



International Plant Propagators' Society Australian Region - Newsletter Spring 2008 - No: 19

NEW LOOK LAUNCHED

A new “brand” for our long-standing organization was approved in May by the Board of Directors of the International Plant Propagators’ Society. Meeting in Auckland, New Zealand, the International Board approved a new icon and tag line to represent the Society in its promotional materials. Using just the acronym “IPPS” in a graphic form, a tag line describes the purpose of the organization – **Sharing Plant Production Knowledge Globally**.

According to International President Terry Hatch of New Zealand, the new icon reflects the broader scope of the group’s interest beyond propagation of ornamental plants to the whole range of production activity. The current symbol is a circular seal with a graphic portrayal of hands positioned for grafting – a longtime standard of propagation techniques. However, the 2,100 members of the worldwide organization go beyond propagation in their interests, including growers, academic researchers, extension professionals and other educators, plant breeders and serious collectors, and even retail marketers of ornamental plants. As Hatch explains, “this new icon is fresh, bold, and more appealing to our audience and younger people we want to attract to IPPS.”

The legal name of the group will not change, and the grafting hands symbol will continue to be used in some internal communications. But the movement is toward using just the acronym in the trade and in promotional materials, with the tag line. The eight regions of IPPS in various parts of the world can now utilize this new icon and tag line in their recruitment materials and on their websites, which will also be linked to the international website, www.ipps.org, where the new icon and tag line will also be integrated.

IPPS has been a unique educational organization for the past 57 years, publishing each year a compilation of papers on plant production as presented at annual conferences in each of the eight regions. The eight regions include: Australian Region; Eastern Region, North America; Region of Great Britain and Ireland; Japan Region; New Zealand Region; Southern African Region; Southern Region of North America; and Western Region (USA and Canada). Individuals outside the geographic boundaries of the established regions can also join as At-Large Members.

Patricia E. Heuser
International Secretary-Treasurer

THIS EDITION

Australian Seed Collecting - a future Crisis?

Some possible solutions are offered

Profile - Peter Lewis

Q & A and Forum

Reports

- President’s Report
- Executive Officer’s Comment
- International Directors Report

- NZ International Conference “Southern Diversity” and Pre-conference tour
- NGIAT / IPPS joint regional meeting

Challenge

Coming Events and News

Newsletter Editors Comment



President's Comment

It seems a long time now since the very successful 2008 annual conference was held at Lilydale in April. Andrew Mathews and his very competent team of members and volunteers are to be congratulated on presiding over the organisation and running of such an enjoyable and informative function and we can now look forward to the joint Australian and New Zealand conference to be held in Hobart next year which is being organised by Rose and Tony VanderStaay, I am sure we will all hear a lot more about this event in the coming months.



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the membership for entrusting me with the responsibility of the presidency for another twelve months. Not much has changed in my goals for the Society as I spelled out during my initial term, primarily I want to ensure that there is financial stability, that there are sufficient funds available so that the Society can move forward and grow its membership without continually having to worry about money.

Increasing our membership is obviously crucial to our existence and this is the other area that I have wanted to concentrate on during my incumbency. As I have stated many times before, it is younger propagators that we need to continue to attract to the Society. We can do this by offering what other organisations in our industry don't currently do, such as the more technical aspects of propagation, new and practical ideas and the opportunity to rub shoulders with older more experienced propagators and be able to glean information from them. We can do this via area meetings and of course our annual conferences.

After the Melbourne meeting a group of us travelled to New Zealand for the International Board meeting, pre conference tour and the NZ regional conference in Auckland. This trip consumed a little over two weeks but I think we all agreed in the end that it was one of the most successful and enjoyable IPPS trips we had been on. It will be our turn to stage a similar event hosting the International Board in 2011, when we will have a pre conference tour starting in Melbourne and the conference being staged in Sydney.

As is the custom in that year, it will be Australia's turn to provide the International President and I am pleased to inform you that person will be Greg McPhee, who starts his duties as Second Vice President at the 2009 International Board meeting to be held in Ireland. Greg has a vision for the Society and I think he will bring with him a wealth of experience in running an organisation like this and furthering it's well being.

