

A Growing Concern

Candlebark Community Nursery



WELCOME

Candlebark would like to introduce and welcome two new staff members to our team, Melissa Allen and Keith McCallum. Just a year ago Ian Morrish and Carol Atkinson commenced a shared role as Nursery Propagators, our appreciation to them for generously undertaking the position in difficult times.

A couple of months ago Ian advised us that he wished to retire and help in a voluntary capacity, resulting in a decision which needed to be made in what way we were to move forward.

The committee after considerable discussion decided to create two new positions, advertising for a Propagator, Monday to Thursday inc. 8.30am to 4pm with a second position for a Nursery Assistant, 12 to 15 hours per week over 3 days.

We were inundated with dozens of applications for both positions from local, interstate and overseas job seekers.

Melissa is our Propagator and Keith our Nursery Assistant; both have great environmental knowledge and are keenly settling in this past month.

They are looking forward to having new contacts when members visit the nursery.

We are all looking forward to catching up with old and new members at our AGM on Sunday 17th November.

Gretta

Our volunteer Trevor W.

He started at Candlebark back in 2008, has retired. The Committee wish to acknowledge the fine contribution Trevor has made as a weekly volunteer. It is very much appreciated.

For those who keep their Candlebark Newsletters there is an article in our December 2016 "Growing Concern" about the work Trevor was involved with seed cleaning, collection, storage and maintaining the seed bank and data records and photos too. Another task undertaken has been entering records of the nursery planting program for a weekly stock level list. Although Trevor has "retired" he continues to provide back-up support when we need his advice/help.

We send to Trevor and Leonie our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

Candlebark Committee
October 2019



A Growing Concern

October 2019

Bernie Heinze	President
Carol Wind	Secretary
	Treasurer
Jenny Knoop	Minute Secretary

General Committee

Gretta Fuller
Jean Gray
Christian Hauser
April Scheibl

Nursery Propagator

Melissa Allen

Nursery Assistant

Keith McCallum

Office Administration

Judy Richardson

Editor

Gwen Whitney

Candlebark Hours

Monday to Thursday

9.00am to 3.30pm

Sunday 10.00am to 2.00pm

Nursery Contacts

Phone 9727 0594

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A Problem with Banksias

It is noticeable to many people that the Banksia species are disappearing from the bushland of our region. This concern has prompted Parks Victoria to investigate the reasons for this loss; Candlebark is helping with this enquiry by propagating seeds from the remaining pockets of the hill banksia, (*Banksia spinulosa*) to test the viability of the seeds.

Our contact with Parks Victoria is with Annette Muir; Annette has passed on to us seeds from thirteen disjunct remaining patches of the Banksia that are within the Dandenongs. These seeds have been planted in separate trays of soil and records kept of their provenance; seed numbers and resulting seedlings.

At the time of writing this article all trays have produced seedlings with varying results and two trays have been potted on. That which has been learnt from the propagation of these seeds is that they require a wet soil to start growing, but if the soil remains too wet as the seedling grows, it loses vigour and may die.

Is our changing climate causing the problem with banksias ?
Over to you Annette.

Bernie Heinze

**Candlebark Community Nursery Inc.
24th Annual General Meeting
Sunday 17th November 2019 at 2pm,
Nursery, Hull Rd, Mooroolbark.**

Dear Members, please join with The Candlebark Committee of Management at our AGM on the 17th November.

We would like you all to see and hear the progress made during the past year. To meet with our new committee members, April and Christian, Judy our administration lady and welcome Melissa and Keith.

A time to heartily thank all our volunteers who have helped us throughout the year, Ian, Carol our Propagators and Bob our Treasurer who has sadly retired after many years of assistance and advice given in regard to our financial affairs.

All Committee positions will be declared vacant at this AGM with nomination forms attached in this newsletter.

Our guest speaker, Daniel Benincasa will be a familiar face to many of our Sunday visitors. Daniel's extensive knowledge on our bushland has been appreciated over a number of years by many when seeking advice in choosing tube stock at the nursery .

A tasty afternoon tea on conclusion of meeting.

VISITORS

Education is an important part of what Candlebark is about. Growing indigenous plants and putting them back into our parks and gardens is our goal.

Candlebark has had a lot of visitors this season.

We have had a number of school classes visiting. The primary school kids asked many questions. Many of them were environmental leaders in their school. We also had a kinder group from a local childcare centre. The kids engaged really well with us and totally enjoyed their big excursion.



Natural Wonders Early Learning, in Mooroolbark

Thanks so much for the wonderful visit that we had at Candlebark Nursery on the 11th of September. Thanks also for the plants, they are growing really well in our garden.

We will be in touch hopefully before the end of the year to invite you to come and have a look at the garden.

Please find enclosed a few photos of our visit for your newsletter. All parents have given permission for you to publish this in your newsletter.

Natural Wonders Early Learning



We have also had the Friends of Ballarat Botanical Gardens paying us a visit. They loved our nursery and thoroughly enjoyed our tour.

Candlebark Volunteer

Hi, my name is April and I volunteer at Candlebark Community Nursery most Sunday's from 10am - 2pm.

