

# NEWSLETTER



## AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

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PO Box 541, Kilmore Victoria, 3764

Inc# A0054306V

### October news....!

Hello and welcome to our October 2019 edition...

Arriving home to my young *Prostanthera incisa* blooming for the first time was a pleasant surprise (see right). A little worrying was the fact that our rain gauge only held a total 20mm for the previous 4 weeks. So it is with fingers crossed that we're hoping for a good selection of plants in bloom in time the Expo—now only days away.

We'll be needing as many flower specimens from as many sources as possible, & as much help from members as can be spared to make our Expo as good as it can possibly be. So, even if you only have a few specimens flowering in your garden, or can only spare just a little time on Friday & or Saturday, please see our "Help Wanted" ad below, & let Ian know if & when you can come along and join the crew. No experience is needed & it's a great way to get to know your fellow members & learn a little along the way. Any & all help is greatly appreciated & you'll be fed too!



*Prostanthera incisa* -

Cut-leaved Mint Bush Photo: J Petts

Our next newsletter will be issued on or within a few days of Monday November 11th. Contributions to our newsletter both large & small are always very, very welcome! Please send contributions in by Monday November 4th. Email to: [wattlegum@southernphone.com.au](mailto:wattlegum@southernphone.com.au) or post to PO Box 381 Pyalong Vic 3521.

See you at the Expo & cheers for now,  
Jeanine ☺

#### Inside this issue:

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### Expo & Plant Sale HELP WANTED...

**Friday 18th October**  
- Setup:

Time: From 1pm

**Saturday 19th October** - Help with stalls.

**Friday:** Bring your plant samples.

Activities: Room set up, labelling & set up display plant samples.

**No experience needed**

**Supper/Dinner provided at the end of the day.**

**More info contact Ian: 0438270248**

Thanks to everyone who has already confirmed to help.



## October 2019

Volume 6, Issue 9

### Mitchell Diary Dates..

- **FRIDAY OCT 18th, Set up for Expo from 1pm**  
Kilmore Memorial Hall  
Sydney St, Kilmore
- **SATURDAY OCT 19th, 9am-3pm SPRING PLANT EXPO & SALE**  
Kilmore Memorial Hall  
Sydney St, Kilmore
- **MONDAY OCTOBER 21st, 7:30pm- EVENING MEETING: Slideshow - WA road trip - Flora & scenic images.**
- **MONDAY NOV 18th, 7:30pm MEETING - APS Mitchell 10th Anniversary Celebration (Anniversary Cake, Wine & Cheese night) & AGM**  
Guest Speaker: Glenda Lewin - WAMA: Wildlife Art Museum of Australia
- **CHRISTMAS BREAKUP BBQ - Date & details to be advised**



## Gardens for Wildlife News...

By Ian Julian



New Holland Honey-eater  
Image: Birdlife Australia

### Aussie Backyard Bird Count...

'Tis the season for birds and birdwatching, so take part in the [Aussie Backyard Bird Count](https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/#register) from 21–27 October.



[Register for the 2019 Aussie Backyard Bird Count](https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/#register)  
<https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/#register>

MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE  
3rd MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
(February to November)  
unless otherwise advised

Commencing 7:30 pm in the  
John Taylor Room, Kilmore  
Library, Sydney Street,  
Kilmore Vic 3764

Entry \$2.00 Gold Coin

Guest Speaker

Door Prizes

Plant Sales

Use of the APS Mitchell free  
Library

Supper & Chat

VISITORS VERY WELCOME

Members & Visitors are  
encouraged to bring along  
exhibits for our "Show & Tell"  
Flower Specimen Table

Please label plants



### October Meeting: Monday 21st 7:30pm...

The committee recently discovered that our very own newsletter editor went just a little shutterbug happy during her recent visit to WA. So, our October meeting will feature a slide show of flora & other scenic images that Jeanine came home with. Not all of the species photographed have been identified as yet, & our trusty newsletter editor may not have the time to work through & name all the images ahead of the meeting.



