



*Dillwynia sericea*

# NEWSLETTER

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY, MITCHELL GROUP INC.

aps.mitchell@gmail.com

PO Box 541, Kilmore, Victoria 3764

Inc# A0054306V

## November news....!

Hello and a warm welcome to our last edition for this year.

You'll have noticed a change in how our newsletter is delivered this month. We now have a brand new APS Mitchell Website:

[www.apsmitchell.org.au](http://www.apsmitchell.org.au)

Our newsletter emails will now contain a link to the current newsletter posted on the website where they can then be downloaded or simply viewed on the website. Hopefully this will prevent the recent problem of large file emails for which everyone has my deepest apology. I will endeavour to keep a very close eye on image file sizes in the future. Our website is still very much a work in progress and content will be added and updated progressively.

Last but by no means least a heartfelt & very



*Patersonia occidentalis*

Long Purple Flag

Photo: J Petts

appreciative thank you to all the helpers, supporters, participants and sponsors of our Spring Flower and Plant Expo. It turned out to be a wonderful day with all efforts producing a fantastic result. For a full report see page 4.

Our newsletter will return in February 2015, due out on the 2nd Monday (the 9th).

Please do keep all the fabulous photo's, articles and items of interest rolling in. The dead line for contributions is February 3rd (1st Monday) and can be sent to me at: [wattlegum@southernphone.com.au](mailto:wattlegum@southernphone.com.au) or Mailed to PO Box 381, Pyalong Vic 3521

Best wishes for the coming Christmas season, safe travels, pleasant holidays and a happy New Year to all!

Cheers, Jeanine

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## Christmas Drinks & Break up...

Anne Rose has kindly offered to open her garden to APS Mitchell members.

A garden visit along with Christmas break-up is scheduled for Sunday the 14th of December at 4 pm. Anne is providing the setting & BBQ to cook on. Visitors will need to bring chairs, plates, cutlery and what ever personal preference of drinks, meat or food to cook and a salad to share. For a detailed map please email Jeanine:

[wattlegum@southernphone.com.au](mailto:wattlegum@southernphone.com.au)

### Garden Visit & Christmas BBQ

Sunday December 14th  
4 pm:

180 South Mountain Road, Upper Plenty.  
Turn onto South Mountain Road from the Kilmore Epping Road. Travel 1.7 km, the driveway to No. 180 is on the right.

BYO chairs, drinks & BBQ Needs.

## November 2014

Volume 1, Issue 6

### Mitchell Diary Dates..

- **NOVEMBER 17th**  
**7:30pm MEETING/AGM**  
**Guest Speaker:**  
**Barbara Mau**  
**"Reinterpreting Glover's Garden".**

#### Please Note:

**Our Annual General Meeting (in its usual brief, succinct form) will be held prior to Barbara's talk.**

- **NOVEMBER 23rd\*2pm**  
**GARDEN VISIT to Barbara Mau's**  
**\*NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**  
**57 Curry Road, Kilmore**  
**Bring water bottles & sturdy footwear.**  
**Further details page 3.**

- **DECEMBER 14th 4pm**  
**GARDEN VISIT:**  
**The Garden of Anne Rose & Christmas Drinks/BBQ at 180 South Mountain Rd, Upper Plenty**  
**B.Y.O Drinks & BBQ Needs (More details at left).**

- **FEBRUARY 16th**  
**7:30pm MEETING**  
**Guest Speaker:**  
**To Be Advised.**

#### CALL TO ALL MEMBERS FOR GUEST SPEAKER IDEAS & TOPICS...

If you know of any speakers or have any topics you would like to hear about please email Brian & Lorraine:  
[lorraine\\_brian@bigpond.com](mailto:lorraine_brian@bigpond.com)



## Seeking writers & photographers...

From Lachlan Garland

As Editor of *Growing Australian* I'm writing seeking the writers and photographers amongst APS Mitchell Group.

This invitation is for any member interested in writing an article or item for *Growing Australian*. The topic is open to the individual, but may be something along the lines of a favourite plant; an interesting garden, park or reserve featuring native plants; or a gardening technique they find successful.

