

NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

Email: mitchell@apsvic.org.au

Website: www.apsmitchell.org.au

PO Box 541, Kilmore Victoria, 3764

Inc# A0054306V

October news...!

Hello & welcome to our October issue...

Mid spring has arrived. Our gardens and local bush reserves are bursting with colour. I hope everyone has managed to find some time outdoors wildflower spotting. I've been lucky enough to have a great spot to explore quite close by, & you'll find plenty of local species images filling these pages.

Sadly, with the ongoing Covid-19 case numbers, and continuing lockdown restrictions, we will not be able to host an October meeting. The committee are currently discussing options and will be hoping to host a November meeting/AGM. We will also be looking into organising a few garden visits, once restrictions ease enough to do so. Updates will be provided in next month's newsletter, on our [website activities page](#) or via email.

The November newsletter will be due for issue on or within a few days of Monday November 8th. All contributions big & small remain very greatly appreciated & very much needed. If you can help out with items of interest please send



Dianella revoluta var. *revoluta*

Photo: ©Paul Piko www.piko.com.au

them in by November 1st. Email to:
wattlegum@southernphone.com.au

I look to forward hearing from as many members & friends as possible, & hopefully seeing you at a gathering in the not too distant future.

In the meantime, stay safe, well. & enjoy these mid spring days in your gardens, or visiting a nearby flora reserve.

Warm wishes & cheers until next time,

Jeanine

Inside this issue:

October meeting CANCELLED	Pg 2
Membership	Pg 2
Gardens for Wildlife News	Pg 2
Wildflowers in the forest...	Pg 3
Funding an orchid lab & other news...	Pg 7
Four local Peas...	Pg 10
Time to start composting..	Pg 11
Neutrog online ordering	Pg 12
Reminders, APS Vic Diary Dates etc....	Pg 13
Committee & Contact Information	Pg 13
Local native plant nurseries	Pg 13
Mapping Hero Trees	Pg 15

Call out for GA articles ...

For too long there has been an article 'drought'. Hopefully this call out may inspire more members to put pen to paper or fingertips to keyboard.

It is again time to write and send in contributions for the December issue of *Growing Australian*.

Articles, shorter items and gardening tips about native plants are needed to ensure *Growing Australian* is an enjoyable and informative newsletter.

The slightly flexible deadline is **Monday 25 October** (sooner is better). All members are encouraged to write. I assure you it is painless!

If sending photos, please ensure they are high-quality JPEGs of a reasonable size (about 500kb–1MB file), and not embedded in Word documents. Submissions can be sent to: newsletter@apsvic.org.au.

Regards,

Lachlan

Editor *Growing Australian*

October 2021

Volume 8, Issue 9

Mitchell Diary Dates..

- In line with ongoing Covid-19 advice, restrictions may apply or affect APS related events. If in doubt, please [contact us](#) (see contacts list on page 13). **Please note:** Meetings will be held under the requirements of our [Covid Safe facility Plan](#); **Please read the plan (from page 15) prior to attending**
- **Saturday Oct 16th 9am – 3pm**
APS Mitchell Spring Expo & Plant Sale CANCELLED.
- **Monday Oct 18th 7:30pm Meeting – CANCELLED**
- **Monday Nov 15th Meeting & AGM 7:30pm - Guest Speaker: Chris Clarke. Topic: Alpine Flora**
- **SAVE THE DATE: 2022 APS Mitchell Spring Expo & Plant Sale Saturday October 22nd, 2022. To be confirmed.**



Gardens for Wildlife News...

By Jeanine Petts

Tis the season for birds and birdwatching, so Australia's favourite citizen science event, the [Aussie Backyard Bird Count](https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/), will return between 18–24 October. You don't have to be an expert birder to take part — all you need is a little enthusiasm! [Register](https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/) today to join in the fun. All the details can be found at: <https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>

In other birding news, have you heard who won the Guardian 2021 bird of the year contest? Announced October 9th the winner is the Superb Fairy-wren. Find out all the story of the hotly contested vote & a little about the birds at: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/oct/08/superb-fairywren-crowned-2021-australian-bird-of-the-year-winner-in-hotly-contested-vote>

Thinking of birds & what some of them eat... It's the time of caterpillars in the bush & garden too. All busy munching on our plants & some becoming munched on themselves in various ways. One genera you may see about now are the larvae of Tiger Moths genus *Spilosoma*. These are both interesting & kind of cute in their own furry way. With the help of iNaturalist I've learned a little about this species and the possible ID of the eye-catching critter I photographed in the Tooborac State Forest (see photo).



Possibly a *Spilosoma* sp. Tiger Moth larvae feeding on a Chocolate Lily. Photo: J Petts

**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: CANCELLED

Unfortunately, it will come with little surprise that due to the ongoing Covid-19 lockdown & resulting restrictions, we will not be able to host an October meeting.

Hopefully we will be free to resume some group activities following the lifting of lockdown, and easing of Covid-19 gathering number restrictions, which, may be in November.

The committee will plan for a November meeting/AGM and possibly some garden visits once restrictions are lifted.

Further updates will be provided in our November newsletter, the activities section of our APS Mitchell [website](https://www.apsmitchell.org.au/), or via email.

In the meantime, we hope everyone stays safe, & has opportunity to enjoy lovely spring days in your gardens, or walking in our local bushland settings.

We shall look forward to seeing everyone again after gathering restrictions are eased, and meeting rooms become available.



Caladenia fuscata

Dusky Fingers

Photo: ©Paul Piko

www.piko.com.au

Memberships...

It is now three months since 2021/22 membership renewals fell due. If you did not receive a September issue of the APS Victoria quarterly magazine *Growing Australian*, this will indicate your membership has officially lapsed. To renew, please contact Christine: Phone 0458 238 270 or Email to the attention of the Membership Officer: mitchell@apsvic.org.au Membership information, contact information, and the current [membership form](https://www.apsmitchell.org.au/membership/) can also be found at our website: <http://www.apsmitchell.org.au/membership/>

Wildflowers in the forest...

