



Running Postman



Australian Plants Society - Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc



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176, June 2019

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Save the Date...

- Next meeting: **Fabaceae**
- **Botannica Springs Community Centre**
- **249 Clarkes Rd, Brookfield**
- **Thursday, 27 June, 7.30pm**
- **Dinner at Tabcorp Park at 6pm**

Speaker: Chris Lindorff



Supper Roster: Dave and Marg Peters
(if you are unavailable to bring supper, please let a committee member know)

Upcoming Meetings:

July – No Meeting

August 22 – Biodiversity in the Garden

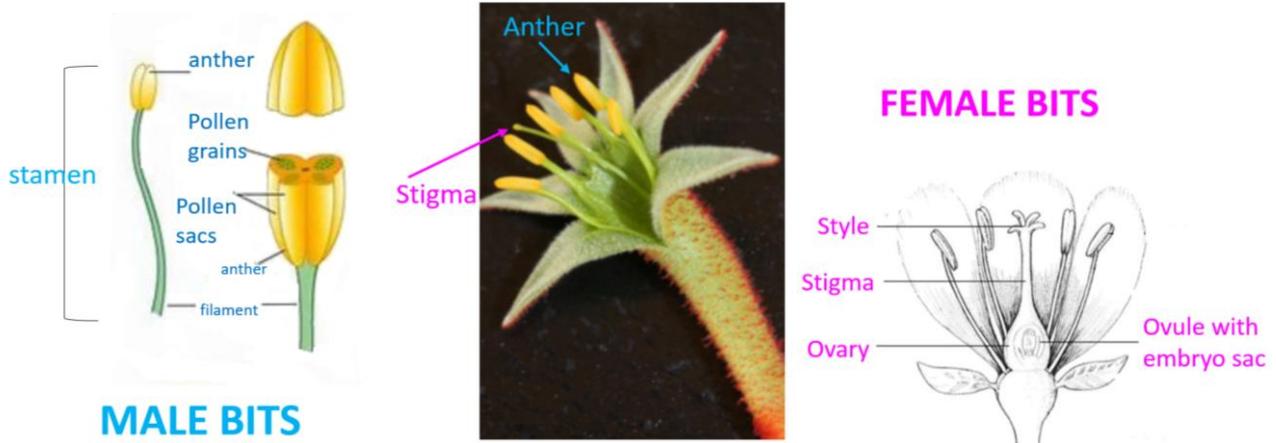
Supper – Norris & Lucille McCarthy

Monthly Meeting Recap – Processes of Plant Pollination

This month, Jenny got right down to it and spoke to us about the birds and the bees.

Let's start with the basics:

Pollination is the Transfer of **pollen** (male cells) from **anthers** (male organs) to **stigmas** (female organs)



There are several ways to get these guys to meet. Some plants are independent and don't need a date as they can self pollinate, like the *Viola banksii* and *Wahlenbergia*. Others need a helping hand with some species happy to use the wind and water/rain, like *Ranunculus pachycarpus* and *Baloskion tetraphyllum*. The last broad category are those who need a match-maker. This is where the birds, bees and other mammals come into the picture. Sugar gliders, honey possums and bats fit in here.

Around 65% of Australian plants require pollination. Plants are very clever, and a little sly, as they use tricks to attract pollinators. Showy & colourful flowers, nectar, pollen and fragrance are some



ways to lure them. Even the shape of the flower can determine how they are pollinated. Some flowers have long tubes that are perfect for birds with long, slender beaks and tongues.

Other flowers have 'landing pads' for insects.



Isn't nature clever! Thanks to Jenny for this education.

Next Meeting – Fabaceae

Fabaceae, which is the third largest family among the angiosperms after Orchidaceae (orchid family) and Asteraceae (aster family), consists of more than 700 genera and about 20,000 species of trees, shrubs, vines, and herbs and is worldwide in distribution. (www.britannica.com/plant/Fabaceae)

Chris is going to enlighten us on the Fabaceae (typically ‘pea’ flowers) family. I haven’t been given a sneak peak into his presentation, so come along and we will all find out together!