Currently the Australian board is looking at or has already decided on a number of issues. Firstly the International Board at it's meeting in Auckland deliberated

and passed a proposal to update the Society's logo, based on a need to modernise the Society and make it more attractive to a wider range of people in Horticulture. This change has now been adopted by the Australian Region with the proviso that the old logo of the "hands" will still be used on all our awards and the certificates we use for presentations. You should see the new logo start appear on all our communications with members and on the web-site.

The board is also looking to change the way we organise and fund the exchange with South Africa to make this arrangement more formal than it currently is, expanding the publication of conference papers to new journals, extension of area meetings to encompass cooperation with State Nursery Industry Associations via the Industry Development Officer network, the possibility of partially funding a communications officer for the Society that would liaise with tertiary institutions and the nursery industry at large, to entice more members. These are a few of the ideas we are working with to build a more vibrant and attractive organisation.

As a board we are also open to any idea members may have that you believe we could use to strengthen the Society, please do not hesitate to contact anyone of us if you think you have something to offer.

David Cliffe

Executive Officer's Comment

IPPS OFFICE

Even though the IPPS Office slows down at this time of the year, I have been busy winding up final reports /outcome from the Melbourne conference.



SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Australian Region of IPPS has 252 Members, however to date there are still 5 Members who have outstanding membership renewals.

There have been 7 new members join since the Melbourne conference, these being;

Ms	Valerie	Cheater	
Ms	Margaret	Cooper	
Mr	Luke	Dent	Wallum Nurseries Pty Ltd
Mrs	Melissa	Marshall	Evergreen Growers
Dr	Greg	O'Sullivan	Australis Plants Pty Ltd
Mr	Alan	Rate	Hornsby Heights Garden Service
Ms	Catherine	Storrs	

Members who have resigned since the Melbourne conference are:

- Judith Bates - No longer in the Industry
- Eve Archbold - Away for 2 years
- Joe McAuliffe - Not involved so much in growing.

- Phillip Petitt - Not as involved in horticulture anymore

FINANCIAL

As at 30th June Bank Balance in Cheque Account was: \$57,242.14 (\$620.45 belongs to Editors Account)

Term Deposit - \$10,000 matures November'08 (reinvested at 6.78% pa)

Payment of US\$15,090 was forwarded to the International Board on 5.06.07. This equates to \$16,049.78 at a rate of 0.9402.

AGED RECEIVABLES

Aged Receivables as at 30.06.08 amounts to \$21,293.88 (HAL \$14,256.88)

Membership Subscriptions	-	\$ 1 087.00
Melbourne Conference	-	\$ 5 950.00
HAL	-	\$14 256.88

BAS STATEMENT

BAS Statement for the April to June period has been lodged - Refund due of \$724.

- Pam Langley

International Director's Report

It already seems a year since our conference in Lilydale. That was a hectic month with our conference followed by a busy week in the nursery then off to New Zealand for the international tour and board meeting and their conference. As usual with all the international tours we were made to feel right at home. Also as usual we were overfed, over toured and over looked after. The NZ conference was also excellent. They run a similar style conference to ours. Like us they are also doing well with membership and have a good age profile.

As usual there was a big agenda to go through over a short period. Some items were the regular formalities of re-appointing key staff and the editor. We also elected the executive for 2009 and our own Greg McPhee was elected as 2nd Vice President – first step to talking on the role of International President in 2011.

Our international membership was noted to be just under 2100. Australia and New Zealand had both had minor increases whilst most other regions were still losing members. The other point of concern is that those regions also had an ageing membership whilst Australia and New Zealand had been able to increase the number of younger members. One highlight was the signing up of two members 'at large'. This category had been set up last year to give a home for people who wished to join from countries that didn't have a 'region' to join.

There were several other important decisions made. One was they way the International Award of Honour is

selected. Currently the International Board reviews nominations from different regions. In future the region hosting the International Board will nominate a person 12 to 18 months prior to the relevant conference in their region. The board will then review the nomination and if the candidate is of sufficient merit they will be the recipient. This allows the International President to present the award to the recipient.

