



**AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP)  
Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter**  
FEBRUARY 2025 No 518



Logo *Correa reflexa* 'Grannys Grave' [www.apsvic.org.au/membership](http://www.apsvic.org.au/membership) [www.facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap](http://www.facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap)



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**On Eastern Maar Country**

**EDITORIAL**

**Hello members,**

It was nice to see some decent rainfall during the past week, of course we need much more, it is still very dry. I hope your gardens are surviving OK.

**From APS Victoria** "Should your club not currently have an appointed delegate, it is not too late to appoint a member from your group to attend this meeting and participate. We are looking to maximise participation from all of our district groups, to have a say on matters that are important to the running of APS Vic and the relationship with your club." **Our APS Group has not had a delegate** to attend the Quarterly Meetings for some time, distance to the meeting location is often the big decider of whether to attend or not. This year the APS Vic. committee has decided to hold 2 of the 4 meetings by Zoom, this makes it much easier for someone to attend even if it is only online. I have decided to be our delegate for these Zoom meetings, we probably won't get to the other meetings in person. Of course, if anyone else is interested in carrying out this role, I am happy to step aside. Also if you have any issues to raise with the committee, please let me know, I would be quite happy to pass it on. See page 10/11 for State activities that you are eligible to attend.

Something to think about, we have decided to have a **Bush Tucker night** on May 23rd with Worn Gundidj nursery giving us a talk on the subject and bringing along some plants for sale. We will be asking everyone if they can, to bring along something made from bush tucker (either home made or purchased) to share with a cuppa.

**Our speaker this month is Tim Tutt** who will be speaking about his wetland plant system and demonstrating it for us. That's all for this month, hope to see you at the Mozart Hall from 8.00pm. 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 Meeting: Friday 28th February from 8.00pm - At the Mozart Hall. - Speaker Tim Tutt.**

## *Members Activities*

**February 28th: Members Night - Mozart Hall** - Tim Tutt - Wetland plant system.

**March 3rd:** Committee Meeting - Handscombe's

**March 28th: Members Night Mozart Hall** - Neutrog Rep.

**March 31st:** Committee Meeting - TBC

**April 5th:** APS Geelong Native Plant sale

**May 2nd 8.00pm: Members Night - Mozart Hall.** Greg Lemmens  
- Plants of the Eyre Peninsula

**May 5th :** Committee Meeting - TBC

**May 23rd 8.00pm: Members Night / AGM - Mozart Hall** - Worn  
Gundidj nursery. Bush Tucker Night.

**May 26th:** Committee Meeting - TBC

**June 28th Mozart Hall Saturday 11.00am:** Giant Plant Table

**June 30th 2.00pm:** Committee Meeting TBC

**July 26th Saturday:** Visit to Colac - Red-Rock Wattles and nurseries

**July 28th 2.00pm:** Committee Meeting TBC

**August 23rd:** Christian Hughs - presentation on skin cancer

**August 25th 2.00:** Committee Meeting TBC

**September 25th - 28th:** Weekend Trip away - Cranbourne Gardens

**October 11/12th:** Warrnambool Open Gardens

**October 27th 2.00pm:** Committee Meeting TBC

**November 28th Mozart Hall 8.00pm:** Jodie Honan - Grasses

**December 1st 2.00pm:** Committee Meeting TBC

**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 usually holds meetings on the 4th Friday of each month at the Mozart Hall at 8pm except during winter.

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.

## From the President - Dave

Hi Everyone, I hope your gardens are surviving the hot, dry conditions that we normally don't associate with our area. For those that couldn't make it to our first activity of the year, Dean's church conversion, you missed an enjoyable social outing. (See next page). Dean showed us around his new property and explained what his plans are for converting the church into a home. It sounds like an exciting project and I look forward to seeing how the transformation of both the church and the surrounding garden area progresses. I am sure we all wish him well in his endeavors.

The program for the year has now been finalised and I hope you all find some activities you find interesting. For those that went on the Victor Harbour/Goolwa trip a quick update. Judy Baghurst mentioned she was writing a book on the development of her garden, which she has recently had published and is now available for purchase. (See pic right) I asked her about Max Jettner, whose garden we visited in Victor Harbour. He had a medical episode which effected his vision. Some of his sight has returned so he can now make out the differences in the colour of flowers and will have a cataract operation soon which may improve things a little. He is now selling all his propagating equipment as his current vision makes it impossible to undertake any propagating activities.

