

Liaison



Correa pulchella (minor)

Correa pulchella 'minor'
Painting by Kath Alcock

ASGAP

Correa Study Group

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**Newsletter No. 28
 December, 2003**

What's New

Survey results

Potted Collection

Cuttings

Correa Book

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**Please note that
 membership fees will rise to
 \$10.00
 from July 1, 2004**

From the Leader

Well, it's that time of year again. As I write this, school is just about finished for the year and planning is well underway for 2004. I will have a new Principal and that is always a new ball-game. We've been lucky so far with the ex-Principal being very accommodating and leaving us mostly alone to get on with the job. This made the workplace fairly comfortable and I hope it continues to be like that under the new boss.

The second half of the year has been a very busy time for me and I haven't been able to devote as much time to the Correa Study Group as I would like. First I was asked to join a writing team doing online programming for the new language Syllabus. This involved several trips to Sydney and many hours over a hot computer. Then I was approached by Heinemann Harcourt to help them with writing the new series of German textbooks. As they pay reasonably well, it was an offer I couldn't refuse. Again, this involved many hours over a hot computer but it's very satisfying work and something I've been wanting to do for many years. The project will be finished in late February so I hope to get back to the Correa book then.

Sarah passed the Selection Board interview and will be entering ADFA as an Aviation officer in the Navy in January. We all breathe a cumulative sigh of relief. It has been quite a process getting her this far. She completed First year Uni here in Armidale and should do quite well - results aren't out yet.

It will be quite a change for us being empty nesters. I've had a continuous period of 28 years of childcare - much too long! I'm quite looking forward to doing a Darby and Joan act for a change. The funny thing is that my eldest daughter has now moved to Gladstone so we finally travel to the tropics in winter, just as Sarah is about to leave home. She had always complained that we spend every winter travelling south to look at Correas and it would be great if I took up a passion for some rare tropical plant so we could head north instead.

The drought has been an off and on again affair and we've just had some good rains so I hope that's a sign of a wetter summer than the last one. It never fails however. It always rains just after I spend about 3 days dragging hoses around the garden and setting up sprinklers to keep plants alive. We had some late frosts which

killed all the developing buds in the orchard. Many plants were tipped and checked in their growth but I didn't lose anything.

A lot of the Tasmanian Correas which I replanted didn't survive the dry winter so I'll have to start again. Fortunately all the ones I lost are preserved in the potted collection so it's easy to get replacements. I will be taking cuttings from these to the ASGAP Conference in Launceston to accompany my talk on Tasmanian Correas. If you are going, it would be good to have another cuttings swap. Instructions for bringing cuttings are on page 9 in this newsletter. I am also publishing a list of what I have in the potted collection so if anyone would like cuttings, please let me know. I will have to be reimbursed for postage, however, as our coffers are fairly low.

The cuttings taken in the Grampians have nearly all struck. I have mist but not bottom heat so it's taken a while. Bob O'Neill lost all of his so I will be sending him struck cuttings of as many varieties as I can. I collected cultivars from several gardens as well and will gradually write up about them in future newsletters.

Thank you to all the members who returned copies of the survey. A report is included in this newsletter. It was interesting to note how regionalised our collections are. Many members had never heard of some of the plants listed in the survey. I'm always astounded to find a whole new batch of unknowns whenever I travel interstate. It just goes to show that there is a huge potential market for new Correas. We could be introducing new forms for years to come.

I am looking forward to attending the ASGAP Conference in January - my first in over 6 years. As usual, Study Groups are invited to put up a display. If anyone could help with this, I'd be very grateful. I shall bring posters and cuttings but it would be nice if someone could provide some potted Correas or any other items that might go well on the display table. After the Conference I am meeting up with Don to climb Frenchman's Cap. It's been over 30 years since I last went bushwalking in Tasmania and I'm really looking forward to it.

On a sad note, Jan Sked our ASGAP Study Group Co-ordinator is currently having treatment for Breast Cancer and can't attend the Conference. I wish her a speedy recovery and hope that she is back on deck really soon.

Cheers, *Maria*

New members

Welcome to the following new members who have joined since the beginning of July.

Geraldine Melican	Wangorn VIC
Kath Sykes	Hawthorn East VIC
Lorraine White	Bridgewater SA
Jan Simpson	Chifley ACT
Janice Jones	Wangaratta VIC
Toni Gurren	Paradise TAS
Douglas Down	Niddrie, VIC
Bruce Reineker	Casino, NSW

From the Members

Brian Lacy writes:

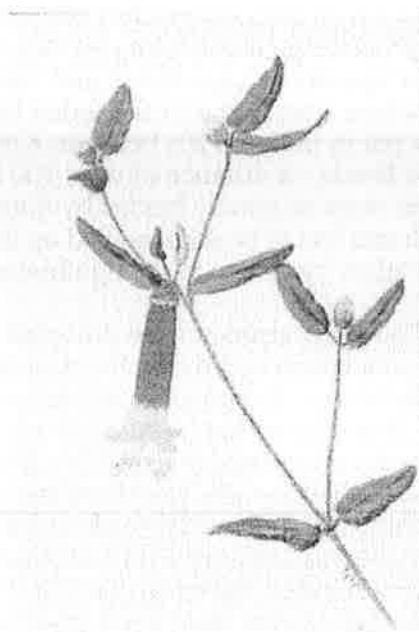
We have been at Dunkeld for 27 years and have a number of older *Correas* - some are ordinary seedling plants, which will gradually be replaced. We have a scoria mulch and can confirm that lots of seedlings come up in both scoria and blue metal. Last year I pruned a *C. pulchella* 'minor' hard as it had got open and woody and it now has bushed up beautifully - only a small plant - say 80 cm x 1m and approximately 22 years old. Another of this form would be 1 m x 1.5 m and 20 years old. (See painting on cover).

