



The Herb Age



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

NO 435



17th Australian and New Zealand Herb Conference – Melbourne 2022

Conference - Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th October

Social Dinner – Friday night 7th October

Day Trips – Monday 10th to Friday 14th October

THE HERB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC

www.herbsocietyvic.org.au



Like us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/4104516136342577

Meetup group: www.meetup.com/Herb-Society-of-Victoria/

AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

- ☼ To act as a forum for all persons interested in herbs for their mutual benefit and fellowship.
- ☼ To further the education of the public in the use, value and growing of herbs.
- ☼ To promote and encourage the organic growing of herbal plants.

Patron: Penny Woodward

HSOV COMMITTEE

President	Vacant
Vice President	Jan Illingworth
Past President	June Valentine
Committee Secretary	Graham Ellis
Treasurer	Carmen Hollway
The Herb Age Editor	Meridith Hutchinson
Membership Officer	Marie Baker
Committee	Heather Davies
Committee	Nigel Holmes

The Herb Society of Victoria acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we join together and pay respects to Elders past, present and yet to emerge.

HSOV MONTHLY EVENTS

HSOV meets on the first Thursday evening of every month, from February to December. Monthly events often feature a guest speaker, mini-talks or event theme, like a picnic or trivia, and followed by herb refreshments.

Monthly events are held at:

- **Room MB10 Main Building**
- Burnley campus of Melbourne University (was Burnley Horticultural College)
- 500 Yarra Blvd Richmond
- Enter MB building from the main entrance
- **Room is open 7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

Parking inside the grounds is often limited. There is ample parking on Yarra Boulevard, which is free after hours. Public transport access is nearby.

Next Meeting Details: See Page 4

HSOV DETAILS

ABN 22 261 579 261

PO Box 396, Camberwell,
Victoria, 3124, Australia

Bank Details to deposit payments, including membership renewals:
BSB 633000 / Account 158914432

Membership can also be paid via Try Booking link:
<https://www.trybooking.com/BZGPX>

Advertising Rates	Quarter page	\$15.00	Half page	\$25.00	Full page	\$45.00
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Payment should be sent to the Treasurer at the Society's address above. Advertising copy to be sent to the Editor by page 3 deadline dates.

THE HERB AGE

*Official Newsletter of the
Herb Society of Victoria*

Six issues published per
year, covering:

- ✿ February/March
- ✿ April/May
- ✿ June/July
- ✿ August/September
- ✿ October/November
- ✿ December

Members' original
contributions are warmly
welcomed.

Post to:

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The Editor, The Herb Age
PO Box 396,
Camberwell 3124

Email to

theherbage@outlook.com

Deadline for next issue:

Emailed and posted articles

Friday 4th November 2022

The views expressed by the
contributors to this newsletter
are not necessarily those of the
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THE HERB AGE

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2022

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Cover Pic – The Herb Conference of Course!

There's lots more information in this issue of the Herb Age and you can also keep up to date at the website herbsocietyvic.org.au.

See you there. ☺

In case you needed a reminder:

Speakers are:

- Penny Woodward – “Herbs for cooking, medicine and pleasure”
and “Pest Repellent Plants & other Organic solutions”
- Dr Greg Moore- “Big Trees, Little Herbs and Roots”
- Larkman – “Herbs Herbs Herbs!”
- Tony Hoseman – “Native American Indian Herbs”
- Dr Chris Williams – “Aquatic Edibles”
- Dr Brian May – “TCM Herbs of Taiwan in the home garden”
- Caleb Armstrong – “Herbs for pain relief”

HSOV Market Stall at the Conference. Cash works!

We are exploring a PayPal option, but please bring cash to buy goodies at the HSOV stall – herbs, used herb and garden books; crafts and other items.

Our Next Events

Burnley Horticultural College Campus
and Gardens, Burnley Room MB10

Parking inside the grounds is limited so, if possible
please park on Yarra Blvd and walk in.

Please bring a plate for shared supper, herbs for tea or
help out at the tea trolley at the end of the main event.



Thursday 6th October 2022

General Monthly Event

Please be seated 7.15 for 7.30 pm Start

Guest Speaker: June Valentine

Topic: The History of Tea

Take a journey through time with our own June Valentine, on the story of one of the most successful useful plants and beverage favorite to millions.....indeed BILLIONS! Humble Tea - camellia sinensis.