I know it can be daunting writing that first article, so anyone interested can contact me to discuss what they plan to write.

Perhaps there is an article by a member in your branch's newsletter

that may be of interest to the wider APS Vic members. If so, please let me know.

For the photographers amongst you, there is the possibility of submitting a photo for possible inclusion as the cover image. The photo ideally would be in portrait size to allow the GA banner to be positioned above the main subject of the photo. Obviously only four photos are used each year, so something spectacular is what I'm after.

If not the front cover, there is always the option of a photo-article.

A greater number of APS Vic members contributing will make *Growing Australian* an even better publication.

Regards,

Lachlan  
Editor  
*Growing Australian*

Email:  
[lachlangarland@bigpond.com](mailto:lachlangarland@bigpond.com)



*Patersonia occidentalis* (Form)  
Long Purple Flag Photo: J Petts

**MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE  
3rd MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
(February to November)**

**In the John Taylor room at  
Kilmore Library**

**12 Sydney Street, Kilmore**

**Entry \$2.00 Gold Coin**

**Guest Speaker**

**Door Prizes**

**Plant Sales**

**Fertilizer Sales**

**(APS Mitchell Slow Release  
fertiliser \$5.00 per 500g)**

**Use of the APS Mitchell free  
Library ( See Barbara)**

**Supper & Chat**

**VISITORS VERY WELCOME**

Members & Visitors are  
encouraged to bring along  
exhibits for our Flower

Specimen Table

Please label plants

## November Meeting - Monday the 17th 7:30pm

APS Mitchell's own Barbara Mau is presenting "Reinterpreting Glover's Garden" - her own research project. John Glover immigrated to Australia in 1831 and after settling in Tasmania is credited with being one of the first artists to appreciate Australia's country side. With his focus on landscapes he is regarded as the most important of all our early colonial painters. Barbara's five year project focused on identifying the plant species of the Kilmore area and developing a colonial artist's garden design incorporating existing local species. Other aims of the project were to produce a sustainable horticultural model. Also to re-employ colonial garden design in a contemporary context to raise awareness of indigenous landscape loss. Bringing both knowledge of flora loss in the Kilmore region to reinstate a local indigenous habitat in the context of an artist garden and site-sensitivity concepts in art practice to the garden were also features of the project.

This is sure to be a fascinating subject with many practical aspects to be of interest so come along & join us.



*Arthropodium strictum* -  
Chocolate Lily  
Photo: J Petts

## Memberships...

**A big, warm welcome to the following members who joined at our Spring Plant Expo:**

**Dawn McCormack, Elizabeth McCormick, Annie Goble & Tony Byrne. ☺**

For membership/renewal enquiries please contact Bill Barker- Phone: 5783 3838.



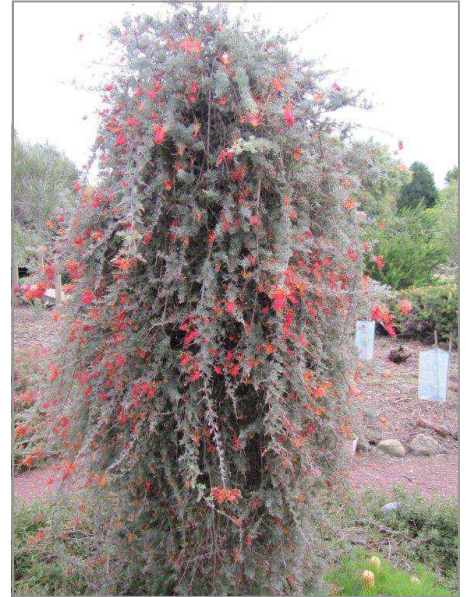
## *Grevillea Humifusa*

*By Brian Weir*



I have had this beautiful grevillea growing as a standard on Grevillea robusta since 2002 and every year it gets better.

We receive some very severe frosts (down to -4c) which can take all the flowers off and kill some outer branches but with a prune, back it comes. A black bird has nested in it for 3 years, and the plant feeds countless New Holland Honeyeaters & Wattle birds daily for months at a time.



