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Correa Study Group

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Contents

News from our Gardens:

Linda Handscombe, Ros and Ben Walcott, Fran Middleton, Michael Mattner, Miriam Ford, Bob O'Neill, Cherree Densley,

New Correas:

Cherree Densley, Maria Hitchcock

Floral Art, Arts and Crafts:

Dave Handscombe

Kings Birthday Weekend Correa Crawl:

Linda Handscombe

Membership/Financial Report:

Linda Handscombe, Dot O'Neill

Hello everyone,

I hope your Correas are doing well. Thanks to anyone who contributed to this newsletter. The next edition comes out in December so have a look at your own Correas while they're flowering at the moment or the ones flowering in your local area and put something together for Newsletter 67. You have 6 months and I'm happy to put in anything no matter how BIG or small. It makes it much easier for me if you send any articles and high resolution photos separately.

We had a very successful Correa Crawl on the King's Birthday Weekend. If you couldn't make it, put the next one in your 2025 calendar.

My husband has been disappointed that our property in Illowa has no Eastern Spinebills unlike our garden in Pomonal. This autumn/winter for the first time we have a pair and they've been hanging around the Correas and the Epacris for weeks. Hooray!

Thank you Cherree Densley for your sweet little Correa design above.

Do you watch Gardening Australia? Their new introduction graphics are really lovely. I think they need to make some merchandise. I'd like a tea towel with the introduction graphic that contains the Correa on the edge. I hope you all keep warm and well drained this winter.

Cheers Linda

News From Our Gardens

Our Garden in Illowa South West Victoria Linda Handscombe

We've been having some cold drizzly weather but it is winter. We had a cooler than usual summer too. Last year's rainfall was 847.5mm and so far this year we've had 487.5mm. [Yes the .5mm is important because my extended family has an annual rainfall competition with medals]. The Correas are booming though because our volcanic loam is extremely well drained.

If we didn't have a rabbit problem, everything in the garden would be rosy. Every plant that is planted needs a guard until it's established because the rabbits have a liking for all the Rutaceae family members. Correas, Philothecas, Diplolaenas, Boronias, ... they either dig the roots out or nip the plants off at the top. We use wire or plastic mesh tree guards because they have good airflow but plants tend to grow through the holes when you're not watching and then the guards are very hard to get off. They also have a tendency to grow tall out the top and then fall over if they're not tip pruned regularly. Vigilant tree guard removal and pruning is essential but quite often it doesn't happen. A few will have their guards forever because I refuse to butcher the plants to get the guards off.



Correas that have performed particularly well this year are *Correa pulchella* 'Pixie Bells' an adorable and very floriferous small shrub with vivid orange flowers. According to Maria Hitchcock's book, it is possibly *Correa pulchella* 'Minor' believed to be from the Flinders Ranges or it's possibly from somewhere else and that further investigation is needed. Another is an orange *Correa pulchella* from the roadside on Kangaroo Island. Both these Correas are growing on the edge of an embankment. They blow around in the wild Warrnambool wind but haven't blown out yet.

***Correa* 'Pixie Bells'**



***Correa pulchella* KI**



Another ripper and personal favourite is from Joan Pitaro who lives in George St, hence the name *Correa* 'Georgie Girl'. As my mother used to say, 'You can't put a pin between the flowers' because there are so many. It's a reflexa hybrid. For us in our old garden in Pomonal in the Grampians, it was half the size and flowered in spring but down here it's flowering magnificently right now and is probably 2.5m wide and .5m high.



Correa 'Marian's Mini' is a brilliant plant too. Nice and round and compact with heaps and heaps of flowers. Apparently a seedling of *Correa* 'Marian's Marvel' [SPELT WITH AN A LIKE MY MOTHER NOT AN O], it is much more manageable and a respectable size.

Another big performer this year is a seedling of ours *Correa* 'Gwen's Blush' and it's a baby from *Correa* 'Gwen' that grew for us in Pomonal. It's very hardy, taller and less affected by the cold and frost. The flowers have a bigger and darker pink blush than



Correa 'Gwen' and the tips are an intriguing grey. They reflex really distinctly as they age.



The last spectacular specimen is a *Correa reflexa* from the Port Macdonnell cemetery area in South Australia. It is a brilliant colour with masses of flowers to which the rosellas have taken a big liking.



