

# ASGAP Correa Study Group

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**Newsletter No.38 December 2008**

## Leader's comments

Hello everyone,

Here is your December issue. Hope you enjoy the reading. Despite interruptions (David and Barb have had three months travelling in the north of Australia and I have been in Madagascar, Reunion Island and Mauritius for the month of September), we have put together a news-packed issue. Unfortunately we have not been able to have a face-to-face meeting, but emails are a wonderful thing. There are lots of interesting and innovative things in the pipeline for the Correa Study Group and we are attracting lots of new members- welcome.

Unbelievably, (on the first day of December), several correas are blooming well here at Killarney- just a few kilometres from the coast- the large flowered, but small growing *Correa reflexa var speciosa* 'Ulladulla' is in full flower and I'm sure some of the forms of *Correa decumbens* are setting flower buds. The rest of the garden correas are looking particularly

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*Correa reflexa*, Yaerung, River

photo by Allison Potter



Donnan Garden, Correa Crawl

### **Leader's comments** (continued from page 1)

good (with no supplementary watering whatever) and have lots of strong healthy growth. Many of the larger growing correas such as *Correa backhouseana* var *backhouseana* which are metres tall and wide, support many nests of the New Holland Honeyeaters. These birds nest year round in my garden and which might explain why they are the dominant bird despite larger populations of the Red Wattle Bird which have come into my garden with great enthusiasm (particularly now the callistemons are flowering). Mind you, our weather here in Killarney despite having early hot weather, has been mild with showers in between the days of very strong damaging winds.

I have had great success with cuttings this year- despite Ian having to look after them by hand watering whilst I was away for a month (our water supply is not good enough for a misting system). I decided that it was a bit fool hardy to expect that my correa collection (gleaned over many years of travel, effort, swapping and the other usual ways we get our plants) would go on and on and on. Eventually I would lose some with age, disease, insect attack, lack of water, being overgrown by something more vigorous, being trodden on by a wallaby, dug out by an echidna or whatever - and then - where would I get that particular plant from again. Apart from appealing to other society members or members of the Correa Study Group, that particular plant might be lost forever. So I embarked on a huge program of taking cuttings of most of my correas- what a job- I filled up about 14 large broccoli boxes (the ones that come with lids - which I don't need)- I collected these from one of the local greengrocers for free- with pots of cuttings. I had sheets of glass cut to fit over the top and so made lots of little glasshouses. These boxes were pushed under the benches of my glasshouse- so they are shaded. Many have struck and I have managed to pot up quite a few with lots more to go. I really need about another 24 hours in the day - don't we all? As well, I am working on getting healthy stocks of a lovely tall growing pink *Correa reflexa* from Mt Clay forest- the plants in the wild seem to have a growth affecting fungus on some of the stems of the plant - but it is a unique correa with nothing like it on the market at present.

### **New Members**

We welcome the following new members

Frank Flynn of Lake Tyers, Victoria  
Carolyn & Brian Hendrickson of Daisy Hill, Victoria

David Burt of Pakenham, Victoria

### **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Subscriptions for the 2008-09 year are due and have been for some time. At our request members have delayed payment while we were traveling in Northern Australia.

However, now that we are back and involved in Correa Study Group activities again, it would be appreciated if members paid their subscriptions promptly. They may be paid by cheque, cash (in person only), or by direct deposit into the group's bank account.

Members who receive their newsletter by post, can determine their financial state by checking the front page of their newsletter. A red dot in the top right corner means that they are not financial and need to renew their membership. A renewal form will also be enclosed.

Members who receive their newsletter by email will receive a separate reminder email including renewal form if they are not financial.

### **Note from the Editors**

It seems a long time since the Correa Crawl. A few days after the Crawl, we left for the Kimberley for 3 months away. It was a great experience – we visited many new places and revisited a few. There were lots of Grevilleas, Eremophilas and wildflowers in the north and a wealth of species further south in Western Australia. We even managed to find a few Correas on the Eyre Peninsula on the way home. Since then we have been catching up with family, slaving in our neglected garden, and propagating like mad. We put up a few cuttings from the Correa Crawl before we left, and they had all struck by the time we arrived home. They are just starting to grow on in the warmer weather we have experienced lately. The only downside is the lack of rain in our area – our dam is extremely low and we are already buying recycled water for our nursery. Our many Correas are surviving well in the dry conditions although not putting on as much growth as they would in a good season. The

late flowering *C. reflexa* varieties from Gippsland are still in full bloom, including two beautiful forms from Point Hicks. Next year, we plan a shorter holiday with hopefully a shorter catch-up time on our return.



