

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP) Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter OCTOBER 2024 No 514



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'Plants of the Great South West 4', A book on plants of South West



Victoria, available now from Kevin Sparrow at ksparrow93@gmail.com Ph: 55626217

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On Eastern Maar Country

EDITORIAL

Hello members,

Thank you to everyone for the congratulations I have received for my recent Senior Citizen of the Year nomination by Warrnambool City Council, totally unexpected. But its nice when this sort of thing does comes along. Thank you to all APS Members who came along to the event. See page 4.

On Sunday, Joyce and I had the pleasure of attending a 'Bookfest' organised by Collins Booksellars, as one of the 6 invited local authors. AND if you are having a Bookfest, of course there is no better place to hold it than at a winery! It was held at Keeyang Maar winery at Dixie near Terang. Good fun was had by all.

We have finalised our November members outing to Portland, thank you to Patrick and Mary for this. We will be attending the Meeting Room at Portland Community Gardens for a presentation by Dr Ian Chivers on native grasses on Sunday November 17th starting at 10.00am. See page 3 for more information.

Joyce and I are manning our groups presentation at the Warrnambool Community Gardens Open Day on tomorrow (Sat 19th). Check out the floral display Joyce has put together on page 2 or come along and check it out.

Our speaker this month is member Greg Lemmens and the title of his presentation is 'Follow the Flora of a Ghan Train Trip'. He will feature plants he found on their recent trip into Cobourg Peninsula in Arnhem Land, also Catherine, Alice Springs and Coober Pedy. His second instalment next year will be plants of the Eyre Peninsula. Hope to see you there at the Mozart Hall, don't forget to bring along something from your garden. 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 25th October 8.00pm- Greg Lemmens - "Follow the Flora of a Ghan Train Trip"

Members Activities

Community Gardens Open Day Floral Display

October 25th 8.00pm: Members Night - Greg Lemmens - "Follow

the Flora of a Ghan Train Trip".

October 28th 2.00pm: Committee Meeting Mike Halls TBC

October 29th 2.00-4.00pm: U3A Propagation Day

at Handscombe's

November 3rd: Warrnambool Rotary Open Gardens -

Visit Greg and Gail Lemmens Garden

November 17th Sunday in Portland 10.00am: Members activity

- Ian Chivers - Grasses

November 25th 2.00pm: Committee Meeting - Sparrows

November 30th 10.30 at Swan Reserve: Mortlake Garden Club.

December Friday 6th 6.00pm Christmas Breakup: Anita Hay.

January 24th: Visit to Dean Field's church at Wangoom.

February 28th: Members Night - Tim Tutt - wetland plant system.



Please submit your articles for the newsletter by the end of the second week of the month

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Public Officer: John Sherwood. APS Rep: Vacant Group Historian: Joyce Sparrow. Supper: Liz Halls.

Other Committee Members: Linda Handscombe, Ross Dawson, Peter Robertson, Brian Waters.

APS Warrnambool & District holds meetings on the 4th Friday of each month at the Mozart Hall Warrnambool at 8pm.

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.

Native Grasses - Members Trip to Portland Sunday 17th November.

Have you ever wondered the role that native grasses play in both the broad landscape and in your garden. Then why not join the group outing to Portland on Sunday November 17th.

Dr Ian Chivers will do a presentation and conduct a field trip on the role of native grasses, he has been at the forefront of Australian native grass research, development, production and establishment for more than 30 years. He is well known for pioneering large scale production of native grass seeds producing seed of high quality and without weeds. His research is widespread and highly varied and has occurred in a wide array of locations across Australia, from irrigated to dryland cropping areas, from the seashore to the snowline and from saline to highly fertile soils. He has undertaken breeding work on native species specifically for low water needs with collections made of numerous warm and cool season species.

In this presentation Ian will discuss the various native grasses that grow in the southwest of Vic and which can work well in lawns and landscaping. This will include grasses that many will know, some that people will probably recognise and several that are quite unknown to most gardeners and rehabilitation practitioners. Items to be covered include:

- How to effectively use native grasses in habitat restoration
- How native grasses can beautify and improve the biodiversity of your home garden
- The benefits of using native grasses as a lawn. If you feel inclined bring along grasses for identification.

