

IPPS

Sharing Plant Production Knowledge Globally

the Propagator



International Plant Propagators
Society (IPPS) Australia

International Plant Propagators' Society www.ipps.org.au
Australian Region - Newsletter Autumn 2015 - No: 45

Times Are a Changing

Why did Lonely Planet rate Newcastle, a former steel city, one of the top ten cities in the world in 2011? Or are you like many who have not pulled off the highway to explore this lovely city?

Australia's second oldest city has surf beaches, a subtropical climate, diverse dining, nightlife and arts. It is less than an hour's drive to the Hunter Valley wineries, sailing on Lake Macquarie, whale watching at Port Stephens and sand boarding at Stockton Beach.

Of course the centre of Newcastle has some interesting shopping possibilities. Then there are the galleries, museums and historic sites to visit. For plants people there are many nurseries, great nature walks and many gardens to visit.

Newcastle and the Hunter region are certainly different now to the steel city days. The city and region has looked for new opportunities, reinvented itself and moved on. A perfect place to talk about times changing. An abundance of natural resources nearby has certainly helped.



Newcastle surf beach and baths next to Noah's on the Beach, the location of the formal dinner. Photo courtesy of www.altogetherperfect.com.au/gallery

Being ready and prepared to adapt through good planning and practice are all part of this years conference theme. The speakers will explore a range of topics and the tours have been planned to suit a variety of interests.

As we will be staying in a variety of places and parking spots around the venue will be limited a shuttle bus service is being arranged. The conference itself will be held in the

large stone Civic Centre. Not the adjacent Town Hall that looks a bit like the beehive parliament building some saw last year in Wellington.

I look forward to seeing you in Newcastle, so be prepared to "Seek and Share".

Bruce Higgs

THIS EDITION

Times Are a Changing
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Reports
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President's Comment

Newcastle is almost upon us! It's really just a matter of weeks to go now. The organisers have been working hard for well over 12 months on this and it promises to be an event not to miss. A great range of speakers and nursery and garden tours are lined up for your benefit.

I know it was a turning point for our business when we started attending IPPS conferences with all that friendly advice and expertise right there alongside of you ready to help in so many ways. I don't doubt that that advice and access to information transformed our business. The forms are all on the website so make sure you get along.

One of the highlights of the Gala dinner and an important fundraiser has been the auction. We are asking all attendees to bring something along from their region, a wine, a handicraft, art or similar. The money raised goes on youth initiatives and therefore the future of the society.

Unfortunately we had no one apply for the South African exchange this year. It's hard to believe there wasn't someone out there who could take advantage of this great opportunity and we'll have to make sure it gets greater publicity in future.

It's been another blisteringly hot summer but business has been good here in the west and the main

problem has become not so much the selling of the product but growing enough of the right lines. You can only get so much done and there is only so much room and a time comes when if you get a big order it just means that something else doesn't get grown. It's a good problem to have but that doesn't make it any easier! Is it worth expanding or not? No easy answers there I'm afraid.

I recently received a new book from Charlie Parkerson, former world president of IPPS, serial conference speaker and a unique and innovative nurseryman. Many of Charlie's left field ideas are in use in nurseries around the world. The book is called "That ain't no deal" and is full of the wit and wisdom Charlie accumulated in his years in the industry and is a very entertaining and enlightening read. I hope to have a few more copies here in time for the Newcastle conference for the auction.

There are many great ideas and quotes in the book but here is what he has to say about IPPS.

"I've been a part of many business associations, but the one that stands out from all the rest is IPPS. Their motto is 'to seek and to share'. When you join the IPPS, you may no longer keep trade secrets. You share everything you know with the other members. Maybe that sounds crazy to you. 'A bunch of competitors sharing everything? No secrets?' You bet, and it showed me that sharing your secrets, especially the ones you think are your most valuable, is the smartest thing you will ever do. ...it's hard to grow plants. If the older generation isn't sharing what they know that knowledge will be lost.

Steve Vallance

Executive Officer's Report

IPPS Office

This time of year is always a busy time. I have been kept quite busy with 'day-to-day' running of the IPPS Office as well as membership subscription renewals.



Membership Subscription Renewal

Yes, it is that time of the year again. *A big thank-you to those members who have forwarded payments.* A friendly reminder to everyone else, could you please tend to this matter at your earliest convenience. If you are having difficulty in paying your subscription (for whatever reason), please feel free to contact me so that we can discuss alternative payment options.

