



Correa Mail

Newsletter No. 330– August 2017

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Matt Baars

We have had another interesting year, with a variety of speakers and member's nights.

We have among our members a great amount of knowledge and interests, and it is gratifying when these members are willing and able to pass these on to the group as speakers, and at supper and other social occasions.

We held the Geelong group's 50th Anniversary in October. It fell on the exact day 50 years ago, that the first meeting to establish a Geelong branch of the Society for Growing Australian Plants was held. It was a great night and to listen to the stories of the original members who attended was wonderful. I thank all those who helped set up Arthur and Linda's shed and all other preparations to make it a special occasion.

The Plant Sale held for one day was again a great success, with a good number of growers in attendance and nearly as many people passing through the gates as a two day sale.



Out-going President, Matt Baars

The event could not happen without the dedicated help of all the volunteers who put in a lot of time to make the weekend the success it is. Thanks to those people who turned up before the sale and put in some hard work preparing the kitchen and property. Again I thank Arthur and Linda Pape for allowing us to use their property.

We had some excursions during the past year. Thanks to those members who opened up their gardens. We want to take more trips in the coming year, particularly to member's gardens. I encourage all members to make suggestions for excursions, we certainly have the funds.

Again thanks to our Newsletter editor -Ade, who works hard to produce a great newsletter, with the input of a few regulars. I know he puts a lot of work into it and he also administers our Facebook and Web pages, which are great forums to post plant photos and information. There have been some fantastic photos posted by members.

I thank the committee members and those members who put in their time performing the secretarial duties, finances, organising the plant sale, speaking presentations, excursions, library, meeting suppers - Tina and Penny, break up function and the monthly meetings, without these efforts this group would not be the success it is. There are expenses involved in these activities that are not recorded or asked for and I feel that it should be noted by members that this occurs.

I would like to thank all those members who have helped set up, work at and clean up at our meetings. It may not seem like much, but every little bit helps and allows the committee members to have some time to meet up and chat with people that they only see at the meetings.

I thank all the committee members for their efforts and volunteering their homes and providing supper for our meetings.

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TREASURERS REPORT

Frank Scheelings

Frank Scheelings gave us a rundown of the finances for the previous year, and tabled his report for the information of members. In brief, membership numbers are stable, and income remains good. We made a loss for the year of almost \$2000, due to a carry-over expense of approximately \$500 from the sausage sizzle at Bunnings last year; the fact that we have not yet received our speakers' grant of \$500; and the one-off expense of our 50th birthday celebration, of around \$1900. Anyone who wants a copy of the report can contact Frank at the email address on the bottom of this page.

ELECTIONS

Ade Foster

Ade Foster took the chair to conduct the elections and all positions were declared vacant. The following members were elected as your committee for the next 12 months ...

President:	Bruce McGinness
Vice-president:	Matt Leach
Secretary:	Phillip Royce
Treasurer:	Frank Scheelings
Committee Members:	Carmel Addlem, Roger Wileman, Sheila Deakin, Matt Baars, Denise Cromer, Dianne Royce.

It is gratifying to see that all members of our previous committee have put their hands up again and have been re-elected to various positions. We are pleased to have Denise Cromer and Phil Royce back on the committee and welcome Dianne Royce. Thank you all and congratulations.

ON THE TABLE

with Ros Eddington

It was a small table this month, probably due to the photo competition, but no less interesting for that. There were some lovely Banksias, among them *B. spinulosa* and lovely gold and black form which was quite striking. Matt Leach brought along two colour forms of *B. praemorsa* – a yellow one called 'Moonlight' and a reddish-brown one called 'Burgundy'. A cultivar called *B. intergrifolia* 'Roller Coaster' is a semi-prostrate plant with a weeping habit, look not unlike a standard.

For me, the most attractive specimen was *Hakea multilineata*, of which there were two colour variations. One was the usual deep pink, but the other was a wonderful deep, rich crimson with white styles.

Hardenbergias are hardy plants with climbing, scrambling and shrub-like habits, ranging in colour from deep, royal purple through pink to white. Our

specimen was a climber with tiny snow-white flowers, a really attractive plant.

