

# NEWSLETTER



## AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

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PO Box 541, Kilmore Victoria, 3764

Inc# A0054306V

## November 2022

Volume 9, Issue 10

### November news....!

Hello & welcome to our November issue, the last for this year.

Well, what a month it's been! Floods, chaos, the Expo done & dusted. Now, we're getting ready for our AGM, and the festive season approaches.

The AGM will be held as a small part of our upcoming November meeting, in our usual brief, no fuss style. We do very much need more people on our committee, and in particular, are seeking someone to take on the role of Assistant Treasurer/Memberships, which really is quite a small, yet very helpful role. All committee roles will be open for nomination, & if any members are willing to come on board, we will be enormously grateful. Ian has put together an outline of committee roles & responsibilities, which, can be found as part of our nomination form from page 4.

With this being our last newsletter for the year I extend huge & heartfelt thanks to all our wonderful contributors and supporters throughout 2022. Your support means so very

much, & makes this newsletter what it is. Our next newsletter will be due for issue on or within a few days of Monday February 13th, 2023. Contributions big & small are deeply appreciated & always needed. If you can help out with items of interest please send them in by Monday February 6th, 2023. Email to:

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

Warmest wishes to you all for a wonderful, happy, and safe Festive & Holiday Season.

Cheers, until next year, Jeanine

PS... A special message of congratulations to Bill Barker for his upcoming milestone...



#### Inside this issue:

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### *Save the date! End of year* *Christmas Luncheon...*

Victoria Morris has again, very generously, offered to host APS Mitchell's end of year celebratory get together at her home in Lancefield:

**A Christmas Luncheon to be held on**  
**Saturday December 17th, 2022.**

Time and further details to be advised via email and announced at our up coming November meeting.

The December Lancefield Farmer's Market is scheduled for the same day, so there is great opportunity to make a day of it - Attend the Market first, then come along for an afternoon enjoying lunch and socialising, at Victoria's home in High St Lancefield.

### Mitchell Diary Dates..

- **As Covid-19 remains prevalent, events may be effected at short notice.**  
**Meetings will be held under the requirements of our Covid Safe facility Plan; Please read the plan (back pages) prior to attending**
- **Saturday November 19th 10am**  
**Gardens for Wildlife reserve visit to High Camp Floral Reserve.**  
**See full details on page 3.**
- **Monday November 21st 7:30pm**  
**Evening meeting & AGM - Please note temporary change of venue (see page 4)**  
**Guest Speaker: Chris Cobern**  
**Topic - 'Wildlife in our Backyards'**
- **Saturday December 17th.**  
**End of year Christmas Luncheon. Time & further details to be announced at our November evening Meeting. (Email advice will also be provided.)**



## Gardens for Wildlife news...

By Gerry Ho

G4W Spotlight Species: *Prostanthera lasianthos*

Christmas this year may not be the joyful affair of yore for some of us, with humanity seemingly determined to dig itself a deeper trench than the fissure from the last epidemic. Thankfully, nature has a timely remedy: the Victorian Christmas Bush (*Prostanthera lasianthos*), a shrub (or small tree) with spectacular snow-white December blossom and minty fragrance to uplift any lost or desperate soul.



*P. lasianthos* has a fairly large geographic range stretching from Tasmania to the wet sclerophyll forests in Queensland. Not too surprisingly, it is a variable and taxonomically complex species, and two varieties are recognised in Victoria: *P. lasianthos* var. *lasianthos* and *P. lasianthos* var. *subcoriacea*. Locally, we would expect to see the former, with longer leaves (60–95 mm long, compared to 30–46 mm) and taller form in gullies or moist shady areas.

That said, the VCB is a popular plant in urban gardens, with different forms available

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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



## November Meeting— Monday 21st 7:30pm

Owing to flood damage in the John Taylor Room, we have a temporary venue for the November meeting & AGM:

**Kilmore Soldiers Memorial Hall, 14 Sydney Street, Kilmore.**

**Meeting commencing 7:30pm.**

**Chris Cobern will be joining us to present 'Wildlife in our Backyards'.**

The talk will focus on some of the things people can do to attract wildlife to their properties, including some of the local flora that can be planted in your garden to provide food and shelter for our native animals. Chris has worked for Landcare since 2009; as a Landcare Coordinator for the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network, and as the Upper Merri Landcare Facilitator since October 2021, where he is focused on increasing community natural resource management activities in the Upper Merri and the upper Plenty communities. Do come along for what will be a most interesting talk.

Feel free to bring flower specimens along for show and discussion (please label with species name if known). Our door prize plant raffle will follow the main presentation and the evening will conclude with chat time and supper. Tea, coffee, and home baked goodies will be available.

Remember: visitors, guests and friends are very welcome at APS Mitchell meetings. Meetings are held under the guidelines of our [Covid safe facility plan](#). Please read the plan (click link or see back pages) prior to attending.



*Bulbine bulbosa* with wasp Photo: J Petts

## Memberships...

A hearty warm welcome to our newest members (names on page 8). We look forward to seeing you at activities & getting to know you.

For all membership enquiries please contact Christine: Phone 0458 238 270 or Email to the attention of the Membership Officer: [mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au) Further information, contact details, along with a downloadable [membership form](#) can also be found at our website: <http://www.apsmitchell.org.au/membership/>



## Gardens for Wildlife news continued...

By Gerry Ho

(Continued from page 2)

commercially (such as 'Kallista Pink'—a mauve form found in Kallista). To encourage growth, good drainage and moist soil are essential. VCB tolerates light frost, but should be sheltered from wind. Flowers are food sources for native bees and wasps.

Cuttings are the preferred way to propagate VCB. Cuttings of half-hard material typically strike well in spring and autumn. The sapling should be watered until it is established.



