

Eucryphia



Volume 24 No1 March 2020

Journal of the Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.
ISSN 1324-3888

Online ISSN 2209-0452



© D. Burns

\$2.20

PRINT POST APPROVAL No. 100004305



Stylidium graminifolium.

Front Cover: *Prostanthera phyllifolia* flower.
See article on page 21

FUJI XEROX 
Business Centre
Authorised Dealer

The **Print
Division**
T A S M A N I A

PRINTER: THE PRINT DIVISION,
46 BRISBANE STREET
HOBART TASMANIA, 7000

<p>EUCRYPHIA ISSN 1324-3888</p> <p>Published quarterly in March, June, September and December by Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc</p> <p>ABN 64 482 394 473</p> <p>Patron: Her Excellency, Professor the Honourable Kate Warner, AC, Governor of Tasmania</p> <p>Society postal address: P.O. Box 1205 GRAVELLY BEACH TASMANIA 7276</p> <p>Editor: Mary Slattery eucryphiaeditor@gmail.com</p> <p>Contributions and letters to the editor are welcome. They should be forwarded by email in a word doc, not pdf'd, 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.</p> <p>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..</p> <p>Views and opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and are not necessarily the views and/or opinions of the Society.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Contents</p>																																																		
<p>Next issue: June 2020 Deadline: 25 May 2020 email: eucryphiaeditor@gmail.com</p>	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr><td>Membership subs. & renewals</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>Membership</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>From The President</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>Strategic Planning Report</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>ANPSA News</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>Publications</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>Society Objectives</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>Study Group Highlights</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>November 2019 Council Meeting</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>APST Inc AGM Agenda</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>Group Annual Reports:</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Hobart</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>Northern</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>North West</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>A Rave About <i>Prostanthera Phyllifolia</i></td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>Calendar for 2020</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>Red-Flowering Gum and the Effect of Light</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>New Membership Application</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>News from the Groups:</u></td></tr> <tr><td>Northern Group</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>North West Group</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>Some Collected Thoughts from long Ago</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>Group Programmes</td><td>31</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;"><u>APST Directory</u></td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>32</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Membership subs. & renewals	2	Membership	3	From The President	4	Strategic Planning Report	5	ANPSA News	6	Publications	7	Society Objectives	8	Study Group Highlights	9	November 2019 Council Meeting	10	APST Inc AGM Agenda	11	<u>Group Annual Reports:</u>		Hobart	12	Northern	14	North West	16	A Rave About <i>Prostanthera Phyllifolia</i>	21	Calendar for 2020	22	Red-Flowering Gum and the Effect of Light	24	New Membership Application	24	<u>News from the Groups:</u>		Northern Group	28	North West Group	29	Some Collected Thoughts from long Ago	30	Group Programmes	31	<u>APST Directory</u>			32
Membership subs. & renewals	2																																																		
Membership	3																																																		
From The President	4																																																		
Strategic Planning Report	5																																																		
ANPSA News	6																																																		
Publications	7																																																		
Society Objectives	8																																																		
Study Group Highlights	9																																																		
November 2019 Council Meeting	10																																																		
APST Inc AGM Agenda	11																																																		
<u>Group Annual Reports:</u>																																																			
Hobart	12																																																		
Northern	14																																																		
North West	16																																																		
A Rave About <i>Prostanthera Phyllifolia</i>	21																																																		
Calendar for 2020	22																																																		
Red-Flowering Gum and the Effect of Light	24																																																		
New Membership Application	24																																																		
<u>News from the Groups:</u>																																																			
Northern Group	28																																																		
North West Group	29																																																		
Some Collected Thoughts from long Ago	30																																																		
Group Programmes	31																																																		
<u>APST Directory</u>																																																			
	32																																																		
<p>Distribution Please refer any problems with receipt or distribution to: The Newsletter Distribution Officer, P.O. Box 1205 GRAVELLY BEACH TASMANIA 7276</p>																																																			

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.

Also, 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.

Annual membership 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, please present your current APST membership card to: *Habitat Plants* at Liffey – 10% discount; *Imerave 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 the Publications Officer.

Websites

APST Inc.
www.apstas.org.au

Northern Group
www.apstasnorth.org

ANPSA Inc.
www.anpsa.org.au

Membership

Margaret Killen, Membership Officer



New Member

We warmly welcome the following new member to the Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc: **Angus Stewart** (formally of NSW) now of Premaydena.

New Members Application Form

Please find the form on page 25.

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 in future will be received by email/hard copies posted out. *Reminders will no longer be included in your Eucryphia envelope.*

Please return your completed scanned / photographed form to membership@apstas.org.au or the hard copy to

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

Membership Queries

New Membership applications take about 10 days to complete. In organisations like ours we need to firstly approve membership, this is done through the Council by email, and takes a maximum of 2 days. Meanwhile the new members' kit is prepared and after approval the kit is mailed to the new member; it is estimated that this takes one week. At this point the group Secretary receives notification of the new member and their contact details so that the group can make contact.

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

membership@apstas.org.au 

Advertising Rates in Eucryphia

B/W only, 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



From The President

Jenny Boyer, President.

Hello Members,

Happy New Year to you all and I wish you maximum enjoyment of your native plants, be they in pots, the garden, parkland or out in their natural environment. Even without the serious matter of climate change we are never guaranteed to have the best flowering in any particular season but when all factors come together, we certainly get the wow factor. For me this was the waratahs at Cradle Valley in December, the most spectacular I've ever seen them.

A huge thank you to the Northern Group for a wonderful Get-together at St Helens in November. Sharing our love of native plants with members from all over Tasmania is always special and a high standard of program and organisation has been set. The Hobart Group will be hosting in 2020. Date, place and program all yet to be decided.

We start 2020 under a new Constitution adopted at the Special General Meeting in November which will mean a slightly smaller Council and a few minor changes to clarify our operations and improve efficiency. It is also hoped that some of the Council Meetings will be held with video linking as has been successfully trialled by the Strategic Planning Committee.

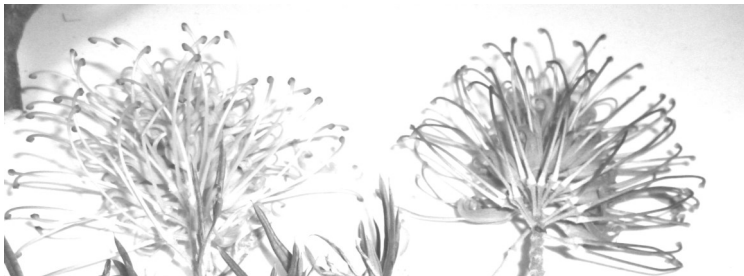
The Special General Meeting also awarded Honorary Membership to Alan Gray for his notable service in furthering the objectives of the Society. Hobart Group President, Sib Corbett, presented the award to Alan at the Group Christmas function at Randalls Bay. Congratulations Alan.

The ever-obliging Amanda Walker has agreed to produce an APST calendar for 2021 and this year is inviting members to submit their favourite photos for selection for the calendar. Photos from places Amanda doesn't get to are especially invited. Photos will need to be submitted by the end of May to enable the calendar to be available for sale at Blooming Tasmania.

See the guideline provided by Amanda on page 7.

So, relive our beautiful flora while you hunt out those favourite photos for others to enjoy.

Jenny. ☺





Strategic Planning Report

Margaret Killen

There have been a couple changes to the team with Phil Watson and Christine Corbett from the Hobart Group resigning. Phil will remain connected to the SPG as an additional resource especially in his area of expertise of communicating with communities. Christine has offered to be a conduit to the Hobart Group. There are three positions for each group on this subcommittee so please consider joining us if you are a Hobart member who is interested in guiding the current and future direction of APST.

