

**North West Group**

**Newsletter 462**

**October 2023**



**Secretary**

**Drew Thomas**

**0488 402 210**

[apstnorthwest@gmail.com](mailto:apstnorthwest@gmail.com)

**President**

**Riitta Boevink**

**0448 286 909**

[riittavink@gmail.com](mailto:riittavink@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor**

**Simon Van der veen**

[simmosays@hotmail.com](mailto:simmosays@hotmail.com)

Welcome to the October edition of the APSTNW newsletter.

The EXPO of EVERYTHING in Devonport at the beginning of the month was well received. See the full report by organiser Drew.

'Come and see my garden' is back this month, calendars are ready for pick up and the Spring Plant Sale Port Sorell is on this month Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> with volunteers needed for a successful day.

If you have any suggestions for additions to the newsletter or the plant group in general please share them with one of the committee, general members or myself, Simon.

## Monthly meeting:

The September meeting was held in the new location at the East Devonport Tennis club, 48 Wright Street East Devonport (see photo opposite for location). The club rooms are a good size for our group, has a kitchen, toilet facilities, room for the projector and all the flower displays. It should suit our needs well into the future.

Some ideas of community projects that the group might be able to contribute to were tabled and input is requested from our members as to which projects are worth investigating more and who would like to be involved.



**Plant table:** Big thank you to Riitta and Jan B. for the flower specimens write up as well as John T. and Ian H. for their colourful contributions.

SEPTEMBER PLANT TABLE HIGHLIGHTS 2023 by President Riitta B.

Last month Acacias dominated the plant collection, this month in our garden Hakeas stood out. I collected *Hakea bucculenta*, *cinerea*, *nitida*, *purpurea* and *dactyloides*. The beautiful pink flowering *Hakea bucculenta* (Red Poker) seems to do better in a grafted form, although all other Hakeas are quite happy on their own roots. *Hakea cinerea* (Ashy Hakea) has yellow flowers maturing to orange with stiff non prickly grey foliage. My favourite is *Hakea dactyloides* (Finger Hakea). It will grow to 4m, flowers for a very long time with long 'fingers' of white flowers.



I had one Acacia to show: the narrow leaved form of *Acacia alata*. The flowers are little pompoms on sticks. *Melaleuca micromera* from WA could be mistaken for an Acacia with small yellow flowers. It is a medium shrub with minute leaves and twisted branches. *Lasiopetalum schultzenii* resembles Thomasias, has largish soft leaves and at this time of year is loaded with hanging white flowers.

John T brought in an abundance of colour, mostly in pink shades. Four *Boronias*: *muellerii*, *heterophylla*, *mollis* and *clavata*. *B clavata* has pale yellow flowers, not as showy as some of the others, but is an attractive medium size upright shrub. John said the perfume of it wafts throughout the garden. He also had three *Olearias*: *teretifolia*, *lirata* (pink form), *phlogopappa* both pink and dark blue. The showpieces were *Lechenaultia biloba* in two shades of brilliant blue, light and dark.



Ian H, back from his long trip to WA, enjoys growing colourful annuals and perennials. He had *Diplarrena morea*, *Stackhousia monogyma*, *Arthropodium strictum*, *Coronidium scorpioides*, *Xerochrysum bracteatum*, *Rhodante chlorocephaloides*, and many more. Why they all have these long complicated names beats me, but botanists seem to love them. They are mostly from Western Australia, and may or may not have common names, perhaps known to locals. These small annuals are best grown from seed, but the seed can be tricky. Ian has been trialling different ways for smoke treatment to encourage germination.



## PROPAGATION AT THE ARBORETUM:

Thursday 10am start.

Small but hard working team did a great job as several of the regulars were away travelling. We are making extra effort to grow Tasmanian plants, but do have very wide range of plants from the mainland as well. A short list of Tasmanian species that were potted up includes: *Spyridium ulicinum*, *Leucophyta brownii*, *Clematis gentianoides*, *Epacris exerta* (a rare one), *Barbarea australis*, *Lotus austarlis*, *Olearia lirata*, *Acradenia Frankliniae*.



