

Eucryphia



Volume 24 No 5 March 2021

Journal of the Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.

ISSN 1324-3888

Online ISSN 2209-0452



© K. Corbwt

The extraordinary flowering of *Richea Xcurtisiae*.
Parent plants of pandani and scoparia to left and
right (see article, page 18).

PRINT POST APPROVAL No. 100004305

A beastie in the Growling Swallet bush



The impressive sunset experienced at The Summit Restaurant, see page 36.



EUCRYPHIA

ISSN 1324-3888

Published quarterly in
March, June, September and December by
Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc

ABN 64 482 394 473

Patron: Her Excellency, Professor the
Honourable Kate Warner, AC,
Governor of Tasmania

Society postal address:

P.O. Box 1205

GRAVELLY BEACH

TASMANIA 7276

Editor: Mary Slattery

eucryphiaeditor@gmail.com

Contributions and letters to the editor
are welcome. They should be forwarded
by email in a word doc, not pdf, to the
editor at **eucryphiaeditor@gmail.com**
or typed using one side of the paper only.
If handwritten, please **print** botanical
names and the names of people.

Original text may be reprinted, unless
otherwise indicated, provided an
acknowledgment of the source is given.
Permission to reprint non-original material
and all drawings and photos must be
obtained from the copyright holder by
the contributor..

Views and opinions expressed in
articles are those of the authors and are
not necessarily the views and/or opinions
of the Society.

Next issue: **June 2021**Deadline: **22 May 2021**

email:

eucryphiaeditor@gmail.com**Distribution**

Please refer any problems with receipt or
distribution to:

The Newsletter Distribution Officer,

P.O. Box 1205

GRAVELLY BEACH

TASMANIA 7276

Contents

Membership subs. & renewals	4
Membership Report	5
Report from Council	5
From the President	6
Annual General Meeting Agenda	7
Strategic Planning Group Progress	9
New Website	10
ANPSA News	11
ANPSA Study Groups	13
Study Group Highlights	14
Fungi and Plant Growth in Penguin	15
Graft Chimera	17
Gems of Cradle Country	18
A December Rave Continued	26
APST Calendar	28
National Eucalypt Day	29
Group News	
North West Annual Report	31
Northern Annual Report	32
Northern Group News	34
Hobart Group News	36
APST Directory	38

Membership subscriptions

Annual subscription payments may be made by EFT (electronic funds transfer) directly into the Society's Westpac bank account as follows:

Name: **Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.** BSB: **037015** Account: **194644**.

Please identify your EFT payment by recording your **Membership Number** and if room your **Surname** into your bank's **Description/Reference** field.

Alternatively, a hard copy and cheque can be forwarded to The APST Inc. Treasurer,
PO Box 1205, Gravelly Beach Tasmania 7276.

Membership Type	\$ per annum
Individuals and Organisations	40.00
Individual concession - Student, Pension Concession or Department of Veteran's Affairs Pension	37.00
Household - each additional adult	9.00
Household - each child under 16	1.00
Overseas and Overseas Organisation (banker's draft AUD)	55.00
Additional subscription for the <i>Australian Plants Journal</i> - APJ	14.00

Australian Plants Journal

Please note that a subscription to the APJ entitles members to receive only those issues that are published during the members' subscription period.

Back copies of the APJ may be purchased by contacting your Group Secretary.

Membership badges and cards

Membership badges (metal) are supplied to all new members with their new members kit.

Membership name cards are issued to all new members.

Membership Benefits

Some of the benefits that members enjoy are to receive discounts and the following businesses offer them: *Habitat Plants* at Liffey – 10% discount; *Inverawe Native Gardens* at Margate – half price entry; *Plants of Tasmania Nursery and Gardens* at Ridgeway - 10% discount (non-discounted items).

Substantial discounts are offered on book purchases through your Group Secretary.

Websites

APST Inc.
www.apstas.org.au

Northern Group
www.apstasnorth.org

ANPSA Inc.
www.anpsa.org.au

Membership

Margaret Killen, Membership Officer



New Members

We warmly welcome the following new members to the Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc:

Katja Evans of East Devonport; **Emilia Della Torre** of Sandy Bay;
Ian Salt of Opossum Bay.

New Members Application Form

Please find the form at <http://apstas.org.au/docs/member-application.pdf>

Membership renewals and changes (how you will receive reminders)

Your subscription renewal date is due on the anniversary month of when you joined.

Renewal reminders are sent by email, or hard copies posted to those without email.

Please return your completed scanned/photographed form to

membership@apstas.org.au or post the hard copy to:

The **APST Treasurer**, PO Box 1205, Gravelly Beach Tasmania 7276.

Membership Queries

If you have any queries, updates or corrections regarding your membership, or your contact details, please contact me.

Margaret Killen

Membership Officer

0409 430 665

Report From Council

Vice President, Margaret Killen

Although there are no Council meetings over the summer break Council and a few co-opted members have been finalising the design and content of our new website. It is due to go live in March. Please read the article on page 10 for detailed information on the **new website**.

The next Council meeting will be on Saturday 27th March 2021 in Kingston, after the AGM. ☺



Billardiera longiflora

From The President

Jenny Boyer, President.



Hello Members,

Wishing you all a healthy and happy 2021 with lots of opportunities to enjoy our flora during the year.

While many of us have had a quiet break over summer, work has continued on the development of the new website, due to go live in March. The new website will update our image, be secure, easier to navigate and manage and more appealing to both members and the public, hopefully attracting more members. Uploading information about group activities will be able to be done directly by group secretaries, while the APST secretary, treasurer, Eucryphia editor and the website liaison will also be able to enter data relevant to their positions. This will spread the load considerably and be more efficient. I thank Bruce Champion for his dedication and the huge amount of work he has done on the website over the last nine years. Bruce's work and contributions from others will not be lost as the content will be carried across to the new site.

The Strategic Planning Committee has also continued their work over summer developing draft policies to ensure APST Inc moves in the right direction into the future.

Following the success of the 2021 APST calendar using members photos I encourage all members to seek out their favourite photos ready for the 2022 calendar. Southern members filled this year's pages so you Northerners and North Westeners don't let that happen again and start identifying photos you would like to see in the next calendar.

As I will not be standing for re-election at the AGM on March 27th at the Kingston Primary School Library this will be my last contribution to Eucryphia as President so I take this opportunity to thank the Executive and all Council Members for their support over the last 2 years and wish the incoming Council a successful year.

Jenny Boyer .[©]

Advertising Rates in Eucryphia

Up to a quarter page \$10.00; half page \$20.00;
full page \$40.00

A discount of 10% is available to financial members and
5% discount is offered for four consecutive insertions of the same advertisement
paid in advance.

Fees are payable to:
The Treasurer, Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.
P.O. Box 1205, GRAVELLY BEACH
TASMANIA 7276

Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc. Annual General Meeting Agenda

Date: **Saturday 27th March 2021**

Time: **11:00 am**

Place: **Kingston Primary School Library, Church St, Kingston, Tasmania.**

Item	Description	Responsible
1	Welcome: Introductions; Reading of Objectives.	President
2	Apologies	Secretary
3	Review of actions from 2020 Annual General Meeting	President
4	Acceptance of Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting	President
5	President's Annual Report	President
6	Treasurer's Report including Financial Statements	Treasurer
7	Auditor's Report	Treasurer
8	Opportunity for questions to Councillors	President
9	Special resolution: Constitution amendment Moved by: M. Slattery Seconded by M. Killen	President
10	Motion: To adopt the revised Standing Orders (previously circulated) Moved: R. Boevink Seconded: D. Thomas	President
11	Appointment of the Auditor	President
12	Election of Council Officers: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; Public Officer; Group Councillors;	President
13	Appointments: ANPSA Delegate 1; ANPSA Delegate 2; APJ Liaison Officer; Eucryphia Editor; Strategic Planning Coordinator; Website Liaison Officer; Study Group Liaison Officer; Membership Officer	President
14	Presentations	President
15	Next Meeting	Secretary
16	Meeting close	President

Special Resolution – Use of technology for general meetings

To consider, and if in favour, pass the following resolution as a special resolution and that a new Rule be inserted at 7. in the constitution of the Society and following Rule numbers be increased accordingly.

