

Dianella admixta



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY
SOUTH EAST MELBOURNE REGION INC.

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MAY NEWSLETTER 2018

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, February to December except November.

The venue is the Hughesdale Community Hall, Cnr Poath and Kangaroo Roads, Hughesdale (MEL 69 C7)

Visitors are always very welcome.

COMMITTEE:

PRESIDENT:	John Thompson thomme@netspace.net.au
DEPUTY LEADER:	Helen Appleby
SECRETARY:	Helen Appleby
TREASURER:	Catherine Irwin irwincs@hotmail.com
PUBLIC OFFICER:	Helen Appleby
NEWSLETTER EDITOR:	Marj Seaton normarjs@bigpond.com
COMMITTEE:	Amanda Loudon amandalouden@icloud.com

Please forward any newsletter contributions, comments or photos to Marj at 36 Voumard Street, Oakleigh South 3167 or to the email address above.

Deadline for the JUNE newsletter is May 22nd

MAY MEETING

Tuesday May, 2018

8pm Hughesdale Community Hall

Cnr Poath and Kangaroo Roads, Hughesdale

Speaker: Ben Courtice

Topic: "Button Wrinkleworts"

Ben Courtice is a member of APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh. He completed a science degree majoring in botany at La Trobe University in 2017. He is currently finishing his honours thesis on *Rutidosia leptorrhynchoides* (Button wrinklewort), an endangered daisy species of national significance. The research looks at how patch density of the plants attracts pollinators, and whether this affects the rate of seed set. Ben currently works in native vegetation conservation.



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RAINFALL RECORDS

The following are our rainfall records for 2018 (in mm) so far.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Oakleigh South	67.6	1	26.2										94.8
Highbett	52.2	1.6											53.8
Hampton			18										
Cranbourne South	47	4	31										82
Caulfield Sth	76	1	25										102
Elsternwick	63.3	1	22										86.3

CALENDAR/PHOTO COMPETITION

Marj is expecting to have a sample calendar for members to discuss/criticise at the May Meeting. Your thoughts are sought please.

SPECIMEN TABLE

April meeting

Marj brought along a selection of Correas, mostly for any members who might like cuttings. A bunch of violets, *Viola hederacea*, the last of her *Xerochrysum bracteata* and a single stem of a forty plus years old *Callistemon citrinus* which has been subjected to several drastic prunings but lives on, completed her collection.



Amanda's firewheel tree flowers, *Stenocarpus sinuatus*, dominated the table. Mandy has three trees growing in a narrow strip beside her house. These are up to 15 years old, grew quickly and receive no water apart from natural rainfall. Her other offerings included a very pretty piece of *Eucalyptus alatissima*, below, a small tree looking very similar to



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Eucalyptus kingsmillii, a stem of *Acacia jibberdingensis* which has thin foliage, bright yellow cylindrical flowers and is growing laterally, weighted down by rain, *Lambertia orbifolia* and a variety of correas.

Of special interest amongst John's collection was a prolifically flowering stem of *Epacris*



longiflora, a piece of the tiny flowered *Thrypromene denticulate* (subject to webbing caterpillar so watch it), the grey foliage of *Maireana oppositifolia* and *Plectranthus argentatus*, right. This last comes from Queensland and NSW, has lovely silvery foliage and white flowers, and is



attractive to blue banded bees. An adaptable bush to 1m x

0.75m, it will grow in full or part sun but has a tendency to

wilt when there is not enough water. Grows readily from cuttings, even in a glass of water.

Pick of the Bunch April 2018

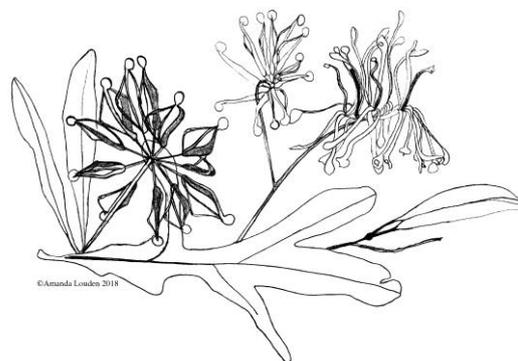
Stenocarpus sinuatus (Loudon) Endl. Firewheel Tree

Specimen grown by Amanda Loudon

Stenocarpus sinuatus is a tree up to 25 - 30 metres tall. It is smaller in cooler areas and in cultivation, rarely exceeding 10 metres. Its natural distribution is from north east NSW to the Atherton Tableland in north Qld. It also occurs in New Guinea. The dark green foliage can be simple or lobed with a glossy upper surface, with the under surface being a paler green. It yields a lovely grained red timber that is sought after by wood turners.

