



## Hobart Group Newsletter November 2023



APST members at the Hobart Group hosted State Get Together dinner, Lufra Hotel photos by Bruce Champion

### Welcome to New Members

Greetings from the APST Hobart Group to new member Renae Boyd from West Hobart. We hope you can join us at our meetings, propagation sessions, walks and/or excursions. Please you make yourself known at our Plants Sale, Meetings or a propagation session, where, if you haven't already done so, you can select a plant for your garden or balcony/porch. Thank you for joining our Society.

### Event Calendar

(Carmen Walker, Prue Wright and the Program team)

**NOTE: FOR EXCURSIONS AND GARDEN VISITS, IF RAIN HAS BEEN OCCURRING UP TO 1 HOUR BEFORE THE EVENT IS DUE TO START, IT WILL BE CANCELLED.**

If in doubt, phone or email the Contact person (details of contact persons on page 2).

**2 December, Saturday, 1.30 to 5.00pm, Propagation, Kingston Primary School Nursery**, setting cuttings of quick growing plants for the April Plants Sale, sowing seeds in the bog propagators, potting up struck cuttings and of size seedlings, potting on small plants. Discarding old trees, help your selves; weeding as required; contact: Bruce Champion.

**3 December, Sunday, 12.00 noon, Hobart Group, End of year lunch**, The Tasmanian Bushland Gardens please bring lunch to share. The Gardens are 5602 Tasman Highway, Buckland, just 4km south of the Buckland village.

These gardens, in and around the site of a disused quarry, has been developed by enthusiastic volunteers, many of whom are APST members. It has many display gardens featuring native plants of Southeast Tasmania, walking tracks to explore, toilets, BBQs and the Trauti Shelter where we can lunch.

Come and join us, especially if you haven't been there before. A treat awaits. Contact: Jenny Boyer.

**6 December, Wednesday, 12.00 noon, Kingborough Day Meeting, Christmas lunch**, Legacy Park on the Domain, bring a plate to share and drinks for self, all members invited; contact: Carmen Walker.

**6 January, Saturday, 1.30 to 5.00pm, Propagation, Kingston Primary School Nursery**, setting more cuttings of quick growing plants for the April Plants Sale, potting up struck cuttings and of size seedlings, potting on small plants, weeding as required; contact: Bruce Champion.

**20 January, Saturday, Excursion to Central plateau**, for highland flowers. Details to follow; contact: Prue Wright.

**3 February, Saturday, 1.30 to 5.00pm, Propagation, Kingston Primary School Nursery**, setting more cuttings of floriferous plants for the October Plants Sale, potting up struck cuttings and of size seedlings, potting on small plants, weeding as required; contact: Bruce Champion.

**4 February, Saturday, Walk at the Needles, Gordon River Road**, for *Hewardia/Isophysis* flowers. Details to follow; contact: Christine Corbett.

**7 February, Wednesday, 2.00pm, Kingborough Day Meeting**, B Block meeting room, please bring flowers for a general discussion; contact: Carmen Walker.

**14 February, Wednesday, 7.00pm, Hobart Group, General Meeting**, Marcus Ragus, Landscaper and Horticulturist will give a presentation on landscaping, including using rocks in the garden. Committee meeting at 6.30pm all welcome; contact: Prue Wright.

**17 February, Saturday, Garden visit** - details to be advised later; contact: Prue Wright.

**2 March, Saturday, 1.30 to 5.00pm, Propagation, Kingston Primary School Nursery**, setting more cuttings of floriferous plants for the October Plants Sale, potting up struck cuttings and of size seedlings, potting on small plants, weeding as required; contact: Bruce Champion.

**3 March, Sunday, Walk** Details to follow; contact: Christine Corbett.

**6 March, Wednesday, 2.00pm, Kingborough Day Meeting**, garden visit, details later; contact: Carmen Walker.

**13 March, Wednesday, 7.00pm, Hobart Group, Annual General & General Meetings**, Election of new President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee members, followed by general meeting activity to be advised. Committee meeting at 6.30pm all welcome; contact: Prue Wright.