### Report on Correa Crawl, Queens Birthday Weekend, June 2008 hosted by the APS Bairnsdale Group.

(report prepared by Cherree Densley)

A lively and interested group of ASGAP Correa Study Group members (Victoria: Cherree and Ian Densley -Killarney, Cath and Ray Sykes - Caulfield, David and Barbara Pye - Bullengarook, Doug and Bev Down - Niddrie, Sue Bendel -Doncaster, John and Christine Wadey - North Eltham, Joan and Nic Pitaro - Ararat, Alison Potter - Riddells Creek, Chris O'Brien - Eltham, Phil Hempel - Diamond Creek); (NSW: Maria and Don Hitchcock - Armidale; Neville and Lesley Page - Lake Wambon; Paul Carmen and Cathy Hook - Phillip, ACT), and Lynn Mockridge from Tasmania spent three wonderful days being shown around the Bairnsdale area on the hunt for the locations of correas. During the days we were ably led by local members Frank Flynn, Dawn Barr, Audrey van den Berg and Joe Wilson.

Everyone made their way to Lakes Entrance by Friday evening- most with very long drives. (Ian and I clocked up 1600 Km for the weekend). Saturday morning saw us, bright eyed and bushy tailed, ready to go. At 9am we all met up from our various accommodations at the local school (a school room here was organised by the wonderful Frank (our newest member by the way) and used by us for the two evenings when we had slide shows and cutting exchanges). After a welcome and roll call and a few preliminary planning announcements (Have you all got enough fuel? Have you all got your lunch? This is not a Correa Crawl to collect cuttings

in the wild- we are going to GPS/Photograph and describe- not take!) and then we were off. It was cool and overcast as we made our way along Log Crossing Road and in a very short time after 4-5kms we stopped to see many lovely *Correa reflexa var reflexa* plants. The form here at 37.49.512S and 147.56.365E had large rough leaves with shades of red narrow bells showing clearly beneath those clasping leaves. There was the odd cream flower with a green edge. They were growing under a canopy of peppermint and blue box, *Olearia lirata* and amongst a lovely pale mauve form of *Brachyscome multifida* and *Indigofera australis*. Our 13 car convoy was well equipped with 2-way radios keeping all in contact with each other. Doug Down proved a most valued member of the party with his extensive knowledge of organising the car convoys that APS Keilor Plains members enjoy. I believe he has the enviable reputation of never losing anyone on an APS/SGAP outing- and that cannot be said lightly!!



Bruthen proved to be a valuable toilet stop as we did spend longer at that first stop than planned admiring those beautiful correas – but that would not be surprising would it?

**Stop two** was at the end of a superb drive along the well-named Great Alpine Road and then up along Collins Road towards the summit of Mt Elizabeth -so enjoyable with

beautiful healthy vegetation with towering trees, ferns and lush regrowth in some of the areas which were burnt last year. The sobering sight of at least 2 dead wombats as road kill reminded us of the vulnerability of our vanishing fauna. Frank has warned us that we may well see log trucks or groups of trail bikes-but there was no-one else there but us and the lyrebirds!! He also had a chain saw in case the road was blocked by fallen trees- that wasn't needed- thank goodness. The fog ahead turned into light misting rain the further we progressed to 880 metres. We parked at 37.29.521S and 147.55.950E to wander amongst true alpine flora- *Grevillea victoria* just flowering, *Bedfordia*, Silver Wattles, *Stingybarks*, *Lomatias*, *Ziera*, *Pomaderris* and towering Mountain Ash. The dainty flowering *Correa lawrenceana* green form was present but not in huge numbers in this highly valued example of alpine flora. As the light rain sprayed down from those mighty trees we saw a rare phenomenon- one of the alpine ash trees was running foam from high up to make quite a pile of froth at its base. Everyone's camera turned off the *correas* onto the foaming tree.



which we could distinguish the calls of yellow-tailed black cockatoos, currawongs, whipbirds, wrens and parrots. For a Western District person who has never seen a lyrebird in the wild and the only lyrebird calls I have ever heard was from a CD- it was mesmerising. *The Correa reflexa var reflexa* here- rough large leaves and bright red/pink flowers came off second best.



