

# Salvia News

NUMBER 79



Official Newsletter of the  
**Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc**  
[www.salvias.org.au](http://www.salvias.org.au)

Autumn 2020

# 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 GPCAA and has been used for quite a while now).

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# SALVIA NEWS

VICTORIAN SALVIA STUDY GROUP INC

Website: [www.salvias.org.au](http://www.salvias.org.au)

**W**elcome to the Autumn edition of Salvia News. It has been a long and hot summer and our hearts go out to everyone who has been affected by the bushfires that have ravaged our beautiful country. We are grateful to all the volunteers who have worked tirelessly to help the community, often putting themselves in danger.

It is with much sadness that we say farewell to Robin Middleton. Our condolences go out to Robin's family at this difficult time. Thank you to Pat Anderson for her lovely tribute.

In Southeast Queensland, they are unsurprisingly feeling the heat (page 7). Closer to home, Heather Lucas is surprised by some of her salvias that have managed to rejuvenate even in difficult circumstances (page 10).

Heather has also shared her favourite salvias- at least for the time being. What are your favourite salvias? We would love to know!

Inspired by some recent confusion at our "Salvias at Nobelius" day, I have investigated your obligations as a home gardener when it comes to Plant Breeders' Rights protected varieties (page 12).

In "Notes from Gruyere", Meg Bentley is propagating in summer (page 9) with success.

We also have more pages from Ray Boatman's original note book.

A special thank you to all our contributors.

I hope you enjoy this edition and the last of the summer sun.

Happy Gardening,

*Stephanie*

Editor Salvia News

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**Copy deadline for the next  
edition of Salvia News is  
30 April 2020**

Please email your articles and photos to:  
[stephanie.salvia.news@gmail.com](mailto:stephanie.salvia.news@gmail.com)

Cover photo is *Salvia aethiopsis*  
Photo courtesy of Lyndi Garnett

# VALE

## Robin Middleton

By Pat Anderson



*Robin at Dyson's Nursery. Photo kindly supplied by Peter Vidgeon*

I was both shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of Robin, one of the world's most highly regarded salvia enthusiasts, in the early hours of 2<sup>nd</sup> January. Some of us were lucky enough to have met him and see his beautiful garden in Bagshot, bursting with salvias. Practically everyone who is interested in salvias will have looked at his website at some stage, and some of us have consulted it very frequently.

How did Robin become so involved with salvias? As described on his website, Robin started

collecting salvias more than twenty years ago, after seeing a spectacular specimen of *Salvia sclarea* var. *turkestanica* in a friend's garden, after which one thing led to another. This is a common story for many of us, although the specific trigger may be different. In Robin's case, however, his interest as a collector was developed to a high degree through his nurturing of many salvia connections, both in the UK and more particularly overseas, not to mention his careful nurturing of his own plant collection.

In the early 2000s, he was a regular contributor to the on-line yahoo chat group run by “Salvia Guy” in the USA, both asking some questions and answering others. He seemed very knowledgeable then, so I was keen to meet him when John and I went to the UK in 2004. He kindly suggested we should visit his garden, which we enthusiastically did. He also gave us suggestions of other gardens to visit while in England. I was visiting England frequently in the early years of this century because the health of both my mother and brother were failing. During a subsequent longer stay in 2006, I spent a few days in London and again managed a day trip to Bagshot, during which Robin and Peter also took me to see Lynsey Pink’s salvia collection near Portsmouth. What a memorable day. I had discussed with them that I had arranged a visit to Kew Gardens Library on the following day and that I had also hoped to somehow fit in a visit to the famous Chelsea Physic Garden. Imagine my surprise when I received a phone call the next day while I was head down in the library explaining that the garden in Chelsea was having a special open day that very day and would be open until 9.30pm that evening. It was then possible for me to visit the garden after the library closed. This is just another example of how thoughtful Robin and Peter were.

It was around this time that Robin first developed a website to show case photographs of his salvias, which I avidly consulted. People started sending him photographs from round the world, which he would add in batches. Then a new, improved version of his website happened, with an alphabetical gallery of pictures making navigating around the site so much easier. With so many salvias depicted, this was absolutely necessary, and visiting this comprehensive site became an absolute “must” for enthusiasts. There were regular pages of “Latest” additions, which subsequently became absorbed into the main body as they were replaced with further additions. Robin made no claim to being a botanist, but he was in touch with so many people who were, that the botanical information he gleaned was fed into his site. His connections in the salvia world were enhanced when he attended one of the Salvia Summits held in California in 2013. So many enthusiasts followed the site and in turn contributed

photographs to it.

His next contribution to the salvia world and to us in Victoria, was his seed list which became anticipated around Christmas time every year. His list came with detailed descriptions of plant origin and performance.

I am aware of several people who have been lucky enough to visit Robin and see and learn from his collection. These include Sue Templeton, Wendy Smith, Lyndi Garnett, Wayne Burgess, Michelle Frizon and Annette Bax, but these are just a few from Australia alone. No doubt his garden was the Holy Grail for enthusiasts from many countries. Robin seemed to have close ties with people from Germany, France, the Netherlands, Argentina and many other countries. Being a fluent speaker in French, he communicated regularly with Christian Froissart when Christian was preparing his book “La Connaissance des Sauges”.

