

ANPSA

Correa Study Group

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Financial Report

Hello everyone,

I hope you and your gardens have survived the long, gloomy winter and spring. Our garden in Illowa near Warrnambool has had a respectable amount of rain and we've had no particular damage. We have lost a few plants due to wind. Thank you to those members who remembered to contribute to this edition. I've seen some lovely Correas in art and even Correas gracing this 3 tiered wedding cake seen above and a mosaiced letterbox on the right. The categories in this edition of the newsletter are '**Correas in the Wild**', '**News from our Gardens**', '**New Correas**', '**Propagation**', '**Floral Art, Art and Craft**' and '**Correa Crawl**'. I'm sure you could all find something to write for one of these categories for the next edition. Have a think and jot down some ideas. The exciting news is that a Correa Crawl is being planned for 2023 after a 3 year break. Information is included. If you let Jane know that you're interested we can keep you informed. Thank you to Jane Canaway and David and Barb Pye The Leader position is vacant. If you can assist, please let us know. Have a happy festive season.
Cheers Linda



Correas in the Wild

Rock Correa Mike and Cathy Beamish

Following on from the article in the last newsletter, Cathy and I paid another visit to Kooyoora State Park in late September. On our previous visit, our walk to the Southern Lookout wasn't very successful as it was an overcast, dreary and drizzly day and the view wasn't worth the effort. So we decided to repeat the exercise in much better weather and were rewarded with not only great scenery and a clear view, but with *Correa* 'Inglewood Gold' plants still in flower some five months after our previous visit. They were no doubt nearing the end of their season as the number of flowers was nowhere near what we saw in April, but there were still a few good flowers to look at and still some buds yet to open.



Correa glabra var. *glabra* 'Inglewood Gold'

My Grampians Experience Dot O'Neill

Having found almost all of our 140 or so correa plants had finished flowering I was pleasantly surprised when visiting the Grampians over the weekend of 21st to 23rd October. Correas in home gardens were still flowering and a walk up to Beehive Falls gave me an especially pleasant experience. Correas in the wild always excite me.

I found *Correas reflexa*, *aemula* and *lawrenciana* all growing along the track. Although the falls were not spectacular I was rewarded with a wonderful "Correa Experience."

I was particularly impressed with the *Correa aemula* plants.

No shortage of *Correa aemula* as you can see [bottom right]



Correas of the Great South West Coastline Linda Handscombe

Because we could travel again this autumn/winter, we decided to check out some of the Correas along the coast from Peterborough to Portland. We only went 4 times so it was a very small survey of what was there.

Our first trip on the 13th May was to look for the pink *Correa alba* var. *pannosa* at Childers Cove. A form of this plant was found by Pat Urbonas and registered as *Correa* 'Western Pink Star' by APS Warrnambool [SGAP]. We should have checked with some local members first because we only found a few white ones clinging for their lives to the cliffs in the area around the steps. We were subsequently told that the original plants from which *Correa*



'Western Pink Star' were propagated, may well have fallen into the sea by now! On the 28th May we went to the Bay of Martyrs near Peterborough. It was later in the afternoon so the view was great with sparkling sun on the water and the cliffs. We found quite a few patches of pale green *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* as we headed east towards the Falls of Halladale lookout.



We were most excited to travel to the Portland area with Cherree Densley on the 2nd of June hoping to find some lovely Correas as had been found in earlier Correa Crawls. Our first stop was to Mount Clay where after much searching, we found several red and reddy orange *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa*.

Then we travelled to the area west of Point Danger Reserve, down Schultz Avenue next to the Portland Water Reclamation Plant. We parked half way down near the gate and we found some Ixodia and dwarf Banksias and a few *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* as we walked out to the cliffs.

It was very depressing to see how the coastal wattle had become a monoculture and the *Correas* only appeared to be growing along the edges of the tracks. These had been cut off to keep the track clear. The Great South West Walk crosses the track out to the cliffs and vegetation along this walk had been cut back too. Bush bashing through the coastal wattle and following wallaby trails we could see small *Correas* growing underneath but none of these were flowering. I did spy a nearly prostrate one and that was something I hadn't seen before. Unfortunately it wasn't flowering either so I don't know what colour it was. Cherree was disappointed too as it was not as she



remembered it. We consoled ourselves with hamburgers in Portland on the way home.