The flowers are bright red and are produced on the older wood. The flowers occur in umbels of 6 to 20 with the pedicels radiating out to form a 'wheel' up to 10 cm in diameter. Flowering in Melbourne usually occurs from late summer to autumn.

Stenocarpus sinuatus will grow in most well drained soils in a sunny or partially sunny aspect. It is sensitive to frost while young and moderately drought tolerant, though it appreciates supplementary watering during summer. Propagation is from seed or from cuttings. If the plants are seed grown they may take seven years or more before producing their first flowers. Cutting grown plants may flower within four years or less.



Stenocarpus is a member of the Proteaceae family, a family of c.1500 species in c.80 genera occurring mainly in the Southern Hemisphere in tropical and temperate regions with c.900 species in 45 genera in Australia. It includes such genera as *Banksia*, *Conospermum*, *Grevillea*, *Hakea*, *Isopogon*, *Lambertia*, *Lomatia*, *Persoonia*, *Telopea* and *Xylomelum*. There are c.10 species of *Stenocarpus* that occur in Australia. The rest, c.15 species, occur only in New Caledonia.

The name, *Stenocarpus*, is from the Greek, *stenos*, narrow and *carpos*, a fruit, a reference to the characteristics of the seed capsules. The specific name, *sinuatus*, is from the Latin, meaning wavy, a reference to the margins of the leaves.

Umbel - a flower cluster in which stalks of nearly equal length spring from a common centre and form a flat or curved surface.

Pedicel - a small stalk bearing an individual flower in an inflorescence.

CRANBOURNE GARDEN AMBASSADORS

For anyone interested in joining the Garden Ambassador group, a new intake is being advertised in local papers.

A Garden Ambassador acts as an advisor to visitors to the gardens, takes tours and assists at special events such as Naidoc, Nature Play events etc and can be called on to help at outside events on occasions.

Training is given and a uniform provided. Two sessions a month, plus attendance at one meeting a month is required once having gone through training.

Those interested in Australian plants, would find this a most enjoyable way to spend time and to meet some really interesting people, whether Garden Ambassadors or visitors to the garden, many of whom come from overseas or interstate.

If you are interested, please contact the Visitor Centre on 5990 2200

MAY MEETING

WRITE-UP: Ivan Margitta

SUPPER: Marg Margitta (1 litre milk please)

FJC Rogers Seminar October 2018 - Goodeniaceae

To all APS Groups and their Members

FJC Rogers Seminars are a Premier event for APS Victoria. They are held every two years in Victoria in memory of FJC (Fred) Rogers, who joined the Society for Growing Australian Plants very soon after it was formed in 1957 by Arthur Swaby. He was President of the South East Region (Victoria & Tasmania) from 1964 to 1968 and convenor of the South Eastern Region Flower Shows from 1964 to 1971. During this period the Society expanded rapidly and 1500 newsletters were regularly collated in the Rogers household.

The Seminars are held on various topics, with the first one in 1996 on "Hakeas", and the most recent on "Native Terrestrial and Epiphytic Orchids" in 2016.

On October 20th-21nd 2018, The Wimmera Growers of Australian Plants are combining with APS Grampians Group to hold the 12th Seminar on "Goodeniaceae".

At this stage we have **three** major aims for the seminar:

1. To provide greatly increased knowledge of the Goodeniaceae family
2. To produce a series of photo guides of genera and species of the Goodeniaceae family
3. To produce plants for sale to greatly increase the range of Goodeniaceae plants in members' gardens

We are seeking your help with the preparation of the photo guides, the provision of propagation material (cuttings) of labelled Goodeniaceae species and expressions of interest in attending the FJC Rogers Seminar 2018 Goodeniaceae.

Photo -guides

We are seeking photographs for the production of a series of photo-guides of Goodeniaceae.

We are particularly looking for species of Goodeniaceae from your local area. Those species, which are growing in your garden will be acceptable also. All photos must state where they have been taken. We need to identify whether they are growing in their natural habitat, or in cultivation.

