

Hello Everyone,

Melbourne is experiencing soaking rains at long last and many of my hakeas are in bud for the first time, however in recent years I have noticed that some plants are hanging on to their buds for up to three seasons so I am trying hard not to be too optimistic.

The main purpose of this small newsletter is to advise you all that I am again active in the study group. Most members will be unaware that my husband Tom unexpectedly died in his sleep last September and it has taken me many months to get back to a normal routine. We were working on several projects together for this group which will have to be shelved for the moment, but I hope to return to them at a later date. I intend to continue speaking to country and interstate groups when possible as this was an aspect of the study group work that we both enjoyed very much.

In the hakea world the most exciting news has been the re-emergence of *Hakea crassinervia*. Peter Althofer wrote to me some time ago confirming that the large spreading hakea he had grown from *H. obtusa* seed, was in fact *H. crassinervia*. It was feared that the species may have been lost as it had not been seen in the wild since 1960. Peter's plants were from seed that was obviously mixed up with *H. obtusa* seed. Mature plants spread over two metres wide and roughly about a metre high. The bright pink showy clusters of flowers are borne on branches reaching above the shrub and make a spectacular display in winter.

A new species of *Hakea*, *HAKEA REPULLULANS*, has been described from the Anglesea/Airies Inlet region (Vic) by Dr. Helen Lee (Latrobe University, Botany Department). It is distinguished from the Furze *Hakea*, *Hakea ulicina*, by its behaviour after fire. *Hakea ulicina* is killed by fire and regenerates from seed. *Hakea repullulans* mainly regenerates by regrowth from below ground, and very occasionally from seed. The two species look very similar, and may be distinguished on leaf characteristics. They grow together along Coalmine Road.

I recently visited the S.G.A.P. Illawarra Group at Wollongong and one of our study group members, Egon Demuth, showed me a hakea new to me which had long, narrow flat leaves and a round cluster of flowers in the leaf axil. Egon said it was a young plant grown from seed, so we will have to wait some time to see how large it is on maturity.

^{HAKEA}
The Wollongong ^A suffers from very severe winds in July and August and it is worth mentioning again that *Hakea elliptica* has been used in Victoria by the Country Roads Board in median strips and along highways to create buffers so that other plants can be established. It becomes a large, round shrub or small tree and is very striking when the new bronze-coloured foliage appears in late winter, giving the whole shrub a variegated effect. Another point worth noting is that the new seedboxes on reaching full size can be a brilliant emerald green with a red stripe along the suture line, fading to brown within a few weeks.

In a letter from Kaye Bartlett, Jervois, S.A. (near Murray Bridge), she reports "we have just experienced the driest summer in 22 years, I lost a mature bush of *H. corymbosa* and a half mature plant of *H. victoria*. Another *H. victoria* went very close but a drink of water in time saved it. We have since had 2½ inches of rain and plants have taken on a lovely rich green again. I kept the water off the hakeas, all but the few that were starting to look desperate and have been very surprised how well they survived the exceptional dry. Since the rain, buds are forming on most plants, *H. cycloptera* is just bursting into a mass of pink blossom, the same time as last year."

"Helen (Lubcke) collected the seed of *H. cycloptera* from near Kimba on Eyre

Peninsula in 1975, planted it in the ground in 1976, and it is now a lovely round shrub about 4 ft. by 3 ft. wide. A dense bush of grey green needles which is covered in the softest pink flowers from the beginning of April until the beginning of June makes this a hakea worth growing." Kaye mentions too that she has recently planted out a *H. rhombalis* grown from seed collected in the Giles, Warburton area last year. She is also trying *H. grammatophylla* for the first time.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are now due, \$3.00 per annum. However, in view of my inactivity for the first half of this year, the subscription period will be from June 1985 to June 1986, and those of you who have paid early in the year will have your subscription extended accordingly.

SEED BANK

The following seed is available for members on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. Some species are in short supply. I will be away for about five weeks shortly and in my absence, my daughter Margaret will attend to the seed orders, but she will be unable to answer any queries, so I will attend to those on my return.

Adnata - up to 3m, erect needle, white f.	obliqua - up to 3m, terete fol, white fls.
arida - 2-3m, terete fol., white fls.	obtusa - 1-2m, spreading, pink fls.
brooksiana - 2m, terete fol. white fls.	oldfieldii - bushy shrub 1-2m, cream fl.
bucculenta - up to 3m, red/pink spike f.	oleifolia - large shrub 7m, v. white fls.
cinerea - 2m, ashy fol. yellow fls.	pandanicarpa - 3m, narrow fol, corky fruit.
ceratophylla - 2m, spreading, brown fls.	petiolaris - up to 5m, mauve /cream fls.
commutata - 3-4m, terete fol. white fl.	platysperma - cricket ball fruit, 1-2m.
conchifolia - 1m, rounded folded fol.	purpurea - 1-2m, divided fol, red fls.
coriacea - 2-3m, pink spike fls.	pycnoneura - up to 3m, mauve/cream fls.
corymbosa - 1-2.5m, prickly, yellow fl.	rugosa - 1m, terete fol, white fls.
costata - 1m, short terete fol, white fl.	propinqua - 2-3m, terete fol, white/cream f.
crassifolia - 3m, long narrow fol, sm. fl.	scoparia - 2-3m, sulcate fol, pink fls.
cristata - up to 2.5m, holly fol, cream f.	smilacifolia - 2m, sm. grey fol, white fls.
cycloptera - 4 ft, needle fol, pink fl.	stenocarpa - 1m, narrow fol, white fls.
elliptica - 4m, white fls.	stenophylla - 4-5m, v. narrow fol, gold fls.
epiglottis - up to 2m, terete, yellow f.	strumosa - 1-2m, curved terete fol, red fls.
eriantha - 7m, tree, flat fol, white fls.	subsulcata - 2-3m, sulcate fol, pink fls.
ferruginea - 2m, white flowers.	teretifolia - 2-3m, terete fol, white fls.
francisiana - to 5m, pink spike fls.	trifurcata - 2m, divided foliage, white fl.
gibbosa - 1-2m, needle fol, white fls.	ulicina - 2-3m, flat fol, white flowers.
grammatophylla - up to 2m, pink fls.	undulata - 1-3m, veined fol, cream fl.
laurina - up to 3m, pink fls.	varia - tall form, white fls.
lehmanniana - low shrub, blue fls.	victoria - up to 5m, cream fls, grown for its large stiff coloured fol.
leucoptera - 3m, terete fol, cream fls.	
lissocarpha, - low spreading, pink/white.	
macraeana - 3m, terete fol, white fls.	
marginata - 4 ft, flat oval fol, white f.	
meissnerana - 1.5m, sulcate fol, cream f.	
microcarpa - 2m, terete fol, cream fls.	
minyma - 1-2m, cream or pink loose spike f.	
muellerana - large rounded shrub	
multilineata - 3-7m, pink spike fls.	

I wish to apologise for the long delays that have occurred at times in my replies to your letters this year and I thank you for your patience. I also hope this typing is OK, we decided my typewriter needed updating, but I had not reckoned on all the new symbols I have to become familiar with, or being beeped at all the time!

Good health and good gardening.

Hazel

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