## *Garden Visit - Quarry Ridge Vineyard ...*

*By Barbara Mau*

**Garden Visit, Sunday, November 23, 2.00pm**

### **A little background...**

The indigenous garden at Quarry Ridge Vineyard, Kilmore, was developed as the practical component of a Masters in Fine Art by Research degree. A Colonial garden design was used as a cultural reference to the early settlers who began the transformation of the 'Australian Landscape' as we know it today.

Colonial artist John Glover selected Patterdale at Mills' Plains, Tasmania, as his principle place of residence in 1832. Amongst other activities he established an artist's garden. This was possibly the first substantive garden in the Colony consciously designed by a person with recognised artistic sensibilities. It is the north-south orientation of Glover's garden plan that underpins the layout of the 'Artist's Garden' project at Quarry Ridge.

Indigenous species of the Kilmore Region have been planted into the

raised, rectilinear garden beds that replicated John Glover's 1832 garden, (Glover had planted mainly exotic plants, bought with him when he emigrated from England in 1830). The project garden sits at 320 meters above sea level, and its red volcanic soil slopes west joining the northern boundary of the Volcanic Plains.

The confluence of 3 Bioregions determined the choice of plants:

1. Central Victorian Uplands,
2. Victorian Northern Falls and
3. Victorian Volcanic Plains

The garden sits on the site of the Old Kilmore Bluestone Quarry. The land is reasonably steep but does have steps for easier walking. Our house is nearing completion but the area around it, and parts of the pending garden, are still a construction site. It may be a good idea for everyone to wear sturdy shoes, bring a hat and something to drink if it is hot. There is no electricity or drinkable water on site.

As the garden is very young (only

two years old), there is no real maturity particularly in the trees and shrubs, I hope that this does not disappoint. There is a shady pergola for sitting, taking a spell, having a drink and to look at the beautiful views. The site around the upper garden is quite rough, stony and has potential to be slippery. It is for this reason that it may be advisable to leave cars on Curry Road near the property entry. A short walk down the driveway from the letter-box could be an easier option, and save car congestion on the steep drive.

Everyone is most welcome to come and take a look. Keep fingers crossed for a still and sunny day to enjoy the occasion.

The address is:

57 Curry Road

Kilmore

Mobile 0411 563 423

Looking forward to welcoming those of you who can make it.

Barbara

## 2014 Spring Flower & Plant Expo Report (Our 4th)...

By Brian Weir

The APS Mitchell Committee started Planning for the Expo in May, we decided to have a change of date, add more sellers, a different pricing structure for sellers, a different form of advertising and to try and become more self sufficient with the equipment required to run the Expo to slowly reduce our reliance on the APS Yarra Yarra group. The invitations were sent to the sellers and we waited, fingers crossed, hoping... We had 8 out of the 9 replies in the affirmative, "you rippa" we were on the way.

I don't like to single out individuals for their efforts but I feel I have to name a few.

Neil Humphreys was extremely busy purchasing test tubes, making test tube and name holding blocks, risers for the flower display, as well as organising the advertising.

Jeanine Petts commenced as editor of our newsletter (and doing a fantastic job) advertising the expo in every edition which is mailed far and wide on different networks.

Lorraine Weir for wanting to expand the expo and having something different, for helping me hand out 750 advertising flyers at the Wallan market.

In the last couple of weeks before the Expo Mike Williams was invaluable for his advice and being able to help us yet again with equipment, thanks mate.

Friday the day before the Expo was set up day, quite a few of us were at the Memorial Hall in Kilmore at 12 noon and we fired up.

Barbara Mau who had already played logistics officer helping to shift my plants, took over as interior design boss setting up the 40 plus tables, and what a great job she did. There was a fair sized crew in the kitchen trimming and naming flowers for the display.

Here I have to give special thanks to friends of APS Mitchell and mates of ours Ros & Graeme Woods from Gisborne, they brought a huge amount of flowers from their garden, then worked for several hours (while Ros was crook) trimming, naming and displaying. Thanks guys, it was appreciated so much.