By Jeanine Petts

Twice in the last month I've taken opportunity to visit my closest State Forest, which, happens to be the Tooborac State Forest. Now, shame on me! As I've often driven past, or close to, this great little spot in the last 26 years...and... have never done more than stop on the roadside to take the odd photo of something in flower just off the road. Until as mentioned, very recently...

It actually took until Paul Piko extended a fortuitous invitation for me to set time aside to head there. Owing to Covid-19 restrictions only a few people could join the Sunday morning (non-official) outing. Serendipitously, the timing ended up falling in between lockdowns, as news was announced while we were on our respective journeys home, of the midnight onwards lockdown.

I'm very glad to have been prompted to explore the area a little, as there have been some lovely native orchids and other wildflowers to be seen. Some species I recognised, but of course not all, as my ID skills are lacking in a number of areas. Thankfully, between Paul's advice on orchids, later email consultation with Mike Williams (thank you Paul & Mike), making use of the iNaturalist app, Flora of Victoria online, and my trusty copy of Marilyn Bull's *Flora of Melbourne 4th Ed.*, most of the species I photographed now have ID's, or at least some information put to them.

The first species I photographed was a *Prostanthera* that I had not seen before, which, turned out to have a bit of a taxonomic tale: Mike Williams advised that it was likely to be *Prostanthera denticulata* Rough Mint-bush. However, information provided via iNaturalist advised the observation to be an undescribed species allied to *P. crocodyloides*, as a recent taxonomic study found *P. denticulata* to be restricted to the Sydney basin. Searching further uncovered a research journal article detailing the Recircumscription of *Prostanthera denticulata*, and the newly named species *P. crocodyloides*. For those inclined, the article can be downloaded at: <https://openjournals.library.sydney.edu.au/index.php/TEL/article/view/13084> Flora of Victoria now notes that *P. denticulata* requires further field studies to resolve the taxonomic status of the Victorian populations. Other species photographed were more straight forward, these included:

Diuris pardina Leopard Orchid grows to 0.4m tall, producing stalks bearing 2-10 brown blotched, yellow flowers, measuring to 30mm across.

Craspedia variabilis Billy Buttons produces one to several flowering heads reaching to 0.5m high.

Leucopogon virgatus Common Beard-heath grows as an erect to spreading, wiry shrub up to 0.50m. Spikes of pink buds open to white, bearded flowers.

Microseris walteri Murrnong, or Yam Daisy, is generally our local species, and one of three *Microseris* species found in Australia. Following a review & clarification in 2016, *M. lanceolata* is now known to be restricted to the alpine & subalpine herb fields of the Eastern Ranges. While *M. scapigera* is found on the basalt plains of Western Victoria & now very rare. *M. walteri* has a single sweet



Above (left & right): Previously *Prostanthera denticulata*. Currently requiring further field study to resolve taxonomic status & description.



Diuris pardina - Leopard Orchid



Craspedia variabilis. - Billy Buttons



Leucopogon virgatus - Common Beard-heath



Microseris walteri Murrnong

(continued on page 4)

Wildflowers in the forest continued...

(Continued from page 3)

tasting root and was once an important food source. *M. lanceolata* and *M. scapigera* both have several roots & are bitter in taste.

Glossodia major Wax-lip Orchid, generally bears purple to mauve coloured flowers. However, very pale to nearly white forms also occur. Flowering stalks grow 10 to 35cm high and bear 1-2 flowers measuring to 4.5cm across.

Hibbertia sp. Guinea-flower. The species I photographed is likely to be either *H. crinita* or *H. sericea*. The two species are closely related and *H. sericea* can be quite variable, making it difficult to distinguish from *H. crinita*.

Pterostylis nana Dwarf Greenhood, these delightful little Greenhood orchids grow 5-15cm high. The single, erect, green striped flowers are up to 1cm long. Paul Piko has regularly pointed out that often you notice the leaves of orchids before the flowers, so it's a good idea to get to know them.

Cyrtostylis reniformis Small Gnat-orchid is another tiny orchid. It has a single heart-shaped, ground-hugging leaf with a flowering stem growing 3-16cm high. 1 to 4 red-brown flowers to 10mm long are produced July to October.

Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia Rock Fern, are a pretty and naturally hardy fern of the Box Ironbark Forest and other areas. Fronds of 2-45cm high grow in closely tufted clumps. They tolerate both sunshine and drying winds, often die down in summer to re-shoot in autumn.

Pterostylis nutans Nodding Greenhood, has flowering stalks growing from 10-30cm high that bear a single nodding flower of up to 2.5cm long. They have a rosette of 3-6 short stalked, elliptic to oblong leaves, 3-9cm long x 1-3cm wide that have wavy margins.

Although I saw other species in flower that day, I didn't stop to photograph everything, or I used my old digital camera, which,



Glossodia major Wax-lip Orchid
white form



Hibbertia sp. Possibly *H. crinita* or
H. sericea



Pterostylis nana - Dwarf
Greenhood



Dwarf Greenhood leaves,
with a *Drosera* (Sundew).



Pterostylis nutans - Nodding
Greenhood



Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia - Rock
Fern



Cyrtostylis reniformis - Small Gnat-orchid
Above: flowers Above right: Leaves in litter.



(Continued on page 5)

Wildflowers in the forest continued...

(Continued from page 4)

unfortunately produced mostly blurred, unusable images. I did however, promise myself to begin the habit of regularly visiting the forest, at least during spring time. Luckily, I live within 15km, so was able to manage a subsequent visit 2 weeks later. On this occasion the bright red of *Grevillea alpina* in flower was among the first to catch my eye, and a number of other gems further on along the track...