Our Spring sale will again take place as part of the Port Sorell Spring Fair on Sunday the 22nd of October, Port Sorell Primary School Pitcairn Street, Port Sorell. As the Fair is not just a flower show, we get a much wider range of audience than at our autumn sale at the Arboretum. It helps to introduce our group as well as promoting beautiful native plants. Our October propagation will be on Thursday 19th before the Sunday sale. Extra help will be welcome both on that Thursday to help us get ready, and at the Port Sorell event.

We regularly ran short of the one litre pots, as we sell most plants in the one litre pots and we do not get the pots back. A special request: PLEASE RETURN ONE LITRE POTS after you have planted your plants in the garden. President Riitta B.

This is a hands on session helping, learning all about growing native plants from cuttings. It's a BYO lunch/drinks affair at The Tasmanian Arboretum, 'usually' on the Thursday after the Tuesday meeting. If new please contact a committee member for latest information on dates and location.

**2023 Port Sorell**  
8th Annual  
**Spring Fair**  
A community groups project

**10am - 2pm**  
**SUNDAY 22 OCTOBER**  
Port Sorell Primary School  
Pitcairn Street  
PORT SORELL

Plants and Gardening ✿ Art & Craft  
Devonshire Teas ✿ Entertainment  
Face Painting ✿ Giftware  
Coffee ✿ Food

**Gold Coin Entry**

# Come and see my garden!

For this month's garden visit I went to Sheffield and caught up with long time member Clive B. Clive has been a member of the APST since 1992. His property can be divided up into four sections. The main area has been and still is a productive working farm of pasture. Within one section of this area was a stand of huge *Eucalyptus viminalis*. The other areas with native plants were around the house garden, a creek line and a new wind break.

Around the house Clive over many years has planted a mix of natives including *Acacia howittii* (Sticky wattle), *Olearia argophylla* (Musk), *Epacris longiflora*. Birds are well catered for with showy species like Grevillea Canberra Gem and Victoria, *Melaleuca linariifolia*, *Banksia marginata* and *ericifolia* looking wonderful. To finish off the house garden area are two huge *Grevilleas barklyana* that I think are the same species with two different leaf shapes.



On the edges of the frog filled creek Clive has planted some wonderful tall growing plants with some special surprises. Among the eclectic mix on one side of the creek is a 5 metre high *Bursaria spinosa*, *Acacia dealbata*, *A. melanoxylon* and for a surprise a Wollemi Pine. The other side of the creek has some *Euc. obliqua*, Snow gums, *Allocasuarina crassa* (Allo in Greek means “other”). The surprise on this side of the creek is a Huon pine which is doing well. To finish off is *E. camaldulensis* the River red gum. This species has the largest natural distribution of all the Eucalypts.

During the big storm of October 2022 Clive lost about 40 trees along his wind break that were blown over. The area has been cleaned and recently planted out by the local Land Care group. Species planted along the new double wind break line are *Acacia dealbata*, *A. melanoxylon* and *A. longifolia*, *Banksia marginata* and *Allocasuarina* species.

Thank you Clive for your contribution to the group over many, many years. Simon V.



## APST 2024 CALENDAR FINAL ORDERS and PICK UP NOW!!

CALENDAR CRUNCH TIME! Drew T.

I now have a good supply of Calendars – which are superb.

Easily the best cover I've seen. (see below)

So, time to do the hard thinking as end of year approaches. I've put aside copies for those who have ordered. Any stock for which we don't have commitments (i.e. your payment to the APST NW account, and email to me) will go to the Port Sorell Spring Fair, where last year they easily outsold hot cakes!

**Cost is \$17** each (you can order more than one)

It's a simple three step process to order.

### 1) Pay first.

Payment is preferably done directly to our bank account either electronically or in person at your bank or cash to the treasurer (Jan B) at the October meeting (correct change appreciated).

