

GREVILLEA STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO. 121 – FEBRUARY 2022

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JANUARY 2022

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GSG New South Wales Chapter

Leader: Peter Olde, p 0432 110 463 | e peter.olde@exemail.com.au

For details about the NSW chapter please contact Peter, contact via email is preferred.

GSG Victorian Chapter

**Leader: Neil Marriott, 693 Panrock Reservoir Rd, Stawell, Vic. 3380
p 0458 177 989 | e neil@whitegumsaustralia.com**

Contact Neil for queries about program for the year. Any members who would like to visit the official collection, obtain cutting material or seed, assist in its maintenance, and stay in our cottage for a few days are invited to contact Neil.

GSG South Australian Chapter

**Leader: Alf Stephens, 21 Hillsdale Ave, Coromandel Valley SA
p 0418 404 408 | e alfstephens@adam.com.au**

GSG West Australian Chapter

**Leader: John Ewing, 2a Enid Rd, Kalamunda WA
p 0408 628 781 | e jrewing45@gmail.com**

GSG SE Queensland Chapter

*We gather at 09:30 for shared morning tea and a meeting at 10:00. We usually have a BYO lunch about midday. Visitors are always welcome. For more info or to check venues etc please contact: **Ross Reddick on 0405 510 459 or Denis Cox on (07) 5546 8590 as changes can occur.***

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Sunday, 27 February

VENUE: Home of Denis Cox & Jan Glazebrook, 87 Daintree Drive, Logan village

TOPIC: Soil ph & problems
.....

Sunday, 24 April

VENUE: Hosted by Helen Howard & Catherine Williams at Mt Nathan Nursery, 59 Heritage Drive, Mt Nathan 4211, via Nerang

TOPIC: Grafting, by Helen
.....

Sunday, 26 June

VENUE: Hosted by Adrian & Gail Wockner, 5 Horizon Court, Highfields

TOPIC: Grevilleas for clay soil
.....

Sunday, 28 August

VENUE: Hosted by Chris Nikolic & Martin Page, 424A Tallegalla Road, Tallegalla

TOPIC: Propagation

2022 represents hopefully the end of the life-limiting pandemic that we have endured since March 2020. However, until it is clearly ended and we are all relatively safe, Study Group live meetings are being held in abeyance.

I am presently engaged in a furious attempt to update my research over 35 years into solid results through a series of published papers. Covid has severely limited my scientific work. It is not the only problem. We are experiencing severe disruption also because the NSW herbarium is moving and many specimens are available only in a limited way. The upside to this is that we are hoping for much improved productivity through access to digital specimens and label data. Read the full story here

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/jan/12/heavy-lifting-at-sydneys-herbarium-the-quest-to-move-and-catalogue-more-than-1m-plant-specimens>

I am expanding the reach of the Grevillea Study Group by appointing new chapters in South Australia and Western Australia. In South Australia, Alf Stephens, an enthusiastic grafter-horticulturist, botanical collector and photographer, will serve as the focal point for our small contingent of South Australian members. Alf is particularly interested in locating various sub-populations of *Grevillea pauciflora* and other SA species such as *G. umbellifera*. South Australia, with its limestone soils, represents a particular challenge for growers but the story is not entirely hopeless with the development of grafting and an ideal Mediterranean climate. See contact details on the back page.

John Ewing is also here appointed as the contact-coordinator for members in Western Australia. John is working with the WA herbarium in assessing all the Priority Grevillea species and his article in this issue speaks volumes for his enthusiasm and willingness to get into the field and learn more about Grevillea. John's contact details are on the back page and he welcomes any enthusiastic person to contact him.

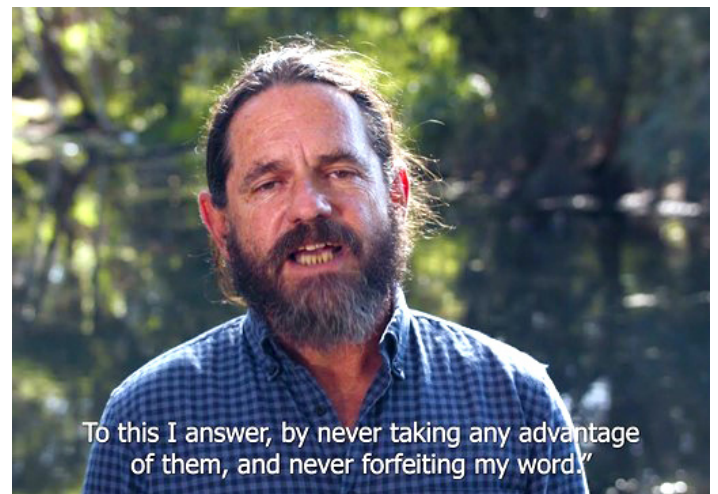
Since the last newsletter, another new species, *G. speckiana* Olde has been published in *Telopea*. *G. speckiana* is known from a single specimen at PERTH which was collected by Nathan Speck. *G. speckiana* is from Shark Bay area of WA and is the most northerly member of the Triloba Group. It was last collected in 1953 and may now be extinct in the wild but all hope is not lost as the area is quite remote with vast trackless areas.

Two other papers on new Grevillea species lodged last year have not been refereed as yet. Unfortunately, the journal is having difficulty in getting people to referee papers. So, the concept of peer-review is becoming more and more unsustainable and under pressure.

Papers are becoming slower and slower to publish. I am currently considering my options in this respect. Any ideas?

PIG. Yes, it is an animal but it is also an acronym for a new Interest Group that I am establishing **Parviflora Interest Group**. It is related to RIG, the **Rosmarinifolia Interest Group**, which was established and ran for several years during which I researched the complex variation in *G. rosmarinifolia* with the assistance of participants (I am currently preparing a final paper for submission). PIG will explore all the species and populations around *G. patulifolia*, *G. parviflora*, *G. humilis* and *G. linearifolia*. If you are interested in receiving emails on this research or wish to participate in it, let me know and I will add you to the email list. There are a lot of potential new species in this group. It is just a matter of working them out!

In November 2021, NSW member Ian Cox sent me a link to a very interesting talk promoted by Parramatta City Council entitled George Caley and Daniel Moowattin. A Scientific Partnership. Narrated by Chris Tobin, a Dharug aboriginal, it tells the sad but true story of the unusual relationship between a Burramattagal man/boy and an Englishman. You might like to google 'George Caley' for a deeper understanding.