Grevillea alpina Cat's Claw or Mountain Grevillea is found across a range of habitats in well-drained sites that include; dry forest, lowland forest, shrubby foothill forest, heath and mallee. It is a variable shrub both in habit and flower colour, and can be found in spreading to almost prostrate forms. Flower colour varies from red, orange, yellow, cream, pink and green. Most in our region fall into reds to oranges. *G. alpina* is sometimes available from local and regional indigenous growers, however, I personally have found this species, at times hard to grow, or short-lived in cultivation. I fully intend to keep persisting, and currently have a two year survivor, flowering in the garden at the moment.

Next photographed were buds of what I believe to be one of the Sun Orchids, *Thelymitra* species. The yellow buds with pinkish brown sepals make me suspect these could be *Thelymitra antennifera* Rabbit Ears or Lemon Orchid.

Further finds were:

Burchardia umbellata Milkmaids are a perennial herbaceous lily of the Colchicaceae family, which, will die back during dry weather and regrow from a corm. Flowering stalks grow 10-65cm high, carrying an umbel of 2-10 honey scented white flowers with a pink ovary at the centre. Flowering can occur from late winter to late spring, and they look truly delightful when seen in large drifts.

Stackhousia monogyna Creamy Candles, are an erect herbaceous perennial with multiple stems growing to 60cm high from a taproot. Cream, tubular flowers occur in dense terminal spikes from September to February. Usually found growing together in patches, and can provide a massed display when in flower.

Goodenia blackiana Black's Goodenia, is a tufted, stoloniferous perennial herb. Mainly basal leaves are dark green above and woolly white underneath. Yellow flowers mostly occur August to January and can be held in terminal racemes or singly in axils. Usually found growing in Grassy Dry Forest, and Valley Heathy Forest in well-drained soil, either in full sun or semi-shade.

Lomandra multiflora Many-flowered Mat-rush (photo next page) grows as a small tussock with flat, smooth leaves 25cm to 90cm long by 1.5-4.5mm wide. Male and female flowers are carried on separate plants (diecious). Male flowers are bell-shaped with a stalk, while female flowers are stalkless and larger than male flowers.



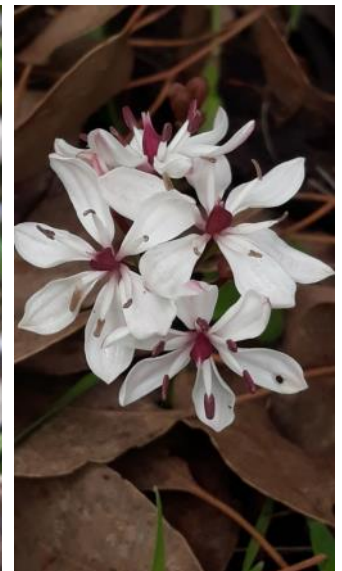
Glossodia major - Wax-lip
Orchid



Grevillea alpina - Cat's Claw or
Mountain Grevillea



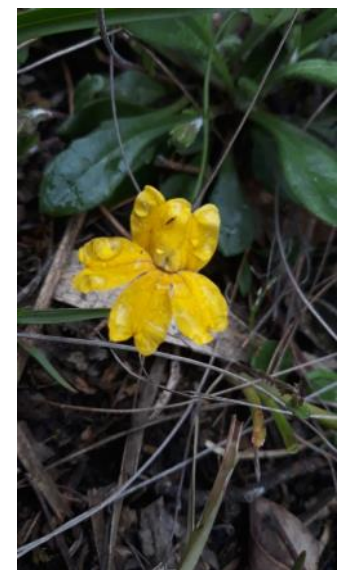
Thelymitra sp. in bud, possibly
T. antennifera Rabbit Ears



Burchardia umbellata -
Milkmaids



Stackhousia monogyna -
Creamy Candles



Goodenia blackiana - Black's
Goodenia (Continued on page 6)

Wildflowers in the forest continued...

(Continued from page 5)

Wurmbea dioica subspecies *dioica* as mentioned last issue, is a small lily growing 5-25cm tall, and is usually the earliest of our native lilies to flower each year. *W.* Subspecies *dioica* is the most common subspecies, which, is found in all Eastern States.

A *Geranium* species, which, in particular I am not sure. There are 18 native *Geranium* species, with a review in recent years resulting in a number of new species and subspecies. The genera are still under investigation and several previously un-named species are currently being outlined. There is also 7 introduced species. Most are annual or perennial herbs, and often tuberous. Leaves are usually lobed with incisions or divided into smaller leaflets. Flower colours range from pale pink, magenta, red, rarely white, and can be solitary or twinned.

Glycine clandestina Twining Glycine is a small twining, scrambling climber that goes unnoticed until it flowers. It has trifoliate, oblong-lanceolate leaves, and bears racemes of white, pale mauve, blue or purplish-pink flowers from late winter to mid summer.

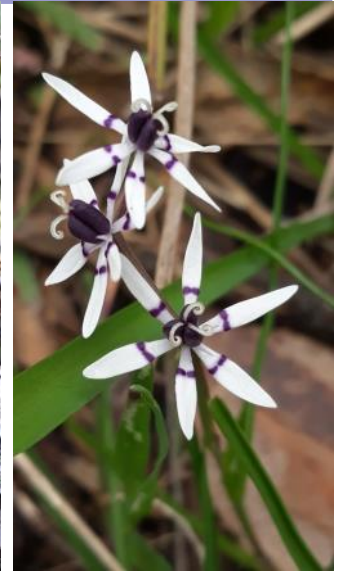
Caladenia carnea Pink Fingers is a variable species growing 8-25cm tall, with flower colours of pinks to white forms. 1-5 flowers are produced August to January on a wiry stem with hairs on the upper half. A narrow linear leaf grows from the base to half the height of the stem.

Caladenia tentaculata Mantis Orchid or Large Green-comb is one of the group referred to as "Spider Orchids". It produces up to 3 green flowers with red stripes, on stems 13-50cm tall during October to December. A single, hairy leaf that is often red spotted near its base, measuring 7-16cm long x 7-12mm wide extends from ground level.