We have six meetings a year and meet via videoconference link (Zoom) for one hour from 2-3pm on the second Tuesday of every second month, this year being February (completed), April, June, Aug, October and December. Please contact any of the people below if you have an interest.

2020 started by reviewing all 9 of the strategic priority areas. Recent focus has been on Membership and Governance and we are very happy to let you know that we have reached the Membership measure which was to increase membership by 5% by 31 December 2019.

With the new Constitution, adopted in November last year, many of the Governance actions are complete. The Society Handbook/Manual will be rewritten over the next year.

(continued on page 29)

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

Report from Tasmanian Delegate Margaret Killen, November 2019

There were three meetings on Sunday 29th September 2019 in Albany Western Australia.

The AGM, which opened at 9am, was a quick meeting with the important items - the President's Report from Riitta Boevink and Treasurer's Report and audited financial statements for the year ending 30th June 2019 from Rosemary Verbeeten - being accepted.

The 30th Biennial Meeting followed the AGM. Items of note included the election of ANPSA Councillors. This is a standard process as the successional rotating from one Society to another is every two years based on who is hosting the conference. The WA team were voted in with Margaret Matthews as the President for the coming two years. The Tasmanian team were relieved of their duties with one executive remaining, Vice President Riitta Boevink.

Correspondence noted the death of Dianne Snape on the 18th September 2019. Dianne was a recipient of the Australian Plants Award (amateur) in 2004 at the Launceston ANPSA Conference.

From the Study Group Report a motion was carried to amend the SG guidelines so that Study Group Life Membership can be awarded to deserving persons.

An interest free loan was approved, in principle, to assist the Banksia Study Group with the revision of the 2nd edition of the Banksia Book. The loan will be repaid from the first sales prior to profit.

The report also noted that it is disappointing that so few SG leaders attended this Biennial Conference. ANPSA offers financial assistance to SG leaders so that they can attend, this needs to be promulgated to help increase attendance.

The Publicity Report noted that the role needs to include the use of social media. This position was not filled so if any Tasmanian member feels they have the skills and would like to help please contact Riitta.

Eddy Wajon has been very active in his role as Conservation Officer as reflected in his Report. The two major conservation issues - the Jandakot airport, south of Perth WA, and the Kosciusko National Park, have been a focus. Roadside vegetation conservation has led to some WA municipalities rating themselves for protecting and improving those assets. Also, some are training the contractors/employees who carry out the maintenance of this important native plant habitat.

Eddy has offered his expertise to all Regions on conservation issues.

The next Biennial Meeting will be in Kiama NSW.

The Council Meeting followed the Biennial Meeting with the newly elected Councillors. Many of the motions and discussions from the Biennial Meeting were actioned at this meeting which has a much shorter reporting time frame.

The future of the ANPSA website was discussed, stimulated by webmaster Brian Walters' report. Three quotes for a new/updated website will be sought for discussion at the next meeting.

The membership levy, paid by Member Societies, has been raised from \$1.60 to \$2 per membership. Bank signatories were appointed. ANPSA Australian Plants Award recipients are offered subsidies to attend the award ceremony, Member Societies will be notified of this prior to opening the 2021 conference registrations.

(continued next page)

Publications

David Boyer

This request comes from Jenny Boyer:

A call for photos from members

Amanda Walker has offered to produce a 2021 calendar late in 2020 and is inviting members to submit photos, especially from areas of Tassie that have not been previously featured.

Amanda has provided the following guidelines:

Your members would be familiar with the layout of the calendar - some pages have two images and others multiple and the calendar images are usually specific to an area.

So I would suggest with this in mind, that people could choose a selection of photos from a specific area for me to make layout/selection decisions from - so two to four images or if they have enough suitable images, or perhaps four to six images from an area. If they have just one great photo, then just send the one.

The images need to be good quality, preferably not cropped, they need to be high resolution, jpegs- images can be sent over a couple of emails as 10-12mb is usually about the limit for an email.

I can do any required crop and edit/processes and sharpen the images to get the optimum quality for printing.

I suggest that when sent by email, each person includes a list that corresponds with the image file names:

- jpeg file name
- photographer name
- area taken, specific details ie. national park, mountain, river details if relevant
- plant identification, scientific and common names
- time of year

I can do a mock-up for approval - make any changes- and then work on the calendar photographs and caption details in preparation for final proof for printing.

Photos would need to be forwarded by the end of May to allow plenty of time to have the calendar ready for Blooming Tasmania in September.

Amanda's email is amandawalker@iinet.net.au and I am sure she will happily answer any questions you may have. ☺

ANPSA News

(continued from previous page)

Video-conferencing a council meeting to save money was discussed. A job description for the position of Public Officer will be developed along with a non-prescriptive marketing plan.

2021 ANPSA Conference convenor Heather Miles gave an outline of planning. The theme is *Australian Flora – Past, Present and Future* and the venue is the Pavilion at Kiama which is south of Sydney. ☺

The Objectives of our Society, as accepted by members at the Special General meeting in November 2019

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 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.
- 2.3 To publish any information that may further the aims and objectives of the Society.
- 2.4 To cooperate with other societies or bodies with similar or substantially similar aims and objectives.
- 2.5 To promote recognition of the Society as a resource group for educationalists and the government.
- 2.6 To encourage compliance with laws and regulations with regard to the preservation of the flora.
- 2.7 To support efforts to strengthen the laws and regulations of all bodies given authority by legislation of the Commonwealth and states and territories of Australia for the conservation of Australian flora.
- 2.8 To purchase, lease, exchange, hire or otherwise use any real or personal property necessary or suitable for the purpose of the Society.



Study Group Highlights

Riitta Boevink, Study Group Liaison

Note that previous SG newsletters are available on the ANPSA website

<http://anpsa.org.au/study.html>

Jane Fountain, the National ANPSA Study Group Coordinator writes that Maria Hitchcock has resigned as the leader of the **Waratah and Flannel Flower SG** after nine years. Maria has made a tremendous contribution to study groups over the years. This means that the **Waratah and Flannel Flower SG** is in recess until a new leader steps in.

On the positive side Shirley McLaren has become the leader of a new **Australian Pea Flower SG**. The range of pea flowers is large and often confusing. This SG will help many people to sort them out.

Eremophila SG No 126 Jan 2020

This is a very extensive newsletter with comprehensive report on a botanical Eremophila conference. We are informed that a special issue of APJ journal on Eremophilas will be out later in the year.

Garden Design SG No 110 Feb 2020 on the ANPSA website:

<http://anpsa.org.au/design> or Google Australian Garden Design. The theme is Courtyard and Patio Gardens. Viewing it on line allows you to see the excellent photographs and illustrations that convey more information than by writing alone.

Nearly all SG newsletters are on the ANPSA website. Some reserve the current year issues for members only, but earlier ones are freely available. Increasingly Study Groups do not charge membership fees for email newsletters. Those who want printed newsletters pay a fee to cover the postage and administration costs. Study Groups continue to be a source of valuable and extremely interesting information on knowledge and cultivation on Australian native plants. All the back copies of of newsletters are on the website and contain interesting and timeless information. I encourage you to seek out newsletters on Study Groups relating to your favourite plants. ☺



Council Meeting in Ross November 2019

Vice President, Dick Burns

There are four North Westers that go to APST Council meetings now. This time we went in my new car, now christened 'Blue Streak'. Whether it's because of the sleeker shape or the blue colour, I do drive this one faster than the previous grey car. Actually it is probably because of the quieter engine and I cannot judge the speed. It is one of those computer-controlled cars that 'bips' at you for all sorts of mysterious reasons. (I'll never work out why because the instruction book is not quite as thick as a house brick, but it is thicker than those that the Romans made.)

