

NEWSLETTER



AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY MITCHELL GROUP INC.

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PO Box 541, Kilmore Victoria, 3764

Inc# A0054306V

March 2022

Volume 9, Issue 2

March news...!

Hello, & welcome to our March issue. Yippee! Autumn is here & planting season is just around the corner.

Firstly, my sincere apologies to Pat Danko for misspelling your name in last month's newsletter. I'm so sorry it's taken me a month to realise my error. I'll endeavor not make the same mistake twice.

In group news, we return to the John Taylor Room this month for a guest speaker presentation & our regular meeting format. See right and page 2 for full details.

Congratulations to our newly minted neighbours - Australian Plants Society Heathcote Inc. Who, are now up and running with 3 meetings under their belt. Welcome to the community & we'll look forward to seeing you grow. Their meeting & contact details can be found on page 9.

Our next newsletter will be due for issue on or within a few days of Monday April 11th. Contributions big & small remain very greatly appreciated & always needed. If you can help



Prostanthera aspalathoides 11.03.22

Photo: J Petts

out with items of interest please send them in by April 4th. Email to:

wattlegum@southernphone.com.au

Again, heartfelt thanks to everyone who supports our group, & this newsletter. Your assistance is invaluable. The generosity & support of our members, friends & guest speakers is what makes the content of our newsletters possible.

With much appreciation, cheers until next time, Jeanine

PS...hope to see you at a meeting soon.

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Vale Francis Donovan

By Norbert Ryan

We recently lost Frank Donovan, who with his wife Mary, was a regular at our APS meetings. Frank reached 99 years 5 months, & had a fascinating career path. At his mother's prompting, Frank commenced working in a bank at 15. War service in Darwin then opened up more opportunities for training, as did post war scholarships for returned servicemen. He returned to banking with the ANZ and completed a commerce degree, then achieving promotion to a senior managerial role. After retirement at 59 he commenced farming on the family farm in Kilmore East. He developed a keen interest in the environment & typical of his organisational ability, started the Sunday Creek Landcare group in the early 90's. The large tree plantations on their property bear testament to his & Mary's commitment to this program. Frank was featured in the Weekly Times when he eventually decided to retire from active farming at 95. Frank enjoyed a chat, was well loved, & respected by all who knew him. Our sympathy goes to Mary, their son Tom & the extended family; we have all lost a "Local Treasure".

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 10). **Please note:** Meetings will be held under the requirements of our [Covid Safe facility Plan](#); **Please read the plan (from page 13) prior to attending**
- **Monday March 21st, evening meeting 7:30pm**
Evening in the John Taylor Room.
Guest Speaker:
Mike Williams -
Fabaceae - Pea flowers.
- **Monday April 18th**
Evening meeting 7:30pm
Guest Speaker:
Melissa Stagg -
Euroa Arboretum,
seed collecting & small garden design.
- **SAVE THE DATE!**
APS Mitchell Spring Expo & Plant Sale:
Saturday October 15th, 2022. 9am-3pm.



Gardens for Wildlife news...

By Jeanine Petts

Norbert, Dawn & Gerry returned to hosting our seasonal G4W stall at the Wallan Market this month (2nd Saturday), and will continue each month, weather permitting, throughout the planting season (until conditions become too dry later in spring for successful planting). If you're in the vicinity on market days, do stop by and say hello. Information on G4W & endemic plant species will be available, along with plants and G4W membership packs for sale. Contact Norbert for further information or to confirm attendance at the market: Ph 0428 180 651.

Beginning this month, we'll be featuring an indigenous species that's both beneficial to our wildlife and readily available from nurseries or local growers. In the spotlight this month is:

Acacia gunnii Ploughshare Wattle - a showy plant when in flower, but an often overlooked species. It forms an open low growing shrub reaching to 1m high x 1-2m wide that has prickly, stiff, asymmetrical triangular phyllodes (modified leaves), and bears single, pale yellow ball flowerheads at phyllode axils along its stems during winter and spring. Growing requirements are a well-drained soil in full sun to semi shade. A beneficial bird and pollinator attracting understorey plant, providing seed and insects, which, tolerates dryness once established, and can grow well under trees.

Acacia gunnii Photo: Neil Blair <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au>



"Porky" the resident Echidna in Quarry Ridge garden, taking a long drink. Photo: Barbara Mau



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



March Meeting – Monday 21st 7:30pm

For our March meeting we return to the John Taylor Room at Kilmore Library and our usual format. This month we welcome Mike Williams, returning to speak on the Fabaceae family - Pea flowers.