As we made our way back down from the mountain we stopped at 37.33.001S and 147.52.235E and at 164m and at what I called Lyrebird Stop we were entertained for about 15 minutes by a superb repertoire of amongst



As we went back over the Tambo Creek crossing Ian wanted to get out to have a fish for trout, but Frank said there were very few fish in the creek as there was too much copper in the water leeching out from the soil higher up.

Back along the Great Alpine Way at what is called a Slip Off at 37.33.869S and 147.53.302E and 224metres elevation we walked up over areas which had been bladed clear amongst the dryer bush land which now showed lots of new growth of all sorts of lovely plants- and of course more correas- the large rough leaves and narrow bright red/pink flowers. Frank re-found a lovely cream/green flowered form he knew about as we made our way back to the vehicles. All of the correas found this day had been located by Joe Wilson who unfortunately was not able to meet up with us until Sunday evening. He had done a great job of finding good lots of correas for us.

Most of us then made their way back to Lakes Entrance to rest up and get ready for the evening. 'The Lakes' saw us for the evening meal before we headed up to the Primary School where Maria had sorted out all the specimens of the *Correa pulchella* forms we had been asked to bring. There were probably 100 different ones laid out and we all had fun trying to see what was what- where there were double ups, etc. This proved to be a very valuable exercise as it broadened our knowledge and extended our admiration for such a beautiful species. And as a result we may well have found the elusive true 'Gwen'.

Maria then took the floor for a terrific illustrated presentation of *Correa* hybrids. She had been working on getting them all on a list –David had made copies for most – and she went through about 40 or so of those which have been named, those with ACRA registration, those which may have been lost and those- and all of them – which are just plain beautiful. It proved to be a great discussion especially when forms we thought had been lost are now known to be growing in members gardens. It had been a great day.

On Sunday morning we met up at the Marlow Fire Shed where Frank gathered us all together to go through the options at Cape Conran for which we were headed. As we stood around in a circle, the whisper went around that –“there are correas flowering – just back there”. “Over there” was a small reserve just behind the shed- Frank’s audience melted away like hot butter under the sun leaving him to talk to himself- it took a bit of work to reassemble and get the convoy moving for the day. At Cape Conran and after a few false starts most of us eventually

finished the Nature Trail down to Cowie Bay and back around East Cape along the East Cape Boardwalk sighting about three Southern Right Whales moving towards the Sailors Grave Sight. Along the way we had managed to find and photograph quite a few correas although they were scarce.

After a leisurely lunch whilst we recovered from such a long walk, we headed out towards the Yeerung River along a road memorable for its huge gnarled *Banksia serrata*. Here, along a slashed verge beneath the power lines we came across beautiful *Correa reflexas* with elegant foliage and beautiful red flowers. Then a quick drive down to see *Correa alba* at West Cape at 37.48.707S and 148.43.658E made up the three species we found for the weekend.



Evelyn- one of our APS Bairnsdale members encouraged most of us to drive down to Cabbage Tree Palms- there were interesting



cream and green reflexas along the way- and we were not disappointed as we did a lovely walk through this tiny rainforest remnant distinguished by superb cabbage tree palms (not sure of the botanical name). We continued along a sloppy road to come out on

the Princes Highway – Audrey in her Maroon Fairmont led the way stopping part way to show us even more correas. By the time we eventually got back to Lakes Entrance, we had 10 minutes to get ourselves cleaned up for dinner at the Bowls Club and then back to the Primary School.

The evening turned out to be great with a showing of the CD which David and Barb had put together on Correas which we are trialling for copying for District Groups. I took notes as all contributed to a positive and constructive discussion on how the presentation could be added to.

Then came the most organised and calm 'cutting swap' ever witnessed. We had the use of 4 huge round tables around which we put sheets of A4 paper named with the correa cuttings in bags nearby. Earlier we allowed about ½ hour for everyone to put their names on that piece of paper if they wanted cuttings of that particular correa (nearly everyone had brought in bags and bags- possibly about 50 - of different forms, species and hybrids). It was like being in a free lolly shop as everyone then went around and extracted what they wanted knowing that perhaps 4 or 5 or more others wanted that correa- wrapped and labelled what they wanted and kept moving around the tables. By the end of the night bags and bags of wanted and replaced cuttings accompanied their new owners as they went back to their accommodation exhausted but happy.