‘7. Use of technology

7.1 General Meetings may be held, and members may take part, using any technology that reasonably allows members to hear and take part in discussions as they happen.

7.2 A member not physically present at a general meeting may be permitted to participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that member, and the members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.

7.3 For the purposes of this Part, a member participating in a general meeting as permitted under the above sub-rules is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.’

Explanation

The APST constitution does not specify the use of technology to hold meetings. The insertion of this rule is to overcome this deficiency. It allows all members or an individual member to take part in real time when not physically present.

Face to face meetings are to be encouraged but electronic meetings using technology may be undertaken when unforeseen circumstances present themselves.

General meeting means a general meeting of the all the members of the Society and includes the annual general meeting and a special general meeting. Group meetings are not general meetings as voting is only open to those members who belong to that group, not all members.



Epacris longiflora

Strategic Planning Group (SPG) Progress Report

M. Killen

Hands up if you have heard of the APST's Strategic Planning Group and have any idea as to its purpose. If you haven't got your hand in the air, here is your chance to find out what it is and what it has been doing.

For several years now, a group of seven or eight members of APST drawn from all the groups have been meeting face to face or via Zoom several times a year under chairperson and convenor Margaret Killen to examine its operations. As its name (hopefully) suggests the group's purpose was and is to improve the Society's operations in a number of important areas, including membership, governance, communication, conservation, education and so on.

The SPG was set up partially in response to a decline in membership and one of our first objectives was to raise membership numbers. The membership for APST increased by 34% between 2015 (when the SPG first met) and the end of 2019, this at a time of decline in membership nationally. Obviously the Strategic Planning Group cannot claim full credit for the increase but perhaps our ideas helped.

The SPG has worked closely and harmoniously with Council and this partnership has produced a number of positive outcomes.

I think that most members are happy with the online version of Eucryphia with its obvious benefits to the Society (e.g. quicker to produce and therefore arrive in members' email boxes, much more room for higher quality photos, significant cost and labour savings, environmental benefits, ease of making corrections, archiving on the website, to name some.)

The membership application procedure has been greatly streamlined, resulting in a considerable shortening of the time it takes for a membership to be approved and the benefits to accrue to the new member. It used to take weeks or months for an applicant to learn that membership was approved and now it is days!

Members of the SPG and other members of the Society spent considerable time and effort in amending the Society's constitution which now better reflects what happens and what members want to happen. This process occurred very amicably and after lots of worthwhile discussion.

Under the same general heading of 'Governance' several members of Council have had special training in corporate governance. (Another of the motivations for setting up the SPG was to improve governance in the disbursement of the Society's funds e.g. for donations).

A lot of work has been done by some members of the SPG and several other members of the Society on the establishment of a new APST website. The current (as of February 2021) website has served the Society well for many years and contains a wealth of information used by members and visitors to the site. The new site will hopefully make Group websites unnecessary. Each Group, for example, will be able to upload information on its activities to the new website. All the fantastic information on the current website will be on the new one and lots of other benefits will be available too.

The SPG has started to look at other areas including how the Society can further its objectives on conservation and education. We will keep you informed on progress. Importantly, we would welcome constructive criticisms and suggestions about the Group's work and how members would like to see it progress from here on. ☺



New Website for APST

A new website for APST is being developed which will be up and running in late March.

A great vote of thanks must go to Bruce Champion, the website liaison officer for the past nine years, for his enormous dedication to the role and especially for instigating the first website. This was a giant step for APST into the world of the internet. It is now time to move to a new website which has a contemporary look and feel.

There will be a dedicated area to manage members' subscriptions. New members will be able to join and pay on-line and will be able to keep their details up to date.

Groups will manage their own information which will include newsletters, activities and plant sales. All the essential information will still be available and the content of past years accessible. Navigation is simple and the images remain impressive.

APST Council hopes you love this new site and use it frequently.®

**Redbreast****Nurseries**


AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANT GROWERS

Widest range available in Tasmania

Shrubs • Groundcovers • Trees

Refunds on returned Redbreast pots

Open 7 days



Channel Highway, Margate 03 6267 2871
Robin Hill Road, Flowerdale 03 6442 2025



ANPSA NEWS

Following on from the Australian Native Plants Society Australia (ANPSA) national Conference in 2019, Western Australia has taken over Executive responsibility until the next Conference, to be hosted by NSW in 2022. Here is President Margaret Matthews' Report for the 2020 year:

Australian Native Plants Society Australia (ANPSA) President's Report 2020

The COVID 19 pandemic continues to create difficulty and uncertainty.

After much deliberation the APS NSW Biennial Conference Committee has decided to postpone the ANPSA biennial conference from 2021 to 2022.

The Committee found planning for the conference difficult due to our members tending to be from the 'higher risk' category and uncertainties about a vaccine; challenges with travel given changing restrictions, particularly from other states and internationally; the changing social distancing levels and requirements at the conference and on buses, with flow-on impacts to tours, excursions and of course costs; their view that a digital conference is not a good alternative given how important social interaction and exploring the region's flora are at these conferences.

The new dates for the Conference are: Sunday 11 - Friday 16 September, 2022.

The potential implications of this decision include a permanent shift in the years we hold our national Conference, from odd numbered to even numbered years. The timing of the Australian Plants Awards, usually presented at the conference, will be discussed at the November Council meeting.

ANPSA's Public Officer John Carter has recently sold his Canberra home and is moving to Bowral in NSW. As ANPSA is incorporated in the ACT this means John can no longer perform this role for ANPSA. This is a loss for us as John has done such a wonderful job.

Fortunately, Stephen Saunders who is currently the Public Officer for ANPS Canberra has agreed to take over his position subject to approval by the ANPSA Executive at the meeting in November.

ANPSA's Council and Executive continue to meet remotely, until recently by teleconference but now adopting Zoom so COVID 19 has not impacted the administration of ANPSA.

The position of Publicity Officer for ANPSA is still vacant. This important role provides an opportunity to learn more about ANPSA and its member societies and get to know more about the many interesting activities being undertaken around Australia to promote knowledge of our wonderful native plants. If anyone is interested in finding out more about this role, please contact me or our Secretary Christine Curry.

We also have vacancies for leaders of several important Study Groups including Waratah and Flannel Flower, Boronia, Rainforest and Brachychiton. The Study Groups are an integral part of ANPSA's work, promoting plant groups and increasing knowledge of their biology and how to grow them.

Steve Lamont from the Sydney Chapter of the Fern Study Group has replaced Peter Bostock as leader. Thank you to Peter for his leadership of this Group.

The Australian Plants Society Victoria used online technology to hold the 13th FJC Rogers Seminar 2020 - Mint Bushes and Allied Genera recently: <https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2020/>

The garden visits planned for the event sadly had to be cancelled as Victoria is still under quite severe lockdown.