Expo Morning saw us at the Memorial Hall at 7am and from then on it was go, go, go.

Lorraine and I set up our plants in our usual spot. Steve Fowles from Whittlesea brought up 480 plants on consignment for APS Mitchell to sell, great plants they were too.

John Forrester of Melton set up on his 5 tables (first time he had ever had tables to set up on in 15 years of markets). As well as selling native plants John also drives "Puffing Billy" If I wasn't 110 I would race him next year.

Marcela & Quentin arrived with their native bonsai trees, and what magnificent plants they were, the oldest being about 40 years of age, wow! They also gave two demo's during the day, thanks guys hope to see you again next year.



John



Bonsai Demonstration

Photos: Neil Humphreys

(Continued on page 5)



## 2014 Spring Flower & Plant Expo Report ...

(Continued from page 4)

Mike Cincotta from La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary Environmental Operations Department, brought along a great selection of indigenous tube stock plants which were surely sort after.

Joan & Peter Broughton from Ironstone Park came with their fine selection of great quality plants. Peter & Joan have been with us since our first Expo, thanks for the support, hope your new home is finished quickly, and you can participate again next year.

The Kilmore Art Society set up on Friday arvo with some very classy paintings. Maureen Runge led the way with some of her fine art work, oh to have the ability (Three paintings sold on the day).

Janet Hand again participated at the expo with her love of birds and with her ability to entertain children she really was fantastic.

Last man in was the backbone of the Expo Mike Williams, Mike had a couple of tables of Acacias, Correas, Thomasias and assorted plants which looked a really fine quality selection. On top of being chief photographer Neil also held the fort at the APS Book stall.

Come 3:00pm there were some very tired folk around but the day was a huge success and I believe it will only get bigger and better with everyone's help. The door prize was drawn by Lorraine and won by a local lady and member Pauline Mahoney.

On the set up & expo days we had a great crew of people, please don't be offended if I missed your name, just give me a kick in the a... next time you see me. Lorraine, Barbara, Neil, Bill, Mike, Jeanine, Ros, Graeme, Maureen, Chris, Ian, Leanne, Alex, Victoria, Cynthia, Benjamin, Paul, Dianne, Terri, Andrew, Emily, Benjamin, Jacinta & Maria.

I cannot end this report without special mention to Victoria, Victoria was sentenced to life in the kitchen, making tea & coffee, all day she toiled, always with a smile and kept us all going, cheers Vic!

P.S. A special word of thanks to Amy Hume from the North Central Review for her articles on our Expo and to our Sponsors the Mitchell Shire Council and Coles Wallan. Their support is invaluable & very much appreciated. (Ed.) (For more photos see [www.apsmitchell.org.au](http://www.apsmitchell.org.au))



Mike Cincotta



Joan & Peter



Janet



Above: Mike Williams & Jeanine

Left: Bill & Victoria

Far Left: Lorraine



Photos: Neil Humphreys

## October Meeting Report *(The Flavour & Fragrance Industry)*

*Preamble by Jeanine Petts & guest speaker article by Neil Humphreys*

Some very tired committee members and Plant Expo helpers along with familiar faces and 3 of our 4 fresh newly signed up members turned up for our October meeting (So great to see you!). The evening kicked off with a little information from the Expo - We had 202 people through the door and made \$250 dollars in plant sales for the group.

Neil had set up a display of all our lovely new library books which have been obtained thanks to a \$654.00 grant from the Mitchell Shire. After cataloguing the books should be available for members to borrow from the November meeting onwards. We hope to co-ordinate with the Mitchell Library and share access to our library collection. Lorraine put a bit of fun into the evening auctioning off some of the left over perishables from the Expo. Coffee went for \$10, Sugar \$2, various biscuit packs for \$2 & \$3, tea bags \$1 and finally Chux at .50c all adding up to a little bit back into group funds - Thank you to all those who purchased.