Lastly we travelled east of Warrnambool to the limestone cliffs near Lake Gilliar on 27th of June. The area was unspoiled and there were plenty of *Correa alba pannosa* amongst the limestone. They were different shapes and sizes nestled low amongst the *Leucophyta brownii*. I took one little dried flowerhead of the cushion bush and now have about 30 little plants almost ready to plant out. It was a lovely day and the view was spectacular. We did some whale watching but without success.

Next year we hope to explore more of the coastal *Correas*.



Two projects are under way involving Correas and some local APS Warrnambool and District members.

The first project was to find any existing *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* 'John Amor' plants in private gardens and to propagate these to create new plants for the local community radio station 3WAY-FM. *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* 'John Amor' is a Portland heathland *Correa* collected and cultivated for the nursery trade quite a few years ago. John Amor made an enormous contribution to the conservation of the flora and fauna of south west Victoria. He passed away in 2010 and the plant was named in his honour. He was also a regular volunteer at 3WAY-FM and they had one of these *Correas* planted in his memory in front of the building. It has since died and they are after a new plant to replace it. Two Warrnambool APS members currently have cuttings in and are hoping for success.

The original plants near Portland have disappeared due to development and the encroachment of willow wattle.



Photo and assistance with *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* 'John Amor' from Kevin Sparrow

The second project involves the dwindling wild population of *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* 'Granny's Grave.' After consultation with several members of Warrnambool and District APS group, the Warrnambool Council is drafting a management plan. Part of the plan is to apply for permits for the group to collect cutting material from the remaining plants and to establish off site populations in the Warrnambool Botanical Gardens and other local areas managed by the Warrnambool Council. This is great news.



News from our Gardens

Correa reflexa - Belka Road Bob O'Neill

This afternoon was a lovely spring, mid - October day, just right for a garden wander. We have been blessed in having just moderate rain events and no recent frosts, so all is green and lush.



I set off around the garden paths, seeking out any correas in flower. A number of correa plants had set seed, numbers require a good pruning, but in regards to flowers the score was extremely low, just 2 flowers on reflexa Neil's Best (Red Empress), and 2 flowers on reflexa Squeaky Beach plus half a dozen flowers on each of 2 small reflexa Belka Rd plants. That is across a garden containing over 100 correa plants. The presence of honey eaters may have had a finishing off effect on the flowering, but obviously late spring into summer is not prime flowering season at Narre Warren South.

Correa reflexa Belka Road comes from a rural East Gippsland location and has been a most valued plant in our correa collection for some time. What is most striking about this correa form is the unusually dark foliage, coupled with an attractive large, dark red flower. This plant grows to approximately 80cm x 1m, not a large plant and has

performed well for us over the years. It has a frosty/furry appearance on both the flower and the leaves. We strongly desire to retain Belka Road in our collection.

Daisy Hill Brian Hendrikson

I have a collection of correas here. Daisy Hill in Central Victoria has always suited correas. The wet weather has not affected them at all and most have put on a lot more growth than in other years.

An interesting thing is that when we had the floods in 2010, 2011 a lot of correas didn't survive.

Recently bought Correa 'Tucker Time Dinner Time Bells' and 'OMG' has grown well in the wet.

Correas in The Paddy's Ranges are almost impossible to find. We covered 80km one Sunday and couldn't find any. Yet many years ago correas were common. The "controlled" burning and wallabies are probably to blame. I do know where there are a few though.



Correa 'OMG'

A Correa for All Occasions Sue Blood and Ross Dawson

Correas are very versatile plants and we use them in our garden 'The Rocks' in Illowa near Warrnambool, in a number of different ways.

Correa glabra 'Barossa Gold' provides a distinctive foliage contrast with its yellow colouring. Growing on the front patio it is a highlight amongst the green plants

A number of Correas that were planted 4 years ago provide a hedge protecting smaller shrubs from the strong southeasterly winds. These include *Correa reflexa*, *Correa glabra* 'Barossa Gold' (obvious with its distinctive colouring) and *Correa* 'OMG'. In 2020 we discovered a small Correa seedling growing within the area and affectionately called it *Correa* 'Corona' – it is in there somewhere. We are certain that the area is a haven for a number of different animals.