A major change has been to the IPPS livery. We currently have a logo consisting of a pair of grafting hands on a green background. This has been in use since the inception of IPPS. The board felt a more modern masthead was need for promotional materials. Hence the new logo on the front page.

The issue of how we publish our Proceedings has been a source of much debate for many years. A decision was made to not develop a 'refereed journal' for the publication of academic style reports. However further progress was made to getting all the past journals in electronic format. The intention is to have these published on the web-site of the International Society for Horticultural Science. IPPS members will then have access to the website and these past Proceedings. The ISHS has a charging facility for non- members to access the website and we hope that some income will return to IPPS international.

The board has also allocated some funds to further develop the international propagator exchange. It is hoped that other regions will set up exchanges similar to what we do with Southern Africa. This should be a bonus to the whole society by developing closer ties between regions, bringing about increased transfer of knowledge and developing a benefit that would be attractive to younger members.

The board also managed to approve a new mission statement without too much discussion. It is always hard to develop this type of statement in committee. Our new mission statement is: ***"The mission of IPPS, with a focus on the global community of those involved in horticultural plant production, is to share knowledge, information, and skills; to provide guidance and support for lifelong career achievements; to increase recognition of the profession; and to maximize the integration of research, education, and horticultural knowledge."***

So, I hope you like our new brand and statement. I also hope that spring is kind to you and your plants.

- Clive Larkman



NZ Preconference Tour Highlights

Showcasing NZ diversity the New Zealand conference tour was full on, seventeen nurseries plus other attractions from Queenstown to Auckland in 14 days! Tony and I joined the tour on the eighth day in Wellington on the North Island.

Highlights were visits to Te Horo Ornamentals owned and operated by the Jewell family growing primarily South African Proteaceae & Ericaceae as nursery lines and cut flowers. Quality product and propagation facilities.

Eddie & Jan Welsh of Starter Plants fed and entertained us with their organic produce. Great cooking! Eddie grows select perennials in ground and has bred some very interesting *Eucomis* hybrids for pot growing and cut flowers. It was the first time we've seen Liquidamber trimmed for hedging through their perennial field beds.



Revegetation on Mt Ruapehu

Our highest stay was at Bayview Chateau Tongariro at the base of Mt Ruapehu in dual world heritage Tangariro National Park on the N.Z. volcanic plateau. Next morning Tony (VanderStaay) enjoyed a round of golf on N.Z.'s highest course while I joined a short mountain walk lead by Phillip Smith from Taupo Native Plant Nursery Ltd. and a former D.O.C ranger.

Similarities in plant vegetation to Tasmanian alpiners were interesting although most genera present were different from ours. The Scottish weed *Calluna vulgaris* was also present, further up on still bare ski slopes we looked at attempts to revegetate slopes with alpine grasses.

Travelling on past Lake Taupo we then visited the wholesale nursery Phillip runs. This is one of NZ's largest, specializing in eco-natives. They do their own provenance collection, as well as cleaning and storage of seed. How many nurseries have geothermal steam rising from natural soaks behind their poly houses and port-a-loos!



Splitting Flax at Taupo Nursery

The adjoining retail site carries a wide range of plant material well set out displays around a central pond with excellent sign-age.

At Kihikihi we visited Peter and Carol Frazer's Growing Spectrum Ltd, another top nursery growing a select range of excellent quality trees and shrubs primarily for the wholesale market. The nursery is also unique in having its own certified horticulture training institution run by Carol.

A quick guided tour of the Hamilton Botanical Gardens after lunch was not enough time to see these amazing gardens begun and still partly run by keen volunteers. We returned for a more leisurely look after conference.

The site is bounded by the mighty Waikato River and also contains the Rogers Rose Garden (NZ Rose Trials), Camellia & Rhododendron Gardens. The theme gardens showcasing different design styles and plant uses are unique.