**16 March, Saturday, Excursion**, more details later.

**23 March, Saturday, APST Inc. AGM hosted by Hobart Group**, more details later.

#### **Contacts:**

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Bruce Champion: 0408 146 041 or [brchamp@ozemail.com.au](mailto:brchamp@ozemail.com.au) Prue Wright: 0438 410 192 or [apsthobartsec@gmail.com](mailto:apsthobartsec@gmail.com)  
Christine Corbett: 0447 299 334 or [corbettchristinem@gmail.com](mailto:corbettchristinem@gmail.com)

#### **Locations:**

**Kingborough Day Meeting**, B Block Kingston Library, entry via Church Street for parking.

**Kingston Primary School Library** is accessed via the school's carpark off Church Street. Park in the top (staff) carpark. Walk in through the wide main path up the steps to the sandwich board pointing through playground then through the playground to the library passage access door on the right. Enter and walk to the automatic library doors on the left to join our meeting.

**Kingston Primary School Nursery** Our nursery is at the rear of the school. Access is off Sherburd Street via Freeman Street off Church Street. Park up the driveway between the end of the school and the basketball courts and walk along the back of the school to the open gate in the tall colorbond fence.

## **The President's Bit**

**Jenny Boyer - President**

Firstly a big thank you to the Program Committee, many other helpers and the participants for making the Members Get Together on Tasman Peninsula such a great long weekend. The success was due to your efforts and the magic of the Peninsula. The maps, plant lists and the Whitey wood (*Acradenia frankliniae*) name tags were much appreciated. Lufra was a beautiful venue and the staff couldn't have been more accommodating. The staff loved the native flowers we put on the tables and wouldn't let Prue throw them out on Monday.

The Get Together was attended by 60 people from around the State, of whom about half were accommodated at Lufra Hotel and Apartments and others nearby. The program offered longer and shorter walks in areas expected to deliver the spring flora we hoped for as well as spectacular scenery. And we were not disappointed. The choices on offer included longer and shorter walks on the Crescent Bay Track including Mt Brown, Cape Raoul and Shipstern Bluff lookouts, Taranna bushland, Shelley Beach, the Coalmines Airshaft, Heathy Hill and Waterfall Bay and the Tessellated Pavement which kicked off the weekend on Friday afternoon. Friday night included a briefing about the weekend, a light meal and the start of the socialising that continued all weekend. In the absence of her Dad, Christine Corbett talked about the geology of the Peninsula at dinner on Saturday night explaining why we have sand on top of the

cliffs. About a third of the members stayed an extra night and visited the salt flats at Marion Bay on the way home, making the most of the long weekend in the north of the state.

## **Do You Care About The APST Hobart Group?**

**Jenny Boyer - President**

Well, it is time to demonstrate that by stepping up to the plate and taking some responsibility to ensure its continuation. We have the AGM coming up on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

All positions will be declared vacant before the election. I will not be standing for reelection as president, just completing some current projects if still outstanding. It is expected but not essential that the new President also represents us as an APST Councillor which involves four meetings a year, two of which are by zoom, one in Ross and the AGM, location of which rotates around the Groups. We also need a second Councillor.

The Program Committee needs extra people to ensure a diverse program including guest speakers, excursions, garden visits and longer walks to see our natives in their natural environment. The Program Committee also needs a coordinator. It is anticipated members would meet at most twice a year and canvas program ideas from members.

Our successful plant sales are dependent on enough propagators, pot uppers and of course weeders on the first Saturday each month. This is a great opportunity to learn from experienced members.

A busy diverse program is ideal if we can maintain it as members can choose what activities interest them and in which they have capacity to participate.

I'm happy to talk further about any of these roles and would be very, very happy if there is an indication that you may consider being more involved.

**Finally, I'm sure you would all join me in wishing Keith Corbett a speedy and complete recovery. He was instrumental in choosing the venue and the program for the Get Together but then missed (and was very much missed from) the event. Best wishes Keith.**

## **Kingborough Day Meeting**

**Carmen Walker**

The 1 November Kingborough Day Group meeting was attended by only 3 members. Pam brought some cuttings from her garden including *Astartea heteranthera*, *Calothamnus quadrifida*, *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, *Correa reflexa* var. *nummulariifolia*, *Eremophila glabra*, *Hypocalymma angustifolia*, *Kunzea ambigua*, *Leptospermums*, *Micrantha hexandrum*, *Philothea myoporoides*, *Pimeleas*, *Pomaderris pilifera* and *Veronica derwentiana*.