I was sorry about the failure to mention the sorrowful ending.

Daniel Mow-watty or Mowwattin' was ultimately employed as a labourer at the farm of William Bellamy at Pennant Hills, and was tried in September 1816 for the rape and robbery of Hannah Russell, daughter of a convict settler. In court, Marsden, Gregory Blaxland and others testified that Daniel understood the difference between good and evil. Found guilty, he was hanged on 1 November 1816 probably at The Rocks, Sydney, the first Aborigine to be legally executed in Australia. Some of the specimens he collected for Caley are in the National Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

SE QLD GREVILLEA STUDY GROUP MEETING, SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2021

At home of Alistair & Kylie Barros, Pullenvale

**Discussion Topic:
Propagation by cuttings vs seed vs grafting**

- Cutting grown- produces more sparse root system;
- Seed-grown develops a tap root (cf cutting-grown above);
- Cuttings produce same as parent;
- Grevillea seeds are flattish, slightly domed, winged (to aid dispersal);
- Collect & keep seeds, fine-mesh jewellery bags are ideal;
- Collected seeds best used within 12 months;
- *Grevillea. pteridifolia* seeds may have longer shelf life;
- If using rooting powder, don't re-use. Only dispense enough for current job;
- Better (?) varieties for cuttings are *G. triloba* & ?*G. divaricata*. *G. kennedyana* prefers lower humidity;
- Plants on own roots look better;
- Select appropriate-stock for the cutting material; e.g., *G. robusta* for taller-growing varieties; *G. "Forest Rambler"* for more spreading varieties.

IN THE WILD

WESTERN WANDERINGS IN 2021

John Ewing, WA

I hope you enjoy my life from this year. You may need more than one sitting to digest this.

2021 has proved to be an interesting mixed bag. Hunting began incidentally in April on an orchid trip. Some mates and I went to a little coastal location named Toolinna Cove (look it up on a map). It is one of the few breaks in the vast Baxter Cliffs that stretch for almost 200km along the southern coastline south of the Nullarbor. We were looking for a bunny orchid (*Eriochilus orientalis*) but when we arrived my friend David said "John, there is a grevillea over here". And there in full flower was *G. sparsiflora*. It certainly did not have sparse flowers as it was covered in blooms.

June saw a trip to Exmouth with my wife Alison. We had the specific aim of seeing *G. calcicola* and the two subspecies of *G. variifolia*. We left Perth on Thursday 27th June. Our first camping stop was at a gravel pit just south of Cataby. After a windy night we arose to find *G. thyrsoides* subsp. *thyrsoides* with many plants and beautiful flowers to begin our day.



Grevillea sparsiflora – Toolinna Cove



Grevillea thyrsoides – Cataby gravel pit

We toured a bit on the return journey back to Perth and on the way saw *G. pectinata* and *G. nudiflora* west of Ravensthorpe, just south of South Coast Highway and on Fence Road.

We ambled our way northwards, but were beset with almost constant rain, at times slowing to less than 60kph since vision was so limited. While the next day (Friday) was little better, we did at least see lots of *G. petrophiloides* and then near Binnu found *G. commutata* and *G. vestita* subsp. *isopogoides*. As we continued north of Binnu we were greeted with a host of brilliant red *G. dielsiana* plus more and more *G. commutata*.

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Grevillea dielsiana – Gt Nth Hwy north of Galena Bridge

By the time we had travelled 40k north of Binu we also came across *G. biformis* subsp. *cymbiformis* and, of course, the bright orange of *G. eriostachya*. After that, the rain washed out the rest of the day. It stopped raining just as we reached Northampton for our overnight caravan park stop.

The next morning we joined in the FREE breakfast of pancakes which the caravan park owners provided. As we left Northampton the rain set in again. We drove all day in the rain barely seeing anything of the countryside let alone any flowers. It stopped raining 20k before Carnarvon, where again we stayed in a caravan park.

After a morning delay in Carnarvon to replace a flat battery, and a revisit to the old Carnarvon Jetty we set sail (figuratively) again. Early in the day we found a range of eremophilas but before long the rain returned and that was the end of flower hunting. We drove on to our station stay at Bullara which is about 85k south of Exmouth. In the end it was such a delightful place we stayed an extra third day. The first morning's walk revealed a Corkwood hakea (*Hakea lorea*) and some other hakeas and eremophilas. We returned to the station house for the elaborate morning coffee and scones (with jam and cream of course), sitting under palm trees. Ever so romantic. We spent the afternoon walking the other side of the station house and found more flowers. The rain had made everything magnificently green.

After a 'day off' it was back to driving and grevillea hunting. We set out for Exmouth and had only travelled 15k before we found *G. calcicola* waving in the wind, but alas only in bud. BUT, to my surprise and delight, there were the *G. variifolia* subsp. *bundera*. They had clearly quite sharply pointed leaves. We located about 40 plants but just 2 in flower. After going through Exmouth townsite we continued on the Yardie Creek road and opposite the Australian Government Communications Centre there were the *G. calcicolas* again waving in the wind, but these plants were in full flower. We continued on the Yardie Creek Road past the pay station into the National Park and

in 12.6k we found the *G. variifolia* subsp. *variifolia*. The leaf was very different being much broader and rounded with no point on the margins.



Grevillea bundera – Exmouth Rd 15.4k N of coral Bay turnoff



Grevillea variifolia – Yardie Creek Rd

For the return journey we had intended to go down the gravel road to Gascoyne Junction and thence on Carnarvon–Mullewa Road to see *G. subterlineata*. A conference with others changed our mind. They said we would probably not make it across the flooded river crossings, so we opted to return towards Carnarvon and then go east on the sealed section of the Carnarvon–Mullewa road. The benefit was that we found a further population of *G. variifolia* subsp *bundera* located at 15.4k north of the Coral Bay turnoff. However we chose to camp out overnight about 20k from the turnoff onto the Carnarvon–Mullewa road. Next day we set out for Gascoyne Junction which was about 140k away. When we arrived we found every road blocked except the one we came on. I spoke to the local Shire Ranger who told me all the river crossings were indeed flooded. There was nothing for it but to return back to Carnarvon. BUT, the benefit was that we found *G. stenobotrya* (which we had missed on the way going there) waving away on the top of a sand dune. In addition there was one plant with glorious pink flowers.