Success and Failure

'If you can meet with triumph and disaster and treat those two imposters just the same' Rudyard Kipling

Words: Ros Walcott, Canberra

Photos: Ben Walcott, Canberra

In April 2015 we planted five *Correa* 'Lemon Twist', a hybrid between *C. reflexa* var. *nummulariifolia* and *C. alba*, which first occurred in the gardens of Native Plant Wholesalers in Mount Gambier. This is a spreading shrub, 20cm high x 1m wide, with shiny foliage and well displayed lemon flowers. We planted two more in March 2021, but these died in the rain of January 2022. Meanwhile the five original plants thrived through the first two years of the extra La Nina rain of 2020-21. The rainfall in our garden has varied widely from 376mm in 2018 to 1253mm in 2022. In the previous La Nina event in 2010 we received 1102mm rain and lost many of our correas. This La Nina has been even more extreme, 2020 972mm, 2021 1157mm, and the crowning glory of 1253mm last year. All of our 'Lemon Twist' suffered in the rain and four of them have died. The remaining one is looking dicey.



Correa 'Lemon Twist' in flower



Correa 'Lemon Twist' in happier days, May 2020



Sad demise of Correa 'Lemon Twist' December 2022



***Correa glabra* near *Pomaderris intermedia* starting to cover pot storage in September 2021 and below, looking successful!**

On the other hand, we wanted to block out the view of the pot storage along our back fence and planted eight *Correa glabra* red and ten *Correa glabra* green in February 2021 in hope of avoiding the eyesore. These plants form a rounded shrub 1-2m high and wide, have marvellous shiny foliage and flower over long periods with red and green bell flowers. These eighteen plants have powered away, not minding the extra rain and appreciating the fact that their roots are deep in rotted-down waterlilies from our pond system. A neophyte truck driver dumped a load of 'forest litter' mulch on them, not once but twice(!), when we were not there to guide him. We dug them out of the mulch and they just kept growing. They do their job of blocking out the pot storage and are an asset to the garden in every possible way. The conclusion is to trumpet your successes and replant your failures –



Seedling Correas in my Canberra garden

Fran Middleton



***Correa* 'Orange Glow' left, paler seedling right**



***Correa glabra* Coliban River (Kyneton form?)**



***C. glabra* Coliban River is likely one parent of this nearby pink**



***Correa* 'Marian's Marvel'**

We all know how promiscuous *Correas* can be and whenever a seedling germinates in my garden it becomes a waiting game until I find out whether the random mixing of genes has resulted in something a bit special - or not.

During the bushfire summer of 2019/2020 Canberra experienced some of the worst air quality in the world and it was during the following few months that I noticed *Correa* seedlings emerging - there may be a link between the weeks of thick smoke and germination.

Here, along with my best guess at likely parents, are a small number of seedlings that have produced flowers so far.

I found two very different seedlings in front of *Correa* 'Marian's Marvel', one very similar to that parent.

Once they reveal their particular charms I can take cuttings and eventually remove any plants that have not put themselves in a good spot. Of course, it's not necessarily all about flowers as I'd be satisfied with a different form such as a prostrate plant, an interesting leaf colour or long-flowering habit.

As we've all discovered, these seedlings don't always grow in convenient places (right on the very edge of a pebblecrete driveway doesn't give much scope, for example). The parents are a mystery for this one. It looks a bit like *Correa* 'Dusky Bells' which are not nearby but are elsewhere in the garden. It has a prostrate form so far.

There are still more seedlings coming along and it will be interesting to see what features they eventually reveal. As a relatively new member of this Study Group, I'm very keen to explore all the ways these plants can intrigue and delight.



Seedling 2: has hints of *C.* 'Marian's Marvel' parentage



Seedling 1: not unlike *C. glabra* forms in my garden



Correa seedling wedged into the edge of pebblecrete driveway



Correa seedling where an unnamed Correa had died

***Correa mannii* Michael Mattner South West Vic.**

This is a great Correa for the garden growing 1.5m to 2m by .5m high.

The deep pink flowers are a lovely contrast to the dense dark green foliage making it an attractive plant.

Mine is in full sun in well drained soil, the birds love it also and are busy flying in and out all day.

It has been in three years now and looking very healthy.

I would recommend this plant for a large or small garden.