I am currently in Melbourne experiencing the lockdown with my family. I had hoped to visit the gardens as part of the FJC Rogers seminar.

I spent a week in Canberra visiting other family on my journey from Perth to Melbourne and was at last able to visit the new Banksia Garden at the Australian National Botanic Gardens.

The garden celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Australian National Botanic Gardens. It was officially opened on October 21st by Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley. Hosting more than 70 different types of banksias from around Australia, the 2,500 square metre garden was established using cutting-edge grafting technology and required the construction of thermal walls to shield plants from Canberra's chill and to absorb and radiate heat from the winter sun. The *Banksia dentata* collected from tropical Kakadu National Park has been planted in pipes, essentially very large pots with wheels, so it can be wheeled under shelter to protect it from Canberra's winter frosts.

We are still missing many of the citations for the recipients of the Australian Plants Awards. If you have copies of these citations, for example from the 2007 conference, please let me or Brian Walters know.

The redevelopment of the ANPSA website is close to complete. Thank you to Ben Walcott and Brian Walters for undertaking this considerable effort.

Margaret Matthews ©

Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) - PUBLICITY OFFICER

ANPSA is looking for a new Publicity Officer, to undertake promotional activities for the Society. The position allows for personal initiative and creativity, with an outline of the duties listed on the document below. If you are contemplating expressing an interest, please contact ANPSA President, Margaret Matthews, at s3matthews@hotmail.com or Secretary, Christine Curry, at secretary@anpsa.org.au

ANPSA aims to promote and support activities which contribute to an interest in growing, conserving and appreciating Australia flora. The Publicity Officer is responsible for issues pertaining to publicity for and promotion of the Society.

Duties

Develop and maintain an ANPSA Marketing Plan, in consultation with ANPSA Executive and Member representatives.

Seek out promotional opportunities and prepare media releases or statements, promoting aims of ANPSA and its Member Branches and Groups.

Liaise with other related organizations on cross-promotion and/or cross sponsorship opportunities.

Prepare statements for publication to encourage Federal and State governments to use Australian native plants at prominent functions and events.

Monitor relevant websites and publications that list environmental or gardening organisations and ensure ANPSA is listed and the information kept up to date.

Assist Member Societies or their Branches or Groups with publicity or promotion of particular events when requested. Prepare media releases to publicise activities, shows, sales, conferences and seminars, etc.

Speak on behalf of the Society on particular issues when delegated to do so by the President.

ANPSA Study Groups

Jane Fountain

Study Groups form part of the Australian Native Plants Society (Australia), ANPSA, and promote interest in growing and studying Australian plants.

Over the years, Study Groups have contributed valuable data to an expanding body of knowledge of Australian native plants and to the breadth of experience in growing Australia's unique flora. This has included contributing articles to the ANPSA's flagship journal, *Australian Plants*, and publication of books of aspects of Australia's flora.

Organisation and activities

Each Study Group has a leader/s with experience and knowledge of their subject plant. As part of the national body, ANPSA, the leaders are supported by the ANPSA Study Group Coordinator. Study Group Liaison Officers within each Region (State) Australian Native Plant Society report Study Group activities in their regional journals.

Study groups can focus on many aspects of growing native plants. Most focus on a specific genus (e.g. *Banksia*, *Grevillea*) or family (e.g. native peas), and some focus on plant types or uses (e.g. Wallum in Queensland, Plants in Containers, or Garden Design).

Study Groups operate Australia-wide and because members are widely dispersed, the leader stays in touch via newsletters. Study Group Leaders are expected to publish at least two newsletters each year and members are encouraged to contribute to these. Some Study Groups charge a small annual fee and some have no fees – the latter send newsletters by email only. Sometimes members of a particular Study Group who live close to each other may form a local chapter to undertake field trips, meetings or garden visits.

Each ANPSA Biennial Conference allows Study Groups to mount a display and for the leader to report the activities and achievements of their group to the attending members. It also affords an opportunity for members of Study Groups from around Australia to meet each other.

Joining a Study Group

Information on Study Groups and links to membership can be found on the ANPSA website www.anpsa.org.au. From here you can access links to membership. When joining a Study Group, you are also required to be a member of a Native Plant Society Region. Expertise is not a prerequisite – the Study Group exists to help new members learn more about their subject. There will be experienced members in the group as well as many who are learning and there is plenty of encouragement for beginners.

Members are encouraged to contribute to their Study Group by contributing to newsletters, participating in surveys about specific topics, mounting displays and by interacting with their local Australian Native Plant Societies.

General enquiries

General enquiries should be directed to: studygroups@OUT-DAMNED-SPAMmanpsa.org.au (Note: you need to remove the "OUT-DAMNED-SPAM" text from the address - it's there to try to deter automated email harvesting by spammers).[©]

Acacia	Eucalyptus (including Angophora and
Australian Food Plants	Corymbia)
Australian Pea Flowers	Ferns (Australian native)
Australian Plants for Containers	Goodeniaceae
Banksia	Garden Design
Bonsai—in recess, not accepting new members	Grevillea
Correa	Hakea
Dryandra	Isopogon and Petrophile
Eremophila	Wallum and Coastal Heathland

Study Group Highlights

Riitta Boevink, Study Group Liaison

See Study Group information written by Jane Fountain on page 12.

Garden Design Study Group No 114 Feb 2021 Leader & Newsletter Editor: Lawrie Smith

Membership is free of charge. Newsletters only by email. Newsletters are also available on the ANPSA website. The theme of this issue is 'Time- a design Constraint or Opportunity'. The issue includes a description of an interesting project of the 'Epiphytic Forest'. This was a project Lawrie Smith designed for the Queensland precinct at the World Expo in 1988. The result was a modern interpretation of a rainforest and a forerunner for now popular vertical gardens. Quite a spectacular achievement!

Banksia Study Group No26 Leaders: Kevin and Kathy Collins

A travelogue on the extensive tour in the UK. This included a trip to the Isles of Scilly off the South coast of Cornwall. Due to the warm ocean currents, many banksias can be grown outdoors in the ground, rather than seasonally housed in temperature controlled glass houses. Banksias have been grown there for 70 years. The Collins' visited numerous large public gardens such as the Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan. They had private tours and gave illustrated talks to staff and supporters of the special gardens. Wonderful promotion of Australian plants!

There is also a description of a project to restore a 20 year old tired and weed infested prostrate *Banksia goodii*. Also research on Banksias resistant to *Pythophthora cinnamomi*.

Correa Study Group No 62 Dec 2020 Leaders: Dot and Bob O'Neil

Members photos of their Correas. Maria Hitchcock describes a rare and endangered *Correa calycina* var *balmaturorum* from Kangaroo Island.

Goodeniaceae Study Group No 19 Nov 2020 Leader: Royce Raleigh

Royce reports that a good regular rainfall in Wartook during 2020 has made their garden thrive. They have planted over 1,000 new plants with more waiting to go into the ground. A Facebook post from WA Herbarium describing some name changes for the Goodeniaceae. Changes reflect improved understanding of evolutionary relationships in the family. The newsletter gives links to detailed information that is freely available. Many illustrations of the wonderful intense blue colours of Lechenaultias and Dampieras in the Wartook garden. Many of the Dampieras spread out to cover meters of ground.

