



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY (SGAP)
Warrnambool & District Group Inc. Newsletter
JANUARY 2020 No 455

Correa reflexa 'Grannys Grave'

www.facebook.com/warrnamboolsgap



'Plants of the Great South West',
book on plants of South West Victoria
\$20, available from
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EDITORIAL

Hi members,

Hope you all have had a great Christmas and New Year period with your family etc and your garden is surviving all that the elements can hurl at you. Good to see some rain finally falling in some of the areas of Australia that are desperate for it especially after the terrible fires that have been raging throughout the country.

We start the new year off as we usually do with a day trip, this time to **Cape Bridgewater on Saturday 1st February** with some walks planned together with lunch at the Bridgewater Bay Café. First up you have a choice of meeting up at **Seawinds Nursery at 191 Wellington Rd, Portland** at 10.00am (see map on page 2) to check out their plant range, then travelling on to Cape Bridgewater at 11.00am. So you can either meet up with members at the nursery or later at Cape Bridgewater near the café. We will then have a look around the coast and Petrified Forest etc until it is time for lunch at the café at 12.30pm. I have booked tables for 12 people, **please let me know if you are coming** so I can confirm numbers. See menu at: <http://www.bridgewaterbay.com.au/>

Its great to see Warrnambool City Council introduce a **Plant Selector Tool** to its web site that people can use to select local and other native plants suitable for their garden. See page 5. It uses my photos so you can see what the plant looks like before you go off to the nursery to purchase.

Check it out at: <https://www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au/plant-selector-tool> and let me know what you think about it.

That's about all for this month, we will resume our normal Members Nights on February 28th when new APS Vic. President, Chris Clarke will be visiting us. See you on the 1st February. Cheers, Kevin

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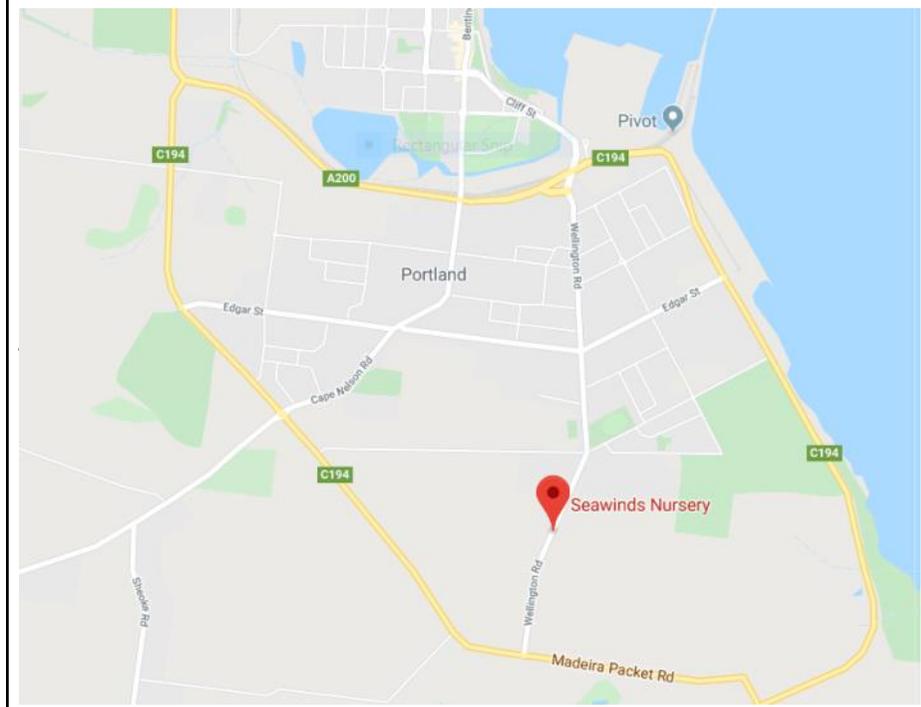
We wish to acknowledge the Maar people as the traditional owners of the land on which we live and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

Next Activity: Group visit to Cape Bridgewater Sat 1st Feb - Walk & Lunch at Bridgewater Bay Café

Group Diary Of Activities

Feb 1st: January event—Visit to Bridgewater Bay TBC
Feb 4th: Committee Meeting at Mattners 5.00pm
Feb 28th: Chris Clarke - APS Vic President
Mar 3rd: Committee Meeting TBC
Mar 27th: Royce Raleigh
Mar 31st: Committee Meeting TBC
Apr 24th: Cathy Powers speaking on Lepidoptera (Moths)
Apr 28th: Committee Meeting TBC
May 22nd: Gavin Prentice on Lower Glenelg RAMSAR site.
May 26th: Committee Meeting TBC
Sept 2020: APS Vic. Quarterly Meeting in Warrnambool.