It is Acacia season and we had a few beauties with *A. baileyana* both the usual form and *ssp purpurea*. I know this plant is considered a pest and a weed in many areas, but it is magnificent. *A. adunca* is a small tree to 6m, with fine weeping habit and lovely lemon-yellow ball-shaped flowers. *A. rigens* is a small shrub up to 2m, again with fine phylodes and bright yellow flower 'balls'.

Among the others of interest was a lovely little Senecio of unknown species, covered in masses of tiny, yellow, daisy-like flowers. A was a lovely little pale yellow *Dryandra piniata*, a pink and a red *Phebalium nottei*, and a very nice pale purple *Isopogon cuneata x buxifolia*.

The star of the table for me was a delightful *Petrophile biloba*. This plant has tiny, extremely sharp holly-like leaves which are deepest green and very shiny. Set against this are racemes of pale lilac flowers with deep yellow styles. A very pretty specimen indeed.



PLANT OF THE MONTH

Guichenotia macrantha

By Dianne Royce

I have had this plant in my garden since December 2015 after receiving it, from fellow member Roger Wileman, in a 6inch pot with the following comment: It's a great plant to grow, you'll love it.

It's in a north-facing position in front of my dining-room window. The garden bed has been well developed with lots gypsum, various sized sands and lots of organic matter so I think it's healthy and free draining.

The plant has reached a height of about 1m and has a similar spread. It is quite open. This year it's just covered with small, mauve, bell-shaped flowers.

The information below about the plant has been sourced from Wikipedia, ANSPA, and Australian Native Plants 6th Ed by J. Wrigley & M. Fagg.

G. macrantha is a small shrub (from 0.2m to 2.0m) of the *Malvaceae* family and it is a genus of up to 17 members, all endemic to Western Australia. The genus is named after Antoine Guichenot, a botanical collector, and Greek words macros and anthos meaning large flower.



Russian botanist Nikolai Turczaninow described the plant in 1846. Flowers can range in colour from pink to mauve, and while appearing in winter and spring, they need some frost protection. The foliage is grey. While it naturally grows in poor soils, well-drained sunny positions bring out its best. However, it can tolerate partial shade.

G. macrantha is identified as an excellent rockery plant. Propagation can be achieved from both seed and from cuttings from firm, current season's growth.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August Meeting – Members' Night. Members will be asked to speak for 5 – 15 minutes on any relevant topic they would like. Talk can be accompanied by photos, specimens or demonstration. Don't be shy!

September Meeting – Propagation, Grafting and Division. Members will share their expertise with various methods of propagation.

October Meeting – Cathy Powers – Moths. Cathy has spoken to us a couple of times and is a knowledgeable and engaging speaker. At the time of printing Cathy is away and has not confirmed her topic, but 'Moths' was discussed with her previously.

November Meeting – Rare Plant Auction

EXCURSIONS

We have a number of excursions planned for the coming months. Please let us know of your interest so that a bus can be arranged if required.

System Garden – University of Melbourne, Sunday 20th August 2017 11am. This is a rare opportunity to view this garden, not usually open to the public on weekends. The System Garden is open for the student open day as is the Herbarium. The University will be full of parents and students and parking will be hard to find so public transport may be the best option. If there are enough members interested we will meet at the System Garden gates at 11am. Please contact Bruce at bsmcginness@gmail.com if you have an interest in attending.

Pomonal wildflower show - 7th & 8th October

Always an amazing display, and a great weekend or day trip. If there is enough interest a bus could be organised for Sunday 8th October. Please let us know as soon as possible if you might be interested.

Bev and John Hanson's garden in Warrandyte. Trip will be on **Sunday 29th October**.

Bev Hanson spoke to us in March 2016 on her landscaping ideas — her garden looks impressive. Check out the website below:

www.anpsa.org.au/design/hanson.html

Melton Botanic Gardens. 26th November. This is a wonderful garden set on flat ground for easy walking. The Eucalyptus arboretum should be amazing at that time of year. The nursery will be open on that day also.

PHOTO COMPETITION.