6 December we meet at Legacy Park at 12noon where there is a BBQ if people want to cook sausages. Please bring something to share and own drink.

## **Propagation**

**Nursery Coordinator**

The propagation session on 11 November was attended by 5 dedicated propagators and they had a ball potting up more than 11 punnets of cuttings including: *Brachycome multifida* var *dilatata*, *Correa decumbens*, *Eucryphia moorei*, *Grevillea* 'Bronze Rambler', *Grevillea sp.*, *Melaleuca hypericifolia*, *Melaleuca nesophila*, *Rhagodia candolleana*, *Sanantha crenulata*, *Tasmannia lanceolata* female and *Thryptomene saxicola*; potted on several trays of small plants and used at least two bins of soil (two were mixed). Christine filled a bin with weeds, mainly from the top level small garden which now looks beautiful, with the *Melaleuca gibbosa* in flower and quite leafy again after shedding most over winter, the *Dianella amoena* in flower on tall stems and the *Coronidium scorpioides* carefully weeded, thank you Christine.

The next propagation session will be on Saturday 2 December. Please bring some cuttings from your gardens along to be set in the mist propagator. We need to broaden our range of plants and especially need lots of prostrate plants. So, come and play with plants at our Kingston Primary School Nursery.



## Flowering Plants in My Garden: More Cultivar tea trees

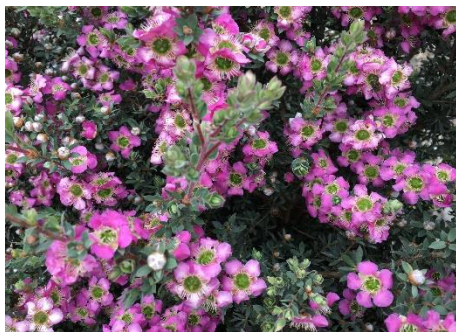
Sue Newman

I've written about cultivar tea trees before and I now have a new one to add to my list, *Leptospermum* 'seclusion' which is looking magnificent covered in pink, almost mauve flowers. It is a medium to tall shrub growing to about 2.5 m tall and 1.5 m wide so is useful as a screen plant. When I took the photo it was buzzing with bees. Another new one for me is a small plant called *Leptospermum* 'Piccolo' which has crimson flowers.



*Leptospermum* 'seclusion'

These cultivars have been developed at Bywong nursery in NSW by Peter and Jennifer Ollerenshaw but they are not restricted to tea trees, other species include grevilleas and correas etc.



*Leptospermum* 'Piccolo'

This is a very useful low growing ground cover. There are many in the native section at the Botanical Gardens. Its common name is Spreading Guinea Flower and it occurs in NSW, Victoria and Tasmania. It is no surprise that it needs moist, well-drained soil in full sun.

Look at their website for great photos and information.

On the subject of tea trees one of my established *Leptospermum grandiflorum* has died, possibly too dry, too wet last year, very disappointing.

As a complete contrast my *Hibbertia procumbens* is looking very happy with its large, bright yellow flowers.



*Hibbertia procumbens*

Photos by Sue Newman

## Dwarf form of *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* subsp?

Lorraine Pender



*Eucalyptus leucoxylon* subsp? small tree

For anyone looking to grow a small eucalyptus, this is one which is growing in very poor sandy soil in the Blackmans Bay area. The suggested total size is 5-7m high x 3-5m wide but as it is grown from seed this is just a guide. I have 2 in my garden planted side by side. One is growing straight up and is thin but think that is due to competition from a very large peppermint. The one pictured would be approximately 3m already at barely 3 years but has spread wide already so I might be looking at the 7m suggested. It flowers



*Eucalyptus leucoxylon* subsp? flowers

easily and has been flowering since autumn and this week the buzzing of bees is quite noticeable. Honeyeaters visited right through winter so the bird attraction is welcome and the bright red flowers stand out from the white smooth bark. It is frost tolerant and once established needs very little



water. It's has also stood up to the strong westerly winds that create havoc in other parts of my garden. It is marketed under a "Eucy Dwarf" label for anyone looking to purchase one.