Our soil is a heavy volcanic loam, mostly well-drained soil on a sloping site and all Rutaceae plants do well here. I am looking to growing more good varieties of *Correa* as a lot of them can fit into small spaces around the garden.

I currently have growing:

- C. alba x pulchella*?
- C. aemula* pink
- C. backhouseana*
- C. backhouseana* 'dwarf'
- C. baeuerlenii* (1.5 x 3.5 m)
- C. alba var pannosa* 'Childers Cove pink'
- C. glabra*
- C. 'Mannii'*
- C. 'Marian's Marvel'* (2 m x 5 m)
- C. 'Pink Bells'*
- C. pulchella*
- C. pulchella* 'minor'
- C. pulchella* 'prostrate'
- C. reflexa* 'Mt Richmond' white
- C. reflexa* 'Wilkin' red
- C. reflexa* 'Anglesea' red
- C. reflexa* 'Grampians' various
- C. reflexa* 'Granny's Grave'

- C. reflexa* - prostrate
- C. decumbens* 'Redex'
- C. reflexa var speciosa* 'Pt Hicks'
- C. reflexa* 'Otways'
- C. reflexa* 'Gippsland Giant'
- C. pulchella* 'Firebird'
- C. pulchella* - upright white
- C. decumbens* 'Kangaroo Island'



Correa reflexa var reflexa
Anglesea, Vic
Painting by Kath Alcock

This is a wonderful collection, Brian, and I envy you your deep volcanic loam. I've got deep volcanic rocks. The scoria mulch seems to be an excellent medium for seedlings. I find that I get very few seedlings in a bark mulch but it could just be my place. It would be good to continue the discussion on this. Ed

Ivan Hammond writes:

As we have a new garden here in the making, we intend to purchase a representative of two of each *Correa* species, that is, if it is obtainable here as so far I have the feeling the range of *Correas* for sale in Tasmania is not as wide as on the mainland. I do some propagating, mainly with seeds and will hopefully try some *Correa* cuttings when I have some plants in the garden.

*That's a very good goal to set, Ivan, and I'm sure our members will help you out with cuttings. I think you're right in saying that the range of *Correas* for sale in Tasmania is not as great as on the mainland but then most of us have*

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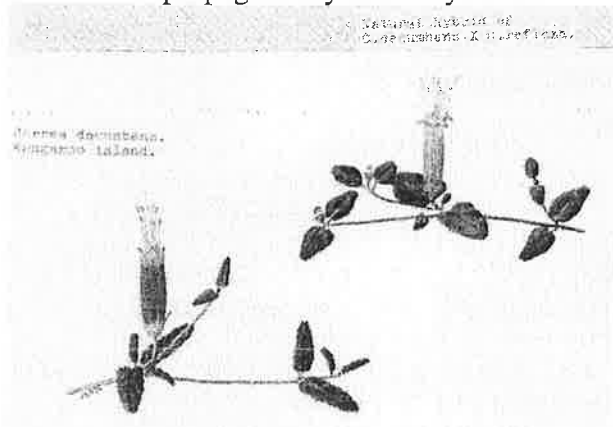
extended our collections through growing from cuttings ourselves as it is often hard to find the species for sale - most nurseries only stock a standard line of cultivars. You need to find an enthusiast grower for the unusual stuff. Ed

Ida Jackson writes:

We are involved with the Parks on Kangaroo Island and our group is currently engaged in clearing about 7 kms of 'old road' between Cape Borda Lighthouse and Harvey's Return, where stores used to be landed before a road was put in in the 1920s between Kingscote and Cape Borda - a distance of over 100 kms. The stores were originally landed by dinghy on the beach and had to be manhandled up the cliffs and then taken by trolley to the lighthouse.

Too many seamen were drowned in the process, so a winch and flying fox was installed to land the stores. Eventually, two sets of rails were put in and a capstan installed on top of the cliffs to pull the trolleys up the cliffs. The lighthouse keeper put in a road from the capstan to the lighthouse. This is the road we are trying to restore. It was surfaced with ironstone rubble, so when we clear away the leaf litter and understorey and strike laterite, we know we are on the right track. In some places, near Cape Borda, attempts were made to put in cobble stones to provide better traction for the horses.

Unfortunately, the echidnas have been busy digging for ants and often only a collection of loose stones is left. Near the Harvey's return end of the trail, there are populations of *Correa decumbens* and *Correa backhouseana* var *orbicularis* and being typical *Correas*, they have hybridised beautifully. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to propagate any of the hybrids.



Correa decumbens
Kangaroo Island
Natural hybrid of *C. decumbens* x *C. reflexa*
Painting by Kath Alcock

We have had good rains this winter although the previous year was very dry. Further west, last month, *Correa pulchella* was just coming into bloom. This is a very good form, bright red, almost scarlet, but oh so hard to propagate.

