

Salvia News

NUMBER 77



Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc

www.salvias.org.au

Spring 2019

VICTORIAN SALVIA STUDY GROUP inc

THE AIMS OF THE SALVIA STUDY GROUP ARE;

1. To grow and collect Salvias for the purpose of enjoyment and study
2. Promote and encourage the growing of Salvias
3. Correctly name existing and new salvias
4. Maintain our Display Garden at Nobelius Heritage Park for the Group & the general public
5. Manage our website and Facebook page

The Group is a Not for Profit Organisation. Any monies received are used to run the Group's activities and for the planting and maintenance of our GPCAA (Garden Plants Conservation Association of Australia) registered garden collection. ('Plants Trust' has been a shortened, more comprehensive name for the GPCAAA and has been used for quite a while now).

GROUP CO-ORDINATOR	Lyndi Garnett lgarnett844@gmail.com	03 9803 4534
ASSISTANT CO-ORDINATOR	Jillian Barkell	03 9756 6361
SECRETARY	Heather Lucas	03 9879 5365
TREASURER	Gordon Donaldson	0411 111 979
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	Tine Grimston tinegrimston@gmail.com	0466 285 542
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Norm Winn Andreina Chinn	0438 733 060 03 9897 3031
EDITOR	Stephanie Rendell stephanie.salvia.news@gmail.com	
SUB EDITOR & DISPLAY COORDINATOR	Jillian Barkell	03 9756 6361
PR - includes email updates to members	Fiona Williams	0417 323 785
PUBLICITY	Sylvia Hammond	0419 195 347
COMPUTERS	Brett Horan	0405 76 2123
FACEBOOK	Liz Tretiakov	0490 691 275
PLANT SALES & ENQUIRIES	Lyndi Garnett	03 9803 4534

The views expressed by the contributors of this publication are not necessarily those of the *Editor* or the *Committee* of this Study Group. While every effort is made to publish reliable information, the use of the information is at the discretion of the individual. The Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc takes no responsibility for statements made or opinions expressed and it does not offer treatment or advice.



SALVIA NEWS

VICTORIAN SALVIA STUDY GROUP INC

Website: www.salvias.org.au

Welcome to the Spring 2019 edition of Salvia News and to my first edition as Editor. I am a keen but rather novice gardener. I have always enjoyed growing a variety of culinary herbs and I have a particular soft spot for flowering perennials. It is no wonder then that I have gravitated towards salvias. My salvia collection is very small but I am hoping that it will expand with your help. I am very excited about the opportunity to edit this publication and I am really looking forward to learning from you all.

In this edition, we report on the recent Annual General Meeting and reflect upon the previous year.

We also welcome new members and ask them “what prompted you to join?” and “what is your interest in salvias?”

In Southeast Queensland, it is good riddance to summer (page 12).

While in Victoria, **Spring** is in the air, we find out what is in bloom and ask what happening in your gardens.

We visit not one but two gardens – Heather Lucas takes us through Lesley Edmond’s Modella Garden (page 23) while Pat Anderson unearths a mystery at the Nice Botanical Gardens (page 21).

Pat also revisits her research into raising salvias from seed in time for spring propagation on page 16.

Following on from Pat’s previous article about her fanaticism, Geoff Crowhurst ponders the difference between Fanatics, Fanciers and Collectors (page 14).

Starting page 15, Meg Bentley provides great tips on salvias in small spaces – information that I would have loved when I was in a tiny apartment!

Lyndi Garnett examines how salvias are named on page 25.

I have enjoyed collating this edition for you and I hope you enjoy reading it just as much. I cannot wait to meet more of you in the coming months.

Happy Gardening,

Stephanie

Editor Salvia News

CONTENTS

Calendar of Events.....	4
The Annual General Meeting.....	6
Salvia Annual Report 2019.....	6
Welcome New Members	8
Spring in My Salvia Garden	10
Salvias Flowering in Spring	11
News from Southeast Queensland	12
Fanatics, Fanciers and Collectors.....	14
Notes from Gruyere	15
Raising Salvias from Seed	16
The <i>albiculis</i> Mystery.....	21
Lesley Edmond’s Modella Garden	23
This Could Be You	25

**Copy deadline for the next
edition of Salvia News is 17
October 2019**

Please email your articles and photos to:
stephanie.salvia.news@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Remember to check the website regularly for any changes, additional information and additional Garden Clubs events where Lyndi Garnett is speaking.

Remember too to take your plant lists to events or email your list to Lyndi prior to the event so you are not disappointed. Should you have any queries, contact Lyndi (see page 1 for contact information). Please also let Lyndi know if you are attending events. Some events the hosts need to know numbers prior to the event.

**15
Sept**

PRUNING DAY AT NOBELIUS @ 1:30PM

Nobelius Heritage Park, Crighton Rd, Emerald

Learn how and when to prune Salvias – Learn the different types of Salvias and how to prune them. Tea/coffee will be provided. Bring secateurs and plastic bags for cuttings to take home. Don't forget to bring your chair. Phone Lyndi if coming.

**22
Sept**

GARDEN DAY AT NOBELIUS @ 11AM

Nobelius Heritage Park, Crighton Rd, Emerald

Come and work in our Display Garden at Nobelius, see how the different Salvias grow, take home lots of cuttings and more knowledge. Bring a friend, introduce them to Salvias. Bring a plate to share, a chair, gloves, secateurs, plastic bags and labels for cuttings. Appropriate clothing for the day. Ring Lyndi if coming.

**5-6
Oct**

GARDEN LOVERS FAIR @ 10AM TO 4PM

Bolobek – 370 Mt Macedon Rd, Macedon

Entry: Fair & Garden \$10.00

Lots of stalls with rare, unusual plants and products. Salvia plants, books and seed will be for sale. Bring plants/flowers to be identified. To avoid disappointment, please email your list to Lyndi so those plants can be put aside.

**20
Oct**

IVANHOE'S FIESTA 19 @ 12PM TO 4PM

Ivanhoe Garden Club, Bellfield Community Garden

Corner of Oriel Rd and Banksia Road, Ivanhoe

Salvia plants, books and seed for sale. Email orders early. Bring plants to be identified. Stalls include cut flowers, vegetable seedlings, plant stalls, honey and sharpening of knives. Devonshire tea, sausage sizzle & woodfired Pizza. Lots of ideas and activities for children.

**25-27
Oct**

YARRA VALLEY SPRING PLANT FAIR @ 10AM TO 5PM

125 Quayle Road, Wandin

A whole new plant fair for the whole weekend!

Speakers, demonstrations, over 40 stalls, including plant specialists and plant products. Food, wine and craft beers. Salvia plants, books and seed will be for sale. Bring plants/ flowers to be identified.

**9-10
Nov**

ROSE SOCIETY SPRING SHOW

Millers Road, Mt Waverley Community Centre (opposite the Railway Station)

1pm-5pm on Saturday, 10am-4:30pm on Sunday

We have been invited once again to attend The Rose Society's Spring Show with gorgeous displays of Roses. Vibrant coloured Salvias to compliment your Roses. Salvia plants, books and seed will be for sale.

**17
Nov**

ANNUAL "SALVIAS AT NOBELIUS" @ 10AM TO 2PM

Nobelius Heritage Park, Crighton Rd, Emerald

Great Bargains to be had until stocks run out. Come early after the Emerald market.

**8
Dec**

CHRISTMAS LUNCH WITH TINE GRIMSTON @ 11AM UNTIL FINISHED

4 Crimea Close, Rowville

Gorgeous Christmas feast hosted by Tine Grimston. All members welcome to join in the fun. Bring a Christmas plate to share and a chair. Wander around Tine's beautiful garden. Please phone Tine if attending on 0466285542.