## Notes from Minutes of the Wednesday, November 11th, 2023 APST Hobart Group General Meeting

Heather Clark

### General Business and Programme:

**State Get-together** – Held on the weekend at the Tasman Peninsula was regarded by everyone as fantastic. The Lufra Hotel staff were also fantastic. Members from all regions attended. Particular thanks were extended to the organising committee. Christine Corbett stepped in to fill the shoes of Keith Corbett who was suddenly unavailable. Christine explained the geology of the sites visited and led walks as necessary. Pleasant photographic and walking weather was enjoyed by everyone. All walk leaders were thanked.

**Christmas Lunch** – The venue has been moved from the Corbett's garden to the Tasmanian Bushland Garden in Buckland on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 12 for 12.30 p.m.

### Guest Speakers:

**Phil Sumner** – Phil shared photos and plant names of his and Anne McKenzie's extensive plantings in their garden which they landscaped after moving there four and a half years ago.

**Heather Webster** – Heather shared photos of her hill-top and wind-swept garden after building their new house and landscaping their garden two years ago.

**Heather Clark** – Shared photos and a brief explanation of Wingara Gully, Howden, which is cared for by Howden Landcare Group of which Heather is a member. There is a push to widen tracks, which would have a destructive effect to the Gully as a whole.

**Lorraine Pender** – Lorraine shared photos of her landscaped garden which is now five years ago. Unfortunately, several taller plants in her front garden were blown over in recent strong winds.

**Christine Corbett** – State Get-together, Tasman Peninsula – Christine shared photos of beautiful scenery being enjoyed by members on walks to Mt Brown, Crescent Beach, Remarkable Caves, Shipstern Bluff and Cape Raoul Lookout.

### State Get-together, Tasman Peninsula

(Bruce Champion)

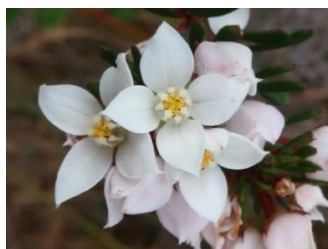
#### Taranna Walk:



*Acacia genistifolia* fruit



*Aotus ericoides*



*Boronia pilosa* subsp. *tasmanensis*



Echidna digging oval



*Eucalyptus amygdalina*



*Euryomyrtus ramosissima*



*Glossodia major*



*Gompholobium huegelii*

Sandra and I met Karen Keats at the Taranna Sports Oval on Friday afternoon and walked around the northern side of the oval on a sandy vehicle track past a swathe of tall *Aotus ericoides* until we came to the last access to the oval before thick shrubs. We continued eastward past *Boronia pilosa* subsp. *tasmanensis*, *Euryomyrtus ramosissima* swathe with a *Glossodia major* looking up at us. The rutted track rose gently up the hill and around a bend or two past more *Aotus* until we came to a ribboned junction where we walked southward beside large *Leptospermum lanigerum* and *Melaleuca squarrosa* bushes.





*Hibbertia procumbens*



*Hibbertia riparia*



*Leptospermum lanigerum*



*Leucopogon ericoides*



*Melaleuca squarrosa*



*Olearia phlogopappa*



*Patersonia fragilis* blue



*Patersonia fragilis* White

Dodging puddles, we arrived at an old borrow pit where the track headed up a hill. This sounded odd so we searched for a track westward and finally decided that some dead branches over a narrow pad must be what we were looking for. We made our way down this floriferous track past *Gompholobium huegelii*, *Hibbertia riparia*, *H. procumbens* and lots of other pretty flowers until we arrived at the eastern side of the oval. Karen led us clockwise around the oval where we found more *Patersonia fragilis* with blue and white flowers and some large *Eucalyptus amygdalina* heavy with flowers. Out on the oval we were amused by an Echidna digging up the turf out on the oval, a beautiful sight. Back at the cars, Bruce went back to the *Aotus* swathe to take a photo for his website [www.tasmanianflora.com](http://www.tasmanianflora.com) and found *Leucopogon ericoides*, *Olearia phlogopappa* and *Pimelea nivea* bushes growing back from the track behind some of the *Aotus*. This is a lovely walk, one that the Corbetts have taken members to on several earlier occasions, so we were very pleased to have met up with Karen to walk around it. Thank you Corbetts!