Yes, Ida, some of the *C. pulchella* varieties take a long time to strike and are fairly fussy in the garden too. We saw some marvelous colour forms on Kangaroo Island and a form near Cape Borda which was the most delicious apricot pink colour. My original cuttings didn't strike either. I wonder if anyone has been able to strike this form? Ida is always involved in the most interesting projects. It's a real treat to get a letter from her. She sent cuttings of the *C. decumbens* hybrid and the *C. pulchella* recently but none have struck to date. Here is another letter from Ida which came with the cuttings. Ed

We went out to Harvey's Return on Saturday to look for a new population of *Logania insularis* and I took the opportunity to collect *Correa* cutting material for you. Unfortunately I could not find any *C. decumbens*. It used to abound on what is now Harvey's Return camping ground.

It likes to grow in partial shade on the edge of the scrub and I am afraid that the increased traffic has been too much for it. 3 months ago there was plenty and I took cuttings which are now putting on growth so I am very hopeful for them. I am sending *C. pulchella* from the Return Rd, *C. backhouseana* var *orbicularis* x *C. decumbens* from the scrub just west of the camp and *C. backhouseana* var *orbicularis* which originated at Flour Cask Bay on the south coast of Kangaroo Island.

We are having a working bee on the Return Rd next Saturday and I will take the opportunity to look for *C. decumbens* then. I took cuttings from 2 separate plants of the hybrid. Unfortunately, with no flowers it was difficult to tell whether it really was the hybrid. I'm pretty sure that one was. It is a large shrub over a metre high, that I had noticed before. On the other I went by the position of the fruits. They looked as if the flowers could have stood straight up. *C. pulchella* was still flowering (in October) - a lovely bright clear red.

Thank you Ida. I look forward to striking them and growing them on. Ed

Brendon Stahl writes:

Thank you for your part in organising the Correa Crawl. It was my first opportunity to join a Correa Crawl and Maureen and I thoroughly enjoyed the whole weekend. The highlights were meeting such a lot of fellow Correa enthusiasts, the Grampians, the garden visits, the Little Desert and Saturday night at Neil Marriott's.

What a great weekend we had, Brendon. I think Saturday night at Neil's was just phenomenal. I have a few plants which I labelled Cuttings Swap because it was such a 'free for all'. It will be fun tracking down their owners. I will include a list in this newsletter. Please contact me if you know the origin of these plants so that I can add it to my records. Ed

Gill Muller writes:

I thought the Correa Crawl was great. John and I decided to spend Monday in the Grampians. We climbed to the Pinnacle and saw some beautiful stands of *Correa aemula*. My pictures weren't very good. I've now bought a camera like Werner's. We also saw more *C. aemula* next morning on the walks to Silverband Falls and the Balconies. The cloud had lifted and our views were beautiful.

*Ah yes, we all want a camera like Werner's! From memory, it's a Nikon Coolpix. His photos were totally stunning. I'm saving for one myself. My *C. aemula* cuttings didn't make it - not sure why. However, I have some wonderful plants of *C. aemula* from KI growing in the garden and they strike readily. It must be something about the Grampians habitat. I know that Neil always claimed the local *C. aemula* was tricky. Ed*

Dick Burns writes:

We have some wonderful forms here in Tassie and the best forms of *C. alba*, *C. reflexa* and *C. backhouseana* are now established in a new bed at the Tasmanian Arboretum near Devonport. We'll be visiting it on the last day of the Conference Tour (to Cradle Mt and the Wild West).

I shall bring along cuttings of all of those which I collected back in 1999. I won't be on the tour so will miss visiting the Arboretum. What a shame. Dick, you are going to have to write a report on this new bed and send some photos for a future newsletter. Ed

Jan Simpson writes:

I hope you have had some rain. We've had a little bit but nowhere enough. We're putting our rinse-water on the garden but haven't gone as far as putting soapy water down the toilet yet. We're busy trying to grow 2500 plants for Bushfire Recovery gardens but don't know if we'll have water for them over the summer. Doing 2,500 for Weed Swap as well. We do this 2 times a year @ 1250 each time split between the two green waste sites.

Nice to have you aboard again, Jan. The Canberra people are very busy trying to propagate replacement plants for the bushfire ravaged gardens. It would be nice to have a report Jan on the Correas that you are propagating and establishing. No doubt all that ash will help plants to grow quickly. I look forward to hearing of your progress and if there was any Correa regeneration or seedlings in the aftermath of the fires. Ed

Lola Mensch writes:

We enjoyed the Correa Crawl so much we decided to have one of our own to South Australia. While we had been to the Eyre Peninsula briefly some years ago, we'd never been to the Yorke Peninsula and your newsletter arrived in time to give us the location of the Wreck of the Ethel. As it was getting near the end of July when we went, I thought the best of the flowering would be over, but happily they were at their peak and absolutely brilliant.

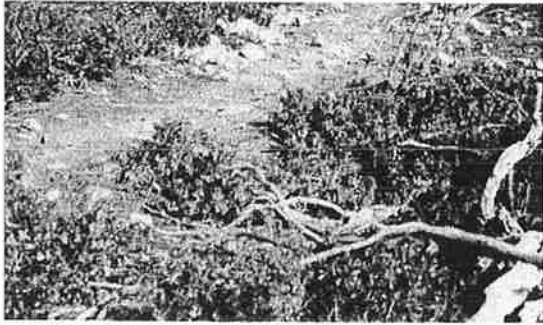
The first stop of interest was the Innes National Park at the bottom of Yorke Peninsula and the Wreck of the Ethel *Correa pulchella* was everywhere except at the wreck - at least a km away - there is very little of the wreck left either, just a few ribs sticking up out of the sand.