See you there!

STUDY GROUP MATTERS

The Annual General Meeting

Sunday 14 July 2019

On a bleak Sunday morning, the AGM was held in the “Church Hall” at the Emerald Community House in Emerald. Thank you to the members who gave up their Sunday morning for the meeting and a special thank you to Heather Lucas for organising the venue. We were toasty and warm inside! There was a Financial Report from Gordon Donaldson as Treasurer and Lyndi Garnett gave the Annual Report. The new committee was confirmed without the need for a vote. We all enjoyed a cuppa, some morning tea and the chance to catch up about salvias and the organisation.



Salvia Annual Report 2019

Edited version of the report given at the AGM by Lyndi Garnett

What an interesting year we have had after our first special meeting last year at Nobelius. We were finally incorporated on the 1st of November 2018. For those who do not understand the value of incorporation, please refer to the Association’s Rules. In short, it certainly helps if there was ever a case brought against the VSSG for whatever reason. With incorporation out of the way, we can now concentrate on our garden visits and preparing on the upcoming selling days.

Something I always seem to forget to mention is our Annual Members Luncheon in August. This is our way of thanking all of the members for joining our Salvia Group and all the work and help they give us during the year. This is usually held at Nobelius, so that new members can feel included and meet the committee and the rest of the usual crowd. Although it is held in the colder months, our quieter months (but in fact we cannot fit it in at any

other time of the year), members know that they will have a good feed, time to catch up, a chance to wander around the garden, to see where we have been and where we have not been yet.

The Macedon Garden Club’s Garden Lovers Fair at Bolobek in early October 2018 was very successful, providing a lot of interest from those who did not really know much about Salvias. It is always interesting to note how far afield people will travel for a garden event. We had a lot of Country people from Gippsland and Geelong who travelled the distance especially for our Salvias.

The gorgeous small Ivanhoe Fiesta Community Festival, later in October was open only from 12 noon till 4pm on a Sunday and was again a huge success. It is here that we buy our vegetable seedlings, our quirky succulents, honey and admire the magnificent display of flowers, fruit, vegetables and bowls of flowering bulbs all beautifully

arranged in the centre of the hall. We also cannot forget finding all those treasures at the white elephant stall as well as their mouth-watering woodfired pizza. Again, Salvia lovers come from far and wide to get more Salvias for their gardens. A true Community affair of which the Salvia Group are very proud to be part of and appreciate being asked back each year.

The Rose Show in early November 2018 was our best so far, possibly because of more and better publicity by ourselves and the Rose Society. We also had a very favourable layout of display tables which always generates more sales.

Who could forget our magnificent sell out effort of our annual "Salvias at Nobelius" in November!! For once we were set up and ready to go early. People had come early to get those bargains, we did not really know the time but we had almost sold out by the time we were officially supposed to start. Volunteers arrived, amazed that they were not needed and to see that that it had almost finished before it had begun.

We had sold out in record time of 2 ½ hrs, all due to publicity, lots of, with flyers posted all over the main street of Emerald, schools and preschools targeted, articles in 'The Age' and other local newspapers, radio coverage and of course word of mouth. Thanks must go to the band of wonderful volunteers who helped behind the scenes and after the event to clear away. The irony of it all is we will probably never be able to do this again!

A wonderful Xmas luncheon was held at Fiona Williams' sizable property. She had all the garden blooming beautifully for us to admire, cuttings and bits freely given away, hordes hovered eagerly over the free plants brought to be given away, and when the feast began (it is always a feast at a Salvia gathering) the wine and Fiona's liquors also began to flow!

A special mention should be given to Tine Grimston who put up her hand to take on the Membership Officer role and has also volunteered her garden for our Xmas lunch in 2019. This was a wonderful respite for us as Lyn Gadd was really wanting to retire from the position, so we were very thankful when Tine approached me with the suggestion. Of course I accepted on the spot before she could change her mind. Tine has certainly

proved to be a very good membership officer, coming in with new eyes, new and different suggestions for improvement, all very welcome.

2019 began in March with the Ferny Creek Collector's Fair. This year we decided to participate for 1 day only instead of both days and interestingly enough we did better on that one day than we had done in previous years on both days. As there is a new committee for FCHS, they have wisely decided to hold this event on another date, which should see more stall holders and public coming on both days. Previously, it has been held on a long weekend and the public and stall holders go away for that weekend. So we hope for good results with this different date next year.

This Garden event was to be the only Autumn Garden Event for the year as Jindivick was postponed until 2020 and Tesselaar having cancelled their Autumn Show entirely.

But the good news is that Larkman Nursery will be stepping in to take Tesselaar's place with a Yarra Valley Autumn Show at Wandin, where we have a stall.

To bring you up to date, we have just had our best results for the RHS's Gardeners Day Out held in June at Deakin University. This was due in some respects to the lack of selling events in Autumn, but also for the increased numbers attending and the increased awareness of us selling Salvias at that event.

We have a New Editor... hoorah!! Stephanie Rendell has bravely put up her hand to produce our Salvia News. A very competent person having worked on similar projects while studying Law and wanting to get involved in the Group with her newly founded interest in Salvias. We were getting rather worried about who would be producing the next issue, having put out lots and lots of feelers in every sphere we could think of for an Editor, so we gratefully accepted Stephanie's proposal as our new Editor.

What is in store the rest of 2019? Of course, please check our Calendar of Events on the website.

We will be having more interesting Garden Visits as these always generate a lot of interest. A Propagating Day in early August, showing how to propagate the many types of Salvias and much

more.

Our Members Luncheon in August will be on again welcoming new members to the Group. A Pruning Day in September, will be showing how to prune Salvias. The questions always asked of us are “when do you prune?” and “how do you take cuttings?”, so I hope we can help with these quandaries.

In Spring, there will be the usual Garden events at

Bolobek, the Ivanhoe Fiesta and this year we will be participating in the Yarra Valley Spring Festival, the Rose Show in early November and then it is time for our big Salvias at Nobelius. This is our big end of year sale for all bargain hunters. Finally to end off the year, a sumptuous feast will be held at Tine’s gorgeous quirky garden for our Christmas lunch.

So what more can a Salvia fanatic want in a year! Nothing except MORE Salvias!!

Welcome New Members

A very big welcome to Sophie, Amanda Habgood, Stephen Carlin, Joan Riek, Anita Fothergill, Kathy Smalley, Ron Richardson and all of our fabulous new members.



Sophie

“...Salvias are such a great plant, very hardy with so many vibrant colours. Alot [sic]of reward for so little effort. I joined to learn more about them, and look forward to meeting some fellow gardeners!”

Amanda Habgood

“...My name is Amanda (Habgood) and I first discovered Salvias many years ago in the Hobart Botanical Gardens. The display of colour was magnificent. Now, I am lucky enough to have my own bit of paradise.

What is not to love about Salvias! They come in so many colours and sizes and are suited to sunny or shady areas of the garden. They are tough and drought resistant and the biggest bonus for me is that rabbits are not particularly partial to them!

At the Ferny Creek Show I ordered some Salvias and Lyndi called me when they were ready for collection. When I dropped by she suggested I come along to an upcoming open garden day at a Member's house. I was made so welcome that I decided there and then to join the Club.

I look forward to meeting you all and to hearing all about your gardens and to learning more about the potential of Salvias and the care and propagation of this very versatile plant...”

