

# A Growing Concern

## Candlebark Community Nursery



### Nursery News

#### Goodbye and Good Luck Jamin

Jamin one of our valued nursery team is about to leave Candlebark. Many of you when visiting the nursery will have met with Jamin who was always ready to give that extra portion of plant knowledge, often something that would get your plants started in the best possible way. His enthusiasm, generosity and dedication to Candlebark and the environment is known to all around him.

Those who joined him on seed collecting expeditions returned with a swag of knowledge, seeds and cuttings and often a hot but happy face.

It was Candlebark's good fortune to have had him with us these past few years revitalizing the nursery stock, promoting the growth and rescue of rare and endangered species, securing for Candlebark high praise as an Indigenous nursery.

Jamin will be leaving us mid September to new horizons. Candlebark wishes him success and happiness in his future endeavours.

#### Candlebark Team

#### Jamin – Good luck

As part of a group who go seed collecting with Jamin and Scooter (Jamin's pooch) I have been asked to write a few words about what it is like working with Jamin. It is obvious that the knowledge Jamin has of the local areas, native plants and even insects is very extensive and I am sure that everyone at Candlebark has learned from him.

Jamin is never short of an opinion on the local news and when out on our collection days he solved the problems of the world in only the way Jamin could.

He is a very dedicated and passionate person about saving the native plants and areas. I am pleased to have worked with him and wish him all the best for his future adventures which I am sure will be somehow involved in the "conservation area" where ever he may be.

Best wishes and good luck.

*Mick and seed collecting buddies.*



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September 2017

#### COMMITTEE

<i>Gretta Fuller</i>	<b>President</b>
<i>Carol Atkinson</i>	<b>Secretary</b>
<i>Duncan Baxter</i>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<i>Ian Morrish</i>	<b>Minute Secretary</b>

#### General Committee

*Bernie Heinze*  
*Stephen Kinniburgh*  
*Ian Morrish*  
*Carol Wind*  
*Jean Gray*  
*Jenny Knoop*

#### Nursery Propagation/Supervision

*Lucy Ahrendt & Claire Pertile*

<b>Admin Clerk</b>	<i>Carolyn Cusworth</i>
<b>Editor</b>	<i>Gwen Whitney</i>
<b>Sunday retail</b>	<i>Daniel Benincasa</i>

#### Candlebark Hours

**Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.30pm**

**Sunday 10.00am to 2.00pm**

#### Nursery Contacts

<b>Phone</b>	9727 0594
<b>Fax</b>	9727 0594

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## Nursery Report

Lots of change has happened at the nursery in the past three months and you will read about the changes to staff at the Nursery later in the newsletter. Suffice to say that we have relied upon our volunteers even more than normal and yes, they have been amazing, keeping things going and ensuring the nursery had orders packed and ready to be picked up as well as all the normal nursery tasks. So a big thank you to them all. Thank you also goes to Jamin for sharing with me, his passion for conservation of species in our local area over the past two years. In amongst all of the changes, I had time off having surgery and so again, thank you to all those who assisted in my absence.



On more normal nursery matters, the past three months has seen most of our winter orders go out the door – a mammoth job – and the trestle benches are no longer groaning under their weight. The new season now begins! Due to the amount of rain we have had this winter, drainage has been a bit of an issue at the nursery, so Ed and Michael have been busy redoing some of our drainage.

We are continuing our involvement with schools in the area. National Tree Planting Day saw a number of schools buying plants from us to place in their schoolyards which is great news. And our program with Billanook College continues and we have a number of students attending Candlebark to increase their knowledge about indigenous plants and their role in the environment.

We have attended another meeting with Yarra Ranges Council regarding involvement in their pilot program “Gardens for Wildlife”. It seems an excellent idea and Candlebark is definitely keen to see the program progress. They have a Facebook page which you can access <https://www.facebook.com/YRG4W/>

Another presentation that we have attended was put on by Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association (IFFA), looking at the importance of provenance in plantings. There were a number of different views presented and it was interesting to hear and be involved in the presentations. One of the major take home message was that you had to define what was meant by ‘provenance’. How large is the local area for the plants considered – 50m, 500m 20km. When we did not have such a fractured landscape due to urbanisation, plant communities could be spread over a larger area and plant plasticity was not as evident.

**Claire Pertile**

**Nursery Propagator/Supervisor**



## Welcome to our new employees at Candlebark

We will be farewelling Jamin within two weeks and welcoming Lucy Ahrendt our successful applicant for the position of Nursery Propagator/Supervisor.