On another note there are a couple of things to have a think about, firstly we need to form an open gardens sub committee for our October open gardens fundraiser, secondly it would be nice to have some new blood on the committee this year so have a think about it and maybe nominate for a position. Lastly if you are interested in trying to transition some of your grassed areas to native grasses then see me at the next meeting and we can look at doing a group purchase of some seed, the costs drop significantly if you purchase larger quantities. The web site for seed is [www.nativeseeds.com.au](http://www.nativeseeds.com.au) See you at this months meeting.  
Dave

# Discover Down the Garden Path

Renowned South Australian gardener **Judy Baghurst's glossy hard cover coffee table book** tells the story of a 21-year transformation of a bald hill on the hill face above Port Elliot into a thriving native garden.

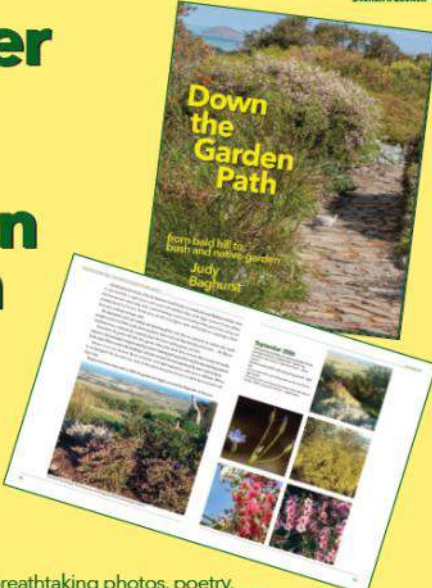
At 196 pages, featuring 340 breathtaking photos, poetry, and the inspiring tale of a horticultural odyssey, this **South Australian** high quality memoir celebrates resilience and the healing power of nature.

**The perfect gift.**  
**A feast for the senses.**  
**An invaluable reference.**

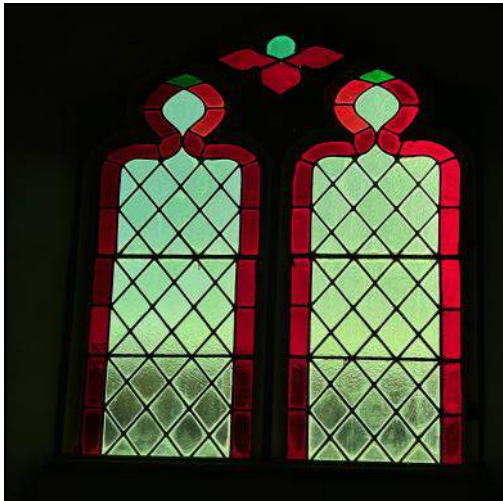
Featured in  
**SALIFE Gardens & Outdoor Living  
Summer 2024**

*"... really inspirational, beautifully written ... I have enjoyed every moment of reading and looking. The poetry is so good to read ... it seems all in balance - the garden, the writing and the accompanying photos."*  
(Janet Ayliffe, artist)

rrp \$70.00 plus postage and handling or direct pick up  
Contact Judy Baghurst - [jbaghurst@bigpond.com](mailto:jbaghurst@bigpond.com)



*January Get-Together at Dean's Church.*



## Correa Query by Linda Handscombe

I am currently the president and newsletter editor of the Australian Plants Society Correa Study Group. I'm always looking for articles for the newsletter. My husband David is a member of the 'Friends of Tower Hill'. We also walk around Tower Hill quite often doing bird surveys. Last year he found some correas growing high up just below the edge of the crater on the east side. We accessed them walking north from the exit. It looked like they had been there a long time and had probably self-seeded. Not too far away in a more accessible area were some Allocasuarina with the remains of a tree guard around them so we think some plants have been planted there although it would be difficult to do. There were two species of correas. One was *Correa backhouseana* and the other was *Correa reflexa*. We were wondering if any of our members have any knowledge of correas historically being planted in Tower Hill.



Some members of the current friends group are planting *Correa* 'Marians Marvel' around the picnic/carpark area.

We don't believe that *Correa backhouseana* has been recorded in the area. We believe we've seen it or a hybrid of it planted as an amenity plant around the Warrnambool area.

*Correa Query by Linda Handscombe - continued*

Also, we've just seen *Correa reflexa* on the left of the walking track into Gorman's Rd beach. There are several plants inside the fenced area. I've been walking there for 6 years with my sisters and never noticed. They're also reasonably old and have possibly self seeded.

Have they been planted in there? Does anyone know or know who I could ask?

Thank you for any assistance you can give.

Cheers

Linda Handscombe

[dlhandscombe@bigpond.com](mailto:dlhandscombe@bigpond.com)



*Hoya australis by Linda Handscombe*

Below is *Hoya australis*, a plant that Linda gave to her daughter a few years ago, JUST look at it now!