Stephen Carlin

“...Hi, I’m Stephen. We moved to Uki in northern NSW five years ago to have a bit of land. The climate is warm and wet, and we have a range of volcanic soils that are free draining and acidic. It seemed that plants from Mexico and Central America were ideal for our conditions (particularly indicated by our weeds like lantana, cobblers pegs and ageratium, which grow with astonishing vigour). We already had a big patch of a Salvia involucrata, so the subtropical salvias seemed likely contenders, and I had long admired the salvia patch at the Sydney botanic gardens. After a consolidation phase of collecting cultivars and seeing where they do best, I’m settling on a garden plan and thinking of trying out the salvias I’ve been wary of, like the Mediterranean climate species, and ones like guaranitica that sound a bit dodgy for invasiveness.

I’ve been enjoying the newsletter reports from members with your stories and experiences. It’s nice to feel part of a Salvia community...”



Joan Riek

“...I am a new member and here is a recent photo of me at a memorial for my dad. I have been interested in salvias for many years. However I have moved around a lot so have had to leave my collections behind. Now I hope I am finally settled being 77, and have started my collection up again. Up to 100, still have a way to go! I love them because of the many colours and the daintiness often of their flowers. Wonderful cottage plants, also such variety...”

Anita Fothergill

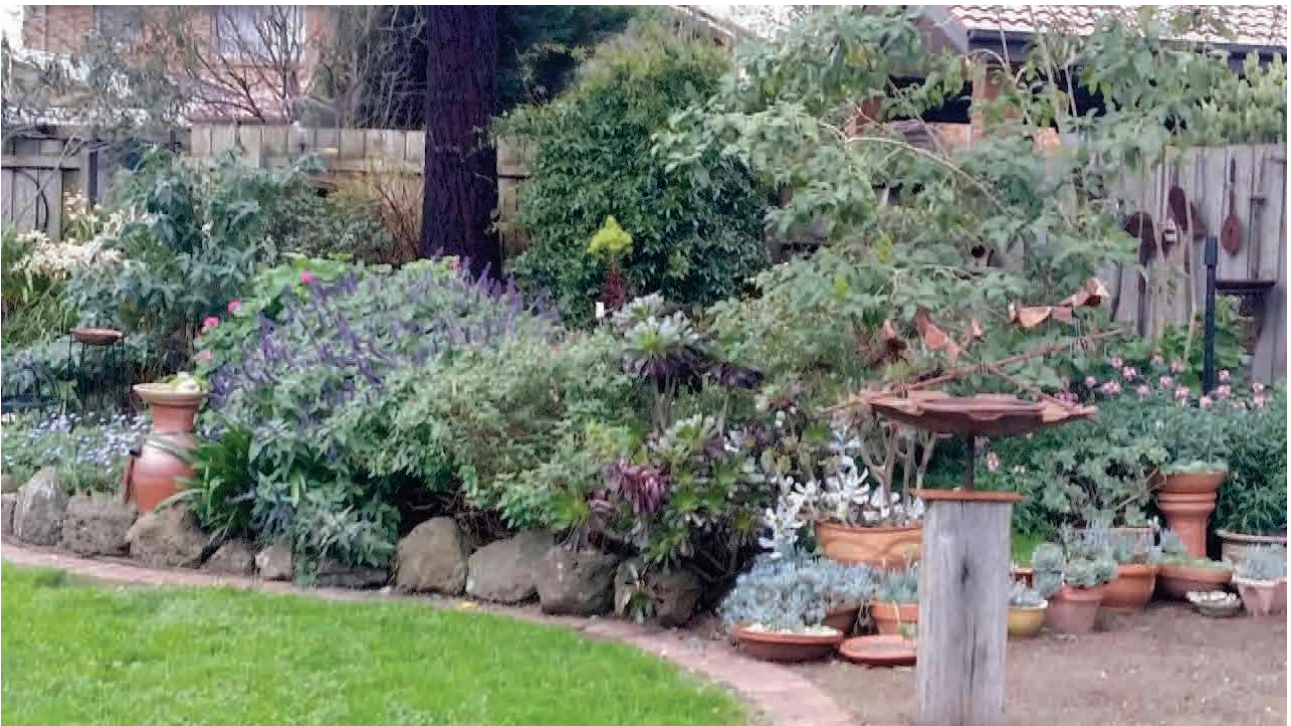
“...I joined the Salvia Study Group as I love salvias and all the amazing varieties that exist and would like to learn more about them and identify some of the plants I have grown from cuttings. I also grow them to attract the little Spinebills, Wattle birds and honeyeaters to the garden...”

What about you? Tell us why you joined and your salvia story for our next edition.

Editor’s Note: We reach out to new members via email and only publish names with permission. We are sorry if we missed you, please email the editor for inclusion in the Summer edition.

Spring

Spring in My Salvia Garden



“My garden in Rowville is in a low lying spot at the bottom of the mountain. Every Winter it is hit with a number of frosts of varying severity, so I tend to wait till early Spring before cutting back any frost sensitive plants. This needs to be timed after the threat of frosts has passed but before everything puts on so much new growth that I can hardly get into the garden bed to do the pruning. I also hate cutting off any flowers in Winter as the birds really appreciate the nectar. I'm hoping that this year I'll get it right. Now that I have retired I should in theory have time to do things when I should rather than my earlier tactics of any time that I saw something looking like it needed a haircut and I had a minute to attack with the secateurs.

*I'm still relatively new to the world of Salvias and will surely acquire some more in Spring to fill any gaps made by plant losses due to the frost or my inexpert attentions.” – **Tine Grimston, Rowville***

Salvias Flowering in Spring

SEPTEMBER

adenophora
 ‘Black Knight’
coahuilensis
 ‘Costa Rican Blue’
discolor
dorisiana
flocculosa
fruticosa
gesneriifolia
gesneriifolia. var ‘Tequila’
greggii vars
 ‘Hot Lips’
involutrata spp
 ‘Hadspen’
 ‘Pink Icicles’
 ‘Romantic Rose’
 ‘Timboon Red’
iodantha
 ‘Joan’
karwinskii
leucantha vars
lyrata
 ‘Marine Blue’
microphylla vars
nemerosa vars
pratensis vars
adenophora syn pulchella
 ‘Purple Majesty’
rumicifolia
sagittata
semiatrata
superba vars
subrotundra
sylvestris vars
uliginosa
univerticillata
verticilliata vars
wagneriana

OCTOBER

adenophora
apiana
 ‘Black Knight’
coahuilensis
chamaedryoides
desoleana
dorisiana
eiggii
forskaohlei
fruticosa
gesneriiflora
gesneriifolia. var ‘Tequila’
greggii vars
 ‘Hot Lips’
 ‘Pink Icicles’
 ‘Romantic Rose’
 ‘Timboon Red’
iodantha
 ‘Joan’
karwinskii
leucantha vars
leucophylla
microphylla vars
nemerosa vars
pratensis vars
 ‘Purple Majesty’
rumicifolia
sclarea
sagittata
superba vars
subrotundra
sylvestris vars
transylvanica
uliginosa
verticilliata vars
wagneriana
waverley
 ‘Wendy’s Wish’

NOVEMBER

argentea
aethiopsis
 ‘Anthony Parker’
blepharophylla
broussonettii
canariensis
desoleana
dolomitica
eiggii
forskaohlei
gesneriiflora
gesneriifolia. var ‘Tequila’
greggii vars
 ‘Greek Skies’
 ‘Harmony’
 ‘Hot Lips’
karwinskii
leucantha vars
leucophylla
microphylla vars
miniata
nemerosa vars
officinalis vars
pratensis vars
repens
romeriana
rubescens
scabra
spathacea
staminea
superba vars
subrotundra
sylvestris vars
transylvanica
uliginosa
wagneriana
waverley
 ‘Wendy’s Wish’

NEWS FROM SOUTHEAST QUEENSLAND

Good Riddance to Summer

Kathy Basiaco, The Perennial Poppies Group Inc

At long last the months of summer are more of a memory, at least for now, as at the time of writing here in South East Queensland winter has arrived with its lack of humidity and heat. An added bonus is that there has been some good rain at times for us gardeners. As many in this part of the world would probably agree it was a VERY long hot summer. It felt like March was an extension of summer and I was impatient for the heat to loosen its grasp.