On my last visit to the UK in 2016, I was invited to spend a few days with Robin and Peter in Bagshot. I was overwhelmed by their generosity. I was met at Heathrow Airport (no mean task these days), taken to visit William Dyson at Great Comp, where William probably has the largest salvia nursery in the UK (another arduous drive around the M25 in the rain) and again to visit Lynsey Pink, who has a large, registered collection of salvias. This visit was so enjoyable for me, not just because of the wealth of salvia information I gleaned and the number of different salvia I saw. Robin and Peter were both so kind, welcoming and generous. I also discovered that Robin, as well as being a cat lover, was also very fun-loving.

In Australia, we are lucky to have so many salvias in our collections that might not otherwise have been introduced, but for Robin. Likewise, we have learnt so much about these plants, name revisions and some developments in the salvia world, as a result of Robin’s international network of contacts and his sharing of information. I suspect we have reached the end of a golden era with Robin’s passing.

Vale dear friend. You live on in our hearts and in our gardens.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Garden Visits** are a great opportunity to meet with members and explore some special gardens.

**Selling events** are an opportunity to purchase salvia plants, books and seed. You can also bring plants/flowers to be identified. Many of the selling events are part of larger fairs and shows. Remember to take your plant lists to events or email your list to Lyndi Garnett prior to the event so you are not disappointed.

Remember to check the website regularly for any changes, additional information and additional Garden Clubs events where Lyndi Garnett is speaking. There will also be more details about these events in future editions.

Please also let Lyndi know if you are attending events. Some events need to know numbers.

**7  
Mar**

## **FERNY CREEK RARE PLANT EXPO** (10am – 4pm) ☼

**Ferny Creek Horticultural Society, 100 Hilton Road, Sassafras**

The Ferny Creek Rare Plant Expo is the first of the Autumn Garden Shows for the year. Please note that although the expo is on both Saturday 7 March and Sunday 8 March, we are only selling on the Saturday. The Expo has a good variety of stalls producing rare collectable plants, wood working and an inhouse botanical artist.

**18-19  
Apr**

## **THE YARRA VALLEY AUTUMN FESTIVAL** (10am – 5pm) ☼

**125 Quayle Road, Wandin**

This festival has been created to take the place of the Tesselaar Fair. Held at Quayle Road in Wandin with lots of rare plants, plant stalls, garden/tool stall and food stalls.

**10  
May**

## **GARDEN VISIT TO AMANDA HAPGOOD'S GARDEN** (11am)

**Wandin – address available on request**

Amanda Hapgood is opening her garden to take in all the wonderful autumn glory of the area in Wandin, just off the Warburton Highway. A chance to wander around her garden, and see how she has grown her salvias. It will be a chance to chat with others whilst watching her ducks wagging their tails under the autumnal trees.

**20  
Jun**

## **GARDENERS DAY OUT (RHS)** ☼ (program commences from 9:30am)

**Deakin University Campus, Burwood Highway, Burwood**

**NB: Date has changed from 13 June to 20 June – this is the new date**

A fabulous day for all gardeners. Three great speakers to keep you enthralled with great tips and new things to be learnt about gardening and plants. We will be there to show you the latest colourful varieties of salvias on offer as well as wonderful eye-catching flower arrangements. There will be plenty of other plant stalls for you to grab that special plant, garden ornament or bunch of flowers to take home. The results are in for the Big Basket Competition and so many prizes to be won from the huge array of raffles on the day.

**9  
Aug**

### **GARDEN VISIT TO HILLTOP GARDEN GEELONG**

**Geelong – address available on request**

This is a magnificent garden with so much to see where ever you look. A wonderful array of succulents of every type, huge pots of bromeliads, orchids, camellias and even some salvias, all arranged beautifully in this incredible garden. So many ideas to take home. This is a garden not to be missed. Carpooling might be necessary.

**23  
Aug**

### **PROPAGATING AND POTTING UP DAY**

**Nobelius Heritage Park, Crighton Road, Emerald**

An annual event where we show you how to take cuttings/slips of the different types of salvias and the type of propagating mix that gives the best results. We will also show you how and when to pot up your cuttings as well as plants that need repotting.

**13  
Sep**

### **BIRTHDAY CELEBRATORY MEMBERS' LUNCH**

**Nobelius Heritage Park, Crighton Road, Emerald**

This is to welcome and introduce new members to the Group. A sumptuous Lunch is provided and plants are given to take home. Check for details in coming months.

**OCT**

**Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 October 2020**

Garden Lovers Fair at Bolobek in Macedon 🌸

**Sunday 18 October 2020**

Ivanhoe Garden Club Fiesta 🌸

**Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 October 2020**

Yarra Valley Spring Plant Fair 🌸

**NOV**

**Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 November 2020**

Rose Society Spring Show 🌸

**Sunday 15 November 2020**

Annual "Salvias at Nobelius" 🌸

**Sunday 22 November 2020**

Garden Visit to Brett Horan's garden

**DEC**

**Sunday 6 December 2020**

Christmas Luncheon at Geelong hosted by Jen Kloester

*Save the date!  
Coming up later...  
Please note that 🌸 means it is a selling event.*

# STUDY GROUP MATTERS



When I was overseas, I showed a few people our website - I was really quite embarrassed. I did not realise it looked so boring, so daggy, and no one really wanted to know about us at the beginning of the home page. So, we are going for a new look on each page with the calendar on the home page. Now everyone will be able to see what is happening and will not have to go searching for that information.