Wreck of the Ethel

Quite a few ships have come to grief on this very wild coast. The National Parks Service have done a great job in looking after tourists with a bitumen road right through with short

gravel roads leading off to each point of interest. We spent a couple of nights there before heading to Port Augusta. We spent another day in Lincoln National Park with *Correa pulchella* much in evidence, also on Stamford Hill (a prominent vantage point). There were a few *C. reflexas* as well but they weren't in flower.



C. pulchella plants everywhere

The next day we spent in the Coffin Bay National Park and the *Correas* there were stunning. We did a 2 km walk at Yankie Bay and they were wall to wall. Also brilliant was *Templetonia retusa* and *Pomaderris obcordatum*.



C. pulchella close-up

I bought *C. 'Moonglow'* at Yarralumla Nursery after the Canberra Conference. Marion Boehm also has it growing. It's a very lovely form of *C. glabra*.

Thanks for the photos Lola. Sounds like you had an interesting time looking for buried shipwrecks. Rosemary Pedler has had this form growing in her garden and it has been sold in the trade for some years. It needs to be more widely promoted. Ed

Toni Gurren writes:

The property we have bought is mostly pasture and consists of exposed, windy hillsides about 40 km from the north coast of Tasmania, in an area subject to heavy frosts. My efforts at gardening so far consists of trying to establish

windbreaks. Most of my *Correas* are growing in the shelter of buildings or a few shrubs or under a few big evergreen trees. Still there is loads of potential and I am excited at joining the group and eventually making some sort of useful contribution.

Toni has sent a list of Correas she has growing already and also names of those on order. Ed

- C. alba* var *alba*
- C. backhouseana* var *backhouseana*
- C. backhouseana* var *coriacea*
- C. baeuerlenii*
- C. decumbens*
- C. glabra* var *glabra*
- C. glabra* var *turnbullii*
- C. lawrenceana* var *lawrenceana*
- C. 'Mannii'*
- C. reflexa* 'Georgetown'
- C. reflexa* 'Pee Wee Pete'
- C. reflexa* var *nummulariifolia*

On order from Plants of Tasmania

- C. alba* 'Low Grow Grey'
- C. alba* 'Goat Island Pink'
- C. reflexa* 'Derwent Green'
- C. reflexa* 'Dazzler Range'
- C. reflexa* 'Fat George'
- C. reflexa* 'Northern Belle'
- C. reflexa* 'Green and Cream'

I think a lot of these names have been given to the plants to differentiate them. They are not registered and need to be compared with other forms. It would be nice to know the origin of some of them. I was given 'Pee Wee Pete' and will be interested in it's progress. Ed

Les Williams writes:

Your edition on *Correas* was great and it brought back memories of when my neighbour Max and I discovered native Australian plants. I started my enthusiastic journey in the early 1960s and have travelled in many parts of Australia armed with books outlining the flora to be found.

In the 60s books were hard to find and our discoveries difficult to name. After each journey I tried hard to establish favoured plants at Edithvale, Vic., but the water-resistant sandy soil made a cemetery only for the majority of shrubs. Not so *Correa* sp. The illustration in 'Australian Plants' of *Correa lawrenceana* var *rosea* jogged my memories of a time when I collected a burgundy form quite similar, which I

continue to grow after 30 years. It is deep burgundy and at Edithvale the shrubs have never been taller than 1.5m. The cuttings came from near Buchan beside the Devils Cauldron on the Murrindal River.

Les sent me a copy of his amazing canoeing trip down the Snowy River many years ago. If anyone would like a copy just let me know. The only plant reference is to the above Correa and Acacia boormanii. Ed

Margie Barnett writes:

We have missed Spring this year - winter to summer and back to winter again (we have a fire tonight 23/11/03).

This has also been our experience - the poor plants are very confused. Ed

We are continuing with the nursery despite my part-time work but we'll streamline out of retail to just wholesale and sell to landscapers and regulars. Most of our cuttings collected in the Grampians are doing well but need to be potted up. I had no success with the *C. aemula* hybrid we collected at Mt Langhi Ghiran. I hope someone had success or can collect more when the conditions are kinder.

I have lost mine too, Margie. It was very scrappy material. If anyone has it growing we'd both love fresh cuttings but perhaps not until the end of summer. Ed

Bob O'Neill writes:

We have been as busy as a dog with fleas. At present I am writing in the evening while Dot is working on her garden video. The background music we had professionally made and by the time we bought the camera, editing software, days of camera work plus many hours of frustration learning what works and then doing re-takes, it's been quite a project.

Tell me about it! Every time you turn around there's some new technology that you have to master. I'm doing the school web site and it's been a very steep learning curve. Ed

I have had a splurge in planting in the garden over the past 4 weeks - put in 350 plants filling in gaps in the existing beds and re-planting in the ripped out areas. It's surprising how many small plants can fit into the space of a large Hakea and a dead Wattle for instance.

Phillip Vaughan, now near Geelong, is well known for grafted and unusual plants. We spent up big on *Petrophiles* and some *Isopogons* as well as other species. He had no *Correas* that I could buy, but did have an unusual looking *C. pulchella*. Many of these plants went into our sandbed. There were 4 *Dampieras* as well, all excellent to outstanding.

