



# LAVENDER NEWS

## FEBRUARY 2018

By now all TALGA members will have received the Miniconference Flyer and Registration Form. The Miniconference is a one-day event, a Field Day at Pastoria Lavender, near Kyneton, Vic. Pastoria Lavender was planted in 2014. Come and see what the owners Neville and Gillian Henderson have achieved in only a few years.

It is a day for all new growers and prospective growers where you can ask questions, see lavender equipment, and watch a distillation of lavender oil using two different types of still. Carolyne Wakefield from Timboon P-12 School is coming to demonstrate the use of an Alembic still. Those of us with more experience will be on hand to answer questions.

For those travelling from interstate by plane, it is suggested that you arrive on the Thursday at Tullamarine Airport where a courtesy bus is available to take you to the Best Western Motel, Attwood.

*Accommodation is tight in Melbourne over this period.. Best Western would like those wanting accommodation to let Fiona Glover asap, on their requirements or make your booking direct.*

Join other TALGA members in the morning to take you by bus to Pastoria Lavender for the day (and return).

Contact [secretary@talga.com.au](mailto:secretary@talga.com.au) or mobile: 0412748270 for bookings enquiries.

Dr White is a Micro Flower Farmer and co-owner at Crofters Fold Estate and a Founding Member of Consortium Botanicus – a collaborative initiative to help raise awareness of Australia's blossoming floriculture.



In 2017, Danielle was awarded an Agribusiness Fellowship by Melbourne's International Specialised Skills Institute, which will see her travel overseas to research, observe and collaborate with best-practice flower farmers. Danielle aims to use her Fellowship to help raise awareness of and celebrate the 'floral fabric' of Australia. Danielle and her husband Ashley produce a small-batch artisanal Sparkling Blanc de Noirs Ashley and farm 500 Roses and 240 Peonies amongst the granite hills of Pipers Creek.

### Costs and Inclusions:

**TALGA Member/Affiliate/Partner** (per person) \$100 incl. GST  
Conference attendance inclusive of morning/afternoon teas/lunch.  
Coach to and from Pastoria Lavender.  
Use of Best Western shuttle bus to and from Tullamarine airport.

**Associate Member** (per person) \$120 incl. GST

**NonMember** (per person) \$135 incl. GST

There will be no competitions held in 2018; however, Oil testing will be available in April.  
Separate notice forwarded to oil producers in February 2018.

Accommodation available at Best Western Motel.  
Contact them direct and quote TALGA for reduced rate.  
Phone (03) 9333 2255  
33 Ardlie Street Attwood Vic 3049



**Friday March 23 • 2018**

Meet at the  
**Best Western Airport Motel & Convention Centre**  
33 Ardlie Street, Attwood Vic 3049  
Phone (03) 9333 2255

Then board a coach with your TALGA friends to spend a day at **Pastoria Lavender**, near Kyneton, Vic.  
Our hosts are Neville and Gillian Henderson and their daughter Emma, who established the lavender farm four years ago.  
See their lavender plants, harvesters, processing equipment, and watch a dual distillation using two stills: one alembic and the other stainless steel.  
Also on the property Emma has a studio where she creates fine china ceramic pieces and she would be happy to show people around.  
Our guest for the day is **Dr Danielle White of Crofters Fold**, Pipers Creek, who is bringing her alembic still for the demonstration.

All enquiries to:  
[secretary@talga.com.au](mailto:secretary@talga.com.au)  
Phone (03) 5334 4175 / (03) 5964 8238

Make a note that Conference Registration is required by Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018.  
If paying by Direct Debit remember to forward details of payment and registration to Treasurer, Neville Sargeant.

## **AGM 2018**

Reminder that nominations for General Committee, Liaison Officers, Notices of Motion and Agenda Items are due shortly.

Refer to an email sent to members on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

## **SCENTIMENTAL COLLECTION**

Available to purchase with labels or unlabelled at Members prices. Minimum purchase.

A TALGA Label with manufacturing details and ingredient list will be supplied separately with unlabelled products

## **CLOTH TALGA PATCHES**

Now available for purchase for \$10 + postage. Most suitable for shirts, caps and vests etc.  
We would encourage members to obtain one and try.



To order products phone Neville Sargeant (03) 59648238 / 0418 998 982 or email Neville at [vellelectllav@bigpond.com](mailto:vellelectllav@bigpond.com)

## **Making Payments to TALGA**

All payments to TALGA will now be required to be made by Direct Banking or by Cheque.  
The PayPal option will no longer be available. Please contact Neville if you need any help in this matter.

## **New TALGA Members**

Sophie & David Sheridan, Emu Bay Lavender, Kangaroo Island, SA

TALGA President Gary Young welcomes our new members to TALGA and trusts you enjoy the benefits that we can offer from networking, conferences, workshops, industry knowledge etc.

**TALGA PRESIDENT** Gary Young has a new email address: [president@talga.com.au](mailto:president@talga.com.au)



Members may like to take the opportunity when coming to the Conference to visit the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show on at the Royal Exhibition Building & Carlton Gardens, 21<sup>st</sup> March to 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Amongst many interesting things on offer you will find, Floral Design Workshops, Quick tricks to give instant curb appeal, and Bring 'farm-to table' with 'yard to table'. Details at [www.melbflowershow.com.au](http://www.melbflowershow.com.au)

While you are there pay a visit to TALGA members, Annemarie & Peter Manders, Warratina Lavender and Site B17 is where you will find Di & Clive Larkman, Larkman Nurseries who will have a trading sites.