## Plant Profile by Dave Handscombe

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

**Species:** *Grevillea confertifolia*

**Family:** Proteaceae

***Grevillea*** – named after Charles Greville, an algae expert and a founding member of the London Horticultural Society.

***confertifolia*** – From the Latin, confertus, crowded, folium, a leaf, referring to the densely crowded foliage.

**Common Name:** Grampians Grevillea.

**Dimensions:** Height: ground cover to 2 metres high and spreading up to 1.5 metres.

There are 3 distinct forms of *Grevillea confertifolia*. A taller form to 2 metres, a decumbent form to 40 centimetres and a prostrate form.



**Cultivar Name:** There are no registered cultivars listed on the ACRA website. There are no PBR (Plant Breeders Rights) listed for the species.

*Grevillea confertifolia* occurs broadly through the Grampians with the prostrate form confined to the higher altitude areas. The taller form grows along gully's and creek lines while the decumbent form is usually found on hilltops.

*Grevillea confertifolia* grows in a wide range of soils from clays, well-drained rocky or acidic sandy soils. It is tolerant of heavy frosts and is quite drought tolerant once established. Extra moisture will extend the flowering period. It grows best in full sun to semi shade and the upright form benefits from regular tip pruning to create a more bushy habit. Propagate from seed, which does need treatment to stimulate germination, or cuttings of firm young growth.



**Photo Captions:**

**Photo 1:** The prostrate high altitude form of *Grevillea confertifolia*.

**Photo 2:** The pinky mauve flowers contrast well with the dark green foliage.

**Photo 3-5:** Different perspectives on the flowers.



## Report on APS Victoria Committee of Management Meeting Hosted by APS Wangaratta, 23-24th November 2024

The hot weather on Saturday and rainy Sunday following did not deter a keen group of APS members from across Victoria meeting for the weekend hosted by APS Wangaratta. As usual Saturday started off with the CoMM meeting for the APS Vic Committee and Delegates from District Groups. The rest of the attendees enjoyed a wide choice of self-guided walks or garden visits, meeting back at the hall for lunch at 12.30am. Items of note from the CoMM include the following:



APS Mornington Peninsula are hosting the next FJC Rogers Seminar on Epacrids (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025). Registrations will open in February/March.

A reminder to District Groups to check the APS Vic Calendar of Events, circulated to all groups by Nicky Zanen, before booking in plant shows or events to avoid clashes.

John King (APS Vic Web Administrator) reminded us that the Members Section of the APS Vic website includes access to *Growing Australian* dating back to March 2018, with searchable content. Access to interstate journals from NSW, ACT, Tasmania, Queensland & WA is also available as are many other useful links such as the Seedbank information and lists. There is also a proposal to set up a plant database for Victoria.

Seed Bank Curator, Marj Seaton, reported that more donations of clean seeds are required from members to prevent having to purchase seeds from external sources.

Speakers List Coordinator, Sandy Birch, confirmed the updated list is almost done and ready to be shared with all district groups to assist with sourcing speakers for meetings and events.

Australia Post costs are increasing for the posting of *Growing Australian* and *Australian Plants* journal but there has been no consideration regarding moving to digital editions or to cease production of the *Australian Plants* journal.

A summary of the ANPSA 2024 Conference was provided. There were over 300 participants, 173 from Victoria, 94 from NSW and the rest from other parts of Australia, New Zealand and the Netherlands. A small profit was made on the conference, raffle, and book sales so altogether it went very well. The ANPSA newsletters and PowerPoint slides from presentations where they have permission will be accessible to the public on the APS Vic website, with links to the ANPSA website.

A motion was carried to allocate up to \$10,000 per year to a Marketing/Promotion Fund which would be available to APS Vic and District Groups to support the promotion of events, merchandising, group tours, etc.

A motion was carried to trial a different format for Quarterly Meetings next year. Two meetings will be face to face and two will be via Zoom. The first CoMM of 2025 will be in March via Zoom, followed by the May CoMM hosted by Mildura. [This weekend to Mildura is not going ahead this year, but we may be able to organize one for next year, and possibly organize a bus trip from Melbourne to Mildura if we have enough people interested.]

by Sue Gwilym

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

11 to 13 February 2025 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorian Biodiversity Conference (VicBioCon) Monash University, Clayton Campus.

1 March 2025 Zoom Committee of Management Meeting, please contact APS Victorian secretary Charles Hrubos on [secretary@anpsa.org.au](mailto:secretary@anpsa.org.au) for the link.