A couple of *Correas* are still in full flower (October), have been for some time. *C. 'Big Bob'* is an odd one. A couple of plants flowered very well while others had a rest. A form of *C. reflexa* from the Prom is a strong performer as is one from Point Hicks. *C. aemula* is in flower but *C. pulchella* is not. I have probably planted 30 or so *Correas* over the past month and a few more to go in shortly.

If you haven't seen Bob's garden it's a must - I don't know how many plants he now has in his collection but it's well into the thousands. Ed

I am waiting on some cuttings that I collected near Port Lincoln. Alan Lacy has been looking after them for me. These would be some of the best *C. pulchella* forms that I have ever seen, a few beauties among them. I hope to be able to share these eventually.

Am looking forward to that! Seriously though, C. pulchella can be touchy in some areas. We probably need some good grafting work done on these. Ed



Correa pulchella
Port Lincoln

Painting by Kath Alcock

I thought Isopogons would be difficult to grow. I planted out approximately 30 struck cuttings covering 9-10 species early this year. I hope the Petrophiles are just as adaptable.

The dam is full and parts of the bottom garden are very wet, just as well the mower has big tyres. Trees have blown over, Wattles have died and I haven't planted my packet of Dryandra seeds. When you retire, you soon find that you are as busy as ever with chosen pursuits rather than paid ones.

My husband, Don, turned 60 this year and has no plans to retire. He feels that he'd rather continue to be paid for being busy than not. As long as he enjoys teaching, I suppose it's a wise philosophy. Ed

Some of the best plants in flower at this time are: *Correa reflexa* var *speciosa* 'Big Bob' *Olearea phlogopappa* - strong pink, Waratah, *Verticordia chryantha*, a new *Dampiera*, *Grevillea alpina* from Rose's Gap, (a real stunner), a white *Pimelea*, *Banksia baueri*, a couple of Darwinias (real beauties full of flower), *Isopogon formosa*, *Hypocalymma angustifolium*, Geraldton wax and a few Wattles.

If you live in the Melbourne area, this list may be a help to you. Ed

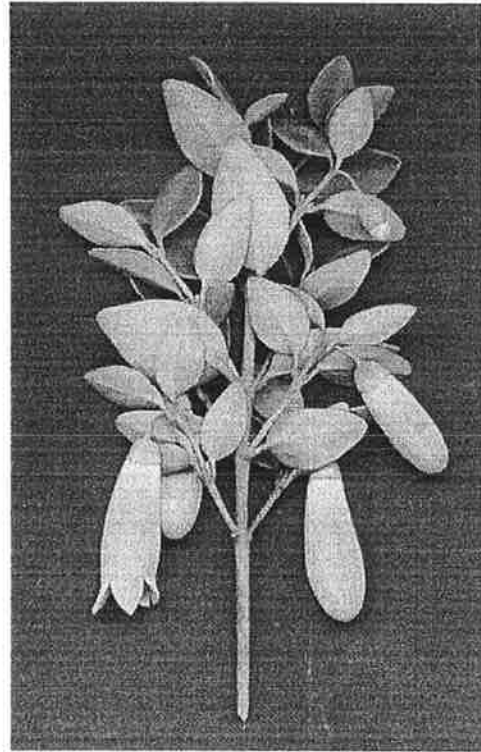
Yvonne Bakes writes:

We have our park for sale and have decided to move to Bendigo, which is closer to Melbourne where we still have family and all our long-time friends who we dearly miss. It's a good place to grow *Correas* I believe. I've taken cuttings of my *Correa* collection and should take some more very soon. They don't take much room in tubes.

*Good luck with selling the place, Yvonne and with your move to Bendigo. I think you'll be in *Correa* heaven down there. Ed*

I have a *C. reflexa* 'Salmon' which is quite different from *C. 'Pink Mist'*. It sprawls and has a longer flower. They are supposed to be the same form.

*I think your *C. reflexa* 'Salmon' is misnamed. The one commonly sold under that name is the same as 'Pink Mist'. It is an upright form. Your sprawling plant is something else. Ed*



C. pulchella 'Pink Mist'
Grown by Maria Hitchcock
Scan by Maria Hitchcock

Warrnambool Correa Crawl Report

21st June 2003

by Brian Lacy

Hamilton and Warrnambool APS Groups, led by Cherree Densley, went on its own local *Correa* Crawl to an area adjoining the Alcoa Smelter at Portland - a fabulous area for *Correas*, which is now sadly getting overrun with Coast Wattle. We saw in flower:

C. alba var *pannosa*

C. reflexa form (like var.

nummulariifolia)

C. reflexa var *reflexa* - many colour forms - mostly under 1m in size.

This area is where *C. 'Portland Peach'* was found. We then went on to Mt. Clay to finish off a great day.

*I spent many hours combing the coastline around Portland and the Smelter collecting *Correas* when I first became leader. Cherree has collected the best forms and named them. Some have been registered and are gradually finding their way into the trade. Some unfortunately have been lost. It's important that we conserve as many forms as we can. Ed*

Travelling with Cuttings

I got this idea from Margie Barnett and have adopted it as a standard method for travelling with cuttings. It is also an excellent method for sending cuttings through the post.

You will need a packet of clear Snap-lock resealable sandwich bags. I like Glad ones because they have a white strip across them. You will also need a laundry marker pen. Alternatively, you can slip a label inside the bag with the cuttings. I use a 6B pencil to write on labels - they outlast any marker pen and can be erased and re-used. The bags can also be washed out and re-used.