Correas & Autumnal Colour Miriam Ford

Many of you will know of my Australian Mint Bush (*Prostanthera* species) collection but did you also know that I am rather fond of Correas and recently joined the Correa Study Group. Correas flower when mint bushes don't or only a select few such as *Prostanthera cryptandroides* and *porcata*. I have a large garden with a great variety of Australian plants, a mix of local indigenous species and many others from all over Australia with mint bush species predominating.

Garden visits are a great opportunity to collect cutting material and I have been able to do just that in my capacity as APS Vic President when visiting District Groups or as my local DG - APS Yarra Yarra – Committee of Management (COM) delegate on Quarterly visits or simply on one of our regular APS YY garden visits throughout the year. I have enjoyed propagating for a long time now and here is a list of the recent additions to my Correa Collection, courtesy of Kevin Sparrow, Dave & Linda Handscombe, Bruce Schroder, Bob & Dot O'Neill (cutting material) and the Melton BG and Maria Hitchcock (tubestock). I was thrilled to finally acquire, after several years of searching, a tube of *Correa* 'Inglewood Gold' from Neil Duncan. This particular species was found locally by an APS YY member, Bruce Grose and registered with ACRA. This is a beautiful Correa with large dusky gold tubular flowers well displayed on the plant. It has grown into a large specimen recently planted in the garden and I have propagated from it since.



Cuttings went in last year – I use a 50/50 perlite/coir fibre mix, purple Clonex or hormone powder and a Sage Horticulture large heat bed with bottom heat and misting. Cuttings usually take between 6 to 8 weeks to develop roots. The rooted cuttings were potted into forestry tubes and once well grown then into 90mm square Supertubes. This year I took many species to the APS YY Autumn Plant Sale:

- *Correa* 'Gwen's Blush' *alba x reflexa*,
- *C.* 'Lime Chimes' *glabra x pulchella*
- *C.* 'Warrandyte Wonder' (found by another APS YY member Noel Gaskett in the Warrandyte bushland – has copious long dusky pink flowers, a spreading rangy shrub)
- *C.* 'Win's Wonder' (variegated form)
- *C.* *glabra* var. *glabra* 'Inglewood Gold'
- *C.* *pulchella* (pink form)
- *C.* *reflexa* 'Dusky Bells'
- *C.* *reflexa* 'Granny's Grave'
- *C.* *reflexa* var. *reflexa* Lake Monibeong
- *C.* *reflexa* var. *reflexa* 'Neil's Best'
- *C.* *reflexa* Tambo



Correa 'Gwen's Blush'



Correa 'Warrandyte Wonder'



Correa 'Dusky Bells'



Correa reflexa var. reflexa 'Granny's Grave'



Correa reflexa var. reflexa Lake Monibeong



I have several others in the garden with *Correa* 'Marian's Marvel' a favourite. *Correa alba* white is so hardy and makes a great display when kept pruned so it doesn't take over. I recently acquired cutting material from Pat Dale's garden in South Gippsland of a stunning pink form of this species so it is now added to the collection. I have several from Maria including *Correa* 'Emma Pearl' and *Correa* 'Cappucino' which, as the name suggests, has lovely long coffee-coloured flowers. These are both doing very well in the garden and have also been propagated since with plants already passed onto others.

The *Correa reflexa* Tall Form growing amongst my nursery stock is one I got from Bob Blake of the APS Wimmera Group

De Mole River Correa Kangaroo Island Bob O'Neill

This rare plant, *Correa calycina* var. *halmaturorum*, was first collected in 1985 from along the banks of the De Mole River on Kangaroo Island. It is a spreading shrub measuring up to 1.2m x 2.5m in the wild. I find it a most interesting plant because it is different.

We have 3 of these plants growing nicely in our garden at Narre Warren South, the biggest being 1m x 1.2m in size. All the 3 plants are positioned in moist, well mulched sites. They are all flowering nicely currently.

This is not a show stopper plant when in flower, the smallish flowers being a quiet green in colour do not permit that to be. I find the darkish foliage interesting and different and it is grown here simply because it deserves a place in the garden. Now that it has crossed my mind that it is different and rare, I must take a few cuttings to grow a few copies of this rare and different plant to distribute it more widely across more gardens.