A huge thank you to everyone who had brought cuttings. I'm sure you were amply rewarded.

Monday we packed up and made our way to the superb, wonderful, gob-smacking garden of Jan and Graeme Donnan on the Paynesville Road south of Bairnsdale. Jan and Graeme had the garden in picture book perfection but unfortunately were in Ireland- Joe and some neighbours helped out showing us around and selling some of Jan's famous tubed plants. I was lucky enough to get a superb *C reflexa* Ben Boyd form – a huge glowing flower – maybe 4cms long. An Information Sheet on the garden explains how the Donnans landscaped the garden and its plants- I think it is one of the best gardens of Australian plants in Australia. The Donnans grow over 70 different correas including one *C reflexa* var *nummularifolia* which Joe stepped out at over 8 metres

wide!! Thanks Jan and Graeme- your efforts were well and truly admired and envied.

The next Correa Crawl in 2010 will possibly be in the Anglesea/Otway/ Warrnambool/ Portland area during the Queen's Birthday Weekend again. This seems to be optimum time for most species. We'll try and fit in a garden or two as well.

#### **Letters from Members** (reviewed by Cherree)

Firstly, a letter from up north:

***Hi Cherree, David and Barb, Just a few words to let you know what I have been up to here in Port Macquarie on the mid North Coast of NSW. Our house block is overflowing with plants out onto the footpath with a big concentration of Correas. Unlike many of you that live down south and have plants dying through lack of water, I have lost them because they have become too wet. Our soil is well drained but when it rains day after day some of the plants die of root rot. We have had 1003 mm of rain to the end of July with 395 mm falling in April. This problem has led me to start grafting onto plants that could stand the wet. This has proved to be successful and I now have 9 grafted plants growing very well. They are C. Granny's Grave, C. Pink Star, C. Annie's Delight, C. nummularifolia, C. lawrenceana var Grampiana, C. alba (a trial), and three plants of a Correa I found at Port Fairy on which I have not seen a flower. The only reason I still have a couple of these plants is because I grafted them as I could not get cuttings to grow. I get a good plant a lot quicker by grafting. As I graft onto small plants with a wedge graft the work is delicate and I have included some photos to show what I do. As a result of the wet there have been 40 seedlings come up which I have put into pots and many of these will be grafting stock. Two of the plants that died in the wet were C. Win's Wonder and C. Firebird, and as it is hard to find anyone selling or growing Correas up here my only chance of getting replacements is to travel south.***

***As you have requested some photos I have included some of four flowers that I grow here. I do not have the right name for some of them. I like the colour photos***

**in the newsletter so keep them coming.  
Don McLaren, Port Macquarie**



Correa Green Dream



Correa seedling from calycina x decumbens hybrid



Correa: What 's its name?

*Thanks Don –your letter reminds us that conditions do vary enormously but if you like to grow correas you'll do anything to find success with them - since you wrote this letter I hear that your area has had much more rain. Your remarks about a correa from Port Fairy is interesting - it is just 13 kms from me and I don't grow any correas from there!! There is supposed to be several surviving Correa reflexa (green form) plants in a small reserve managed by a Friends Group. Even I haven't been shown where they are but I shall check them out this growing season and arrange to get some cuttings to one of our*

*good growers to save them - the area could be burnt out, run over by bikers, trampled by dogs- who knows - but the fact that there are just a few remaining plants does make them extremely vulnerable. I'm interested in seeing a photo of the plants you call 'from Port Fairy'.*

Talking about 'the market' it is very encouraging to see so many correas for sale now through many of the nurseries. Here is an email from a new member: ***Hi Cherree, I have just joined the correa group & received the May newsletter today. I run a wholesale nursery & have grown a lot of correas over the years & it was a pleasant surprise to see you had images of 3 of the correas we promote in the newsletter. The Mallee Collection is an ongoing collection of different native plants that we have produced labels for & grow in large quantities. Your comments in the newsletter about getting correas out to wholesale nurseries interested me & I would like to discuss this further with you as we are always looking for new plants to grow. We are presently trialling varieties for release in our collection some of which could be overlapping with some you are doing ie. Coconut Ice looks like one we are doing. Anyhow we would certainly be interested in any varieties at all that have merit. Of course all growers like to have some exclusivity with what they grow is this possible or do you only want to spread them out as much as possible? Looking forward to hearing from you. Regards Dave Burt. Flametrees.***

Dave introduces an interesting point re the 'exclusivity' of a particular line of plants within a Nursery- it's something that I'm sure the Wholesale nurseries and growers want and it is how they make their livelihood - one can't grow everything and most specialise in particular cultivars and types of plants. They must always be looking out for something new as well as thinking up new names or lines to attract buyers. It all makes for a healthy, lively trade and of course, gets correas out there into gardens and landscapes. The hard dollars used in getting new labels, growing up the plants to get sufficient cutting material and growing the plants is a huge investment. We commend his line of the Mallee Collection and hope it does well. (My own plants

purchased last autumn are certainly growing strongly and flowered well.)