Brachyloma daphnoides Daphne Heath is a small, erect shrub growing from 0.4 to 1.5m high. White, tubular, sweet-scented flowers occur in the leaf axils mainly in September to December.



Lomandra multiflora - Many-flowered Mat-rush



Wurmbea dioica subsp. *dioica* - Early Nancy



Geranium sp.



Glycine clandestina - Twining Glycine



Brachyloma daphnoides - Daphne Heath



Caladenia carnea - Pink Fingers white & pink forms
All photos in this article: J Petts



Caladenia tentaculata - Mantis Orchid, Large Green-comb

Funding an Orchid lab, & other news...

Shared by Paul Piko

The following is a notice written by the ANOS Victoria Conservation Officer, Garry French, and published in the current ANOS Victoria bulletin. It is about the efforts of Brendan Janissen to set up a new orchid propagation lab. Brendan has been researching orchid conservation for his PhD, and co-authored the paper:

"Differences in emergence and flowering in wild, re-introduced and translocated populations of an endangered terrestrial orchid and the influences of climate and orchid mycorrhizal abundance"

<https://www.publish.csiro.au/bt/fulltext/bt20102?subscribe=false>

Brendan is asking for funding from the community to help set up a propagation lab. In the notice, Garry mentions some of the reasons it is important to have more labs.

From the ANOS Victoria bulletin:

"For some time now we have discussed the need to have more "players" in orchid propagation in Victoria to enhance conservation outcomes, spread the risk between propagators/growers and through healthy competition hopefully reduce the cost of production so as to drive the limited environment/conservation dollars further.

After discussing this with some of you and also speaking with Brendan Janissen to seek more background on his future plans beyond the initial setting up his orchid lab, I've come to the conclusion that we should be supporting Brendan with this so that another orchid propagation facility becomes available which can only be a positive outcome for orchid conservation in Victoria.

Therefore, I propose a contribution from the Conservation Fund of \$5,000.

Garry French, Conservation Officer, ANOS Vic.

The ANOS Vic Committee has fully endorsed the above proposal.

Please visit Brendan's "GoFundMe" page -

<https://gofund.me/8cbae53f>

if you would like to see more information and maybe make a donation yourself."

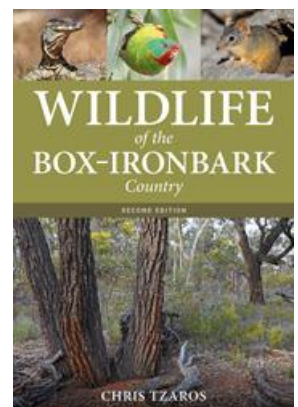
In other news of interest...

Chris Tzaros has released a 2nd edition of his book "Wildlife of the Box-Ironbark Country"

Further information can be found at: <https://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7945>

The book provides a comprehensive overview of the ecologically significant Box-Ironbark habitats and their wildlife.

Victoria's Box-Ironbark region is one of the most important areas of animal diversity and significance in southern Australia. The forests and woodlands of this region provide critical habitat for a diverse array of woodland-dependent animals, including many threatened and declining species such as the Squirrel Glider, Brush-tailed Phascogale, Regent Honeyeater, Swift Parrot, Pink-tailed Worm-Lizard, Woodland Blind Snake, Tree Goanna and Bibron's Toadlet.



The Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) has launched updated "principles, definitions and aspirational and procedural standards for restoring Australian terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems"

Join the host Professor Kingsley Dixon Chair of SER and immediate past-chair of SERA and The Hon Sussan Ley MP Minister for the Environment & watch a reply of the recent launch of Edition 2.2 of the National Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration in Australia.

THE LAUNCH REPLAY CAN BE WATCHED VIA THE FOLLOWING LINK: https://youtu.be/ldVRI_iM1bU

(Continued on page 8)

Funding an Orchid lab, & other news continued...

(Continued from page 7)

WHAT ARE THE STANDARDS 2.2?

Online and downloadable document providing underpinning principles, definitions and aspirational and procedural standards for restoring Australian terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems

A world-leading set of restoration standards, its first edition being the first of its type and resulting in the SER' International Standards and other restoration and allied Standards.

Draw on the knowledge and experience of many non-profit restoration organisations in Australia and beyond as well as elements of the International SER Standards

Publication coincides with the resurgence of restoration for the carbon restoration economy, indigenous empowerment for 'healing country' and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

BENEFITS

Improve the quality of projects to restore Australian terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems

Encourage broader application and uptake of restoration

Provide accessible guidance and inspiration to help transition humanity away from degradation and towards a restorative economy and culture

EVENT DETAILS:

Welcome by Dr Tein McDonald, Chair of the Standards Working Group SERA

Summaries of the Standard's six principles, presented by key on-ground players in Australia

Launch address by the Hon. Sussan Ley, Federal Minister for the Environment

Quick-fire peeks at six outstanding restoration projects in Australia, presented by project leaders.

<https://www.seraustralasia.org/live-launch/national-standards>

Florabank Guidelines website...

Visit <https://www.florabank.org.au/guidelines/> for information on Florabank Guidelines.

The Florabank offers seed knowledge, information on restoration practices and guidelines, training and networking for the seed community to support sustainable harvest and usage.







Sign up for a free account to access:

Florabank Native Seed Online Training

Native seed Community Forum

Create your profile on the directory so others can find you

Florabank Guidelines

	Determining where seed should be sourced is amongst the primary decisions for ecological restoration projects.
	The location of a seed collection is known as its provenance. Seeds can be collected from a geographic location close to the restoration site (local provenance) or from a more distant geographic location (non-local provenance).
	Local provenancing has been widely adopted, but alternative strategies address concerns associated with habitat fragmentation, maintaining or maximising genetic diversity, and climate change.
	The choice of provenance strategy depends on many factors, but the overarching objective is to pursue a seed-sourcing strategy that delivers short- and long-term success in a changing environment.
	A generalised decision tree is provided for selecting a potential provenance strategy given the state of the local provenance and the site being restored.
	There are likely to be restoration benefits from capturing greater genetic diversity in seed collections by sourcing seed from as many well-spaced plants across a population as is practicable. Numbers and locations of seed sources will depend on the provenancing strategy for that species.
	Keep seed collections of different provenances separate and record the source details of each collection to: help facilitate selection of provenances once a provenancing strategy has been chosen, and provide source material for embedding experiments within restoration activities to understand the costs and benefits of alternative seed sourcing strategies.