Many of our members will be very familiar with Mike, as he is a long standing member of both APS Yarra Yarra and our Mitchell Group (often bringing plants for sale to our meetings). He has served many years in a number of roles on both Yarra Yarra Group's executive committee, and on APS Victoria's Growth and Development Sub-Committee - It was during this tenure that Mike was a key facilitator in establishing our group, and has continued to mentor and support us ever since. Among Mike's other talents is a prodigious knowledge on native plants and the gift of the gab, so his presentation will be chock full of information and make for a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Do come along and join us! Our door prize plant raffle and Flower Specimen Table will follow the presentation, so please bring some specimens from your garden for display and discussion (label specimens if possible). Supper including tea, coffee, home baked goodies and chat time will conclude the evening. Remember: visitors, guests and friends are very welcome at APS Mitchell meetings. The meeting will be held under the guidelines of our [Covid safe facility plan](#). Please read the plan (see back pages) prior to attending.



Daviesia ulicifolia
(Glenaroua 17.10.21).
Photo: J Petts

Memberships...

With much thanks, we extend a cheery, friendly, official welcome our newest member Pat Danko, and returning member Mike Williams, who bring our membership total to 30. If anyone is still yet to renew, wishes to join or check your membership status please contact Christine: Phone 0458 238 270 or Email to the attention of the Membership Officer: mitchell@apsvic.org.au A membership form is on page 12 of this newsletter. Further information, contact details, along with a downloadable [membership form](#) can also be found at our website: <http://www.apsmitchell.org.au/membership/>

G4W at the Lancefield Market...

By Victoria Morris

February 26th started early for me and my fellow APS/Landcare member Pat Danko. We were to man our first Lancefield Farmers Market stand, to try and encourage local folk to join either, or both the local APS or Landcare groups. Thereby fostering an interest in native plants, to provide habitat in their gardens for wildlife, under the auspices of the Gardens for Wildlife scheme that both groups are now affiliated to.

Well, other Landcare members had erected a gazebo and tables for us, and the weather had decided to be kind, after threatening thunderstorms earlier in the week.

We set out information and leaflets we had collected, along with books on local flora and fauna. A big vase of beautiful native flowers adorned the table, and a collection of very smart nest boxes filled another table, along with some sample plants to demonstrate with.

The market was on from 9am to 1pm. Contrary to my pre-market nerves and weather worries, the morning turned out to be a very happy experience, and the time whizzed past.

Other committee members of the Mitchell Shire APS and Deep Creek Landcare Group very kindly turned up to support us, and add their expertise to the many questions asked and information handed out.

We signed up new members to both groups and sold nest boxes. Most people seemed genuinely interested in our promotion and Pat and I enjoyed talking to them in the market's relaxed setting.

So, we aim to repeat the exercise at the March market and hope to do even better!



Pat Danko at the Lancefield Market G4W stall 26.2.2022

Photos: Victoria Morris

February meeting report - Evening garden visit...

By Jeanine Petts

The evening of Monday February 21st saw Mike & I welcome Beryl, Russell, Julianne, Maureen, Pat, Victoria, Janis, Greg, Debbie, Gerry, Norbert, Christine & Ian to Wattle Gum Forest Farm for a garden visit - Our first Mitchell Group activity for this year. Thank you all for making the journey out to Pyalong, it can be a bit of a trek for some, and we greatly appreciated your effort and time spent to come along.

Late summer hadn't quite turned on the balmy evening we'd all hoped for, and a cool southerly breeze meant donning jackets to be comfortable while outdoors and wandering the garden. Which, we began to do by around 7pm...

The garden has been expanded out a little further, with new beds and areas beginning to be planted since our group's first visit in July 2019. New works include; a bed taking in all the trees along the home paddock front fence-line (the latest project underway), a small dam once in a fenced off chook yard is now being incorporated into the front gardens, and a rain swale garden feeding into a "frog pond" are new additions in the gardens to the rear of the house.

As we walked and talked some of the species that were in flower, or attracted attention and discussed were:

Eucalyptus scoparia Wallangarra White Gum is endemic to a small area near the town of Wallangarra QLD. It grows 6-15m tall, and as its name suggests, has white, smooth, powdery bark. The foliage is fine and pendulous forming a rounded willowish canopy. One has been planted in the centre of a small lawn area and two others have been used to replace other trees along the driveway.