PLUS: Herb plants for sale

They're back! It's been a long time since you have been able to purchase herbs plants from Clive Larkman's Renaissance Nursery at HSOV and at incredible prices discounted for our members. (non-members get a pretty good deal too!)

Visitors from interstate and NZ Herb Societies are welcome to attend.



Thursday 3rd November 2022

General Monthly Event

Please be seated 7.15 for 7.30 pm Start

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by

Mini Speakers from our members. TBA

Please see lots of information in this issue about the AGM – HSOV needs your support to be present, to vote and to participate. 😊

PLUS: Herb plants for sale

Hopefully we won't have sold out at the HSOV market stall at the Herb conference!

Welcome to our New Members

The Herb Society of Victoria would like to welcome our newest members and we are looking forward to meeting you in person very soon:

Michelle Jones
Joy Modistach
Meg Foots
Jan Motherwell

Katherine Moss
Francesca Barresi
Sue Cooper

To the Source (again!)

Take 2. The trip to the source, which was to be held in July had to be postponed due to ill health of the Source Guide. Apologies to the many folk who were disappointed at the time, but be disappointed no more. It's on again!

Where: ‘The Source’ (bulk buy) shop at Burwood Brickworks shopping centre.
70 Middleborough Rd Burwood (near the RSPCA) in Burwood.

Date: Saturday November 19th

Meeting time: 11am

Meeting place: Outside 'The Source' store (shop number T15)

What: A dedicated presentation for HSOV members, family and friends
Plus free tastings. Duration is 1 hour. BYO containers for purchases

Cost: Free for our group (*Ed note: negotiated by June – many thanks*)

After: Suggest you pay a visit afterwards to the magical roof garden with its many fruit trees, veggies and herbs plus hothouses where they grow hundreds of greens for the Acre Cafe and Restaurant. There are also many places to lunch at the centre.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. By choosing to buy bulk and recycling your own containers, you purchase only how much you want and make a difference to the environment. There is a wide range of products to select. Organised especially for our members, friends and family. Don't book your place just yet – you can do that when I am back from travels at the end of September.

June Valentine



Cowslip Primrose veris or vulgaris

Cowslip is one of the first spring flowering joys harking back to domesticated animal meadows, preferring open moist ground. Culpeper regularly recommended it for healing wounds, any spasms, gout and paralysis and mixed with nutmeg for "infirmities of the head". A spring ritual of collecting flowers for wine making, which was taken as a nervine and sedative. This is down to the salicylate constituent (as in aspirin). Modern agriculture practices have made Cowslip less widespread, but now cultivated from original yellow to many colours, which make it a showy ornamental. Good in borders and rock gardens and if divided after flowering, one can have many more of these cheery Cowslips.

Jan Illingworth



Committee Changes

It is with great sadness that we advise Mary Dawson and Marie Baker have tendered their resignations from the HSOV committee. They have both expressed thanks for the opportunities and sent best wishes to the committee and HSOV members.

Mary joined the committee only last year and enthusiastically accepted nomination for the President's role only a few short months later, despite many other commitments in her life. She led the committee and Society through the challenges of a second AGM when the first had not reached a quorum. Mary brought fresh ideas to the Society, particularly a regional focus which she immediately followed up during her travels in the countryside.

Marie has been a valuable asset to the HSOV committee and a quiet contributor for a number of years, accepting several roles with Library co-ordinator, general committee, Membership officer and Vice President. Marie has always been quick to offer positive, practical suggestions and her commitment to the Herb Society has been ever present. Marie has kindly offered to maintain the membership officer duties until a replacement is found.

Thank you to both Mary and Marie for their contribution to the HSOV and we wish you well for your future endeavours.

The Crafty Team

The craft day held in early August was a fun day for those who attended.



June Valentine hosted another eight enthusiastic members at her home in East Burwood, most around the dining table where the fabric and potpourri based crafts were made. The rest taking a space at the kitchen table making herb salts and cardboard boxes for soaps.



It was soon established that most of us didn't have high sewing skills, so it was fortunate that there were a couple of good sewers in the mix for some of the crafts. While things started off a bit slow, once we got into the rhythm, the team was blitzing it!



A burst of sunshine allowed us to break for afternoon tea outside for a chat and to admire the garden, lovely even in the depth of winter. Back inside, the 'Crafty Team' completed all the required items for the conference bags and quite a few for the HSOV market stall too.