The Correa Study Group can be a source of new material and our members, spread across the country have collected a vast number of plants - see Maria's huge Cultivar list. This is what makes our correas so delightful too - there are always new ones appearing in gardens as well as being found still in some of the remaining natural areas. This is what our Study Group is all about - getting the cultivars and varieties sorted out (so we don't have the same plant being marketed under several different names - this unfortunately continues to happen) and then encouraging wholesale growers to take them on. (I have had a few conversations with some of the growers and am looking at the whole issue from a non-commercial point of view). This also makes our experiences in growing and trialling correas of immense use and we must continue to be generous in our expertise and knowledge. And this is the reason why we have put so much effort into registering names of correas through ACRA - so that we don't have confusion over cultivars - but there is still much to be done.

Re Dave's comment about "Coconut Ice looks like one we are doing" (above) reminds us just how easy it is to get the same correa being marketed under different names in different places. That's why we have ACRA doing such a good job and being such a good resource of registered correas. (The Study Group still has stocks of labels for Coconut Ice, and Norwood has stocks of Pink Frost labels: I can supply cuttings of Coconut Ice).

*And finally from Bob O'Neil:*

***Oddly, this has been a good year. Rainfall is at 531mm till the end of Oct., compared with an annual average of 900mm plus. The lawns are green and cut weekly, the lake is but ¼ capacity. The beds are moist not wet, some verging on dry. One pair of grebes have 2 young and a pair of black ducks arrived with 20 young then moved on; that is it for nesting on the lake.***

***The new correa bed is now moving along nicely. Finally young stock has matured and all the 100 spots have been filled. Progress is mixed, several had died over winter, and some shot away nicely. The whole bed is free of external root competition, hence it is prone to winter***

***dampness, but with that behind great things should now happen.***

***Numerous older plants need to be shown either the secateurs or the axe as after 8-10 years the best is behind them. Apart from propagation requirements, few have had serious pruning. At present 70 odd correas coming along in 6 inch pots ready in say 4-6 weeks. These days I prefer to plant out barely established young 6 inch pot size plants as I find too much soil breaks away from the smaller plants, leaving them less capable of handling the drier conditions we all seem to be facing these days.***

***Flowering seasons of correas are most interesting. Correa pulchella is a species with a relatively smaller area of natural distribution, so one could be excused in thinking that the flowering season would be relatively compact, but this is not so. While many clones may well have completed this season, 2 clones in particular are still close to peak flowering. Location within the garden may help create a couple week's variation, but that can only be part of the answer.***

***One of the most valued aspects of correa gardening is that of friendship and support. Even recently we received some lovely young plants from other members. I very much appreciate these contributions, as well as having the opportunity to drop in for a chat and wander in other gardens. Long live the Correa Study Group. Bob.***

Thanks heaps Bob - all strength to you and yours.

Here is an email from Phil Hempel; Can anyone help out please? ***Hi, I have uploaded a very preliminary Correa Study Group web page for comment. It needs a lot of photos provided, I have just loaded the same photo in a lot of cases where I don't have a suitable one or loaded a very small one from another site.***

***(<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~correa>.) It needs more text on the subject. I hope to get contributions from other members over time when it is nearer completion. Looking for support, Phil Hempel*** (see address and email in members list)

Please continue to send in contributions. May your correas continue to do well, keep up the mulch and if you can spare some water, I'm

sure your plants will appreciate it. Kind regards to all, Cherree

PS A thank you from Lesley and Neville Page from Canberra who went on the Correa Crawl: ***Thank you so much for a wonderful weekend. The correas are very new to us but since we noticed that they were growing well in our garden we thought yes we should join. Thank you for all your work. Thirty five people, what a harmonious group. It was an area we always passed through but did not stop - what a great opportunity to have a look round. See you at Geelong, Otways, or maybe Canberra for the next one?***