*Prostanthera lasianthos*

Photo: Gerry Ho



*Prostanthera lasianthos* 'Kallista Pink' flowering in a garden setting. Above: form Below: flowers & foliage. Photos: J Petts



*Prostanthera lasianthos*

Photo: J Petts



### Mitchell Gardens for Wildlife Diary Dates..

**Saturday 19 November 2022:**

#### High Camp Floral Reserve Guided Walk



**Meet:**  
High Camp F.R. car park (off Crawfords Road). [View on Google Maps](#).

**Time & Duration:**  
**Meet 10 am.**  
Walk is 2–3 hours, followed by tea.

**Bring:**

- Wet weather gear
- Sunscreen & insect repellent
- Food & water
- Non-slip walking shoes

Please RSVP using this [Google Form](#), Or email [g4w@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:g4w@apsmitchell.org.au)

Or call Gerry (see phone number below).

The event will be cancelled if bad weather prevails.

For further information contact: Gerry -

Email: [g4w@apsmitchell.org.au](mailto:g4w@apsmitchell.org.au)

Ph: 0403 983 330



# AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

## APS Mitchell Group Inc. Annual General Meeting

The Australian Plants Society Mitchell Group Inc. Annual General Meeting 2022 will be held on Monday November 21, commencing at 7:30pm in the Supper Room Memorial Hall Sydney St. KILMORE. This will be followed by the general monthly meeting.

Nominations are being called for the following committee positions.

<input type="checkbox"/>	President	<input type="checkbox"/>	General Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	Group Librarian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/>	G4W Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/>	Treasurer/Memberships	<input type="checkbox"/>	Assistant Treasurer/Memberships
<input type="checkbox"/>	Expo and Sale coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletter Editor

(Tick applicable nomination, One nomination per form)

**Name of nominator:**

**Signature:**

**Name of seconder:**

**Signature:**

**Name of nominee:**

**Signature:**

☐

I confirm that I am a financial member of APS Mitchell Group Inc.

Address:

Telephone:

Nomination forms can be received by the secretary via mail to: PO Box 541 Kilmore Vic 3764 or email: [mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au) by the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2022, or presented at the Annual General Meeting.



# AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

## APS MITCHELL COMMITTEE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### PRESIDENT

- MC at meetings and events.
- Annual report
- Signatory for grant applications

### VICE PRESIDENT

- Assist President
- Act for president when unavailable
- Fund raising and promotion. (e.g. donations for expo)

### SECRETARY

- Correspondence
- Organise committee meetings
- Check mailbox
- Produce letters
- Produce reports (e.g. reporting requirements for grants)
- APS Mitchell website admin

### TREASURER and MEMBERSHIP

- Manage the financial accounts
- Ensure petty cash for meetings and group activities
- Report to the committee
- Monitor membership and produce name tags (membership will shortly be members responsibility on the APSVIC database.)

### EXPO COORDINATOR

- Currently the 2nd Saturday of October – 2023 14<sup>th</sup> October
- Book the venue
- Inform APSVIC (Nicky Zanen)
- Inform and invite the sellers
- Organise the requirements of the venue (trestles etc.)
- Organise and produce the advertising (flyer, newspaper ads (these are proforma), social media etc.

### G4W COORDINATOR

- Maintain member database
- Organise events may include markets, garden visits, workshops
- Produce newsletter
- Monitor Facebook page, or other social media platforms

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

- Produce newsletter
- Maintain the mailing list
- Distribute group info via the mailing list

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- This is an important but not a demanding role however it is an important decision-making role.
- Attend committee meetings when available
- Is also a social get together



## *October Meeting Report - Expo wrap up & flower table...*

*By Jeanine Petts*

With our monthly meeting coming hot on the heels after big weekend putting on our annual Spring Plant Expo and Sale (after missing 2 years). Many of us arrived feeling pretty darn tired, yet, also thrilled to have a record number of new members to meet and get to know. What with floods, the Expo, and so very many other things going on behind the scenes in preceding days and weeks, we ended up without a guest speaker for our October meeting. So, instead, the plan for our evening became a report on the Expo, followed by the flower table discussion.

When Norbert called us to our seats, he began by welcoming everyone, saying that arriving at the evening's meeting felt like somewhat of an anticlimax, after all the work of the Expo. One of the excellent outcomes of the Expo, was having new members sign up, and some come along to the meeting. Norbert bade our newcomers a special welcome, inviting each to say a few words by way of introduction. As each new member finished their introduction, they were given a warm, welcoming round of applause. First to kick off was Paul, a qualified horticulturalist (of 17 years) who runs his own landscaping business. Next was, Bob and Sandra who have recently moved from East Gippsland where they ran Tambo Vale Nursery & Botanical Gardens for many years. Followed by Amanda (who works for Bush Crew and Flora Victoria) along with her mother Narelle.

Picking back up on the subject of the Expo, Norbert related some of the travails that had occurred; Ian and Christine needing to evacuate their home on the eve of set up day, as surrounding rising water levels had reached 75mm below floor level. Mike taking three and a half hours to find a way home on Thursday Oct 13th, then he, I and our family isolated for approximately 18 hours, due to all surrounding roads being cut by flood waters. The good news is that we all managed to get the Expo set up, and successfully run. For which, we have a goodly number of people to thank for all their support during set up, on the day and with packing up. Heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation to;

Judy and Ross Anderson, for helping throughout set up day and Expo Day, and very patiently coping with numerous impromptu layout changes etc.

Angela Turner, who helped unstintingly with various tasks on set up day.



Expo 2022 at Wallan Multipurpose Community Centre. Photos : J Petts

*(Continued on page 7)*

## *Expo wrap up & flower table continued...*

*(Continued from page 6)*

Debbie Packham, who did a brilliant job handling the somewhat confusing, at times, raffle ticket sales (we promise to streamline future raffle sales and appreciate all the feedback).

