



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY

(Wangaratta Inc.)

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2018

Visit the APS Vic website at <https://apsvic.org.au/>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Please arrive at 7.30 for meetings.

Thursday 23rd August: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be followed by a Hybrid Silent Lucky Number Auction - a great selection of beautiful plants from Park Lane Nursery (Please bring some cash to place your bids.)

Sunday 26th August: Outing: Early Spring Walk in Chiltern National Park – Leader: Jenny Davidson. Meet at the Chiltern Tourist Information Centre 10.30am for 11am. BYO Lunch, thermos & drinks, folding chair and morning tea to share.

Thursday 27th September: Meeting: Grand specimen table. Bring your spring flowers to show off! Jan Hall will be at hand to give a demo to those new to the art of propagation with cuttings. The meeting will also include Guest Speaker Jim Blackney, who will provide information about the Silver Banksia Project in our region.

Sunday 30th September: Outing: *Anne Ford's Garden – 267 Warby Range Rd, Glenrowan.*

Thursday 25th October: Meeting: *Guest Speakers - David & Barbara Pye. Topic: The Melton Botanic Gardens.*

Saturday 10th November: Special event – *Wangaratta Urban Landcare Group Nature Day. Apex Park, Wangaratta. Display and information table to publicise the activities of APS Wangaratta. Commencing at 10 am. Coordinators – Alan Gibb & Gillian Anderson.*

October Outing: **Mount Buffalo Spring walk. Date and details TBC.**

Thursday 25th November: Meeting: *Guest Speaker: Neil Marriott - "My Top 20 Grevilleas"*

Sunday 25th November – Outing & Christmas Break-up - *Joanne Diver's garden @ 846 Lamport Cresc.. West Albury. Includes an optional walk 'up the hill'.*

Saturday 8th December: Propagating morning – *Park Lane Nursery 8.30 am to 12.00 noon.*

HAKEA NIGHT THURSDAY 28TH JUNE Jan Hall and Joanne Diver gave a fascinating talk on Hakeas, Joanne spoke about the discovery of Hakeas in Australia and gave us information previously unknown to most of us. Hakeas are a wide, varied family of plants with many different flower forms. Members brought Hakeas from their garden to highlight this.



Joanne took home a selection of seeds which were available at the meeting to share and she is attempting to germinate them – we will look forward to seeing the progress of her propagation efforts.

VISIT TO JOHN LLOYD AND FREIDA ANDREWS AT CHESNEY VALE ON SUNDAY, 1ST JULY

A few stalwarts braved the very thick fog to get a look at John & Frieda's garden. This was my first visit, and I was excited to see the self-sown plants of *Grevillea alpina*. John has grown many of his plants from seed collected locally at Chesney Vale and in the Warby Ranges. Although they live in a dry hilly, rocky area his plants are doing very well as they are locally indigenous, attracting birds and animals to their garden.



OUTING ON SUNDAY 29TH JULY to Helen & John's garden where we enjoyed a walk around the garden between rain showers and shared Helen's lovely hot and hearty soup. After lunch a few braved the weather for a walk up to Salisbury Falls in the Warby-Ovens National Park.



We enjoyed this massed flowering of 'DUSTY MILLER', on the rocky slopes along the walk to Salisbury Falls. Patches of sunshine revealed some views and the forest was full of interest with many emerging seasonal wildflowers, orchids and ferns, but barely any flowing water. I was alerted to the possibilities of using *Spyridium* spp. in the garden. I had presumed them to be a bit fussy, but I learned that we could be planting many to fill those partly shaded spots. Those available are generally adaptable and once established, cope well with dry periods. I have one plant originating from the Little Desert and it is doing well.

Some notes on *Spyridium parvifolium*.

Spyridium means 'Little Basket', referring to the prominent floral leaves subtending tiny flower heads. *Spyridium* are an endemic Australian genus with 40 species in temperate and semi-arid conditions. Often overlooked, these dwarf or small shrubs could be used more often. Reasonably well drained soil helps. Our Warby Range plants are growing on rocky and steep slopes. *S. 'Nimbus'*, is a selected form from East Gippsland. It is a lovely compact little shrub and prefers dappled shade.

--- Jan Hall

President's Annual Report

The past year has been another stimulating one for our group as we continued to learn more about Australian plants and their particular qualities such as size, shape, colour, suitability, for our gardens. Attendance at our meetings varies from 20 to 30 and at outings from 6 to 15. We welcomed several new members but lost some as well.

At our monthly meetings we hosted guest-speakers and presenters from our own group. Topics included 'Creating a Wildflower garden in the Wimmera', 'Small Eucalypts', 'Native Succulents', 'Ngarnat Conservation Park in S.A.', 'Modern Day Uses for Bush Tucker', 'Growing Dry Area Plants', 'Growing at Wartook Gardens', 'Hakeas', and 'The Winter Collection Show and Tell'.