*Lachnostachys verbascifolia* var. *verbascifolia*  
(most likely) or possibly  
*var. paniculata* – Lamb's Tails  
Photo: J Petts

Do come along for a very relaxed pictorial tour from a road trip over the Nullarbor across to WA, around Esperance & surrounds, Cape Le Grand, Wave Rock, the Porongurup Ranges, & coastal explorations east of Albany & back along part of the WA South Coast. There are some very interesting & unusual looking plants among the collection, & all contributions to aid in recognition and naming any of the as yet unidentified plant images will be very greatly appreciated - Audience participation will be both welcome & encouraged.

As always, our regular plant raffle & Flower Specimen Table will follow the slide show, so feel free to bring some specimens from your garden for display & discussion. Supper and chat will conclude the evening, & remember: Visitors, guests and friends are very welcome at APS Mitchell meetings.

### Memberships...

The latest count of membership numbers has revealed that we now have paid up memberships covering 41 individuals - So thank you to everyone who has joined or renewed for 2019-2020. We do however, have a puzzle to solve... One membership was paid using the direct deposit reference: **Gjsb&Jeb** & we can't work out who you are! If this is you, please let Christine know, & send your completed membership form along asap: Ph: 0458 238 270 Email: [aps.mitchell@gmail.com](mailto:aps.mitchell@gmail.com) Membership information, forms and contact information can also be found at our website: [www.apsmitchell.org.au](http://www.apsmitchell.org.au)

## September Meeting Report - Wilsons Prom Flora...

By Ian Julian

Geoff Lay's presentation on Wilsons Prom Flora – The background; He has been a keen bushwalker, naturalist and photographer for over 50 years, having now collected over 40,000 images of Australia. His "humble" ambition is to photograph every plant and fungus in Australia, and after 50 years is 25% of the way there. He is a mathematician and worked as an actuary, joining the Maroondah branch of Australian Plants Society over 30 years ago, then later joining the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, which, has a keen fungi group. For some time he has also been fortunate enough to be a volunteer at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne. The talk consisted mainly of beautiful pictures of Wilsons Prom taken over many years – Beginning from first visiting the lighthouse in 1968. At the Prom; majestic mountains plunge directly into the ocean, the water is tinted brown, the rocks are covered in orange lichen, and there are glorious beaches everywhere. Flowers and other flora cover the park, especially in spring. There was a beneficial effect from the bushfires that burnt almost the entire park in the 2000's, which, cleared out the overgrowth of Tea Tree and *Kunzea*, and allowed great variety of flora to grow again.



At first view of "the Prom" at Tidal River; the river is brown from the tannin from the Tea-tree headland, and there is little vegetation due to the high winds. The Prom's size is approximately 40 by 18 km's, with the early activities being; sealing and tin mining, the lighthouse being built in 1859, and the army constructing the road during WW2. It was made a reserve in 1898 and National park in 1905, then expanded in 1969. It has a mountainous landscape with its link to Tasmania being the northern extreme of Devonian granitic bedrock

and Quaternary sediments being sand deposits. The climate has a maximum mean temperature of 24°C and Minimum 6°C, frosts are extremely rare, annual rainfall of 1090mm and very strong winds. The vegetation having been tall forests in the past being reduced by bushfires, the southern extreme being warm temperate rainforest in Western gullies, and cool temperate rainforest (beech) to the East and mountains, Banksia woodlands and heathlands. On the east side of the Prom is Sealers Cove that is accessed by walking tracks popular with walkers and hikers, and is quite rugged.



In 2009 bushfires burnt much of the Prom, in one place burning almost east to the west, causing the park to be closed for months. The fire was like a vacuum cleaner, cleaning everything in its path. However, the benefits were removing the overgrown and dominant species *Kunzea ambigua* and *Leptospermum laevigatum*. These photos were taken six weeks post fire:



*Gahnia* sp.