Funding an Orchid lab, & other news continued...

(Continued from page 8)

Excellent news of a first time lab germination of *Pterostylis oreophila*:



Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria ✓

4h · 🌐

The spectacular Blue-tongue Greenhood, *Pterostylis oreophila*, is critically endangered and is now known from less than 60 plants, in the Victorian highlands. Thanks to efforts by the Orchid Conservation Program research staff Dr Noushka Reiter and Richard Dimon with assistance in the field from Dr Ryan Phillips, Dr Bronwyn Ayre and Tobias Hayashi from La Trobe University, we are excited to have these species germinate for the first time. Creating a living collection of this highly endangered plant, for future breeding and introduction is critical for the future of this species.

This project is made possible by the commitment of our partner organisations: [La Trobe University](#); Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria; The [Adelaide Botanic Garden](#); [Australasian Native Orchid Society - Victorian Group](#); [Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning](#); [Parks Victoria](#); [Department of Planning, Industry and Environment](#); Funding for this project was provided by the [Australian Government's](#) Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery Program.

📷 Tobias Hayashi & Dr Noushka Reiter

Four local peas flowering now...

by Norbert Ryan

Being a moist spring it's an excellent season for wildflowers, prominent amongst these are the native peas. Pea plants that are located on roadsides within the Wallan-Kilmore area are *Daviesia leptophylla* (Narrow-leaf or Slender Bitter-pea), *Daviesia latifolia* (Hop Bitter-pea), *Dillwynia cinerascens* (Grey Parrot-pea) and *Bossiaea prostrata* (Creeping Bossiaea). All four species are considered to be relatively common and can be found in the eastern states and Tasmania. Nevertheless the distribution locally is limited. *D. latifolia* is not listed in the plants of Melbourne's Western Plains. Similarly, collated lists of plants found at Colin Officer reserve, Mt Piper and Monument Hill, record only *D. latifolia* as being found at Monument Hill. (NB *D. sericea* or Showy Parrot-pea, is not included here due to travel restrictions, this species is found at Colin Officer Reserve and Mt Piper) # These are largely understorey plants that prefer specific conditions, generally lighter, well-draining soils.

The *Daviesia* are known as bitter peas, common characteristics are the presence of phyllodes rather than leaves and the pods are triangular, almost keel shaped, containing a single seed that bears a large aril; there are no leaf stipules. The profuse flowers occur in leaf axils and range from few to 10 flowered sprays (*D. leptophylla*) and long dense racemes to 8cm (*D. latifolia*) The *Daviesia* belong to Group 1 of the Australian Peaflowers. In common with the genera *Dillwynia*, *Eutaxia* and *Oxylobium*, members of this group have all 10 stamens free to their base. In contrast *Bossiaea* belongs to Group 2 in which all 10 stamens are joined for most of their length; this is a feature shared with *Hovea*, *Platylobium* and *Goodia*.

As the species names imply, the two species of *Daviesia* have contrasting foliage. The fine leaves or phyllodes of *D. leptophylla* are narrow, 9 cm x 10 mm with a conspicuous vein along both margins. The wide phyllodes of *D. latifolia* are leathery, 2.5-8 cm x 2-3 cm and have a prominent network of veins. Crushed leaves of *Daviesia latifolia* have a bitter taste. Leaf infusions were purported to be used for medicinal purposes by the indigenous community. Early European settlers also tried this product as treatment to expel worms. A further use for the leaves has been to produce a fawn-coloured dye when combined with alum as mordant. The genus *Daviesia* was first described by James Edward Smith in 1798 to honour Hugh Davies, a Welsh botanist.

Bossiaea prostrata grows as a spreading, matted ground cover to 1.5m diameter,



Picture 1. *Daviesia leptophylla* single plant with more in large clump in background
Photo: Norbert Ryan



Picture 2. *Daviesia leptophylla* flowers in close-up. Note narrow phyllodes with lateral veins, Landcare Reserve, Daraweit Rd, Wallan
Photo: Norbert Ryan



Picture 3a. *Daviesia latifolia* long racemes of flowers not fully open. Note broad, grey-green, wavy phyllodes
Photo: Norbert Ryan



Picture 3b. *Daviesia latifolia* close up of flowers Tantaraboo Rd, Willowmavin
Photo: Norbert Ryan



Picture 4. *Bossiaea prostrata* growing under grass, roadside Kilmore-Lancefield Rd Forbes
Photo: Norbert Ryan

(Continued on page 11)

Four local peas flowering now continued..

(Continued from page 10)

probably only recognised now when flowering. The leaves are of variable size and shape, ranging from ovate to oblong, 3-24 mm x 2-10 mm. This genus has narrow, ovate leaf stipules. The flowers are far from profuse, occurring singularly or in pairs, measuring 6-12 mm on pedicels 1-3 mm. Seed pods are oblong 1.5-3.2 cm. *Bossiaea* were first formally identified in 1800 by Etienne Pierre Ventenart, naming the genus in honour of Joseph Hugues Boissieu La Martiniere, a botanist on the La Perouse expedition to Australia.

Dillwynia cinerascens was described in the previous newsletter, the foliage has a grey hue and is characteristically narrow, almost thread-like, grooved on the upper surface. The flowers are either terminal or occur in axillary clusters. The seed pod is oblong and hairy with 1-2 seeds, each bearing arils.

As with propagation of other legumes from seed, there is a need to break dormancy by pre-treatment of seed. Brief exposure to near-boiling water has been suggested. For *D. leptophylla* and *D. latifolia* the subsequent time to germination varies from 3-8 weeks.