The smell of the potpourri was absolutely divine and permeated throughout the house, much to June's delight. Before we knew it, it was time to go home and contributors were given a gorgeous potpourri sachet to take home as a thank you. Mine has taken my wardrobe to a new level! Many thanks to June for opening her home and to all the helpers. A fantastic effort.

Meridith Hutchinson

Vice President's Report

I'm Jan, as Vice President, I'm your stand in President, starting at the beginning of spring, the time for renewal and we are having a renewal of the committee.

First of all, I would like to thank Mary for the time she has been President of the Herb Society and managing to conduct the AGM after the difficulties of COVID and lockdowns. She also organised and made the outing to Longacre, with help from Lesley, a success, as well as adding more ideas. Her time is now taken up with working at the Olivia Newton John cancer hospital.

Marie also has helped on the committee, the library and work organised the membership register has surely caused a headache for her, but she consistently plodded on to improve all the wonderful books accumulated over the last 40 years. We are so happy that you are continuing to manage memberships until someone else volunteers.

Meridith, while thankfully still on the committee and the conference committee is retiring as editor of THA. This job would be very daunting for most, Meridith managed to fill on the pages with wonderful picture sand articles when other contributions were not forthcoming. Along with June, Cathryn and Janine, she has been tireless in getting the conference going, organising speakers, Burnley, catering and logistics, making much of the 17th Australian and New Zealand Herb Conference.

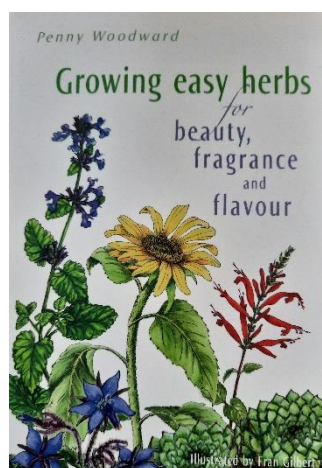
While there is a fair bit of advertising occurring, we would love you to all get the word out there to family, friends and colleagues; anyone who has an interest in flora, gardening, cooking or anything herbie! Book for a day or the whole weekend to enjoy amazing speakers, stalls, loads of freebies, all with lunch. Remember the dinner on Friday night too.

So please come on down with enthusiasm and help make this the most, bestest Herb Conference ever!

Jan Illingworth, Vice President

Book it in

You may be aware the Penny Woodward is the Patron for the Herb Society of Victoria, but you now be aware of how supportive she has been for the upcoming Herb Conference. Penny has promoted the conference on the gardening program she co-hosts on Sunday morning on 3CR (a fabulous show with an amazing panel of experts, BTW). She has also added information about it in her article in the upcoming 'Organic Gardener' magazine, due out shortly, as well as adding it to online horticultural media sites.



And, as well as all that, Penny will not accept any remuneration for her 2 talks at the conference and has donated a book for every attendee. "Growing easy herbs for beauty and fragrance" has a RRP of \$19.95 and is filled with beautiful illustrations and great tips. Of course, Penny is an accomplished author of horticultural books (remember the Garlic and Tomato books, among many greats!) and will have her books for sale at the market stall at the Herb Conference. There's sure to be more than one of her many fantastic books to grab your fancy, which no doubt she will be happy to sign for you; Christmas is scarily not too far away now!

Herb Conference Price Drop

OH MY GOSH – have ever seen value like this! 😊

One of our committee members, Nigel Holmes, has generously offered a financial guarantee to sponsor any shortfall in the Herb Conference. This prompted much discussion at our latest committee meeting and resulted in a passed proposal to slash the price by 50%, making them absolutely fantastic value. Thank you so much Nigel – a truly amazing offer.



Price now only:

- Members* \$50 for 1 day or \$90 for the weekend
- General public \$60 for 1 day and \$110 for the weekend and includes a free HSOV email membership to June 2023

*Members are HSOV, FOBG and any Australian and New Zealand Herb Society member.

Just a reminder you get:

- 4 amazing speakers each day (8 talks for the whole weekend)
- **PLUS** a workshop or FOBG guided walk of Burnley gardens each day
- **PLUS** all meals - lunch, morning tea (from CWA) and afternoon refreshments

But wait there is MORE.....