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Grevillea stenobotrya pink – Carn Mull Rd 13.2 W of Gascoyne Jn

Having overnighted at Carnarvon, we had no other option but to return to Northampton yet again. This time at least we could enjoy the clear skies and see the flowers, although little extra turned up. We went east from Northampton to Nabawa and Yuna. *G. pinaster*, *G. biternata*, and others turned up but we could not locate the elusive *G. didymobotrya* subsp *involuta*. Going south on the Mullewa-Wubin Road we found plenty of *G. obliquistigma* subsp *obliquistigma* and then when we reached the little hamlet of Canna we followed the track by the railway (that runs off the entrance to Canna Dam) for just over 2k until we came to the population of *G. tenuiloba*. Unlike the previous year we found a couple of plants in full flower.



Grevillea tenuiloba



Grevillea nana ssp. *abbreviata* – Buntine NR

Further south we turned east off the Mullewa-Wubin road onto the Buntine East Road. We had also been to the site near the corner where *G. nana* subsp. *abbreviata* grows and just like the previous year we found no plants in flower. We continued down the road looking for a camping spot and saw a site with the same sedge grasses and *Borya* species (Resurrection Lily) growing, so decided to camp there for the night. That afternoon, I went out looking but found nothing. Next morning Alison was the first to sight plants. Then more and more until finally we found one in bud and then joy of joys, a flower and then another. We counted 14 plants (some looking a bit sick, but others in good shape) in a short survey. I'm sure there are more. We then drove on and saw more of the same environment and when we stopped about another 2.5k down the road we discovered more plants. Again, a time constraint meant we could not complete much of a survey.

Alison was taking part in an event in Dalwallinu the next day, so I went out to Struggle St (which is just west of the town of Kalannie. About 1.2k along Struggle St I, found *G. rosieri* with 15 plants on the west side of the road and another 11 on the east side of the road. When I had a look in the town Reserve I found *G. leptopoda*, *G. levis* and *G. paradoxa*. The trip home was gentle and pleasant but by then we were pretty tired.

NEXT EVENTS

Early August saw us out on another orchid trip. I belong to a group that is doing a project on a priority orchid, *Caladenia dundasiae*. We have been doing monitoring for 11 years now and this was the 2021 survey. We go to Watheroo (just north of Moora) but this year we decided to add a trip to Kalbarri onto the agenda. On the way north we had stopped at Mullering road where Alison and I had finally found the population of *G. synapheae* subsp *minyulo* which had eluded us the previous year. This was at 5.3k from the Brand Highway. When we went to Kalbarri, apart from a whole bunch of orchids we found plants of *G. annulifera* both on the Kalbarri-Ajana Road and then within the National Park on the road to Nature's Window.

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Of course we were too early and none were in flower. However as we continued into Kalbarri, just past the turnoff to Meeanara Hill we found a population of *G. stenomera* in glorious orange pendant flower. Further along at the Pot Alley gorge road we found *G. trachytheca*.



Grevillea stenomera – Kalbarri Rd

After camping overnight near Northampton we drove south east along the Allanooka Springs Road and on the south side of the road, just past Burma Road, we revisited the site of *G. hirtella*. Quite a lot further east the orchid hunters took us to Simpson Road (about 35k south east of Mingenew) and we found what I think was *G. amplexans* subsp *adpressa*. This site is near the recorded site on the Arrino West Road. We continued down the Midlands road until we reached the corner of Eagle hill Road where we saw *G. christineae*. Still hunting orchids we turned west onto the Namban West road and came across a population of *G. amplexans*, but I could not ascertain which subspecies it was. After doing the Caladenia dundasiae survey, Alison and I drove south along Midlands road and stopped 1.5k south of Murphy Gully Road. Between the Midlands Road and the railway line which is just to the west, we found a number of plants which were *G. uncinulata*.

Mid- August I went on a trip back to Dalwallinu to check on the *G. nana* subsp. *abbreviata*. Going via Great Northern Highway I stopped on the corner of Chittering road and found further plants of *G. vestita* subsp. *isopogoides*. Continuing north, I stopped 1.5k north of Burnett Road and located several plants of *G. synapheae* subsp *latiloba* which were growing with *G. drummondii* and *G. uncinulata*.



Grevillea synapheae ssp. *latiloba* – Gt Nthn Hwy 1.5 N of Burnett Rd

Still on great Northern Highway and at 6k south of Wubin were *G. dielsiana*, *G. hakeoides* subsp. *stenophylla* and *G. levis*. I then moved on northwards to the target site of Buntine East Road which runs east off the Mullewa-Wubin Road. Here I documented more of the *G. nana* subsp. *abbreviata* that I had seen in June. I surveyed the site 3.5k east of the Mullewa-Wubin road, making GPS records for all plants, locating 19 plants. Again I am sure I would have found more had I had more time. I continued east to Great Northern highway and then north to Sanderson Road where I found *G. hakeoides* subsp. *stenophylla* and close by *G. yorkrakinensis*.

Next Orchid Trip – Late-August - I came a day before the orchid hunters to return to the Struggle St site I had visited in June. This time I was looking for more *G. nana* subsp. *abbreviata* and found them on the west side of the road about 1k from the Dalwallinu-Kilannie Road. Again with my GPS I located 7 plants, but expect if I had more time I would have found more. 18k south of Dalwallinu on the Northam-Pithara Road was *G. armigera* and *G. hakeoides* subsp. *stenophylla*. As we drove north on Great Northern Highway, at the entrance to Wannara Road, my friend David spotted a waving orange grevillea. It was a magnificent *G. juncifolia* subsp. *temulenta*.



Grevillea temulenta – Gt Nthn Hwy opp entrance to Wanarra W Rd

By the time we were 33.9k north of Wubin we had paused to look at an orchid but there also was *G. sarissa* subsp. *sarissa*. “Good stop Dave” I said. We also found the same plant 21.4k south of Paynes Find. We camped overnight near Thundelarra Station. During the next couple of days we saw many orchids and eremophilas, but persistence finally paid off when we went along the Warriadar-Coppermine Road. Apart from more *G. hakeoides* subsp. *stenophylla* and more *G. yorkrakinensis* we finally came to a river crossing where *G. scabrida* (50 plants near GPS 29 07 30.2 S 117 00 45.5 E) was found. From this site I drove 3k further west and located *G. subtiliflora*.