15 & 16 March 2025 FNCV Biodiversity Symposium, "Impacts on Biodiversity During the Anthropocene – 10 years on". Over the two days, 16 speakers will present on various aspects of the impacts of human activity on the environment and its biodiversity. Topics will include rodenticides, plastics, deer, introduced predators, climate change, community education, mining, overpopulation, ecological futures, river degeneration, turtles, mallee ecology, fresh water fish, cryptogamic plants and more. Please mark the date in your diaries and await further announcements in the next few weeks. Blackburn RSL, Diggers Way, Blackburn. Further information: <https://www.fncv.org.au/>.



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](http://rbgfriendscranbourne.org.au)

26 to 30 March 2025 – Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show (MIFGS), Carlton Gardens and Royal Exhibition Building. Website: <https://melbflowershow.com.au>. Volunteers required. Contact Chris Clarke, phone 0439 378 897.

12 April 2025 – APS Heathcote Flower Show & Plant Sale, Barrack Reserve (inside stadium building), High Street, Heathcote. 9 am to 3 pm.

12 April 2025 - APS Yarra Yarra Plant & Book Sale. 10 am to 3.00 pm. Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Road, Eltham.

12 & 13 April 2025 - Yarra Valley Autumn Plant Fair & Garden Expo, 125 Quayle Rd, Wandin 9 am to 4 pm.

26 April 2025 - APS Mornington Peninsula Plant Sale, The Briars, 450 Nepean Highway, Mount Martha. 10 am to 3.30 pm.

5 April 2025 – APS Geelong Australian Native Plant Sale. 'Wirrawilla', Lovely Banks. 8.30 am to 4.00 pm.

10 May 2025 – APS Melton Bacchus Marsh Plant Sale, St Andrews Uniting Church, 18 Gisborne Rd, Bacchus Marsh. Contact details: [apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com](mailto:apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com) or David at 0417 289 369.

24 May 2025 – APS Committee of Management Meeting. To be advised.

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

2 & 3 August 2025 - 15<sup>th</sup> FJC Rogers Seminar 2025 on Epacrids hosted by APS Mornington Peninsula in the Peninsula Theatre, 91 Wilsons Road, Mornington.

16 to 24 August 2025 - Banksia Week. Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Includes plant sales, plant walks, exhibitions and displays in the auditorium.

30 August 2025 – APS Heathcote host APS Victoria Committee of Management Meeting and AGM.

6 September 2025 – APS Cardinia Region Plants Sale, Akoonah Park, 2 Cardinia Street, Berwick.

13 to 14 September 2025 - APS Yarra Yarra Plants Expo. Eltham Community and Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am - 3pm.

20 to 21 September 2025 - Angair Wildflower and Arts Weekend. 10am – 4pm. Anglesea Memorial Hall, McMillan Street. Anglesea 3230

18 October 2025 – APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show. 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.

8 & 9 November 2025 – Yarra Valley Plant Fair and Garden Expo. 9 am to 4 pm. Venue to be confirmed. [www.yarravalleyplantfair.com.au](http://www.yarravalleyplantfair.com.au).

### **2026 and beyond**

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”.



## *APS Membership Options*

Joining the Australian Plants Society has never been easier, the new online system uses your credit/debit card to join or renew your membership, pay for both APS Victoria and APS Warrnambool. The APS Warrnambool part will be returned electronically to our bank account. Contact Kevin Sparrow 55626217 for more Info.

Current members are paid up to 30th June 2025.

### **To Join Australian Plants Society or Renew your Membership**

#### **Membership Information**

To become a member of a District Group of APS Victoria (including APS Warrnambool & District Group), you need to become a member or be a current member of APS Victoria. From July 2023, APS VIC (Australian Plants Society – Victoria) will manage membership registration and fees.

#### **The summary of the new procedure of joining/renewing membership:**

For **joining as new member** go to <https://apsvic.org.au/membership/>  
For **renewing membership** go to [apsvic.org.au/Login/](https://apsvic.org.au/Login/) **You must login**, use your membership number as your password. If there is a **problem** in using the new procedure, contact our membership officer: [ksparrow93@gmail.com](mailto:ksparrow93@gmail.com) for assistance. He can look up your membership number for you.

#### **The APS Victoria membership fee for 2024/2025:**

- Single – \$38.00
- Household – \$44.00
- Student – \$29.00
- Optional Extras: Australian Plants Magazine Subscription – \$20.00
- APS Warrnambool & District Group Membership: Family \$20 , Single \$15.00

Payment method: **Credit/Debit Card**. This is the preferred option.  
**EFT transfer**. Make sure you include your name on the bank transfer and Membership Number if possible (existing members) when making your payment.