### Crescent Bay Walk:



*Allocasuarina monilifera*



*Aotus ericoides*



*Banksia marginata* new growth



*Bauera rubioides*



*Caladenia cracens*



*Calytrix tetragona*



*Carpobrotus rossii*



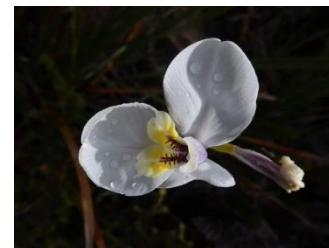
*Cassytha glabella*



*Correa reflexa* green flowers



*Daviesia ulicifolia*



*Diplarrena moraea*



*Euryomyrtus ramosissima*

Many members walked to Crescent Bay with patches of sunlight and glorious flowers as you can see.





*Gompholobium huegelii*



*Gonocarpus teucrioides*



*Hakea teretifolia*



*Hibbertia riparia*



*Lepidosperma sp. maybe*



*Leucopogon parviflorus*



Orange lichen on a rock



*Melaleuca squamea*



*Melaleuca squarrosa*



*Olearia phlogopappa*



*Ozothamnus reflexus pink*



*Ozothamnus reflexus unopened*



*Ozothamnus scutellifolius*



Pied oystercatcher



*Pimelea nivea*



*Pultenaea daphnoides*



*Samolus repens* maybe



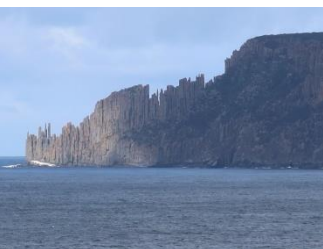
Sandra with Crescent Bay behind



Tasman Island



*Tetragona implexicoma*



Cape Raoul sunlit



cliffs near Remarkable Cave



dolerite intrusion on Mt Brown



sunlit sandstone ridge from Lufra Hotel dining room



## Cape Raoul Track to the Cape Raoul lookout



*Acacia verticillata*



Cape Raoul from lookout



*Cassinia aculeata*



*Chiloglottis triceratops* orchid



*Dianella tasmanica*



*Diplarrena moraea*



*Epacris tasmanica*



*Euryomyrtus ramosissima*



*Gonocarpus tetragynus* male flowers



*Goodenia ovata*



*Hakea lissosperma*



*Hibbertia riparia*



*Hypolepis rugosula* fronds



*Olearia argophylla*



*Olearia lirata*



*Ozothamnus ferrugineus*



*Pultenaea juniperina*



*Pimelea drupacea*



*Spyridium obovatum*



*Zieria arborescens*

The upgraded Cape Raoul Track is now a delight to walk from the spacious 'new' carpark. It is several years since I walked on this track during its redevelopment and while remembered some of the old track upgraded, much of it is new. So it was a real pleasure to see what the track workers had done. I will be interested to walk the rest of the track to Cape Raoul as this day we stopped at the Cape Raoul lookout, then returned to drive to the Coal Mines Historic Site for lunch then home to Hobart after a very floriferous weekend. If some of the species are incorrectly identified, please advise.



Shipstern Bluff from Cape Raoul lookout

Thank you to the Hobart Group State Get Together organising team. You did a wonderful job selecting the walks locations. The ones we walked were excellent. As were the accommodation and meals at Lufra.



## Article on Flowers in the Moat

Suz Brown

During our summer sojourn in the UK this year, we visited many beautiful gardens, large and small, probably the one with the most unusual location was that in the moat at the Tower of London.

In summer 2022, to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, the moat transformed from a barren, flat lawn into a haven for bees, butterflies, other pollinators and seed eating birds. First the flat ground in the moat was contoured into different sized and shaped mounds of engineered, weed free soil with a path winding through them. In the late spring some 20 million seeds, chosen to give a wide palette of colours and a succession of flowering throughout the summer were sown, however, it was so wet during the following month, that much of the sowing was simply washed away. Not to be thwarted, a different method was tried, using a sort of carpet with the seeds within it was used, the idea being that this would keep them in place, even in heavy rain. As all gardeners know, the weather is fickle and despite what weather forecasters tell you, always surprises. So, after all that torrential rain, the UK then experienced the hottest summer on record.



