

Australian Plants Society

Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc (A0026204P)

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THE RUNNING POSTMAN

NEWSLETTER No. 120

March - April 2012

edited by David & Barb Pye

Note: *The logo and website address have changed. See why in the report on recent committee decisions (page 2). We hope that you like the new logo.*

Wednesday 28th March talk on **Little Creatures** by Margaret Holmes

At Dunvegan, Willows Historic Park, in Melton (Melway 337 C9)

Doors open at 7.30pm, Program commences at 8pm

Margaret is a breeder of stick insects and will demonstrate the life cycle of stick insects. Expect plenty of hands on experience with insects, giant millipedes, rainforest snails and other invertebrates. It should be a fun night.

28 March to 1 April: Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show (MIFGS)

Thanks to Cathy, we have an entrant in the hanging basket display. Free passes are available for anyone willing to assist in that area for a few hours. Please contact Cathy or download the form from your email of 7th March.

Wednesday 25th April - talk on **Ecology of the Brisbane Ranges** by Cathy Powers

At Dunvegan, Willows Historic Park, in Melton (Melway 337 C9)

Doors open at 7.30pm, Program commences at 8pm

We are all familiar with the excellent quality of Cathy's photography and are attracted by the flowers of the nearby Brisbane Ranges. Do not miss this evening, or the subsequent excursion to Anakie Gorge.

Sunday 29th April - Excursion to **Anakie Gorge, Brisbane Ranges**

Meet at 10am at Anakie Gorge Picnic area

Walk up Gorge & return for lunch at picnic area.

Butchers Road visit an option after lunch for the madly enthusuaistic.

Saturday 12th May - **APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh PLANT SALE**

Our annual fundraiser will be held at **Bacchus Marsh Uniting Church** in Gisborne Road.

Volunteers are required to assist in manning the Group's stall. If you are available, please let us know at the April meeting, or advise Cathy (5369 4302 or by email at apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com). Even an hour's help will give the 'all dayers' a break for coffee.

Hakea orders by members need to be made now, See details of species, etc inside

REPORT ON JANUARY MEETING

The annual potting up evening was held at the Pyes on a balmy evening in Bullengarook, where several hundred Hakea seedlings were potted up. After all the potting up was completed, members enjoyed a picnic or BBQ dinner including sunset over Mt Blackwood.



Hakea sericea

REPORT ON FEBRUARY MEETING - from Barb Pye

Phil Hempel gave a very entertaining talk on grafting plants. He used the whiteboard extensively to illustrate his techniques. The importance of choosing a rootstock which is compatible with your own soil and climatic conditions was emphasized, eg it is no use

using *Hakea salicifolia* as a rootstock for grafting if your climate is too dry to grow *H. salicifolia* well. Every step was explained clearly – in fact Phil made grafting seem really easy. Why don't we all have a go?

RECENT COMMITTEE DECISIONS

At our February meeting, the committee made a number of decisions that will affect our future.

As a consequent of the recent survey of members, (reported in January newsletter), it was decided to change our logo to *Kennedia prostrata*, the Running Postman. The new logo is a photo from Cathy Powers, and is used on the title page of this newsletter. Other consequences of the change in logo are the renaming of the newsletter to Running Postman, and the change in website address to runningpostman.org.au (from bulokebulletin.com).

It was agreed that we would hold a daytime meeting. The May meeting was selected and would take the form of a tour and planting of the Eucalyptus Arboretum. This would be on our usual meeting date.

One of our meetings would be held in Bacchus Marsh, but a suitable venue had not yet been found.

More garden visits & excursions would be included in the program. Expect some changes, eg a day meeting in May rather than a night meeting.

Program for 2010

The program for this year would include the following:

March	talk on little creatures by Margaret Holmes
April	talk on Ecology of the Brisbane Ranges by Cathy Powers Excursion to Anakie Gorge
May –	Plant Sale Eucalyptus arboretum visit and planting
June	talk on Hakeas by Royce Raleigh
July	NO MEETING
August	to be advised
September	Grand Display Table and Annual General Meeting Garden visit
October	to be advised
November	Visit to Ian Taylor garden & plant sale End of year Breakup

ANNUAL PLANT SALE & HAKEAS

Our annual plant sale will be held on Saturday 12th May at the Bacchus Marsh Uniting Church. The format will be similar to previously. As a consequence of the ban on Myrtaceae at APS functions, no Myrtaceous plants will be on sale, but otherwise, it is business as usual.

There will be plenty of Hakeas, but with many species different from previously. A list is given below. We have large nos of some species and a handful or less of others. Members get first choice, and please send your requests to Cathy at 5369 4302, or by email at apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com. These will be put aside for supply in early May or at the Plant Sale.

Volunteers will be required on the day, and members are asked to indicate their willingness at the April Meeting, or to contact Cathy as above.

archeoides	lasianthoides	oldfieldii
ceratophylla	lasiocarpha	pandanicarpa
constablei	lehmanniana	platysperma
dohertyi	lissocarpha	purpurea
francisiana	loranthifolia	scoparia
gilbertii	marginata	sericea
grammatophylla	minyma	stenophylla ssp stenophylla
hastata	multilineata	subsulcata
hookeriana	neurophylla	varia



Hakea neurophylla

APS BADGES

A number of Australian Plants Society badges have been purchased by the group for use by members. These badges may be ironed on or sown onto garments, and will be available at the next meeting.



APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh Committee

President	Barb Pye	5428 9369
Vice President	Jean Partridge	
Secretary	Ron Powers	5369 4302, apsmeltonbacchus@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lucille McCarthy	5428 9320
Committee	David Pye, Norris McCarthy, Ann Goetz	