Rod Tallis Award

It is still not too late to apply for this prestigious award. If you know a young grower that may qualify then please nudge and encourage them to apply for this award soon.

A worthy propagator/grower at the start of their career can gain an award that they can be proud of and mark the start of a successful career in horticulture. All you need to do is report on some horticulture related study or similar work you have undertaken.

Yates Youth Six Pack

Applications are still open for the chance to be a 6 pack member in Newcastle. You could have the privilege to meet some of the industry leaders while being sponsored by Yates.

All that needs to be done for either of these is **submit an application**. Contact details are on the IPPS website (see www.ipps.org.au).

BANK DETAILS:

**Bendigo Bank BSB: 633-000
Account No: 140185737**

**If paying by EFT PLEASE PUT
INVOICE NO. OR NAME IN THE
PAYMENT BOX SO I CAN IDENTIFY
WHO PAYMENT IS FROM.**

THANK YOU



**IPPS National
Conference
7-10 May 2014**

Contact Detail Changes

To ensure Office records are kept 'up to date' I would appreciate it if Members could please notify me of any changed contact details. In particular, if you have changed telephone provider recently, please advise me of your new email address at pjberry@iprimus.com.au or pam@ipps.org.au

It is important that the Australian & International database records are kept 'up to date', otherwise you could be missing out on receiving information.

IPPS Conference –'Times Are A Changing' - 7th to 10th May 2015 – Newcastle City Hall, Newcastle

Pre-conference Tour will commence in Sydney enroute to Newcastle. Pre-Conference Tour, Conference Registration Form along with information can be accessed and downloaded from the website: www.ipps.org.au



**DON'T DELAY.....
BOOK TODAY....**

I look forward to meeting up with Members who will be attending the conference in Newcastle.

Pam Berryman

The Australian Region Website has recently been updated so that members can sign in with their password and edit their own membership contact details, and view other society information.

There is a warm Novocastrian welcome waiting for you at the 2015 IPPS Annual Conference, in Newcastle, NSW. The conference venue is the iconic Newcastle City Hall (photo above) right in the heart of Newcastle, very close to the stylish revamped Honeysuckle Precinct.

The Conference theme is 'Times are a Changing' which will be reflected in much of the content of the program.

Noah's on the Beach (a short bus ride or approximately a 15 minute walk to Newcastle City Hall) is the nominated accommodation setting, however there are many types of accommodation available to suit all requirements and budgets. Best advice is to book early, as there are other conventions on over the same weekend and the saying goes, book early to avoid disappointment.

The organisers are keen to get past Yates Six-packers involved in the industry to return to this conference. They will also be eligible for the special student rate with the added benefit of attending the welcoming evening on Thursday night at the museum.

**2015
Youth Auction**

No we are not selling an elixir of youth or young bodies.

**BRING SOMETHING TO THE
CONFERENCE TO AUCTION OFF
TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH**

What we do need to sell are your contributions to the auction held to support youth initiatives such as the 6 pack and exchange program.

If you have some quality plants, a painting or work of art or craft, a book, some useful tools or implements, fertiliser or chemicals, football souvenirs or some nice wine / beer etc. that you could contribute, please bring them along to the conference in May.

If you would like to have something special to display for a year to your customers then we have our annual Silver Felco secateurs as well (this is much sought after and usually goes for over \$1000).

Don't forget to bring some cash to pay for that item you are going to buy that supports a good cause.

So come along and experience the Hunter Region - a region rich in horticultural diversity...

Following in the great tradition of past IPPS conferences, the 2015 conference in Newcastle is set to be an exciting event. If you are looking for reasons to attend then IPPS conferences offer:

◆ **Participate in the fun pre-conference tour from Sydney on Monday 4th May and finishing in Newcastle 6th May.**

◆ **Ability to hear this years' keynote speaker Wes Fleming - Australia's only Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medal Winner.**

◆ **A not to be missed opportunity to network with like minded folk from a variety of horticultural businesses and suppliers.**

◆ **Our Conference dinner the formal night where we wine and dine and chat and have some fun.** This is the night where we hear who received most of the awards. Then the event that really is some fun when we bid for those items brought along to the auction to support youth initiatives of the society.

◆ **Keen golfers can play for the Peter Smith Perpetual Golf Trophy before registration on the Thursday.**

◆ **Saturday field day tours** will divide into two groups visiting one of:

✱ Hunter Valley Gardens in the middle of the Hunter vineyards, modelled on the world famous Butchart Gardens on over 24 ha of spectacular international display gardens and 8 kilometres of walking paths.