Mt Richmond White Bob O'Neill

I saw *Correa reflexa* Mt Richmond White in the wild perhaps 20 years ago and was very impressed with what I saw. It was scattered lightly here and there amidst the much more common red form of that lovely local correa. I returned to the area some years later only to find that the white form was not to be seen in the areas where I had observed it earlier. To me there was a sharp lesson here. If you have a rare form of a plant in your possession, propagate it then spread it across your gardening friendship contacts to help preserve any such special gifts.



We have found Mt Richmond White to be easy to propagate and is generally not an overly fussy plant to grow. It is happy here in positions ranging from semi shade to full sun and copes with light frosts as a part of life. Our plants are in mulched garden beds with fair to good drainage.

The plant itself grows to approximately 1m x 1.2m. It bears a lovely, large white flower. In our garden it certainly holds its own as a feature plant. If I had to downsize our current garden, Mt Richmond White would still hold its place as a treasured plant.



News from Killarney Cherree Densley



Correa 'Windsong' has a few flowers at the moment and is just as beautiful as promised on the label.

We cut back one of our first planted *Correas*, *Correa* 'Marian's Marvel' yesterday. It was 3x4x3m with lots of hidden bird nests. It had overgrown lots of forgotten plants and landscaping stumps and logs. Brutal but I needed that pathway back! Will it grow back? The stump is secure and has no dieback.



Keep us posted in the next newsletter Cherree.

New Correas



While these two Correas might not be brand new releases, they're new to Cherree Densley and I. She alerted me to them. It depends which state you live in and which wholesale suppliers are operating in your area I guess. The PGA Perfect Pollinator comes in Perfect Pollinator Pink and Perfect Pollinator Red as well.

If you'd like to tell us about any other new releases, send them in.

The 'Chimes' Series of Correas Maria Hitchcock OAM

Recently I came across a group of Correas which all had the word 'Chimes' in their name. I suppose 'chimes' is a substitute for 'bells' which has probably been done to death by Correa growers. Unlike many other people who name Correa seedlings which come up spontaneously in their gardens, this series of plants was bred and selected by Ian Shimmen of Mt Evelyn Victoria, submitted for PBR and granted rights. A Google search resulted in zero information about Ian Shimmen so it would be good if we could find out more about this breeder. Maybe one of our members might know of him. Apart from Peter Ollerenshaw of Bywong Nursery, Ian Shimmen is one of the few breeders currently holding PBR on Correas.

The others are Peter Goldup (Bushland Flora), Dave Burt (Ozbreed - *C. alba* 'Coastal Pink', *C. pulchella* 'Fire Bells'), PGA (*C. pulchella* 'Perfect Pollinator Dark Pink') and Narkabundah Nursery (*C. pulchella* 'Vanilla Essence').

Plants with PBR status may not be propagated for sale except under licence from the holder of the rights. It is very expensive to submit a plant for PBR so one does so knowing that the cost will be recompensed in royalties. For example I purchased a licence from Bywong to propagate and sell *Correa* 'Catie Bec' PBR. As well as the cost of the one-off licence, I needed to purchase a descriptive label for each plant (\$1.00 ea). This meant that I had to charge at least an additional \$4.00 to cover the cost of 100 plants. This affects the sale price and Peter uses an agent to arrange large scale propagation and distribution.

Sometimes PBR is terminated or cancelled and if you are a grower and seller it pays to keep an eye on the listings to find out what the current status is. The PBR of the website is below and they have an easy to use species finder.

Ian Shimmen's listings are 'Amber Chimes', 'Ember Chimes', 'Coral Chimes', 'Ice Chimes', 'Moon Chimes' and a *C. alba* hybrid called 'Star Showers'. The PBR website gives quite a lot of information about each of these which was used to write this article. Google Images was used to source the photographs.

***Correa pulchella* x 'Amber Chimes'(COR13033)**

PBR Accepted 8/10/2020

Comparative trial of 10 plants in a randomised design was done from January 2019 to May 2020. First sold in Australia April 2017.

Breeder Ian Shimmen, Mt Evelyn, VIC



***Correa* 'Amber Chimes'**

Image: [gardenworld.com.au](https://www.gardenworld.com.au)

***Correa* 'Amber Chimes'**

Image: [bunnings.com.au](https://www.bunnings.com.au)

Origin and Breeding

Open pollination followed by seedling selection: Seed was collected from the parent variety *Correa pulchella* on 18/02/2013. The seed was sown, germinated and grown on, the candidate variety was selected from the resultant seedlings based on habit, number of flowers and flower colour. Cuttings were taken from the seedling and grown on to determine uniformity and stability.