As many people will know I have been quietly slogging away at the A-Z on salvias. It is a mammoth task and I'm only up to the "G's", but as it's a work in progress it will get there. I must qualify these entries as they are not just two lines and a photo but a few paragraphs. The purpose is so you can identify the plant if you ever have to compare it to something similar.

I have been publishing each letter in the hope that any of those plants starting with A, B, etc... will automatically come up with any enquiries, but apparently, I have been publishing them on the wrong page! You may not have come across these entries. Although it is a simple process of cut and paste, each individual entry has to have its own page to be published, so it might take a little longer than I anticipated.

I know there are a lot of lists in columns which do not have photos, these unfortunately belong to our previous system and cannot be edited or linked to photos.

We are working on this problem. Please keep looking at our website for our new look, which I hope will make each page more inviting, exciting and please look at the information provided in each page.

Thank you,

Lyndi Garnett

Group Coordinator

The website address is [www.salvias.org.au](http://www.salvias.org.au). Please visit us and give us your feedback

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## Welcome New Members

A very big welcome to Judith Wark and all of our fabulous new members.

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 Winter edition.*

# NEWS FROM SOUTHEAST QUEENSLAND

**Adrienne Starkey**  
**The Perennial Poppies Group Inc.**

Very fortunate indeed are those of us whose biggest problem is a wilting garden. I am one of these folk and leading up to Christmas I decided to do an untimely but necessary cut-back of nearly all my salvias and anything else that looked wilted, weary, woody or just dead. This was based on the premise that if you do nothing, then nothing will change. No rain and searing hot winds had rendered many plants 'beyond the brink', or so I thought. To my delight, after recent summer rains, I now have fresh basal growth (I cut salvias to the ground) from many plants and renewed enthusiasm for the rebuilding of my garden. I was especially pleased to see the lovely grey-green foliage of *Salvia dolomitica* and close by, *S. 'Penny's Smile'*. These complement each other, and I had really thought they were gone.

One area that suffered less here, is my vegie patch. When we first arrived here, about twelve years ago, there were no flat garden beds. All were on steep banks. The one area that had potential was a lawn (ok, bitsy grass and weeds). My husband who is a notorious lawn lover kindly suggested I make a garden there. Not long after he finished the sentence, I was on my way. It began as a circular no dig garden, layers of newspaper and compost, then a pile of old pavers were laid to create a small central circular bed, perfect for a rose in an urn, then four paths to create quadrants. A fence was needed to keep out marauding bantam chooks, so I just used pet fencing, not too high and then a garden arch for the entrance.

Planting star jasmine to decorate the fence and cover the arch was a decision I have never regretted. Every spring, it is smothered in fragrant

white flowers, pleasing right through to New Year when it is cut back. From the outset, it was too shady for many vegetables, so leafy greens and herbs have been the edible mainstay. I tried so hard to plant in pretty little rows to create a parterre effect, but being a messy gardener, this did not work. It was not long before salvia, aster, viola, scented geranium and many more little pretties

found a home there. The dappled shade has proved no barrier to the floral show and in fact the colours of the salvias are much more intense than those planted in more exposed areas and the growth is no less compact.

Salvias in there now (it changes) include *S. bicolor*, *elegans*, 'Martine', 'Mrs. Bucket', 'Sensation', a white *S. greggii* 'Heatwave Blaze', 'Garron' and several *splendens* types, including 'Ellie'. Seedlings have popped up from time to time, mostly ignored,

until about 3 years ago when I noticed a sturdy compact salvia with fresh light green foliage, a strong young microphylla. I was so pleased when it flowered a light pink with a hint of mauve and not like any others in my garden. I grew it on and spread a few more around other areas. Its growth is consistently compact and it flowers on and on. Breaking all the rules in our salvia study group, I decided to name it, if only for myself, after a granddaughter, Arabella. Others in the group have shown interest, so I include a photograph here, courtesy of Kristen Mathews.

As far as my vegetable patch goes, the leafy greens and herbs are really there now for a lovely foliage contrast to all the flowers. It is only a small part of the garden, but it has kept me happy. Perhaps it is a case of quality, not quantity?



# 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  
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Account Name: Victorian Salvia Study Group Inc  
PayPal: vssgincl@tpg.com.au

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Glen Waverley Vic 3150

Enquiries to: Lyndi Garnett (03) 9803 4534



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Name:.....

Address: .....

Suburb/Town: ..... State: ..... Post code: ..... Phone:.....

# FROM OUR MEMBERS

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.

Some ideas for the winter edition –

- What's happening in your garden in winter?
- Planning for spring
- Top tips for propagation
- Using salvias for some colour in your winter garden



## Notes from Gruyere

Meg Bentley, Gruyere, Victoria

It has been an horrendous Summer for so many people what with bushfires, storm damage and extreme heat, I think like many of us we are lucky to even think of gardening when so much is lost elsewhere.