✱ Ramm Botanical nursery on the Central Coast plus some others if time permits.

Welcome Function:

The evening of Thursday, 7th May at the Newcastle Museum (at 6

Workshop Way)), provides a great venue to peruse the history of Newcastle.

A casual evening is planned to start off in the 'heat' of the BHP Room with a few nibbles and drinks. This will provide the opportunity for networking and reacquainting with old friends.

The early-ish conclusion allows everyone the opportunity to take in some of the cosmopolitan nightlife Newcastle has to offer in the 'Honeysuckle Precinct'.

Golf:

Delegates are welcome to attend and participate in an 18-hole event. The event will be organised by long time golf tragic Tony Van der Staay on the 7th May. Register your interest with Tony to receive details.

Friday Night:

After the sessions, time to network and check out the Allied Trades with a drink for 2 or 3 hours.

Friday night will then be a 'free night' so that you can explore the many delights of Newcastle.

Newcastle has a great range of fine restaurants and the Boardwalk is the place to head for sophisticated dining and opulent bars with water views.

Saturday Gala dinner:

What a venue – Noah's on the Beach. Following a stimulating day of field trips, there will be time to relax and enjoy the wonders of the Newcastle coastline. Worthy recipients will receive their due recognition for services to the Horticulture Industry through the awards program at the dinner.

Noah's on the Beach,
Shortland Esplanade,
Newcastle East

Speakers for 2015 include:

Wes Fleming

Our Keynote speaker, is well known for his involvement and successes in the Chelsea Flower Show. Wes is also renowned for his energetic speaking efforts. In keeping with the theme for the conference, we are confident that Wes with his talk on "*How to Innovate and Invigorate the nursery industry*" will stimulate everyone.

Dr Puthiyaparambil Josekutty

Will present a talk on *In-vitro Grevilleas*. A trained biologist /agricultural scientist, Jose has worked around the world specialising in-vitro technology. He has worked in the fields of medicinal plants, forestry, native ornamentals and biofuel crop biotechnology. Jose is an editor for Global Science Books, UK, and currently resides in Queensland working as Manager, Tissue Culture Laboratory, **Clonal Solutions Australia Pty Ltd.**

Robert and Jamie Lanarch

Will present *Bromeliads – A fossil rebirth*. The father and son team have spent many years breeding a range of bromeliads and currently own and run the successful **Bromeliads Australia**. Hopefully, Robert and Jamie will stick to the theme by discussing the changes they have had to undergo to remain in business. Their enthusiasm for the plant industry in general and



bromeliads in particular, will undoubtedly motivate us all.

David Moore

Research and development manager for HIA (formerly HAL). David will bring us up to date in this paper "*Effects and changes with R & D in the industry*", on the future directions of HIA and the potential impacts to our industry; the changes being imposed on us by government and what the effects are likely to be, ranging from an industry level to an individual level.

David Hancock

David, a West Australian, is an experienced re-vegetation expert with a long history of environmental volunteering and conservation committee involvement. David and his staff have recently completed trials on weed control in nurseries – a topic dear to all our hearts- *What would we do without our weeds???*



John Robb

Green Tea in Australia: Director of Paradise Seed and Australian Green Tea, John has been involved in plant breeding for over twenty years. John has been involved with tea production since the concept was raised with Japanese partners and is currently trialling tea production in Australia. John will enlighten us on



his foray into green tea – an ‘outside the box’ move from specialising in growing ornamental Camellias.

Mark Massey

A representative from **AIS Greenworks**, Mark is experienced in a range of nursery systems designed to provide efficiencies resulting in greater potential for quality products. Mark will deliver a paper on improving nutrient recycling systems; a topic that has been relevant for many years. Add to that the use of copper as a pathogen control in nurseries and we have the potential for an interesting discussion!

Craig Ford

Craig is a researcher at Sappi Forest Products, Shaw Research Centre in South Africa. Craig’s responsibilities include propagation and nursery disease management of pine species, field trials, and management of the Sappi Forests Pathology Laboratory and Shaw Research Centre Nursery. Craig will inform us on the results of trials with respect to planting out forests with larger plants versus tubes.

Other speakers include:

Ross Clark Trees Impact will give a talk on: "Onwards and outwards – root growth for quality".

Mark Adamson promises to give us an insight as to what things could be with his paper on "Food for thought – nurseries into the future".



Plants for vertical wall - at Andreasens Green

Darren Mason from Andreasens Green will talk about experience with a modern large scale building trend: "A vertical wall project".