Acacia Study Group No 149 Feb 2021 Leader: Bill Aitchison

The newsletter always contains comments by active members on various subjects. There is a description of the Maranoa Gardens in the eastern Melbourne suburb of Baldwyn. They have an extensive collection of Acacias. One of the outstanding Wattles in the Maranoa Gardens is *Acacia binervia*. The newsletter has photos and a detailed description. I note that the PBR registered form of *Acacia binervia* has recently been for sale in our local commercial nursery. There is also a long article 'Chasing Acacias on Eyre Peninsula' by Ken Warnes.©

Fungi And Plant Growth At Penguin

Dick Burns

I might have commented on this effect before, but I think I've had another success with fungi-and-plant-roots in the garden.

It has been known for some time that plants in the families Proteaceae and Casuarinaceae form **proteoid roots** (also called cluster roots) that assist in the uptake of minerals such as phosphorus. Proteoid roots are formed by the plant itself. Most plant families (some 95% of those examined) form associations between their roots and some fungi. These associations, called mycorrhizae, are of mutual benefit – the plant supplies sugars to the fungus and the fungus enclosing or penetrating the plant root aids it in the uptake of water and mineral nutrients such as nitrogen and metals. Fossils from 400 million years ago clearly show this association; it is thought that the evolution of land plants would not have occurred without the presence of mycorrhizae. One article on the internet writes of plants sending warnings to other plants of insect attack through the hyphae (the underground growth-and-spread threads of fungi) that link to the roots of nearby plants.

My house was built on old sloping farmland and had been growing grass for decades. So there weren't many goodies in the soil to kick-start a garden. Immediately after I moved in during June 1976, I bought tube stock from the old Forestry Commission nursery at Perth, including six plants of *Allocasuarina verticillata*. I planted them to form a grove at the top of my block. As well I grew from seed collected from plants of *Allocasuarina littoralis* that were waist-high on the track to Cape Pillar (I hoped the dwarfism was genetic but it turned out to be wind-pruning). Both species of sheoak just sat, not growing, until I read about fungal root associations. You have heard of the old story of transferring a waratah from the bush – collect local pebble from where the waratah was growing and bury it under the transplant. I reasoned that it was an attempt at transferring local fungi; so wouldn't local leaf-litter be better? So I gathered some leaf-litter from around some successful wild sheoaks and put it at the base of the sheoaks at the top of my garden. Growth started. So I gathered some of their leaf-litter and placed it around the plant next down the slope. Off it went! And so on.

The technique has worked for Proteaceae plants but not Tassie waratah – it just doesn't like my garden, but loves the conditions at the Tasmanian Arboretum. (The reasons behind this technique are different to burying a pesky possum – or roadkill or liver – beneath a new black passionfruit vine.) Mycorrhizae explain why my *Xylomelum pyrifforme* (Woody Pear) took off. I had grown the specimen from seed and it just sat 10 cm tall for years until nearby hakeas grew tall. Suddenly my *Xylomelum pyrifforme* started growing.

Possibly it has happened again. I bought a seedling of a mainland species from the family Proteaceae, *Placospermum coriaceum*, probably from a Sydney nursery, somewhere before 2001 but after 1982. I'm guessing at the date because the former is when I started writing articles about newly-imposed Tasmanian quarantine restrictions, and somewhere around 1983 I was getting slack about recording plant purchases for the garden. I could be called ever-hopeful, because the species is from the tropical rainforest around Daintree, Queensland. However, it was from my favourite family and Wrigley and Fagg speak of a plant growing at Coffs Harbour, probably in the botanic gardens established by John Wrigley.

The plant has survived for years in my dry garden without any growth; there are no nearby proteaceous species. So I thought I'd try the leaf-litter trick. *Placospermum coriaceum* is more closely related to *Persoonia* than it is to any other Proteaceae genus and I have a few persoonias growing happily. Margaret Kinsey did the transfer of litter for me a couple of years ago. Since then, my *Placospermum* has put out some 20 cm-long intermediate

leaves with lobes. There are three stages of leaves with this species – small leaves are followed by large lobed leaves then smooth-edged leathery leaves. There has not been any great increase in height as yet.

Penguin has in the past two years had some good rain during warmer periods, so that extra moisture may be a cause of new growth. ☺

MAIN REFERENCES

Banksias, Waratahs and Grevilleas and all Other Plants in the Australian Proteaceae Family by John W Wrigley & Murray Fagg, 1989, Collins Australia.
Wikipedia.



Left: *Placospermum coriaceum*.

Right:
Xylomelum pyriforme



Graft-chimera (ky-MEER-ə)

Russell Wait, Eremophila Study Group

For those of us who enjoy the challenge of growing *Eremophila* in soil/climate outside the normal habitat, grafting is often the only option to ensure positive results. Propagation is a popular approach by the public and the nursery trade for creating new garden plants.

[Chimera \(genetics\) - Wikipedia](#)

[en.wikipedia.org › wiki › Chimera \(genetics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chimera_(genetics))

[Origin, Development and Propagation of Chimeras](#)

[aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu › Chimeras › chimeralec](https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/Chimeras/chimeralec)

One of the first reported graft-chimera occurred in my friend's garden (Drysedale, Vic.) with a root stock from *Myoporum insulare* and the graft scion material of *Eremophila hygrophana*. The new organism began as a grey shrub with small lilac corolla and then part of the shrub changed from grey to green with a white *Myoporum* corolla. As sometimes occurs, this chimera is quite unstable however it remains alive and now has mostly green foliage.



Drysedale plant demonstrating both grey and green foliage.

There is some thought that this mutation could be caused simply by a bite from an insect or even sun exposure on the stem causing damage to the cells. These assertions are not supported by scientific evidence and reasons why this occurs remain unknown, however, it is common knowledge that pruning can initiate these changes.

(Continue on page 23)

Gems of Cradle Country

Keith and Sib Corbett

The Corbetts have been visiting the Cradle Mountain area on a regular basis since the 1960's, usually spending a couple of weeks there around Xmas-New Year each year, in addition to other trips at special times through the year. Since 2003 we have owned a 120-hectare block on the Cradle Link Road, a few kilometres from Cradle, and have used this as a base for our explorations. As well as walking and visiting all the regular tracks and places of interest, we have done a considerable amount of 'off-track' exploring, to many wonderful places. We have been fortunate to be at Cradle to witness the occasional flowering of some of the rare and beautiful plants there, and we bring you some of them in this article.

- **The sky lilies (*Herpolirion novae-zealandiae*).**

This small creeping ground-cover lily is very shy, and only seems to flower every few years, on open alpine moors. There are shouts of delight when it is first seen. The small six-petalled flowers are a distinctive sky blue colour, grading to white, and stand out on the green background. We have a favourite patch near our Cradle block, but they don't always appear.

- **Tasmanian snowgentian (*Gentianella diemensis*).**

This beautiful small white gentian is endemic to Tasmania, and is widespread across our alpine and subalpine heaths and grasslands. It is summer-flowering, and is a common associate of the orange everlasting daisies (*Xerachrysium subundulatum*) which light up places such as the Vale of Belvoir, the Weaning Paddock, and part of the Corbett block, in late January. Like the daisies, however, it needs bright sunshine to fully open, and photography can be frustrating in cloudy conditions. The buds are pale mauve, and the white petals have fine violet stripes.