With fulltime caring I have to say there is little time to spare out in the gardens but as a collection holder, I do have to keep my plants alive, even if it means getting up in the early hours to water the pots and containers. My backdoor area has become my little nursery-come-propagating-potting on place where I can continue with my love of plants and keeping the ever watchful and eye and ear for when I'm needed inside.

Although it has been very hot, I have put in quite a few cuttings, naturally doing the hardy salvia species which are kept in a very cool moist position and out of direct sunlight. The cuttings are very short and the leaves are trimmed right back but the grey leaved species need to be more on the dryer side or they become very droopy. Other salvias tried in this manner are *Salvia regla*, *S. japonica*, *S. miltiorrhiza* and *S. chinensis* but they do need overhead misting or spraying to keep up the moisture.

One exception to the 'hardier' salvias though is the *Salvia* 'Ruth' cuttings which have responded well in this heat and I did not think would make it but the warmth and extra moisture have proven successful here. I do have a very large pot of *S.* 'Ruth' set against the shed wall but the sun really knocks it by late afternoon when it becomes very droopy. I have found that it needs water twice daily so when I get around to planting it in the garden it will be placed in my shade garden area that only gets a small amount of morning sun and I will also put water-saving crystals at the base of the hole. When seen in full bloom you'll understand the required attention it needs, being a cultivated cross with a white *Salvia splendens* and *Salvia atrocyanea*. It has long, full stems of lime-green calyces and bright purple corollas making it a real 'eye-catcher' and it flowers for weeks. I just did not know it would get so tall (1.5m).

It is always worth a try to test your skills at propagating and growing plants when the elements are against you, success comes in many ways so have a go.



# Rejuvenation in the Salvia Garden

Heather Lucas, Heathmont, Victoria

I must be the first to admit that I have thrown away plants that I had thought had died and then learnt that they were indeed plants that were meant to die down in winter and come back in spring, but there are still surprises that occur that do not fit into the herbaceous or deciduous category.

Have you ever had a plant that you were so excited to have or that you were waiting for it to flower? To then accidentally snap off the only stem of the plant at the very bottom – hmm yes that was me and my *Salvia miltiorrhiza* about two months ago. I was a bit annoyed as I had lost the one that I had and acquired this one and been so careful to nurture it. I put it in a lovely glazed light grey pot, so that I could keep an eye on it and not lose it to snails or the elements. So I put the pot out the back with other dead plants in pots and forgot about it. Then about four weeks ago I went out the back to check on something else and saw this green growth in the pile of pots and lo and behold it was my *S. miltiorrhiza* growing again!! It is now a very healthy plant and has pride of place on one of my ornate metal stands.

Now I was a bit confused between the term herbaceous and deciduous, so naturally I googled them and this is the explanations for both:

*Deciduous* – a perennial plant that grows and blooms during the warm part of the year, with the foliage dying back in the winter.

*Herbaceous* - a plant whose growth dies down annually but whose roots or other underground parts survive.

Some of my herbaceous salvias that I love are *S. arizonica*, *S. atrocyanea*, *S. azurea*, *S. guaranitica* var. *purpurea* and *S. guaranitica* var. *violacea* which I grew from seed obtained from Robin Middleton, *S. judaica* and *S. puberula*, to name a few.

Another plant that I thought was dead and this was a long while ago and when I was not so sure of the growth habits of some salvias was the

lovely *S. regla* (my only deciduous salvia, I think). Yes I know now, it loses all its leaves and just looks like dead twigs/branches, but it reshoots along the stems in spring. Another salvia is *S. arizonica* and even now that I know that it is winter dormant, I still seem to lose it, must be the place I put it or maybe too much or too little watering. *S. reptans* is another herbaceous salvia and funnily enough I seem to be able to keep this one going.

There are the salvias that are biennial, so they have a lifespan of two years or so, of which I have *S. aethiopsis*, white flowers on 1 metre spike with large silvery grey leaves and *S. argentea*, which also has tall spikes of white flowers with large silvery basal leaves.



*Salvia Roemeriana*

Lastly of course there are the salvias that you grow to love and they just disappear and then you realise that they are annuals. Some annuals that I have loved and will now just have to get every year are *S. algeriensis*, *S. henryi*, *S. roemeriana* (now that's strange some of mine last more than a year!), *S. tilifolia* and *S. viridis* (also known as *S. hormium*).



*Salvia Argentea*



*Salvia Miltiorrhiza*



# Plant Breeders' Rights: What the home gardener needs to know

Stephanie Rendell, Ferny Creek, Victoria

In Australia, it is possible to register a new plant variety or at least a new derivative of a variety for Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR).

Successful registration gives the registrant (known as the "grantee") a monopoly on the commercialisation of the variety for a period of time by restricting permissible propagation. The underlying philosophy of PBR and other similar intellectual property rights is to provide a financial incentive to encourage innovation.

The relevant time period varies depending on the taxon of the variety as well as type of registration. For example: it is possible to protect some derived varieties (referred to as a "essentially derived variety") as well the initial variety itself. The PBR in an essentially derived variety ends on the same day as the PBR in the initial variety ends automatically regardless of the duration of the PBR.