Unfortunately it would be well used by the pesky rabbits.

We positioned a row of very large rocks and a hedge of Callistemons, Kunzeas and Melaleucas to reduce traffic noise along our southern border. The barrier works well to hide the passing cars and to reduce the effects of the strong southerly wind. In behind this we planted a row of 11 different Correas – this provided a second tier and further protected other plants. These include *Correa* 'Strawberry Shortcake', *Correa* 'Fab' and *Correa backhouseana*. With different coloured flowers they are a beautiful sight.



Correa News Neil Duncan

I don't have many correas in my garden but they have flourished with the rain we have had this year. *Correa* 'Skye Bells', 'St Andrews', and 'Pink Mist' have needed to be trimmed as they have out grown their space in the garden. They also flowered well. The only disappointment was that a beautiful *Correa pulchella* with orange bells which had been growing well under a *Hakea* suddenly departed early in the year, but whether it was due to the weather or not I couldn't tell.

My mother-in-law has a holiday home in Anglesea which has numerous correas. They also have grown on steroids this year and will need serious trimming with one hiding the garden tap! I planted some correas from tubestock last year at the holiday home but a rabbit took up residence and although not completely eating the correas they needed protection and are now starting to put on good growth.



One interesting thing I saw in the Anglesea property was a Satin Bowerbird who has his bower in the nextdoor home, collecting flowers from a *correa backhouseana* in his beak. He collected about 10 with the flowers sticking out like whiskers from his beak before taking off – is he going to eat them or use them to decorate the bower or what?

Correas at Wrenhaven Michael Mattner

Over the past few years, I have lost several Correas, this may be due to the humid summers that are unusual for us here in Southwest Vic.

Correa 'Western Pink Star' (originally named by our group, Warrnambool and District APS) has proven to be a hardy plant. It receives the air from the split system outside unit all year round and continues to grow and flower well. It faces west and is in a sheltered spot in well drained soil.

Correa mannii is doing well and has a nice spread. *Correa pulchella* is also doing well.

I look forward to planting more Correas in the future.



Pruning an Old Garden Cherree Densley

Cherree Densley has found an old computer print out of the Correas in her garden at Killarney in 1991 [the year my youngest daughter was born].

Some have died and some are rather large and in need of pruning. Ian is seen here trimming some back to form hedges. Cherree promises to let us know how they go in the next edition of the newsletter. Cherree's list can be seen on the next page. It's interesting to see how we used to grow mostly species and now we seem to grow more cultivars.



Correas at Cherree Densley's property at Killarney as at 17/9/91

1. aemula
2. alba- low form
3. alba pannosa
4. alba pink form
5. alba small pink star Childer's Cove
6. alba variegated leaves
7. backhouseana
8. backhouseana dwarf [died]
9. baeuerlennii
10. calycina
11. calycina hybrid
12. decumbens
13. decumbens upright
14. glabra [cream and pink]
15. glabra green
16. lawrenciana var. cordifolia
17. lawrenciana var. rosea
18. lawrenciana Snowy Mountains form
19. lawrenciana large, pointed leathery leaves
20. pulchella white
21. pulchella soft pink
22. pulchella thin leaves
23. pulchella prostrate with rounded leaves
24. pulchella minor
25. pulchella dark pink
26. reflexa green form from Tasmania
27. reflexa green Narrawong
28. reflexa green, narrow leaves, long thin bell
29. reflexa nummularifolia
30. reflexa green prostrate
31. reflexa 'Old Gold' creamy, green prostrate
32. reflexa 'Eucla'
33. reflexa Grampians wide leaf
34. reflexa Grampians thin leaf
35. reflexa Grampians very thin leaf, wispy growth
36. reflexa Anglesea
37. reflexa Wilkin Heath
38. reflexa Springvale heathland
39. reflexa 'Fat Fred'
40. reflexa squat bell
41. reflexa Wilson's Promontory cream and lime
42. reflexa prostrate red, small leaves
43. reflexa prostrate orange
44. reflexa prostrate, red, large leaves
45. reflexa large pointed leaves, long thin red flowers
46. reflexa large deep red, open straggly growth
47. reflexa triangular leaves, warted, dark red very large flowers
48. reflexa 'Poorinda Giant' hairy rounded leaves, open red
49. reflexa Kangaroo Island
50. reflexa pink [hasn't flowered yet]
51. reflexa Penola
52. reflexa Grampians prostrate
53. reflexa half pink, half dusky lime
54. reflexa large red, rounded smooth leaves
55. reflexa green Granny's Grave
56. schlectendalii
57. schlectendalii yellow leaves [could be glabra]
58. Hybrid 'Marian's Marvel'
59. Hybrid mannii
60. Hybrid mannii x pulchella
61. Hybrid 'Marian's Marvel' x alba [Benara Bell] [Beek's Bounty]
62. Hybrid decumbens x glabra 'Lipstick Plant'
63. Hybrid reflexa x alba pink, cream
64. Hybrid 'Poorinda Fantasy'
65. Hybrid 'Beek's Bounty' [could be the same as Benara Bell]
66. Hybrid Raelene Goldie [from Marian Beek]
67. Hybrid 'Dusty Bells'
68. Hybrid 'Dusky Bells'
69. Hybrid 'Deep Creek'