Victoria, who baked and handled catering and kitchen duties, also making sure volunteers and sellers received sustenance during their busy day.

Dawn, our multi-tasking, fundraising angel, who baked numerous cakes, jointly ran the kitchen with Victoria, sold raffle tickets and organised some of the raffle prizes.

Mike P, for picking up and delivering tables, helped with set out and pack up, amongst other odd jobs here and there.

Russell Wait and Mike Williams, who, along with being sellers on the day, helped with set up pack up, provided loads of flower specimens & some essential equipment, helped with displays, plant species ID's and many other tasks.

Brian and Lorraine Weir who provided more than 150 different Grevillea species floral samples (assisted by Norbert). Additionally, Brian helped with floral display set up, and also attended as a seller on Expo Day.

Ray Barnes, who helped with a variety of tasks during set up, on Expo Day and provided floral samples as well.

Pete and Joan Broughton, who along with being sellers on the day, provided floral samples and assisted with species ID.

Karen from Goldfields Revegetation, who after a long day selling, helped with all our packing up.

Gerry Ho, who helped with set up, ran the Gardens for Wildlife display, supported books sales and other numerous tasks.

Ian & Christine for a host of behind the scenes organisation, management, front of house work, and other tasks too numerous to mention.

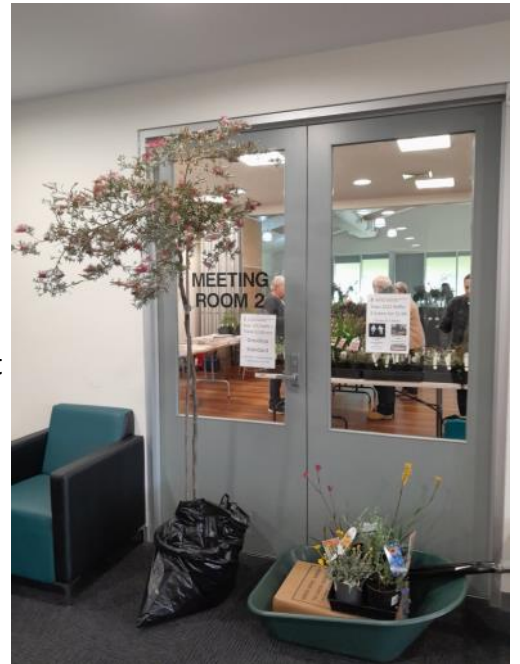
Norbert, for many and varied tasks including locating a new venue.

Our sponsors and raffle prize donors: Bendigo Community Bank, Bunnings Craigieburn, Leah (Jeweller), and Russell Wait.

We could not have put together and run our Expo without your



Dawn & Victoria ready to go in the kitchen.



Above & below: Raffle prizes for Expo 2022



Custom made earrings by Leah,  
modelled on *Dillwynia sericea*  
(APS Mitchell's floral emblem)

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## *Expo wrap up & flower table continued...*

*(Continued from page 7)*

assistance and support. Huge, huge thanks to everyone, all your efforts mean so very much, and are deeply appreciated. (Apologies if I've missed anyone's name.)

Expo Raffle Prize winners were:

Gayle Shrugg - Grevillea standard

Russell Wait - Custom made *Dillwynia sericea* sterling silver earrings by Leah (Russell was pleased as punch to make Beryl a very happy lady).

M Jovic - Bunnings Wheelbarrow & selection of plants.

Ian took the floor next, and spoke on how we had ended up with an unplanned 11<sup>th</sup> hour venue change for the Expo, and how this had resulted in helping towards a successful day, as we had 110 Wallan residents alone attend the Expo. Book sales were also good with total sales reaching \$1242.00. Initially there had been fears as to how attendances would go, and of course what the weather and it's effects might be. It turned out we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest turn out ever, with a total of over 190 attendees. The numbers included 42 from Kilmore and the rest came from all over Victoria.

Next up, Christine provided her treasurers and memberships breakdown from the Expo:

Of the more than 190 people in attendance; 110 came from Wallan, 42 came from Kilmore and the rest came various places in Victoria: We had a couple from East Hawthorn, a family from Ringwood, another couple from Geelong, as well as people from Albert Park, Donnybrook, Bylands, Kilmore, Broadford, Yan Yean, Heathcote, Whittlesea, Beveridge, Hurstville, Greenvale, Pyalong, Tallarook, Bundoora and Northcote.

The door prizes were won by Sandy from Wallan (Kangaroo Paw from Ironstone Park), Jane from Wallan (8 tubes from Goldfields Regeneration) and Princy Mathew from Donnybrook (grafted Grevillia from Russell Wait).

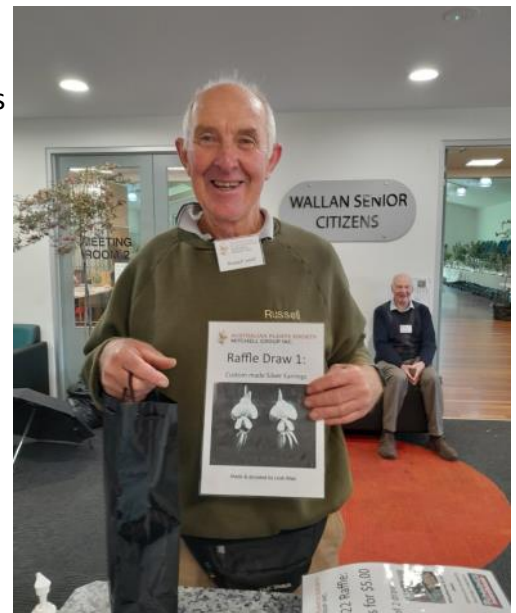
7 singles and 4 families joined our club. So we extend a big, warm, welcome to: Carlos Rodrigues, Amanda and Narelle Douglas-Smith, Mary and Warren Roberts, Paul Sanderson, Joy Ring, Emma Morrison, Michael Keough, Bob and Sandra Farlow, Alex and Leanne Egan, Jane Lovell and Louise Hall.