When I started volunteering in February this year, my initial plan was to learn about native plant identification, but I have learnt so much more !

Since starting at Candlebark I have felt very welcomed by the friendly staff and volunteers. I feel lucky to be around people who are passionate about our environment and our local native plant habitat, and who have been more than happy to share their knowledge and experience. I have learnt so much about our native flora, and feel my confidence with local native plant identification has definitely grown. It's also been fun to apply this knowledge into my own garden at home.

I love being a part of this not-for-profit-organisation that is dedicated to supporting our local environment by supplying locally grown plants. I'm continually learning and I get to make friends and have fun in the process !

I have been invited onto the Committee Board and attend meetings once a month. This has been a big learning curve for me also, but one I enjoy.

Some of the things I help out with whilst at Candlebark are:

- watering plants, tubes and pots
- weeding and general tidying of plants
- pricking out and propagation of plants
- Help customers with information about plants and sell plants
- and continually learning !

Volunteering at Candlebark is a great way to learn about our beautiful local native plants, and a fun way of giving something back to our environment. Something that is so very important and that we can all do.

April Scheibl



*Native bee Hotels
Made by the Mens Shed
Only \$35.00*

CANDLEBARK'S SALE

A wide variety of plants available
while stocks last

15cm POTS and TUBESTOCK

Sale will continue until stock
level is reduced
All plants reasonably priced to
clear.

Wildflowers Western Australia

The Western Australian wild flowers have attracted people from far and wide to view the diversity and colourful bloom in spring. On a recent trip to Perth, Gwen and I managed to spend a couple of days wandering amongst the wildflower display in the Swan River coastal plain and Darling Escarpment area surrounding the city. It is estimated that there are over 2200 different species in this area alone. It was amazing to view the wildflowers in cultivated and natural areas with a 25km radius from the centre of Perth.

Our first stop was to spend a day in Kings Park set on the escarpment overlooking the city centre and Elizabeth Quay. The park area has a formal garden display near the information-café area that attracts many visitors to view the dazzling display of colour and variety of the wide range of Western Australian plants. The plants in this area are carefully selected to bloom during the spring period and to showcase



the state's plant diversity. Many of the plants in this area are now seen in many Victorian gardens. Further afield in the park are large native garden areas that are covered in many of the local indigenous plants of the Swan River coastal plain and Darling Escarpment region.



Our second day was spent with a formal wildflower tour led by a passionate botanist who also loved photographing the plants. We started our journey on the coastal plain on the south side of the Swan River at the old wireless station.



This historic hill area is now a reserve with magnificent displays of Kangaroo paws, donkey and other orchids, Hardenbergia, Running Postman and many other species of flowers and shrubs. We were able to stroll and linger on the various walking paths through the natural bushland setting.

Wildflowers Western Australia Contd

From here after a morning tea break we headed off to the Darling Escarpment with views over the city. This area was covered in colourful displays of *Grevillea*, *Hakea*, *Isopogon* (Coneflower) and many ground covers.



Our final area was located in Ellen Brooke nature reserve where we had lunch and then wandered along the creek looking at various myrtle shrubs and acacias before journeying back to the city. Many of the road centre strips and edge flower beds were full of Kangaroo paws and other small flowering shrubs.

Gwen and Ken Whitney



PLANTS OF THE MONTH

Goodenia lanata (Woolly or Trailing Goodenia)

Beautiful bright yellow flowers on dark green trailing foliage. Prostrate x 0.5-1.5m.

Flowering October to December.

Tolerates extended dry periods once established, however from observation at the nursery Goodenia lanata thrives as a very lush ground cover when receiving extra moisture.

A good plant for a rockery or a well mulched container if adequately watered during summer or has access to rain.

Pruning will rejuvenate leggy plants.



Hibbertia obtusifolia (Showy or Grey Guinea flower).



A favourite of mine with very similar growing conditions, once more masses of yellow flowers with a longer flowering period from August to February

Candlebark has Goodenia lanata in the retail area but Hibbertia is in the polyhouse but not ready for sale at present.

Visit us and have a browse. The Sale of selected plants is continuing while stock lasts.

Gretta

Nomination for Appointment to Committee of Management
Candlebark Community Nursery Inc.

I _____
(Full Name of Nominator)

Being a financial member of Candlebark Community Nursery Inc. hereby nominate:

(Full name of nominee)

For appointment to the Committee of Management of Candlebark Community Nursery Inc.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Nominator)

I, _____
(Full Name of Seconder)

Being a financial member of Candlebark Community Nursery Inc. accept the nomination for appointment to the Committee of Management of Candlebark Community Nursery Inc.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Seconder)

I, _____
(Full name of nominee)

Being a financial member of Candlebark Community Nursery Inc. accept the nomination for appointment to the Committee of Management of Candlebark Community Nursery Inc.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Nominee)

Forward completed form to: The Secretary,
Candlebark Community Nursery Inc.

NOT LESS THAN 7 DAYS BEFORE POSTED AGM DATE

PO Box 6064 Croydon North 3136. Enquiries – 9727 0594
Mobile – 0448 011 604. Email – info@candlebark.org.au

The Committee of Management would like to extend a warm welcome to all new members since the last newsletter.