*Hakea decurrens*  
*subsp. physocarpa*

(Continued on page 4)



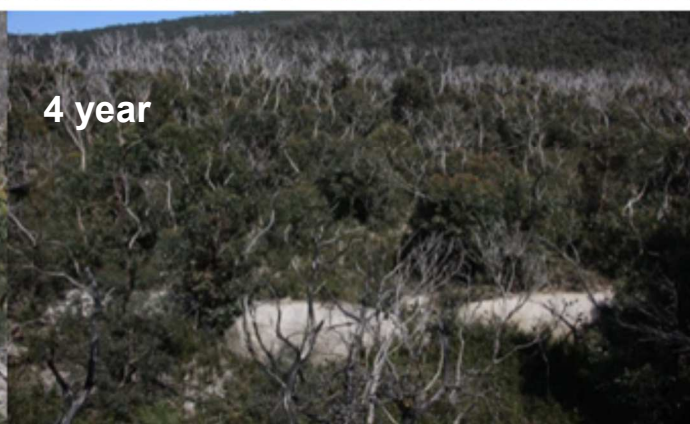
## September Meeting Report continued...

(Continued from page 3)

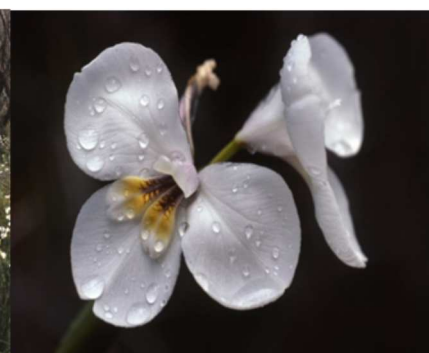
The initial colonisers *Funaria hygrometrica*, the bonfire moss or common cord-moss, which, is a type of water moss which grows on moist, shady, and damp soil.



The next images shown were the steps in regrowth at Mt Oberon which overlooks Tidal River:



Followed by the first spring images:





## *September Meeting Report continued...*

(Continued from page 4)



(Continued on page 6)



## September Meeting Report continued...

(Continued from page 5)

Geoff asked the question of the pre fire image (below left)- Can you spot the grass trees, *Xanthorrhoea australis* on the track to Mt Wilson? The post fire image (below right) shows just how many are there.



The dominant Banksia species on the Prom are Coastal Banksia *Banksia integrifolia*, Hairpin Banksia *B. spinulosa*, and Old Man Banksia *B. serrata*.



*Banksia serrata*



*Banksia spinulosa*



*Banksia integrifolia*

(Continued on page 7)

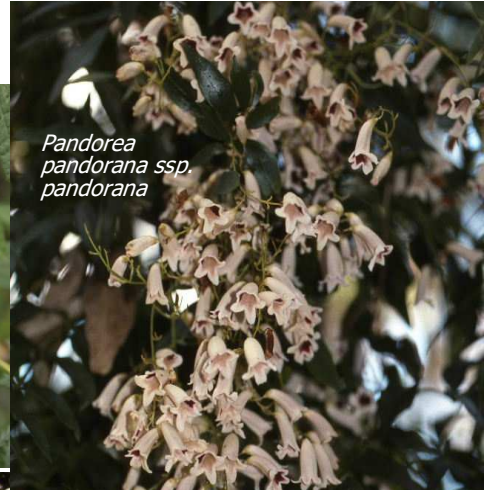


## September Meeting Report continued...

(Continued from page 6)

Other slow species to recover are Scrambling Coral Fern *Gleichenia microphylla* and Woolly Tea-tree *Leptospermum lanigerum*.

When the dominant species are taken away you get an array of dense regrowth of species including: *Eucalypts*, *Pultenaea daphnoides* and *Viminaria juncea*, along with other species and wildflowers that are then allowed to flourish.



(Continued on page 8)



## September Meeting Report continued...

(Continued from page 7)

Other species to flourish are the wattles: *Acacia verticillata* (Prickly Moses) narrow leaf & broad leaf, *Acacia stricta* and *Acacia myrtifolia*. The daisies: *Argentipallium dealbatum*, *Helichrysum scorpioides*, *Brachyscome diversifolia* *Chrysocephalum baxteri*, *Cassinia longifolia* and *Olearia lirata*. Ericaceae species: *Leucopogon ericoides*, *Leptecophylla juniperina* subsp. *Oxycedrus*, *Epacris obtusifolia* and *Epacris impressa*.