- **PLUS** a hand made bag packed with goodies - RRP of items inside is well over \$30
- **PLUS** there are market stalls with herbs, salvia, plants, garden and herb books, botanic cards and other garden items and a fab raffle.

Tickets are limited and are selling fast, so remember to book your tickets to the Herb Conference here: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=912841&>

For those who have already booked at the original, please be assured that you will be reimbursed the difference between the old and new prices, which is being organised now.

Are you having any problems with booking?

If you are having trouble with the online booking, please contact Meridith to arrange other methods of booking. We have also had some feedback that some members are doing a 'wait and see' before booking the Herb Conference. Tickets are selling fast; we don't want our members to miss out. Please contact Meridith to discuss and we may be able to provide a special offer for you.

Social Dinner

The night before the Herb Conference is the night for the HSOV social dinner. We will be having visitors from other Australian and possibly New Zealand Herb Societies attending the Herb Conference and this is a great chance to meet them before the big weekend. But it's also a chance for us to get together.

What a year this has been! Actually, what a couple of years! And we have sooooo much going on at the Herb Society right now, so let's take a night off, get together over a nice meal, a few drinks and lots of chats and laughs.

When: Friday 7th October from 6.45pm

Venue: Elgin Inn Hotel, 75 Burwood Rd Hawthorn

Cost: 'pay as you go' – buy your own drinks and a la carte food at pub prices.

Access: Elgin Inn has nearby street parking; Hawthorn train station and number 75 tram are close.

Note: the event is upstairs and no lift is available.

Book: Bookings can be made using this QR code (this is free registration, allows us to track attendees) <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/929136>

You may also contact Meridith on email at theherbage@outlook.com if you have any difficulty with the booking site.

Herb Conference Day Trips

The Day trips following the main event on the weekend of 8 and 9 October are aimed at HSOV members and allies, and our interstate/NZ herb society friends. Please joins us from Monday 10th October to Friday 14th October for a diverse look at gardens around Melbourne. There is bound to be something for everyone here and we hope you can join us for some or all of them. Even if you are unable to make the weekend event, feel free to join in. Here is an overview.

We have a couple of options, including a chartered bus trip. More to be revealed.

Royal Botanic Gardens – Melbourne

We kick it off with a trip to our historic and much-loved gardens with a guided RBG walking tour of the gardens. The highlight will be a guided tour by Renee Wierzbicki, the curator of the Herb Garden, which HSOV volunteers played a large role in restoring. Renee has said there are recent plantings so even those who frequent often will see something new and exciting! We'll meet for lunch at the RBG Terrace by the lake between tours. These tours will be limited to 20 per session (up to 40 in total). After the formal tours, you may explore the many acres of gardens at your own pace. Cost: possibly a small fee for a guided tour; buy or bring your own lunch. www.rbg.vic.gov.au/melbourne-gardens



Weed Walk on Merri Creek Trail

A guided walk with HSOV member and Naturopath Jan Illingworth on the Merri Creek Trail, which is 15 min walk from Clifton Hill station, 7 km from the CBD. Identify and harvest weeds on the walk and learn how they are used for food and medicine. Depending on numbers, this may include a weed-based light lunch or teas. Cost: approx. \$20.

Royal Botanic Gardens – Cranbourne

Train and free bus transfer to the sister RBG Cranbourne gardens in the outer suburbs. Developed on 300 hectares of native bushland and a reclaimed quarry, the focus is on indigenous and native plants. Join the guided Australian Landscape Walk in the late morning, followed by lunch at Boon Wurrung Café in the gardens. Then explore the gardens before the bus transfer back to the station to train home. Cost: walk is \$15; buy/bring your own lunch.

www.rbg.vic.gov.au/cranbourne-gardens/



Gardens at Heide Museum of Modern Arts

Heide was famous as an artist retreat, with a continuing artistic legacy. It is set among 15 acres of gardens in Bulleen and accessible by public transport. Come on guided walks with HSOV member Elsie Carter of the walled garden, original kitchen garden and the wild garden. HSOV volunteers were instrumental in saving and restoring these gardens in the 1980's with many of the ancient roses still thriving. Lunch at Heide Café, followed by a walk around the sculpture park or optional visit to the art galleries and exhibitions. Cost: Gardens are free; Optional galleries around \$20; buy or bring your own lunch. www.heide.com.au



Mystery Trip!