Details are:

Account name: **APSTNW**

BSB: **633000**

Account number: **152025870**

IMPORTANT Use your Surname and the word 'CALENDAR' as the payment reference.



### 2) Email our North West group secretary, Drew at

drew.thomas@iinet.net.au

with your full name and how many calendars you have **paid for** and the date of payment.

**3) Pick up** will be from now onwards either at the Tuesday night meetings, Thursday propagation sessions or at the Port Sorell Spring plant sale or by other arrangements.

**\*\*\*Again please make sure you use your Surname and the word 'CALENDAR' as your payment reference and order now to secure your copy.\*\*\***

Thanks for your support of the Society in Tasmania and the members who have put in lots of hard work to make this this wonderful calendar. **Did we mention to order NOW as stock is limited!!**

**If you have paid for a calendar they will be available to be picked up from the October meeting and the Spring Plant Sale.**

## EXPO of EVERYTHING, DEVONPORT 2<sup>nd</sup> September

### Write up by organiser Drew T.

Everything was there – community organisations taking a free opportunity to present themselves to the public.

Dancing, singing, Slipstream Circus – the lot!

And us. Riitta took up the opportunity to present from the stage area and did well against many distractions. That process is worth redesigning next year – though I'm ruling out singing and dancing.

We were on a different floor to the main area, but in the company of similar groups.

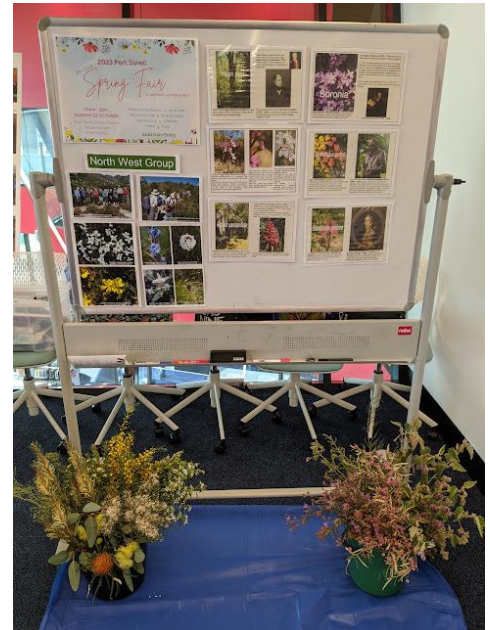
A great band of us through the day – thanks to everyone who chipped in time.

Great display – rolling slides backing us, flower samples, and a demonstration of taking cuttings. "Grow Local" walked out the door.

We had an excellent range and number of conversations, some with folk to whom the idea of natives was novel.

It was the first Expo, but I think an easily big enough success for Devonport Council to repeat. The price to us - \$0 is certainly right for the number of contacts we made.

I'll be recommending we go again.





## Upcoming 'not to be missed' events and dates:

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October:** Meeting 7:30pm start at **new venue** (see details above).  
48 Wright Street East Devonport.

**Thursday 19<sup>st</sup> October:** Propagation session at the Tasmanian Arboretum starting at 10:00am until 2:00pm (or shorter time if that suits you better) This will be the final preparations for the plant sale. Any help is greatly appreciated.

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October:** Port Sorell Spring Fair plant sale. Set up will be from 9am and pack up around 4pm or earlier if we sell out before then. Port Sorell Primary School Pitcairn Street. Come help out and while there, check out the rest of the stalls.

## Biennial Conference Melbourne 30th Sep 4th Oct 2024 - Gardens for Life

Early planning, the focus at this stage is still asking people to register interest. Go to <https://apsvic.org.au/anpsa-biennial-conference-2024/>

And have a look at what is being planned.

## Tid bits and left overs

**(or should that be recyclables):**

Greening Australia play a big role in revegetating landscapes across Australia with native plants. Here's a link to 8 of their favourite natives for boosting biodiversity.

<https://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/eight-australian-native-plants-for-boosting-biodiversity/>

<https://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/>

**Happy reading. Hooroo Simon 😊**