### Income

Membership	365.50
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2 of our Expo 2022 prize winners.  
Photos: J Petts



*(Continued on page 9)*



## *Expo wrap up & flower table continued...*

*(Continued from page 8)*

Door	379.85
Raffle	427.00
Tea/Coffee/Cake	230.00
G4W membership	20.00
% of plant sales	230.00
% of book sales	102.30
Bendigo Bank grant	1000.00
Total	2734.65

### **Outgoings**

North Central Review	424.01
Hall hire	559.55
Tea/coffee/milk/plates etc Expo	30.70
Dinner Friday	52.00
APS Victoria	242.50
Total	1308.76

In closing Christine mentioned that she would love for everyone to hassle Norbert to give her the dinner receipt for set up evening (which, he had yet to provide). Further, that two of the great things about this year's Expo was that it was one of our most successful to date, and last but not least, "the hall was warm!" (A comfortable temperature, unlike past years at Kilmore).

Just prior to beginning our evening flower table discussion, Norbert reminded everyone about the Gardens for Wildlife activities, which, Gerry has been organising and running. Photos of the Beckinsale Reserve visit featured in Gerry's article in our October newsletter and the visit was a "fantastic morning". Although the reserve is only a small bit of land, and the creek running through it is eroded, it has a gorgeous collection of native lilies and other wildflowers.

Russell Wait was then invited to take the floor next, passing around his own, and other members specimens that had been brought in. An anecdote first mentioned was that recently, visitors came from Belgium to see Russell's *Eremophila* collection for the purposes of medical research, as there are a number of species used by traditional people for the purposes of healing.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## *Expo wrap up & flower table continued...*

(Continued from page 9)

Species shown were:

*Eremophila drummondii* is Named for James Drummond, a West Australian Botanist. It can be variable in growth, ranging from 0.30m-2m high x 2m wide, and bears linear, vivid green leaves, with flower colour forms including white, pink and lilac. Peak flowering occurs in spring or sporadically following new growth. It copes with most frosts and does best in a sunny site, but will tolerate a little shade.

Russell explained that an *Eremophila* chimera equals a weed. Chimera can occur when grafting, where the rootstock and scion form a callous, the cells from the two different species can combine to form another plant. In the case of the Russell's particular chimera, which, is on *Myoporum* rootstock with *Eremophila* scion, it can send any combination of genetics in it's shoots. In fact, it has had more than two different type shoots grow from it in the past. He is currently continuing to develop and propagate the interesting new plant that has formed, and intends to call it "Big John" after the explorer John Mackinlay, who was reputedly "a giant of a man", which, in those days were few & far between.

*Eremophila glabra* Bev Rice forms a compact bush growing to 1m x 1m and has grey foliage with green flowers. A hardy, bird attracting plant for a full sun site in well-drained soil.

*Daviesia latifolia* Broadleaf Bitter-pea or Hop Bitter-pea – has attractive leaves and is a very tough plant. It forms an open, erect to spreading shrub growing 1-3m high x 1-2m wide. Racemes of orange-yellow flowers with a maroon marking occur September to December, followed by obliquely triangular seed pods. Adaptable to most soils (except water-logged), and will grow in full sun or semi-shade. The leaves have medicinal properties and were used as a substitute for hops.

*Olearia phlogopappa* has a total of 9 subspecies, 6 of which, occur in Victoria. It forms a shrub growing to around 2m high and is a prolific flowerer (September to January) that is stunning in full bloom. Flower colour forms range from bright blues through mauves, white, magenta and pink. Its greyish green foliage is variable (depending on subspecies), but usually oblong and sometimes toothed. A hardy, if at times short lived shrub suited to well drained, moist soils in full sun or semi shade. Light pruning following flowering will increase vigour and extend the life of this species.



*Eremophila drummondii*

Photo: Alice Newton

<https://anpsa.org.au/eremophila/eremophila-drummondii/>



*Eremophila glabra* 'Bev Rice'

Image:

<https://triggplants.com.au/product/eremophila-glabra-bev-rice-in-50mm-forestry-tube/>



*Daviesia latifolia* Photo: Gerry Ho



*Olearia phlogopappa*

Photo: Jeff Irons

[https://anpsa.org.au/plant\\_profiles/olearia-phlogopappa/](https://anpsa.org.au/plant_profiles/olearia-phlogopappa/)

(Continued on page 11)

## Expo wrap up & flower table continued...

(Continued from page 10)

*Eucalyptus gregsoniana* Dwarf Snow Gum is growing in the shade of other trees and forms a compact tree growing to 2-4m high. It has also been known as *E. pauciflora* var. *nana*, and its natural range is in scattered populations in the Central and Southern Tablelands of NSW. It is a very cold tolerant plant with shiny green leaves, and bears white flowers during spring and summer.



*Eucalyptus gregsoniana*  
Photo: M Fagg Australian National Botanic Gardens  
<https://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/interns-2012/eucalyptus-gregsoniana.html>



*Prostanthera melissifolia*  
Photo: J Petts

*Prostanthera melissifolia* Balm Mint-bush comes in mauve, pink and white colour forms, is fast growing, forming a rounded shrub 1-2m wide x 2-3m high. Suited to moist, well-drained soils in a sheltered semi-shade to full shade position.

*Prostanthera incisa* Cut-leaf Mint-bush or Native Thyme is found in both pink and mauve-lilac forms and grows as a rounded shrub to 2m x 2m that bears aromatic leaves with toothed margins. Masses of pale lilac-mauve or pink flowers occurring in spring. Grows best in a partly shaded position, in moist, well-drained soil. A little water may be needed on hot days, as the plants will wilt readily if too dry. Tip pruning after flowering helps maintain a compact habit.