In South East Queensland I find that the salvias and many other plants enjoy the autumn/winter seasons, undoubtedly because the growing environment is much less stressful for them. In my garden the greggii and microphylla salvias are in full flower along with *S. pallida*, *S. bullulata*, *S. melissodora*, *S. purpurea*, *S. spathacea*, *S. 'Timboon'*, *S. 'Bill Whitehead'* and *S. 'Harmony'*. Many self-seeding *S. coccinea* are flowering now, appearing randomly around the garden in red, white and shades of pink. In the morning in particular, all of the salvias flower colours are deep and bright. In contrast in summer they are washed out and shrivelled by the end of the afternoon, having surrendered to the heat.

Following were the best salvia performers for me during summer: *S. leucantha* 'Midnight', 'Meigan's Magic', 'Anthony Parker', 'Josh' and 'Phyllis Fancy'.

Despite not getting any extra water they still had to be regularly pruned back and were not affected by any significant pests. *S. aurea*, *S. coahuilensis*, *S. discolor*, *S. 'Allen Chickering'* and *S. 'Celestial Blue'* are worth a mention also, showing little stress.

On the flipside a few salvias performed poorly and

were constantly attacked by mealy bug and scale insects. They also needed a lot of extra water (*S. iodantha*, *S. 'Ellie'* and *S. 'Desley'*). *S. iodantha* was dug out as it was a 'lost cause' to the pests mentioned earlier.

S. 'Purple Majesty' narrowly missed out on being pulled out as it was yet another magnet for mealy bug and scale. Both *S. mexicana* 'Limelight' and 'Snowflake' had to be pulled out (due to pests and generally weak growth in the heat and humidity).

I read with interest in the Winter 2019 'Salvia News' ('Multiplicity of Microphyllas') about one salvia in particular named 'Adriana's Jewel'. I would like to mention here a colour correction as this salvia was under the heading 'Darker Pink' (it should be under 'Red's). *S. 'Adriana's Jewel'* is a salvia that originated as a hybrid at my place some years back and it is named after my daughter.

When newly opened the lower lip is a bright, almost fluorescent red. The upper lip and throat are a light magenta. I have attached a photo of 'Adriana's Jewel' below. The salvia specialist Robin Middleton on his website has a clear photo of it.



A great bonus of growing salvias is their attraction to bees. Due to the use of systemic and non-systemic pesticides, land clearing and various diseases bees need all the help that we can provide for them. At my place I see mainly Blue Banded bees, the European Honey Bee and many native bees as well. During summer *S. melissodora* attracts a few Bumble Bees which are a joy to watch. They seem to run on a tiny but loud motor as they buzz around, oblivious to me watching them going about their foraging.

Salvia flowers also attract many birds and at this time of year other worthy plants along with the salvias provide a good food source. 'Chinese Hat' shrubs in the genus *Holmskioldia*, are good garden performers. For me in winter they surely are one of the best shrubs for mass flowering. In the late afternoon in particular a wide variety of species of birds visit for the nectar on offer - it is not unusual to have a lorikeet hanging off a branch not far above your head! As well as many birds, native bees seem to find 'Chinese Hat' a great food source as well.

Another beautiful flowering plant at this time of year (and autumn) is the *Dombeya*. Considered

rare, eventually they grow into medium sized trees. I have not seen any birds feeding off them but they certainly attract plenty of bees. I find them difficult to propagate and I am sure that there is a 'trick'. Lovely lavender and chrysanthemum plants are also in flower during our autumn and winter, with lavender in particular being a good bee food source.

In closing I have thought about the many succulents that are in flower during winter. They can be overlooked compared to other plants but now are considered to be very trendy in garden 'fashion'. Currently many echeveria and crassula are flowering with small but often very brightly coloured flowers. *Kalanchoe bracteata* 'Silver Teaspoons' has bright red/orange flower buds which make a great contrast to its silver-grey foliage. An unusual succulent called the 'Candle Plant' (*Senecio articulatus*) is in flower during winter. As a gardener I must admit that I have a mixed attitude towards it. It is a good novelty plant to grow though its floral scent is not pleasant. I spent a few afternoons wondering where to scatter the 'Keep Off' granules to deter that non-existent pesky cat!

Spring is just around the corner...



"...The best time for my garden in Spring would be October..."

—Lyndi Garnett, Glen Waverley

FROM OUR MEMBERS

A big thank you to all of the members who contribute articles to the Salvia News, you are the backbone of this publication! Members share their experiences, knowledge and glorious specimens so that we can all learn more about salvias. We also have a few good laughs as well!

If you would like to contribute to the Salvia News but do not know where to start, please contact the editor and we can work together formulating a piece. We are always grateful to receive articles and to get new perspectives.

Fanatics, Fanciers and Collectors

Geoff Crowhurst, Thornbury, Victoria

In the latest *Salvia News* I was interested to see Pat Anderson's article about being a salvia fanatic, although I am not sure that I understand exactly what makes one person a fanatic, and another not. Certainly a passion for detail and getting things right is involved, plus an interest in researching the origins, growing conditions and peculiarity of different species. With the very large number of species from around the world, there is enough for a life-time's work if one is to try to grow all the salvia species that one can obtain, some coming from very different climatic and growing conditions. Added to that, Pat is trying to keep track of the many hybrids and cultivars being introduced by the nursery industry.

My interest in salvias is not so all-encompassing, and dictated largely by the fact that I live in a single-front terrace home with very modest space at the back. In the last year or so I have cut back on the number of salvias a bit. But I am nevertheless what might be called a collector – if I like a certain type of plant, I am certainly not satisfied with only one or two kinds. I started out over thirty years ago with roses, at first Hybrid Teas, but then ditched them for old-fashioned roses: Chinas, Teas and Noisettes. I also have two Alister Clark's. Next came peonies (not herbaceous ones as it's not cold enough for them in much of Melbourne now) but tree peonies, which stirred my interest in China and plants from that part of the world. I only have room for six or so, and once planted, they like to be left undisturbed.

Probably after that I thought I could grow some clematis with the roses, which is easy enough to do. Clematis do not seem to mind the hot weather a bit, as long as they get a moderate amount of water, and their roots kept cool. And most of them can be pruned back at the same time as the roses. As I rather like having some species plants, I obtained *Clematis ladakhiana* (from a dry part of NW India) and *C. cirrhosa* var. *balearica* from the Mediterranean region, which is summer deciduous and flowers in winter-spring before the rose 'Fortune's Double Yellow' through which it climbs also comes into flower.

When I came across salvias I thought that at least some of them would fit well in my garden. And with two specialist interest groups, plus places like Lambley Nursery, there was no difficulty finding plants. I also obtained some seed by mail order. Over the years I have tried quite a number, some like *buchananii*, *canescens* var. *daghestanica*, *jurisicii* and *cyanescens* did not survive for long. A few other smaller growing ones like *glechomifolia* and *taraxacifolia* did not seem worth keeping in my garden. On the front nature-strip a mixture of Christine Yeo, San Carlos Festival, *africana* and *aurea* (cut hard back each season) spread into each other and looked good until last year's big dry. The plants, in poor soil and without regular water looked so sad I replaced them with *Eriocephalus africanus* (South Africa's 'wild rosemary') and the same border of catmint. But I kept a large clump of salvia Marine Blue, which has come good with late

rain, as it did last year, and will flower into winter.