Seawinds Nursery Map



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

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Other Committee Members: Michael Mattner, Andrew Gray, Joan Krygger

The 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.

APS Warrnambool & District Christmas Garden Visit & BBQ - 7th December 2019 by John Sherwood

David and Linda Handscombe agreed to show members their garden at Illowa as a prelude to our Christmas BBQ at Tower Hill. The 6 acre property is a lot smaller than the 240 acres they have recently left in Pomonal. Soils and climate are different too. An informative cliff face showed a brown heavy loam over Tower Hill ash with a layer of coarser scoria below. The young soils of the district are well drained and rich in nutrients, including trace elements. This and the almost neutral pH create great growing conditions. Proximity to the sea also reduces the frequency and severity of frosts which damaged some species regularly during Pomonal winters.

They have owned the Illowa property for some time and the garden has 3 generations of plantings. The most mature are trees and shrubs planted along the boundaries by a previous owner – a condition attached to the original subdivision. David and Linda owned the land for a few years prior to the move and so had the opportunity for some “second generation” plantings. The property is aptly named “The Ark” – reflecting the movement of plants from Pomonal “two by two” (often with a third specimen planted in Linda’s sister Sue’s garden). Judging by the tube stock in the shade house there is a lot more to come in this third generation.

Near the house, beds are mulched with gravel. David outlined the advantages of this material – fire retardant (primarily); it is well drained; nitrogen deficiency and hydrophobicity don’t develop in the soil; and it is much longer lasting than organic mulch. Further from the home organic mulch is used. Throughout the garden beds there are attractive and sometimes quirky sculptures along with two fire scarred power poles from Pomonal. Despite the youthfulness of many plantings there was plenty of colour – grevilleas, Chamelaucium's, daisies and scaevolias to mention a few. A *Regelia* specimen (see photo page 4) proved a real show stopper and other interesting plants included the tall Bendigo form of *Grevillea alpina* and a purple flowering *Melaleuca armillaris*.

Pomonal’s loss has been our gain!

Photo right: Linda Handscombe pointing out a few prized specimens in the garden.



APS Warrnambool & District Christmas Garden Visit & BBQ - Continued By John Sherwood



Photos above by John Sherwood, Left to Right are: A fairly new front garden at the Handscombe home. *Regelia velutina*, a stunner in flower, Lots of tube stock all ready for planting, some quirky garden art and of course, the wonderful Christmas cake traditionally made and decorated by Dorothy Mattner.

Garden Selector Tool



[Home](#) » [Community](#) » [Environment](#)

Plant Selector Tool

ENVIRONMENT

[Climate Change](#)

[Key Programs](#)

[Middle Island Maremma Project](#)

[Natural Environment](#)

[Plant Selector Tool](#)

[Resources and Links](#)

[Sustain the Bool](#)

If you're looking to include more Australian plants in your garden and need some tips on choosing the right plants, you've come to the right place.

This online plant selector tool allows you to make an informed plant choice based on the size of your garden, how much gardening you like to do and how much water a plant needs to thrive.

Click the boxes below to refine your plant selection.

Pictures courtesy of Kevin Sparrow.

Form

- Tree
- Shrub
- Climber
- Groundcover
- Grass
- Sedge/Rush
- Perennial herb
- Wildflower
- Ferns

Height

- 0 - 0.5m
- 0.5 - 1m
- 1 - 2m
- 2 - 3m
- 3+m

Maintenance

- Low
- Medium
- High

Flowering Time

- Summer
- Autumn
- Winter
- Spring

Plant Origin

- Local Native
- Native

Light

- Sun
- Part Shade
- Shade

Water Requirement

- Low
- Medium
- High
- Very High

Tolerates

- Heavy and Clay soil
- Sandy Soil
- Lime / Alkaline Soil
- Full Coastal Exposure
- Some Coastal Exposure
- Dry conditions
- Acidic Soils

Biodiversity Benefits

- Nectar and Pollen
- Butterfly Attracting
- Birds
- Lizard Habitat

Bush Tucker Plant

- Yes

Warrnambool City Council has introduced to its web site a “Plant Selector Tool”, whereby people can enter their plant requirements and the tool will give them a list of plants that they can then purchase at a local nursery.