Once again we held our photo competition with the AGM with the usual format. Three categories were contested:- Australian Plants, Australian wildlife and Australian Landscapes with prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each category. The photos were of a very high standard again, but I think there were fewer contributors this year.

And the winners were ...

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS.



Roger Wileman took this first prize winning photo of fungi (not strictly speaking plants) in the Otway Ranges recently



The fabulous Flying Duck Orchid, *Caleana major*, was captured by Nicole Leach on the Bert Boardman Walk in the Brisbane Ranges.

We had a three way tie for third, with Frank Scheelings image of the Austral or Southern Spider-orchid, *Arachnorchis australis* taken in the Anglesea Heathlands, and Carmel Addlem's shots of Pink and White Everlasting, *Rhodanthe chlorocephala*, and Sturt's Desert Pea, *Swainsona Formosa*, both taken at the Melton Botanic Gardens.



AUSTRALIAN LANDSCAPES

First place went to Roger Wileman for this very moody photo of Lake Toolondo.



Second place went to Carmel Addlem for her photo, taken at Carisbrooke Creek, of the quirky rock towers which are popping up all along the surfcoast in recent years.



And third goes to Roger Wileman for this photo of an avenue of Eucalypts at Corrigan W.A.



AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE

First prize went to Nicole Leach for her photo of a Lady Beetle on a Xerochrysum, taken in the Canberra Botanic Gardens.



Second place was Ade Foster's image of an excited Sulphur-crested Cockatoo from the Winton Wetlands.



And in third place was an *Ichneumanid* wasp taken by Frank Scheelings in the Queensland.



FOLLOW UP

Grevillea nana x tenuiloba

In the 'ON THE TABLE' column last month I mentioned a grevillea whose ID created some discussion. I put its picture in the newsletter too, and subsequently received this email from Phil Vaughan ...

'The grevillea standard in question, which was shown on a picture in the newsletter, is indeed G. nana x tenuiloba, which was a seedling raised by Neil Marriott. It is unfortunate that it seems to have found its way into cultivation with the wrong name attached. Grevillea nana has red flowers and the photo has the more orange blooms of the cross called "Thorny Devil". Hope this helps. Phil'

Whether this settles the matter or not, I'm unsure, but thanks for the input Phil!

FROM APS VICTORIA

INTERNATIONAL FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW, 2018

APS Victoria is going to have a presence at the Melbourne International & Flower Garden Show, 2018. We will be part of the Royal Horticultural Society stand.

We are looking for ideas, suggestions, offers of help and general enthusiasm in this project. If you have ideas or are able to assist in any way, please contact Dallas & Bernard Boulton at this email address ...

bernard.boulton@bigpond.com

or Ph: 0418 354 838

19th & 20th August – Field Naturalists Club of Victoria Biodiversity Symposium on Marine Biodiversity in the

21st Century. Details soon on website www.fncv.org.au.

2nd September - APS Wilson Park Plant Sale, Wilson Botanic Park, Princes Hwy, Berwick. 9 am to 4.00 pm

9th & 10th September - APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo, Eltham Community & Reception Centre.

16th & 17th September - APS Wangaratta hosts the APS Victoria Quarterly Gathering and AGM

23rd & 24th September - Bendigo Native Plants Group Australian Flower Show, Kangaroo Flat Primary School, 60-80 Olympic Parade, Kangaroo Flat, Bendigo. Plants, pottery & book sales. 9.30 am to 4.30 pm. Entry \$3.

ASSISTANCE IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED

This is my final newsletter before we head off for a very much anticipated holiday. Nicole Leach will be looking after the September and October newsletters while we are away.

I urge you all once again to consider writing an article for the newsletter. It really isn't difficult, or demanding, and doesn't need to be more than a couple of paragraphs.

I'm sure Nicole would love to hear from you if you feel the sudden urge ...

Shoot her an email at aidbookworm@hotmail.com

I also announced at the July meeting that this, my ninth year as editor, will be my last. I've enjoyed the task, but feel that, as with all things, it's time for a change. Perhaps the job would suit one of our members who is retired, and therefore has more time to devote to the newsletter than I do.



Grevillea paradoxa – just to fill the space ☺