The day starts by meeting at VENUE Meeting Room at Portland Community Gardens

Address: 81 Henty street Portland TIME 10.00 am Morning tea (BYO) tea, coffee and milk will be provided. Patrick or Mary Ward will meet us at the entrance. Their contact no: 0427 553 882

Presentation by Dr Chivers

Lunch (BYO) at the community gardens

Field trip in afternoon with Dr Chivers. Anticipated completion 1500 hours (3.00pm)

Amenities available at Community Gardens Meeting Room: easy parking, audiovisual facilities, refreshment facilities, toilets. Photo right Mary Ward: Portland Community Gardens



Nomination For Senior Of The Year by Ross Dawson

Several members of the APS group attended the launch of Seniors month at the Archie Graham centre on Oct 2nd Our own Kevin Sparrow was a nominee for Senior of the year.

The council notes on Kevin's profile read:

"Kevin is the author of all four additions of "Plants of the Great South West"

As well as being a cataloguer of plants, Kevin is also an advocate, having played a crucial role in the conservation of Australian flora in south west Victoria for the past 30 years.

He has led scientific research of threatened landscapes and plant species and has established several volunteer agencies fostering community networks that have worked to leave a long-lasting positive impact.

He is a member of the Australian Plant Society Warrnambool and District, Friends of Ralph Illidge Sanctuary, Kurri Kurri Co-op Society and Warrnambool

Nature Reserves Society. He is also an active member of the Friends of Swan Reserve and the Tozer Reserve Management Committee - groups that were very much reinvigorated with Kevin's input."

A no more accurate description of Kevin's involvement in plant conservation can be made.

In addition, his countless number of hours volunteering for this worthy cause were also recognised. There must be a time when Joyce secretly hoped as Kevin attends another meeting that he won't come home and say "I ..." which involves more volunteer work.

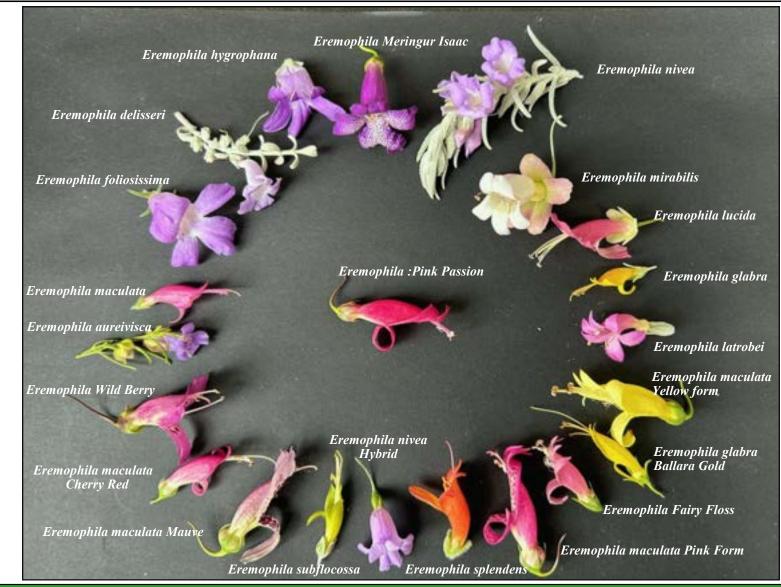
Congratulations Kevin on your nomination.it is well deserved. Don't stop as the world still needs people like you.

PS Thanks to Linda Handscombe for the wonderful posies of flowers that were presented to each nominee.

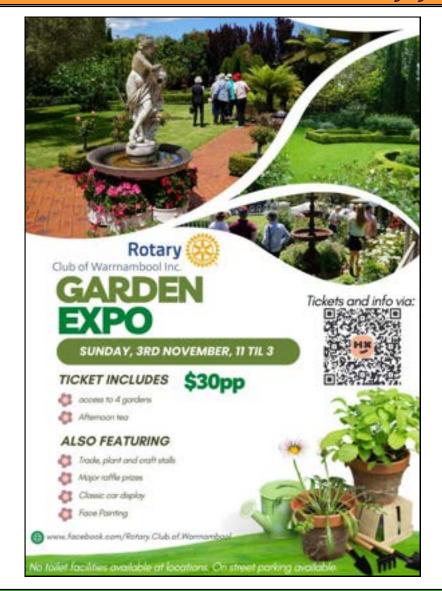




Some of My Eremophila by Kevin Sparrow



Rotary Open Garden Expo.