It's also a good idea to take along a little spray bottle and lightly spray your cuttings when you put them in the bag. This isn't necessary if the cuttings are collected during cool weather or in the early morning. You can fit about 10 cuttings in each bag. Squeeze the bag lightly to expell air and press the raised ridges to seal the bag.

I usually write the name of the plant on the bag before putting the cuttings in. We always travel with a foam broccoli box, complete with lid, and put the bags in that. Those cooler bags that you can buy these days are also good, or an esky if you have one. In hot weather, you could even put a bag of ice in the box to keep the cuttings cool.

If you want to bring cuttings to a cuttings swap or to an APS meeting, this is an excellent way to bring them. There is no need for handling or labelling by the recipient and the cuttings will stay fresh for far longer and strike more readily.

The method also ensures that the recipient doesn't lose the name of the plant. Please put your own name on the bag as well so that people know the origin of their cuttings. Its a good idea to get into the habit of writing the source on every label. We wouldn't have the confusion with names and origins of plants that we have now if everyone followed these few simple tips.

Look out for the bags of *Correa* cuttings at the Tasmanian Conference. If you are coming, please bring some of your own varieties to share with others.

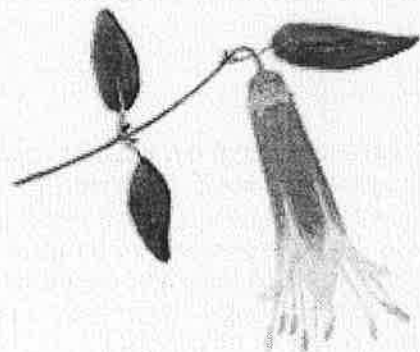
Potted Collection

Included in this newsletter is a list of all the plants I have in the potted collection so far. The plants are advanced and in large pots. If you would like cuttings of any of these, please send a request with a \$5.00 note to cover postage and packaging. Plants marked with an * are not available. I'm happy to send cuttings of about 10 varieties at a time. It might be wise to leave your request until the end of summer if you live in the country. If you live in a capital city, I can send them by express post anytime for next day delivery.

Cuttings swap Mystery plants

Did you bring any of these to the cuttings swap at Neil Marriott's? Please let me know if you did and the origin of the plants if you know it. Also any other information would help.

Correa backhouseana var *orbicularis*
Correa glabra var *glabra* Adelaide Hills
Correa glabra var *glabra*
Correa glabra var *turnbullii* Adelaide Hills
Correa glabra x *aemula* (1)
Correa glabra x *aemula* (2)
Correa glabra x *reflexa*
Correa lawrenceana var *cordifolia* Budawangs
Correa lawrenceana var. *rosea*
Correa pulchella x white band on fl.
Correa pulchella 'minor' white
Correa reflexa x like 'Federation Belle'
Correa reflexa Green Cape
Correa reflexa var *speciosa* Brisbane R.



C. glabra var *turnbullii* Origin unknown

Painting by Kath Alcock

Correa Book

Over the next year I will be putting this together ready for publication. It will expand on the Correas issue of 'Australian Plants' and hopefully become the definitive resource for the genus. I have come up with my idea of the contents, but I'm open to other ideas if you would like to add anything or make some changes. As this is to be produced by the Study Group, I am also looking for contributors for chapters. Some members have already volunteered to write sections which is excellent.

Here is a proposed overview of the book.

Contents

Foreword by the Leader

Acknowledgements

Correa Study Group history

Marian Beek and Kath Alcock

The Genus Correa - early history
- distribution
- key

Propagation (seed, cuttings, grafting)

Cultivation (garden and landcare)

Attracting birds to the garden

Garden design - profiles of a few gardens
which feature Correas.

Potted colour

Description of species and cultivars
(this chapter will be the bulk of the book)

Index

Survey report

Thank you to those members who returned their survey sheets. It is very helpful to get this feedback so that we can plan for the future. I will condense the results under a few sub-headings to make them more interesting to read.

Growers

Of those who replied, we have one large commercial grower, 6 small commercial growers, 1 nursery re-seller, 6 backyard hobby growers and 7 who propagate for their own garden. 7 growers said that they would be interested in participating in the project and together they would purchase over 1000 labels and would require well over 1000 cuttings to allow for some losses. Providing that number of cuttings will limit the range of plants that we can introduce each year. Cuttings would need to be sent in either Autumn or Spring, depending on the grower.



Correa 'Coconut Ice'

C. reflexa var. *reflexa* x *C. alba* var. *alba*

Grown by Cherree Densley

Plants would be sold in fairly even numbers of tubes and 15 cm pots and one grower also sells in larger pots. Most aimed to have a flowering plant at time of sale, but if that wasn't possible then the colour label would suffice. 6 growers distributed to other nurseries and several donated plants to various projects.

Selling points

These are arranged in order from the highest to lowest score. Of course the sample is too low to be a valid result but it gives us an idea of how our members think. As you can see the colour print label is a major selling point, followed closely by a flowering plant and a good photo.

colour print label (16)
flowering in pot (15)
good photo (12)
bird attractive (12)
attractive foliage (11)
vigorous healthy plant (9)
accurate description (9)
hardiness (9)
drought tolerant (9)
compact shape (8)
large flowers (8)
economical cost (6)
heavy advertising (5)
medium to large plants (4)

- on-site poster (4)
- small plant (4)
- maintenance free (3)
- flowers not necessary (1)
- colour label not necessary (1)
- new release (1)
- old favourite (1)
- cost not important (0)

Varieties:

These have been entered in order of popularity from highest to lowest. A number of members commented that they didn't know these plants, which is a good reason to spread them more widely. From these results, it would seem that 'Coconut Ice' and 'Point Hicks Beauty' should be next on our list.