The final visit of the tour was to Jay Plants home patch of the well known NZ propagators Terry, Pam and Lindsay Hatch. Here we shared Terry's enthusiasm for plants NZ and exotic. Foam boxes containing *Sarracenia* floating on the dam were a novel Kiwi approach to growing these insectivore plants! Equipment required for seed collection, a pair of gumboots and a boat hook! Think outside the square. Who needs a shade house when you have beautiful established trees just ideal for growing *Clivia*. Different colours in separate areas of course.

Beyond the trees in conventional houses were natives for revegetation grown from collected seed. The Hatch's have a reputation for hospitality. A smorgasbord buffet was served before we were rounded up onto the bus for the final drive into Auckland in the dark.

There were fifty participants on tour, four joining for the Northern part. It was a great opportunity to share some of NZ's horticultural gems with like minded people and get to know the overseas members prior to conference.

Well done to all the hardworking NZ organizers for extending the seeking and sharing of IPPS.

IPPS New Zealand Conference 22-25 May 2008 Auckland "SOUTHERN DIVERSITY"

New Zealand hosted the International Board this year, there were 17 representatives from the USA, Canada 4, UK 3, Australia 8, Indonesia 1, Japan 1 and 167 New Zealanders registered.

Conference kicked off with a presentation from internationally renowned expat florist Barry Ferguson from New York with a massive floral display at the side of the stage, showcasing the diversity of NZ grown flowers and the skill and passion of the presenter.



This set the tone of the conference, from propagation for conservation, growing and breeding Disa orchids, roses, bromeliads and hybrid pines for forestry, commercial lettuce production all presenters were passionate about their work.

Prof. Ted Bilderback (US) talked about substrates, physical and chemical characteristics and nursery management techniques.

Jim Johnson (2nd vice president US) spoke on using digital photography for diagnostic purposes.

Peter Bingham (UK) Kingfisher Nursery specializing in heather production, spoke of the same challenges in the northern hemisphere as we do. Changing customer needs, legislative pressure and increased competition and skill shortages.

Graeme Platt (well-known NZ IPSS identity and self described ecologist, dendrologist, writer and traveler) presented a thought provoking explanation of the evolutionary transition of plant reproductive strategy from wet seed to dry.

The session ended with a panel discussion Q & A on selecting and commercializing new cultivars. All and all a very interesting conference with lots of diversity.

- Rose VanderStaay

Australian Native Seed Industry

Over recent years I have spoken to many people who have been concerned about the Australian native seed industry. Many seed collectors in Australia are over 70 and have a wealth of knowledge about the location of plant species and the time to collect viable seed. This knowledge could be lost within a few years, and represents a threat to the continuity of supply of seed, especially affecting cut flower growers and ornamental horticulture.

One of the collectors, now 83 has written and published a book to capture some of this knowledge: "The



Australian Seedsman, Harold Grant". Harold can be contacted on 02-6882 4003 for copies of this book at \$15 (90 Wingewarra St. Dubbo NSW 2830).

With this seed issue in mind I surveyed many of the specialist seed companies in Australia including the larger suppliers. All agreed that there is a looming crisis, with fewer young people getting involved in the seed collecting business. Comments included "it was not lucrative enough", or the conditions of outside work in the wild were too extreme. At the August 2008 conference of the Australian Seed Federation in Hobart (see bsm@asf.asn.au) it was recommended that seed costs needed to rise by 35% to cover cost increases.

The major markets now for native seed are minesite and public works (largely roadside) revegetation projects which demand specially collected provenance seed. Some nurseries now make revegetation their core business and collect their own seed.

The drought years have had an effect on the quantity and viability of seed available as well as restrictions to harvesting. Good quantities of viable seed are often obtained two years after a good season.

State Forestry regeneration follows a different model where seedlings are produced from seed collected in areas being logged by those concerned with planting and trimming trees. The Tasmanian 'Forest Practices Code' seems to be assuring a worthwhile industry for seed collectors in that state.