It contains over 100 plant descriptions and includes indigenous as well as some other native plants suitable for growing in a Warrnambool garden and can be filtered in a number of ways to assist people in selecting their plants.



**Are you keen to protect the native plants and animals on your property?
You could earn an income for that protection.**

We at Vegetation Link work with landholders like you who want to manage land for the benefit of biodiversity. But managing and protecting the land can be costly. The Native Vegetation Offset Market in Victoria provides an opportunity to cover those costs.

By setting up an offset site on your property with a conservation covenant, you can generate and sell biodiversity credits. Income from credit sales can be used to improve the land for biodiversity, such as through fencing, control of weed and pest animals, and biomass reduction.

A conservation covenant on the offset site permanently protects the native plants and animals, and your management of them, by restricting some land uses by you and future owners of the property. Restrictions may include limits on development or farming practices.

We also work with individuals and businesses that are permitted to clear native vegetation or impact biodiversity for a development project. They must compensate for that impact in some way, often through the purchase of biodiversity credits.

We link the owners who want to generate and sell credits with the purchasers who want to buy those credits.

If you own 10 hectares (25 acres) or more of quality native vegetation – whether it is coastal, grassland, bushland – and are interested in offsetting, we can help you: understand the offset market and how your land may be valued through the market, navigate the process of assessing and registering an offset site, and sell your biodiversity credits.

For more information, call us or visit our website.

vegetationlink

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Visit to Budj Bim World Heritage Site At Lake Condah by Kevin Sparrow

Last month, Joyce, Lorraine and I represented our group joining a tour of the new World Heritage site at Budj Bim. Put on by the Glenelg Hopkins CMA, the tour was well attended on the day. First up, was a bus trip out to the Tyrendarra World Heritage site where the ancient eel traps are located. We were given a guided tour of this area and shown how the eel traps had been carved into the rocks so that woven nets could be attached and eels funneled through to where they could be easily caught. The eels were not just a food source, it was an industry whereby eels were prepared and preserved so that they could be traded with other indigenous groups, many far away from SW Victoria.

After a hearty lunch provided by the Traditional Owners, we were taken again by bus out to the site of the original mission for an inspection and discussion and then on to Lake Condah itself. Despite it being a very dry season, Lake Condah still contains a lot of water, all managed by the traditional owners.

A big thank you to Glenelg Hopkins CMA for putting on this tour, it was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.



Aboriginal Economy And Aquaculture - Taken From Heritage Council Victoria Web Site.

Lake Condah is rich in places, stories and objects that represent this storyline, including the system of ponds, wetland ecosystem, channels, weirs, fish traps and eel baskets. Traditionally, female Aboriginal elders wove eel baskets to harvest mature eels. These objects, still woven today, provide tangible evidence of the continuity of Gunditjmara culture and traditions, despite these activities and the passing on of traditions being actively discouraged at the Mission

The Lake Condah Mission site is set within the traditional lands of the Kerrup Jmara people, on one of many of their traditional camping places. The Mission was established at Lake Condah in response to preceding years of resistance by local Gunditjmara from Portland and Condah to being moved off their country to the Purnim mission (now Framlingham).

In 1866, 827 hectares were set aside as an Aboriginal Reserve, and a Mission opened in 1867. In 1885, additional land was set aside to safeguard traditional hunting grounds. However, the Mission was later closed and in 1896 the Reserve was revoked and frontage to both the Lake and a large area of stony country removed. The Mission was formally closed in 1918, and Aboriginal people were forced off the Mission, some moving to Lake Tyers.

The Gunditjmara protested against the Mission's closure and many continued to reside in the buildings until the majority of the reserve land was handed over to the Soldier Settlement Scheme in the 1940s. Land was not made available to local Aboriginal returned soldiers, heralding the continuation of Gunditjmara struggles for inclusion in the political process and for the right to continue to occupy their traditional country. In addition, the 1968 Half Caste Act banned Aboriginal people with mixed heritage from living on Aboriginal missions.