However, that may be the last regular drive to Ross. Why? Read on. . .

We got to Ross in plenty of time to get coffees and to explore the venue for the day – Ross Town Hall. Sheer luxury! Padded seats, proper kitchen and THREE toilets! The meeting was soon under way, chaired by President Jenny, and here are some decisions or considerations that you might find of value.

The Society's new constitution, adopted at the Special General Meeting in St Helens, will come into play at the start of APST new financial year, which is January 1st, 2020.

An increasing number of members are paying by electronic transfer, the method preferred by Treasurer Rosemary, and often the cheapest. Membership Officer Margaret is setting up a system that will send renewal forms to members electronically when subs are due.

Our numbers are increasing! The decline in membership that spurred on the formation of the Strategic Plan has reversed.

Largely because interest rates are so low, the Society will be running at a loss. One remedy for this will be the adoption by APST of digital dispatch of *Eucryphia* to the majority of members. Advocates of the digital format speak of a fuller journal with lots of attractive photos, but this can only happen if more members submit articles and good photos. (I think there must be a lot of boring gardens out there and Groups never go on outings. The latter are described in the delegate reports but what do you like about them?) Societies in other regions have gone either partially or completely digital. There still will be a role for the members who label and fill envelopes and dispatch them because of those who subscribe to *Australian Plants Journal*. June should see the first issue of the digital *Eucryphia*.

Thanks were given to all members who helped make our contribution to this year's Blooming Tasmania show such a success, particularly the Northern Group.

Following concerns expressed by several members, email and postal addresses of members will no longer be published.

Many times over the years, members, and non-members, who have made sterling contributions to APST have been acknowledged with certificates of merit or gratitude. Guidelines to assist Groups or Council in these awards will be prepared.

Nearly half of the aims and projects for Membership and Governance set by the Strategic Plan committee have been implemented or achieved. The committee, made up of representatives from all Groups, have been running their meetings as video-conferences. The success of this enterprise inspired the decision by Council to try running its meetings via video-conferencing, starting in June. Hence the comment above. Annual General Meetings would still be 'live' but eliminating the long drive to Ross three times a year, leaving home in the dark sometimes, has its attractions. ^o



Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc
Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Society
will be held on 28 March 2020 at 11.00 a.m.
at the Arboretum, Euganana.

Agenda

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Attendance and apologies**
- 3. Confirmation of Minutes of 2019 AGM**
- 4. Business arising from the Minutes**

the
use

Constitution – confirmation that the new constitution as accepted at
Special General Meeting of 23 November 2019 was adopted for
from January 1, 2020.

- 5. President's report**
- 6. Financial reports**
- 7. Appointment of Auditor**
- 8. Election of Council**
 - 8.1 Executive Officers**
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Secretary
 - 8.2 Confirmation of Group Councillors**
- 9. Appointments**
 - a. Public Officer
 - b. Membership Officer
 - c. Eucryphia Editor
 - d. Newsletter Dispatch Officer
 - e. Study Group Liaison Officer
 - f. Publications Officer
 - g. Nomenclature Officer
 - h. Website Liaison Officer
 - i. ANPSA Delegate one
 - J ANPSA Delegate two
 - k. APJ Liaison Officer
- 10. General Business (if any)**

Group Annual Reports

Hobart Group Annual Report – May 2019-February 2020

Sib Corbett, President

2019 has been a year of gradual recovery of the vegetation in the south, with access to some fire-damaged areas still restricted. Other places we have avoided because the destruction is heartbreaking.

Attendances at our night meetings have been in the 20's, with members enjoying some outstanding presentations. John Fisher from Hobart City Council spoke on their plans to fire-proof the outer Hobart suburbs, and on a mountain walk we were able to see some of the fringe clearing carried out on the edge of Wellington Park – a comforting sight even for those of us who have always enjoyed that bit of bush. Later in the year Nicholas Alexander, a nurseryman with Kingborough Council, spoke on that council's revegetation strategies; again it is encouraging to see action to improve areas of native vegetation near settled areas.

APST members have contributed to meetings with a number of very well received talks. David Reynolds, accompanied by glorious slides, spoke of the five islands where he and Trauti lived and worked over the last 30 years. Phil Sumner told of his experiences in a number of mainland National Parks, finishing with a nostalgic journey through Southwest Tasmania. Alan Gray* shared his deep knowledge in a discussion on a number of eucalypt species, while Mark Fountain inspired us with his vision for the presentation of Tasmanian species in the Royal Tasmanian Botanic Gardens.

Kingborough members continue to enjoy daytime meetings, organised by Carmen Walker, with guest speakers and discussion around plant specimens supplied by their very talented gardeners. Most recently they have ventured to Inala on Bruny Island and gardens in Fern Tree and Howden. Hobart members have experimented with daytime winter meetings too, with a successful plant identification day in July guided by Alan Gray.

Our nursery at Kingston Primary School, organised by Bruce Champion, has had a bumper year, with sales in April and October raising record profits and attracting new members. This has allowed Bruce and his helpers to make improvements in the nursery as well as assisting the school with works and donations.

Gardens opened for our pleasure have included two in the Cremorne area, visits accompanied by walks round Single Hill, on the Tangara Trail, Calvert's Hill and Cape Deslacs, giving us a much greater appreciation of this part of southeast Tasmania and the challenges of gardening in this harsh environment. Closer to home we have enjoyed visits to Christine Corbett and Alan Pegg's garden at Fern Tree and to Gill and Blain Fitzgerald in South Hobart. An interpretation walk on the eastern slopes of Mt. Wellington was rewarding despite the rain (where is all that moisture now we need it?), and a thorough exploration of Hobart's Domain revealed many historic treasures – so many that the final offer to visit 'the largest Cotoneaster hedge in the southern hemisphere' was politely declined by most of the foot-weary participants. As is becoming the norm, several other excursions had to be cancelled due to weather and access problems.

Our support for the Tasmanian Land Conservancy continues, with donations to assist in recovery works in the Five Rivers Reserve following the 2018 fires, and for the newly purchased Little Swanport property. A visit to Little Swanport provided an east coast curtain raiser for the wonderful member 'Get-together at St. Helens – thank you Northern Group organisers!

The major 'job that had to be done' has been the revision of our constitution, which required a great deal of hard thinking, not to say pain, from many members of all the Groups.

The new constitution has now been ratified and will come into effect after the Society AGM in March. Well done to all of us.

Activities of the Hobart Group continued to be notified and reported in the Hobart Group News. We look forward each month to editor Maria Honey's delightful accounts of life in and of the bush, as well as her communication of all things APST. Now we also have Christine Howells' beautifully researched and illustrated articles on Australian plant species.

We end on a sad note with the passing of our much-loved founding member Kay Geeves. Kay was a wonderful friend, a pioneer in her love and understanding of Tasmanian plants and landscapes, and an activist before her time in seeking the preservation of our wild places. May her generosity and passion inspire us all!

*Alan Gray was presented with Honorary Life Membership of the Society at our Christmas gathering at Randals Bay in December. ☺

Inverawe Native Gardens



Be inspired by Tasmania's largest landscaped native garden,
just 15 minutes south of Hobart, overlooking
North West Bay.