The Queensland Department of Primary Industries have established a government corporation to supply seed from orchards. Due to regulations they can not collect from government forests. Instead of hundreds of species they have rationalised to five with separations of about 2 kilometres to prevent crossbreeding. You need large land holdings for this type of operation.

I wonder if some of the restrictions to collecting seed have arisen through various state regulations aimed at "protecting" flora and fauna but treating them the same. You wouldn't want people to be going into national parks trapping platypus and trying to breed from them. Surely harvesting a small amount of seed (if controlled) or taking a few cuttings for clonal propagation by accredited people would conserve the species and gene pool rather than risk it being lost (fire).

Permits to harvest seed from forests and government parks are now very difficult to obtain. There has been an effect by encroachment on bushland coastal sites for housing. Restrictive quarantine laws in W. A. and Tasmania also are a problem in moving seed around the country. Low cost imported and low viability old seed have also damaged the industry.

So like all things the more you look the more complex the picture becomes. Fortunately for those wanting a partner seeking a way forward, Florabank working with Greening Australia was established a few years ago. The Floradata database will hopefully be revised with Millennium seedbank and CSIRO information on seed location, collection and storage. Training courses are being set up for seed collectors and they recognise the industry problems from their own research. For more information see <http://www.florabank.org.au>.

Some suggestions for ways forward could include:

- Encouraging and supporting a research proposal for Florabank to interview older collectors and capture their knowledge for the benefit of all.
- Establishing a code of practice and accreditation system for seed suppliers / collectors to improve professionalism and rewards. This could initially involve Florabank with the Nursery Industry Association and perhaps Cut Flowers Association.
- Gaining permits for accredited collectors under guidelines to government controlled parks and forests to ensure genetic diversity.
- Dr Penny Atkinson of Florabank also suggested that Australian Native seed should be sold with viability information at different levels of assurance: standard, and provenance.
- Nurseries set up their own plant orchards to collect seed, while minimising the potential for hybridisation.

- Bruce Higgs

Question Box and IPPS Forum

This continues responses to questions raised at the Lilydale Melbourne conference that will be published for members benefit. If you can contribute additional information to some of these topics please contact me (02 4736 5004) or email bruce.higgs@bigpond.com

DANIEL MANSFIELD

- **Do you use leaf analysis to determine lost elements?**

We have over 1500 plant varieties with different nutritional requirements and rates of uptake and analysis. So we don't use leaf analysis.

- **In citrus heavy cutting of bud wood in some varieties can induce mutations. Can you comment on this potential?**

John Messina replied that they have noticed in their relatively long sunlight and high UV near Mildura that sports occur when there is heavy new growth.

ANYONE???

- **Can a 3 year old Olive tree be top worked to accept Kalimata graft wood or buds?**

Such Olives will readily take to top working but they will sucker readily and you will spend the rest of your life taking suckers off.

NOEL FITZPATRICK (*I was unable to contact Mal so here are some answers from the net*)

- **Which Oak species are you recommending?**

Garland Truffles in the US supply inoculated trees of *Corylus avellana*, *C. colurna* and *Quercus ilex*, *Q. robur*, *Q. pedunculata* and *Q. pubescens*. More information about growing truffles could be obtained through books and the Australian Truffle Growers Association www.trufflegrowers.com.au.

MAL DEVESON

- **How well do blueberries perform in regular strong windy conditions?**

Blueberries do not enjoy exposure to strong winds. They will still grow, but establish a lot slower and probably never reach their full potential. Fruit yield and quality is also affected due to fruit rub and drop.

- **Tips on blueberry propagation – wood – hormone – time of year?**

Propagation with a combination of hardwood and softwood cuttings is most common in Australia. Tissue culture is being utilized to some extent but variety integrity has been a major problem with tissue culture plants in the past. Also crown gall on blueberries came out of tissue culture labs in the 1980s.

Hardwood cuttings are taken from dormant wood in winter and stored at 4 degrees till early Spring. Communal propagating trays are used with spacing at 40 to 50 mm. It is unclear if hormone treatment has any effect. Cuttings are generally 75 to 100 mm long and pencil thickness. Propagating mediums such as peat/sand, at 50/50 or peat/perlite are most commonly used. Well composted bark is also ok.