- C. 'Coconut Ice' 7
- C. 'Point Hicks Beauty' 7
- C. 'Ivory Dancer' 5
- C. 'Ivory Bells' 3
- C. 'Inglewood Gold' 3
- C. 'Raelene Goldie' 3
- C. 'Bett's Red' 3
- C. 'Coliban R.' 2
- C. 'Granny's Grave' 2
- C. 'River Bells' 2
- C. alba 'Starlight' 1
- C. 'Barossa Gold' 1
- C. 'Dawn Glow' 1
- C. 'Mary's Choice' 1

There are several other good plants which we could look at next. If you have any ideas, please let me know.



C. reflexa var. *speciosa* 'Point Hicks'
Photo by Christine Wadey

The project

Paul Carmen and Cathy Hook recommended starting with 3-5 varieties (preferably registered forms) and then re-assessing the project after 12 months or so. We should consider additional varieties after we have had some feedback from growers, nurseries, etc. They would also like to see 'better' labels for some varieties for which labels currently exist. e.g., *C. pulchella* forms, even *C. 'Dusky Bells'* could be greatly improved. These comments are supported by Margie Barnett who says to start small, i.e., a few (1-3) varieties to begin with.

A complication is the fact that State Flora (SA) can only use cutting material that has been certified Western Flower Thrip free, i.e., baited with a sticky trap for three weeks and then identified as WFT free or alternatively to come from an accredited WFT free area.

The plants

Barbara and David Pye think that it is very important to be selective in what to promote. Small growing plants with colourful flowers and attractive foliage are what people seem to be looking for. Varieties with cream, green or yellow flowers are more difficult to sell than those with red or pink flowers. Plants that grow to less than 1m in height are more popular than larger growing varieties. All forms of *C. pulchella*, red flowering forms of *C. reflexa* and pink flowered hybrids sell well. They print their own labels with text and also use colour photo laminated display cards.

Yvonne Bakes thinks that most people go for Correas with a bright large flower in the pink or red range as they are better bird-attracting plants, given that birds see red more easily. The elderly and people with small gardens prefer smaller plants.

The Dealtrys suggest that they have to grow well and look neat in a pot. Coral Hughes works at a small wholesale nursery who mainly grows Australian plants. She finds very diverse preferences - e.g., some people come looking specifically for new and different plants, while others avoid or are cautious about plants they do not know. Buyers attention is caught by

- * vigorous healthy plants
- * compact shape
- * attractive foliage
- * flowers

and then they look at the other features. As they sell in 70 mm pots, the plants are not often in

flower so they aim to have a colour photo or a flowering sprig or pot plant on display.

Hilary Merritt says that some of the plants that 'walk out' of the local nurseries also have pots that are colour coded to the flower and label - the most recent was Hardenbergia 'Candy Wrapper' - and these are irresistible to garden centre browsers. The trick is to appeal to the run of the mill gardeners and impulse shoppers rather than the 'in the know' people who buy and grow Correas at present.

Paul Carmen and Cathy Hook say that in Canberra frost tolerance is essential. The prevalence of clay soils in the region make many customers very anxious about the requirement of so many native plants for 'well-drained' soils or situations. Hardiness, drought tolerance and low maintenance are highly desirable features and they are frequently specifically asked for bird-attracting plants. It is very important to have a good range of small (0.5 - 1m H x 0.5 - 1m W) native plants for suburban gardens. However, there will always be a need for medium/large screening or hedging plants.

Stephen Shugg says that the big Canberra nurseries don't seem to have a great variety at all. Some smaller ones have up to 10 different Correas for between \$8 - \$12 for a 6" pot. Of all the names that appear in the newsletter and Australian Plants, they don't see them at all. The nursery he worked at tried to encourage people to bring in cuttings from their garden and they would propagate them. They were one of a few with 'Federation Belle' for a long time using the donation method.

The name

Hilary Merritt suggests that the name needs to be catchy like 'Dusky Bells' - you know immediately what you're getting and it's easily remembered. 'Bett's Red' while a fabulous and attractive plant just doesn't have the same appeal. 'Federation Belle' was brilliant. We need more names like that.

The labels

Gill Muller comments that she is involved in ordering the labels at work and finds the same photo being used for different species really frustrating. Customers do too. They get quite annoyed. 'Federation Belle' was excellent.

Lola Mensch agrees that the labels you see around these days leave a lot to be desired. A

plant in flower always sells before anything else but a pretty, accurate label is the next best thing.

So there it is! We need to choose plants wisely, they need to be compact in the pot and have pink or red flowers and a catchy name. They need to be bird attractive and suit a variety of conditions, including frost prone areas. Both 'Coconut Ice' and 'Point Hicks Beauty' fit the criteria. I have lots of cutting material for 'Coconut Ice' but not much for 'Point Hicks Beauty', so it may have to wait until enough cutting material can be produced. I wouldn't like to rule out all the cream and green colour forms however, as many have very attractive foliage and are excellent garden plants. I feel that 'Ivory Bells' or 'Ivory Dancer' would be good candidates for our project.