This 9.5ha garden was once a wasteland
of impenetrable weeds.

Now, thousands of colourful native plants, stunning views,
interpretive signs, poetry and sculpture add to the experience.
And the birds!

1565 Channel Highway Margate - Behind the Margate Train
M 040 686 0584 Ph 6267 2020
gardens@inverawe.com.au www.inverawe.com.au

Open seven days a week, 1 September till the end of May
First entry 9.00am last entry 5.00pm. Entry fee applies.

Northern Group Annual Report – 2019

Louise Skabo, President

It is with pleasure I present the Annual Report for 2019 for APST Inc. Northern Group.

I would like to thank all NG members for their enthusiastic participation in and support of our many activities and commitments but with especial thanks going to the Group leaders as listed above. I am continually impressed by the energy and reliability of these office holders who are so diligent and enthusiastic in their various roles and which makes the job of President a pleasurable one. The elected positions of Treasurer, Business Secretary and Minutes Secretary are essential for our legal obligations to APST Inc and it is reassuring to know these tasks are in the hands of such trustworthy members.

As well as our usual activities, Northern Group was responsible in 2019 for hosting the APST Inc. AGM, the Tasmanian Members' Get-together and creating a stage installation of Tasmanian native flora for the Blooming Tasmania Festival along with our usual booth display. There was excellent member participation and contributions in all these events. One notable effort was from Roy Skabo who single-handedly organised an enjoyable Members' Get-together based at St Helens with excursions to four different areas, a pleasant lunch spot in a member's garden and social evenings. The Blooming Tasmania sub-committee, Rosemary Verbeeten, Margaret Hosford, Margaret Killen, Bruce Champion, Louise Skabo, Jill Clark and Daphne Longman, did a fantastic job in overseeing the impressive native flora displays in the booth and on the stage at the Albert Hall which were greatly admired by the public. The sub-committee was ably assisted by many other hard working APST members in the preparation, acquisition, transport (Nigel), setting up, manning and dismantling of the installations. Special thanks go to Sally and Herbert Staubman whose mural and large plants made the stage installation so striking and to Bruce for his colourful Power Point presentation. It was a big commitment but successful in showcasing native flora and in gaining new members. Congratulations to Margaret Killen who is now the President of Blooming Tasmania.

Another sub-committee was established in 2019 after the deferral of voting for a new APST Inc. Constitution at the March AGM. Thanks go to the NG sub-committee of Janet Hallam, Roy Skabo, Margaret Killen and Daphne Longman who advanced thoughtful and intelligent suggestions as well as consulting with a Hobart constitutional sub-committee to assist with producing a fine new constitution which was passed unanimously at the Members' Get-together in November.

The new constitution was a project initiated by the APST Inc. Strategic Planning Committee whose aim is to provide guidance so our Society will remain vigorous and progressive. Governance and membership were the two main priorities in 2019 and these will continue to be developed in 2020 along with communications and technology. Margaret Killen is to be lauded for her efforts as Chair while NG members, Janet Hallam, Julie Nermut and Roy Skabo along with delegates from other Groups, continue to conscientiously develop policies and methods to implement the plans. Meetings arrangements have been easier in the last six months due to the use of Zoom teleconferencing. The latter is also to be arranged for some Council meetings in 2020.

In October 2019 the ANPSA Biennial Conference was held in Albany WA and was attended by seven of our northern members. It was an outstanding success with excellent lectures and excursions.

NG had 19 new members join in 2019 largely through our involvement with the community at our two plant sales and the Blooming Tasmania Festival. Membership Liaison Officer, Jill Clark, has continued to improve communications with new members

and gained knowledge about their needs and interests in order to make them feel welcome and involved. As a result, it has been pleasing to see many new members becoming part of our propagation, native garden, excursions and/or guest speaker meetings. Our total Group membership at the end of December 2019 stood at 107.

The NG Nursery at Windsor Community Precinct has become even more popular - partly due to increasing membership with many interested in propagating and growing native plants but also due to the Nursery Manager's efforts. Janet Hallam makes new attendees feel welcome by showing them around the nursery and allocating an 'old hand' to instruct them in propagating skills, and, the nursery working bees are always well planned, satisfying and fun.

Due to Janet's hard work and thoughtful input and Colin's skills with the automatic watering system, the plants are thriving and diverse in nature.

Plant sale days at Max Fry Hall are well organised and well attended by the public who realise it is a way of buying a range of native plants including Tasmanian endemics which are not readily available at commercial nurseries. The 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. A new hardening-off bench for the extra plants was approved in November and will be built early in 2020. This will free up space in the shade-house for the newly propagated cuttings.

The augmented participation at the nursery has led to a bigger workload for the manager and it is pleasing to see other members step up to assist. Sharon Percy and Julie Nermut are now responsible for the delicate job of propagation from seeds and other members have recently volunteered to oversee several small but essential jobs for the efficient running of our nursery.

This increased attendance at propagation has led to even larger numbers of plants produced for our biannual plant sales resulting in very healthy takings. These funds are more than sufficient to cover the administration costs for our Group and thus enable the membership the pleasurable task of donating excess moneys to other organisations with similar aims for the conservation and promotion of Australian native plants. As 2018 was also an extremely successful and productive year for the NG nursery, early in 2019 members decided between several worthy recipients for our donation. The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens was chosen and they appreciated receiving \$2000 towards new refrigeration equipment for the expanded Seed Bank and \$2000 towards the re-development of the Tasmanian native garden area.

An impressive line up of guest speakers and diverse topics encouraged large attendance at monthly meetings aided by publicity in the Examiner and word of mouth. The speakers included informative and enjoyable presentations by NG members Jon Hosford, Mick and Helen Statham and Ian Thomas with the latter stepping in for a sick Miguel de Salas at a moment's notice. Thanks go to Roy, Janet and Gilly for their imaginative approach in finding, researching, and enabling our Group to benefit from these quality speakers. Undaunted by the challenge, this team has again engaged a great line up of speakers for 2020.

Members are to be congratulated for the careful consideration they give to choosing and presenting the Plant of the Month and it is remarkable that different and fascinating plants continue to be selected each year.

Roy Skabo put much effort into managing excursions by exploring opportunities, organising details and communicating with attendees in order to pursue our Society's objective of appreciating native plants in their natural environment, Roy's main area of interest. Two excursions had to be postponed to 2020 due to inclement weather - extreme heat in January and cold and rain in October! Highlights included the Louise Gilfedder

(Continued on page 26)

North West Group Annual Report – 2020

Joy Mackintosh, President

Another year has flown by with mixed gardening results following a drop in rainfall from the previous year.

2019 started with our Annual General Meeting held in February with those members in office, continuing in their positions. At our meeting in March Jo Kingston from the Friends of the Lilloco Penguins Group gave a very interesting talk on the group and their role in protecting the penguins and their breeding sites. Our most successful plant sale since our inception was held in April at the Arboretum Rotunda with our first customers arriving at 9am, although our scheduled start was at 10am. In May, Janine Cranney shared her knowledge and wonderful photos of orchids, and their usefulness to both large and small animals. At our June meeting, members were invited to bring along and discuss their favourite plant from their gardens.