It is permissible to come to a commercial arrangement with the grantee of a PBR to propagate the plant variety but this is unlikely to be necessary for most home gardeners.

A salvia variety that is covered by PBR may still be propagated for private non-commercial purposes, experimental purposes or for the purpose of breeding other plant varieties. In practical terms, the home gardener may propagate new seedlings from existing salvia plants in their collection even if the plant is protected by PBR.

The position is not as clear about taking cuttings from someone else's collection and will really depend on the relevant circumstances.

However, it is possible to gift a variety that you have propagated yourself privately provided that the transaction is strictly non-commercial. It is

important to distinguish between true gifts and other exchanges as the relevant legislation expands the definition of "sell" to include "exchanging by way of barter".

If in doubt, it is recommended to take a cautious approach and purchase PBR varieties which have been bred by the grantee directly or by an authorised licensee.

The good news in this regard is that the grantee of a PBR must take reasonable steps to allow public access to the variety. Some exceptions to these provisions apply but in general it means that the plants are likely to be readily available for purchase. You can likely find many of the current PBR varieties for sale by way of internet search.

Alternatively, there are numerous fabulous varieties that are not protected and can be freely propagated commercially.

A list of the salvia varieties that are currently subject to PBR as well as the varieties that have been accepted for registration but not yet registered is set out on the opposite page. We have also included the varieties where PBR has been terminated or withdrawn. The PBR register is in the public domain and is accessible through the IP Australia website.

**Do you think you have may have breed a new variety?** You may be eligible for PBR. We strongly recommend that you obtain specialist legal advice about your options before taking any steps to commercialise your variety or make it available in the public domain.

*Thank you to RNG Lawyers for their assistance in the preparation of this article.*

# Plant Breeders' Right Registry – Genus 'Salvia'

Extracted on 8 February 2020

<b>Common (Genus Species)</b>	<b>Variety</b>	<b>Status</b>
<i>Common Sage (Salvia officinalis)</i>	SAL04	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	SoCool Violet	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	SoCool Lilac	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	SoCool Purple	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	HeatwaveInferno	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	HeatwaveFlash	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	SAL01	ACCEPTED
<i>Sage (Salvia splendens x hybrid)</i>	Insalgosca	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia splendens x hybrid)</i>	Insalgopur	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Sizzle	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Blaze	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Wendy's Wish	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Glimmer	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Sparkle	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	SAL 010-1	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	HeatwaveGlow	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Glare	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	SER-Wish	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Eggben 008	GRANTED
<i>Salvia (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Amistad	GRANTED
<i>Salvia (Salvia leucantha)</i>	Santa Barbara	GRANTED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Glitter	TERMINATED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Heatwave Blast	TERMINATED
<i>Sage (Salvia hybrid)</i>	Eggben 009	TERMINATED
<i>Sage (Salvia greggii)</i>	Miss Scarlet	WITHDRAWN
<i>Salvia (Salvia greggii)</i>	Icing Sugar	WITHDRAWN
<i>Salvia (Salvia sylvestris)</i>	Impact-Purple	WITHDRAWN



# My Favourite Salvia

Heather Lucas, Heathmont, Victoria

Come on, being asked what your favourite salvia is!!! I believe that one goes through different stages of liking salvias, especially ones you call your favourites.

At the moment I love the yellow salvias from China and Japan – *Salvia campanulata*, *S. glutinosa* (from Europe, N. Turkey and Iran), *S. koyamae*, *S. nipponica* (various different types: *N. var. trisecta*, *N. 'Fuji Snow'*, *N. 'Crug Cream'* and *S. nubicola*).

I'm rather partial to *S. glabrescens*, also a salvia from Japan of which I have the beautiful pink and white flowered version and also the purple/blue one.

Then there was a time that I loved the small *S. ranzaniana* which has lovely trifoliate leaves with tiny white flowers – some salvia collectors think that this is a rather weedy and insignificant plant – but I think that it is a gorgeous little plant, dainty and to me delightful.

Then how about the salvias that are new releases and that you just have to have as soon as they are available. The very newest release is *S. 'Amante'*, which is a hybrid of *S. guaranitica* from Rolando Uria in Argentina and is more compact and has a fuller habit than other *S. guaranitica* types, with flowers of red corolla and black chalice. Interestingly the corolla exhibits violet, fuchsia, pink and red tones, according to the temperature and season of the year. Also there were the salvias bred by John Fisher, *S. 'Brittany'* - scarlet red flowers with purple calyces; *S. 'Firecracker'* - bright red flowers, with a dark calyx, *S. 'Petardo'* - maroon flowers and *S. 'Ruth'* - long flower stem with large lime calyces and purple flowers.

Then who does not remember when *S. 'Angel Wings'* came out, everyone wanted one. The hood of this salvia is lovely mottled lavender pink as well as the two small side lips. The bottom lip is a very pale pink frill almost like a spreading cape with two beautiful pink splotches at the top to meet the pink side lips. Could be a very strong contender for my favourite salvia!