Lucy will be job sharing the position with Claire whom you all know. Lucy has worked in an indigenous nursery for a number of years gaining a sound knowledge of our bushland plants and propagation methods. She lives in the Dandenong Ranges and this will be a bonus for Candlebark with the bushland being on her doorstep.

We are also fortunate to have Karen Davies joining our team one day per week. Karen is passionate about preserving our local remnant vegetation and will be an asset to the Candlebark Team.

Each Tuesday Jamin and the team have been making more explorations to our local bush areas and with two more Tuesdays before he leaves, Lucy and Karen will have the opportunity to join with them.

Lucy’s work days will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with Claire on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Karen will be working in all propagating procedures and general nursery activities on Mondays with Claire and following week with Lucy.

Do come along and Welcome Lucy and Karen to Candlebark.

**Gretta.**

## Plant of the Month

### Stylidium armeria

**Common Name: Common Trigger-plant**

**Stylidiaceae Family**

What could be lovelier than a circle of Stylidium intermingled with Arthropodium strictum (chocolate lilies) and a few indigenous grasses.

Known as “trigger” plants because of their unique pollination method. The little spring behind the flower head is released when an insect settles on its base hitting the insect and leaving pollen on its back.

With Spring just around the corner and the sun giving off more warmth, flowering is now in evidence. The Stylidium is easy to grow in a well drained position tolerating both wet and dry periods once established.

Foliage, narrow shiny grass like leaves making a pretty bowl shape from which long stems of pale to dark pink flower heads arise. Flowering with many stems of colour through the Spring months and into Summer.

Candlebark has some lovely display specimens in large containers.



Do call in Monday to Thursday 9.00am – 3.30pm or Sundays 10am – 2pm

*Gretta*

## Candlebark Community Nursery – Our Beginnings

**It is always good to recall the reasons why Candlebark Community Nursery was started so many years ago.**

The following statement of purposes were copied from the Minutes of the Inaugural meeting of the Candlebark Community Nursery held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 1994 held at 17 Baringa road, Croydon .

“The purposes for which the proposed incorporated Association is established are – To pursue the following aims and objectives:

1. **To foster community awareness of the role and importance of indigenous, local native plants.**
2. **To support the creation, regeneration, expansion and preservation of wildlife habitat through Association activities.**
3. **To provide opportunities through educational and social activities to learn and share new skills and experiences with a wide range of individuals and community groups, within a supportive and non threatening environment:**
4. **To promote public awareness of and encourage support for the Association and its activities and**
5. **To support the effective management of Australian flora and fauna.**
6. **To carry out as the primary means by which these aims and objectives shall be achieved are the active propagation of indigenous plants and associated activities and the provision of community-based conservation projects and environmental education programs.”**

Revisiting and reinforcing our Mission Statement made in 1994.

***Candlebark 2017 from all the team.***

# Candlebark Community Nursery



Cnr Hull Rd and Taylor Rd, Mooroolbark

## October Spring Sale Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Our stock of tubes and pots are flowering and looking wonderful.

Spring is the perfect time for planting.  
Do come along and visit us.

OPEN FOR GENERAL PUBLIC SALES

Mon-Thurs – 9.30am to 3.30pm

Sunday 10.00am to 2.00pm



# OUT AND ABOUT IN CANDLEBARK



Beautiful *Acacia acinacea* or Gold dust wattle in full bloom in our native garden. We have many *Coronidium scorpioides* for sale at present – used to be called *Helichrysum scorpioides*



A pretty addition to your garden, is Victoria's emblem Common Pink Heath or *Epacris impressa*. Here is our *Hardenbergia violacea* in full flower on the back fence of our nursery.



Final orders being packed by our wonderful volunteers and Committee members. And the sun was shining!!! Novel use of a gurni – weeding the Polyhouse by water jet! Thanks Ed.



## Red Bellied Snake

The weather is still cool, the early wattle blossoms are a burst of colour, flowering along Melbourne's waterways and now sprinkled with the occasional lovely break out sunny day, it's early spring on the Melbourne calendar, so beautiful toasty warming sun that also means out in the bush one of our much maligned bush reptiles also wants a piece of the action, the snake or 'koormiel' as spoken In woiwurrung (wurundjeri, local language).

Fear is one of the major ways you can get in trouble with snake. When they look up at you and see you as bloody big, generally a snake doesn't want to waste venom on you, because he can't eat you, so snake will lash out only if threatened.

So what do you do when confronted by koormiel? Firstly, if you spot him outside of striking distance, stop and relax. In my own experience a snake will slide away to a nearby waterway, the important thing to recall is to give snake an exit, do not corner or threaten snake.