Comparators: *Correa* 'Ember Chimes', 'Ring a Ding Ding', 'Coffin Bay', *C. pulchella* sp., 'Annie's Delight', 'Orange Glow', 'Autumn Blaze'.

Description:

Growth habit: semi-erect low bush,

Flower: single colour orange-red, tubular, medium length, narrow width, solitary, pendulous, strongly reflexed lobes, medium to long pedicels, medium to long style.

Leaves: rhombic, medium length, narrow width, with an obtuse tip and an obtuse base, strongly undulated and concave, opposite arrangement with a very short petiole.

***Correa pulchella* 'Coral Chimes' (COR13017)**

PBR Accepted 26/3/2018

Comparative trial of 10 plants in a randomised design was done from January 2019 to May 2020.

Breeder Ian Shimmen, Mt Evelyn, VIC



***Correa pulchella* 'Coral Chimes'**

Image: outdoordesign.com.au

***Correa pulchella* 'Coral Chimes'**

Image: bunnings.com.au

Origin and Breeding

Open pollination followed by seedling selection: Seed was collected from the parent variety *Correa pulchella* on 18/02/2013. The seed was sown, germinated and grown on, the candidate variety was selected from the resultant seedlings based on habit, number of flowers and flower colour. Cuttings were taken from the seedling and grown on to determine uniformity and stability.

Comparators: 'Mallee Pink', 'Isabell', 'Pink Mist', 'Anabell', 'Coffin Bay', 'Ice Maiden', 'Little Cate'

Description:

Growth habit: Semi-erect low bush

Flower: single colour pink, tubular, solitary, pendulous, very narrow, strongly reflexed lobes, very short pedicels, long style.

Leaves: ovate, medium length, narrow with an obtuse tip and an obtuse base, concave, opposite with a very short petiole.

***Correa pulchella* 'Ember Chimes' (COR13011)**

PBR Accepted 26/3/2018

Comparative trial of 10 plants in a randomised design was done from May 2019 to May 2020. First sold in Australia in March 2017.

Breeder Ian Shimmen, Mt Evelyn, VIC



***Correa pulchella* 'Ember Chimes'**

Image: springpark.com.au

***Correa pulchella* 'Ember Chimes'**

Image: bunnings.com.au

Origin and Breeding

Open pollination followed by seedling selection: Seed was collected from the parent variety *Correa pulchella* on 18/02/2013. The seed was sown, germinated and grown on. The candidate variety was selected from the resultant seedlings based on plant habit, height of plant, number of flowers and flower colour. Cuttings were taken from the seedling and grown on to determine uniformity and stability.

Comparators: 'Amber Chimes', 'Ring a Ding Ding', 'Coffin Bay', *C. pulchella* sp. 'Annie's Delight', 'Orange Glow', 'Autumn Blaze'.

Description:

Growth habit: Small to medium semi-erect bush

Flower: single colour orange-red, medium length, tubular, solitary, pendulous, narrow width, strongly reflexed lobes, short pedicels, long style.

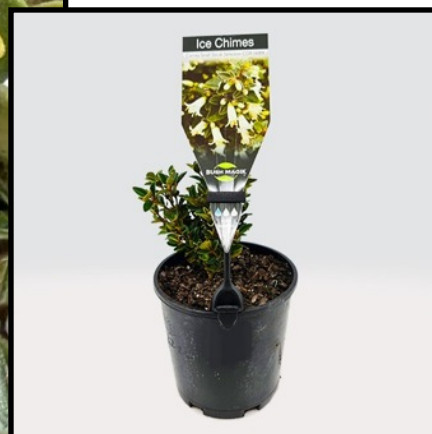
Leaves: rhombic, medium length, narrow width with an obtuse tip and an obtuse base, concave, opposite with a very short petiole.

***Correa pulchella* 'Ice Chimes' (COR16004)**

PBR Accepted 5/3/2019

Comparative trial of 10 plants in a randomised design was done from May 2019 to May 2020.