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Grevillea scabrata – Warriadar Coppermine Rd

After leaving Thundelarra the orchid search went 200k north west to Eurady Station (93k north of Northampton). On the way I called in to the minesite on the Ninghan-Yalgoo Road. The minesite environmental officer kindly took me on a tour to show me *G. globosa* and also showed me a mallee fowl nest made entirely of stones – absolutely amazing especially as it was still active. He also showed me a very rare *Stylidium* (*S. scintillans*). In addition on the Geraldton-Mt Magnet Road I found further plants of *G. juncifolia* subsp. *temulenta* (GPS 28 26 03.4S 116 02 31.5E). At Eurady Station I did not see any significant grevilleas (only many *G. dielsiana* and *G. didymobotrya* subsp. *didymobotrya*). Coming home I made a bit of a detour to Yerina Springs Road and found *G. intricata* at 6.9k north of the Port Gregory Road. After going via Northampton I had to have another try to find *G. didymobotrya* subsp. *involuta*. No success. Going on via Marrah Road I found many *G. triloba*. I continued on a convoluted route towards Morawa. 5k north of Morawa I tracked down *G. obliquistigma* subsp. *funicularis*. While not in flower I could clearly identify the flattened rather than the terete leaf of the other subspecies. At the Jibberding Rest area on the Gt. Northern Highway we came upon *G. granulosa*.



Grevillea granulosa – Gt Nthn Hwy Jibberding Rest area

Still moving towards home I had a hunt for *G. makinsonii*. I finally found it on the east side of Bunny Road about 4k north of Nebru Road (GPS 29 31 44.9S 115 26 51.9). I then rejoined the orchid group and along a track off the Eneabba-Coolimba road I found *G. shuttleworthiana* subsp. *cymbiformis*. A little further east along the Eneabba-Coolimba Road is a small side track named King Road. 200m along King road and off to the left were more plants of *G. shuttleworthiana* subsp. *cymbiformis*. The orchiders kept going west but in stopping to look for another rare orchid my friend David called again “John, another grevillea”. It was a form of *G. delta* (or maybe *G. preissii* subsp. *glabrilimba* or maybe something else). Further west there were more of this species. I left the orchid group again and drove onto the Coolimba – Green Head Road where near the corner of Pen Rd I found *G. uniformis* plus *G. bifomis* subsp. *bifomis*.

Back to Dalwallinu – Alison had a craft market which then doubled as another grevillea hunt. We went via the Midlands Road and just north of Arawarra Road on the edge of the Gunyidi Nature Reserve found *G. amplexans*. I am not sure which subspecies. From there we travelled on the Gunyidi–Wubin road for 4.5k and found a site with both *G. amplexans* and *G. biternata*. Some of the plants looked distinctly like hybrids with coarsely divided leaves. Others had very narrow ‘biternata type’ leaves.



Gunyidi hybrid



Gunyidi hybrid

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At another stop on the same road at about 5k east of Mason Road we found *G. huegelii*. While Alison was at the market in Dalwallinu I travelled east on Glamoff Road and then north for 175m at Martin Road finding *G. acacioides* which had not been recorded at that site for 20 years. It was still going strong.

The NEXT orchid trip – it is now mid-September and the orchid trip is to the south east of WA. I go a day early to find *G. prominens* which turns out to be difficult as the first site I tried is now a minesite. I set out to skirt the mine but the roads are now all different from the map and eventually I find myself 25k further east. Just after I round the corner into the northern end of Logue Brook Road there is a dazzling array of *G. prominens* on both sides of the road. It continues for over a kilometre and there are hundreds of plants. Not bad for a P3 at a location not previously recorded. I found some more at the site on the Harvey-Quindanning Road.



Grevillea prominens – Logue Brook Rd

Next I went to the northern end of Hughes Mill Road and found *G. sp. Duranillan*, this being another new find for me. Then... now to the tricky threatened species *G. acropogon*. In a swamp near the little hamlet of Kulicup I had an unsuccessful search, so this is still on my “to be found” list. The next days were full of orchids but I left the boys for a short deviation when we arrived at the South Coast Highway near Boat Harbour. I was looking for the newly named *G. merceri*. I did find *G. coccinea* subsp *coccinea* but not the target species. During the remainder of the trip while looking for a very rare orchid (*Caladenia longifimbriata* – which we didn’t find) I saw a few other grevilleas before camping one night on a track just off the Lake King-Norseman Road. As we left next morning my mate David said as we pulled onto the main road, “John did you see that grevillea”. “No” I replied but turned my vehicle back to look at it. At that stage I don’t know what it was although it looked like a *G. dielsiana* except that it had very pendant flowers. I now know that it is *G. aneura*. It is located 4.4k from the Varley Rd which is just before you come to Lake King township. From here, I again left the orchid hunters and set out on my own again. After a fruitless search for *G. cheilocarpa*, I did manage to find *G. insignis* subsp. *elliottii*. I continued north to Anderson Rocks

Road where I located *G. acacioides*. When I travelled to the end of that road and turned left into Williamson Road I had not travelled far before discovering another population of *G. acacioides*. At the end of Williamson road I turned right into Calzoni road and just around the corner was another plant of *G. insignis* subsp. *elliottii* (GPS 32 04 54.3S 119 04 50.3). I continued on towards Westonia via Stockton road as this is a known site for *G. squiresiae*. I had seen it the previous year when Alison had found some plants. However the grading of the roadside had destroyed every plant and a substantial search there were none to be found. After this, I overnighted in the caravan park as I was wearing out from lots of bush camping. Next morning I followed the Warrachuppin North Road finding *G. obliquistigma* subsp *funicularis* in flower, until I reached Hunter West Road. I had come to survey the site as part of my P1 [Priority 1] and P2 [Priority 2] grevillea project that I am doing for DBCA. To my great surprise almost every single *G. squiresiae* plant was on the graded roadside in the material heaped up by the graders. The mounds were quite well established and seemed to be 3+ years old. Most plants were in good shape with a few senescing. I counted nearly 50 plants on the north side of the road but less than 15 on the south side, the total being about 60, as compared to the 2016 count of more than 100. While they are currently Priority 1 they should, in my view, be reclassified as threatened. However this reclassification process involves many time consuming steps and I doubt that anyone in DBCA has enough time to take this on.



Grevillea squiresiae

The other nice surprise (for me anyway) was finding a few plants of *G. nana* subsp. *nana* with quite bright yellow flowers. There were also lots of *G. anethifolia* at the site. On the way back home I stopped at Cullimben Nature Reserve and saw more of *G. nana* subsp. *nana*, again with yellow flowers. From here I followed the Dowerin-Konnongorring Road and saw *G. hookeriana* (GPS 31 01 57.6S 116 55 58.7E) with both black and some red tinged flowers. At the western end of that road on the corner with the Calingiri road I located some *G. uncinulata*. A lengthy trip of 2,600k was for me still worth all the effort both with the grevilleas and the orchids plus the company of good friends around the campfire at night.