We visited Phil Milner's 34 hectare property at Lower Barrington in July, with about 20 hectares of this under conservancy. Phil took us on an extensive guided walk introducing us to a wide range of native plants. Dick Burns was our guest speaker in August and gave a fascinating talk on the Cradle Mountain area and the factors that have influenced what grows there. In September Ian Hutchinson gave us an insight into how he turned his empty block in Leith into the spectacular garden which surrounds his home. This talk was followed by a garden visit the following week. It was also the month several of our members headed for Western Australia for the Conference. At the October meeting Riitta and Jan gave a wonderful presentation, including photographs, of conference tours they had enjoyed. The following weekend we took part in the Port Sorell Spring Fair which has become an annual event on our calendar. We did well with plant sales and have some regular customers who look for our stand.

November was a busy month with Jennifer Stackhouse giving a talk on the importance of bees in our lives as well as for pollination. The Members' Get-together organised by the Northern Group was held at St. Helens over a weekend which included some interesting walks and talks. Then the 'John and Riitta Show' gave another talk to the Bunnings Garden Club.

An enjoyable Christmas breakup was held at Drew Thomas and Jane Bennett's home at Penguin, following a wander through their new native garden, having only moved there five years ago and learning how to cope with the wildlife.

Thank you to all members who are involved in our monthly propagation at the Arboretum, to Riitta who organises our workload, to Martha and Judy for their work in setting up a spreadsheet to keep track of our plants and to assist when printed labels are required for our sales, and to Joanne for organising a couple of stands to be built by the Men's Shed, to give our workers easier access to our plants.

And a thank you to all committee members for their work throughout the year, and we

Save the date: 24-25 OCTOBER 2020

13th FJC Rogers Seminar

Mint Bushes & Allied Genera



© R. Verbeten

Margaret Killen, Riitta Boevink, Roy Skabo, Louise Skabo, and Don Abblitt on the Arthur River trip.



© M. Statham

Hibbertia procumbens, taken on the February Plains trip.



© L. Skabo

Leptecophylla parvifolia (Mountain pinkberry.) and *Epacris lanuginosa* (woolly-style heath or swamp heath)



Above, *Corymbia ficifolia* at Mission Hill Junction.

Opposite top: Close-up of *Corymbia ficifolia* flowers

Opposite bottom: A group of *Corymbia ficifolia* trees

All photos relate to the article 'Red-Flowering Gum And The Effect Of Light' on page 25



© D. Burns



© D. Burns

**Left:**

*Prostanthera
phylicifolia* flower.
See article on
opposite page..

Below left:

Caladenia dilatata

Below right:

Isophysis tasmanica,
taken on an
extremely windy day on Mt.
Bolton.



A Rave About *Prostanthera phyllicifolia*

Dick Burns

I've had a number of species of *Prostanthera* in my Penguin garden over the years but for longevity and display, *Prostanthera phyllicifolia* cannot be beaten. Elliot & Jones, in their encyclopaedia, say that flower colour can range from white through lilac to bluish; my plants, both cutting-struck, have flowers that are between lilac and heliotrope – using the colour chart from Kew Gardens. And the plant is most generous; every year, the lush green foliage is submerged behind a wall of heliotrope. My older plant of *Prostanthera phyllicifolia* is above the start of the driveway in poor cherty soil and has a spread of around 2 m and is about 1.5 m tall. The first path into the garden went in front of this mint-bush and I had to prune the bush back to keep the track open so the plant took on the look of a hedge. I now cannot climb the steps that start the path; consequentially that pathway has disappeared. At the same time as the mass of purple appears, a neighbourly pink *Calytrix tetragona* flowers, making a wonderful display.

Prostanthera phyllicifolia is easily propagated from cuttings, so I have another specimen in a sheltered, shaded spot next to the house. It hasn't grown as well, so in Penguin a sunny well-drained position is the better fit.

The common name for this species given in Elliott & Jones (and in the older *Collins Field Guide to the Wild Flowers of South-East Australia* by Jean Galbraith, 1977) is Spiked Mintbush, a rather unfortunate name for such a pretty plant – I've never been spiked when I grab a handful. The species botanical name looks like a mixture of Ancient Greek and Latin, meaning 'leaf (*phyll-*) that resembles a leaf (*-folia*)' but Ferdinand Mueller, in naming the species, thought the leaves resembled those from the genus *Phyllica*, a member of the family Rhamnaceae from the South Africa area ('phyllica' means copious foliage). The name for the genus, *Prostanthera*, was generated by Jacques Julien Houttou de Labillardière when he was describing a plant he collected in Van Diemen's Land, *Prostanthera lasianthos*. He was referring to an appendage ('prosthece') on the anthers ("anthera").

That makes *Prostanthera lasianthos* the type species for the genus, being the first species described and named. Years ago, the leader of the Prostanthera and Westringia Study Group was putting together a living collection of plants gathered from the areas where type specimens had been collected. I thought it would be an interesting project, so I sought the help of Kay Geeves and we spent a pleasant weekend hunting in her area for cuttings; Robert Brown had collected material of what he later named *Westringia brevifolia* in the same area. When I visited the study group leader (I forget his name) at his home near Wollongong NSW, the back yard seemed filled with pots of plants for the project. He had negotiated space in the nearby Grevillea Park for planting out. He dropped out as study group leader soon after, so I wonder what happened to the collection.

The Fred Rogers Seminar organised by the Yarra Yarra group of the Victorian Society for 2020 is to study Mint Bushes and Allied Genera and the main reference for the seminar is to be *Cradle of Incense*, written by George Althofer in 1978. Elliott & Jones have good descriptions of *Prostanthera* and *Westringia* species in volumes 8 and 9 respectively but for clear identification of these popular garden plants, we need a good Australia-wide key. It is a major loss that the *Flora of Australia* project seems to have stopped halfway through – or some people need to take on writing a book along the lines of *The Grevillea Book*, *Melaleuca*, *Verticordia*, *Eremophila* (the old family Myoporaceae), *Australian Rushes* (Restionaceae) or *Banksias*.^o

Calendar for 2019

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.

March	11	Wednesday	Hobart	AGM and General Meeting
March	17	Tuesday	Northern/North West	General Meeting
March	19	Thursday	North West	Propagation
March	24	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
March	28	Saturday	All members	APST Inc AGM
March	28	Saturday	Council	Meeting
April	1	Wednesday	Hobart	KDM Excursion
April	4	Saturday	Hobart/ Northern	Plants Sale Day
April	4	Saturday	North West	Ecofest
April	8	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
April	21	Tuesday	Northern/North West	General Meeting
April	23	Thursday	North West	Propagation
April	26	Sunday	North West	Plants Sale Day
April	28	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
May	2	Saturday	Northern	Propagation
May	6	Wednesday	Hobart	KDM
May	13	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
May	19	Tuesday	Northern/North West	General Meeting
May	21	Thursday	North West	Propagation
May	26	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
June	3	Wednesday	Hobart	KDM
June	6	Saturday	Northern	Propagation
June	16	Tuesday	Northern/North West	General Meeting
June	18	Thursday	North West	Propagation
June	23	Tuesday	Northern	Working Bee HFNG
July	1	Wednesday	Hobart	KMD
July	8	Wednesday	Hobart	General Meeting
July	14	Tuesday	Northern	General Meeting

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)

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS SOCIETY TASMANIA INC. (APST)

ABN 64 482 394 473

APPLICATION FORM - NEW MEMBERSHIP

*Mark/tick box if you want contact details kept private

**1. My/our details - please print**

TITLE		FIRST		Last Name	
TITLE		FIRST		Last Name	
ADDRESS *					
SUBURB				Post Code	
PHONE *				MOBILE *	
EMAIL *					

2. My annual payment details – please tick agreement box

Membership type	\$ per annum	No. / select	\$ Total
Individual or Organisation	40.00		
Individual concession - pension; healthcare card; DVA, student	37.00		
Household – each additional adult	9.00		
Household – each additional child under 18	1.00		
Overseas – Individual or Organisation	55.00		
<i>Australian Plants Journal - quarterly</i>	14.00		
Total subscription amount			

I agree to being a member in accordance with the APST Constitution and the Associations Incorporation Act 1964.