Greg and Gail Lemmens garden will be the first of 4 gardens open on the day. Put this in your diary now.





Plant Profile - Dave Handscombe

Species: Correa baeuerlenii

Correa: Named after the Portuguese ambassador and botanist Jose Correia de Serra.

baeuerlenii: Named after William Baeuerlen, a German plant collector for Ferdinand von Mueller, and discoverer of the species.

Common Name: Chef's Cap Correa (because of the shape of the calyx).

Family: Rutaceae

Dimensions: Height: up to 2.5 metres by 2 metres wide.

Distribution: Correa beauerlenii occurs in wet sclerophyll forests and coastal woodlands along the south coast of NSW from the Clyde River area south to Bega.

There are no registered cultivars on the ACRA site and no plant breeders rights in place.

Correa beauerlenii is a very adaptable species that prefers

adaptable species that prefers a semi-shaded situation in well drained soils. In its natural envi

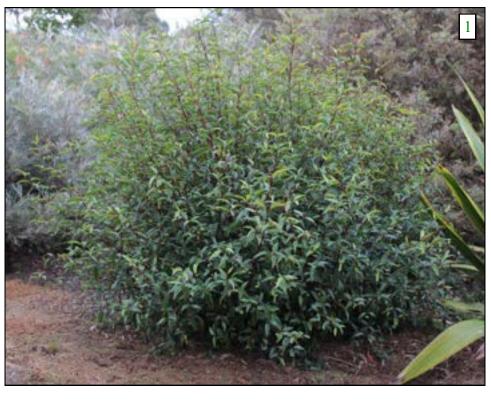
drained soils. In its natural environment it grows in areas of summer moisture so would appreciate some extra moisture during extended dry periods. It is hardy to heavy frosts and should cope well in coastal locations. The main flowering period is during the winter months but sporadic flowering may occur at anytime. It is useful as a screening plant and can be pruned as a hedge. Being members of the Rutaceae family Correas should have fragrant foliage but the majority don't, Correa beauerlenii is an exception with crushed leaves smelling like juicy fruit chewing gum. Propagation is relatively easy from semi hardwood tip cuttings which should be taken from Summer through Autumn.



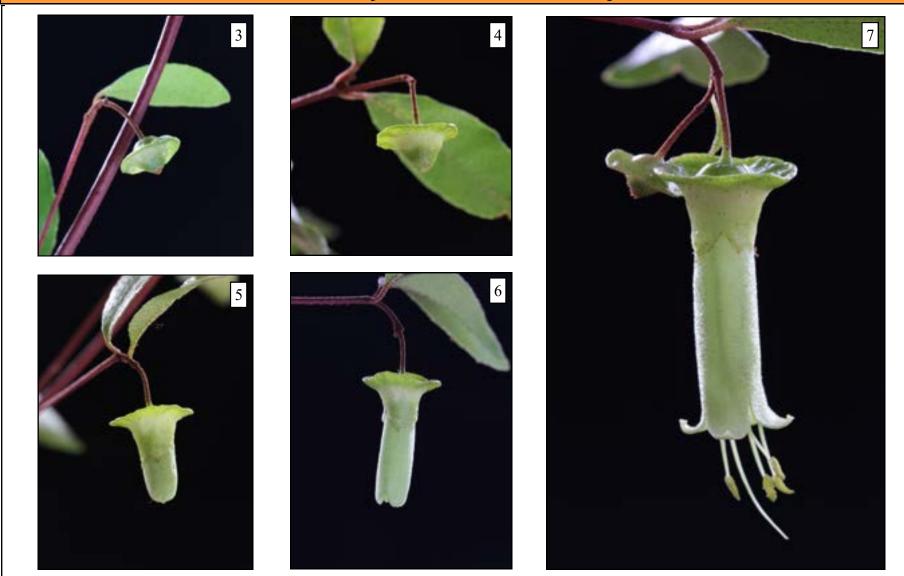
Photo 1: Correa baeuerlenii.

Photo 2 - 7: The development of the flower.





Plant Profile - Dave Handscombe Page 2



Group Member Visit to South Australia by Linda Handscombe - Continued From Last Month Page 7

Sunday morning found us at the **Currency Creek Eucalyptus Arboretum** with Dean Nicholl and his partner Annette. The 80 acre arboretum began in 1992 when his parents bought the block to house his growing collection of eucalypts. With an annual rainfall of only 450mm, plants are watered for the first year and then they're on their own. 4 of each species are planted at a time. Plants are planted 5m apart and there are currently 18,000 individual plants in 450 rows.