*Epacris impressa*



*Eucalyptus kitsoniana*

Among the common *Eucalypt* species are: *Eucalyptus muelleriana*, *Eucalyptus baxteri*, *Eucalyptus globulus* subsp. *globulus*, and *Eucalyptus kitsoniana*.

*Fabaceae* common species include: *Dillwynia cinerascens*, *Viminaria juncea*, *Pultenaea stricta* and *Gompholobium huegleyi*.

*Proteaceae* common species include: *Isopogon ceratophyllus*, *Grevillea lanigera* and *Hakea decurrens*.

*Rhamnaceae* common species include *Spyridium parvifolium* & *Comesperma volubile*, *Pomaderris apetala* subsp. *maritime* and *Pomaderris elliptica*.



*Gompholobium huegleyi*



*Zieria arborescens*

The *Rutaceae* common species include: *Correa alba* var. *alba*, *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* and *Zieria arborescens*.

(Continued on page 9)



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## *September Meeting Report continued...*

*(Continued from page 8)*

Geoff showed 20 fungus images including *Lactarius clarkeae* (one of the fungi to bleed), *Armillaria luteobubalina*, which, will kill the tree and is known as the death fungi, and some "weirdo's" as Geoff did say - one of which is *Stemonitis*.



Last mentioned was the 300 year storm event of 2011:



This event washed away many tracks - with the track from Tidal River to Sealers Cove being closed for 3 years.

*Note: All images credits: Geoff Lay.*

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## Plant Bio: *Ricinocarpus megalocarpus*...

By Jeanine Petts

### *Ricinocarpus megalocarpus*

Family: Euphorbiaceae - also known as the Spurge family

Pronunciation: *Ricinocarpus*: riss-in-oh-KAR-pos

*megalocarpus*: meg-a-lo-KAR-pus

Derivation of name: *Ricinocarpus* is from Ricinus- a Mediterranean sheep tick, and from the Greek word Karpos meaning fruit, *megalocarpus* means large fruit.

Common Name: Wedding Bush

*Ricinocarpus megalocarpus* is one of 28 currently named members of the genus that was first described in 1817, and is endemic to Australia. Species are found right around Australia with approximately 17 of these in WA.

*R. megalocarpus* is a coastal species found in a limited range around both Perth and Esperance WA. It grows in sandy soils, granite and coastal dunes, and is both a hardy and showy plant. Its habit can range from a woody, compact rounded low shrub, up to a shrub of 2.5-4m in height. The large & showy white petals of the flowers make it among the most ornamental of the species. Peak flowering time is usually October to December however, flowering can occur year-round, unless in a particularly dry season, and then flowering can be prolific following good rains. The plants produce both male and female flowers with female flowers being produced first, that are then followed by male flowers after the female flowers have been pollinated (usually from wind-blown or insect carried pollen from other plants). The male flowers are more prolific than female flowers.

Frost hardiness among the genus is variable, with species from WA generally the most tolerant. In cultivation perfect drainage is essential and some frost protection may be necessary in locations with heavy frosts. Propagation of *Ricinocarpus* species is via both cutting and seed. However, success rates are variable between species and can often be poor. Smoke treatments may improve germination and using older seed could also be of benefit.

References:

*Australian Native Plants: Propagation, cultivation and use in landscaping.* John W. Wrigley & Murray Fagg. ISBN 1 876334 30 4

*Growing Australian Native Plants from Seed.* Murray Ralph ISBN 978 0 646 42866 6

*Native Plants The definitive guide to Australian Plants.* Global Publishing. ISBN 978 174048 027 7

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/31911>

<http://esperancewildflowers.blogspot.com/2012/02/ricinocarpus-megalocarpus-wedding-bush.html>

<https://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary/#b>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricinocarpus>



*Ricinocarpus megalocarpus*  
Duke of Orleans Bay WA  
18.9.2019 Photo: J Petts



*Ricinocarpus megalocarpus*  
Duke of Orleans Bay WA  
18.9.2019 Photo: J Petts



*Ricinocarpus megalocarpus*—(center) Lower growing example in an exposed site at Wharton Beach WA 18.9.2019 Photo: J Petts