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The LAST (or maybe SECOND LAST) sortie was to see a friend's *Caladenia falcata* (Green Spider Orchid) on her property near Yerecoin and then go onto Durrakoppinen Nature Reserve. On the way to the Nature Reserve I stopped at a site on the Wyalkatchem-Nungarin Road I had previously visited and found *G. haplantha* subsp. *recedens*. With my trusty GPS I relocated the plants but alas far too late AGAIN. I have to remember to go in late winter or very early spring if I am to see the flowers. An article in the newsletter of March 2005 sparked my curiosity about Durrakoppinen. While I saw a range of the species mentioned the first find was a white flowered grevillea that I didn't recognize at first. It was *G. teretifolia*. What I did locate on the roadside of the western edge of the reserve was both *G. incurva* and *G. eryngioides*.



Grevillea incurva – Durakoppinen NR

Since I was out near Mt Caroline I decided to end the day trying to find *G. petrophiloides* subsp. *magnifica*. After a couple of blocked off entries to known sites I finally finished up on Glenluce Road at a distance of 1.3k from the corner with Munyard Road. There, in the Gundaring Nature Reserve, waving their long branchlets in the wind with their magnificent huge blossoms were dozens and dozens of spectacular plants. They truly deserve their title.



Grevillea magnifica – Glenluce Rd Gundaring NR

This has been a wonderful 6 months for me. For those in the east, let me know if you are coming (next year maybe) and I'm sure we can have a trip together or at least I can point you in the right direction.

PLANT HEROES: THE PEOPLE BEHIND PLANT TRANSLOCATIONS

From Save Our Flora, E-Bulletin No. 42, August 2021

Plant translocations and the people behind the conservation of threatened species can often go unnoticed or their stories are locked away in academic journals or long reports. 'Plant Heroes' was started by Chantelle Doyle, collaborating with Michael Lawrence-Taylor, to highlight stories of people working to save plant species and is a collection of videos and podcasts about plant translocations. Each story is unique and includes the joys, struggles, failures and unexpected successes that can occur when trying to save a threatened species.

Tumut grevillea (*Grevillea wilkinsonii*)

Tumut grevillea is a smelly (when flowering) but much loved and critically endangered plant that was discovered along a river by a local naturalist. The distribution of this species is highly restricted and is threatened by flooding, weed invasion and farming practices

Plant Heroes highlights the work that Save Our Species (SoS) officers, Greening Australia and local landowners have been doing to maintain the wild population. This

has included setting up translocations which have been diligently loved and watered by SoS officers. Currently, over 85% of the total population of about 1750 plants is either from translocation plantings or recruited from previous plantings. SoS officers have also collected over 6000 Tumut grevillea seeds that have been used for propagation or will be put into long-term storage.

For a video of this segment click on the link <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/news/plant-heroes>



Tumut grevillea (*Grevillea wilkinsonii*)

GREVILLEAS IN EASTERN VICTORIA

Michael Beamish, Vic

During some trips to eastern Victoria, the first in late October 2021, it was good to see the colony of Omeo Grevillea, *Grevillea willisii* growing alongside the Omeo Highway near Angler's Rest, looking so healthy. Some specimens were over two metres tall and perhaps four metres broad, with plenty of flowering on show. Having avoided the bushfires of the 2019-2020 summer, receiving plenty of rainfall in 2020 and 2021 seems to be the correct recipe for this species. Some thickets of *Grevillea lanigera* were also noticed as we visited a campsite just to the south of Angler's Rest. Not as much flowering there, but enough to keep the local honeyeaters interested.



Grevillea willisii



Grevillea willisii

The only other species of Grevillea we noticed during our trips was *G. australis*, in the sub-alpine heathlands around the upper reaches of the Buchan River, at Native Dog Flat. Very few flowers on these plants though, perhaps we were a little late in the season for them (the week before Christmas 2021). Plenty of *Hakea microcarpa* and various peas in full flower though, to fill the void!



Omeo *Grevillea willisii*

SHORT NOTE ON A NEW POPULATION OF GREVILLEA ROSMARINIFOLIA

Chris Cheetham, NSW

Following the recent article by Tracy Lea on the sorrowful situation of *Grevillea rosmarinifolia* at Hyde Park Reserve, Hartley, I decided to spend a day in the area seeing what I could find. I examined roadside reserves in the general area and was pleasantly surprised to find a healthy population of the species with old and young plants regenerating.



Grevillea rosmarinifolia flowers



Grevillea rosmarinifolia habitat

Illawarra Grevillea Park

SPECIAL OPEN DAYS
– AUTUMN 2022

7 & 8 May and 14 & 15 May

Opening hrs are 10am – 4pm

Location

The Park is located at the rear of Bulli Showground, Princess Highway, Bulli.

Admission

\$7 adults, children with adults are free

email

Illawarragrevilleapark@gmail.com

or visit

Illawarragrevilleapark.com.au

**MISSING IN THE SHARK BAY AREA, *GREVILLEA SPECKIANA* OLDE,
A NEW SPECIES AND THE NORTHERNMOST MEMBER OF THE TRILOBA GROUP
(PROTEACEAE: GREVILLEOIDEAE: HAKEINAE)**

Peter Olde, NSW

Telopea 24: 377–382, 2021. To view the paper in full - <https://openjournals.library.usyd.edu.au/index.php/TEL/article/view/15389>