- **Alpine candles (*Stackhousia pulvinaris*).**

This one is truly rare, and was thought to be more or less confined to the sinkholes and adjacent grassland areas of the Vale of Belvoir. However, the eagle-eyed James Wood, of the Tasmanian Seed Bank Centre, has recently found it in several places around Lake Augusta, so perhaps not so rare. The plant is ground-hugging, and doesn't look at all like the well-known *Stackhousia* candles, with their long stalks. The plant shows as bright green patches or tufts around the upper rims of many of the sinkholes, where it tends to be closely intergrown with bright green *Velleia montana* rosettes. The small white scented flowers are stalkless and have five-pointed petals. The *pulvinaris* refers to the pillow shape of the tufts, not to anything pulverised (like Peter Cundall's cow manure)!

- **Silky milligania (*Milligania densiflora*).**

This is actually the commonest form of Milligan's lily, but only seems to flower profusely every few years. Back in 1999, looking up from a distance, we could see what looked like small fields of white flowers on the 'back side' or eastern side of Cradle. We investigated, via a steep scramble from the Cradle saddle, and found several small steep debris-fan 'paddocks' covered with the tall white-flowering milliganias. A most impressive sight. Separating the 'paddocks' were belts of tangled fagus scrub and steep dolerite scree, so the visits to the milliganias were a distinctly strenuous, and exciting, exercise.



© K. Corbett

- The sky lilies (*Herpolirion novae-zealandiae*).



Above: Snowgiant (*Geintianella diemensis*) with an orange everlasting bud

Opposite top: Alpine candles (*Stackhousia pulvinaris*) with *Velleia montana*

Opposite bottom: Sib and Keith relaxing in the milliganias on the eastern side of Cradle



- ***Richea Xcurtisiae* (Hybrid Candleheath).**

One of our favourite places to visit at Cradle is the small car park at the end of the road through the Waldheim huts, just beyond Woonak hut. This special corner of the Cradle Valley has the most wonderful collection and display of three of the main *Richea* species. Most impressive are the huge pandanis (*R. pandanifolia*) growing in large family groups along the edge of the pine forest, many of them over 5 metres tall. The pink flowers of the pandani are axillary, and partly hidden under the large strap-like leaves. Intergrown with these are many large bushes of *R. scoparia*, with the familiar prickly foliage and abundant, mostly orange-coloured, terminal flowers. But also present are scattered bushes of the natural hybrid between these two, *R. Xcurtisiae*. The latter can be identified by the intermediate size of its leaves.

The *curtisiae* has terminal pink to cream flowers, not unlike those of the *R. scoparia*, but is an infrequent and usually sparse flowerer. Finding flowers on any of the *curtisiae* bushes is a notable event, so we were flabbergasted in late December 2016 to find a number of the large bushes absolutely covered in dozens of flowers. It was bizarre, almost as if someone had dumped a bag of hormones nearby! We have never seen such a phenomenon before or since. (see front cover for the extraordinary flowering of *Richea Xcurtisiae*. Parent plants of pandani and scoparia to left and right)

The *curtisiae* has terminal pink to cream flowers, not unlike those of the *scoparia*, but is an infrequent and usually sparse flowerer. Finding flowers on any of the *curtisiae* bushes is a notable event, so we were flabbergasted in late December 2016 to find a number of the large bushes absolutely covered in dozens of flowers. It was bizarre, almost as if someone had dumped a bag of hormones nearby! We have never seen such a phenomenon before or since ☺



Graft-Chimera (Continued from page 17)

An interesting growth, known as 'graft-chimera', can form within callus tissue at the graft union. Callus is a soft tissue that forms over wounds to help plants heal and it can become organised to produce stems and leaves. In graft-chimeras, this callus contains a mixture of cells from both the root stock and the scion. The new shoots may contain different proportions of each cell type and hence look quite different to both the root-stock and the scion, exhibiting intermediate leaf and flower combinations. If the chimera is stable, material from the shoots can be grafted onto a new rootstock to produce a novel plant. Chimeras occur in other plant families, either naturally or contrived to produce improved ornamental features such as variegated foliage. Instances of chimeras also occur in the animal kingdom, including humans.

Subsequently, a graft-chimera now exists at Curlewis, Victoria. The *Eremophila* scion species is unknown, with details lost over time, but my impression is that it is either *E. hygrophana* or *E. mackinlayi*. The first new organism, growing from the graft union, looked like *Myoporum* but had grey foliage. The original grafted *Eremophila* scion grew to a massive size and was pruned hard which then produced an unusual large-leaved growth. Attempts to propagate from this growth were unsuccessful. Although the original plant died, cutting propagation from the second growth *Eremophila* scion growth was successful and eventually planted. The plant, which has beautiful purple corolla, looks like an *Eremophila* but is the result from propagating a graft-chimera.

Below:

Corollas on the Curlewis graft-chimera

It is 4.5m high by 6m wide, in contrast to the *E. hygrophana* and *E. mackinlayi* which only grow to about 1m high.



Curlewis graft-chimera 4.5m high by 6m wide

The sheer size of this plant suggests that it has some genetic material of *Myoporum* and makes it unstable for propagation. Cuttings taken from this plant, particularly when pruned, can produce green shoots which appear to be *Myoporum*. The plant is still growing at Curlewis and keys out in part to *E. hygrophana* however I have observed cuttings from this plant which key out more like *E. mackinlayi*. The instability is further indicated by the occurrence of three flowers in a leaf axis while at other times there is only one showing.

I have observed a plant, labelled an *Eremophila*, which is a known cutting propagated from the Curlewis plant. Because of its size and close proximity to the house, it was pruned to a more manageable size. This process resulted in green and grey shoots which appear *Myoporum* in size and shape



Green *Myoporum* shoots growing on the cutting grown from a graft-chimera



Green *Myoporum* shoots growing on the cutting grown from a graft-chimera

Just to add to the curiosity and observed instability, I am aware of another graft-chimera on a plant obtained as an *Eremophila* and from the Curlewis plant. It is now displaying four types of foliage, all occurring after pruning.



A graft-chimera, from the Curlewis plant, with 4 types of foliage

Unlike the selective removal of rootstock growth, removal of a graft-chimera growth is a continual and repetitive process. Removal of a graft-chimera requires shoot removal from the graft union which in turn could trigger the ‘aggressive-growth’ genetic material. Without due diligence, it can outgrow the original plant.

In my opinion, there are plants labelled and sold by some nurseries as either *E. hygrophana* or *E. mackinlayi* which have originated from the same plant at Curlewis that grows to an exceptionally large shrub. These so called *Eremophila* differ in the type of hairs on the sepals; notably sepals of *E. hygrophana* have glandular hairs and *E. mackinlayi* without glandular hairs. One requirement for cultivar registration is the ability for the plant to be reproduced in the same, stable form which this one does not. A graft-chimera is not a hybrid as that happens through cross pollination of two species. This graft-chimera, due to the inherent instability, is only a curiosity and should not be called an *Eremophila*.

Sharing plant material is a feature of belonging to a group of like-minded gardeners. I would suggest that care should be taken, when selling/trading/sharing plant material from a graft-chimera or plants with the name *E. hygrophana* or *E. mackinlayi*. Cutting or scions from a graft-chimera could be used unwittingly. The plant described on the label might not be what you wanted and you may be disappointed, especially after pruning, because of the graft-chimera instability. [⊙]

A December Rave – continued

Dick Burns

In the March 2019 issue (vol. 23, no. 5) I raved about *Elaeocarpus reticulatus*, Blueberry Ash, and a low-growing form of *Alyogyne heugelii*. I can add a bit to both.