Tower Bridge behind *Achillea millefolium* & *Rudbeckia hirta*

We had organised a group of some 30 people to visit ‘Superbloom’, as it was called. The day booked, was forecast to be 40C (and it was), so we rescheduled to August. On that day, I was horrified to look down on the moat as we emerged from Tower Hill tube, to see what appeared to be a moat full of dead plants and we had brought all these eager friends with us! As it turned out, the ‘dead plants’ were a sea of many varied and wonderful seed heads waving above beautiful later flowering wild flowers snuggling underneath.



Following what was learned during summer 2022, work was carried out in the moat; micro climates in different areas of the moat affected what flourished where, the reflected and sustained warmth of the moat walls was a considerable factor. During March 2023 Shire horses, brought over from Henry VIII’s palace at Hampton Court, ploughed the ground ahead of 2023 summer’s bloom. The horses’ flare-like feathered hooves do not compact the soil as much as modern machines, allowing the seedlings from last year to survive. Many plants self-seeded, however not all, so the varieties were different in 2023 to 2022. Interesting that several species which were not numerous last year emerged this year, one such, *Gilia capitata*, unknown to me.

Landscape of different coloured cornflowers, poppies, yarrow, and masses of poppy seed heads

We visited this year in July with just one friend this time and the amazing sight of so many colourful wild flowers was breath-taking. So many glorious colours and delightful flowers, it was a bit bewildering to know where to look first. Of course, the sunflowers, *Helianthus*, immediately grab attention, their bright orange, red and yellow faces turning to the sunshine and the bright red common poppies, *Papaver rhoeas*, some already gone to seed, but lots more nodding their delicate heads. I was delighted to see delicate Corncockle, *Agrostemma githago*. I’ve always considered these as natives to UK, growing in the cornfields in profusion for centuries, however I have now read, that it was introduced from Europe by Iron Age farmers 2400 years ago. This would make it a naturalised plant, a plant that has been introduced to a particular area and thrived there. Determining if a plant is native or not is not as easy as you might think... and indeed when should we refer to it as a ‘native’?!



Cornflowers in many colours, Corncockle, Vipers bugloss, white & yellow daisies



Cornflower, *Centaurea cyanus*, 'Blue Boy' was chosen particularly to return the colour blue to the moat, which of course was filled with water until it was drained in the 1840s due to its awful stench.



A mass of *Coreopsis tinctoria*

Lots of old favourites were there: bright yellow Pot Marigold, *Calendular officinalis*, delicate pink *Cosmos bipinnatus*, sparkling white Oxeye Daisy, *Leucanthemum vulgare*; sprawling Mallow, *Malva* with its lilac coloured dark veined petals; the cheerful nodding yellow Common Toadflax, *Linaria vulgaris* and white Yarrow, *Achillea millefolium*, with its open petals covered with butterflies and bees. Many not so well know plants as well, (not known to me that is): pink and white everlasting daisies, *Rhodanthe cholorocephala*; Annual Baby's Breath, *Gypsophila elegans*; Crimson Flax, *Linum grandiflorum* and Bird's-Eyes, *Gilia tricolor*.

Many different plants have been selected to provide ideal conditions for a variety of pollinators, flat open flower heads, those with deep narrow pointed lobes, requiring insects with long tongues to visit them. The co-evolving of flowers and pollinators has certainly been taken into consideration with the planting, to ensure the widest possible range of flowers attracts the widest possible range of pollinators.

Wandering through this wonderful sea of colours, literally buzzing with life, so many butterflies, hover flies and bees, this truly is becoming and will continue to be a wonderfully bio-diverse habitat within the City of London. I think Historic Royal Palaces who instigated the project, landscape architects Grant Associates and Nigel Dunnett, horticulturalist and Professor of Planting Design and Urban Horticulture at University of Sheffield, are to be congratulated and applauded for coming up with such an ambitious and worthwhile project and seeing it through to its glorious conclusion. If you're ever in London between June and September go to see it for yourself, you won't be disappointed!



Landscape of a mass of coreopsis, with The Shard in the background and Suz



*Convolvulus* species, what a fantastic colour!

California Poppy with seed heads

Photos by John Brown

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E&OE