Out the back I removed some of the brick paving to have a row of *microphylla* and *greggi* cultivars, and on the other side of the garden Baby Sage and *chamaedryoides* look good next to each other and spread over the paving. *Salvia coahuilensis* makes a good groundcover under some Tea roses. Of the *nemorosa* types, I have kept *tesquicola* (although this winter it needs to be refreshed by digging up, improving the soil and replanting.) I really like the forms of *Salvia patens*, though this year Cambridge Blue did not reappear. In colder climates the *patens* bulbs are dug up for over-wintering, so I might dig mine up and see what bulbs there are, and replant in spring after keeping in damp wood shavings or the like. In a small garden it would be good if there were climbing salvias! The best I can do is to have *Salvia radula* tied up to a fence, where it can grow quite tall, and flower well even in the hot weather. Right now (the end of May) the best salvia



is *Salvia semiatrata*, which got going as soon as the weather cooled down.

In the last few years my collecting has shifted from salvias to bulbs, and I mainly grow species *lachenalia* in squat pots which do not take up much room. Apart from the yellow/red Soldier Boys which many gardeners recognise, there are white, pink and blue species, most obtainable as seed by mail order.

But patience is required, as flowers usually only come in the third season. Once started, it is then a matter of selecting seed to sow in the coming season (in autumn). *Lachenalia* grow from about March to November, so there is plenty of time to be checking their growth, signs of flower buds, and seeing what emerges from seeds sown.

There is a new book out on all the *lachenalia* species, about 100 of them, but I am baulking at the asking price. So, am I a fanatic, fancier, collector, or just a very keen gardener?



Notes from Gruyere Salvias for Small Spaces

Meg Bentley, Gruyere, Victoria

With the event of many new homes and apartments built on a much smaller scale, with little or no garden space at all in which to grow anything, one needs to look at gardening in containers. Some high-rise buildings do not even have an outward facing patio or small porch in which to have just a small selection of pots or containers. Even if there was, it may be taken up with a seat or two and perhaps a table if there is room.

Ideally, one could grow a vertical garden on an end wall where either succulents or trailing plants could be grown or for a bit of colour, include violas,

pansies and even petunias and small growing salvias.

Situations can change, even if you have a larger garden but through a change in circumstances, you cannot get out to tend the garden and confined to the home for one reason or another, all is not lost!

If you love to garden, then grow a few colourful salvias or small plants of your choice in containers just out the back door or even the front door. It will lift the spirits and also a welcoming sight for all who visit.

There are many salvias available now, either

through assorted nurseries and the Salvia Study Group with a wide selection of plants. Depending on the size of containers, plants can range between 30cm to 60cm.in height. Keeping in mind of course that larger plants will require larger pots and the heavier it will be to move when full of soil.

The best selection I would recommend are the *Salvia microphylla x greggii* cultivars since they are all pretty hardy and flower for long periods.

Salvia 'So Cool' Purple, Violet and Lilac, S. 'Silas Dyson', Salvia 'Black and Bloom', Salvia 'Hot Lips', *Salvia coccinea alba*, Salvia 'Royal Bumble', Salvia 'Purple Passion', *Salvia x jamensis* yellow, Salvia 'Snow White', Salvia 'splendens' varieties, *Salvia muelleri* or any from the 'Heatwave' series. Depending on the colour range you want many others can be grown in containers and if you only have the space for one pot, then make it a large pot and plant 3 or 4 salvias into the one pot. Sitting the pot onto a set of wheels will assist in moving it around.

“The best selection I would recommend are the *Salvia microphylla x greggii* cultivars since they are all pretty hardy and flower for long periods...”

Adding small patches of complimentary colours will help brighten up the area. I have used bright orange marigolds and white allysum around the edges of S. 'Silas Dyson', So Cool Violet and *coccinea alba* to great effect. Naturally the water needs to be kept up but this is not such a bad thing, it gives you 'time out' to check, trim off spent flowers and keep in touch with your plants in a small garden as you water. If flowers are not your

'thing' then try Ferns for a fresh look.

No doubt if water saving crystals have been used at the base of the plants (mixed in and wetted) and a good potting mix used, your small garden will give you much joy and pleasure for quite a long time.

The same thing can apply to a 'kitchen garden' pot using herbs such as parsley, oregano, thyme, sage and chives or Muzuna, Red Mustard, rocket or any



of the Chinese greens for clipping and adding to your favourite dish. These are handy for the cook to grow at the back door.

Keeping in 'touch' with plants, literally, gives the gardener joy and helps to keep the spirit alive and in touch with their gardening world.

Raising Salvias from Seed

Pat Anderson, Warrandyte, Victoria

I have written previously in Salvia News about various aspects of growing salvias from seed, including some general comments about germination and also about seed collecting. I have also noted some of the pitfalls of propagating salvias from seed, such as the possibility of hybridisation between species in closely related groups of salvias. I have certainly learnt over the years that, no matter the source of seed, there is always a risk of

something not coming true.

I really enjoy playing about with seeds and would love to know the absolute best conditions for successful germination – time of year, seed-raising medium and its temperature, treatment of seeds to overcome dormancy etc. I know there are other people out there who also grow salvias from seed and I have heard various people say that they get really good results by, for example adding Epsom Salts, or using smoked water, or covering seeds with vermiculite, sowing them in fine gravel.

What I would like to see is some feedback in this newsletter of other people's experiences, so that between us, we can find the ultimate best methods and what works best for various species.

Anyway, following some discussion after the AGM on Sunday about where one can buy smoked water to improve germination, I thought it might be timely to revisit an article that I wrote for a 2006 issue of *Salvia News*, where I reported some comparative trials I had done using different treatments for germinating a few species of *Salvia*. So here we go:

Salvia Seed Germination Trials, Spring 2005

As part of an on-going investigation into germination of seeds from the genus *Salvia*, trials were undertaken in Spring, 2005, to help answer the following question:

Which specific treatments are required to overcome dormancy/induce germination in Salvia species that have proved to be difficult in previous trials?

Background

For seed germination to be initiated, three conditions must be fulfilled: the seed must be viable (embryo alive), the seed must be subjected to appropriate environmental conditions (water, temperature, oxygen and light) and primary dormancy (a set of conditions preventing immediate germination) must be overcome.

While I had successfully germinated many Salvias from seed at that time, there were some species for which I had had very little success and so I set up a systematic trial in the Spring of 2005 to determine which, if any, of the various ways suggested for overcoming dormancy might prove to be the best for some of these difficult species.

Choice of species for the trial

I wanted to include species that others had described as possibly benefiting from treatment with smoke (species from the South African Fynbos or Californian Chapparal country) or with

the growth hormone, gibberellic acid. (Ginny Hunt [1] lists the following as showing improved germination with treatment this way: *S. carduacea*, *S. columbariae*, *S. chamaedryoides*, *S. mellifera* and *S. spathacea*.)

I also had some seed of *S. recognita* that had been sent to me from overseas and which I wanted to be sure of germinating. The ultimate choice of species for the trial was determined by whether or not I had sufficient seed and included: *S. spathacea*, *S. mellifera*, *S. judaica*, *S. namaensis*, *S. lanceolata*, *S. recognita*, *S. chamaedryoides*.

Method

Separate trays of sterilised punnets were prepared with identical fresh seed raising mix (Debco brand).

Seeds of the selected species were counted out into batches of 20, where available, for each treatment. Where the seed supply was limited, treatments were restricted as indicated in the Table of Results.

Unless otherwise indicated, seeds were sown evenly onto pre-wet seed raising mix and covered with a thin layer of vermiculite

All treatments were prepared indoors at the same time and moved to the glasshouse when complete.

The Treatments

A “**Control**” punnet was sown for each species,

using no additional treatment.