A few North Westeners were interested in having the low-growing alyogyne in their garden, so I sent two people looking for the plant – when I photographed it for the article, it had a spread of at least two metres so the plant should be easy to find. Neither person could locate it, but the second person said that he saw a leafless shrub in the area I described. The pademelons had broken through the fence and eaten every leaf off the alyogyne. He repaired the fence and within a month, there was a full cover of leaves and some flowers.

Around Christmas, it looked like there had been a flurry of snow out the back – the three *Elaeocarpus reticulatus* plants were shedding their petals; there had been a prolific flowering by all three plants. I have a white-flowering erect tree, a pink-flowering spreading shrub and a seedling that grew to be an erect tree. It seems that the seedling is a hybrid, taking the tree form and white petals but the pink sepals from the shrubby form. It is a most attractive plant with its pink-and-white flowers.

The rotary clothes line that the self-seeded plant was growing through is now in Shaks Johnson's garden supporting two grape vines.°

Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.

Objectives

- To promote the knowledge, appreciation and preservation of Australian plants, both in their natural settings and in cultivation, with special emphasis on species indigenous to Tasmania.
- To encourage the cultivation and study of Australian plants and the establishment of gardens in all types of soil and climate for the preservation of the flora of Australia.
- To publish any information that may further the aims and objectives of the Society.
- To cooperate with other societies or bodies with similar or substantially similar aims and objectives.
- To promote recognition of the Society as a resource group for educationalists and the government.
- To encourage compliance with laws and regulations in regards to the preservation of the flora.
- To support efforts to strengthen the laws and regulations of all bodies given authority by legislation of the Commonwealth and States of Australia for the conservation of Australian flora.

PLANTS OF TASMANIA



NURSERY
AND
GARDENS

We stock the largest range of Tasmanian native plants available, suitable for every garden niche from coastal to mountain to rainforest. We also have many advanced feature plants available.

Our nursery and gardens nestle in the scenic foothills of Mt. Wellington, and are just 12 minutes from Hobart.

See our plant list at our website:

www.potn.com.au

Phone: 6239 1583 Email: sales@potn.com.au

Open 9 am – 5 pm 7 days per week

65 Hall St, Ridgeway, TAS 7054

10% Discount on plants for APST members

Show your membership card and save

(excludes already discounted items)

Calendar for 2021

This Calendar of events is compiled from best available information supplied by Groups and Council but is subject to change. To avoid clashes that may limit opportunities for all members to participate, event organisers are requested to consult this Calendar when finalising arrangements.

Subject to COVID 19 restrictions

Please phone Group Secretary to confirm any activity

March	3	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
March	6	Saturday	Hobart/Northern	Propagation
March	3	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
March	6	Saturday	Hobart	Propagation/Boat trip—Maria Island
March	10	Wednesday	Hobart	AGM and General Meeting
March	16	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting
March	18	Thursday	North West	Propagation
March	23	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
March	27	Saturday	All Members	APST Annual General Meeting
March	27	Saturday	Council	Council Meeting, Kingston
April	3	Saturday	Northern	Propagation
April	3	EASTER	SATURDAY	
April	4	EASTER	SUNDAY	
April	7	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
April	10	Saturday	Hobart	Propagation
April	14	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
April	17	Saturday	Hobart	Plants Sale
April	18	Sunday	North West	Plants Sale
April	20	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting
April	22	Thursday	North West	Propagation
April	27	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
May	1	Saturday	Hobart/Northern	Propagation
May	5	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
May	12	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
May	18	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting

May	20	Thursday	North West	Propagation
June	2	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
June	5	Saturday	Hobart/Northern	Propagation
June	9	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
June	15	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting
June	16	Wednesday	Northern	Excursion to Notley area
July	7	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
July	14	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
July	20	Tuesday	Northern	General Meeting
July	20	Tuesday	North West	Day meeting
July	22	Thursday	North West	Propagation
July	27	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
June	26	Saturday	Council	Zoom meeting
August	4	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
August	7	Saturday	Hobart/Northern	Propagation
August	11	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
August	17	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting
August	17	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
September	1	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
September	4	Saturday	Northern	Propagation
September	8	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
September	21	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting
September	25	Saturday	Council	Council Meeting, Ross
September	28	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
October	2	Saturday	Hobart/Northern	Propagation
October	6	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
October	13	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
October	19	Tuesday	North West/Northern	General Meeting
October	20	Wednesday	Northern	Excursion

October	26	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
November	3	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
November	6	Saturday	Hobart/Northern	Propagation
November	10	Wednesday	Hobart	General meeting
November	17	Wednesday	Northern	Excursion
November	12-13-14		Annual Dinner and	Get-together
November	23	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
November	27	Saturday	Council	Council Zoom Meeting
December	1	Wednesday	Hobart	Kingborough Day Meeting
December	4	Saturday	Hobart	Propagation
December	5	Sunday	Hobart	End-of-year lunch
December	21	Tuesday	North West	Christmas gathering



National Eucalypt Day 23rd March

Each year on National Eucalypt Day (23rd March), [Eucalypt Australia](https://www.eucalyptaustalia.org.au/) announces the Eucalypt of the Year, as decided by the public. Last year the crown went to the vivacious *Eucalyptus erythrocorys*, otherwise known as Illyarrie, while previous years have seen the River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and the Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*) take out the top honours. But which species will win in 2021?

<https://www.rememberthewild.org.au/eucalypt-of-the-year-2021/>

Interested in Hosting an Event for National Eucalypt Day 2021?

Held annually on 23 March, National Eucalypt Day aims to raise awareness of eucalypts and celebrate the important place that they hold in the hearts and lives of Australians. Events can be anytime from early March through to mid April although the weekends each side of March 23rd remain the most favourable times to celebrate.

<https://www.eucalyptaustalia.org.au/ned-host-event-eoi/>

For other tree-related topics see:

<https://www.thetreeprojects.com/euc2020> °

Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc North West Group Presidents' Annual Report 2020

The year 2020 has proved to be a difficult one for all our community with the Covid 19 outbreak. It has been a difficult and disruptive time for our North West Group with our last AGM taking place in February, then a meeting in March and the cancellation of subsequent meetings until July 2020. Our autumn plant sale was cancelled, but we still managed to sell most of the plants by appointment and on a one on one basis.

Under the direction of Riitta Boevink, we managed to continue with plant maintenance and propagation by having more frequent propagation visits limited to a few members within Covid rules.

In July we had our first meeting since March with a visit to the home of Leoni and Bob Read at Sheffield and a visit to the property of Robert Gower who was revegetating a large grassed area. Our August meeting was a day-time meeting at the Tasmanian Arboretum Education Centre with guest speaker Philip Milner who outlined the history and current activities at the Arboretum. September and October evening meetings featured Dick Burns on alpine conifers of Tasmania and Jill and Neil Colgrave on Tasmanian orchids.

With the Northern Group, a number of our members visited Rosemary Verbeeten's new garden at Gravelly Beach. Our own member Ian Hutchison gave us a presentation on Tasmanian banksias at our November meeting and followed this up with a field trip to Sisters Beach to view the Banksia Serrata which in Tasmania only grows naturally in the Sisters Beach/Rocky Cape area, although it is wide spread on the south east mainland.

A number of our members also enjoyed a great weekend at Maydena at the Annual Get-together capably run by the Hobart Group. In December we were kindly hosted by Maryanne and Brad Stagg at their home and wonderful garden at Port Sorell for our Christmas gathering, which proved to be a great evening.

We continued with our plant table at most of our meetings, held to show what is flowering in our gardens from month to month, and this continues to be popular.