Olearia pannosa Velvet Daisy-bush was planted in 2019. It is predominantly a SA species, although a subspecies is found in limited areas in Victoria. It can grow to around 1m, has large deep green leaves that are white and felty on the underside, and bears large white daisy flowers in spring.

Acacia lasiocarpa is a variable shrub that can grow from 0.2-1.5m high x 1-1.5m wide that has attractive bright green, ferny leaves. The low growing form is planted here and flowers in winter-spring.

Grevillea rhyolitica x victoriae bears bright red flowers most of the year with peak flowering in Spring and Autumn. It forms a rounded shrub to 1.5m, is hardy and makes a bright spot in the garden.

Acacia chinchillensis is another ferny leaved wattle, which, has very decorative, delicate silvery grey-green foliage. It forms a small spreading shrub growing to 1-2m, and flowers late winter- early spring.

Acacia pravissima Ovens Wattle is also quite decorative, with grey-green, wedge-shaped foliage. It generally grows to a large shrub or tree. Although there are smaller growing forms available, such as "Little Nugget", which, is the form planted here that is anticipated to only reach 1-2m high. At this time of year flower buds are already forming and they also make an attractive feature. Flowering occurs in September-October.

Halgania preissiana "Purple Haze" is a suckering small shrub that grows to 0.3m high x 0.4m wide, has grey-green, toothed, prickly leaves and bears eye-catching bright purple-blue, star-shaped flowers. Peak flowering time is September to February however, sporadic flowers can occur at other times. It is a hardy plant that is frost resistant and tolerates dry periods. Three were originally planted, with one surviving that is happily suckering, reaching an area around 1m x 0.5m wide. There is a complicated history of name changes with this



Eucalyptus scoparia



Olearia pannosa



Acacia lasiocarpa form



Acacia lasiocarpa
leaves



Grevillea rhyolitica x victoriae



Acacia pravissima



Acacia chinchillensis



Halgania preissiana
"Purple Haze"

Photos: J Petts

(Continued on page 5)

February meeting report - Evening garden visit continued...

(Continued from page 4)

species: from *H. preissiana* to *H. anagalloides* var. *preissiana*, then simply included in with *H. anagalloides*. Currently, a new name of *Halgania anagalloides* var. *Southern* has been proposed, but is yet to be accepted.

Acacia glaucoptera Flat Wattle (purple leaved form) was planted in winter 2019 and currently has a spread of just over 1m. Last year's wetter season saw it die back a little, but it has since bounced back with considerable vigour over this summer. It can form a dome-shaped low shrub up to 3m wide, and has striking stem claspings phyllodes (modified leaves) that give the appearance of being winged, which, have attractive, purple-red new growth tips.

Casuarina cunninghamiana River Sheoak will grow to around 30m high and is endemic to ACT, NSW & QLD. It is an excellent tree for windbreaks or screening and can grow in good to poor soils, including clay. Suitable for areas with annual rainfall down to 500mm, it tolerates seasonal inundation, frost, and salt, but does best along permanent water sources. Five were planted in the garden during winter 2018, and are now close to, or over, two or three metres high. Two are located in the overflow drainage line from the small dam (AKA "the duck pond"), the other three along the south easterly edge of one of the younger garden beds, to hopefully create screening from the road and slow some of the strong southerly winds through that section of the garden.

Maireana brevifolia Small-leaf Bluebush was planted last August and is one of a number of salt tolerant species, including a variety of Saltbush species being used in plantings put in over the last two years around the "duck pond", which, takes saline discharge flow from a reverse osmosis system. Hence, also planting salt tolerant species along the pond's overflow drainage line. *M. brevifolia* grows to around 1m high x 0.6-1m wide forming an erect shrub, with succulent leaves 2-5mm long. Grows in seasonally wet soil in full sun.

Persoonia chamaepitys Prostrate or Mountain Geebung is a ground cover plant endemic to NSW that reaches 0.20m high and spreads to 2m. It's bright green, fine, pine-like foliage stands out, and yellow, evening scented, tubular flowers occur in summer and autumn. The specimen was sourced from Ironstone Park and is planted near rocks, in a mounded section of a bed, alongside *Tetradlea ericifolia* (that has deep pink, pendulous flowers in winter-summer), *Minuria leptophylla* Minnie Daisy (a regional, white flowered daisy species), *Calocephalus citreus* Lemon Beauty-heads and *Eremophila* "Beryl's Gem".