To our delighted interest it turned out that Neil was to be our 'surprise' speaker. The CFA speaker had fallen through but Neil's talk on "The Flavour & Fragrance Industry & The Search for a Novel Fragrance" (put together over the weekend) kept us all engaged & asking questions. Sadly (but not surprisingly) my note taking skills were not up to scratch so Neil has saved my bacon & produced the following article (Thank you Neil)...

### **THE FLAVOUR & FRAGRANCE INDUSTRY & THE SEARCH FOR A NOVEL FRAGRANCE**

The Flavour and Fragrance Industry has been in existence for many hundreds of years and yet is an industry largely unknown to the general population despite its impact on the everyday life of most of us.

Flavours and Fragrances have a multitude of uses including, replicating nature, compensating for natural aroma and or flavour loss during processing, masking unpleasant ingredients, evoking pleasant memories or feelings.

The Industry was reported to have a global turnover in 2013 of US\$24.0 billion and is expected to grow at around 6.0% annually.

### **Five major companies control more than 60% of the global market.**

Givaudan (Swiss)	US\$ 4.9 billion
Firmenich (Swiss)	US\$ 3.3 billion
I.F.F. (USA)	US\$ 3.0 billion
Symrise (Germany)	US\$ 2.5 billion
Takasago (Japan)	US\$ 1.3 billion
Others	US\$ 9.0 billion
TOTAL	US\$ 24.0 billion

The business is divided approximately into 3 major categories.

Flavours

Fragrances

Ingredients

The exact split of these three categories is not reported however the division is around 1/3 for each.

### **FLAVOURS**

Flavours are used in a wide range of food, beverage, oral hygiene and pharmaceutical products.

*(Continued on page 7)*

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## *The Flavour & Fragrance Industry continued...*

*By Neil Humphreys*

*(Continued from page 6)*

### **FRAGRANCES**

Although most people connect the word "fragrance" with the high class perfume market, fragrances are used extensively in many and varied applications from cosmetics to products in the areas of personal care, laundry, and household products.

### **INGREDIENTS**

As a result of the extensive research programs of these companies, many proprietary ingredients giving specific flavour or aroma characteristics discovered. Many of these remain confidential and are used exclusively in the company's products. Others after patenting are promoted and sold throughout the industry.

The F & F industry works in close and strictly confidential collaboration with product manufacturers designing flavours or fragrances which define the market positioning of the end product, satisfy consumer expectations, remain stable throughout processing, storage and end use and comply with the legislation of the countries in which the product will be sold.

### **KEY EMPLOYEES**

The key employees of the industry are:-

Research Scientists - devoted to discovering new aromatic molecules both natural and synthetic.

Perfumers and Flavourists - a highly skilled group of individuals, part scientist and part artist able to create the products which impact the flavour or fragrance of the products which reach the market.

Application Technologists - technicians trained in all areas of end product technology who can produce commercial products into which new creations can be tested for efficacy and stability.

### **THE SEARCH FOR A NOVEL FRAGRANCE**

In the early 1980's a major manufacturer requested a Boronia fragrance for a new product.

In normal circumstances the essential oil of a plant would be extracted from harvested material, the extracted oil analysed to identify its' key scent components. These components could then be synthesised and recombined to create a fragrance of similar profile to the natural product.

At the time Boronia was a protected native plant in W.A. Sampling or harvesting for analysis was prohibited and therefore the traditional methods of extraction of essential oils for analysis were not possible.

Therefore an alternative method to capture the scent of the Boronia flower was necessary.

A brilliant research scientist, Roman Kaiser of the Swiss company Givaudan developed a method of capturing the fragrance of a flower without damaging the plant.

This method is known as "Headspace Capture"

With permission from WA authorities and the assistance of Rangers he was able to capture the fragrance of *Boronia megastigma*.