Breeder Ian Shimmen, Mt Evelyn, VIC



***Correa pulchella* 'Ice Chimes'**

Image: flowerpower.com.au

***Correa pulchella* 'Ice Chimes'**

Image: gardenworld.com.au

Origin and Breeding

Open pollination followed by seedling selection: Seed was collected from the parent variety *Correa pulchella* in 2015. The seed was sown, germinated and grown on, the candidate variety was selected from the resultant seedlings based on plant habit, flower colour and number of flowers. Cuttings were taken from the seedling and grown on to determine uniformity and stability.

Comparators: 'Moon Chimes', 'Ice Maiden', 'Just a Touch', 'St Andrews'

Description:

Growth habit: Semi-erect low bush

Flower: single colour white, short to medium length, bell-shaped, clustered, pendulous, medium width, strongly reflexed lobes, very short pedicels, medium style.

Leaves: ovate, short length (5-10mm), narrow (5-10mm), with an acute tip and an obtuse base, concave, opposite and decussate with a very short petiole.

Correa 'Moon Chimes' (COR13008)

PBR Accepted 26/3/2018

Comparative trial of 10 plants in a randomised design was done from January 2019 to May 2020. First sold March 2017 in Australia.

Breeder Ian Shimmen, Mt Evelyn, VIC



Correa 'Moon Chimes'

Image: guildfordgardencentre.com.au

Correa 'Moon Chimes'

Image: bunnings.com.au

Origin and Breeding

Open pollination followed by seedling selection: Seed was collected from the parent variety *Correa pulchella* 'Pink Mist' on 18/02/2013. The seed was sown, germinated and grown on, the candidate variety was selected from the resultant seedlings based on habit, number of flowers and flower colour. Cuttings were taken from the seedling and grown on to determine uniformity and stability.

Comparators: 'Ice Chimes', 'St Andrews'

Description:

Growth habit: Upright low bush

Flower: single colour white, short to medium length, narrow width, bell-shaped, clustered, pendulous, moderately reflexed lobes, very short pedicels, medium to long style.

Leaves: ovate, short length (5-10mm), narrow (5-10mm), with an acute tip and an obtuse base, flat, opposite and decussate with a very short petiole.

***Correa alba* x 'Star Showers' (CR001)**

PBR Accepted 15/10/2013

Comparative trial of 10 plants in a randomised design was done from January 2019 to May 2020. First sold in Australia in June 2013

Breeder Ian Shimmen, Mt Evelyn, VIC



Correa 'Star Showers'

Image: bushmagik.com

Origin and Breeding

Open pollination followed by seedling selection: Seed was collected from mature plants of *Correa alba* in 2010. 'CR001' was selected from the resultant seedlings based on the compact habit and leaf colour. It was grown on to determine uniformity and stability.

Comparators: 'White Delight, *C. alba*, 'Western Pink', 'Ivory Bells', 'Just a Touch', 'Vanilla Cream', 'Coconut Ice', 'Candy Pink'

Description:

Growth habit: Open, spreading, prostrate shrub

Flower: single colour white, short length, broad width, star-shaped, solitary, semi-erect, very strongly reflexed lobes, very short pedicels, medium style.

Leaves: orbicular, hairy, medium length (10 -15mm), broad (10 -15mm), with a rounded tip and a rounded base, concave, opposite and decussate with a very short petiole.

Reference: <https://ipsearch.ipaustralia.gov.au/pbr>

Floral Art, Arts and Crafts

Macro Photography Dave Handscombe



I've always been interested in photography and gardening. I've made a series of these background boxes and this one has been the most successful so far.

The purpose of the boxes is to control background lighting. The background can be either white or black and is altered by sliding out a piece of ply that is painted white on one side and black on the other. The box is made from ply.

The subject matter is held in a clamp that I purchased from a hobby store. I sometimes use a diffused flash or existing light and a reflector. My camera is an SLR with a 100mm macro lens. The photo below is *Correa* 'Ice Maiden'.





Top to bottom. *Correa* 'Coconut Ice', *Correa* ?, *Correa* 'Jezeabelle'
Correa 'Pinker Bells', *Correa* 'Clearview Giant', *Correa* 'Isabelle'
Correa 'Marian's Mini', *Correa* 'Wreck of the Ethel', *Correa* 'Bron'

The King's Birthday Weekend Correa Crawl

The first post Covid and King's Birthday Weekend Correa Crawl was a big success. Correa Study Group members were very happy to catch up with each other, with some new



visitors and also to celebrate the humble but much loved genus, Correa. The first of the biennial Correa Crawls was in 1992 along the coast of South West Victoria so there have been 31 years of sharing knowledge. David and Barb Pye of Bullengarook organised a great itinerary and we were all very grateful. They welcomed us into their home and boiled the billy. They organised some fabulous weather too.