Eremophila "Beryl's Gem" is currently quite a young plant in the garden that should grow to 2m. It is an *E. calorhabdos* x *splendens* hybrid developed by Russell Wait, which, has attractive soft grey-green leaves, showy deep pink flowers and orange buds occurring most of the year, with a flush in spring or following new growth after rain. Suited to a sunny site, it can tolerate some shade and most frosts. Russell recommends pruning to create a denser bush.

Corymbia citriodora Lemon Scented Gum were a very optimistic planting for our area. This species is endemic to temperate and tropical coastal areas of Eastern Australia so it struggles to cope with heavy frosts. Out of 12 used in an initial 2012 driveway

(Continued on page 6)



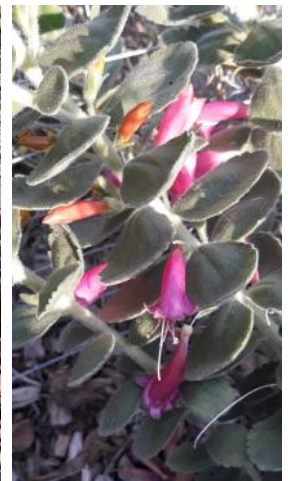
Acacia glaucoptera



Casuarina cunninghamiana



Maireana brevifolia



Eremophila "Beryl's Gem"



Persoonia chamaepitys (at centre)

Photos: J Petts

February meeting report - Evening garden visit continued...

(Continued from page 5)

avenue planting, all have experienced frost damage to some degree each year. Three have survived frost well enough (with protection in their first few winters) to make it above the frost zone around three to four years ago, Three have been able to take advantage of two recent mild winters and may reach a safe height this year. Three continue in a cycle of being frost burned back to near ground level each winter, reshooting from the base in summer, and are yet to reach past 2m high. Of three that did not survive, two have been replaced by *Eucalyptus scoparia*.

Eucalyptus albopurpurea Purple-flowered Mallee Box was once known *Eucalyptus lansdowneana* subspecies *albopurpurea*. The species is endemic to Kangaroo Island and the Eyre Peninsula in SA, and is a small tree that will grow to 5m. They are wind resistant, frost tolerant, prefer a well-drained soil and have a semi pendulous, straggly habit, with flower colour form that can vary from purple to mauve, white and pink. All up 11 have been planted here, as part of the driveway avenue (interplanted between the *Corymbia citriodora*). The initial two plants were purchased from Mike Williams, and the remainder came from Goldfields Revegetation (one of which, turned out to be an *E. lansdowneana* (identified by hot pink flowers & a slightly different leaf form). A couple of replacements were later purchased from Melton Botanic Garden. Of all the specimens planted so far, just one has turned out to be a purple flower form. Four have yet to flower and all the others are white flowered.

Eucalyptus lansdowneana Crimson Mallee is endemic to the south western area of the Gawler Ranges in the upper Eyre Peninsula SA. It grows to 2-6m high with dark pink to crimson-red flowers occurring in autumn to spring.

Scaevola aemula Purple Fanfare grows in full sun and prefers well-drained soil, is a suckering ground cover that will slowly spread 1-2m wide, and reach 0.30m high. Purple fan flowers cover the plant continuously during summer, and attract a variety of pollinators including Blue Banded Bees.

Banksia baueri Possum Banksia is a WA species that grows in full sun to light shade in well-drained soil, and can grow 2m x 3m. The specimens here were planted in 2011 & 2012, one has reached 1.5m high x 2m wide, the other 1m high x 2m wide. Both are tolerating heavy frost in winter, dry summers and have been flowering well for quite some years. The large furry looking flower spikes can reach 30cm x 15-20cm.

Lythrum salicaria Purple Loosestrife, was sourced from Western Plains Flora and is planted in the rain swale garden and one edge of the frog pond. Massed spires of purple-mauve flowers are held on the branch tips over spring and summer. It is a semi-aquatic perennial that will die back to rootstock during winter, and prefers a moist-wet, sunny site in poorly drained soils.

As the light began to fade, we returned to the rear of the house ahead of sunset, to enjoy a lovely spread of shared supper, and more time socialising in a sheltered undercover area. Thanks to



Corymbia citriodora



Eucalyptus lansdowneana



Eucalyptus albopurpurea
white form.



Eucalyptus albopurpurea
purple-mauve form.



Scaevola aemula "Purple
Fanfare"



Banksia baueri

Photos: J Petts

(Continued on page 7)

February meeting report - Evening garden visit continued...