Neutrog

Neutrog! A name now synonymous with biological fertilisers, brilliant products. APS-Vic has signed an endorsement for one of their products, Bush Tucker. I have spoken with Evette and discovered that Neutrog have offered us an amazing deal. All of their products are on offer at amazing prices. A full list is attached in a separate document, but I have done a little online shopping for prices at Bunnings, and to give you an idea of the incredible offer, have created a quick spreadsheet comparing prices of the 10 only products that Bunnings stock, vs what we can get them for direct through Neutrog. Please note that Bunnings do not have the sizes that are on offer to us.

From Neutrog	Bush Tucker 20kg	Gyganic 20kg	Kahoona 20kg	Sudden Impact for Roses 20kg	Strike Back for Orchids 20kg	Strike Back for Orchids Liquid 1L
	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00
From Bunnings	Bush Tucker 4kg	Gyganic 15kg	Kahoona 10kg	Sudden Impact for Roses 10kg	Strike Back for Orchids 1.5kg	Strike Back for Orchids Liquid 1L
	\$ 25.98	\$ 34.98	\$ 44.45	\$ 44.45	\$ 16.34	\$ 16.48
From Neutrog	Sudden Impact for Lawns 20KG	Seamungus 20KG	Go Go Juice 1lit	WFD 20KG (Who Flung Dung mulch)		
	\$ 30.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 14.00		
From Bunnings	Sudden Impact for Lawns 20KG	Seamungus 15kg	Go Go Juice 1lit	WFD 20KG (Who Flung Dung mulch)		
	\$ 47.98	\$ 20.95	\$ 14.97	\$ 18.89		

Neutrog offer 25 products plus two books. If you are interested in purchasing any of these, please let Christine know, I can consolidate one large order and if it meets the criteria, we don’t pay freight!

Hanging Baskets & Photographs

At the May meeting, the members determined that our group would participate in the Bacchus Marsh Flower and Garden Show this year. The date is 26th & 27th October 2019. It was decided that we would support our members to enter a **Hanging Basket** in Section 6: Pot Plants, enter up to **4 photographs** in the Section 10: Photography and **sponsor the prizes** for the winning entries in Section 4: Australian Native Plants.

HANGING BASKET

Following this decision, I searched for appropriate baskets to provide to the members. After determining a suitable size and quality at Bunnings, I approached the person in charge of sponsorship to community groups and received a positive response. Bunnings Melton will provide us with 20 hanging baskets to the requested size and standard. Every financial member is eligible to receive a basket for the purpose of entering their creation into the Bacchus Marsh Flower & Garden Show. The entry form and rules are not available yet but most likely will be similar to the 2018 event.

It is the responsibility of the member

- To create the hanging basket display (plants must be Australian natives but decoration is creator's choice)
- To deliver the entry to the Public Hall, Main Street, Bacchus Marsh on Saturday (26th) morning between 7.30am and 9.30am or make alternate arrangements
- To collect the entry on Sunday (27th) between 4 and 5pm or make alternate arrangements
- To complete and ensure the entry form is with the hanging basket when delivered
- To pay the entry fee (last year it was \$2.00 per entry)

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Our group's annual photograph competition is to be conducted at the September meeting. The categories have been detailed in the previous newsletter, but the photos could also be used for the Photography Competition component of the BM Flower and Garden Show. The categories for that competition are:

Class 101 = Photograph of a **Tree or a Shrub**

Class 103 = Photograph of a **Flower**

Class 105 = Photograph of a **Garden anywhere in the world**

Class 197 = Photograph of a **Pest in the Garden** (this is open to interpretation – might even be your partner 😊)

Our group will support each member by printing and mounting their photographs (up to 4 per financial member)

It is the responsibility of the member

- To provide a high-resolution image for each entry (Tree/Shrub & flower to be Australian native plants, Garden must contain some Australian native plants, pest is up to the photographer)
- To complete the entry form and pay the entry fee (\$2.00 per photo)

NOTE – you may choose to use your entry into our September photo competition or provide a different one. The entry forms and rules will be distributed to every member as soon as they become available.