*Prostanthera incisa* Photo: J Petts

*Prostanthera ovalifolia* Oval-leaved Mint Bush is endemic to NSW and QLD, generally growing to around 2.5m high, although can reach 4m. It is the most widely grown mint bush in cultivation. Masses of purple to mauve flowers that are held in sprays, can completely cover the bushes in spring. Like the majority of *Prostanthera*, it does best in a well-drained, moist position with protection from direct summer sun. Like other *Prostanthera*, it will wilt in dry conditions, but can recover quickly when watered.



*Prostanthera ovalifolia*  
Photo: B & B Barker

*Eutaxia microphylla* Small-leaved Eutaxia is a widespread species found Qld, NSW, Tas, SA, WA and Vic, including locally. It can be variable in habit, forming a low growing, densely branched prostrate plant of 0.5m x 0.5-1.5m. Yellow pea-flowers with red or purple streaks cover the plant from August to November. It tolerates both frost and dry conditions, will adapt to most soils, and if well-established will cope with brief periods of waterlogging, and periods of drought. Grows in full sun to full shade making it a great plant to grow under trees. An upright variety; *Eutaxia microphylla* var. *diffusa* can grow to around 1.5m high.



*Eutaxia microphylla* Photo: J Petts

*Coronidium scorpioides* Button Everlasting is a perennial herbaceous plant in

(Continued on page 12)



## *Expo wrap up & flower table continued...*

(Continued from page 11)

the Daisy Family that has a rosette of grey-green leaves and bright, pale yellow, button-like flowers held on 20-30cm stems, which, occur from October to February. It prefers well-drained soils and will grow in full sun or light shade.



*Coronidium scorpioides* Photo: J Petts

*Micromyrtus ciliata* Fringed Heath Myrtle (Prostrate form) grows as a low, spreading shrub reaching 0.50m high x 1m wide (or more over time). It has small dark green leaves that are reminiscent of conifer and held on long arching stems. Profuse tiny white flowers that age to pink occur in an extended display from spring to summer. A frost hardy plant that is suited to a full sun to part shade site in well drained soils.



*Pimelea humilis* Photo: J Petts

*Pimelea humilis* Common Rice-flower or Small Rice-flower is found locally, and forms an erect to straggling low plant with a suckering habit that can grow from 0.10-0.30m high x up to 1m wide. It has small grey-green elliptic leaves and bears creamy white flowerheads from September to January. Grows best in moist to dryish well-drained soils in a full sun to part shade site, and can be planted under trees. A great little butterfly attracting plant.

*Prostanthera aspalathoides* Scarlett Mint-bush is endemic to Victoria, NSW, QLD and SA, and forms a small shrub growing from 0.30m to 1m high, that has fine, bright green, linear leaves. A variety of colour forms occur including; red, pink-red, orange, and a rarer yellow form. Peak flowering time is spring to early summer, when the plants can put on a spectacular display, although sporadic flowering can occur throughout the year. It is a reasonably hardy plant, being drought resistant, growing well in dry climates with low humidity and semi-arid and warm temperature regions. It will also grow in cooler climates if given a warm protected site. Prefers a well-drained soil in full sun to part shade and can be grown in containers. Responds well to yearly light pruning.

*Calotis scabiosifolia* var. *scabiosifolia* Tufted Burr-daisy is a tufted perennial species endemic to Victoria that has ovate to spatulate leaves, spreads by rhizomes, and bears white flowers 15-30mm wide, which, are held on stalks 0.30-0.50m high during August to December. It was once widespread across grassland and open



*Micromyrtus ciliata* Photo: J Petts



*Prostanthera aspalathoides*  
Photo: J Petts



*Coronidium scorpioides* Photo: J Petts

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## Expo wrap up & flower table continued...

(Continued from page 12)

woodland plains areas west and north of Melbourne, but is now rarely found. Highly suitable as a bedding or container plant and is frost and drought resistant. *Calotis scabiosifolia* var. *integrifolia* bears mauve flowers October to January, has narrow oblong leaves and occurs in dry foothills grassy woodlands to the sub alps.

*Mirbelia oxylobioides* Mountain Mirbelia or Sandstone Bush-pea grows to around 1.5m high and can be sprawling to erect in habit. It is endemic to Vic, NSW, ACT and is listed as rare endangered in Tasmania. Orange-yellow flowers with red markings occur from late spring into early summer. Prefers a semi-shaded site in well drained soils, and is frost and drought tolerant.

*Eremophila compacta* Compact Poverty Bush, a pink flowering form with grey leaves that grows to around 1m high and tolerates most frosts. Russell lists 2 subspecies in his book; *E. compacta* subsp. *compacta* (Compact Poverty Bush) and *E. compacta* subsp. *fecunda* (Fertile Emu Bush). Peak flowering occurs in spring, and sporadic flowers can occur after rain and new growth. Other colour forms are white, lilac and violet. It is best grown in a full sun open situation with free air movement, although a little shade can be tolerated.

*Eremophila muelleriana* forms a tall growing shrub to 2m, which, can be scraggly or dense in habit. It bears goldish to grey leaves and red-purple to deep purple flowers that can appear almost black. Flowering occurs in spring or after new growth. It is moderately frost tolerant and will take a little shade but will do best in a full sun site with good air movement.

*Astus subroseus* was named by Barbara Rye, a WA botanist, and is a rare endangered plant species. It is free flowering, producing bright pink flowers for 3-4 months of the year, and grows to around 1.5m.