Requirements for photos for the FJC Rogers Seminar 2018 photo-guides

1. Must be originals and not cropped
2. Highest resolution possible
3. High quality - in focus and good depth of field
4. Showing features of the plant useful for identification, eg flowers, leaves, stems and/or shrub (may be several photos of the same plant)
5. All photos must be **correctly named** ie Genus and species
6. All photos must have the photographers name and where taken.
7. Photos taken in their natural habitat would be preferred
8. Photos will only be used for the FJC Rogers Seminar 2018 - Goodeniaceae
9. Not all photos will be used due to duplication of species. Only those that best fit the criteria will be chosen

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10. No photos will be passed onto any other person or organisation without the photographer's permission

11. All photographers will be duly acknowledged

If members have any photos that may meet the criteria, we would appreciate copies as soon as possible. There may be an opportunity next flowering season to get a better photo, but it would assist us greatly if we have current photos to enable the major preparation of the Guides to be completed before the next flowering season.

Please notify us about your photos by email: fjcrogersseminar2018@gmail.com or by post: WGAP, PO Box 533, Horsham, Vic, 3402.

Cutting Material: In order to propagate as many new species as we can, we are asking all groups and their members whether or not they would be prepared to send some cutting material of correctly named Goodeniaceae species.

To avoid excessive duplication, in the first instance if you can send a list of species that you could supply to us and we will contact you to arrange for cutting material of particular species to be sent to us, along with instructions on how to pack and send material. Initially we will be looking for enough material to produce a small number of plants which we can multiply from.

Those who send cutting material will be duly acknowledged.

It would be a great help to us if you are prepared to send cutting material. A list of species that your group or members could offer can be emailed to me fjcrogersseminar2018@gmail.com or by post WGAP, PO Box 533, Horsham, Vic, 3402

Expression of Interest

Those who are interested in attending the FJC Rogers Seminar 2018 Goodeniaceae on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st October 2018 please forward the following information labelled Expression of Interest:

Name/s:

Postal Address:

Email Address:

Phone number/s:

The above Expression of Interest can be forwarded to the committee by email:

fjcrogersseminar2018@gmail.com or posted to WGAP PO Box 533, Horsham Vic 3402.

We look forward to a positive response for the benefit of all growers of Australian Plants.

Royce Raleigh

Chairman FJC Rogers Goodeniaceae Seminar 2018 Committee.

DIARY DATES

May 1	"Button Wrinkleworts", Ben Courtice
June 5	(?) John Thompson: "South West Western Australia"
July 3	TBA
August 7	AGM and members' slides. Photo competition.
September	TBA
October 2	"Grasslands", Cathy Powers
October 20 – 21	FJC Rogers seminar, Horsham, "Goodeniaceae". fjcrogersseminar2018@gmail.com See poster under 'Promotions'

Plant Sales 2018

April 28	Yarra Yarra plant sale. Eltham Senior Citizens Centre, 903 Main Road, Eltham
May 5	APS Mornington plant sale, 10 – 3:30, Seawinds, Arthurs Seat State Park, Purves Road
May 12	APS Melton Bacchus Marsh plant sale, St. Andrews Uniting Church, Gisborne Road, Bacchus Marsh, 9-4

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MONTHLY GALLERY

Following Alex Smart's talk last month, here is a photo of Peter's miniature River red gum probably about 10 years old - home to some insects and it has been visited by ring tail possums as well as Brown Thornbills.



And here is John and Catherine's entry in the Hanging Basket competition at MIFGS:



On a recent visit to the Point Leo Estate's Sculpture Park, Marj took the following photos. If you are down that way, it is well worth a visit. The sculptures are set in garden surrounds with eucalypts used to frame many of the sculptures. Exotics are also featured in several areas.



PROMOTIONS



**AUSTRALIAN
TEXTILE EXHIBITION**
Celebrating Australia in Textiles



Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria,
Cranbourne Gardens
8th – 13th May, 2018
10am – 4pm Daily • Free Admission

Great Australian Bag Challenge
Sewing Demonstrations
Chandler's Cottage Pop Up Shop
Over 200 Exhibits

Follow the event on Facebook!
Simply search for the
AustralianTextileExhibition



Saturday October 20, Sunday October 21
Have you booked your accommodation yet?
Registrations will open in April.
To receive newsletters email:
fjcrogersseminar2018@gmail.com