*(The next Correa Crawl will hopefully be in the Otways -Queens Birthday weekend 2010- or could we manage 2009?)*

**A New Variety of *Correa alba*** (review by Barb Pye)

*Correa alba var rotundifolia* is a newly recognised variety from SE Tasmania. In an article in *Muelleria* (Vol 26 2008 pp 45-53), Choi BK and Duretto MF describe this as a distinct variant found on the Tasman and Forrestier Peninsulas and on Bruny Island. It has been separated from the known variants *C. alba var alba* and *C. alba var pannosa* by the hairs on the leaves and calyx. I think that this must make the variety look quite different but without a photo it is difficult to imagine. Is anyone growing a *Correa alba* from this region? A photo would help us all know if it is already in cultivation or not.

Another form of *C. alba* from the Mitchell River in East Gippsland looks quite distinctive to us. We saw it in Jan and Graeme Donnan's garden at Eagle Point. Jan gave us some cuttings and we have a few young plants coming on. Apparently, it is the only known inland form of *C. alba*. (The area in which it grows once formed part of the coastline in this area)

### **Maria's Cycling Trip**

Maria (our former leader) and Don have been cycling in Europe, and are writing up their Danube cycle trip on the web. They cycled from the Black Forest in Germany to Budapest - about 1500 kms altogether. You can access the site on [www.wattleday.com](http://www.wattleday.com) and click on Personal.

### **Correa Labels**

Cuttings of the cultivars Coconut Ice and Pink Frost have been sent to a number of nurseries and plants established. Labels of Coconut Ice have since been ordered from the group. (Norwood handles Pink Frost labels). It is expected that both cultivars will become more frequently seen in nurseries as a consequence.

### **Vulnerable Hindmarsh Correa**

This correa was mentioned in the May 2008 issue of the newsletter. Bob O'Neil reported that he has growing at Katandra the vulnerable Hindmarsh correa - if anyone is interested then please contact Bob.

**Visit to Snowy River NP** by Cathy Hook & Paul Carmen

We have just returned from an amazing couple of days spent in the Snowy River National Park in East Gippsland. The purpose of our trip was quite unrelated to correas – we were hoping to relocate an unusual form of *Asterolasia trymalioides*, another member of the Rutaceae family, which had been collected from the Mt Bowen area in the north-eastern part of the National Park in 1971. It is steep, rugged country, and Marilyn Gray and husband Geoff organised a 4WD expedition with their 4WD Club (API) to take us into the area. While we unfortunately had no success in finding the *A. trymalioides*, we found many other interesting plants, including a shrubby, red-flowered form of *Correa lawrenceana var. latrobeana* on the rocky summit of Mt Tower (altitude approx. 1300m), north of Mt Bowen.

*Correa lawrenceana var latrobeana* is very variable. We had seen numerous patches of it in the understorey of the tall, wet forests at lower altitudes (approx 800m), where it was often growing in conjunction with *Zieria arborescens*. These *C. lawrenceana var. latrobeana* plants were generally large, rather open shrubs, and had been in bud/flower in early June when we had driven around the south-eastern edge of the National Park enroute to the Correa Crawl at Lakes Entrance. The flowers had all been greenish-yellow in colour. We didn't notice any flowers on these lower altitude plants this time (early November), although some did have buds forming.



*Correa lawrenceana* var *latrobeana* Mt Tower (pale pink flowers) - photo Marilyn Gray.JPG

The correas on Mt Tower all had well-advanced buds or were in flower, and all seemed to be a (pinkish) red colour. In general appearance the plants were smaller, more compact shrubs, with small, thickish leaves (approx. 1.5-4cm long x 1-2cm wide), elliptic to ovate in shape. The flowers appeared to be solitary, the peduncles/pedicels were relatively short, and the calyx had 4 small teeth. The mountain was shrouded in low cloud and misty rain, with visibility limited to a few metres, so we couldn't see whether they were restricted to the rocky summit area or if they extended down the mountain slopes. Some of the other plants in the summit community



*Correa lawrenceana* var *latrobeana* Mt Tower (deep red flowers) - pressed specimen - photo Murray Fagg.JPG

included *Acacia obliquinervia*, *Callistemon pallidus*, *Boronia anemonifolia*, *Epacris* (?) *breviflora*, and *Derwentia perfoliata*. Paul made a collection (under permit) for the ANBG, and it will be interesting to see how the plants cope in cultivation in very different conditions from those of their natural environment.