Also very popular with me are the Mexicana tribe of salvias, of which I have *S. mexicana* 'Bill Whitehead', 'Kieran', 'Lime Calyx', 'Lolita', 'Lolly', 'Major', 'Minor' and 'Snowflake'.

This morning (Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> January) I have been out watering my pots (too many, still have not got them all into the garden) as we have been having a run of hot days and I was checking out my salvias to see which salvia is my favourite. Sometimes one forgets the older salvias, as we are too busy trying to obtain newer ones and I saw my *S. 'Mystic Spires'* in full flower. Absolutely beautiful cobalt blue flowers and not wilting at all, having had 32 degrees on Wednesday, 39 on Thursday and going for around 42 today and not a drop of water.

Now I cannot forget the salvias that I have been so generously given by Wayne Burgess that he grew from seed of which *S. 'Envy'* (Rolando Uria from Argentina's seeds) is just glorious in my garden. It is a lovely big plant, mine is taller than me when I stand next to it (I am 1.65 m) and is a lovely dark wine colour (no wonder I love it). There is also a red form which I have yet to find a place for in my garden. Then there are the following ones as well: *S. bogotensis*, a beautiful blue salvia (mine is in the garden, but hasn't flowered yet), *S. cyanicalyx*, terminal clusters of pale blue flowers with black calyces; *S. 'Flower Child'* (*microphylla*) with bright pink flowers that is flowering in my garden at the moment; *S. leucocephala*, a sub shrub with flowering stems that produce large whorls of buds at the top which are covered in white, woolly hairs with furry white calyces and brilliant magenta red corollas, to name a few. Now the *S. leucocephala* could very well become my favourite, but I have only just planted same and have not had it flower as yet, so we will see.

Now I have walked around the entire garden, I have even resorted to looking through my four photo albums of salvia plants that I have, in an effort to finding my favourite salvia and I keep changing my mind. Maybe the beautiful *S. indica* or *S. 'Madeline'* or one of the *greggiis* or *involutratas*.

So I thought my favourite salvia was narrowed

down to two – *S.* ‘Anthony Parker’ for its beautiful deep violet blue flowers with blue black calyces, but also for the fact that it is so drought tolerant (I have five of them dotted around my garden) and *S. gesneriiflora* ‘Coral Delight’ for its wonderful coral flowers with a white throat, but alas NO - I have finally picked THE ONE – SALVIA

LITTAE. This is one of my salvias that I have had for a long time, my photo was taken in 2011 and this is a lovely plant with long inflorescences of magenta flowers with furry hoods.

Better end off now before I change my mind, what about *S. gravida*, *S. iodantha* or *S. purpurea*!!!



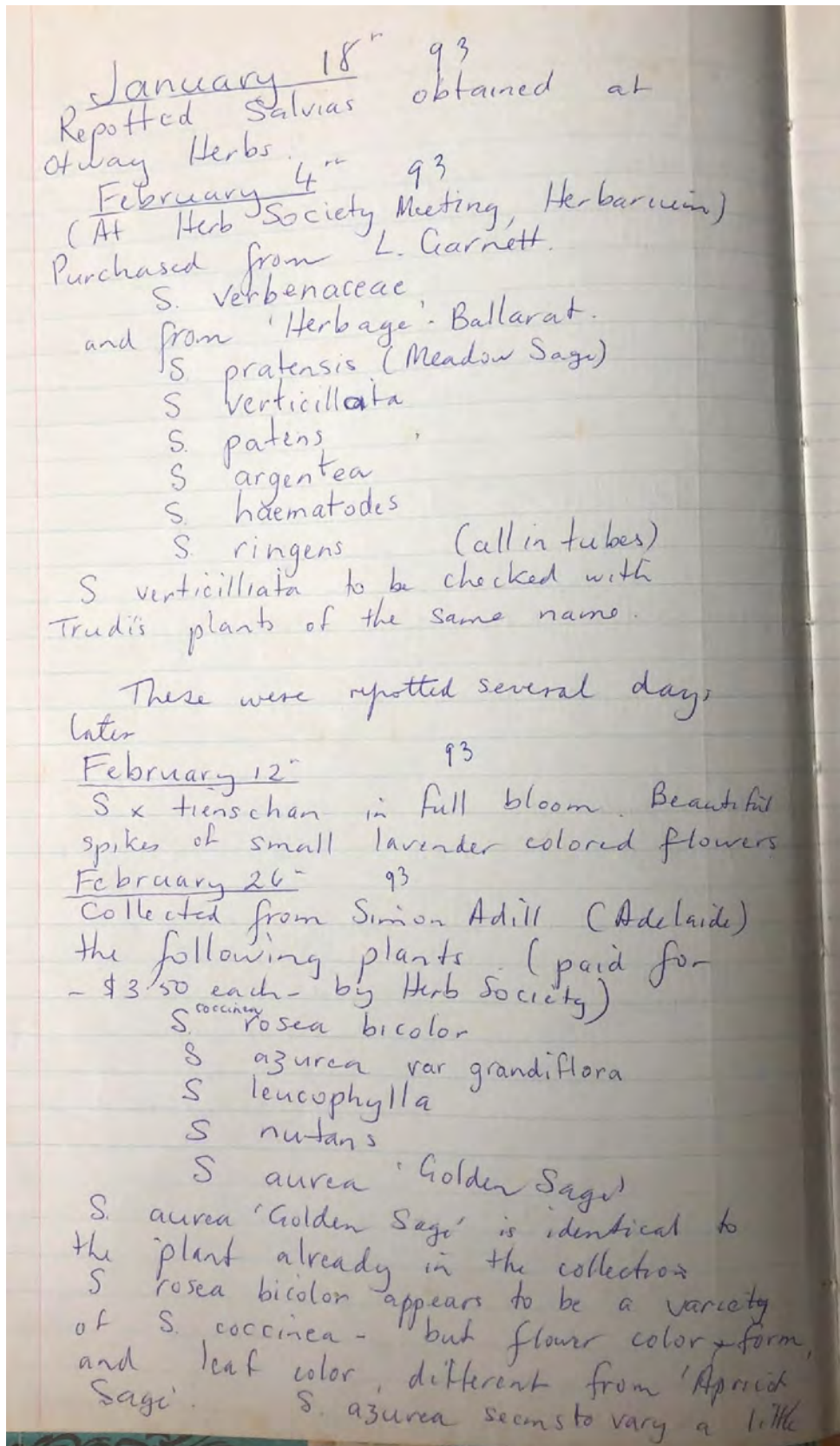
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## What is your favourite Salvia?