More details will to be added to the website, emailed to HSOV members and herb conference attendees. They will also be available at the October meeting and included in the Herb Conference packs. Please feel free to email interest to attend any or all of these to the HSOV email which is theherbsocietyofvictoria@gmail.com.

Annual General Meeting 2022

FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE

The 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Herb Society of Victoria Inc. will be held on **Thursday 3rd November at 7:30 pm** at Room MB10 Main Building, Burnley Horticultural Campus, 500 Yarra Blvd, Richmond.

The purpose of the Annual General Meeting is to attend to the business of the Society and the Annual Election of Officers and Committee Members as defined in the Rules 2014.

Our Rules 2014 allow for up to fifteen positions on the Committee of Management. All positions are declared vacant at the AGM. Nominations are called for the following positions:

- President
- Vice-President (2 positions)
- Committee Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership Officer
- Editor and
- Up to seven other Committee members.

NOTE: Currently we do not have nominations for President, Vice-President, Editor and Secretary. We do need further nominations for Committee positions. A full complement of Committee members is important for the functioning of the Society and to provide services. It is also your chance to put your stamp on the future direction of the Herb Society of Victoria. The Herb Society seriously needs several more members to take on leadership positions within Committee.

Candidates, if unopposed, shall be declared elected at the Annual General Meeting. Where more candidates are nominated than required, voting shall be by secret ballot. Any member who is unable to attend the meeting may appoint any other financial member as proxy. The member appointing the proxy must notify the Committee Secretary (or President) in writing before the meeting. A Proxy Form is in this edition of THA.

The Committee meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month except December to organise General Meetings and other activities of the Society. Committee Meetings are conducted in a friendly atmosphere and kept as short as possible. They are either held in the same room as the general meetings that is MB10, Main Building, BURNLEY CAMPUS or via Zoom.

All financial members are eligible to attend the AGM and to stand for election to the Committee of Management. Nomination forms will be available on the night or complete the form in this issue. All new Committee members are very welcome.

The HSOV Financial documents for the Financial Year to June '22 are being published in this issue of The Herb Age and should enable you to understand the financial position of the Society. As a financial member you may ask questions at the AGM about financial matters or other issues that concern you.

Nomination and Proxy forms are on the last page of the THA in this issue.

Graham Ellis
Committee Secretary

Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended 30 June 2022		
	2021	2022
INCOME	\$	\$
interest received Bendigo Term Deposit	1257.28	0.00
Interest Received	5.09	1.71
membership/subscription	2895.00	1906.45
raffle	120.05	190.00
sale of plants/seeds/books	95.55	7.00
bus trips - longacres		280.00
herb conference related		280.06
TOTAL INCOME	4372.97	2665.22
EXPENSES		
bank charges	0.00	0.00
donations / gifts	159.20	452.40
insurance	251.13	240.84
postage	253.35	764.48
printing	1244.65	1685.58
raffle costs	0.00	6.90
speakers fees	100.00	300.00
subscriptions; memberships	96.10	185.00
website expenses	1802.66	1661.04
meeting related - supper		106.50
herb conference related		1320.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	3907.09	6722.74
NET PROFIT/LOSS	465.88	-4057.52
Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2022		
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	2021	2022
CURRENT ASSETS	\$	\$
cash on hand: raffle, door and plant float	0	140.00
petty cash	94.15	451.47
Cash at Bendigo Bank	18232.22	13820.48
Bendigo Bank: Term Deposit	17937.28	17937.28
TOTAL ASSETS	36263.65	32349.23
LIABILITIES		
deposit held for conference	1500.00	1500.00
TOTAL LIABILITY	1500.00	1500.00
NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	34906.75	30849.23
MEMBERS FUNDS		
retained earnings	34665.00	34906.75
current year surplus/deficit	465.88	-4057.52
TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS	34906.75	30849.23

Carmen Hollway, Treasurer

Annual President Report

Ed note: In the absence of a standing President, here are some highlights from the year's previous President's reports from June Valentine (President to February 2022) and Mary Dawson (President March 2022 to August 2022).

We had typical Melbourne weather for the December 2021 meeting (4 seasons in one day) so attendance was lower than normal. However, those of us present enjoyed our picnic tea outside the student amenities building, and then adjourned inside for a good fun herb/spice quiz. It was our first in person meeting since May. Zoom has been an excellent second best.