Hardwood cuttings are held under mist/fog and take 12 to 16 weeks to root. Once rooted then a light top dress with slow release fertilizer. Blueberries are sensitive to nitrate forms of fertilizer, sulphate forms are best.

Softwood cuttings are taken when the first flush of spring growth terminates. Cuttings are about 75 mm long, with two leaves retained and the rest stripped. Propagating medium is as for hardwood cuttings. Generally these will strike in 6 to 8 weeks. Fertilizing is also the same as for hardwood cuttings.

Tissue Culture Courses

NMIT in Victoria run courses in the evenings as either a 60 hour course or for 90 hours if you want the advanced course. It is generally only run once a year but that depends on demand. They are currently just finishing the course for this year and the next one will commence next February. The contact details for Siew Teoh, the lecturer, are email siewt-hrt@nmit.vic.edu.au and website www.nmit.vic.edu.au/courses/horticulture



August 21st NGIAT & IPPS joint meeting

On Wednesday the 21st of August a joint meeting of the Nursery and garden industry of Tasmania and the local members of the IPPS held a one day seminar at Wyndham resort 7 mile beach.

42 people attended the day, ranging from propagators to educators. We had 6 speakers on the day. Daniel Mansfield from Mansfield's Propagation Nursery out of Melbourne was the key note speaker, and he repeated the paper he gave at the Melbourne IPPS conference, (which incidentally we got more from because we had heard it before). This was followed by a local grower of rhododendrons Ted Cutland, (Ted is passionate about plants, and this came through when he spoke at length about the do's and don'ts of rhodo propagation) they have around 500 varieties on their 1.5 acre property.

After the break we had our world champion Daffodil breeder and judge David Jackson. David comes from a long line of daffodil growers, and spoke about the development of modern day daffodils. He also reiterated the patience required for breeding of new daffodils, taking 5-6 years to flower and then up to 15 years to multiply a new clone.

Following David we had Karen Brock from Brocklands nursery. Karen spoke about grafting of roses and the joys and pitfalls of growing roses.

Then followed Will Fletcher who is a very keen grower of Tasmanian natives. Will is taking a new approach to growing of bonsai, instead of the conventional use of exotic trees and plants Will is using only Tasmanian endemic species. He had a range of specimens that created quite a stir among the group.

After lunch we had Michael Garrett speaking on the propagation of ferns and he took us through the exercise of working out how many fern spores are released every year by the tree ferns of Tasmania. The figure came out at something like a quad trillion billion spores of which if everyone of them produced plantlets they would cover 900 planets the size of earth, so I don't think that the Tasmanian tree fern is under any threat of extinction.

Following the talks and the fellowship we toured Westland nurseries, investigating their wide range of

propagation and growing facilities. All in all a very successful day.

- Rose VanderStaay

PROFILE - Peter Lewis

Peter trained under Ian Gordon and was awarded a B. Apl. Sc. from Gatton in 1982. He worked for Utingu Nursery, a specialist native nursery until 1987. While at Utingu he worked with Harvey Shaw on ground breaking grafting work with various species of Australian natives. In 1985 Peter was awarded the Rod Tallis award with his paper entitled "Grafting Australian Natives / Potential". He was associated with the introduction of some very popular plants at this time including *Grevillea Sylvia* and *Moonlight*.



Peter Lewis then went on to teach production horticulture at Gatton College for a few years before joining Birkdale nursery in 1989. He started as production manager, and through the 90's was involved in a number of international horticultural projects including the Sultan's gardens in Brunei, projects in Bahrain and Japan. He said that Australians are well regarded and have a reputation of getting the job completed in those climates. Perhaps it is a different mindset, as other nationals struggle with the climate.

Birkdale closed in March 2007, and since then Peter has worked for a small wholesale horticultural marketing company. He also acts as an external consultant for the Wollemi pine.

