the above items & all the best until my next instalment,

Regards Jarred



FABULOUS PEAS

F. J. C. Rogers Seminar
15th & 16th October 2022

Mt Evelyn, Melbourne

Learn about Australian pea flowers!
The fabulous plants of the Faboideae sub-family.



Fabulous Peas 2022

FJC Rogers Biennial Seminar
15th - 16th October 2022

Discover the extraordinary world of Australian pea plants.

Saturday York on Lilydale, Mount Evelyn
Speakers with expertise in identifying, growing and propagating peas. Learn about current research into propagation and growing-on techniques. Evening dinner and an entertaining speaker.

Plant sales of common and unusual pea species.
Book sales. Displays. Raffle.

Sunday Coach tours to public and private native gardens which include a wide variety of pea species.

Art exhibition and sale featuring pea plants from 8th – 16th October at Karwarra Australian Botanic Garden. Plant sales.

Expressions of interest:

fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com

<https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2022/>

Hosted: Australian Plants Society Maroondah Inc.

"Growing Eremophila" On The Way Soon

I have fantastic news.

Russell's new book, "Growing Eremophila", is *officially at the printers*. I am hoping for a 4 week turnaround, possibly less. I could have them by the end of the month.

The final cost is still to be determined, but could be around \$80 RRP. Postage has also yet to be calculated accurately. There could be discounts for postage for multiple books. I will keep you posted on this.

However, for your keen interest in this book, and for pre-registering, Russell is offering you a \$5.00 discount on the price of the book. This will be available for anyone who registers their interest in the book by the end of this month only. Please pass this on.

To whet your appetite further, the details of the book are as follows:

504 pages

Hard cover

Full colour, quality photographs and paper

244 described species, approx 95 subspecies, numerous hybrids and registered cultivars including information on:

Natural habitat, Description, Propagation, Cultivation and other information in Author's notes

Full section on propagation including detailed 'how-to' and photographs

Brand new published information regarding *Calamphoreus* and *Diocirea*, resulting in the reassessment and recent taxonomic placement in the *Eremophila* genus

A unique table has been created as a quick reference guide for flower and leaf colour, bird-attracting feature, salt and frost tolerance

Common name index & Scientific name index and more...