My name and contact details will be listed on the APST register of members.

As a member I will not act in any way that is contrary to APST's objectives or bring APST into disrepute.

PLEASE SIGN: _____

DATE: _____ / _____ /20

3. My payment method – please mark/tick one

EFT	Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.	BSB: 037015	AC: 194644
	When online use your LAST NAME as the REFERENCE	Please record your transaction receipt number here:	
Cheque	Australian Plants Society Tasmania Inc.		

4. Ways to join – complete this form and return to:

@ email	membership@apstas.org.au
OR	
✉ mail	Treasurer, APSTInc. PO Box 1205, Gravelly Beach, Tasmania 7276

5. To help us plan a great membership experience, please complete the following:

1. What would you like to gain from your membership?	
2. Why did you join?	
3. How did you hear about us?	

Date entered into database:

Date confirmed by Council:

June 2019



Red-Flowering Gum And The Effect Of Light

Dick Burns

The red-flowering gums, *Corymbia ficifolia*, are blooming late this year (2020) in the North West.

Apparently a lot of what was grown years ago was a hybrid between *C. ficifolia* and the white-flowered *Corymbia calophylla*, resulting in many specimens having washed-out or dirty pink flowers (like the one that grew in my garden). But the trees that were planted to jazz up the last part of the Penguin bypass all fit the description of *Corymbia ficifolia*.

When the Ulverstone and Penguin Councils merged, the Central Coast Council logo was of a line drawing of this species. But in recent years that pleasing logo was replaced by a forgettable one (I cannot recall what it represents). Soon after, the avenue of red-flowering gums lining the entrance to central Ulverstone was dug up (they had suffered from too many council prunings but still flowered well each year).

As I turn off the bypass onto Mission Hill, heading home, I am surrounded by masses of red and orange; and as the flowering progresses the pavement turns red and orange from the fallen stamens. And when the sun shines, I'm sure the flowers glow, particularly the orange ones. I cannot find any reference to this phenomenon being applied to flowers, but it is an effect that we see in yellow and green safety vests. Part of sunshine, invisible to us, is ultra-violet (UV) light and when it shines on some chemicals, the UV light is converted to light that is visible. This phenomenon is called FLUORESCENCE. It is used in laundry detergents – old TV advertisements talked of your sheets being 'whiter than white' because they added a chemical that converted UV light to visible white light so the sheets did glow a stronger white. I'm afraid

(continued on page 27)

inala nature museum & jurassic gardens



5 acre garden with 500 species planted in family groups demonstrating Gondwanan floristic links. Large representation of Tasmanian endemics and rare species. All plants labelled. Wheelchair friendly path winds through the garden. An outstanding collection of shells, fossils and minerals in the Nature Museum. Accommodation also available.

Entry fees apply.

Open daily 10-4 or by appointment
320 Cloudy Bay Rd, South Bruny Island
03 6293 1217 www.inalanaturetours.com.au



Northern Group Annual Report – 2019

(Continued from page 14)

guided trip to the grasslands restoration at Forico's Surrey Hills and having NW member, Don Abblitt, as a guide on the Arthur River-west coast excursion where he helped us find the distinct flora of this region. Member Ian Thomas' contributions to our excursions has also been appreciated adding new insight with his paleoecology, geology and aboriginal history knowledge.

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. Although it is gradually becoming better known to the Launceston community with even a wedding planned to be held there in 2020, more needs to be done to promote this 'special place' showing how Tasmanian native plants can create a delightful urban garden. Monthly maintenance sessions are always pleasant gatherings with convivial discussion.

The Northern Group Newsletters published quarterly on www.apstas.org website, are well worth another read and continue to be an excellent way of promoting our Group. Under Kay Pallett's outstanding editorship, the newsletter impresses and informs potential new members about our activities and encourages them to join. In summarising the educational and entertaining talks by guest speakers or members, our activities at the nursery including plant sales, our native garden or out in the field, the newsletter puts on public view that we are an active and involved society. Kay also dependably submits a précis of each newsletter for the quarterly issue of *Eucryphia*.

Karen Manning continued to be a most efficient Webmaster. APST Northern Group website information was promptly updated and she has provided valuable insights into needed improvements. These need to be implemented during 2020.

NG Facebook page was established in late 2018 and we now have over a hundred members, with some quite actively posting beautiful native plant photos. Margaret Hosford posted splendid photos of our stage installation at Blooming Tasmania to attract visitors. Social media enables us to promote our plant sales and there are enquiries as to plant identification to which Mark Wapstra often gives prompt and expert replies. However, more work needs to be done in 2020 to promote the Northern Group via social media to appeal to the younger demographic.

Early in 2019, Sharon Percy arranged for NG to be further educated! She organised for a St John Ambulance instructor to teach our members some essential first aid course procedures which may be particularly useful during excursions.

One stated objective in our constitution is 'to make ourselves available as a resource group for educationists and the government and to co-operate with other bodies with similar aims'.

During the year we were approached by two organisations to assist with projects teaching adults and younger students about native plants. Sharon and Janet gave their time and skills to assist Youth Futures at Launceston Community Gardens with propagation and nursery techniques but a High School session involving propagation and planting skills for students was postponed till 2020. In February 2020 we plan to be partnering with The Under-storey Network and Australian Conservation Volunteers in conducting propagation sessions for members of the public at a Bushfire Recovery Workshop.

(continued at bottom of next page)

Red-Flowering Gum And The Effect Of Light

(Continued from page 24)

the old science teacher is emerging once more: when I was teaching about light, if the school had a room that I could darken properly, I'd bring out a UV lamp – the students' white shirts would glow, along with their teeth, and dandruff.

There are other allied phenomena to do with light that could be mentioned here. When sunlight shines on some particular surfaces, dependent on the angle of view, we see different colours: butterfly wings and some bird feathers do this. It is IRIDESCENCE; examples we encounter every day are soap bubbles or oil slicks; opals and CDs are iridescent. I cannot think of an Australian plant that displays iridescence, but some begonia leaves have it, along with some fern fronds.

A body that emits light, not as a result of being heated, is LUMINESCENT. Some fungi emit light and we see it in glow worms and fireflies. Creatures that live in the ocean depths generate luminescence in body parts and small invertebrates living close to the surface will luminesce when agitated: I've seen this in breaking waves at Coles Bay and at sea when dolphins or seals follow the boat at night.

Here's where my old-school learning comes out – in the *teeth-grating use of 'less' in sentences when the correct word is 'fewer'* category. My gripe in this instance is to do with the choice of word in describing how a substance transmits light. Everyone will agree that if a substance blocks light transmission, it is 'opaque' and if it allows light to pass through so that what is on the other side is clearly seen, the substance is 'transparent' or 'clear'; examples are normal window glass and cellophane. When light is transmitted but the objects on the other side are not clearly seen, as with tissue paper or bathroom glass, the substance is 'translucent'. My gripe is: sometimes, 'clear' is used in place of 'colourless'. Red cellophane is transparent or clear, but not colourless. Thus endeth the rant!

Does anyone know of another flower that is 'whiter than white' or more orange than orange? ☺

28th March 2020

The next APST Inc event will be the Annual General Meeting at the Arboretum on the North West Coast.