We proceeded with a spring plant sale in October at the Tasmanian Arboretum instead of the Port Sorell spring fair which had been cancelled. This was a great success with all stock selling by midday.

I wish to thank all the office bearers for their work and assistance during the year and the members who attended and supported our meetings and activities in a very difficult year.

John Tabor
President ☺



Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc Northern Group Presidents' Annual Report 2020

It is with pleasure I present the Annual Report for 2020 for APST Inc. Northern Group.

The Office-bearers for 2020 were:

President: Peter Dowde; Vice-President: vacant; Business Secretary: Louise Skabo; Minutes Secretary: Noel Manning; Treasurer: Rosemary Verbeeten; Delegates to Council: Roy Pallett and Louise Skabo; Nursery Manager: Janet Hallam; Programme Coordinators: Roy Skabo, Janet Hallam & Gilly Zacks; Newsletter Editor: Kay Pallett; Membership Liaison: Jill Clark; Tasmanian Native Garden at HFG: Daphne & Peter Longman & Suzanne Talbot; Web master / Social Media: Karen Manning / Louise Skabo; Publicity: Janet Hallam; Librarian: Janet Hallam; Supper Coordinator: Sharon Percy; Strategic Planning members: Margaret Killen, Roy Skabo, Janet Hallam & Julie Nermut.

The Northern Group has had a very successful year despite all the circumstances. We have seen an increase in membership, record plant sales and amazing support for our nursery and Tasmanian Native Plant Garden. None of this could have happened without the support and dedication of our members.

On a sadder note, we lost one of our founding members, Marion Simmons and esteemed presenter, Alan Gray; they will both be sorely missed.

Although four meetings and associated presentations were cancelled due to the COVID 19 pandemic, working bees at the gardens and nursery still continued in modified forms.

Membership: Several new memberships resulted from the spring plant sale. Our total Group membership at the end of December 2020 stood at **115**.

Finances: A statement is issued elsewhere. An EFTPOS system is being devised for future plant sales. Treasurer Rosemary Verbeeten was kept as busy as ever due to ongoing plant sales, nursery expenses and membership payments. Northern Group now has a surplus of funds that could be put to an appropriate cause.

Guest Speakers: Tanya Bailey, Helen and Mick Statham, Paul Richardson and Amanda Walker, Mark Wapstra and Angus Stewart.

Excursions: Connorville, Waterhouse Conservation Area, Georgetown area, North Scottsdale Regional Reserve and a garden visit to Rosemary Verbeeten.

Council meetings: The above delegates represented Northern Group. Due to the current circumstances, meetings were held online with one exception. This arrangement appeared successful and resulted in shorter meetings and less long distance travel to Ross. Tasks being undertaken for our Society include insurance matters, a new website, re-writing of our Handbook, digitalising Eucryphia journal, updating APST history, an induction kit for Councillors, new Garden Guides and Botanical Names brochures for the public and development of new certificates for members.

Strategic Planning Committee: The Strategic Planning Committee continued to advise Council on projects which need implementing for the future development of APST. Governance and Membership were largely dealt with in 2019 and the new website is a 2020 initiative along with developing Education and Conservation strategies for 2021.

Max Fry Hall: It was pleasing to see that the hall was reroofed thanks to a government grant for which Northern Group helped lobby. The promised donation of \$1,000 towards this project was handed over by Northern Group.

Nursery and Plant Sales: Despite the stable (potting shed) being inaccessible for a time, propagation sessions continued in modified form with reduced participation. Some members carried on propagation at home. An unusual request came from the Royal Tasmanian Botanic Gardens: a request to propagate *Viola hederacea* for 'seed orchard' creation; these are being minded by a few members and seedlings have now been potted-on and are growing in the NG nursery.

The new hardening-off bench was installed. Colin Hallam revised the automatic watering system. Between Colin, Janet and others the nursery was visited almost every day. Despite there being no autumn sale, private sales by members plus the spring sale netted a total of \$8,157.10 for the year. A fantastic effort and a sell-out success.

Plant sales are publicised by Janet in The Examiner thanks to Les and Julie Hodge, as well as by Roy Pallet's well placed road signs.

Eastern Barred Bandicoot: A request was received from NRM North suggesting a collaboration with APST towards conservation of this animal. NG decided to grow suitable plants for EBB land on an ad hoc basis but leave it to individual members to assist NRMN.

'Cheltenham Reserve': A letter was finally received from DPIPWE stating that the parcel of land in Cheltenham Way was to be transferred to Parks Dept as a wildflower reserve.

Tasmanian Native Garden at Heritage Forest: Dedicated garden managers, Peter and Daphne Longman and Suzanne Talbot, continue to organise member working bees, develop and replenish with new plantings and ensure the plants are watered during dry weather. They also liaise well with the City of Launceston to ensure they provide plants and mulch, mow nearby areas and remove rubbish. As a result, the TNG is thriving and maturing and was a blaze of colour last spring. A wedding was held there in September.

NG Newsletter: continued unabated under Kay Pallett's excellent editorship; it can be found at: <https://www.apstasnorth.org/>

Website: Karen Manning continued to be a most efficient Webmaster. The site can be found at the above address.

Facebook Page:: The Northern Group's page has proven extremely popular with so many members out and about photographing plants and posting them to the site. The response from other members to identify plants has been amazing.

Library: The future of our collection of beautiful plant books held at Max Fry Hall is still undecided.

Thank you all for the hard work and support through a very difficult year.

Peter Dowde,
President. ☺



Northern Group News

Kay Pallett

The Members' Get-together was the last major activity for 2020. About 30 members from the Northern group made the journey to Maydena experiencing a range of environments over the three days. The trek into Growling Swallet on Friday afternoon quickly 'set the scene' for the weekend as we were immersed in the serenity of old rainforest: in awe of the *Eucalyptus delegatensis*, tall *Dicksonia antarctica*, orchids such as the *Chiloglottis* sp. or the tiny *Townsonia viridis* (beech orchid) with its single leaf midway up the stem.

Saturday was full with buttongrass moorlands, striking scenery, some more rainforest - home to the Twisted Sister, an enormous *Eucalyptus delegatensis*, the bark of which twists rope-like around its trunk which is the size of a small car. There was an abundance of species such as *Melaleuca squamea*, *Sprengelia incarnata*, *Boronia pilosa*, *Xyris operculata*, *Bauera rubioides*, *Celmisia asteliiifolia* - just a few of the wide range of plants drawing the photographers. At Red Knoll Hill there was an outstanding view over Lake Pedder, the Frankland Range and to complete the circle the Eastern and Western Arthur Ranges. At this stop one small rare species *Haemodorum distichophyllum* was an exciting find for some members because it only grows in the south west. The day finished on Abbots Peak at the Summit restaurant where members enjoyed the opportunity to share their experiences over good food and with a superb 360 degree vista of mountain peaks stretching endlessly to the horizon.

Sunday was at Lake Dobson, mostly single file walking in an ancient magical world where again the diversity of species kept cameras clicking in the stately Pandani Grove forest and surrounding woodland. *Richea scoparia*, and *Telopea truncata* provided prominent splashes of red. Some other plants to be enjoyed were *Orites diversifolius*, *Trochocarpa thymifolia* and the delicate *Caladenia alpina*. Overall it is a rich and important area for highland Epacridaceae species. Thank you to the Hobart group with a special thank you to Sib and Keith Corbett whose knowledge, experience and organisation made the Get-together one to remember, a chance to refresh the soul - or at least prepare for Christmas.