Abstract

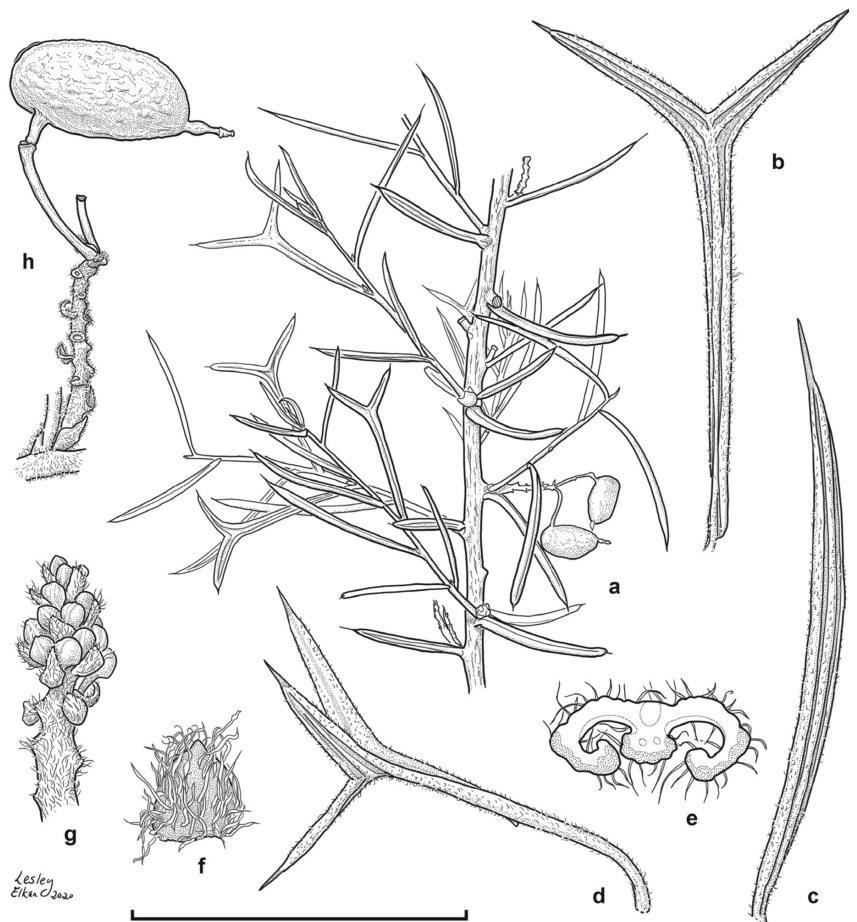
G. speckiana Olde is described from a single collection gathered in 1953. Although the specimens bears flowers in early bud, fruits and foliage are sufficient to assign and describe the species. Unlike several other species in the Triloba Group awaiting description from single specimens that represent extinct species, there is some hope for its continued existence because of the botanically unexplored locality in which it was collected.

Discussion

Grevillea speckiana appears to share some significant morphological features with *G. vestita* including foliar indumentum, persistent common bracts, a conical pollen-presenter, and smooth to very faintly colliculose follicles bearing similar attached styles. It differs in its mostly simple, linear leaves of which there are none in known populations of *G. vestita*.

Morphological similarities do not imply that taxa should be treated as the same species or even subordinated as subspecies, at least until some scientific proof and phylogenetic analysis is put forward as evidence. A separate undescribed species, probably related to *G. levis* Olde & Marriott, has been collected in the Kalbarri–Murchison River area. It has divaricately tripartite to biternate leaves, occasional simple leaves, smooth fruits and hairy branchlets. This species is currently under study, interrupted by access to specimens, and will be the subject of a future paper. It differs from *G. speckiana* in its appressed foliar indumentum, its leaves and lobes narrower and some with secondary division, its common bracts early caducous. The undescribed taxon differs from *G. levis* in its hairy branchlets, though a full suite of differentiating characters awaits the study of the morphologically diverse *G. levis* across its entire distribution. *G. biternata* differs in its rugose fruits and is also the subject of ongoing revision. *G. triloba* occurs between Northampton and Geraldton. It has rugose fruits and its leaves also have prominent secondary venation on the leaf upper surface, especially noticeable in dried specimens. In some forms simple leaves predominate, a likely source of some confusion if fruits are lacking.

Fig. 1. *Grevillea speckiana*. a. Fruiting branch. b. Leaf with divided apex. c. Leaf with simple blade. d. Leaf with trifurcate apex (lateral view). e. Transverse section of leaf. f. Bract. g. conflorescence in bud. h. Persistent follicle. Scale bar: a = 50 mm; b–d, h = 15 mm; e = 2 mm; f = 2.5 mm; g = 7.5 mm. Illustration by Lesley Elkan from H.N. Speck s.n., 24/09/1953 (holotype; PERTH 01900609).



VALE DOT GALLAGHER (1927–2021)

Janice Hughes, NSW

Nowra Group and the Grevillea Study Group are saddened at the death of Dot Gallagher who passed away on 22 December 2021 but glad that this feisty woman only had about two months of lost independence. Dot was a nurse in her pre-retirement life, never married because she spent a large proportion of her private life caring for her mother. Immediately before her stroke Dot, at 95, was still digging out plants and replacing them with something new she wanted to try.

Dot was a decades long APS member whose enthusiasm for native plants was inspiring and whose knowledge of plants and events was legendary. From early days Dot was on the Executive Committee of Nowra APS and for many years President helping plan activities, organising walks and talks. During this time she was an enthusiastic member of the Grevillea Study Group and a close personal friend of Peter Olde and me. She was a great helper at Study Group exhibitions and actually quite helpless in her addiction to buying plants. The only article she ever wrote for the Grevillea newsletter in 2005 was entitled 'How to have a garden with One Grevillea'. Even the title makes you smile.

Dot never retired from actively being involved with gardening groups and was known as the Canberra Correspondent on a south coast radio station.

Over the years she moved residences establishing gardens at Hyams Beach, in a large garden at Cambewarra, a town house in Bomaderry and finally a town house in Canberra. The number and variety of well cared-for plants she fitted into these gardens (and the public areas around them) was astounding and her generous spirit always welcomed people to visit and take cuttings.

Dot asked in the last weeks that we not grieve her dying but remember the good times spent with her enjoying native plants and each other's company....but it is difficult not to mourn the loss of such a big personality.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Ross Reddick, Qld

The Logan River Branch of Native Plants Queensland last year put a submission to Region to recognize Jan Glazebrook and Denis Cox's efforts within NPQ. Jan and Denis are also very active members of the SE Qld Grevillea Study Group. After a secret on-line vote at a Special general meeting, NPQ has bestowed Honorary Life Membership on them. The attached photo shows Branch President Chris with the surprised couple. Congratulations, Jan & Denis!



THE TROPICAL PLANT LIGHTING UP SYDNEY'S ROADSIDES AND PRIVATE GARDENS

By Robin Powell

Sydney Morning Herald, October 22, 2021

It's been a great season for grevilleas. Those lucky enough to live near bushland have been enjoying the delicate flowers of our local species all through lockdown. The rest of us have been dazzled by the tropical grevilleas, such as *Grevillea* "Moonlight", who's showy lemon yellow flowers have been lighting up Sydney's roadsides and private gardens for months, delighting both humans and honeyeaters.