Set aside some time around the end of March to attend this,
to check out the Arboretum,
see what's available in the North West Group nursery
and to spend some time in the lovely
North West Coast.

Our collection of beautiful plant books and other documents is in good order thanks to Janet. However, she wishes the Group to consider the future of our book collection as it was far less used in 2019 as members turn to information readily available via home computers.

As a backup to electronic storage, Janet also compiles a hard copy set of our newsletters as they contain so much information about the history of Northern Group. ☺

News from the Groups

Northern Group

Kay Pallett

Northern group finished 2019 with the Members' Get-together, an excursion to the West coast and the Christmas dinner - all of which were successful with the Get-together being exceptionally well attended. The excursions to St Helens Point, Mariposa Beach, Winifred Curtis Reserve and the nearby garden visit to Paul Frater's place were most informative with much of interest to see such as *Calystegia soldanella* and *Lotus australis*, both on the threatened species list and found at Mariposa Beach. There was a diversity of plants but on the East coast sadly, the dry environment saw plants 'surviving' not flourishing. On Sunday members drove to a property near Avoca and were impressed with the richness of plants seen there. Roy Skabo explained the interesting structure of *Austrostipa stiposa* one of the many plants photographed in this piece of remnant bushland.

The December West Coast excursion organised by Roy Skabo and led by Don Abblitt visited rainforest, noting ferns such as *Hypolepsis distans*. In heathlands there were orchids such as *Thelymitra aristata* while in the harsher coastal environment *Calytrix tetragyna*, *Disphyma crassifolia*, *Carpobrotus rossii*, *Leucophyta brownii* plus the rare *Veronica novae-hollandiae* were some of the plants viewed. Out of the way places such as Temma and the Road to Nowhere turned up *Caledonia dilatata* and the endemic, *Nablonium calyceroides*. So many species were photographed: *Actinotus bellidioides*, *Teloepa truncata* and the final delight a 'field' of *Isophysis tasmanica*. A bonus for members on this excursion was to hear a little from Ian Thomas about aboriginal artefacts found in the area. The Get-together and the West coast excursion provided the opportunity to be out in the field seeing species in their habitat, the epitome of our society, while the Christmas dinner provided the opportunity to enjoy an evening of good food and good company including guests Sib and Keith Corbett - a fitting way to celebrate a year where Northern members engaged in a great range of activities. The first 2020 activity was an excursion to February Plains. Fourteen people walked along a gently ascending, approximately 3 km track to the Basil Steers Hut. One of the first plants seen in full bloom was *Stackhousia monogyne*. Higher up there were *Stylidium graminifolium* and *Hibbertia procumbens* flourishing in an open disturbed area while in the wet sclerophyll forest *Leptocophylla parvifolia* impressed with its bright red fruit. After lunch at the hut, excursioners enjoyed the opportunity to explore the open alpine plain where the cushion plant *Dracophyllum minimum* was in flower as were the brilliant blue sky-lily, *Herpolirion novae-zealandiae* and the iris, *Diplarrrena latifolia*. There were also several daisy and orchid species noted on the day which was both successful and rewarding thanks to Roy Skabo's leadership. The AGM in February marked the beginning of Peter Dowde's term as president and the meeting thanked Louise Skabo for her admirable service over the past two years. All other office holders retained their positions. However, Louise is to fill in as business secretary (previously held by Peter) until another volunteer is found. The position of vice president is also waiting to be filled. Much business was covered as the AGM was followed by the first General Meeting for the year. Reports had been circulated via email so that most were promptly accepted. The annual nursery report noted sales of approximately 2,500 plants. There was a successful effort to increase the diversity and size of the plant stock, education sessions for community groups etc. Janet Hallam, nursery manager, noted that success relies on the contributions of many members and thanked all who contributed throughout 2019. Both Rosemary Verbeeten's clear and comprehensive finance reports were accepted as was the report from Jill Clark. Jill's position is that of 'membership liaison officer' as distinct from

'membership officer' thanks to Louise's idea to not only acquire but keep new members. Jill makes contact with all new members, sends relevant information and reminders of our activities. The report showed that last year the membership increased by 25, a pleasing result. The Tasmanian Native Garden report commended the small dedicated group who regularly attend the working bees but also spoke of the need for more members to share the tasks so that the garden continues to showcase our native plants. Other items included the list of guest speakers (found at www.apstasnorth.org). Angus Stewart is the first of a diverse and interesting selection put together by a most efficient Programme Committee. It was decided that the Autumn plants sale will be held on April 4. We were also reminded of the excellent books in our library in Max Fry Hall. These are available for borrowing

North West Group

M. Slattery

North Westers had an enjoyable December gathering in Penguin, surveying the grounds of the home of Drew Thomas.

In the hidden creek bed was found an old 'apple cave' - a storage place for apples prior to the days of refrigeration. The house garden has been recently planted, and it will be interesting to have a look at the progress in two or three years.

2020 began with the AGM, and John Tabor has stepped to the fore again as President.

The group is participating this year in the 'Coast to Canyon' Ecofest. This Festival aims to encourage people to find out more about how to live sustainably and how to reduce their ecological footprint. Their aim is that every person leaves having learnt something about the environment or a tip about how to tread more lightly on the earth. We will be presenting a series of talks from different members of the group.

The propagation team is gearing up for the plants sale on April 26th, assuming there will be some plants left after the Society AGM at the end of March at the Arboretum.

We are having more outings on the programme this year. We had a visit to the Forth Valley Native Nursery last month (owned by Shaks Johnson), and John Tabor will lead us to Detention Falls to see *Prionotes cerinthoides* in March. [⊙]

by members. 2020 promises to be another busy and rewarding year! [⊙]

(Continued from page 5)

Strategic Planning Report

(Continued from page 5)

This year we will continue the review of the website, which comes under the Technology priority area. We are having a closer look at, and maybe a rewrite, of the Conservation priority area as well as Education & Partnerships.

For reference the Strategic Plan is on the members only section of the website.

The current sub-committee members are:

Mark Geeves (Hobart), Janet Hallam (North), Margaret Killen (Coordinator), Joy McIntosh (North West), Julie Nermut (North), Roy Skabo (North) and Drew Thomas (North West).

Margaret Killen
0409 430 665 [⊙]

Some Collected Thoughts From Long Ago

M.Slattery

Trawling through my many collected papers, with the aim of discarding rubbish, (this did not happen) I found some interesting snippets.

From an article by J.W. Wrigley:

‘...it is incumbent on all members of the Society for Growing Australian Plants (formerly SGAP, currently APST –Ed) ...to share their knowledge so that correct selections can be made (by gardeners and landscapers). Most groups of SGAP have a plant-recording officer, with the object of recording the performance of plants in their region. The importance of this function cannot be overstressed.

Also

‘There is no better way to present our native flora than in the urban landscape.’

From an article by H. Gulline:

‘I think we in Tasmania do not realise how lucky we are with our alpine flora, and probably the rest of the Australian people do not realise just what an absolute wealth we have here of alpine flora. If we define the true alpine area as that part of the country in which the warmest summer month does not rise above 10 degrees C. then about ten per cent of Tasmania falls into this category, but only one percent of the whole of Australia. So we are one hundred times richer in alpine area in Tasmania. Because of the isolation of these areas, a lot of the species found are endemic. We have over two hundred endemic plants, and well over half of those are true alpiners. Of the rest of the endemics, quite a lot come in to the sub-alpine category, and will creep up to all the alpine areas where there is sufficient shelter. The alpine areas not only have low summer day temperatures and cool summer nights, they do not have extremely cold winters. By continental standards, we have an oceanic rather than a continental climate.