*Eremophila miniata*, yellow form can reach 4-5m high and comes in pink and red colour forms. They are usually found growing around salty areas. All forms feature large calyxes that stay on the bush for some



*Mirbelia oxylobioides* Photo: J Petts



*Eremophila compacta* subsp. *compacta*  
Photo: Andrew Brown <https://anpsa.org.au/eremophila/eremophila-compacta-2/>



*Eremophila muelleriana*  
Photo: Anne Langmaid



*Eremophila compacta* subsp. *fecunda*  
Photo: Mike Beamish <https://anpsa.org.au/eremophila/eremophila-compacta-2/>



*Astus subroseus*  
Photo: Russell Wait

(Continued on page 14)



## Expo wrap up & flower table continued...

(Continued from page 13)

time. It requires good air circulation, doing best in full sun yet tolerates some shade and most frosts.

*Corymbia eximia* 'Nana' is a selected cultivar and the species are members of Bloodwood family, which, was previously included in *Eucalyptus*. It forms a small tree, and is a beautiful plant for a medium garden that puts on a great display of creamy white flowers in spring. *C. eximia* is endemic to the Central Coast region of NSW and grows from 5-15m high depending on site. It grows in dry rocky sites and is drought and moderately frost tolerant.

*Grevillea nivea* is endemic to a small area in WA near Esperance. It forms a dense spreading shrub to around 1.5-2m wide x 2-4m high. Bearing deeply divided leaves and bright red flowers held at, or near the ends of branches, making it a stunner when in flower. They respond well to pruning and grow best in sandy soils with a full sun aspect. Dawn's specimen is a grafted plant grown by Brian Weir.

*Grevillea* 'Coral Baby' is a small, low growing hybrid of *Grevillea lavandulacea* x *G. chrysophaea* that bears masses of soft pink flowers during winter and spring. It is bird attracting, grows in clay and loam soils, tolerates light frost, drought and coastal conditions.

*Grevillea intricata* is endemic to WA and forms a spreading, dense, elegantly attractive shrub that grows to 4m high x 2m wide. It has fine, needle-like foliage, red stems and creamy-white, greenish flowers occur throughout the year.

Last on the agenda before breaking for supper, was our evening plant raffle...and... Christine said, because she loves giving prizes away, there were 11 plants as door prizes. Unfortunately, with so much going on at the time, I was unable to keep up with note taking for the various prize species. My apologies to those who may have been interested in a little more information on these individual plants. We'll see if I can keep up, or not, next month. Needless to say, there were a lot of happy attendees who took home a little something extra for their garden, after enjoying our usual selection of yummy home baked treats and other goodies over tea, coffee and chat time. Many thanks to everyone who came along and contributed to the evening.

See you all at our November meeting. Cheers, Jeanine



*Eremophila miniata*

Photo: Geoff Derrin [CC BY-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/index.php?curid=51136320>



*Corymbia eximia* 'Nana' Image: <https://www.gardeningwithangus.com.au/corymbia-eximia-nana-dwarf-yellow-bloodwood/>



*Grevillea nivea* 'Scarlet King'  
Photo: J Petts



*Grevillea* 'Coral Baby' Image: <https://www.gardenexpress.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/grevillea-coral-baby-13.jpg>



*Grevillea intricata* Photo: Melburnian Maranoa Gardens, Balwyn, Vic. CC BY 3.0 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grevillea\\_intricata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grevillea_intricata)



## *A Walk on Mount Disappointment 30th November 2022...*

By Gerry Ho

The last Sunday morning of November was a beautiful morning. The rains that drenched the state and caused Central Victorians grief and misery over the previous weeks now seemed incongruent, with only sodden soil reminding bushwalkers of past deluge.

Eight of us met at an impromptu parking area on South Mountain Road that was carved out of the bush by mountain biking enthusiasts. The plan was to walk along Sheils Road, turn south on to Sheils Road fire break, and loop the loop on Dry Creek Road for a distance of 5 km. That was the plan, anyway.

Mount Disappointment was thus named when Hume and Hovell scaled the mountain on their 1824 expedition in an attempt to see Port Phillip Bay, only to be thwarted by dense vegetation. It might have been a let down for them, but for us the mountain put on a spectacular show from the bat.

Almost immediately, we came across a feast of eggs and bacon — Golden Bush-pea *Pultenaea gunnii* subsp. *gunnii*, with its delicate leaves only serving to push its yellow flowers into the limelight. Soon, another pea joined the show: Gorse Bitter-pea *Daviesia ulicifolia* subsp. *ruscifolia*, a cooked version of the Golden Bush-pea with a darker hue, and bitter to boot.

Some species took advantage of the openness afforded by bush roads to make their home on the track edges. We spotted a Common Apple-berry *Billardiera mutabilis* clinging to the bank, and clumps of Wattle Mat-rush *Lomandra filiformis*, likely subspecies *coriacea*.

Not surprisingly, some weeds too thrived on track edges: American Everlasting *Gamochaeta americana*, ubiquitous Cat's Ear *Hypochaeris* spp. and Common Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris*.

Thankfully, our indigenous species appeared to hold fast against introduced species. Further west along Sheils Road, we sighted Hop Goodenia *Goodenia ovata* (a good plant for many backyards), Common Rice-flower *Pimelea humilis*, and Love Creeper *Comesperma volubile* draping over other vegetation.

Stretches of the track bank were carpeted by Flat-pea *Platylobium montanum*, better known to some as *Platylobium formosum*. That has since been split, with two subspecies of *P. montanum* in the state. Based on its habit, the Sheils Road population was *P. montanum* subsp. *prostratum* Prostrate Flat-pea. Two other pea plants we sighted were Purple Coral-pea *Hardenbergia violacea* and egg-and-bacon Grey Parrot-pea *Dillwynia cinerascens*.

An elevated embankment proved to be fertile ground. In quick succession, we found Yam Daisy *Microseris* sp., Variable Stinkweed *Opercularia varia*, Early Nancy *Wurmbea dioica*, Butter-cup *Ranunculus* sp., White Marianth *Rhytidosporum procumbens*, Common Cassinia *Cassinia aculeata* subsp. *aculeata*, and for a welcome change, a native plantain, *Plantago varia* Variable Plantain rather than the weedy *P. lanceolata*.