Despite government attempts to move them, Gunditjmara continued to use the Mission until the 1950s, when the church and houses were destroyed so that they could no longer be used. Despite the loss of much of the Mission, Gunditjmara continue to live in the area and to protect their heritage. The Mission lands were returned to the Gunditjmara in 1987.

Centre photo is of the destroyed church ruins.

More information at:

<https://heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/research-projects/framework-of-historical-themes/case-study-4-lake-condah-budj-bim-national-heritage-landscape/>



Coastal Connections Newsletter by Jarred Obst.

Good afternoon and welcome to the November/December instalment of Glenelg Hopkins CMA's '**Coastal Connections**' email.

In typical fashion, December has closed in quickly and it's almost time to pull up stumps on 2019; I hope you've enjoyed the year and that you're looking forward to a festive summer season ahead!

Seasonal Weather

The southwest region of Victoria has experienced an extended and extremely productive spring; while the rest of the country has endured through some of the driest and harshest circumstances on record. This said however, the season has swung in recent weeks, above average hot and dry conditions are predicted ahead, and record breaking heat is due to sweep over the region tomorrow...

For full details on recent spring conditions and upcoming summer weather predictions, please refer to the following BoM link.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qk4qFQnNL_Q

Estuary Update

Extended spring conditions have directly impacted our regions estuaries with several of our larger waterways including the Glenelg, Hopkins and Fitzroy continuing to operate as open tidal systems. Our estuarine catchments have however begun to display seasonal drying patterns, with freshwater stream flows significantly declining in recent weeks. Regardless of whether your local estuary mouths stays open, water quality conditions across all estuaries looks fantastic and all are subsequently primed for an influx of people and activities over the coming summer months.

For a summary of recent conditions, please refer to the Estuary Update & Estuary Photo attachments.

Recent Achievements & Upcoming Opportunities

As always there is a lot going on in our coastal space at this time or year. *Here's a snapshot of recent achievements and future opportunities if interested:*

Tackle Marine & Beach Litter - become involved with the Beach Patrol movement and learn how to tackle our beach and marine litter issue this summer through the [Beach Patrol Video](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZxXaEjwLcY&feature=youtu.be>

Summer by the Sea 2020 - discover, explore and learn about our amazing coastal and marine environments through [Summer by the Sea 2020](#) <https://summerbythesea.vic.gov.au/>

Coastal Connections Newsletter by Jarred Obst. (Continued)

Funding for Bitterns – the Glenelg Hopkins CMA has landholder funding available to help bring back the Australasian Bittern or Bunyip-bird habitat [Bittern Funding](#) See: <https://www.ghcma.vic.gov.au/australasian-bittern/>

Simson's Landing floating jetty – a new floating jetty has recently been constructed in Nelson to support the recreation and environmental values of the Glenelg estuary, *image attached*.

Victorian Marine & Coastal Awards 2020 - recognise and celebrate outstanding achievements of individuals who contribute to the management and protection of our marine and coastal environments [Marine & Coastal Awards 2020](#)

Victorian Coastcare Strategy – have your say on the draft Coastcare Victoria Strategy 2020-2025 by providing community and volunteer feedback at [Draft Coastcare Strategy](#) See: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/coastcare-victoria-strategy-2020-2025>

EstuaryWatch – learn about achievements and volunteering opportunities to help inform waterway management through the [EstuaryWatch and Waterwatch Annual Achievements Report 2018-19](#)

Budj Bim Community Tours 2019

Lastly, I'd like to say a big thank you to all people involved with the recent Budj Bim Community tours. We had amazing response – the highest level of community interest that I've seen in my 14 years with the CMA – which is extremely encouraging and highlights the excitement and interest generated through the recent World Heritage listing.

Private tours of the region can be arranged directly through [Budj Bim tours](#), plus please check out this recently released [Budj Bim Connections Video](#) See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMtCFWzLn0Y> if you're interested to learn about the works the CMA are undertaking in partnership with Gundidj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation. It's a privilege to have this unique landscape in our region and I'd highly recommend a visit in 2020!!