From Mt Tower, we drove on around the Bowen Trail, and then out to McKillop's Bridge on the northern edge of the Park. This was a fascinating drive (with stunning views) as we rapidly emerged from the wet forests/ mountains into the dry, rainshadow vegetation of the upper Snowy River. Here we found ourselves among species associated with the dry forests/woodlands of inland areas, such as *Eucalyptus albens*, *Callitris endlicheri*, *C. glaucophylla*, and *Brachychiton populneus* – with lots of *Correa reflexa* on the hillsides. These weren't in flower, but we assumed that they would be *C. reflexa* var. *reflexa*. However, we were interested to discover when we checked the distribution maps in the Flora of Victoria back at home that *C. reflexa* var. *speciosa* occurs in the area.

It's a very diverse and beautiful part of the country, and definitely worth a visit if ever the opportunity arises



#### Nursery News (contributed by Cherree)

One of our members, Brendon Stahl at Deans Marsh got this request from an APS Vic member who has a nursery called 'Special Effects' in Colac, Victoria. 'Mike' writes " ***I am interested in producing a "Correa Collection" series for the nursery. So far we have Dusky Bells, alba (prostrate local coastal) and Correa reflexa nana. I also have a few of your yellow leafed one. Do you have any***

***suggestions? I am thinking of around 10 in the collection series.***

Mike also sends an image of a correa he wanted identified - it looked interesting and I was unable to help at the time. Hopefully Brendon was able to help Mike with sorting out some suitable correas and hopefully gets the identification right before he makes up the labels. Maybe Mike should join the Correa Study Group too Brendon, can you give him some information about the Society?

A huge thank you to Martin Swanson from Wildtech Nursery who sent me two trays of struck cuttings of 'Pink Frost' and 'Coconut Ice' (from cuttings we have sent them in the past). I was able to take some free plants to the SGAP Hamilton Group when I was guest speaker there and where I trialled the Correa digital presentation (it was well received) and free plants were also given out at the SGAP Warrnambool and District Annual Flower Show last September. So the plants, hopefully, have found their way into more gardens and introduced more people to the joys of correas. (Martin made the comment that ***"Pink Frost is likely to be the most commercially successful of the two. Coconut Ice is much slower to strike and will be less popular in the nursery trade."*** Wildtech Nursery will grow and distribute these two great correas.

The other Wholesale Nursery working enthusiastically to promote correas is Philip Dowling from Native Wholesalers in Mt Gambier SA. He remarked ***"I am so excited about the explosion of new hybrids and new findings with correas and we will 'reunite the correa admiration flame' with supplies of cuttings etc and plants."*** Philip has several seedlings coming along in the wholesale pipeline for next year. He loves Lemon Twist - one of his - it is performing very well as a profuse lemon flowering groundcover type/small shrub. Others he grew this year included 'Flat White' - love the name with its connotations of having a cuppa whilst strolling around looking at and admiring the correas - the plant incidentally is a cultivar of *C. alba* and has very flat growth of very gray leaves and white flowers. (It is growing well here in Killarney). Philip has been growing native plants for the last 35 (?) years and has built up a huge successful wholesale nursery - he has always loved correas and has worked so hard to promote them. He has grown many correas within a huge garden

and many of the subsequent seedlings have shown great promise and will continue to do so. Aren't we lucky with our enthusiastic growers and members?

### **Digital Presentation on Correas**

A digital presentation on Correas for use by CSG members and District Groups has been put together and was reviewed at the Correa Crawl. Where possible, suggestions from members have been acted on and an updated version is now available on "The Correa CD" described below. The presentation will be reviewed and updated from time to time.

### **Correa Photo Gallery**

A digital photo gallery available for use by members is being established, but needs more photos. Members who have useful digital photos are asked to contact any of Cherree, Barb or David.

Photos have been donated by Tony Cavanagh, Cherree Densley, Cathy Powers, Barb & David Pye, and Alison Potter.

### **The Correa CD**

A CD containing the following has been developed:

- digital presentation
- photo gallery
- Newsletter archive
- 2008 Correa Crawl
- Cultivar list - June 2008 – compiled by Maria Hitchcock

This is available for \$5 posted, an amount that covers the cost without significant profit.