Golden Bush-pea  
*Pultenaea gunnii* subsp. *gunnii* Photo: J Petts



Gorse Bitter-pea  
*Daviesia ulicifolia* subsp. *ruscifolia* Photo: J Petts



Common Apple-berry  
*Billardiera mutabilis*  
Photo: J Petts



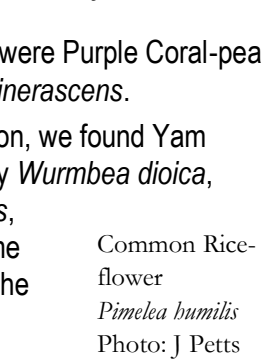
Wattle Mat-rush  
*Lomandra filiformis*  
Photo: J Petts



American Everlasting  
*Gamochaeta americana*  
Photo: J Petts



Hop Goodenia  
*Goodenia ovata*  
Photo: J Petts



Common Rice-flower  
*Pimelea humilis*  
Photo: J Petts



(Continued on page 16)



## *A Walk on Mount Disappointment 30th November 2022 continued...*

(Continued from page 15)

Also in flower were Creamy Candles *Stackhousia monogyna*, and amazingly, fungi could still be seen. Waiting in the wings were Button Everlasting *Coronidium scorpioides* and Bear's-ears *Cymbonotus preissianus*, while we managed to catch vestigial Common Heath *Epacris impressa* in flower.

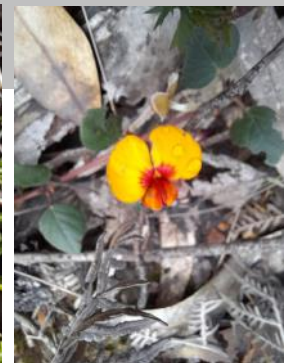
I was careful not to promise an abundance of orchid; a precursory walk a week before yielded few specimens. However, on Sunday we found Spider Orchid *Caladenia* sp. and Bird Orchid *Chiloglottis* sp. a little deeper in the scrub, and many *Thelymitra* that were yet to flower. Disappointingly, we also found exotic African Weed-orchid *Disa bracteata*, a highly invasive species by dint of its copious seed production.

We spent so much time marvelling over these wonders that we never did manage to complete the walk, for we had the afternoon open garden visit to go to. Mount Disappointment does or does not live up to its name (depending on what you want to see); we hope you can join us on the next trip there in 2023.

Lastly, a very special note of thanks to Danielle Hickford, who brought the beautiful pocket of wildflowers on Mt Disappointment to attention, and suggested the idea of a walk there.



Love Creeper  
*Comesperma volubile*



*Pultenaea montanum*  
subsp. *prostratum*  
Prostrate Flat-pea



Grey Parrot-pea  
*Dillwynia cinerascens*



Yam Daises *Microseris*  
sp.



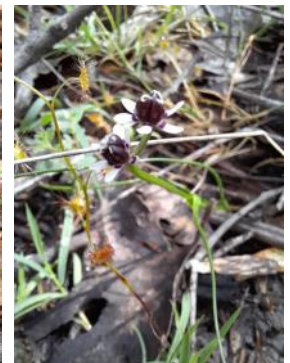
White Marianth  
*Rhytidosporum procumbens*



Butter-cup  
*Ranunculus* sp.



Variable Stinkweed  
*Opercularia varia*



Early Nancy  
*Wurmbea dioica*



Bird Orchid  
*Chiloglottis* sp.



*Caladenia* sp.



Variable Plantain  
*Plantago varia*



Common Cassinia  
*Cassinia aculeata* subsp.  
*aculeata*  
Photos: J Petts

**We need to know more about the indigenous flora in Mitchell.**

To conserve what we have, we first need to know what we have.

If you know of any public site with significant biodiversity (e.g. road reserves), please let us know by filling in this Google Form:

<https://forms.gle/9WZ5CdEcwHZf9WUX9>

Your submission will be treated with the strictest confidence.  
Thank you!

## 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,  
Gerry Ho,  
Ian Julian,  
Barbara Mau,  
Victoria Morris,  
Norbert Ryan.

### APS VIC DIARY DATES...

**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/>

**Checking with the event organiser is advised.**

APS Heathcote Inc. meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Heathcote Mechanics Institute Hall, 121 High St, Heathcote. Commencing 7:00pm. For further information see their Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/Australian-Plants-Society-Heathcote-Inc-](https://www.facebook.com/Australian-Plants-Society-Heathcote-Inc-102380169043080/)

[102380169043080/](https://www.facebook.com/102380169043080/)

Phone: 0419 878 950 or

Email:

[heathcoteaps@outlook.com](mailto:heathcoteaps@outlook.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/wimmerabiodiversityseminar>

### November 19-20 - Garden DesignFest Regional Victoria.

Gardens open 10am-5pm daily. Details at: <https://gardendesignfest.com.au/>

### November 26 - APS Vic COM meeting and quarterly meeting.

Commencing 10 am at Iramoo Grasslands Centre, Building 1J, McKechnie Street, St Albans. Melway 25 K3. Hosted by APS Keilor Plains.



Above: Creamy Candles *Stackhousia monogyna* Below: Common Selfheal *Prunella vulgaris* (weed species)  
Photos: Gerry Ho



## 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: Jeanine Petts, Victoria Morris & Maureen Thomas.  
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](mailto:g4w@apsmitchell.org.au)

### 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.**

## 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 Ph: 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. Phone: 0428 388 211



## *Diary Dates & Other Events continued...*

### **WAMA RECEIVES \$6.75M STATE GOVERNMENT FUNDING**

<https://wama.net.au/2022/10/27/wama-receives-6-75m-state-government-funding/>

The WAMA Foundation Ltd, has received \$6.75M from the Victorian State Government as part of the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund, to support the delivery of a \$9M Art Gallery facility, significantly boosting the local economy, and diversifying the tourism offering within the Grampians region.