Jeff Cooke from Pot'n All will tell us about possibilities through his "Innovative Marketing Experience".

Karen Smith from Greener Publishing and editor of Hort Journal will bring us up to date with "Trends overseas".

Nick Marker from the local business Totally Topiary will present a talk on "Topiary production".

Peter Ollerenshaw from Bywong Nursery will provide a brief snapshot of one thing that has helped in their nursery.

Lisa Burton will fill us in about what to expect in the future in her presentation on "Climate change and the nursery industry".

Some *Camellia sinensis* varieties



Also speaking are: **David Cliffe** from Narromine Transplants, **David Ponman** from the local Glendale Select Plants, **Daniel Mansfield (Mansfields Propagation Nursery)**, **John Messina (Sunraysia Nurseries)**, **Clive Larkman (Larkman Nurseries)**.



Hunter Valley vineyards Photo courtesy www.altogetherperfect.com.au/gallery

Conference Venue Newcastle City Hall, Newcastle

Pre Conference Tour:

Spend three days with the organisers. We set off from Sydney and work our way up the coast visiting nurseries and other places of interest and finish off roaming the great Hunter Valley. There will definitely be samples to try including wine, wine, wine and a bit of cheese, chocolate and exceptional gelato!

The bus will start at Sydney airport for those wishing to fly in early on Monday 4th May, travelling north from around 9.00am to 9.30am. Around Sydney we will visit a few Sydney nurseries on the way up to the Central Coast for the night. These include Swanes (for lunch), Alpine, and depending on time maybe Eden Gardens and / or Overland Nursery.

On Monday night we stay at the Country Comfort Inn but the night activities and dining will be of their choosing with a free night to walk around Terrigal and enjoy the beach side scenery.

Tuesday morning visits include a visit to the Gosford Etogawa Commemorative Gardens, before heading towards Mangrove Mountain to visit Scotts Tubes and Andreasens advanced plants nursery. Then we head up to the Hunter Valley for the night, staying at Harrigans Irish Pub and Motel.

Wednesday will be a tour around the Hunter Valley to see wineries, champagne house, chocolate, cheese and gelato before heading off to Newcastle where everyone is expected to have booked their accommodation for the conference from the Wednesday night.

Thursday will be a day to familiarise yourself with the Newcastle area.

Places are strictly limited so get your expression of interest in early.

Doug Twentyman & David Ponman

IPPS International in China

At the IPPS International Board meeting in South Africa in February '14, it was decided that the board should convene an extraordinary meeting of regional directors to discuss the progress & make forward decisions on the important reforms that are being proposed for the IPPS worldwide. These reforms include a complete modernization upgrade to the International website, the structure of memberships & the expansion of the exchange programs

currently being offered. The meeting was held in Shanghai, China in late November 2014. In addition to the board meeting schedule, the IPPS International Board was also investigating the potential of expanding the activities of the IPPS into China. With help from IPPS members (Peter Lewis & James McGeoch) currently working in China & Chinese staff & executives from the newly formed Nursery Stock Branch of the China Flower Association, board members visited plant production nurseries, retail garden centres & places of horticultural interest in the Shanghai & Hangzhou region.

Places visited;

Disney Shanghai Theme Park;

Construction is underway of Stage 1 of a Disney Theme Park in the Pudong district of Shanghai; The Disney Corporation requires an 'instant' landscape for its Day 1 opening in mid-2017. Thousands of mature trees are being sourced from local & international growers & reestablished in a purpose built nursery adjoining the sight.



Mature Weeping Cherry Trees (ready for installation)

Gosford / Etogawa Commemorative Garden Photo courtesy G. Porter



On Site Landscape Soil Factory

Australian trained nurserymen are responsible for the training of local Chinese nursery staff in the production & installation of the premium quality product required by Disney for their park displays.

Shanghai Jingwen Afforestation & Arts Development Co. Ltd;

A Shanghai government backed producer of ornamental grasses, lilies & perennials situated on the outskirts of Shanghai within in a special economic zone set up for horticultural business. The core of this business is a large volume micro-propagation lab producing the large quantities of these plant types required for local landscaping projects. This nursery has quite a large production area, with very modern facilities producing a high quality product comparable to the best in the world.