There are obviously a number of ways that Peter can help members, as he has me at times. His hobby is horticulture, and the Coastal series of *Grevillea* especially at this time. *Grevillea Coastal Impressive* is a favourite and he has been quoted as to looking forward to Cedar Glen nursery marketing the Coastal series in the future.

Peter enjoys using his experience in mentoring people, that's why he still continues to be involved in the IPPS awards scheme. He wants to open people's eyes to their professionalism.

When asked how IPPS has helped him, Peter said he found people involved in horticulture to be friendly and outgoing with leadership qualities. They are a strong minded group of people, most melding well together. Friendship and teamwork are different and IPPS gives opportunities for both. Networking made possible through the IPPS has been very valuable to him and his career.

Challenge

In this edition I would like to propose a different challenge to our members. In particular I would like to direct this challenge to the management sector of our industry. We in the Australian Region IPPS have made a considerable effort to encourage our new young propagators and I would like to see this effort continue.

My challenge therefore is to ask you bosses out there to give your young staff the challenge of undertaking an internal research project. Yes, I know times are tough and the dollars are getting harder to come by and this might discourage you from potential waste of valuable production time. I, however believe that the encouragement of staff initiative is money worth spending.

The results of their research may come to nothing but even this will, in the long term, be money well spent. If you know for a fact that a process is not beneficial you will not waste time and money on it. This challenge will also benefit the future of our fantastic society as I expect you managers to have your staff write up and deliver their research at future IPPS conferences.

So here is my Challenge, look at your production techniques and see if perhaps you could do something differently, allocate the research project to a staff member or even a group of staff, and use the resources of the IPPS membership as mentors if necessary to help get the research correctly undertaken. I hope then to see a paper presented at our conference in 2010.

- Michael Gleeson

IPPS MERCHANDISE

Orders for IPPS:

Polo Shirts (Members \$25 and Non-Members \$30) and **Caps** (Members \$12 and Non-Members \$15) can be placed with John Messina of Sunraysia Nurseries.

New stock has arrived, Shirt sizes available are:

Small, Medium, Large, XLarge, XXLarge.

– Contact Details:

John Messina

Sunraysia Nurseries,
P.O. Box 45, Gol Gol NSW 2738
Ph: 02.5024 8502, Fax: 02.5024 8557,
Mobile 0417 389 075
Email: john@sunraysianurseries.com.au

DVD's

The following DVD's are available for sale:

- *Roses*
- *Propagation of Rainforest Plants*
- *Grafting Techniques*

\$15.00 each for Members / \$30.00 for Non-Members

Contact Pam Langley for copies.

Coming Events and News

Joint Eastern and Western Region Conference: 14 - 17 September Denver Colorado

Great Britain and Ireland: 8 -11 October, Falmouth, Cornwall, UK

Southern Region of North America: 19 - 22 October, Charlottesville, Virginia, Omni Hotel

Joint Australian and NewZealand Conference 2009
Hobart MAY 11th - 17th, 2009.

Vale

The end of August saw the sad passing of two great horticulturists: David Nichols and Kevin Heinze.

David Nichols was a member of IPPS and contributed greatly over many years to conferences and through Australian Horticulture, particularly with his knowledge of potting mixes and plant nutrition. David Nichols working with Debco helped establish guidelines for the Australian Standard for the soil-less potting mixes many of us now use. He will be missed by us all.

I will try to get more complete notes for the next issue.

Members Art for NZ Conference



This beautiful table was made by Peter Waugh and donated to the international conference in NZ. It fetched \$700, and that must be a record. Can we top that at the Hobart conference next year?

Newsletter Editors Comment

Well done to all who contributed to this issue, especially the reports from Rose VanderStaay on the NZ conference and Tasmanian regional meeting. If you think that your area needs a meeting then please contact John Messina or Pam Langley.

This time I had a bit more time to get the answers to questions raised to speakers not available at the Q & A conference session. If you have further comment on these or questions you would like answered then contact me to publish them in the newsletter or use the members question box on the international website www.ipps.org.

Don't forget that this newsletter and past copies are also available on the IPPS website at www.ipps.org.au.

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