WAMA will be Australia's first art and environment precinct with the centrepiece being a world-class art gallery dedicated to art inspired by the natural environment, surrounded by indigenous wildlife, native botanic gardens and bushlands.

Chairman, Greg Lewin says "This funding will take WAMA from vision to realisation. The facility will be a welcome addition to tourism in the Grampians, broadening the cultural experience for visitors and locals. And importantly, building and operating WAMA will bring significant benefits to the local economy."

The funding will contribute significantly to building Stage 1 of the 16-hectare masterplan of the WAMA site to construct a state-of-the-art, climate-controlled art gallery, café, retail shop and large multipurpose conference centre, with parking, visitor access pathways, landscaping and boardwalk.



Once open, the WAMA gallery will hold major exhibitions of art inspired by the natural environment, borrowing from top galleries and collections in Australia and internationally.

WAMA Patron Glenda Lewin says she is "delighted" and "it couldn't have come at a better time" as the Grampians region becomes increasingly popular for both domestic and international visitors.

"WAMA will offer a unique cultural destination by exploring the deep connections between the natural environment and art. There isn't anything else quite like it within Australia. We believe WAMA will be an internationally recognised tourist destination."

Greg Lewin says while the organisation has received this funding there is still more work to be done to raise money to complete the project.

"We have recently embarked on a Capital Campaign, turning our focus to philanthropy, to raise additional funds to ensure the project can be completed and our targets achieved."

"We have a great network of supporters who have helped us get this far however, now more than ever we need the support of the community behind us."

WAMA plans to be fully operational and open to the public by the end of 2024.

## *Nurseries further afield...*

### **Edendale Indigenous**

**Nursery:** Located in the Edendale Community Environment Farm at 30 Gastons Rd, Eltham VIC 3095. Open 10am to 4.30pm weekdays and weekends. Phone: 9433 3703

Email: [Nursery.edendale@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Nursery.edendale@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Website: <https://www.edendale.vic.gov.au/Nursery>

### **Nangak Tamboree Wildlife Sanctuary & Indigenous Nursery:**

Located on the La Trobe University, Melbourne (Bundoora) campus. Access is via La Trobe Ave (near the roundabout on Main Drive). Open: Sunday to Friday, 10am-3pm (some public holidays may affect opening hours). Ph: (03) 9479 1206

Email: [wildlife@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:wildlife@latrobe.edu.au)

Website: <https://www.latrobe.edu.au/wildlife/indigenous-plant-nursery>

### **Euroa Arboretum:**

Located at 76 Euroa Main Road. Their retail nursery Opens Monday & Thursday 12-5pm. April to October each year. (Note that the nursery closes November to March.) A plant catalogue & further information is available online at: <http://euroaarboretum.com.au/plant-order-form/> & <http://euroaarboretum.com.au/plant-nursery/>

### **Goldfields Revegetation:**

Located at 230 Tannery Lane, Mandurang Vic 3551. Open 7 Days a Week 9am to 5pm. Ph: (03) 5439 5384 Email: [info@goldfieldsrevegetation.com.au](mailto:info@goldfieldsrevegetation.com.au) Website: <http://www.goldfieldsrevegetation.com.au/index.asp>



# AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

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

PO Box 541, Kilmore Victoria, 3764

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

Inc# A0054306V

## 2022/23 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** ☐

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

(Please tick whichever applies)

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

☐ 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.

<b>Signed:</b>	<b>Date:</b> /    /
----------------	---------------------

**Neutrog Newsletter** APS Vic and Neutrog ([www.neutrog.com.au/](http://www.neutrog.com.au/)) have an agreement regarding Bush Tucker; Neutrog's fertiliser developed to meet the needs of all Australian native plants. Neutrog produces a monthly email of interest to gardeners. You will be signed up to receive the email (you can unsubscribe at any time). Or tick: ☐ Please don't send my email details to Neutrog.

**Payment by: Tick which applies:** ☐ Bank Transfer to BSB 633-000 Account No. 159982271 (Bendigo Bank)  
Please include your surname and post code as reference/transaction details. Please email a copy of your completed form to [mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au)

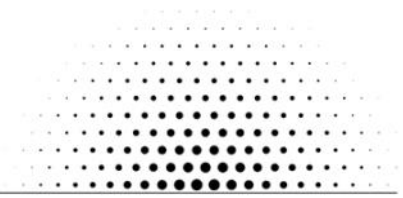
☐ Cheque made payable to: APS MITCHELL INC. Posted with your form to: APS Mitchell Treasurer, P O Box 541, Kilmore Vic 3764

☐ Pay via cash or cheque at an APS Mitchell monthly meeting (usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month 7:30pm John Taylor Room, Kilmore Library, Sydney St Kilmore)

**Enquires: Christine Cram Ph: 0458 238 270 or email: [mitchell@apsvic.org.au](mailto:mitchell@apsvic.org.au)**

## 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 20)

### 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.

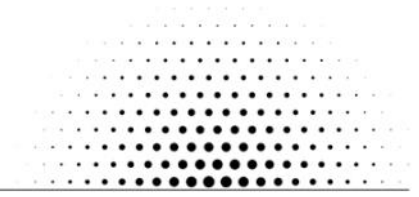
Council clean as per schedule arranged with the Contracts Management Coordinator at Mitchell Shire Council. This has been communicated to each building manager.

(Continued on page 22)

# *Covid Safe Meeting Plan...*

## **MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.**

### *COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan*



*(Continued from page 21)*

### **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](http://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 23)*

## *Covid Safe Meeting Plan...*

### **MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.**

#### *COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan*



*(Continued from page 22)*

- ☐ 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:**

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