Soaking in water: Seeds of each species were placed in separate bowls of water to soak overnight, after which they were sown as described above.

Nicking: Seeds were nicked by a single pass with a narrow file, where the seeds were large enough to handle. For smaller seeds, these were gently rubbed between sheets of fine glass paper. All seeds were then sown as described above.

Smoked water: Seeds were sown as above, watered with smoked water (a 10% solution of “Regen 2000”) then left for 48 hours before any further watering.

“Australian Wildflower Seed Starter”: (improved germination of some West Australian wild flowers indigenous to fire-prone areas has been demonstrated with this treatment). The granules were dissolved in hot water and after cooling, the seeds were placed in separate bowls of the solution to soak overnight, after which they were sown as above.

***Gibberellic Acid (0.1%)** – Seeds were soaked overnight in the prepared solution then sown as above

***Gibberellic Acid (0.01%)** – Seeds were soaked overnight in the prepared solution then sown as above

**The concentrations of Gibberellic Acid were chosen based on figures quoted by John Sutton [2]. It is available in Victoria as a 10% solution and was diluted to the required amounts in water.*

Results

The germination rates after 6 weeks are summarised in the Table below.

With the exceptions of *S. judaica* and *S. chamaedryoides*, there was no germination of seeds in the “Control” punnets. This was consistent with my expectations, as the species for the trial had been determined by poor results on previous occasions, using the same batches of seed.

S. judaica produced some seedlings irrespective of treatment. It is possible that the only reason that *S.*

judaica had not germinated in the previous sowing in September 2004 was that the temperature of the medium was below the minimum threshold value required, whereas this trial was conducted one month later and conditions were a bit warmer.

Soaking the seed was of very little value – somewhat surprising as many salvia seeds quickly form a mucillagenous coating when soaked.

Nicking the seed was likewise of little value, although it may have contributed to the germination of one seedling of *S. spathacea*, a species with very large seeds, although not particularly hard-coated (and I could easily have damaged the seeds as they are not like hard-coated *Acacia* seeds.)

Smoked water appears to have contributed to some germination of *S. mellifera* and *S. namaensis*, Californian and South African species respectively.

Treatment with Gibberellic Acid aided germination in every case, with germination rates being generally higher than with any other treatment (50% for *S. chamaedryoides*; 67% for *S. recognita*). In general, the better results occurred with the lower concentration of Gibberellic Acid. These results are more clearly seen in the comparative photograph below.

Germination of *S. clevelandii* was poor across the board, but note that the seed had been purchased in 2003 and was probably too old.

It should be noted that some of the seedlings induced by the use of Gibberellic Acid, especially at the higher concentration, were rather tall and spindly and therefore weak. This is consistent with expectation, in that Gibberellic Acid is a hormone that stimulates growth, especially in inter-nodal extension.

Conclusions

Based on these trials with these particular batches of seed, Gibberellic Acid appears to be the most consistently useful treatment for breaking dormancy in *Salvia* species that had, for me, been otherwise difficult to germinate.

Care should be taken in using Gibberellic Acid as some of the resulting seedlings were weak and

spindly. This was particularly true for *S. lanceolata* and *S. chamaedryoides* with the higher concentration of Gibberellic Acid.

Salvia judaica demonstrated some germination without treatment, although germination rates were enhanced by treatment, especially with Gibberellic Acid.

With the exception of *S. namaensis* and *S. clevelandii*, all the seed had been collected in the

autumn prior to the germination trial. The seed had not been stored in the refrigerator, a factor that may have been detrimental to resulting germination rates.

References:

Ginny Hunt, seed supplier from the USA, trading as “Seedhunt”, p1 of seed catalogue for Salvias

Sutton, J. (1999): “The Gardener’s Guide to Growing Salvias”, pp 123 - 124

Since 2006, when the above was written, I have germinated countless batches of seed, and, in spite of the results above, I rarely carry out any pre-treatment. This is probably because I am always busy. But, generally, it should not be necessary to do too much more than waiting for the soil/medium temperature to be right. I believe it is important to consider the growing and germinating conditions of the environment from which a particular species originates. If the origin is sub-tropical, for example, then sowing in midwinter would be pointless. If it is semi-arid, then autumn is probably the best time, so that plants are grown enough to flower and complete their reproductive cycle before going into midsummer dormancy. If it is an area that experiences cold winters, then there is an argument for winter sowing. I actually have some seeds of *S. eigii*, *S. algeriensis*, *S. hierosolymitana*, *S. austriaca* and *S. cyanescens* germinating successfully outside right now in July.

Having said all this, I am aware that salvia-grower, Annette, in Queensland expects her seeds to germinate within 5 or 6 days in her warm conditions. So please write about your own experiences with sowing seed so that we can all benefit. I will certainly report some more of my results and I may carry out some more trials like these with appropriate timing.



Germination rates of some salvia species 6 weeks after sowing on 2nd Oct 2005

Salvia Species (date of seed collection and seed source)	No. seed in each batch	CONTROL	Treatment 1 SOAKING	Treatment 2 NICKING	Treatment 3 SMOKED WATER	Treatment 4 AUSTRALIAN WILDFLOWER SEED STARTER	Treatment 5 GIBBERELLIC ACID (0.1%0	Treatment 6 GIBBERELLIC ACID (0.01%)
<i>S. spathacea</i> (Jan '05 PA)	10	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%	20%	10%
<i>S. mellifera</i> (Mar '05 MB)	20	0%	0%	0%	10%	0%	0%	20%
<i>S. judaica</i> (Dec '04 PA)	20	5%	10%	15%	25%	55%	30%	30%
<i>S. namaensis</i> (Mar '04 PA)	20	0%	15%	0%	35%	25%	25%	25%
<i>S. lanceolata</i> (Feb '05 PA)	20	0%	0%	0%	5%	0%	10%	30%
<i>S. clevelandii</i> (Chiltern Seeds, purchased '03)	20	0%	X	X	0%	X	5%	10%
<i>S. recognita</i> (Aut '05 GG)	5	0%	X	0%	X	0%	20%	67%
<i>S. chamaedryoides</i> (Mar '05 PA)	20	15%	X	X	X	X	45%	50%

“X” indicates no seeds sown

(Source of seed: PA = Pat Anderson; MB = Meg Bentley, GG = Geoff Genge)

The *albicaulis* Mystery

A mystery discovered at the Nice Botanical Gardens

Pat Anderson, Warrandyte, Victoria

I was lucky enough to be part of a very small group garden tour in southern France in early June this year, during which we visited Nice Botanic Garden. This garden features plants from Mediterranean climate regions around the world, and among the S. African plants, I spotted one, labelled *Salvia albicaulis*.

I acquired a plant by this name a couple of years ago but I was never convinced that mine was the true species. The description in the Flora of S. Africa gave me to understand that the flower would be pink and the stem white, while this plant had a green stem and a blue flower. The photo I took is deceptive as the colour was much bluer in real life. I have kept the plant in a pot and called it “*albicaulis* NOT” and I have been careful not to spread it around, believing it to be a hybrid of uncertain origin.

Well, the plant I saw in Nice was different again – certainly blue, but with a darker stem and no indentations of the leaves.

I have no idea what to conclude from this, except that we must never take things at face value. Many

salvias hybridise very easily and it is likely that neither of these plants is the true *Salvia albicaulis*. In fact, whenever we acquire salvia seed, we should always grow any resulting plants on to be certain they are true before circulating them as this is how confusion arises.

I saw another lovely salvia that I did not recognise but which was obviously of the Californian type of salvia (*audibertia*) with whorls of narrow, tubular flowers. I finally found someone to consult who confirmed that it was indeed a hybrid of *S. clevelandii* and *S. apiana*. It was a bit like *S.* ‘Celestial Blue’ in colour and perfume of the leaves – another hybrid from this group – but with finer foliage and a longer distance between the whorls, and it had no name.