### **HEADSPACE CAPTURE (1)**

The headspace equipment involves a hollow dome or sphere-like objects which forms an airtight seal and

*(Continued on page 8)*



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## *The Flavour & Fragrance Industry continued...*

*By Neil Humphreys*

*(Continued from page 7)*

surrounds the objects of interest. Inert gases are passed into the space containing the object or a vacuum is established such that the odour compounds are removed from the headspace.<sup>[3]</sup> These compounds are in turn captured using a variety of techniques among them cold surfaces, solvent traps, and adsorbent materials, with the latter techniques capable of longer periods of collection. The samples can then be analyzed using techniques such as [gas chromatography](#), [mass spectrometry](#), or Carbon-13 [NMR](#).<sup>[4]</sup>

(1) Wikipedia - Headspace Technology

(3) Charles (Ed.), Sell; Karen Jenner (2005). "Chapter 14. The Search for Fragrance Ingredients". *The Chemistry of Fragrances* (2nd ed.). Royal Society of Chemistry Publishing. pp. 254–293. [ISBN 978-0-85404-824-3](#).

(4) Charles (Ed.), Sell; Robin Clery (2005). "Chapter 12. Natural Product Analysis in the Fragrance Industry". *The Chemistry of Fragrances* (2nd ed.). Royal Society of Chemistry Publishing. pp. 214–228. [ISBN 978-0-85404-824-3](#).



Roman Kaiser, the Givaudan Research Scientist who perfected headspace capture for the analysis of botanical scents.

### **THE FRAGRANCE**

From the analysis of the captured scent, the components that give Boronia its characteristic fragrance could be identified.

By synthesising these components and recombining them in their correct proportions, a successful Boronia fragrance was created.

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## Orchids around Wallan in October...

By Paul Piko

As some of you know, native orchids are a hobby of mine. I am not a grower, but like to find and photograph them in their natural habitats. I was Terrestrial Study Group coordinator for the Australasian Native Orchid Society (Victoria) for a couple of years, have led orchid walks for the Shire of Nillumbik and participated in orchid searches and working bees with ANOS (Vic), DEPI and Parks Victoria.

There are over 350 species of native orchids in Victoria. Some grow in deserts, some in swamps, some by the coast, others in alpine regions. There are species that only flower under particular conditions, such as most of the sun orchids (*Thelymitra* sp) that like it to be warm, or the red-beak orchid (*Pyrorchis nigricans*) that flowers best after fires. Some species only flower for a day, while others can flower for weeks. Some flower one year and not the next. The timing of flowering also varies according to species; at any time of the year there are some orchid species flowering, with probably only February/March being the quieter time.

Since moving to Wallan I haven't had as much time to look for orchids locally as I would like, so when I heard of the Wildflower Walk at Poulter's Lane I was very happy that I was able to attend. We found four species of orchid in flower: *Chiloglottis valida* (Common Bird Orchid), *Calochilus robertsonii* (Purple Beard Orchid), *Thelymitra ixiodes* (Spotted Sun Orchid) and *Diuris sulphurea* (Tiger/hornet Orchid). There were over a hundred *Chiloglottis valida* in the one patch, with a quarter of those with spent flowers and the other three quarters in good bloom. The *Calochilus robertsonii* numbered over a dozen and looked to have recently started flowering. There were large numbers of *Thelymitra* in bud but only a couple that opened as the coolish day started to warm up; with *Thelymitra* you need to be able to examine the flower to determine the exact species since many are very similar. The *Diuris sulphurea* were mostly still in bud but a few had opened.

A couple of days earlier I was also able to stop by Old Sydney Road and Beckingsale Bush Reserve, where three other orchids were in flower:

*Thelymitra pauciflora* (Slender Sun Orchid), *Thelymitra rubra* (Salmon Sun Orchid) and *Glossodia major* (Waxlip Orchid). The *Glossodia* majors were at the end of their flowering for this year.