The December AGM (delayed from November due to COVID restrictions) failed to attract a quorum of attendees and the committee voted on at the 2021 AGM continued to make interim decisions of behalf of the HSOV until the next AGM held in March. The HSOV held its AGM on March 3 and Mary Dawson was delighted to accept the nomination for President of the HSOV for 2022.

March also saw a special tribute to Jill's 'Life of Herbs' presented through a photographic on-screen montage, and by the many moving tributes and memories delivered by fellow members, it was quite a team effort. A strong theme that emerged from the tributes was that Jill 'has educated us all' not at all forgetting the public members of Victoria.

On Sunday March 27 a group of 30 members made their way on a perfect Autumn Day to Longacres, the much-loved country home and later permanent residence of the late Sir Arthur Streeton, one of Australia's great landscape painters. The magnificent garden was designed and planted by Streeton and as the last remaining property of the artist is of State historical significance. Our guided tour was a truly memorable experience.

Jan Illingworth delivered an in-depth presentation on 'Eat Your Weeds' in April. There was no lack of freshly plucked weeds to sample as Jan shared the history, harvest and medicinal/culinary uses of weeds oft described 'as a plant in the wrong place'. Following on from Jan's presentation a small group of members met up at the Labyrinth, located along the Merri Creek Trail, in Clifton Hall to join her on a Weed Walk.

In the May General Event June Valentine delivered a wealth of information in her presentation on the topic of 'Eucalyptus Oil'; one of the most versatile of all essential oils.

The HSOV recently celebrated its 42nd Birthday at the General Event in June. It was a very special occasion, not least, for the fact that social Birthday celebrations had not occurred due to Covid lockdowns in Victoria, since 2019! Members and Guests shared a beautiful supper together provided by the Committee with thanks to June Valentine for preparation and festive decoration and Marie Baker for the delicious cheeses. The supper followed on from a fascinating presentation by our Guest Speaker and HSOV member, Lesley Northey, on the topic of 'Japanese Herbs'. Lesley's knowledge of Japanese Herbs – and Spices – provided us all with an insightful education and burgeoning curiosity into the culinary, medicinal and historical aspects of the many fresh Japanese herbs from her own garden and local store-bought products.

Past Presidents Anne Makijani was Guest Speaker to the July General Event to present on the topic 'Gardens for Wildlife'. Anne is a community member with a strong commitment to nature conservation and biodiversity and is passionate about Gardens for Wildlife Victoria. Anne shared her rich knowledge and experience taking us through the Key Elements of improving habitat conservation in your garden.

*Mary Dawson, June Valentine
Past Presidents*

The AGM and Committee Roles

AGM – our members matter and we need you.

The rules governing incorporations such as the HSOV, state we must hold our Annual General Meeting within 6 months of the end of financial year (ie by December). Previously that was not an issue, but last year was quite different.

Cast your mind back a year to September 2021. Melbourne was in lockdown; the Grand Final was in WA and HSOV meetings were held on zoom. The committee was faced with making difficult decisions on how and when to hold the AGM and ultimately chose to hold it as late as possible, at our first in person meeting in December 2021. After holding the AGM then, it was later found that we had not achieved a quorum of 20 members, as per the HSOV rules and a new notice of AGM was declared in the Feb/Mar 2022 Herb Age with the AGM held in March.

While, this may seem fairly simple to most members, behind the scenes the executive committee worked diligently to manage this very difficult situation, including many discussions with Consumer Affairs Victoria. It also required HOSV to make a late application, which (as I recall) carried a fee for the Society. We definitely do NOT want to see a repeat of this situation.

As members of HSOV, please ensure you attend the AGM meeting on November 3rd if possible. If you can't make it, try a proxy form, which is on the last page. Please be there, ready to vote or, even better, participate in the future of the HSOV by joining the committee.

Committee Roles

All positions are vacated each year and new nominations must be voted on at the Annual General Meeting. There are a few people leaving the committee this year and unfortunately, some also held multiple roles, which means there are several roles that currently don't have nominees for them at this year's AGM. Note, while Marie and Meridith are not renominating, they will continue to provide a service to the members in the Membership Officer and Editor roles, until replacements can be found. They are happy to be a mentor or assist whoever takes on the roles.

This means **lots of opportunities for fresh ideas that are open for all members**. Below is a brief overview of the roles, so please have a look and consider which one best suits you.