How to get more grevilleas into the garden? The man to ask is Peter Olde. Olde literally wrote the book on grevilleas. It's called *The Grevillea Book*, and comes in three volumes. His garden in Oakdale in the hills west of Camden is called Silky Oaks, which is the common name for *Grevillea robusta*, the tallest of the grevilleas at a handy 5-40m, and a striking flowering partner for jacaranda. It is also a compliant rootstock on which to graft more temperamental grevilleas from other parts of the country.



Grevillea johnsonii "Orange"

So, I expected grevilleas in Olde's garden; what surprised were all the non-grevilleas. In the wide border in front of the house, great pillows of brilliant blue *Lechenaultia* lounged about with starry little *Philotheca*, clumps of kangaroo paw, ribbons of sky blue and pink *Dampiera*, a mound of the native

hibiscus *Alyogyne huegelii* "Blue Heeler", and yes, some of the lower-growing Grevilleas.

Throughout the expansive property, large curving beds have been mounded up to provide better drainage on the heavy soil, so as to feature stars of the Australian floral catalogue. The Waratahs were out in shades of red, pink and white, Flannel Flowers had seeded themselves in little pockets, the dramatic Mottelcah from Western Australia was budding up and the rarely seen wedding bush, *Ricinocarpos pinifolius* was completely covered with starry white blooms.

The garden is part botanical ark, part experiment and full-on floral distraction. Trying to stay on track I asked Olde to single out a few exemplary, commonly available garden grevilleas. Looking around he pointed out *Grevillea johnsonii* "Orange": orange-red flowers glowing in front of the soft, needle-like foliage. It's a rounded shrub to 3-4m, care-free, and just the thing for a handsome, less familiar screen than *Grevillea* "Moonlight".

G. "Moonlight" and its fellow large-flowered tropical grevilleas are justly popular in gardens as both screening and feature plants. Olde reckons the best of them include the auburn-flowered *G.* "Honey Gem", white *G.* "Ivory Whip", and pink and white *G.* "Flamingo". All can be pruned hard after flowering during the summer, following good rain so the plant isn't drought-stressed. If left to get rangy they can be kneecapped, says Olde, and will shoot again from the trunk.

For something smaller, he says it's hard to go past *G.* "Lady O", to about 1.5 m high and a metre wide, with glossy leaves on slightly weeping branches and small bright red flowers most of the year. Even smaller is the groundcover *Grevillea lanigera*, totally easy-care and with flowers that light up the garden in late winter. *G.* "Mt Tamboritha" is the easiest cultivar to find.

Once hooked on the easily found grevilleas, join Olde in the Australian Plants Society for information on and access to the rarer gems.

GREVILLEA PILULIFERA – ANGWINS ROAD, DONGOLOCKING WA

Fred Hort, WA



From Fred Hort:

We thought this was an unusual variation of the leaf morphology for *Grevillea pilulifera* from Angwins Road, Tincurrin/Dongolocking 36 km NE Wagin, 21 April 2021. The leaves are barely 3 mm long with prominent in-turned apical point. I collected a specimen but wondered whether it was useful for *G. pilulifera* taxonomical studies. I saw a pressing of this yesterday in our home file and considered lodging with WA Herbarium. To lodge or not to lodge that is the question!

CONTINUED >

From Peter Olde:

This is a described species, *Grevillea lycopodina* which I will be reinstating. It is rare in its typical form and I would definitely lodge the specimen with PERTH, duplicate to NSW if you have one. It is associated with *G. pilulifera* sens lat that extends all the way almost to Albany.

From Fred Hort:

We lodged specimens of this southern *Grevillea pilulifera* F Hort 4356 with WA Herbarium on 26 Oct 2021.

Grevillea aff pilulifera (lycopodina)

Proteaceae Juss.

Erect slender shrub to 35 cm high, cream fls.

Sand-gravel. Heath with *Leucopogon*, *Banksia*, *Andersonia cerulea*, *Persoonia*, *Gastrolobium spinosum*, *Daviesia angulata*.

Frequency: Rare < 5 plants observed.

Notes: Disturbed site.

Loc.: Jctn Angwins/Dongolocking Road, Cannanning. WA

Coords.: -33.1093 117.6504

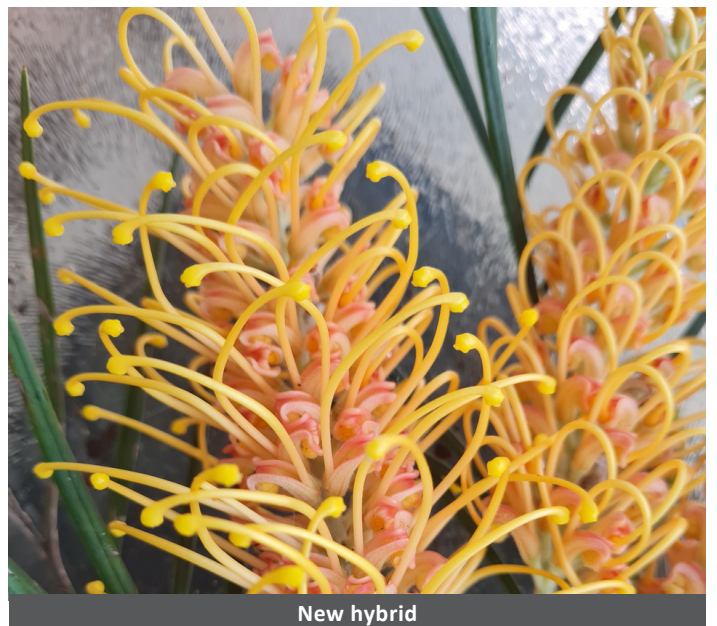
Coll.: F Hort & J Hort F Hort 4356 Date: 21/04/2021



NEW HYBRID

Helen Howard, NSW

My neighbours have a seedling in their garden and it seems to be a cross between *Grevillea* "Honey Gem" and *G.* "Misty Pink". It has such a cute flower, an unusual pink and yellow. Flowers are short and narrow but lots of them. The plant has not been pruned and looks miserable but I may be able to save it. The maximum length of the flowers is 10 cm, with some shorter. *Grevillea* "Honey Pink" seems an appropriate name. It's a pretty smaller flower which I think makes it more attractive.