EcoG; (www.EcoG.com.cn)

A boutique retail garden centre situated on the seventh floor roof top of a large homewares shopping mall. The directors of this company have created multiple 'mature' landscape themed display gardens in this roof top space in less than two years. Also recognizing that the majority of their clients live in apartments, they had on display many



Mother Plants in Controlled Environment



Modern, well equipped Micropropagation Facilities

different interior designs using greenlife & allied products. The garden lifestyle market is rapidly developing in China as the affluence of the population increases.

HONT Nurseries; (Haining Oregon Nursery Technologies)
www.hontnursery.com)

A mature roof top display garden



Homewares on sale

In response to the severe financial stress caused the global financial crisis, a group of Oregon based tree growers along with Chinese support have set up a nursery operation importing & producing a large range of colorful, deciduous trees new to the Chinese market. The current range of trees in China is quite limited & lacks vibrant colors both foliage & flowers. Chinese people enjoy bright, strong colors thus the enormous market potential for this new range of trees. This company is one of the pioneers bringing American production technology to China. Root training pots, soil less media, irrigation scheduling, etc. It was very interesting to hear the progress with Chinese labour with this technology.

Although the company is still in its infancy, the first crop of deciduous trees will be available from May onwards this year. We wait for the next chapter in this developing story



Aussie doing a soil analysis on the first season trees



Weeping Cherries for dispatch



Elle Pot Machine – One of many high tech machinery pieces

on the selling & acceptance of this “new” product in the Chinese market.

Hongyue Haining Lifestyle Retail Centre – Situated in an area of considerable affluence, this is a new garden centre in the market development phase. Whilst the range of plants was quite limited & very outdated by Western standards, you could see the expansion of ‘new’ homeware products to Chinese products being displayed. Many of the brand names & products were very recognizable.

Xiaoshan Plant Market - a traditional Chinese plant market. Rows of small shops / stalls displaying their wares, the constant hustle & bustle of delivery vehicles weaving through the busy streets. This market is the heart of the landscape plant industry for this region in China. For the tour members, it was a snapshot of

nursery production techniques from the 70’s era, Soil based media, root systems & trunks bound with rope, the ‘hand packing’ of the transport.

Zhejiang Senhe Seed Co Ltd (Senhe)

- Senhe was established in 2000, specialising in the Phalaenopsis, Dendrobium, Cyclamen breeding and propagation, as well as development and application of ornamental horticultural products with new techniques and new products. Prof. Zheng Yongping is the director of this multi business award winning company. This company is one of the pioneers of a modern horticulture industry in China with state of art facilities & over 500 highly qualified staff. They are one of the largest horticulture companies in China with a network of producers throughout China & with business links with major horticultural

companies in the USA & Europe. They provided the landscaping at the recent G20 leaders’ summit & APEC meeting at their conference centre north of Beijing.

Overall, the tour was an eye opener to the Chinese ornamental industry. Even though the industry in general is still somewhat behind developed nations, the rate of change is breathtaking. The latest nursery production technology is in China & they are working on the training required to use this technology. IPPS Australia is in the “box seat” to take advantage of the opportunities emerging in China. The initial membership links are now being formed with enthusiastic industry people & it is very important IPPS Australia keeps the momentum rolling in strengthening these relationships.

Peter Lewis



Loropetalum rubrum for sale

Senhe Signature Product





Early morning ballooning in the Hunter Valley with Balloon Aloft Pokolbin tours provides a great view of the vineyards and olive groves
Photo courtesy of

www.altogetherperfect.com.au/gallery

PROFILE

Doug Twentyman

Doug is a well known horticulturist having taught at Kurri Kurri TAFE for many years and is now operating his own business ***Twentyman - Horticultural Consultants***. He is this years conference convenor and Vice President of IPPS Australian Region.

What are the things that you feel have created your standing in the industry?

I am not sure what 'standing in the industry' refers to but I am very passionate about the industry we are involved with. Starting my working life in mechanical engineering I fell into horticulture by accident. Beginning my horticulture life in a wholesale and retail native plant nursery in Sydney and from that moment I have not wished to be in any other trade.

Moving from production to my own propagation nursery and into education has been extremely rewarding from my perspective. I have enjoyed the relationships developed in the industry; starting with Penny and John Rose initially, who were brave enough to employ me, to the friendships of many throughout the industry while still enjoying the learning.

I guess the result of all of that is nearly 40 years in the industry, learning a lot from many who were willing to give freely of their knowledge. The options available to plant growers are astounding when you consider we rarely get the same



answer to a question from any two people. Add to that the friendliness of all who I have come across and it is difficult to form any other opinion than to be a part of this group of very passionate plants men and women.