New Correas

Correa "Tickled Pink" a new cultivar Kevin Sparrow

For the last 8 - 10 years, we have had a very pretty correa growing in our garden, its origins having been lost in the mists of time. I seem to remember someone bringing it into one of our Warrnambool APS Members Nights and I took it home and struck it as a cutting. I planted it in the garden and promptly forgot about it.

Fast forward to last year, I picked a small branch with flower attached and took it into our Members Night for our Display Table. Linda Handscombe obviously took a liking to it and took my plant material home and struck it again. It is a very pretty correa and she was keen to know its origins and if she could legally propagate it for sale in her nursery. This is where things get a bit messy, a search of the internet could not shed any light on the name of it and no-one could remember bringing it into one of our meetings. I decided to email a photo of the flower to 'correaphile', Maria Hitchcock to see if she knew what it was, no luck there either!

Maria suggested that maybe the plant was a chance seedling that came up in someone's garden and was a hybrid, quite possible of course. She also offered to propagate it and get it into the nursery trade, we just needed a flashy cultivar name for it.

Mmmmm, what to call it? Lots of names were bandied about usually involving the color pink but nothing seemed to stick until Linda came up with Correa "Tickled Pink". Bingo!



Correa 'Autumn Cheer' Peter Ollerenshaw

This is a new variety that I have introduced to the market recently. The flowers on this variety grow at all angles rather than just hanging down.



Propagation

Growing Correa from Seed Peter Ollerenshaw

Correas are not generally grown from seed as they are so easy to propagate from cuttings. However, if you wish to produce new varieties or perhaps need plants for revegetation work growing them from seed is the only option.

Correa fruits release their seed in an explosive manner once they are mature, so it is necessary to bag the fruit while they are quite green. I make up small bags from plastic fly screen that can be folded and stapled around the fruit. These allow the fruit to stay dry and can be easily removed once the seed is expelled. The bags also work well for collecting Grevillea seed.

Correa fruits produce between one and 12 tiny black seed but 3 – 4 is more common. Once the seed has been collected and cleaned it can be sown immediately. I generally wait until I have collected all my seed batches and sow them at the same time. This is because Correa seed needs to be smoke treated to induce germination, otherwise seedlings can take years to appear.

After sowing I water the punnets thoroughly then place the seed trays in a plastic tent with a drum full of smouldering Eucalyptus leaves. I leave the drum to smoulder for at least half an hour, then retrieve the trays and treat them as normal. Germination starts about six weeks after smoke treatment and may continue for several months. By the time the seeds have germinated and the cotyledons spread, the roots have already gone down 4 – 5 centimetres so I find it best to transplant the seedling into small pots as they appear. Once the seedlings are established they can be treated like cutting grown plants.



Cuttings by Mail Linda Handscombe

I had a phone call from a lovely man in central Victoria earlier this year. He was after a Correa seedling of ours and said if I'd send him some cuttings, he'd send me a collection of his favourites that I didn't have.