The other thing is to be wary of snake habitat if near the bush. Anywhere near water is a good food source for snake, anywhere that is a place for easy heat transference, such as rock, flat earth or track, flat tin, concrete, old tyres and other refuse that heats up quick in sun, is great habitat for snake.

If bitten by snake, a compression bandage needs to be applied. This reduces spread of venom through the lymphatic system and immobilisation is imperative, also, quick assistance and emergency treatment is required. Our local snakes don't have long fangs and so poisoning can be restricted by wearing appropriate outdoor material including gators, thick boots, thick socks and long pants. Wearing this attire will decrease the probability of envenomation.

Some of our local species and their temperaments include -

**Copperheads**, lowland and alpine, which are generally timid and will leave at any opportunity or freeze then leave when you turn your head. They can strike if challenged and are found generally throughout the Melbourne area.



**Eastern tiger snake**, bit more unpredictable. Best to really keep distance if possible as it gets very edgy when feeling cornered and will flatten its head when threatened slightly raising when in striking stance. Found generally on the outer fringes of Melbourne and beyond, I've sighted them at Toolangi.



**Eastern brown snake**, I've not sighted one of these in the wild. It has been described to me by a snake catcher as the most agile, aggressive and unpredictable of the snakes and likely to lash out without consideration. The Eastern Brown Snake has flourished, being found in areas of human disturbance.

**Red bellied black snake** which I've spotted out at Raymond Island and purported to be the biggest and longest of all Melbourne snakes, getting to 2.5m however, is very shy. This snake is found in the northern and outer areas of Melbourne, enjoying waterways and woodland areas.

*Danial Benicasa*



Below is information on the Ribbons of Green program run by Yarra Ranges Council. For members who have a property in the area and meet the requirements of the program, it may be something to consider.

## Ribbons of Green – Yarra Ranges Council

The planting of native vegetation through the Ribbons of Green program achieves two main aims –

- To contribute to sequestering of Council’s vehicle fleet emissions and
- To improve biodiversity through habitat creation.

The program aims to plant 60,000 plants each year across the municipality on private land, schools and Council land with support from community groups.

### Things to consider before applying

- The amount of space you have available.
- Bushfire safety and maintaining defensible space around your home. Council will not fund plants within the defensible space around your home (see CFA website for more details).
- Participating properties need to have sufficient area to plant minimum of 300 plants, of which 100 must be “trees” to account for the carbon offset component of the program.
- The other plants could be shrubs, ground cover species or more trees. This can be discussed with the Ribbons of Green officer.
- If individual properties are unable to take the total number of plants, neighbours can get together for a joint order.
- Minimum numbers do not apply to schools.
- Amount of time you can spend planting, allow approximately - 1 days planting, per person, per 100 plants.
- The intention of this program is to establish bush style habitat. It is not for landscaping around buildings.

*To place an order contact Kym Saunders on 9294 6822 or [k.saunders@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:k.saunders@yarraranges.vic.gov.au).*

## Pembroke Remnant Indigenous Bushland

Pembroke Remnant Indigenous Bushland is a half-acre patch of bush on the corner of Pembroke Rd and Lawson Ave Mooroolbark. It is in the grounds of Pembroke Primary School in an “out of bounds” area from the school children. Our group, Friends of Pembroke Remnant Indigenous Bushland, has been set up to protect this area under the umbrella of Candlebark Community Nursery.

Our passion to protect this area is because it contains a number of larger trees and a large variety of native grasses and plants that are becoming increasingly vulnerable and rare in the Mooroolbark area. There is also an old dry creek bed in it.



We are planning to have a **Volunteers Day on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September** but it is yet to be confirmed. However, Conservation Volunteers Australia has already been booked in to attend for the day and we have approached Boral and are hoping to get rocks delivered so we can make some dry stone walls with assistance from an expert who will be instructing us. These rock walls will act to delineate this area.

We would like to extend an invitation to any members and interested parties who would like to attend to let us know your interest. If you would like to be our mailing list or would like more information our contact details are Jenny Knoop mobile: 0439 366 974 or email me at [Jennyknoop@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Jennyknoop@optusnet.com.au)

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OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.30pm  
Sunday 10.00am to 2.00pm  
Closed on Public Holidays

NURSERY LOCATION  
5 Taylor Rd  
Mooroolbark  
Melway reference: 37 J12

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**DISCLAIMER**  
The articles contained in this publication are not necessarily endorsed by Candlebark Community Nursery Inc., its staff, members or volunteers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this organisation. The purpose of this publication is to share information with those interested in the conservation of our local flora and fauna and related environmental issues.

**New Members**

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