The Northern Group Christmas dinner was well attended. It was a quieter affair after a quiet year but a suitable way to sign off 2020. Thank you to all who contributed to the sumptuous food platters and to Daphne Longman who organised the meat platters.

The last activity for the year was an impromptu excursion by a few members who wished to investigate more closely the species seen in flower on the roadside when driving to Maydena. The day in the Poatina and Miena areas was rich in interesting and colourful plants such as *Hakea microcarpa*, *H. lissosperma*, *Epacris gunnii*, *Olearia viscosa* and *Brachyscome spathulata* plus the more unusual *Botrychium lunaria* and a *Gastrodia* species.

2021 saw the working bees continued at the Tasmanian Native Garden. Weeding, pruning and mulching was the main focus in both January and February. The nursery team managed a session in January in which ten members filled in gaps in the shade house with more cuttings. February was a busier time with feeding and repotting tasks so plants will be ready for the April 17 sale.

The annual reports etc. for the previous year were emailed for pre-reading prior to the AGM. As Peter Dowde suggested in his President's report they showed a surprising amount of activity for a year in which much was cancelled. Office bearers were re-elected with a few changes. The vacancy for vice president was filled by Jo Boniface. Also thank you to Robert Worland and Jo who are the new Northern delegates to the Council of APST Inc. Anna McGrane accepted the role of secretary relinquished by Louise Skabo. Sharon Percy has joined the programme committee while Gilly Zacks has joined

(Continued on page 35)

Inala Jurassic Garden & Nature Museum



Open: 9am - 5pm daily
Entry: \$10 Adult / \$5 Child



A 5 acre botanic garden with over 600 species planted in family groups demonstrating Gondwanan floristic links. Large representation of Tasmanian endemics and rare species.

All plants labelled. Wheelchair friendly path winding through the garden.

Outstanding collection of shells, fossils and minerals in the Nature Museum.

Guided walks and accommodation available



BOTANIC GARDENS
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND INC.

320 Cloudy Bay Road
South Bruny Island 03 6293 1217
www.jurassicgarden.com.au



Hobart Group News

Sib Corbett

Life has returned to something like normal this quarter, with general meetings and other activities restarted. At the September meeting we were treated to an inspiring account of the seed collecting and collections by the dedicated team from the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, followed by visits to the Ferntree gardens of Christine Corbett and Alan Pegg and Keith and Sib Corbett. The first is sunny and east-facing where Christine is able to flower a wide variety of Australian and Tasmanian natives. Corbetts Senior have rather less sun and specialise in western and subalpine plants. Informal mountain bike tracks have developed along the Ridgeway hills, allowing our walking group access to this wonderful wildflower country.

In October Christine Corbett gave us a well-researched and informed presentation on 'What causes climate change?' - very sobering. On a more hopeful note our plants sales broke all records, making \$2,500 profit, a tribute to Bruce and his nursery team. The month ended with a walk in wildflower heaven near Remarkable Cave.

Our final meeting for 2020 featured Churchill Fellow Deb Wace in a talk ranging from her early involvement in the protection of Recherche Bay to her privileged access to the famous botanical collections in France and England, and the influence these experiences have had on her fabric designs. A mid-november visit to Waverly Flora Park provided a follow-up from Phil Watson's earlier talk on eastern shore reserves.

The end of November saw our big effort, the Members' Get-together at Maydena. We were almost overwhelmed with the enthusiasm of attendees; seventy people were keen to come. This excursion departed somewhat from the usual format in being a bit more structured and formal than usual as the Corbetts sought to introduce members to the mysteries of Southwest Tasmania. We were treated mercifully by the weather gods, and our hosts at the Giants Table and the Maydena Bike Park went out of their way to be hospitable. Maydena seems to be just getting back on its feet, largely due to mountain bike activities, and we were the lucky recipients of top service from businesses eager to establish themselves. Who can forget that evening at The Summit Restaurant, capped off by a lingering sunset? ☺

Northern Group News (continued from page 33)

Jill Clarke in a Membership Liaison role and Fran Mason will help in the management of the Tasmanian Native Garden.

The General Meeting was quickly underway. Business arising from the Minutes included an update on the RTBG seed orchard project. This was followed by an update on the Eastern Barred Bandicoot project - a project which seeks to rehabilitate habitat areas for the threatened species. Members appreciated the articulate, informed presentation from Kate Thorn from NRM North. The Trevallyn Hall Trust sent a letter of thanks to the Group for their support and \$1,000 donation towards the new roof and windows.

A few members responded to an emergency call out from the RTBG to collect viola seeds from Powranna and seeds from two Geranium species near Liaweenee, viola seeds. The Treasurer's Report and payments were approved. The meeting finished with a brief progress report from the Strategic Planning Group on the new website development. It will be user friendly, accessible and includes our present group website which will continue to function with Karen Waldon-Manning as webmaster.

Members look forward to the interesting programme prepared by a most efficient programme committee - one of the keys to our list of successful speakers. To begin, the March meeting is a popular club night where several members will give short presentations on the general theme of pollination. ☺

COUNCIL



The North West propagating group at lunch

APST Directory

COUNCIL

Postal address **P. O. Box 1205,
Gravelly Beach
TASMANIA 7276**

Email: apstsec@gmail.com

Website: www.apstas.org.au

President	Jenny Boyer	0434870576	Hobart Councillor	Keith Corbett	0419593059
Vice-President	Margaret Killen	0409430665	North West Councillor	Riitta Boevink	64286909
Secretary	Mary Slattery	0402784086	North West Councillor	Drew Thomas	64371802
Treasurer	Rosemary Verbeeten	63944600	Northern Councillor	Jo Boniface	0434981438
Hobart Councillor	Sib Corbett	0419593059	Northern Councillor	Robert Worland	0434981438

GROUPS

Hobart Group

President	Sib Corbett	0419593059	Meeting place/time: General meetings: <u>Kingston Primary School Library</u> Second Wednesday of the month 7.30pm except January, June, July and August. For winter meetings, www.apstas.org.au/calendar
Secretary	Christine Corbett	6239 1904	Kingborough Day Meetings: <u>2pm Centacare Units Meeting Room</u> , turn left off Balmoral Rd. Kingston.
Treasurer	Anthony Salt	0412673632	first Wednesday of the month (not January).
Contact Officer	Bruce Champion	6294 6970	

Northern Group

President	Peter Dowde	6331 7761	Postal address: 45 Osborne Avenue, Trevallyn, Tas. 7250
Secretary	Anna McGrane	0419347743	Email: apstasnorth@gmail.com
Treasurer	Rosemary Verbeeten	6394 4600	Meeting place /time: <u>Max Fry Hall, Gorge Rd, Trevallyn</u> 7.30 pm
Eucryphia Liaison	Kay Pallett	0400097025	Third Tuesday of the month (except January). Website: www.apstasnorth.org

North West Group

President	John Tabor	6428 6512	Postal address: PO Box 68, Port Sorell, Tas 7307
Vice-President	Joy McIntosh	6426 2657	Email: apstnorthwest@gmail.com
Secretary	Drew Thomas	6437 1802	Meeting place/time: <u>St Pauls Church Hall, Church St, East Devonport</u> 7.30 pm, Third Tuesday of each month (except January, July and December)
Treasurer	John Boevink	6428 6909	
Eucryphia Liaison	Mary Slattery	0402784086	



Members at the Annual Get-together, eyeing the Needles.



The ‘A’ mob at the Growing Swallet.