Photos of these orchids can be found here:

<http://www.piko.com.au/photography/wallan201410.html>

I am happy to discuss native orchids with anyone who is interested. Let me know if you have some orchids you would like identified, or know of orchid sites in the area. You can contact me via email: [paul@piko.com.au](mailto:paul@piko.com.au)

Paul



*Chiloglottis valida*  
Common Bird Orchid  
Photo: Paul Piko



*Thelymitra ixiodes*  
Spotted Sun Orchid  
Photo: Paul Piko

## *Rare Orchid at Monument Hill...*

*By Paul Piko*

In February 2014 I was fortunate to find and photograph a rare orchid at Kilmore's Monument Hill. It was the Spotted Hyacinth Orchid, *Dipodium pardalinum*. It is on DEPI's 2014 List of Rare or Threatened Plants in Victoria, along with another three *Dipodium*s. Victoria has six *Dipodium* species, so that means there are only two that are not on the list. In Victoria, *Dipodium pardalinum* generally occurs in the western and central regions.



*Dipodium pardalinum*  
Spotted Hyacinth Orchid  
Photo: Paul Piko

The Victorian *Dipodium*s do not have any leaves, having a symbiotic relationship with a mycorrhizal fungus. They appear as a bare stalk rising 70-100cm tall, with up to 30-60 flowers towards the top. They flower over summer, with tepals that are 15-20mm long. The most common *Dipodium* is the Rosy Hyacinth Orchid, *Dipodium roseum*, found across most of the state. The next most common is the Purple Hyacinth Orchid, *Dipodium punctatum*. In contrast to the pink/purple-on-white flowers of the others, the endangered *Dipodium hamiltonianum* has predominantly yellow flowers.

The presence of *Dipodium pardalinum* at Monument Hill was passed on to people responding to the proposed locations of the Wallan-Kilmore bypass.

As we head into the summer months, keep your eye out for *Dipodium*s. The things that help distinguish one species from another are the colouring, the patterns, the shape of the tepals, the number of flowers and the height of the plant. Contact me if you need help with identification. An indicator of *Dipodium pardalinum* is the presence of spots on the labellum (the lower lip the protrudes from the flower), rather than being striped or a solid colour.

You can see more of my photography here:

<http://www.piko.com.au/photography>

You can contact me via email: [paul@piko.com.au](mailto:paul@piko.com.au)

Note: The Threatened Species Advisory Lists published by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries can be found at the following URL.

<http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/environment-and-wildlife/threatened-species-and-communities/threatened-species-advisory-lists>



*Dipodium roseum*  
Rosy Hyacinth Orchid  
Photo: Paul Piko



*Dipodium punctatum*  
Purple Hyacinth Orchid  
Photo: Paul Piko



*Dipodium hamiltonianum*  
Yellow Hyacinth Orchid  
Photo: Paul Piko

## Weed Warning!

By Paul Piko



*Disa bracteata*

*Disa bracteata* is a South African orchid that is classified as a weed in Australia, sprouting in spring and flowering from October to December. There are multiple flowers on each plant, each able to produce one thousand minute seeds that are viable up to seven years. *D. bracteata* self-pollinates and can reproduce via seed or vegetatively via tubers. It can spread up to 10 kilometres per year, out-competing native orchids, lilies and grasses.

This weed occurs across southern Australia and is present in the Mitchell Shire. To prevent its spread

it is best to first bag the plant to limit seed distribution. Then remove the plant from the ground, being careful to also remove the tubers, of which there can be up to three, measuring 20mm. It should then be incinerated. The photos show the *D. bracteata* and the native *Microtis unifolia* (Common Onion Orchid) that was growing under 30cm away.

Photos: Paul Piko *Microtis unifolia* - Common Onion Orchid (Native)



## Garden Guide- What's to do in November...

By Barbara Mau

With the harder, physical work of winter out of the way, pottering in your spring garden savouring every sensory moment, or enjoying the spectacular abundance of wild flowers in our local protected parklands, is such a bonus. Keep an eye out for the many beautiful and numerous visiting butterflies and the solitary native blue banded and cuckoo bees.

Should you be inspired to do additional planting, then be sure to keep the young plants watered over summer until they are well established. Mulching around the root zone will help conserve water. Keep your young plants weed free as weeds compete for water and nutrients. Weed removal is an on going chore and I find that organic mulching and or pebble mulch, and close planting, will greatly reduce the task.