President Presides at the meetings of the Society and Committee.

Vice President (2 positions) Where the President is not available, the Vice President takes this role.

Secretary Keep the Society and Committee Meeting agendas, notices and minutes and deal with correspondences.

Editor Edits and arranges publication of the HSOV newsletter, The Herb Age.

Membership Officer Manages the register of Membership with additions or deletions and advising the Secretary.

Program Coordinator Arranges talks and presentations for our monthly general events

Website Manager A new role for our AGM to manage the HSOV website with events and posts. The developing company is Melbourne based and happy to assist, as is Meridith who has been looking after the website and created a comprehensive instruction document.

These roles have nominees, but you may also add your name if you wish to hold this position.

Treasurer Responsible for HSOV financial incomings and outgoings, keeping the accounts and preparing financial reports for committee and the AGM.

Library Coordinator Maintains the library register of book purchases and loans to members.

Ordinary Committee Conduct tasks on behalf of the society and represent members on the committee. You are most welcome to nominate and it's a great entry level to join the team.

Herbs in the Age newspaper



If you still have the Age newspaper from Friday September 2nd in the house, get it out now and go straight to page 18. Gardening journalist Megan Backhouse has written a fabulous article "The best herbs to grow at home and the best time of year to grow them". All about Herbs and the Herb Conference on 8th and 9th October, featuring the Herb Society's very own June Valentine. June organised with Megan to come to her house for an interview and with photographer Simon Schluters, whose feature photo of June is shown below.



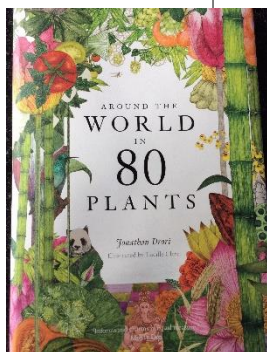
Megan then interviewed some of the Herb Conference presenters (ie Dr Brian May and Tony Hoseman) and HSOV legend, Jill Bryant, to focus on some of the more unusual herbs:

- Stevia, *Stevia rebaudiana*
- Soapwort, *Saponaria officinalis*
- Curry Leaf, *Murraya koenigii*
- Korean Mint, *Agastache rugosa*
- Golden Seal, *Hydrastis canadensis*
- Star Anise, *Illicium verum*
- Juniper Berry, *Juniperus communis*

If anyone would like to donate their printed copy to the HSOV for our records, it would be much appreciated. If you don't happen to have seen the paper, go to the link to see the article online. <https://www.theage.com.au/lifestyle/life-and-relationships/the-best-herbs-to-grow-at-home-and-the-best-time-of-year-to-grow-them-20220826-p5bd1d.html>

Book review

Around the World in 80 Plants



Jonathon Drori has taken a trip around the world to find the most useful, unusual or poisonous plants (such as herbs on the ends of umbrellas to stab unsuspecting spies on Waterloo Bridge!). Interesting and amusing, there are comments like; fell out of favour until the plant was listed as an aphrodisiac and if it had a poison component, it seemed that many young men were the most affected. Loads of information with a deep dive into research on cultural, culinary, historic and medicinal uses. This follows his previous book of 80 trees.

Every plant is illustrated by Lucille Clerc, that while in the naive fashion, has all the details included from the text. It felt a bit like "Where's Wally" looking for those details. Many literates such as Monty Don, Dame Judy Dench, Bill Bryson and much praise from mainstream papers add to this book's must have. The details and wonderment of every plant make this a real page turner, just when one thought there was no more to know. Great to wind down bed side after a big day of other stuff and nonsense.

Jan Illingworth

Around the World in 80 Plants
by Jonathan Drori
Illustrated by Lucille Clerc.
Published 2021 by Laurence King Ltd, London



THE HERB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.**COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM**

Positions for Nomination:

- President
 - Vice-President
 - Committee Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Membership Officer
 - Editor
 - General Committee members *
- * up to 7 general committee members permitted.



Nominee

I wish to nominate for the position of

Nominated by

Office Use -----*Acceptance of position**Date**Financial position of Member**Treasurer**Secretary***THE HERB SOCIETY OF VICTORIA INC.****PROXY FORM**

I....., a Financial Member of The Herb Society of Victoria,
 appoint as my proxy for the 2022 Annual General Meeting
 on and on any date that the meeting is postponed.

Signed Dated



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