I would like to have stayed and talked about salvias for much longer, and retrospectively I should have asked further about the *S. albicaulis*. However, the gardens appeared to be very under-staffed with little time to talk to visitors, and everyone else was back in the minibus, raring to go on to our next stop, so I complied.



“*albicaulis* NOT”



albicaulis
(Nice Botanical Gardens)



mystery *audibertia*

MAIL ORDER SHOPPING

(postage prices within Australia)



Ideas for gift giving or keeping

A Manual for Salvia Growers By Meg Bentley

\$30 per copy Plus \$10 per copy posted

Order form for this item is on inside back cover of Salvia News



Salvia Cards - Meg Bentley

\$10 per pack (5 single flower or 5 assorted)
Plus \$2.50 per pack posted

- Assorted packs
- or Single Flower packs -
- *Salvia patens*
- *Salvia roemeriana*
- *Salvia microphylla var neurepia*
- *Salvia gesneraeflora* 'Tequila'
- *Salvia leucantha*
- **Total packs @ \$10 per pack \$.....**

Plus \$2.50 per pack posted \$



The New Book of Salvias by Betty Clebsch

\$15 per copy Plus \$10 per copy posted
..... copies @ \$15 per copy \$.....

..... Plus \$10 per copy posted \$.....

TOTAL COST OF ORDER \$.....

Cheque / Money Order payable to Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
Direct Deposit: Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000 A/c No: 116846122
Account Name: Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc

Please send completed form to:

Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
844 Highbury Road,
Glen Waverley Vic 3150

Enquiries to: Lyndi Garnett (03) 9803 4534

PLEASE PRINT

Name:

Address:

.....State: Post code:Phone:.....

Email:



Lesley Edmond's Modella Garden

Heather Lucas, Heathmont, Victoria

Well after lots of umming as to whether I would go to this garden visit, due to the weather forecast being rather off putting and looking out at the sky on the Sunday morning, which did not look very appealing, I am so glad that I did. Actually, I really could not have not gone, as (a) I was picking my Mum up to come with me and (b) I had said to a lot of people at the AGM meeting that my Mum and I were going.

So Mum and I set out at around 11am. As we tootled down the M1 Freeway, we both commented that the sky looked really good, no dark clouds and even some sunshine evident.

Funny how one forms opinions/pictures in one's mind of how a place is going to be, but this garden surpassed, surprised and delighted me. Now let me just say what I mean by opinions, I did not mean that I thought this garden was in anyway not going to be good, just did not expect the amount of salvias that Lesley had in her garden or the other plants and water features. I knew that she had lots of vegetables and the herbaceous salvia collection for our group, but was delighted to see lots of salvias, amongst them, S. 'Anthony Parker', S. 'Blue Bird', S. *canariensis* var. *candidissima*, S. *gesneriiflora* 'Tequila', S. *guaranitica*, S. *hirtella*, S. *involucrata* 'Pink Icicles', S. *iodantha*, S. 'Love and Wishes', S. *purpurea*, S. *karwinskii* x *involucrata* 'Timboon' and S. 'Van Houttii' to name a few. All of her salvias were in wonderful condition, having pruned them recently, which kept them compact but also made them (what's the word I'm looking for?) fuller, robust, floriferous... well you get what I mean. Unlike some of my salvias, which should have had a prune, but are getting a bit straggly? What I love about garden visits is that one always learns something from them and takes away ideas for one's own garden.



Buddha's Hand

Another plus is that the company always makes me happy as I love to chat and socialize with other people, plus checking out the gardens. We

had 13 people (lucky 13!!) attend and besides the garden enjoyed a wonderful lunch. Lesley had made a very tasty fried rice which was enjoyed by all, plus the normal great spread and variety of food that is brought along. Lesley and her husband Geoff had set up an area at the back of the house in a grassed section with chairs and a fire pit with wood burning, to keep us warm and to have our lunch and sit and chat. The fire was great and did keep us warm, although we were blessed with lovely sunshine that also kept us warm. So always a good idea to attend these garden visits for the food and company alone, although never diminishing the lovely gardens themselves.

Now let me take you on a tour of the garden – as you pull up to their home, you are confronted by two really lovely sights. Firstly; the front fence being covered by a very rampant banana passionfruit vine, with gorgeous big hot pink flowers with purple centres and secondly, a lovely small wooden shop/shelving with corrugated iron roof set up at the front entrance which had the following produce for sale: eggs, garlic, herbs, kale, bay leaves, nettles, lettuce, salad mix, rhubarb, lemons and pomegranates. Also, a trolley with some salvias, succulents and other plants for sale.

Then one walks into the front entrance and there is the house and the front garden on the righthand side and on the left-hand side of the driveway there is a long garden bed which has many plants and trees. A little bit more over is the herbaceous bed of salvias which are already putting on growth and will be interesting to see how they all thicken up and grow. From here forward behind the house there is a large amount of land with a superb vegetable garden set up in lots of separate garden beds for different vegetables. In all Lesley and Geoff have 6 ½ acres of land, which has of course the already mentioned vegetable garden beds and plant garden beds, but also they have lots of fruit trees – a lemon tree, guava trees, 2 olive trees, 2 finger limes, cherry trees and they have just planted 32 macadamia



trees. Another really interesting tree is the Buddha's hand tree which I have never seen before, with its yellow hand like fruit with wiggly fingers. Immediately at the back of the house there is a lovely pond with lots of goldfish in it and Elephants Ears plant, plus lots of bromeliads around it. Lesley's collection of bromeliads is very extensive and impressive, with some of them having hot pink/purple spiked flowers and there was also a really beautiful yellow cone shaped flowered one. There is also a really lovely large round raised concrete pond in a garden bed that has blue mosaic tiles with orange, yellow and black fish also in mosaic tiles and a rim of yellow mosaic tiles around the top edge.

Then there are their animals – 2 dogs, 1 cat, 3 sheep, 1 duck, 11 chooks, 1 cocky (very noisy soul), goldfish in the pond and yabbies in 2 dams. Unfortunately, they have lost a duck and many chooks to foxes, so they always lock up the chooks at night. The remaining duck has a lovely

little house (looks like a small dog kennel) on a wooden raft in the middle of one of the dams, so that the foxes cannot get them.

As I was walking around the garden up by the dam with Sylvia, Geoff came up to us and asked if we wanted to see inside his shearing shed. It was fabulous, I said "what a great Man Cave", but Geoff insisted that it was a great Kids/Man Cave, saying that his children used to have sleep overs and do's in it. It does however have a very superb wooden bar set up in the back corner of the shed, which really does smack Man Cave or indeed Party Central to me – very lovely.

Lesley and Geoff have lived in this idyllic country garden for I think Geoff said 26 years now (well over 20 anyway), having moved from Narre Warren to Modella.

I would like to thank Lesley and Geoff for their lovely hospitality and for letting us come and visit their garden. It was a great day with great company.



This Could Be You

Lyndi Garnett, Glen Waverley, Victoria

Plants are named for all sorts of reasons. If we are dealing with species, genera or families then it becomes all very botanical. Coming down to the hybrid level however it's a layman's world, where we, the everyday person can name a few plants.

Some of these names are fantastic, interesting and fascinating and show a lot of imagination - describing a colour, an event, a day in time or more frequently, named after a person.

Plants have been named after people since time began, some used as an association with someone that was well known "You know that plant that Mrs Wilson has by her front door" etc.. etc... or used in association with a person to trigger the memory either for the person's name or the plant's name.