## LAVENDER COURSE

For further information about a 100hr Lavender Course involving growing, harvesting and its use contact

Denise Hodges

Admin. Coordinator, ACS Distance Education, PO Box 292, Nerang, MDG, QLD 4211

E: [admin@acs.edu.au](mailto:admin@acs.edu.au) Web: [www.acs.edu.au](http://www.acs.edu.au)

Denise has currently a number of enrolled students in the Lavender Course.

It is an excellent exposure to our members to see what is being offered.

## WENDY FULLER - ALR NSW

I'm pleased to report that my "Patch" at Pinelea produced beautiful lavender within the usual time frame this season. All varieties performed well with no caterpillars, grasshoppers or beetles to spoil the party. Bees were numerous and noisy.

Riverina Thomas and Margaret Rocky Hall had particularly long spikes held on generous numbers of stems.

Most of my Margaret Rocky Hall bushes are entering their twentieth year and in structure, show their age with bits cut out here and there, revealing gnarled, thick old branches.

However, I monitored one bush which was representative of the three rows. From this bush, my husband cut eleven bunches, each of approximately 160 spikes.

That these old bushes are still so generous to me I think is amazing!

Let's hope the next season will be as good.

I have attempted to contact most of the NSW members, but have only had a couple of recent responses.

Sharon and Greg Bailey from Little Willow Lavender attended Ag Quip at Gunnedah in 2017. They reported that they enjoyed the experience and made some contacts, but do not plan to attend again in the near future.



They have since had a very positive experience when they set up a "Pop Up" shop in Willow Tree over late December and January.

## JENNY THOMPSON - ALR QLD NTH

### **Pottique Lavender Farm**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017 I drove over to Kingaroy and stayed at the Burke and Wills Motel overnight. As planned on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> December I drove out to The Pottique Lavender Farm. While not members of TALGA Annie McBride's niece was most interested in hearing about what we do as an association. A complimentary copy of the 2016 Lavender Journal was graciously accepted. After a delicious morning tea, I could look around in their shop and lovely garden full of lavender geraniums and other native plants.



Photos: - Jenny & Southie 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 at Pottique Lavender Farm, Kingaroy



# NEWS FROM MCLAREN VALE LAVENDER

February 2018

February must be the cruelest month on both sides of the planet. Chatting with a friend in UK last week, he recounted the need for 7 layers of clothing while waiting at a bus-stop in sleeting rain. And here I am surveying our parched, dry plot of dirt in heat of 42 degrees, wondering how my precious lavender plants can ever survive.

Doesn't seem to worry the native gums though, they positively glisten silvery, green in the heat, and I was surprised to come across a spindly gum, planted 30 years ago, covered in beautiful golden bunches of flowers for the first time. What a surprise.

February, in our part of the world at least, even the most avid gardener and yet amongst the pretty pink Amaryllis lily pops up, delivering a Hyacinth. It's a trick of nature that these two time, at opposite ends of the globe, one in the colder the better.



provides very little colour for our crunchy, dry, bush garden soft fragrance reminiscent of flowers bloom at the same extreme heat and the other,



Talking of heat, don't forget Talga's lavender deodorant available wholesale price for box 10 works out at \$4-18each. Exclusive, Australian made, a great addition to your retail shelf and a big hit for those searching for aluminium free, authentically fragranced lavender deodorant. Available with or without a label.

The Talga team is always working on ideas for new products and initiatives to assist our membership promote and sell their lavender.

Watch this space for an exciting product development.

If you have a view or idea for consideration, please let us know. Fiona our Secretary can place it on the agenda for discussion or even better, have a chat at the mini conference, coming up on Friday 23 March. [see website for details]. T and I will be driving over and taking in the Melbourne Flower Show at the same time. I'll look forward to seeing you there.

Christine Hitchen

McLaren Vale Lavender

**McLAREN VALE LAVENDER** sent in a link <https://probags.com.au/>

Something members may be interested in.

## **SPIRIT OF TALGA**

Dawn Baudinette would like to thank Annemarie Manders, Warratina Lavender, for not only lending Dawn her lavender stripper but personally delivering it. Annemarie stayed overnight with Dawn. No doubt much talking and several wines were consumed.

## **WANTED TO BUY**

Steve Ford would like to purchase a still. E: [fordsy@hotmail.com](mailto:fordsy@hotmail.com)

## **FOR SALE**

**Lavender harvester** consisting of

- Modified forage harvester with extended chute
- Bespoke fabricated trailer for collection of cut lavender
- Bulka bags

The lavender harvester was built during 2012 and was used during the harvest in early 2013 and 2014. In 2014 the lavender oil won first prize in TALGA's lavender competition for Grosso oils.

It requires a tractor with three-point linkage and a PTO shaft (power take off).

A total of \$3,100 was spent on purchase, modification and fabrication and will sell now for \$2,000.,

Contact: Koos Hulst (03) 5348 4852 or 0437 747 619. E: [koos.hulst@sanae-svcs.com.au](mailto:koos.hulst@sanae-svcs.com.au)

Photos in the December Enews

## **FOR SALE**

**Granite Hills Lavender Farm** , 99 Barker Road North Harcourt

The farm is on 25 acres with stunning views across central Victoria. Approx 5 acres of lavender, several varieties. Large Castlemaine Stone Homestead. Good shedding and water security with 4 dams and 300,000 lts of tank water. Enquiries to Domenic Romeo from Unique Estate Ph.0438 500277

Photos in the December Enews