*Ricinocarpus megalocarpus* - Larger growing example in a sheltered site at Duke of Orleans Bay WA 18.9.2019 Photo: J Petts



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*APS Mitchell*  
*Annual Spring Plant Expo & Sale*  
*October 19th, 2019*



*9 am - 3 pm*  
**Kilmore Memorial Hall**  
**14 Sydney St, Kilmore**

**Native Plant, Flower, & Photographic Displays**



**Plant & Book Sales**  
**Gardens for Wildlife**



APS Victoria - Books

Goldfields Revegetation - Native plants

Joan & Peter Broughton, Ironstone Park - Unusual Native Plants

La Trobe indigenous plant nursery - Indigenous tube stocks

Neil's Native Plants

Russell Wait - *Eremophila* specialist

Valley of a 1000 Hills Nursery, David Laurie - Indigenous & native plants

**Please BYO bag, or basket as some of our sellers are now plastic bag free**

**Entry \$2.00 (Children free)   -   Door Prizes   -   Raffle**

Volunteers are needed to assist with: Donations of specimens for floral display (including nuts & seeds if available), Setting up on Friday October 18th from 1pm, also on Saturday October 19th (between 8am - 4pm) with such tasks as: Ticket Sales/Entry, Plant Sales, Catering (Tea & Coffee), Pack up & Clean up etc. If members can help with even a small amount of time please contact Ian to advise your availability.

Enquiries & further information please contact Ian Julian: Ph 0438 270 248

Email: [secretary@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:secretary@apsmitchell.org.au)

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## Reminders, APS Victoria Diary Dates & Other Events

### Thank you

- For the various contributions of articles, answering pesky questions, event information, photos, feedback, proof-reading, researching & providing other information as needed and general support...

**A BIG THANK YOU TO:**  
Christine Cram,  
Geoff Lay,  
Ian Julian,  
Norbert Ryan,  
Victoria Morris.

### APS VIC DIARY DATES...

**October 26 & 27** - APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show, flower display, plant sales, craft items. Robert Clark Centre Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gilles St, Ballarat. 10am- 4pm.

**October 26 & 27** - Cranbourne Friends Spring Plant Sale 10am-4pm.

**November 9** - APS Vic Committee of Management meeting hosted by APS Bendigo.

**February 17 - April 17, 2020** - Australian Plants Revealed - An exhibition highlighting unique Australian flora collected by Josepha Banks and Daniel Solander in 1770.

Held at the Gallery of Maroondah Federation Estate 32 Greenwood Ave, Ringwood. 9am-4pm Mon-Fri & 12 noon-4pm Saturdays, with 2 Keynote lectures:

**March 28, 2020 from 2pm—** Bruce Pascoe: *Aboriginal plant uses for sustenance & medicine*. Prof. Tim Entwistle: *Sir Joseph Banks' cabinet: botanical bounty of the Endeavour's Voyage to New Zealand & Australia*. For further details see the September & December editions of *Growing Australian* or email: [exhibitions@apsvic.org.au](mailto:exhibitions@apsvic.org.au)


**March 25-29, 2020** - Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show, Royal

Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens.

**March 28, 2020** - APS Victoria Committee of Management meeting hosted by APS Maroondah.

**April 4, 2020** - APS Geelong Australian Native Plant Sale. 'Wirrawilla', 40 Lovely Banks Rd, Lovely Banks. A BBQ, refreshments, book sales, childrens' activities & a great selection of native plants.

**April 18, 2020** - APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo. Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd Eltham. 10am-4pm

**Other & Special Events see below & following pages...** 

## Committee & Contact Information

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY, MITCHELL GROUP INC.