I received a post box in the mail a week later. It was full of zip lock bags and little bundles of beautifully prepared cuttings [no roots]. I quickly trimmed them, clonexed them and off they went.

I took lots of cuttings for him and returned the box a week later. The cuttings from him are mostly tubed up as plants now and I'm grateful for some unknown treasures.

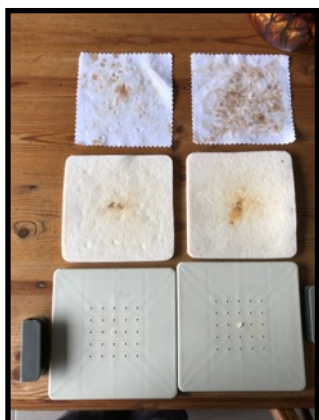


1. Cut the required number of cuttings and remove the lower leaves but leave a little extra length so the stems can be trimmed by the recipient.
2. Lie cuttings on a damp paper towel and fold the bottom up and over the cut end.
3. Roll the paper towel up into a roll and gently apply a loose rubber band.
4. Write a plant label and tuck into the rubber band.
5. Place rolls into zip lock bags.
6. Place bags into a post box and gently cushion them with scrunched newspaper.
7. Post on Monday during a cool week.

Floral Art, Art and Craft



Pressing Flowers Linda Handscombe



In 2017, the Pomonal APS group chose the Rutaceae family as the theme for their annual flower show. I decided early on to make the *Correa* genus shine and take pride of place. I



began picking and pressing flowers and storing them in paper towels in a series of heavy books. I realise I could have started earlier and gone on longer but my 'A Year of *Correas*' display started in April and ended in August because I ran out of steam. I used a microwave flower press that worked well. I microwaved following directions [25 seconds I think] and stored them in the paper towel after naming individual groups of species/cultivars. When I had enough, I chose the best for the display. They held their colour very well and looked great behind glass for 2 years and then I discarded them when we moved in 2019.



Correa Crawl

Correa Crawl 2023 – Central Victoria

The western part of Central Victoria will be the venue for the 2023 Correa crawl. David and Barb Pye have explored some areas near their home, and a full itinerary will be worked out over the coming weeks.

Save the date: *King's Birthday holiday in 2023 is from Saturday, June 10, to Monday, June 12.*

The weekend will take in some bushland sites in Bullengarook and Brisbane Ranges National Park, plus the Pyes garden in Bullengarook, and Melton Botanic Gardens. There is a nursery at Melton Botanic Gardens also.

There are lots of accommodation options in the Melton / Bacchus Marsh area, including some with multiple bedrooms large enough for groups. We'll leave it to individuals to find their own accommodation.



Correa reflexa - Brisbane Ranges – Clarkes Road
Correa reflexa - Bullengarook – Firth Road
Correa reflexa - Brisbane Ranges – Thompsons Road

Suggestions include:

This place sleeps 6: https://www.stayz.com.au/holiday-rental/p9591890?adultsCount=6&arrival=2023-06-10&departure=2023-06-12&uni_id=8671692

This has two double rooms: https://www.stayz.com.au/holiday-rental/p9226590?adultsCount=4&arrival=2023-06-10&departure=2023-06-12&uni_id=5787871

There are motel rooms and 2-bed apartments at the Melton Motor Inn: <https://meltonmotorinn.com.au/>

Dinners will be organised in Melton or Bacchus Marsh on the Saturday and Sunday nights, and a cuttings swap will be incorporated into the itinerary.

Further research

Members with local knowledge who know of any hidden locations are asked to get in touch with either David and Barbara on 0417 289 369 or dabpye@gmail.com, or Jane Canaway, 0425 70 17 56 or jcanaway@yahoo.com



Membership

Membership of the Correa Study Group is free as newsletters are sent digitally.

Current membership is 67 households and various groups.

If you know of APS members who wish to join, contact me and I can put them on the mailing list.

If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let me know.

If you'd like a copy of the Correa disk, let Dot O'Neill or myself know.

Financial report Dot O'Neill

Bank Balance as at last newsletter

\$1076.24

Current balance \$1076.34

[Dot kindly added 10c to keep the account active and open].