Outings and field trips took us to the gardens and properties of Gillian Anderson and Paul Derezyckj at Hamilton Park, Richard Jerome next to Chiltern National Park, Bernie and Glenda Datson at Baranduda, Barbara Buchanan and Robin and Les Maclean in Benalla, Freida Andrews and John Lloyd at Chesney Vale, John and Helen van Riet at Wangaratta South, and two propagating days at Park Lane Nursery. Our Christmas break-up was held at Hamilton Park.

In addition, our group hosted the September 2017 Quarterly Meeting and AGM of APS (VIC) with the title “Springtime in bPangerang Country’. It was a great success, thanks to the thorough planning by several of our members and the very positive responses from the well over one hundred participants.

Our group also shared in the Open Garden at van Riet’s, raising funds for Oxfam and Friends of Lacluta, contributing \$800 with our plant stall.

At State level we have been represented by Jan Hall as our branch rep and Linda Huzzey as Lone Member Officer. Helen van Riet continued into her third year as State secretary. Both Jan and Helen retired from their positions at the 2018 AGM of APS (Vic).

Several of our members attended Quarterly Meetings of APS(Vic) at Ballarat(Nov. 2017), Tarneit(March 2018),and Mornington(June 2018), each one providing opportunities to visit magnificent gardens and local nature reserves. Jan Hall attended the National Conference of APS in Hobart (Jan.2018).

An international ‘touch’ occurred in October 2017, when Helen and John van Riet and Jan Hall hosted a Dutch visitor. Liesbeth Uitjewaal grows Australian plants inside a converted cow shed in the south of Holland. Every couple of years she visits Australia to collect cuttings and seed. Helen, John and Jan took Liesbeth to several of our members’ gardens. In a recent email Liesbeth told us that several of the cuttings are doing well.

Our home base continues to be Park Lane Nursery Meeting Room. We are indebted to Scott Grant and other staff in the Nursery for their great hospitality in using the facility for our meetings and propagating days.

Thank you to all Committee members and others who have helped in many different ways to make our meetings a joy. Best wishes to the incoming Committee and all our members for a successful and enjoyable 2018/2019 year.

---John van Riet, President. August 2018

Advance Diary Dates – A rolling 12 month calendar

August	Meeting 23 August 2018 <i>Silent Auction & AGM – Helen vR to organise the auction.</i>	Outing Sun, 26 August 2018 <i>Chiltern NP - Jenny D to organise. Meet at the Chiltern Tourist Information Centre</i>	Other Events/Meetings Wed 8 August, Committee Meeting. 18 &19 Aug, APSV Quarterly weekend & AGM Foothills
September	Meeting 27 September 2018 <i>Grand Spring Spectacular (Jim Blackney , the Silver Banksia project -)</i>	Outing Sun, 30 September 2018 <i>Anne Ford’s garden at Warby Range Road, Hamilton Park</i>	Other Events/Meetings
October	Meeting 25 October 2018 <i>David & Barbara Pye – on the Melton Botanic Gardens</i>	Outing Sat 27 th or Sun, 28 October 2018 <i>Mount Buffalo Spring Walk - TBC</i>	Other Events/Meetings 20 th & 21 st October FJC Rogers Seminar, Horsham

APS Wangaratta – A rolling 12 month calendar - continued

November	Meeting 22 November 2018 <i>Neil Marriott, Top 10 Grevilleas</i>	Outing Sun, 25 November 2018 <i>Christmas at the Diver House in Albury, walk up the hill</i>	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i> Committee meeting TBA
December	Meeting Xxx December 2018	Outing Saturday 8 December 2018 PROPAGATING <i>8.30 am - 12noon at Park Lane Nursery</i>	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i> 1 st Dec., APSV Committee meeting, Cranbourne Botanic Gardens
January 2019	NO Meeting	NO Outing	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i> Falls Creek TBA
February 2019	Meeting 28 February 2019	Outing Xxx February 2019 PROPAGATING <i>From 8.30 am at Park Lane</i>	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i> Xxx Feb, Committee meeting TBA
March 2019	Meeting 28 March 2019	Outing Xxx March 2019	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i>
April 2019	Meeting 25 April 2019	Outing Xxx April 2019	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i>
May 2019	Meeting Xxx May 2019	Outing Xxx May 2019	<i>Other Events/Meetings</i>

Meetings

Meetings are held at Park Lane Nursery, Park Lane, Wangaratta usually on the 4th Thursday of the month from February to November.

Please arrive at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.

It is a good idea to bring a torch with you. **Visitors are always welcome.**

Members are encouraged to bring along exhibits for the specimen table which is a regular feature of each meeting.

Pre-meeting dinner get-together Those that are able share dinner together at Café Martini, 87 Murphy Street, Wangaratta, 6.00 – 7.15pm . All members and friends are most welcome.

It's a chance to relax with a nice meal and a glass of wine

Australian Plants Society Committee 2017-2018

President: John van Riet Ph:5725 7207 email: helenvanriet@bigpond.com

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Treasurer: Arthur Meyers Ph: 5728 1654

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If undeliverable, please return to:

The Secretary

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