The soils in Tasmania on our mountain tops are derived from three main rock types. There are the quartzites of the south west and west, the dolerites of the Central Plateau, and some granite mountains.

Most of the alpine areas have been extensively glaciated in the ice ages, consequently we have some very gravelly leached soils. There are some boggy areas where there has been moraine damming, and we have some peaty alpine moors. The peat is not as deep as in a lot of the mainland areas, consequently some of our plants like a very acid soil. Some do not. I found from experience that we tend to take the view (held until fairly recently) that all native plants need acid soil. Some of the alpine plants I have tried in acid soil very slowly turned purple and looked very sick. One of the things one can do is to use a lot of bluestone chips or blue-metal dust (pulverised dolerite) in our soil media. This seems to help with drainage and the necessary nutrients.’

I have more piles of papers to read. Fascinating how things evolve!! ☺

Group Programmes

Northern Group:

Below are links to: APST Northern Group website, programme page and newsletters
<http://apstasnorth.org/index.html> <http://apstasnorth.org/pages/program.html>
<http://apstasnorth.org/pages/newsletters.html>

Mar	7	Saturday	1 - 3pm	Propagation	APST Nursery, WPC Riverside
Mar	17	Tuesday	7.30pm	General Meeting	Max Fry Hall, Guest speaker: Angus Stewart, <i>Saving threatened WA species by planting in Tasmania</i>
Mar	24	Tuesday	9.30 -11.30am	Working Bee	Heritage Forest Native Garden, Mowbray
April	4	Saturday	10 - 2pm	Autumn Plants Sale	Max Fry Hall, Trevallyn
April	21	Tuesday	7.30pm	AGM & General Meeting	Max Fry Hall, Guest speaker: Tanya Bailey, <i>Eucalypts</i>
April	28	Tuesday	9.30 -11.30am	Working Bee	Heritage Forest Native Garden, Mowbray
May	2	Saturday	1 - 3pm	Propagation	APST Nursery, WPC Riverside
May	19	Tuesday	7.30pm	General Meeting	Max Fry Hall, Guest speaker: Michael Noble, <i>Biosecurity</i>
May	26	Tuesday	9.30 -11.30am	Working Bee	Heritage Forest Native Garden, Mowbray
June	6	Saturday	1 - 3pm	Propagation	APST Nursery, WPC Riverside
June	16	Tuesday	7.30pm	General Meeting	Max Fry Hall, Guest speaker: Amanda Walker, <i>Maatsuyker Island</i>
June	23	Tuesday	9.30 -11.30am	Working Bee	Heritage Forest Native Garden, Mowbray

North West Group:

Meeting venue: St Paul's Hall, Church St., East Devonport

Mar	17	Tuesday		General meeting	
Mar	19	Thursday		Propagation	at the Arboretum
Mar	28	Saturday		APST AGM then Council Meeting, 11am	at the Arboretum
April	4	Saturday		Ecofest, Ulverstone	
April	21	Tuesday		General meeting	
April	23	Thursday		Propagation	at the Arboretum
Apr	26	Sunday		Plants Sale, Arboretum	
May	19	Tuesday		General meeting	
May	21	Thursday		Propagation	at the Arboretum
June	16	Tuesday		General meeting	
June	18	Thursday		Propagation	at the Arboretum

Hobart Group:

Hobart Group meetings - Kingston Primary School library, (KPS), 7.30 pm;

Kingborough Day meetings - Centacare Rooms, Balmoral Rd, Kingston Beach, 2 pm;

Hobart Group propagation - in the Group's Nursery at the rear of KPS 1.30pm.

Mar	7	Saturday	1.30pm	Propagation	at HG Nursery, KPS
Mar	11	Wednesday	7.30pm	AGM and General Meeting	
April	4	Saturday		Plants Sale day,	KPS.

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	6293 1113	Hobart Councillor	Sib Corbett	6239 1688
Imdte Past President	Margaret Killen	6327 1047	Hobart Councillor	Keith Corbett	6239 1688
Vice-President	Dick Burns	6437 2474	Hobart Councillor	David Boyer	6293 1113
Secretary	Mary Slattery	0402784086	Northern Councillor	Louise Skabo	0467199602
Treasurer	Rosemary Verbeeten	6394 4600	Northern Councillor	Roy Pallet	0438392041
North West Councillor	Drew Thomas	64371802	North West Councillor	Riitta Boevink	6428 6909

GROUPS

Hobart Group

President	Sib Corbett	6239 1688
Secretary	Christine Corbett	6239 1904
Treasurer	Jenny Boyer	6293 1113
Contact Officer	Bruce Champion	6294 6970

Meeting place/time:
General meetings:

Kingston Primary School Library

Second Wednesday of the month 7.30pm

except January, June, July and August.

For winter meetings, www.apstas.org.au/calendar

Kingborough Day Meetings:

2pm Centacare Units Meeting Room, turn left off Balmoral Rd. Kingston.

Northern Group

President	Peter Dowde	63317761
Secretary	Louise Skabo	6334 6787
Treasurer	Rosemary Verbeeten	6394 4600
Eucryphia Liaison	Kay Pallett	0400097025

Postal address: 45 Osborne Avenue,
Trevallyn, Tas. 7250

Email: apstasnorth@gmail.com

Meeting place /time:

Max Fry Hall, Gorge Rd, Trevallyn 7.30 pm

Third Tuesday of the month (except January).

Website: www.apstasnorth.org

North West Group

President	John Tabor	6428 6512
Vice-President	Joy McIntosh	6426 2657
Secretary	Drew Thomas	6437 1802
Treasurer	John Boevink	6428 6909
Eucryphia Liaison	Mary Slattery	0402784086

Postal address: PO Box 68,
Port Sorell, Tas 7307

Email: apstnorthwest@gmail.com

Meeting place/time:

St Pauls Church Hall, Church St, East Devonport

7.30 pm, Third Tuesday of each month (except January, January, July and December)



Australian Plants Society Victoria Inc

Sat 24 & Sun 25
October 2020

Hosted by Australian Plants Society Yarra Yarra Inc



Saturday 24 October

Eltham Community & Reception Centre,
801 Main Rd Eltham, Victoria 3095

Presentations by experts from NSW, WA & Victoria on the identification, propagation and cultivation of Mint Bushes and Allied Genera Plants (Westringia, Hemiandra, Dasymalla etc).

Evening Dinner with Guest Speaker

Plant Sales, Book Stall & Displays



Sunday 25 October

Garden Visits in the local area to Gardens growing a wide variety of native plants including Mint Bush and Allied Genera.



For expressions of interest:

Email: fjcrogersseminar2020@gmail.com

Mobile: Miriam 0409 600 644

Web: apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar-2020/

Images: Clockwise Front Page - *Dasymalla terminalis* [Barb Pye], *Hemiandra linearis* [Ben Eaton], *Prastanthera cincolifera* [Ruth Pelsson] *Westringia eremicola*, *Prastanthera serpyllifolia* ssp *microphylla* & *Prastanthera arapianensis* [Ben Eaton], This page: *Newcastella interrupta* [Miriam Ford], *Westringia dampieri* [Jill Lulham], *Prastanthera aspalathoides* *Loxia Normal form* & *Prastanthera behriana* [Miriam Ford]



Lynne Mockridge and Robyn Reid botanising their way up Mt Bolton' See article page 28



Northern Group members at the start of the February Plains walk
See Northern Group report, page 28.