(Continued from page 6)

everyone's generosity we ended up with fruit cake, Victoria's delicious chicken and mayo club sandwiches, homemade dip with corn chips, an array of cheeses and various crackers, fresh picked blood plums, Christine's scrumptious apple cake, a Biscotti fruit slice, along with wine, tea or coffee to wash our tasty supper down with.

A special surprise was that Janis brought along a seedling of Davidson's Plum (*Davidsonia* sp.), which, she had grown herself, and donated it as a door prize. Intending for us to have a bit of a mystery plant guessing game before raffle tickets were drawn. However, I unfortunately, misunderstood Janis's instructions, and we ended up missing out on what would have been a great, fun game. For this, I extend my sincere apologies to Janis for the confusion and oversight, along with much thanks and appreciation for her generosity and truly excellent idea.

Following the raffle, we all remained happily chatting, enjoying each other's company, some of us taking the opportunity to peruse and purchase plants that Russell had brought along, until around 9pm, when guests began to head home.

We hope everyone had a lovely time, weather not with-standing, and look forward to a return visit in the future – hopefully in excellent weather conditions next time!!!



Lythrum salicaria
Photo: J Petts



Davidsonia sp.

Photo: Janis Baker

Davidsonia is a genus endemic to tropical and subtropical north eastern Australia consisting of three species. All are slender trees and have a sour but edible fruit recommended for using to make jams, sauces, chutneys and even a dry red wine. Although northern species, they can tolerate cooler southern conditions if given a consistently moist, humus rich, sheltered site in semi-shade, with protection from frost and wind. Fruits grow in bunches or on short stems close to the trunk, and are dark blue-purple on the outside and red on the inside when ripe.

Davidsonia pruriens Ooray or Queensland Davidson's plum is the tallest, growing up to 12m high. Young stems, leaves, flowers & fruits all have fine hairs that can cause itching.

Davidsonia jerseyana Davidson's plum or Mullumbimby plum is endemic to northern NSW and is listed as endangered. It usually grows around 5m high, although may reach up to 10m.

Davidsonia johnsonii Smooth Davidson's plum grows 5-10 meters high and has multiple branches with a spreading, leafy canopy. It is a very rare tree in the wild and listed as endangered.

Growing at Ironstone Park part 1...

By Jeanine Petts

A bright, warm, and sunny Sunday morning back on the 28th of November last year, saw seven APS Mitchell members meeting outside the front gate of Joan and Peter Broughton's Ironstone Park Nursery and garden in Heathcote. Once we were all assembled Pete invited us in, and generously gave more than two hours of his time to take us on a guided tour through their gardens. Now, I took quite a few photos on the day, however, only a few scant notes. So, what I plan to do, is a series of articles focusing only on 2 to 4 species each newsletter, until the photos have all been covered...

First up we were shown into the newest part of the garden that was only 18 months old at the time, and an ex horse paddock.

Callitris pyramidalis, the first plant I photographed, is a WA species. Pete's specimen had grown just enough to begin developing its characteristic shape. It bears multiple common names of Swamp Cypress Pine, Swan River Cypress Pine or King George's Cypress Pine, and will eventually grow to a shrub or small tree reaching between 4-8m high. If browsed on or damaged it may form multiple trunks, although it will generally have a narrow conical habit to around 2m wide. Branches are dense and upright, with female cones, which, mature to 2cm round that have attractive scales at their bases, and can remain persistent on the tree with viable seed for several years. It requires a light, well-drained soil, in an open sunny site and is very hardy, being both drought and frost resistant. It can be grown from seed sown in spring or autumn with the optimum germination temperature range between 18-22 degrees Celsius, when germination can occur in two to four weeks, provided conditions are suitable.

Moving along, Pete mentioned that Joan likes standard *Grevillea*, and "a happy wife equals a happy life" so of course there are plenty to be seen in the garden.

The grafted *Grevillea* "Goliath" became my next subject. It turns out there's not a lot of information to be found on this particular cultivar. Other than being named for the size of its large, vibrant red flowers that occur from spring through to autumn. It has soft green foliage similar in size and shape to *Grevillea* "Moonlight" and is said to be easy to grow, potentially reaching 3m wide x 3-5m high. Pruning is recommended to encourage more flowers and make the most of this very showy cultivar.

To be continued next month...



Callitris pyramidalis at Ironstone Park approximately 18 months old.

Photos: J Petts



Grevillea "Goliath" young flower (only part grown) & form.