References:

Barbara Mau 2009-2013 Observations, List of Flora, Quarry Ridge Kilmore

A Fieldguide to Native Peaflowers, Dorothy Woolcock, 1989, Kangaroo press

Flora of Melbourne, Marilyn Bull 2014, Hyland House Publishing

Daviesia leptophylla, Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea, Flora of Victoria

Daviesia leptophylla Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea, Victorian Native Seed

Daviesia latifolia Greening Australia

Bossiaea prostrata Creeping Bossiaea, Flora of Victoria



Picture 5a. *Dillwynia cinerascens* flowers are predominantly in terminal clusters, note narrow leaves with incurved margins. Daraweit Rd Wallan.



Picture 5b. *Dillwynia cinerascens* close-up of flowers Photos: Norbert Ryan

Time to start composting..

From Mitchell Shire (Shared by Ian Julian)

It's back! Mitchell Shire Council's popular Compost Bin and Worm Farm subsidy is on again this October. Residents can purchase a Compost Bin or Worm Farm through a participating local retailer, and we'll cover up to half the cost (capped at \$30 per compost bin and \$50 per worm farm). While we're in lockdown, participants need to give the local supplier a call beforehand so they can have it ready for pick up.

To find out more visit: <https://www.mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/worm-compost>

We are also inviting our residents to join us for an **interactive online Composting workshop**. The workshop has been designed to give those new to composting, or looking to give it a second try, all the information you need to get started. As well as some tips and tricks for easier composting.

When: Tuesday October 19th

Time: 1-2.30PM

Recommended age: All ages

Bookings essential: <https://startcompostinginmitchell.eventbrite.com.au>

If you have any questions about this event contact Council's Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education officer @Grace.Davis-Williams@mitchellshire.vic.gov.au

Neutrog online ordering update...



Our APS Mitchell list of participating financial members has now been sent to Neutrog for the setting up of online ordering accounts.

The online Neutrog Store is by invitation only, and is not open to members of the general public. Participating APS Mitchell financial members have been sent a welcome email, and an activation email from Neutrog. Check your Junk and Spam email boxes if you do not appear to have received these emails.

Following instructions provided in the welcome & activation emails will allow you to activate your Neutrog online ordering account, which, includes setting your own password.

Here are the important dates and times to note for ordering online:

Online Orders are now open!!

Orders close: 8 November 2021

Product Delivery: 3 December 2021

Collection Address:

The home of Ian Julian

Sugarloaf Creek

3658

VIC

For those members who haven't received the online store activation email, please email onlinestore@neutrog.com.au or freecall 1800 65 66 44 during business hours.

Alternatively, contact Ian Julian (our APS Mitchell Group Secretary & nominated Neutrog liaison person) Ph: 0458 238 270 or Email: aps.mitchell@gmail.com

Members who have **already** activated their account or previously ordered online, can simply click on this link to login and place your order:

<https://neutrogshop.com.au/account/login/>.

Remember to use the discount code provided in your email to gain the \$20 first order discount (on orders over \$40).

If you are not currently a paid up member of APS Mitchell, and would like to participate in the Neutrog special price bulk order scheme, please renew your APS Mitchell Membership or join as a new member. See our membership information on page 2 for links to forms and contact information.

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,
Lachlan Garland,
Ian Julian,
Neutrog,
Barbara Mau,
Paul Piko,
Norbert Ryan,
Liz Spillane.

APS VIC DIARY DATES...

In line with ongoing advice on COVID-19 (coronavirus), restrictions may apply or effect APS-related events.

APS Victoria will endeavour to keep event status updated on the APS Victoria website: <https://apsvic.org.au/events/>

Or check with the event organiser.

October 16 - APS Mitchell Annual Flower Expo and Sale. CANCELLED Memorial Hall, Kilmore.

October 23 & 24 - APS Ballarat Spring Flower Show. CANCELLED Robert Clark Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gillies Street,

Ballarat. 10 am – 4 pm.

November 13 & 14 - Garden DesignFest, Metro Melbourne & Mornington Peninsula. Further details at www.gardendesignfest.com.au

November 20 & 21 - Garden DesignFest, Regional Victoria: Ballarat, Euroa, Geelong and Macedon Area. Further details at www.gardendesignfest.com.au

2022-

September 11 – 16, 2022 - Australian Flora - Past Present Future, ANPSA Biennial Conference 2022 – Kiama, New South Wales. Preliminary details of the

Conference, pre- and post-Conference tours and the beautiful town of Kiama can be found on the APS (NSW) website:

<https://austplants.com.au/ANPSA-Biennial-Conference-2022>

September 26 to 30, 2022 - 7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress, Melbourne. *Influence and Action: Botanic Gardens as Agents of Change.* Includes a youth program for future gardeners' leaders aged 18 to 24.

(Continued on page 14)

Committee & Contact Information

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY, MITCHELL GROUP INC.

PO Box 541, Kilmore, Victoria, 3764

No. A0054306V

Email: mitchell@apsvic.org.au

Website: 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
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 Coordinator: Gerry Ho Email: g4w@apsmitchell.org.au

Newsletter contributions:

Contributions should be sent to Jeanine Petts
Email: 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.

Local Nurseries open for business ...

Please remember to support our local native nurseries...

Valley of 1000 Hills Nursery (David & Helen Laurie)
Supplying indigenous tubes stocks.
150 Reid Rd, Reedy Creek.
Open Saturdays 10am to 5pm. Phone: 03 5784 9286

Ironstone Park (Peter & Joan Broughton)
Specialising in rare, unusual & hard to find native plants.
Lot 33 Paling Rd, Heathcote.
Open by appointment: The garden is looking fabulous with many unusual natives worth looking at. Call Pete on: 0419 878 950 if you would like an appointment or arrange to have plants dropped off.