We had a delightful morning in their beautiful garden, marvelling at their stunning views and touring their large native collection full of mature plants, some as old as 42 years. They had an extensive range of species and cultivar Correas, all with



interesting stories behind them, plus many seedlings.

We then enjoyed the Correa Swap. Many exciting bundles of cuttings appeared from eskies and were spread across a series of tables. Correa species and cultivars from all over the eastern states [all garden grown] were up for grabs. What a great way to expand our collections and to ensure the longevity of some species not so secure in the wild.



After lunch we drove in convoy to explore some of the Lederberg State Park where the *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* were all shades of pale green

and the *Epacris impressa* were pink. We visited the beautiful garden of Lucille and Norris McCarthy who are members of the Melton Bacchus Marsh APS group. They had some nice Correas of various ages and sizes. Their eclectic mix of native and non native plants pleased even the purists amongst us. We wandered in their delightfully rambling garden, along paths that were never straight. We all enjoyed their king parrots, their garden art, afternoon tea and the massive eucalypt with a family of black ducks in the nesting box. Later that evening, we enjoyed a lovely meal and social get together at the Melton Valley Golf Club.



Correa reflexa var. *reflexa*



Epacris impressa



On Sunday morning we met at the Rowsley Avenue of Honour to carpool. With David and Barb in the lead and with their extensive notes and maps we ventured into the Brisbane Ranges. At the beginning of the expedition, the *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* were all green again and the *Epacris impressa* were pink. As we progressed into the park some of us saw our first Brisbane Range Grevillea, *Grevillea steiglitziana* and we were all wowed by the Golden Grevillea, *Grevillea chrysophaea*. We saw the Ploughshare Wattle, *Acacia gunnii* and many peas including carpets of *Pultenaea pedunculata* with plump buds



Grevillea chrysophaea



Banksia marginata

promising a colourful spring. There were lots of small and compact Silver Banksia, *Banksia marginata* that would look good in our own native gardens. Gradually, the green *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa* gave way to pink and red forms. We saw some amazing Banded Greenhoods, *Pterostylis sanguinea* and Small Mosquito Orchids *Acianthus humilis*. Suddenly all the *Epacris impressa* were white and the Bushy Needlewood, *Hakea decurrens* were a mass of white too.



Acacia gunnii



Correa reflexa var. *reflexa*



Correa reflexa var. *reflexa*

A Winter Wonderland'. We had a picnic lunch. There were no Correas but some great toilets!



Correa reflexa var. *reflexa*



Correa reflexa var. *reflexa*



Deep discussions



Pterostylis sanguinea

Acianthus humilis



Epacris impressa





best of the red *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa*. Good sized shrubs, deep red flowers and all a bit different. They were well photographed and then we parted on what was a wonderful day.



On Monday morning we all met at the Melton Botanic Garden. David and Barb, Jen Elridge and Alan and Jean Partridge kindly opened the nursery for us. Many sales were made. Barb showed us behind the scenes of the nursery. Their propagating area is covered with 50% white shadecloth and has been very successful. Their striking mix for cuttings is 50% vermiculite and 50% potting mix. This has also been very successful.

We were then taken on a tour of the extensive garden noting the *Correas* along the way including some specimens of the local *Correa glabra* that we had missed seeing in the wild. Such a fabulous place and all achieved by volunteers.



Correa pulchella

Special thanks to David and Barb Pye and everyone involved for making the Correa Crawl a big success. Thanks to Chris Clarke too for his fabulous photos and to Fran Middleton. And also to Barb Pye for the photo below taken in the MBG tearoom.



When someone said "Hands up anyone who wants to be president" and I accidentally scratched my head.

Membership

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

Current membership is 70 households and various groups.

If you know of APS members who wish to join, or if you're not a member yourself, go to anpsa.org.au and follow the links to Study Groups and the Correa Study Group. There you will find a membership form.

Correa Study Group members should be members of an APS group.

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 \$1076.34

Current balance \$1076.34