Christine and I will be ensuring the members' entries comply with the rules, deliver the photos on Friday afternoon (25th of October) and pick up the entries to be returned to the photographer. Details regarding the supply of the image will be advised to the participating member/s.

Every financial member is encouraged to participate in this endeavour. To receive a basket, you must advise Cathy Powers ASAP. I anticipate distribution of the baskets at the June meeting but alternate arrangements are possible. Please remember – if a member is supplied with a hanging basket, the creation must be entered into the October event.

HELPFUL HINTS FOR HANGING BASKET CREATION

Thriller/Filler/Spiller

Thriller = Tall, upright plants that add the height to the arrangement. Thrillers are the great way to add a vertical aspect to your hanging basket (remember the 'hanging' part and the chain required to hang the basket)

Filler = Covering plants that spread to fill the gaps between the Thrillers and spillers.

Spiller = Those that spill over the edges of the basket and cascade down.

Usually start with the thriller-type plant. It should be twice the height of the basket, planted centre or just off-centre so that it will not cover other plants and can be viewed from all sides. Then consider the filler plants. These can be flower or foliage or a combination but use these to connect the Thriller and Spiller plants. Logic would deem that the spiller plants are put near the edges so that they grow naturally across the side of the basket.

Suggestions for Hanging Basket plants (by Brian Walters – ANPSA)

Species	Flower Colour	Remarks
<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	na	"Maidenhair Fern"; best in a sheltered position
<i>Billardiera erubescens</i>	Red	Light climbing species. <i>B.scandens</i> (cream flowers) is also good

<i>Brachyscome multifida</i>	Mauve	Many cultivars of this popular daisy available in other colours
<i>Chorizema diversifolium</i>	Orange/Yellow	A light twining species with pea flowers
<i>Clematis glycinoides</i>	White	A twining species with attractive flowers and seed cluster
<i>Dampiera rosmarinifolia</i>	Blue or Pink	Beautiful grey/green foliage; suckering species
<i>Dampiera diversifolia</i>	Blue	Very popular species well suited to baskets
<i>Davallia pyxidata</i>	na	"Hare's Foot Fern"; best in an epiphytic orchid mix and sheltered
<i>Grevillea juniperina</i>	Various	Prostrate forms such as "Molonglo" or "Pink Lady"
<i>Grevillea tenuiloba</i>	Orange	Probably best grafted in humid climates
<i>Hemiandra pungens</i>	Pink	Prickly foliage; beautiful pink flowers with spotted throats
<i>Hibbertia pedunculata</i>	Yellow	"Buttercup" flowers over a long period
<i>Hibbertia obtusifolia</i>	Yellow	Similar flowers to the previous species; slightly more vigorous
<i>Lechenaultia biloba</i>	Blue	Very spectacular; light blue flowered form is easiest to maintain
<i>Lechenaultia formosa</i>	Various	Upright and prostrate forms; red, pink, yellow or orange flowers
<i>Pelargonium rodneyanum</i>	Rosy Red	Mat plant with large, lobed leaves
<i>Scaevola aemula</i>	Blue/Mauve	"Fan Flower"; large flowers and fleshy leaves
<i>Scaevola albida</i>	Blue or White	Similar to the above but with smaller flowers and foliage
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Purple/White	Mat forming plant which likes moisture

Newsletters and information

Remember to check out the dropbox account for new newsletters from other APS groups, study groups and more. They are added regularly and will be left there for a couple of months before being removed.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o4khgv1wrjfmeg3/AABZ9PD-6KLgoLnz75N3MOM0a?dl=0>

Photo Competition

Keep snapping! Along with the Bacchus Marsh Flower and Garden Show photo competition, we also have our own Photo Competition to be held in conjunction with the AGM. This year is going to have different categories, just to mix things up a bit.

This year's categories are:

- Earth
- Wind
- Fire
- Water
- Black and White
- Open (photographer's choice)

Have a think about how you can incorporate these in a garden/plant related setting. Think outside the box – for example, red could represent fire. Add a title as an explanation (no more than 5 words) if you like. The categories don't need to be taken literally. Show your creativity.