Stay safe over the festive season and all the best for the New Year,

Regards
Jarred



13th FJC Rogers Seminar: Mint Buses and Allied Genera

(Lamiaceae: subfamily Prostantheroidea)

Venue, Date and Committee: The Seminar will be held at our EXPO venue – the Eltham Community and Reception Centre on October 24 and 25, 2020. The FJC 2020 Committee has met a few times now – membership of the committee has been adjusting all the while and currently we have Miriam Ford (Chair) Jill Lulham, Andrea Himmelspach (Treasurer), Lyhn Barfield, Robert Coombs, Greg Brown (APS Vic), Sandy Birch (APS Bendigo, Secretary) & Nicky Zanen (APS Foothills – the latter two have been part of organising committees for previous FJCs which the committee recognised would be helpful to our process.

Progress report: The committee has made considerable progress in regard to arriving at a budget that brings the registration cost in around the usual level of past FJCs, in determining which gardens are to be visited (Karen Guifre, Lyhn Barfield, Kate Herd and Maranoa), when and how to get the 4 buses required around them, the catering for the Saturday lectures and conference dinner and Sunday Garden visits, the speakers, the program and many other incidentals including the raffle prizes. External to committee we have other helpers who include Sue Guymer for registrations.

Growing the Plants: The APS YY Growers and others including Mike Williams have been working hard to



grow many different mint bushes (Prostanthera species) in addition to Westringia species – we have some 70 or thereabouts underway now including some of the Allied Genera which include such beauties as the native foxglove – Pityrodia now Dasmalla terminalis, Newcastelia, Brachysola, Hemiantra, Hemigenia and others.

Promotion of the event: I have started to do the rounds of various district groups, at their invitation, to speak on the topic of Mint Buses and Allied Genera. The District Groups have included APS Melton Bacchus Marsh, Foothills (Daytime), Mitcham (Kilmore), Wangaratta and Colac (to come). I have been receiving very positive feedback with many people expressing their enthusiasm in attending and learning more.

We have also designed a banner & a flyer to go out at EXPO and at ANPSA 2019 in Albany and also to various district groups, Botanic Gardens and other venues. A banner for APS YY has also been designed for our Expo and to also accompany the FJC 2020 one at our (& APS Vic) events. The inaugural unveiling of both these banners will occur at the APS YY September (14 & 15) EXPO.

I have written the first of a series of 5 articles that will appear in Growing Australian from the Spring issue and have invited our speakers to contribute to others. There will also be a short article in the Spring issue of Australian Plants.

I will also be writing newsletters to update people who have expressed their interest in attending on progress toward the seminar, starting in February, 2020.

Images: Logo - Prostanthera galbraithiae (Tamara Leitch), Prostanthera ovalifolia, purpurea (Kevin Stokes)



Wetlands, swamps and bogs come to life in spring with amazing wildflowers, plants and animals. To celebrate Glenelg Hopkins CMA wants your wetland photos. Everyone is welcome to enter in one or all three categories.

**In my paddock
The wetland as home
Scenic wetlands**

Prizes valued at \$250 for each category.

All photos will be exhibited at the Lake Bolac Eel Festival, 20th - 22nd March 2020.

Entries close 11.30pm Sunday 1st March 2020

For more information contact Jan Barton on 5571 2526 or www.ghcma.vic.gov.au/wetlandphotocomp



The Victorian Government has committed funding of \$222 million over four years to ensure Victoria's waterways and catchments support environmental, social, cultural and economic needs and the values of our communities.

Banks & Solander Exhibition, Ringwood 17th February 2020 - 17th April 2020

“Australian Plants Revealed: 65,000 years of traditional plant use and 250 years of science”

An exhibition highlighting Banksias and unique Australian flora.

In April 2020 it will be 250 years since the east coast of Australia was first sighted from the Endeavour when Lieutenant Cook, his crew and passengers saw Point Hicks in East Gippsland.

Joseph Banks and Daniel Solander collected many specimens from the east coast for scientific study.

1. Exhibition ‘Revealing the Floral Treasures of Australia’.
2. Keynote address by Professor Tim Entwisle SATURDAY 28th March 2020: THE SIR JOSEPH BANKS CABINET, Botanical Bounty of the Endeavour’s voyage to New Zealand and Australia
3. Keynote address by Bruce Pascoe SATURDAY 28th March 2020: Aboriginal plant uses for sustenance and medicine

Note: the Ringwood gallery will not be open at all on Sundays but 12-4 every Saturday in March

Details

Start:

17th February 2020

End:

17th April 2020

Event Category: Seminar
Ave, Ringwood, 3134

Venue: Maroondah Federation Estate, *32 Greenwood*