*In season or of all time? We would love to hear about your favourites and share a photo in our next edition.*

*My favourite in my own garden at the moment is *S. buchananii* ‘Velvet Slippers’- such lovely vibrant pink flowers against the lush green leaves and dark stems.*

# FROM THE ARCHIVES



from others in the collection, particularly in regard to leaf size + color.

Also purchased from Simon Adill (and in possession of G. Ellis)

*S. canariensis* (different form)

*S. splendens* 'maroon'

*S. pallida* ✓

\* *S. verticillata*

*S. leucantha* (white flowers)

*S. hierosolimitana* ✓

*S. microphylla* ...?

*S. viridis* ✓

*S. dolomitica* ✓

*S. dominica*

*S. disermus* ✓

\* *S. canadissima*

(\* probably these should be

*S. verticillata* ma

*S. candidissima*

March 4 93

Collected from Joan Preston at Herb Society meeting, a specimen of *S. aurea* (?)

March 6 93 At Garden Week, purchased from

'Plants Naturally' a specimen of *S. coccinea*, alba. 'white Sage'

March 16 93 Purchased from Lattice Tea Gardens,

Olinda, one plant

*S. aethiopia*

# Autumn

## FLOWERING IN AUTUMN

### March

*aethiopsis*  
'African Sky'  
*aurea* syn *Africana-lutea*  
*arizonica*  
*azurea*  
'Bethellii'  
*broussonettii*  
*buchananii*  
*chamaedryoides*  
*chamaelaeagnea*  
'Christine Yeo'  
*coccinea* var  
*corrugata*  
'Costa Rican Blue'  
*chiapensis*  
*disermas*  
*gesneriiflora*  
*gesneriiflora* var 'Tequila'  
*greggii* 'Bicolor'  
'Harmony'  
'Hot Lips'  
'IndigoSpires'

### April

'African Sky'  
*arizonica*  
*azurea*  
'Bethellii'  
*buchananii*  
*chamaedryoides*  
*chamaelaeagnea*  
*chiapensis*  
'Christine Yeo'  
*coccinea* var  
*corrugata*  
'Costa Rican Blue'  
*discolor*  
*disermas*  
*elegans* 'pineapple'  
*gesneriiflora*  
*gesneriiflora* var 'Tequila'  
*greggii* vars  
'Harmony'  
'Hot Lips'  
'IndigoSpires'  
'Joan'

### May

*africana* syn *A. caerulea*  
'African Sky'  
'Bethellii'  
*buchananii*  
*chamaedryoides*  
*chamaelaeagnea*  
*chiapensis*  
'Christine Yeo'  
*coccinea* var  
'Costa Rican Blue'  
*discolor*  
*elegans* 'pineapple'  
*flocculosa*  
'Harmony'  
'Hot Lips'  
'IndigoSpires'  
'Joan'  
'Marine Blue'  
'Meigan's Magic'  
*mexicana* 'Limelight'  
*mexicana* 'Lolly'  
*microphylla* vars

'Joan'	<i>leucantha</i>	<i>muelleri</i>
<i>leucantha</i>	'Marine Blue'	<i>murii</i>
'Marine Blue'	<i>microphylla vars</i>	'MysticSpires'
<i>microphylla vars</i>	<i>muelleri</i>	<i>polystachya</i>
<i>muelleri</i>	<i>muirii</i>	<i>purberula</i>
<i>muirii</i>	'MysticSpires'	'Purple Majesty'
'MysticSpires'	<i>nubicola</i>	<i>semiatrata</i>
<i>nubicola</i>	<i>polystachya</i>	<i>scutellariodes</i>
<i>patens</i>	<i>subrotundra</i>	<i>subrotundra</i>
<i>subrotundra</i>	<i>scabra</i>	<i>scabra</i>
'Van Houttii'	'Van Houttii'	'Van Houttii'
'Waverly'	'Waverly'	'Waverly'
'Wendy's Wish'	'Wendy's Wish'	