PO Box 541, Kilmore, Victoria, 3764

No. A0054306V

Email: [mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au)

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

### Committee Members

President: Norbert Ryan 0428 180 651  
Vice President: Dawn McCormack  
Secretary: Ian Julian 0438 270 248  
Email: [secretary@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:secretary@apsmitchell.org.au)  
Treasurer/Memberships:  
Christine Cram 0458 238 270  
Committee: Bill Barker, Jeanine Petts, Victoria Morris.  
Group Librarian: Volunteer position open  
Plant Sales: Volunteer position open  
Newsletter Editor: Jeanine Petts 0409 029 603  
Gardens for Wildlife Co-Ordinator: Volunteer position open. Email: [g4w@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:g4w@apsmitchell.org.au)

## Have you seen WAMA's Art Meets Nature exhibition yet? ...

### Really, you should!

If you've seen it already, you'll agree it's worth a second visit - The exhibition is in The Atrium on the 35th floor of Sofitel Melbourne on Collins, 25 Collins Street...



<https://wama.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/artmeetsnature-2019-lg.jpg>

**Exhibition Dates: 6 August – 3rd November, 2019**

Curator Merle Hathaway has put together a new WAMA show with the exhibition showcasing a wide range of artists whose work is inspired by nature. This year's exhibition includes: Jewellers Nicky Hepburn and Silvio Apponyi, painters Mali Moir, Dianne Emery, Jennifer Marshall and Chris Nicholls, printmakers Tate Adams, Vida Pearson and Herthe Kluge-Pott, installations by Rosalind Lawson and Nichola Clarke, sculpture by Lucy McEachern, photographers John Tiddy and Lynden Nichols, and many more...

<https://wama.net.au/upcoming-events/>

### Newsletter contributions:

Contributions should be sent to Jeanine Petts

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

Post: PO Box 381, Pyalong Vic 3521

**For inclusion in the next Newsletter please forward contributions prior to the first Monday of each month.**

*A Special Event (Bookings via link at bottom of page)...*



BYO NIBBLES, ESKY AND DANCING SHOES

# BEAM'S 30TH BIRTHDAY BUSH DANCE

Saturday 26th October 2019, 7-11pm

Broadford Council Hall

BOOKINGS VIA EVENTBRITE HERE

EVENT PROUDLY SPONSORED BY INLAND RAIL

BEAM IS TURNING 30, AND SO IS LANDCARE!

THIS IS A NIGHT OF FUN AND FROLICKING LIKE YOU MAY HAVE WITH THE  
BUSHWACKERS, OR.... LET US SHOW YOU HOW TO DANCE WITH

## THE GUINNESS BROS BAND

WE DESERVE TO CELEBRATE OUR SUCCESSES IN CONSERVATION  
OVER 30 YEARS. ROUND UP YOUR FRIENDS AND BOOK IN.

TICKETS \$10 PER ADULT, KIDS FREE

ARRANGE A LIFT HOME, INFO VIA [BEAM.INC18@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BEAM.INC18@GMAIL.COM)

Bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/beam-bush-dance-tickets-72440424259>

Further information at: <http://www.beam.org.au/events/30th-anniversary-bush-dance/>



# GREY BOX COMMUNITIES



South West Goulburn Landcare proudly present Paul Foreman; Blue Devil Consulting talking about the Grey Box Grassy Woodland community and what they represent to our area.

Date: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Meeting place: Jefferies Lane, near corner of Three Chain Road, Broadford

Time: 9.30am – 12.30pm

To register your interest contact:

Sonia Sharkey

SWG landcare facilitator

Telephone: 0409 515 630

[swg\\_landcare@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au](mailto:swg_landcare@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au)

RSVP by 20<sup>th</sup> Oct

Light refreshments supplied; please mention any dietary requirements when your RSVP.

Please wear suitable clothing & shoes for outdoor activities and changeable weather conditions.



## What is so important about Grey Box trees and the communities they support?

Paul Foreman; field botanist and ecologist will discuss;

- The importance of these iconic trees in the landscape and beyond.
- What communities they support
- How we can protect existing remnants, plus build corridors and linkages across the landscape to enhance this threatened community.
- Discover how to recognise and identify Grey Box Grassy Woodlands; their values and significance.

As we compare 2 properties; 1 lifestyle, 1 agricultural