What an amazing place. While tropical and high rainfall species are difficult here, visitors can see a huge diversity of foliage and flowers from all over Australia. Some of us collected some of the more interesting leaves for Sue [who couldn't be there] for her to try eco dyeing. Since our last visit, Dean and Annette have added species signs to many of the rows and this makes identification much easier especially with a photo on our mobile phones. Dean was very generous. Some of the diehards collected seed to try growing at home. The seed was of no use to Dean because it was not pure due to the number of species growing together.







Group Member Vísit to South Australia by Linda Handscombe Page 8





Currency Creek Eucalyptus Arboretum

Photos: Greg Lemmens, right: Red-capped Gum - Eucalyptus erythrocorys

Group Member Visit to South Australia by Linda Handscombe - Page 9

After lunch we divided into two groups to visit the final two gardens. Our first garden was **Leonore Swanson's** in Victor Harbour. She had so much in such a small space and we loved it. With the help of her son she has planted out the verge to fit in more plants. A true gardener! She was trying to champion the plants of the Eyre Peninsula but couldn't resist the flora of Western Australia and there was a happy mix of both. She had a lovely pure white form of the KI *Lasiopetalum schulzenii*. She was also growing some stunning *Grevilleas* including *dielsiana*, *plurijuga* and *magnifica*. She had tucked in several species of Isopogon despite her highly alkaline soil. On her front verandah she had an old clawfoot bath and this was filled with 'little pretties' as I refer to them. Some precious little local species in pride of place.







Group Member Visit to South Australia by Linda Handscombe Page 10



It was a beautiful eclectic garden to suit her beautiful period home. Those who had time had a lovely cuppa. Photo: Greg Lemmens

Group Member Vísit to South Australia by Linda Handscombe - Page 11

Our last garden was not far away. Another small one belonging to **Max and Barb Jettner**. Pow! An amazing pop of colour against striking white walls and gravel paths. There was no tree coverage here and the bright colours of Darwinia, Boronias, Ozothamnus, Kunzea and Chamelauciums certainly made a statement. And it was all done in 4 years!

Barb and Max frequently do lovely posts on the Australian Plants Society SA Fleurieu Group Facebook page. I always enjoy them. On the home trip on Monday, several of us visited the **Pangarinda Gardens** near Tailem Bend and **Brenton Tuckers Nursery**. We also visited the **Murray Bridge State Flora Nursery**. All of these are well worth a visit. Thanks to David for organising such a great trip.





Group Member Visit to South Australia by Linda Handscombe - Page 12





Photos left: Dorothy Mattner, right: Linda Handscombe

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

IMPORTANT PLEASE CHECK APS VICTORIAN WEBSITE FOR CANCELLATIONS

- 19 October 2024. APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show, Robert Clark Horticultural Centre, Ballarat Botanical Gardens, Gillies Street, Ballarat. (Next to the Conservatory). 10am to 4pm. Native Plants for sale.
- 23 & 24 November 2024 APS Wangaratta host APS Victoria Quarterly Weekend Early Summer in 'The Warbies'. Committee of Management meeting in the Uniting Church Hall, Central Wangaratta and AGM in Old Town and Country Tavern on Greta Road.
- 22 & 23 March 2025 Cranbourne Friends RBGV Autumn Plant Sale. 10 am to 4 pm. Wide range of plants, plant list available one week before sale. Website: rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au
- 24 to 30 March 2025 Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show (MIFGS), Carlton Gardens and Royal Exhibition Building. Website: https://melbflowershow.com.au.
- 12 April 2025 APS Yarra Yarra Plant & Book Sale.
- 2 & 3 August 2025 15th FJC Rogers Seminar 2025 on Epacridaceae hosted by APS Mornington Peninsula in the Mornington Secondary College.
- 16 to 24 August 2025 Banksia Week. Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Includes plant sales, plant walks, exhibitions and displays in the auditorium.
- 13 to 14 September 2025 APS Yarra Yarra Plants Expo.
- 11 & 12 October 2025 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
- 24 to 28 August 2026 ANPSA 2026 Biennial Conference, in Alice Springs, organised by APS SA and APS Alice Springs. The conference theme is "Amazing Arid Australia".