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:
Tanya Biagioni Marton,
Christine Cram,
Pat Danko,
Gerry Wun Ho,
Ian Julian,
Barbara Mau,
Victoria Morris,
Norbert Ryan,
Mike Williams.

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/Australian-Plants-Society-Heathcote-Inc-102380169043080/)

Phone: 0419 878 950 or

Email:

heathcoteaps@outlook.com

March 19 - APS Yarra Yarra Autumn Plant Sale. Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 903 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am-4pm.

April 9 - APS Geelong Australian Native Plant Sale 'Wirawilla' 40 Lovely Banks Rd, Lovely Banks. 8:30am-4pm.

May 7 - APS Mornington Peninsula Plant Sale

May 14 - APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh Plant Sale. 9am-1pm. The venue is expected to be St Andrews

Uniting Church Bacchus Marsh - To be confirmed.

June - APS Vic COM to be advised.

June 25 & 26 - APS Ballarat Winter Flower Show. Robert Clarke Centre, Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Gilles St, Ballarat. 10am-4pm.

August 27 & 28 APS Yarra Yarra Australian Plants Expo. Eltham Community & Reception Centre, 801 Main Rd, Eltham. 10am-4pm.

September 1—Wimmera Biodiversity Seminar 2022. Details to follow.

(Continued on page 10)

Committee & Contact Information

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY, MITCHELL GROUP INC.

PO Box 541, Kilmore, Victoria, 3764

No. A0054306V

Email: mitchell@apsvic.org.au

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Committee Members

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Vice President: Dawn McCormack
Secretary: Ian Julian 0438 270 248
Email: 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 Wun 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 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...

(Continued from page 9)

September 3 - (to be confirmed) APS Wilson Park (Berwick) Plant Sale. Wilson Botanic Gardens, Berwick. In conjunction with City of Casey Garden Expo.

September 17 & 18 - APS Bendigo Plant Sale.

September 25 & 26 APS Loddon Murray COM and Quarterly Gathering. In Swan Hill.

October 1 & 2 APS Grampians Group Pomonal Native Flower Show. Pomonal Hall. 9am-4pm.

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 gardens' leaders aged 18 to 24. Further details can be found at:

7gbgc.org

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 Karwarra 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.

Diary Dates & Other Events continued...

BONSAI EXHIBITION

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANTS AS BONSAI

Special Opening Night
 March 18th 2022
 5:30pm to 8:30pm
 March 19th 2022
 9am to 4pm

Preston City Hall
 284 Gower St
 Preston

Adults \$5,
 Children under 15 free
**Proof of vaccination
 required upon entry**

Celebrating Australia's
 eucalypts with ...



*Eucalyptus
camadulensis*



VICTORIAN NATIVE BONSAI CLUB 2022

Australian native plants and bonsai related items for sale.
 For further information contact secnativeclub@gmail.com

Meetings are held at: Harry Atkinson Centre, Coburg Lake Reserve, Coburg
 at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of the month.

www.vicnativebonsai.com.au

AUSTRALIAN PLANT SALE

SAT 9TH APRIL 2022, 8:30^{AM} – 4:00^{PM}

A large variety of native plants provided
 by specialist native nurseries for sale.

- Open garden
- Book sales
- BBQ & refreshments
- Kids activities

**Adults
\$2 each,
Children
free!**

WIRAWILLA, 40 LOVELY BANKS RD, LOVELY BANKS





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

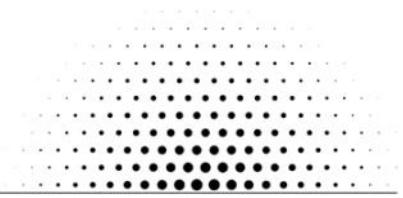
Or (2) Cheque made payable to: APS MITCHELL INC.

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 13)

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.

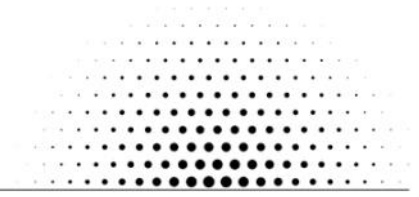
Chairs with soft covers will, where possible, not be used as these are difficult to wipe down.

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

(Continued on page 15)

Covid Safe Meeting Plan...

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL. *COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan*



(Continued from page 14)

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 16)

Covid Safe Meeting Plan...

MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL.

COVID-19 Community Facility Safe Plan



(Continued from page 15)

- ☐ 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>