*Have a Happy
Christmas everyone!*



*See you in
Tassie!*

Correa Potted Collection				
Species	Variety	Hybrid	Cultivar/Origin	Grower
C. alba	var. alba		unknown	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Sydney	Liber
C. alba	var. alba		Bicheno Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Wynyard Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Binalong Bay Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		The Nut Stanley Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		'Blush'	Cherree
C. alba	var. alba	pink form	Swansea Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Boat Harbour Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Black River Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba	pink form	Low Head Beach Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Blythe Head Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Sisters Beach Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Stanley Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Penguin Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba		Goat Island Tas	Hitchcock
C. alba	var. alba	x C. pulchella	'Coconut Ice'	Stahl
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		West Point Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Goat Island Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Arthur River Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Granville Harbour Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana	X C. pulchella	'Pink Sorbet' *	Weybury
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		unknown	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Black River Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Boat Harbour Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Stanley Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Rocky Cape Tas	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana		Couta Rocks Tas	Mensch
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana	x C. alba	'Boat Harbour'	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. backhouseana	x C. alba	'Boat Harbour'	Hitchcock
C. backhouseana	var. orbicularis			Seminar '02
C. baeuerlenii		x C. lawrenceana?	unnamed	Hitchcock
C. calycina	var calycina	x	seedling	Boehm
C. calycina	var calycina			O'Neill
C. decumbens		hybrid	self-layering	O'Neill
C. decumbens		x	'Ainslie' *	Black
C. decumbens		x C. reflexa	unnamed ('Redex')	Carmen
C. eburnea			Blowhole	Nangawooka
C. glabra	var turnbullii		variegated	O'Neill
C. glabra	var glabra		Pilliga Scrub	Urbanas
C. glabra	var leucoclada		Tambar Springs	O'Halloran
C. glabra	var glabra	x C. reflexa	unnamed	Stahl
C. glabra	var glabra		Melville Caves	Stahl
C. glabra	var glabra		long leaf	Carmen
C. glabra	var glabra		Mt Arapiles	Boehm
C. glabra	var glabra		Mitre Rock	June Rogers
C. glabra	var glabra		Wyn Wyn	June Rogers
C. lawrenceana	var lawrenceana		Tasmania	Karwarra
C. lawrenceana			green	Ngaire Turner
C. pulchella		x	'Mannii'	Carmen
C. pulchella		x	'Mallee Pink'	Commercial

Species	Variety	Hybrid	Cultivar/Origin	Grower
C. pulchella		x	'White Tips'	Barnett
C. pulchella		x 'Mannii'	Seedling No B1*	Boehm
C. pulchella		long red bell	KI No 2 - Penn/Kingscote	Barnett
C. pulchella			taller form	O'Neill
C. pulchella			'Candy Pink'	Coral Hughes
C. pulchella			dark pink	O'Neill
C. pulchella			fawn	O'Neill
C. pulchella			pink tall ('Pink Mist')	O'Neill
C. pulchella			K.I. 408 red	O'Neill
C. pulchella			scarlet	O'Neill
C. pulchella			'Pink Mist'	Hitchcock
C. pulchella		x C. reflexa var speciosa	'Firebird'	Carmen
C. pulchella		hybrid - garden seedling	'Musky Belle' *	Barnett
C. pulchella		x	'Jan's Own' ('Skyebells')	Simpson
C. pulchella		x C. reflexa	'White Bells'	Barnett
C. pulchella		x C. reflexa	'Ivory Dancer'	Densley
C. pulchella		x C. reflexa	white ('Ivory Dancer')?	Stahl
C. reflexa	var. reflexa		'Granny's Grave'	Densley
C. reflexa	var. reflexa		'Squat'	Densley
C. reflexa	var. reflexa		'Narrow Neil'	McDowall
C. reflexa		tiny bells *		Densley
C. reflexa		x	seedling No B12	Boehm
C. reflexa		x	'Pee Wee Pete'	Commercial
C. reflexa		x	seedling No B10	Boehm
C. reflexa		x	seedling No B6	Boehm
C. reflexa		x C. pulchella?	B	Barnett
C. reflexa	var. reflexa		'Portland Frost and Lime'	Densley
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	x C. pulchella	'Ivory Dancer'	Densley
C. reflexa		garden seedling	'Little Lantern' *	Barnett
C. reflexa		hybrid	'Carman Lorraine'	Carmen
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	*	'Carpenter Rocks'	Carmen
C. reflexa	var. nummulariifolia			Carmen
C. reflexa		hybrid *	'Hilites' *	Carmen
C. reflexa		upright red	unknown	
C. reflexa		x C. backhouseana *	Ross Hyland Garden CBA	Carmen
C. reflexa		hybrid	unknown	
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	green	Lind NP East Gippsland	
C. reflexa		x C. pulchella	'Ivory Dancer'	
C. reflexa	var. speciosa		'Clearview Giant'	
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	green	Moonbi	Meyer
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	green	Wilson's Prom	Hughes
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	green	Musselroe Bay? Tas	Hitchcock
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	green	Low Head Tas	Hitchcock
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	red	Petal Point Tas	Hitchcock
C. reflexa	var. reflexa	green	Kings Plains	Hitchcock
C. reflexa		red	Yanackie	
C. reflexa	var. speciosa	x C. 'Marian's Marvel'	'Federation Belle'	Caldwell
C. reflexa	var. speciosa		'Buchan'	McDowall
C. reflexa	var. speciosa		'Big Bob'	O'Neill
C. reflexa	var. speciosa		unknown	O'Neill
C. reflexa	var. speciosa		unknown	'Neil Marriott