Russell Wait - Eremophila specialist
Russell grows *Eremophila*, some standard *Grevillea*, and does occasionally have a small quantity of other species. Held in his garden is the Botanical Collection of Eremophila for Plant Trust: which, he has held for approximately 25 years.
11 Tranter Close, Riddells Creek.
Open by appointment: Visitors need to telephone first to arrange access. Mobile reception in the area is very poor, so the landline is the preferred & most reliable method of contact.
Telephone: 03 54287956 Mobile: 0428 388 211

Diary Dates & Other Events continued...

Continued from page 13)

Fabulous Peas 2022

FJC Rogers Biennial Seminar

15th - 16th October 2022

Discover the extraordinary world of Australian pea plants.

Saturday York on Lilydale, Mount Evelyn

Speakers with expertise in identifying, growing and propagating peas. Learn about current research into propagation and growing-on techniques. Evening dinner and an entertaining speaker.

Plant sales of common and unusual pea species. Book sales. Displays. Raffle.

Sunday Coach tours to public and private native gardens which include a wide variety of pea species.

Art exhibition and sale featuring pea plants from 8th – 16th October at Karwara Australian Botanic Garden. Plant sales.

Expressions of interest: fabulouspeas2022@gmail.com

<https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2022/>

Hosted: Australian Plants Society Maroondah Inc.



Mapping Hero Trees in Heathcote region...

BioLinks info shared by Liz Spillane

If you have old trees of significant size and would like to participate in the Central Victorian BioLinks project, which, records the location of these trees, then please follow the link attached. They are interested in the location of the trees in Central Victoria, not just the Heathcote area. There is provision on the link to vary the location.

You can map where your tree/s are or you can provide the information by email, see details by clicking on the link below. This is a great project aiming to protect the wonderful old trees that have managed to survive.

<https://biolinksalliance.org.au/hero-tree>

PROTECT OUR LARGE OLD TREES

Large Old Trees are the superheroes of our landscape
Large Old Trees provide vital habitat and food sources for threatened birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. They are also important landscape connectors. But they are in trouble and need our help.
Let's protect and revitalise nature's elders!

1. Scan the QR code or visit [www.biolinksalliance.org.au/hero-tree](https://biolinksalliance.org.au/hero-tree)
2. Click on "I want to put my Hero Tree on the map"
3. Select "Open in browser"
4. Tell us all about your Large Old Tree

Map your hero tree for the chance to receive free tree protection works on your property!

Together we can map the large old trees in the Heathcote region

This project is part of the Heathcote Local 2 Landscape plan for community led landscape scale ecological restoration in the Heathcote Region. BioLinks Alliance, in conjunction with the Heathcote community, are working to identify and protect Large Old Trees in the area.

Biolinks Alliance
Follow us on
www.biolinksalliance.org.au

Proudly supported by the Australian Government, Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources, Communities Environment Program



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

Email: mitchell@apsvic.org.au

PO Box 541, Kilmore Victoria, 3764

Website: www.apsmitchell.org.au

Inc# A0054306V

2021/22 MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM – July 1 to June 30

This is a combined membership form for APS Vic and APS Mitchell

Please use this form instead of the form sent out with the APS Victoria newsletter

For insurance purposes people who join APS Mitchell must also join APS Victoria Inc.

(Please tick whichever applies) **Application** ☐ **OR** **Renewal** ☐

Title:	Mr / Mrs / Ms / Miss
Surname/s:	
Given name/s:	
Postal Address:	
Town/Suburb:	
Postcode:	
Telephone:	
Email Address:	

(Please tick whichever applies)

Membership Type:		Fees: Note: Membership Year = July 1—June 30		
		APS Victoria	APS Mitchell	Total
<input type="checkbox"/>	Single	\$35.00	\$10.00	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Couple/Family (2 adults & 2 dependents)	\$40.00	\$12.00	\$52.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student	\$26.00	\$10.00	\$36.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation	\$44.00	\$10.00	\$54.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have paid/pay my APS Vic membership when joining/renewing with another district group. Which Group? : _____ — Include only applicable APS Mitchell Fee:		“ Single \$10.00 “ Family \$12.00 “ Student \$10.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Optional Australian Plants Subscription	4 issues:		\$15.00
		Total Due:		\$

☐ I wish to apply for APS Vic/APS Mitchell COVID-19 financial hardship fee waiver.

I/We agree I agree to be bound by the Rules and Bylaws of the Society.

Signed:	Date: / /
----------------	---------------------

I agree to my name being included in a membership list circulated for members' private use: **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐

Payment by: (1) Bank Transfer to BSB 633-000 Account No. 159982271 (Bendigo Bank)

Please include your surname and post code as reference/transaction details

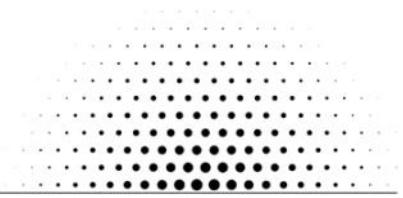
Or (2) Cheque made payable to: APS MITCHELL INC.

Posted to: APS Mitchell Treasurer, P O Box 541, Kilmore Vic 3764

Or (3) Pay via cash or cheque at an APS Mitchell monthly meeting (usually 3rd Monday of the month 7:30pm John Taylor Room, Kilmore Library, Sydney St Kilmore. See website for details)

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



COVID Safe Plan For APS Mitchell Group Inc. Organisation

PURPOSE

Mitchell Shire Council requires a COVID-19 Safe plan for groups and organisations who wish to return using Council owned or managed facilities. The following plan supports a safe approach for building use. Council welcomes the inclusion of any special guidance from your peak bodies and associations where this has been provided.

SCOPE

This plan applies to all people entering the **KILMORE LIBRARY JOHN TAYLOR ROOM** building located at **12 SYDNEY STREET KILMORE** in line with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions identified by the Department of Health and Humans Services.