Seed collection is something that can be done over November and

the summer months. Should you be collecting from remnant vegetation or public land it is important to be judicious in the amount of seed you take. As a rule no more than 10% from any given species is acceptable, otherwise you should have a licence to do so. See the link to a good PDF put out for the Goulbourn Broken Catchment area:

<http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/revegetation/chapters/pdf/ch16.PDF>

From now and through the coming months it is time to give some of your native shrubs a bit of a prune after they have finished flowering. This stops them growing 'leggy' and promotes new growth and flowers for the next season. There are many species that will benefit from the process, so it is worth looking up the shrubs in your garden to check before you get the secateurs out!

I list just a few locals for you that, I find, respond well to a 'hair cut':

*Correa reflexa*, *C. glabra*, *Dodonaea viscosa*, *Dillwynia cinerascens*, *D. sericea*, *Eutaxia microphylla*, *Gynatrix pulchella*, *Ozothamnus ferrugineus*.

As this is the last Garden Guide until February 2015, I wish you all wonderful times in your summer garden, a joyous and peaceful Christmas with your families and friends, and a very happy and prosperous New Year.



*Ozothamnus ferrugineus* - Tree Everlasting  
Photo: Russell Best, NatureShare

<http://natureshare.org.au/observations/53b3985ae35eb12984010a7e?species=Ozothamnus+ferrugineus>



## Reminders, A P S Victoria Diary Dates & Other Events

### Thank you

• For comments, compliments & various contributions of articles, event information, photo's, feedback, proof-reading, hunting up info when asked and general support. A BIG THANK YOU TO: Helen Appleby, Janice Baker, Bill Barker, Neil Humphreys, Lachlan Garland, Barbara Mau, Maureen Runge & Lorraine & Brian Weir. AN EXTRA BIG THANK YOU TO OUR NEWEST CONTRIBUTOR: Paul Piko

### OPEN GARDENS AUSTRALIA...

**December 6 & 7** - Christmas Fair at Bolinda Vale, 1556 Lancefield Rd, Clarkefield 10 am - 4:30 pm Entry \$8.00 A traditional country garden and a dramatic, exciting new area created by Phillip Johnson, Phillip will conduct guided tours at 11 am & 1 pm. Also enjoy local wines & olive oils, home-made produce & products, a coffee cart and bronze bird baths by Willie wildlife Sculptures for sale.

### VICTORIAN NATIVE BONSAI CLUB...

**April 11-12, 2015** - Australian Plants as Bonsai - Fourth

National Symposium, to be held at venues associated with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, to be hosted by VNBC. Further information on the program and arrangements for registration for the Symposium to be advised

### A P S VIC DIARY DATES...

**May 3, 2015** - APS Yarra Yarra Autumn Plant Sale & Propagation Demonstrations, Cnr Brougham St & Main Rd, Eltham. 10 am - 3 pm Melways 21 J7.

**'Grasslands'**... Imagine what Melbourne looked like before the city was built, when the ground was covered in flowering grassland... This spring, award-winning artist Linda Tegg will transform the forecourt of the State Library using hundreds of specially grown native plants and grasses to re-create the once lushly planted and extraordinarily diverse flowering landscape. Grasslands, a grand meditation on nature versus culture. **Open Saturday 11 October 2014 - Sunday 23 November 2014**

**Cost:** Free

**Venue:** Library forecourt

328 Swanston Street, Melbourne

## Committee & Contact Information

**AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY, MITCHELL GROUP INC.**  
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### Committee Members

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Treasurer/Memberships	Bill Barker 5783 3838
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For inclusion in the next Newsletter please forward contributions prior to the first Monday of each month.

## Query Corner?

Members are welcome to send in questions, wish lists, has anyone got? Does anyone know? Where can I find, Etc... Just email your questions to Jeanine at

[wattlegum@southernphone.com.au](mailto:wattlegum@southernphone.com.au)

or contact me via Mobile on 0409 029 603.

Queries will be published in the following newsletter.



*Dilhynia sericea* - Showy Parrot Pea ? (Please let me know if I've identified this correctly.) Photo: J Petts