Membership



Thanks for being involved with our group during the past 12 months.

Membership renewal is due 1 July, 2019

If you have any questions regarding your membership, please contact me (Treasurer Cathy)

If you have already renewed your membership, thanks.

We forward your APS Victoria fees and Australian Plants subscription, on your behalf, so please renew your membership through the District Group.

Growing Australian report – June 2019

Print version

Print copies of the June 2019 issue were delivered to members this week (starting 11th June).

PDF version

To reduce the cost incurred in printing and posting copies of *Growing Australian* to those who receive free copies, an email is now being sent to newsletter editors, ANPSA interstate regions, NSW district groups and study groups with a link to download a PDF of each issue.

Post-out Officers

Dallas and Bernard Boulton did a great job and packaged and sent the issue within two days so that the postage wasn't held up due to the Queen's Birthday long weekend. The mail out of each issue takes considerable time and effort. Accordingly, recognition must be given to the efficient manner in which Dallas and Bernard perform this role within APS Vic.

Newsletter Production Officer

Graeme Nicholls also needs recognition for the considerable time he devotes to laying out and managing the printing of each issue of *Growing Australian*. His efficient manner makes things easier for the editor.

Articles

Growing Australian is only as good as the articles it publishes. But here APS Vic is running into a problem. While elected officers produce regular articles, very few articles are being received from other APS Vic members. What this boils down to is:

No articles, no Growing Australian!

Upcoming Events

27 & 28 July - Cranbourne Friends Winter Plant Sale – 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. (Mel 133 K10)

14 & 15 September - APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo, Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Road, Eltham. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. Check website <https://apsyarrayarra.org.au> for plant lists.

21 & 22 September - 50th Anniversary of Anglesea Wildflower Weekend and Art Show. Celebrating the area's remarkable biodiversity and wildflowers. Held at the Anglesea Memorial Hall, 3 McMillan Street, Anglesea 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

21 & 22 September - APS Bendigo Flower Show. Kangaroo Flat Primary School Gym, Freeman Drive, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo. 9.30 am to 4.00 pm.

Heads Up

The September meeting will be the photo competition and the AGM.

This year will see the end of the term for Christine (President) and Russell (Vice President) (3 year max). We also still carry the vacancy of the Secretary. Please consider nominations – either someone that you have spoken to about this, or nominating yourself for one of these positions. Without a committee, the group may cease to exist.

There will also be a request for a new Newsletter Editor as I will need a break to concentrate on many other commitments.

Contacts:

Australian Plants Society – Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc.

Incorporated in Victoria: A0026204P

ABN: 68 053 689 781

APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh Committee 2017/18

<i>President</i>	<i>Christine Huf</i>	<i>0412 081 074</i>	
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Russell Wait</i>	<i>0428 388 211</i>	
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>(vacant)</i>	<i>email: apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com</i>	
<i>Public Officer</i>	<i>David Pye</i>		
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Cathy Powers</i>		
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Lucille McCarthy, Barb Pye, Norris McCarthy</i>		
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	<i>Christine Huf</i>	<i>0412 081 074</i>	<i>email: c.phot.804@gmail.com</i>

Find us on Facebook!

All contributions to the newsletter are gratefully received. Please send a word document and photos to the group's email address. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me via email or phone. I am also happy to research a subject for an article if you give me a topic you would like to see explored.

Postal address:

PO Box 946

Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340

Bank details: Bendigo Bank, Bacchus Marsh

Acc: Australian Plant Society – Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc

BSB: 633 000 Acc No: 158993733

MEETINGS: 4th Thursday of the month, Feb – Jun, Aug – Nov (doors open at 7.30pm)

VENUE: Botanica Springs Community Centre, 249 Clarkes Rd, Brookfield (unless otherwise stated)

APS Victoria website : <http://www.apsvic.org.au/>

ANPSA website: <http://anpsa.org.au>

Disclaimer: Any errors in this publication are by the editor.