PLAN

3.1 Pre-Return Risk Assessment

Prior to people attending the site a Risk Checklist must be completed identifying how the requirements for physical distancing and people density will be maintained. A checklist to enact the plan is attached in Appendix 1

3.2 Considering groups needs

Organisers will discuss potential vulnerabilities with all group members and encourage individual participants to consider their own risk and need to attend. The group may need to consider supporting different members depending on their circumstances. Circumstances may have changed post COVID-19, for example they may now have additional carer's responsibility or family members with specific health risks.

Social and physical vulnerabilities that might affect a person attending the facility include:

- Immune-compromised: may limit attendance or may require additional controls
- Social isolation: managing return to social settings may not be easy for some people
- Need to assist family with child minding or other activities

Our plan for managing our members is:

- Sending Covid-19 safe plan to all members with the meeting groups notice
- A copy of the Covid-19 Safe plan with the meeting registration book
- Limit numbers to current DHS prescribed restriction number's
- Update all members as circumstances change

Any person who is unwell should not enter the building. This includes presenting with cold or flu symptoms including fever, runny nose, coughing, sore throat, aches or diarrhea. People with symptoms will be asked to leave.

This plan has been communicated to all affected members of the group.

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



(Continued from page 17)

3.3 Return to facilities

3.3.1 Physical distancing measures

Physical distancing measures mean that people from separate households must be more than 1.5 metres from each other. In addition, a minimum space of 2 metres x 2 metres is required for every person in any room they access.

Spaces (e.g. corridors) where there is a potential for people to come in contact with each other may exist in the building. It is acceptable that people walk past each other in these spaces as the amount of time they are together is minimal. However, they are not to stop in these spaces and, if possible, the movement of members should be managed so that people will not physically brush past each other in this space.

Rooms in the building and the maximum number of people allowed (subject to current restriction limits on total numbers):

Room Name	Size (width X depth)	Max people (width x depth/2)
John Taylor Room		Max 40 people

Signs will be placed into any room where the maximum occupancy is less than the maximum allowed into the entire facility to advise that people are to wait until the room is vacated.

Cleanliness

Cleaning arrangements for the building are to be documented.

On entry to the building it is advised that every person wash their hands with soap and water or carries hand sanitiser to apply at entry. Everyone should avoid touching their faces.

For this building, at the end of every session any equipment and all tables and chairs used by the members need to be cleaned by the meeting organiser using soap and water with washable or disposable cloths. Spray and wipe is also satisfactory for cleaning.

Chairs with soft covers will, where possible, not be used as these are difficult to wipe down.

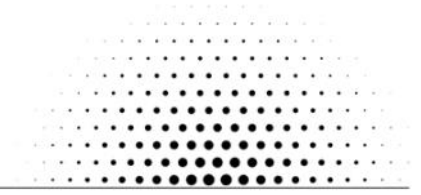
Council clean as per schedule arranged with the Contracts Management Coordinator at Mitchell Shire Council. This has been communicated to each building manager.

(Continued on page 19)

Covid Safe Meeting Plan...

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



(Continued from page 18)

COVID-19 Infection

If a member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the following process will apply:

- Notify members who may have had contact with the person per DHHS guidance
- Ensure the privacy of the individual is maintained
- Seek assistance from Council contact
- Inform Council to arrange a deep clean of the building

3.6 Breach of the policy

Everyone will be treated with respect and it is expected that members will adhere to guidelines to physical distancing to help minimise the risk of COVID-19 being spread. Should someone test positive who attended a meeting space their privacy will be maintained, however Council will need to support a contact tracing regime to inform others.

3.7 Legal Sources of policy

- [National COVID-19 Safe Workplace Principles](#)
- [NCCC COVIDSafe plan](#)
- *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 (VIC)*
- *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (VIC)*
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)*
- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (VIC)*

Appendix 1 – Checklist (to be completed for each session and retained by user group)

Before activity

- ☐ Date and time of activity _____
- ☐ Activity type _____
- ☐ Rooms used (e.g. hall and kitchen) _____
- ☐ Responsible person name (must be present throughout activity)

The following available:

- ☐ Advice on COVID-19 available to everyone –
e.g. www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/staying-safe-covid-19
- ☐ Specific vulnerabilities determined and vulnerable group members encouraged to participate in other ways or to make arrangements with organisers for any special requirements to facilitate attendance
- ☐ Room sizes and number of people in each room signed

(Continued on page 20)

Covid Safe Meeting Plan...

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



(Continued from page 19)

- ☐ Places where it will be difficult to maintain 1.5m spacing identified
- ☐ Signs for 1.5m and COVID-19 displayed
- ☐ Attendance sheet available and completed by all people entering facility
- ☐ Consideration for leaving doors open to allow access through doors without touching
- ☐ Advised patrons to hand wash/ hand sanitise as soon as they enter the building (consider leaving the outer toilet door propped open to avoid touching)
- ☐ Soap and water or disinfectant spray and disposable cloth (e.g. paper towel) available to clean surfaces touched
- ☐ Gloves available

Other risks to be managed (please list, use reverse of sheet if more space required)

During activity

- ☐ Encourage participants not to bring belongings into centre (less to contaminate and clean)
- ☐ All attendees have been asked if they are unwell or have a temperature
- ☐ All attendees have been asked to wash their hands upon entry
- ☐ All attendees have provided their contact information on attendance sheet
- ☐ All attendees have been informed about safe distancing (1.5m)
- ☐ All attendee have been advised of other risks to be managed (please see list, use reverse of sheet if more space required)

After activity

- ☐ All items used (including tables and chairs) washed with soap and water or sprayed and wiped with a disinfectant. This is the responsibility of the meeting organiser
- ☐ This form and the attendance sheet completed and stored in a centralised location (e.g. office) – to be made available upon request

Plan completed by:

Name	Ian Julian
Role	Secretary APS Mitchell Group Inc.
Contact Number	0438 270 248
Email	apsmitchell@gmail.com
Date	28-01-2021
Signature	<i>Ian Julian</i>