

ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS
ACACIA STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER No. 64
NOVEMBER 1991

Dear Members,

This is just a brief newsletter to let you know I have taken over from Marion Simon's as Acacia Study Group Leader. It is not a position I particularly sought, but one which I undertook rather than the alternative of having the group go into recess.

Unfortunately my involvement with acacias is based on enthusiasm rather than knowledge and I do not have the expertise which Marion contributed to the group. If you have particular problems the best I can do is to circulate them in the newsletter and hope some other member can contribute something to assist you.

I joined the Warrnambool group of S.G.A.P. in 1986, mainly to seek information about replacing trees on a property burned out in the 1983 "Ash Wednesday" bushfires. I tried a wide variety of trees and shrubs, a few around the house, but mostly in plantations with varying results. The soil is a heavy volcanic loam, with some banks of gravel. The southerly aspect and strong winds here in Western Victoria, really test the viability of young plantations as there is no shelter.

I joined the Acacia Study group about a year later and decided to TRY and grow every acacia indigenous to Victoria. From a definite project this has become a long term possibility. One problem is obtaining seed of some species.

This photo of myself, during preparation for the Warrnambool Group Flower Show in September, was taken by group member Cherree Densley, who has recently been elected Victorian S.G.A.P. president. The acacias shown include *A. paradoxa*, *A. howittii* and *A. longifolia*. Ten percent of the 367 species on show were acacias.



I propose to continue the group very much as Marion has run it. However if any member has ideas of things the group might do, please feel free to suggest them.

As Marion is still away I have not yet received the mailing list and mailing will be done on the last published list with copies available to new members when I receive the up dated list.

I hope to have a full newsletter available about late February 1992.

Could members who have had cheques returned or not paid their fees for 1991-92 please forward them by mid - February. I hope to have correspondence from you all soon.

Bruce Clark.

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* On behalf of all members of the Acacia Study Group I wish to express *
* our gratitude for her long service as group leader to Marion Simmonds *
* and wish her and John well in their, (retirement does not seem *
* the appropriate word) acacia hunting etc. *
* Thanks a lot Marion. *
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