In order to answer the question, I imagine it is the years of experience in the industry that provides an opportunity to contribute.

What do I have to share with others (particularly new members) of the IPPS regarding the world of propagation.

I guess the first thing a new member realises is that the motto of 'seek and share' is actively practiced by all members. There does not seem to be anyone who will not give an answer to a question or let you know where one could find the answer.

The passion held by members for the industry is catching and encouraging in terms of the longevity of the industry. The leaders of IPPS ooze the energy required to maintain momentum in the industry and provide the positives required. We go through some ups and downs in this game but it is fair to say the industry is going to stay. With the many opportunities available this group is one to be part of to help in your success.

What are the significant things you have personally gained through IPPS membership

I mentioned earlier about falling into horticulture by accident, well, the following 30 odd years was primarily the result of the effects of the first conference I attended - IPPS, Hobart somewhere about 1979 or 80. The camaraderie, sharing of knowledge and willingness of 'legends' of the trade to show a pathway seem to strike a cord.

I am sure many first time IPPS conference goers feel the difference between these conferences and others. I think it is the level playing field one finds themselves in that encourages a future in the industry. I guess one could go on for ages about all things IPPS does for someone, suffice to say that they all add up to IPPS being 'great' to be part of.

News

IPPS would like to congratulate Wes Fleming (Managing Director of Fleming's Nurseries) on being awarded a Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the 2015 Australia Day Honour Roll. He received the medal for service to the horticultural industry, and to landscape architecture.

A passionate plants ambassador, Wes is a third generation horticulturist and strong advocate for the horticultural industry. From a horticultural perspective his highest accolade is undoubtedly winning Gold and Best in Show at the Chelsea Flower and Garden Show in 2013.

From Outdoor Design Source in February 2015 "Wes believes that his greatest triumph up until this point has been demonstrating to the horticultural industry, and the world, that the Australian horticultural industry is among the best - if not the best - in the world."

HIA Membership

If you have a horticultural business that pays a levy then you should become a member of HIA to have a say on leadership, the future of Australian Horticulture and the allocation of nearly \$100 million of research funding.

Eligibility for membership

"Membership is open to active business entities participating in horticulture industries including those in growing and harvesting, processing, packing, transporting,

marketing, wholesaling, retailing and exporting."

Membership is free, so all you need to do is provide a few contact details on the application form at:

<http://www.horticulture.com.au/membership/>

Challenge

We miss the challenge for this edition from Michael Gleeson. Perhaps the best challenge to each of us comes from Clive Larkman last year:

Invite as many people as you can to join and/or come to the Newcastle conference in May.

Newsletter Editors Comment

I am really looking forward to the conference in Newcastle in a few months time. If you have not already registered then do so soon. The city has a variety of great scenery, cosmopolitan atmosphere and experiences. There is plenty of accommodation nearby in Newcastle of all grades. You can even catch a ferry across the river to Stockton and watch folk fishing off the pier and rocks (or maybe bring a line yourself and join in).

It was sad that we did not have any applicants for the South African exchange this year. Last year James told us just how much he learnt and

enjoyed his experience as Australian exchange. I know David Ponman will have some great experiences planned for the South African delegate. Start thinking of someone now and encourage them to apply later on this year.

At the time of writing we have not received any nominations for the prestigious Rod Tallis award. I am told it is not too late so be quick, encourage someone you know who has undertaken some study or research to apply.

From what Peter Lewis has written about the recent IPPS International Tour of Shanghai, we can look forward to great things into the future.

If you are not already a member join up to the region's **facebook site** - search for "**International Plant Propagators Society (IPPS) Australia**" and start contributing by "liking" it and posting. We now have over a hundred likes.

On the Facebook page we try to cover recent trends in horticulture both locally and overseas. There are a number of photo albums of events as well as video footage from Australian and other regions.

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

Pass your extra printed copy of the newsletter around at work.

Bruce Higgs - editor
"the Propagator" (02) 4736 5004
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2015 Diary

New Zealand Region	April 9-12	Nelson Conference 2015: Horticultural Hotspot
Australian Region	May 8 - 10	Newcastle 'The Times Are a Changing'
Japan Region	September 19 - 20	Maebashi Town, Gunma Prefecture
Western Region	September 23 - 26	Modesto, California
Eastern Region	September 25 - 28	Cincinnati, Ohio
European Region	October 7 - 9	Exeter, Devon, England
Southern Region	October 10 - 14	International Tour and meeting Tampa, Florida