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North-West Group

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Last meeting:

Guest speaker: **Allen Gilbert**

What an interesting speaker Allen is! A friendly discourse on grafting, accompanied by many examples to be passed around, and slides of grafting and the results, made for a very pleasant evening of absorbing and practical learning. Examples were given of how to graft, when to graft, what to graft, and lots in-between. Allen shared many things with us that night, and had obviously spent much time in preparation of the examples brought. Thank you, Allen, for providing us with a lovely way to learn. I can't wait till spring to get started!



PLANT TABLE MAY 2010

Shaks Johnson

John Tabor's *Alyogyne huegellii*'s are still in full bloom with shades of pink, white and vibrant purple unaffected by the recent frosts. So too is *Alyogyne hakeaefolia*! *Chorizema cordatum* from WA, is massed with orange/red pea flowers. It is a weak stemmed, straggly shrub to 2m tall and often needs companion plants to support it. *Banksia praemorsa*, another WA plant has grown to 5m high in 10yrs and is beginning to flower. *Hakea petiolaris* ssp *trichophylla* is a non-sprouting small tree to 10m high and has more spatulate, almost oval leaves than the usual *H petiolaris*. *Clematis aristata* is still carrying seeds from summer in a cottony mass.

Riitta also presented *H petiolaris*, the pollen presenters in the Proteaceae family are different to the stamens in the flowers of other families. *Banksia spinulosas* were shown

with yellow, pink, black and maroon pollen presenters. *Darwinia citrodora*, again from WA, is often used as a root stock for other less hardy *Darwinia* species to be grafted on to. It self seeds readily in Boevink's garden. *Correa reflexa* var *nummulariifolia* is a very reliable, hardy and effective ground cover with masses of lemon/green flowers to treat the honeyeaters. *Grevillea* 'Ned Kelly' is also marketed as 'Coconut Ice', 'Superb' and 'Masons hybrid'. It has large showy flowers throughout the year but is not frost tolerant. *Regelia ciliata* has sporadic small purple, bottle brush flowers and attractive 'lizard like' foliage and branches. *Leptospermum rotundifolium* 'Jervis Bay' is a good cut flower. *Acacia sauveolens*, with its sweet scented flowers, is tough and hardy, prostrate to a medium shrub. *Crocea exalata* and *saligna* forms are still flowering after several months. A widespread member of the Solanaceae family, *Solanum linearifolium* has pale mauve flowers and is fast growing and forms a good screen.

Verity sent two species of *Thrypomene saxicola* and *calycina*, both smothered in small flowers, pink and white respectively. *T. calycina* is upright, *saxicola* weeping.

Dick reminded us that so many of WA's plants grow better in Tasmania than in other Eastern states. Tasmania's latitude is similar to south WA and doesn't have as humid summers as NSW. *Hakea victoria* is found in south WA in the Barren Range. The white flowers are small and in the leaf axils. The leaves are large, leathery, circular and showy becoming banded in yellow, orange, brown and green as they age, lasting up to five years. Two Sydney *Grevilleas*, *linearifolia* and *buxifolia* respectively have pink and brown flowers and grow to 2m high. *Banksia ericifolia* flowers vary in colour with the amount of sun exposure. *Epacris longiflora* is stunning with its red tube flowers with white tips, not to be missed by the honeyeaters. *Correa pulchella* with its vibrant orange/red flowers seemed much smaller than its photo displayed in the Advocate though definitely no less stunning!



Positions vacant

Articles are still needed for the Advocate issues to which we contribute.
Contact Dick for ideas and formats.

Shaks and Mary are still looking eagerly for someone to write up the plant table at meetings. Contributors usually provide a list (often with correct spellings!), and editors are always available for checking. If you can't do it every meeting, just once in a while would be a bonus. (and it's a great learning curve).



Congratulations!! -- and thanks!!

to

John Boevink and John Tabor,

for all their unexpected hard work in placing 300 plants in Rubicon Grove



Coming up:

Clive Bott

Meetings are held, unless otherwise advertised, at the Mersey Regional Library, Devonport on the third Tuesday of the month, at 7 for 7.30pm.
Propagation days are the Thursday following the meeting, at 10am at the Arboretum

July 15th - Propagation. 10 am at the Arboretum. Not much room on the heat bed but more Tasmanian plant material needed.

July 17th – Winter daytime gathering at Boevink's, Hawley. Bring own lunch and gum boots. Start at garden of John Tabor, 1, Vine St, Hawley. At 10am.

August 17th – General meeting. Guest Speaker, Ian Knight, Butterfly man.

August 19th - Propagation. 10 am at the Arboretum.

September 21st – General meeting. Slides of old Lake Peddar, Dick Burns.



Get ready for an action-packed October!!!

Bi-annual Hobart Wild Flower Show on the 8th, 9th and 10th October. A spectacular event at the City Hall!

Sunday October 17th Riitta and John will open their garden as part of the Open Garden Scheme.

NWgroup members' help on the day will be great, for guiding visitors and manning plant sales.

MEMBERS GET-TOGETHER

Friday 29th, Saturday 30th, and Sunday 31st of October, 2010
St Helens