Take the world of Roses, so many early hybrids were named after the breeder e.g. 'Alister Clarke' roses, a famous person or a personal friend - 'Madame so and so' or 'Countess...' and the list continues to this day.

Even grasses have their own names such as 'Sir Walter' and 'Matilda.' So why not Salvias? They are no different to any other group of plants.

In fact there are so many new Salvias popping up all the time, rather than using our imaginations and producing fascination descriptions of the flowers/plants, more and more Salvias are being named after the people that may have found that plant in their garden. e.g. 'Margaret Arnold', 'Annie B', 'Jane's Delight', 'Anthony Parker' etc., after family members such as the Shann clan or even often after grandchildren, such as 'Meigan's Magic', 'Sweet Caitlin' and 'Lucy'.

When I began to count the number of Salvias with personalised names, the list kept growing and growing. So perhaps you have your own Salvia "Namesake". If you do find your name, we may be able to provide a plant...

Agnes	Follett's Folly	Nancy's Blush
Alice	Grace	Pat's Pink
Annie B	Jane's Delight	Penny's Smile
Anthony Parker	Jo-Anne Shann	Phyllis's Fancy
Baby Hope	Josh	Poppy Shann
Cait's Dream	Kate Glenn	Rowan Shann
Cecilia	Kate Shann	Ruth
Charles Shann	Keegan	Sally G. Vanilla
Christine's Surprise	Lucy	Sandra V
Christine Yeo	Margaret Arnold	Sweet Caitlin
Doris - dorisiana	Meigan's Magic	

Editor's Note: There is also 'Adriana's Jewel' named after Kathy Basiaco's daughter (see Kathy's article on page 12)

Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Membership includes Salvia News Annual Subscription

NOT FOR RENEWALS

Any queries, phone Tine Grimston – see details below

Name :

Address :

Suburb/Town:State: Postcode:

Phone :Email.....

Membership includes Salvia News Annual Subscription 1 year (4 issues)

Hard copy posted \$20.00

On-line \$15.00

Subscribe for a Friend

Name:

Address:

Suburb/Town: State:Postcode:

Phone:Email:

Payment Details: Fill in the form and send to Membership Officer;

Tine Grimston
Membership / Subscription Officer
Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
4 Crimea Close,
Rowville Vic 3178

Ph. 0466 285 542 Email: tinegrimston@gmail.com

1. Cheque / Money Order payable to Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
2. Direct Deposit: Bendigo Bank BSB 633-000 A/c No: 116846122
Account Name: Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
Surname & Initial (Admin purposes only)

A form must be completed with all forms of payment

A MANUAL FOR SALVIA GROWERS

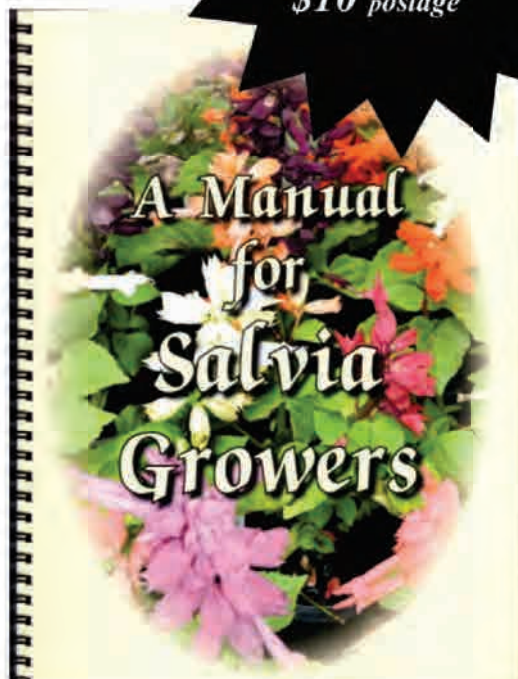
by Meg Bentley

There are now approximately
370 Species and Cultivars represented,
202 Photographs, Illustrations and Index



Contents include:

- Botany of Salvia
- Characteristics of Leaves
- Salvia microphylla & greggii differences
- Salvia karwinskii and cultivars
- Purple Majesty and Black Knight
- Salvia Maintenance
- Hardy Salvias and Shade Lovers
- Containers/Hanging Baskets/Hedges
- As an Accent in the Garden
- Propagating and Pruning
- Colourful Tints of Stressed Leaves
- Pests and Disease
- Where to see Salvias
- Cultivation Notes and Name Changes



A Manual for Salvia Growers by Meg Bentley

Cost: \$30 + \$10 P/P per copy
Cheque made out to:
Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
Direct Deposit: Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633-000 A/C No: 116846122
A/C: Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
(Postage rates given for within Australia)

Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
6 Halcyon Avenue
The Patch Vic 3792
Phone (03) 9756 6361

Salvia Manual Quantity: Total: \$.....

PLEASE PRINT

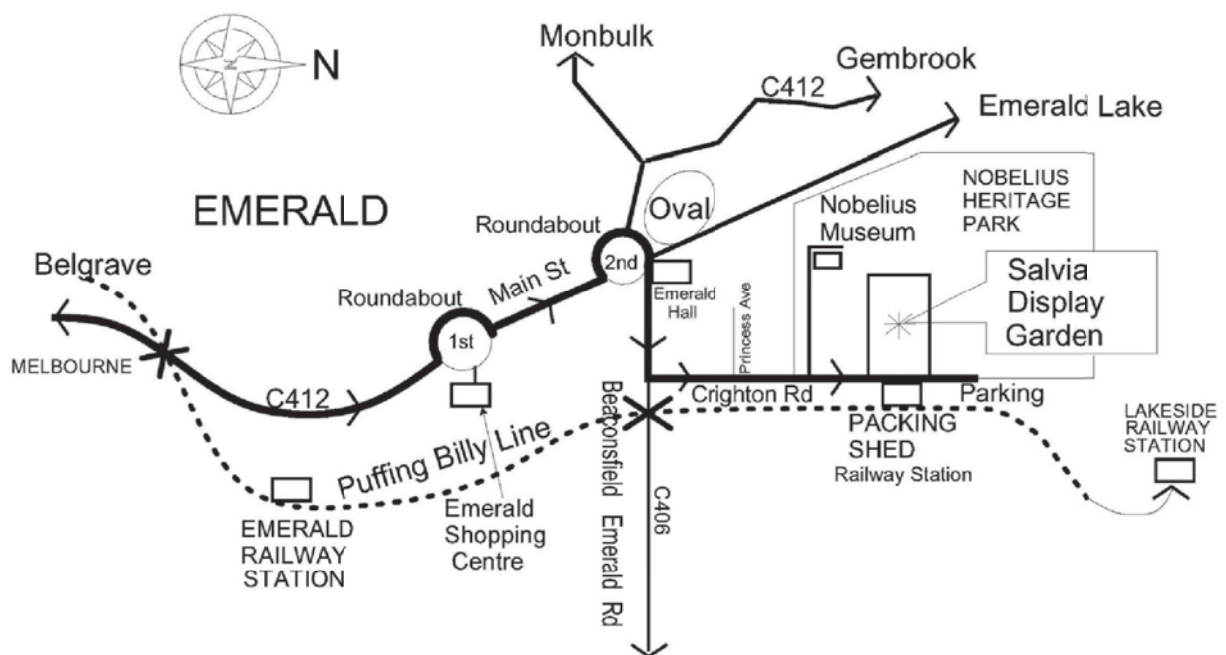
Name:

Address:

.....Post Code:

Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc
c/- Lyndi Garnett
844 Highbury Road
Glen Waverley Vic 3150

DIRECTIONS TO THE SALVIA DISPLAY GARDEN



ISSN 2208-1089 (Online)

Salvia News is printed by
Eureka Printing
702 High Street Road, Glen Waverley Vic 3150