## COMMENTS & FEEDBACK

*We hope you enjoy Salvia News as much as we enjoy collating it for you. We welcome your comments and feedback regarding this publication, our website, the Facebook group and the Study Group in general.*

*You can send your feedback to us at any time by emailing the Editor or Lyndi Garnett (Group Coordinator).*

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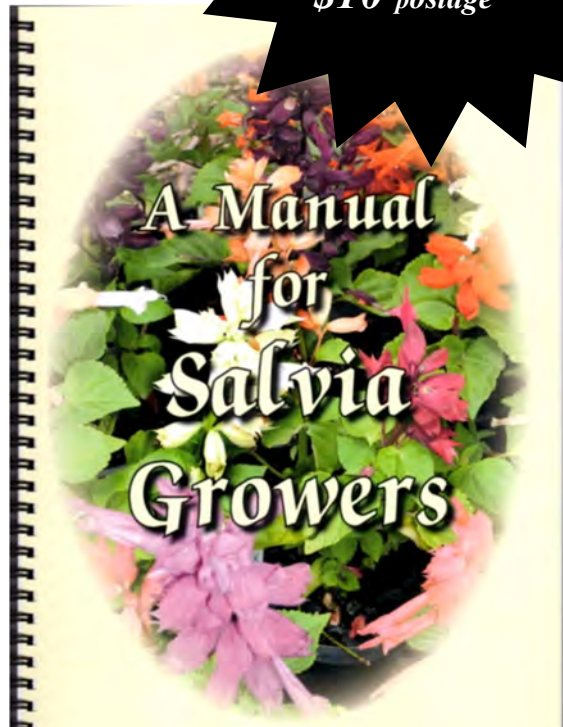
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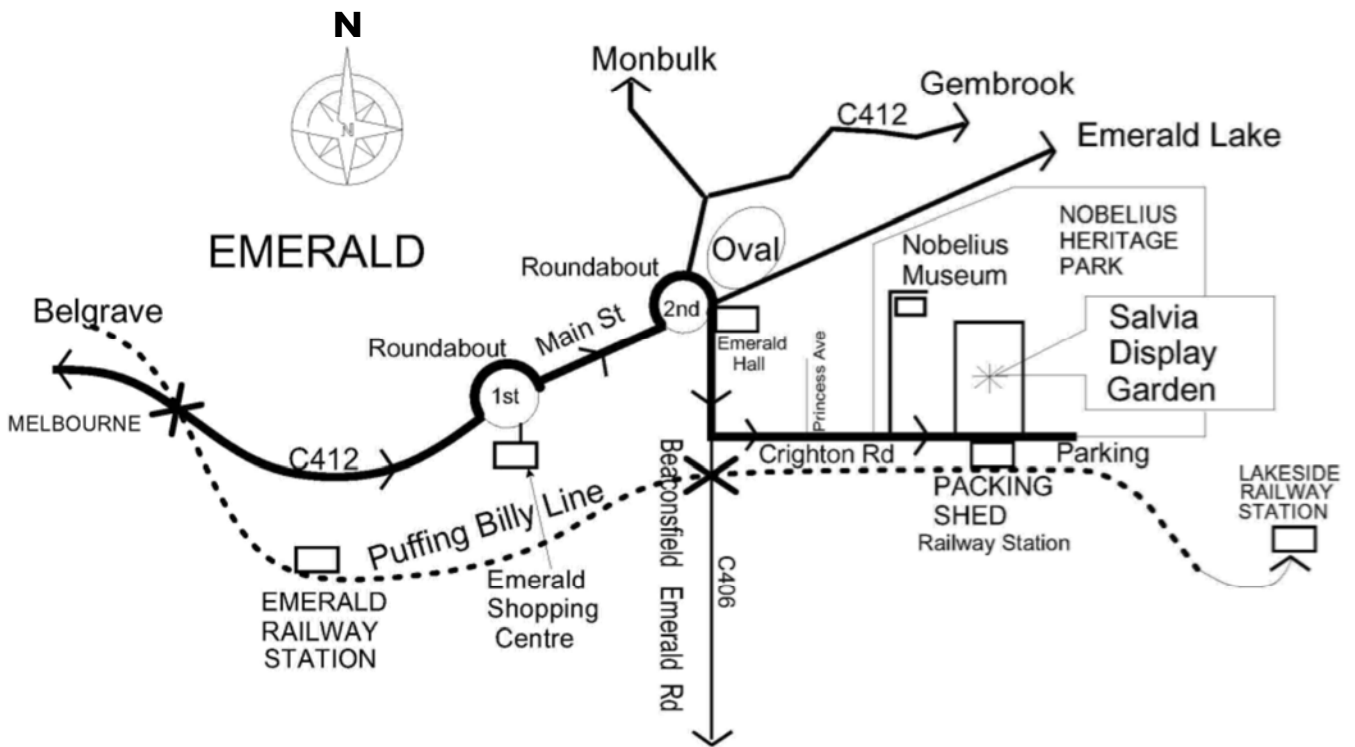
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