New hybrid

GRAFTING – IN SEARCH OF A RELIABLE ROOTSTOCK

Neil Marriott, Vic

We have all come a long way in our ability to grow a very wide range of Grevilleas in our gardens – species from outback Australia right through to those from the tropics of north Queensland and the Top End and Kimberley, can now be grown all together in the one garden. This is entirely due to the huge advances in grafting Grevilleas onto hardy rootstocks.

However with this comes the requirement to ensure that the rootstock we are using for our grafting is compatible with the scion material we want to grow on the new rootstock, as well as the suitability of the rootstock for the climate where we want to grow the final grafted plants. Right from the early days of grafting this has been known, and so there were early experiments with a multitude of different rootstocks being trialled, with many hybrid Grevilleas being tried such as *Grevillea* ‘Royal Mantle’, *Grevillea* ‘Poorinda Constance’ and *G.* ‘Bronze Rambler’. The late Merv Hodge was one of the pioneers in this work and he discovered that many of the species such as *Grevillea cagiana*, that struggle on *Grevillea robusta* actually thrived on *Grevillea* ‘Moonlight’.

It seems to me that this sort of research work on rootstock compatibility and climate suitability has these days all but gone, in favour of the ease of grafting everything onto the one rootstock *Grevillea robusta*. Sadly it seems that the study and application of long term compatibility has been ignored by many grafters. For example it has been long known that *Grevillea leptobotrys* is not long term compatible with *G. robusta*, yet it is still being grafted onto this rootstock by some grafters. One Queensland grafter told me that there is no problem – they live for at least five years so we should be happy with that! This is what is known as ‘long-term incompatibility’ where the plant will take, on a given rootstock and will grow for a few years before it eventually dies.

They may grow for five years in Queensland with its summer rains, but down here in inland Victoria, where our summers are fierce and desperately dry, grafted *Grevillea leptobotrys* on *G. robusta* are lucky to survive six to twelve months. All those purchased from Queensland last year are now all dead. When you think about why this is the case, it is rather clear to see – *Grevillea robusta* is a sub-tropical species that has evolved to grow actively over the warm, wet summer months. Even with compatible species, it takes at least three to five years of regular summer watering to ensure that the rootstock is well established in our inland dry summer region. For species that exhibit signs of incompatibility such as *G. leptobotrys* the chances of getting plants grafted onto *G. robusta* to survive are very slim indeed.

Mt Annan Botanical Gardens have realised this, and have been using *Grevillea semperflorens* as a rootstock for a wide range of Grevilleas with great success. Phil Vaughan has been using *Grevillea* ‘Carrington Cross’ as well as a hybrid *Grevillea barklyana* with great success, however both of these fail in hot dry summers. Other grafters have been overcoming the incompatibility problem by using a compatible interstock. This is good as it overcomes the compatibility problems but does nothing about the need for a drought tolerant rootstock. It is high time to begin the trialling of a whole range of new, drought hardy rootstocks, so when customers buy and expensive grafted *Grevillea*, they can be confident that it will survive not only the cold wet winters, but also the hot dry summers that we experience over vast areas of Australia.

The use of hybrid Grevilleas such as those mentioned above provide hybrid vigour and there are a myriad to choose from. There are also many hundreds of species other than *G. robusta* that may or may not prove to be ideal as new, hardy and drought tolerant rootstocks. It is up to us to get out and trial them and improve the quality and longevity of the plants in our gardens.



A well established *Grevillea leptobotrys* grafted onto *G. robusta* dead at the start of its first summer despite deep, twice weekly watering.

MORE ON THE SEARCH FOR A RELIABLE ROOTSTOCK

Helen Howard, NSW

From Helen Howard:

It will be interesting to read of other grafter's comments regarding rootstock uses and trials. I have used mainly *Grevillea robusta* over the years with varied intergrafts. My intergrafts have varied as new information is shared from other grafter's successes. I have used intergrafts of , *G. "Bronze Rambler"* for many of the "toothbrush" like flowering grevilleas. *G. towera*, *G. "Copper Rocket"*, *G. "Carpet Layer"*, *G. "Splendour"*, and *G. rivularis* all seem as successful as the other for certain grevilleas. For *G. scapigera* I recently tried *G. bracteosa* as intergraft instead of *G. flexuosa* and this has been looking more promising and the plant looks healthier, so far!

Growing Silky Oaks from cuttings is not worth it as the root system is far weaker than a seed grown plant. I buy my rootstocks from Wallum Nursery at Gumdale, Brisbane. The quality of rootstock has a huge impact on success of the grafting also and "J" rooting should be avoided when potting up *G. robusta* seedlings.

It's interesting that you have issues, Peter, with *G. bipinnatifida* as interstock but it just maybe the form as you say. I can confirm great results with this especially *G. "Robyn Gordon"*, *G. "Ned Kelly"* and *G. "Superb"*. The grafting of these with intergraft of *G. bipinnatifida* allows gardeners with poorer soil to have these plants growing

with less disease and more robust growth. I will do some trials if it helps clarify better results. I use

G. bipinnatifida *Glauca* as intergraft for quite a few grevilleas that have *G. bipinnatifida* as their parentage. *G. rivularis* has been a good intergraft also.

Rarely have I grafted onto *G. "Royal Mantle"* or *G. "Moonlight"*. Merv Hodge used these two as rootstock. I never liked *G. "Moonlight"* as it shoots too much from the base beneath the graft. There is great merit in finding a replacement for *G. robusta*. This year has tested all grevilleas, grafted or not. Most grevilleas that have *G. lanigera* as one parent have suffered.

Many of the above mentioned with *G. bipinnatifida* parentage have struggled with foliage loss, others spotty with fungal affected leaves, others have just collapsed with the humidity. I have never seen this occurrence before in so many of our most grafted plants.

From Peter Olde:

Where incompatibilities are observed on some plants with *G. robusta* rootstock and others not so, I feel there is a case for cloning the rootstock that works, as done by some Banksia grafters such as Nathan Kirkwood.

IN YOUR GARDEN

BRIAN'S BOBBY DAZZLERS – GREVILLEA "LITTLE MISS MUFFET"

Brian Roach, NSW

Don't you feel sorry for anyone who tries to compile a catalogue or book with a view to listing all the grevillea hybrids? Every time you turn around there's another dozen to work on. One of my favourites however has been around for at least forty years – *Grevillea* "Little Miss Muffet".

While many others of the earlier grevillea hybrids seem to have disappeared, this one has stood the test of time, and for good reason. The parents, *G. sericea* and *G. speciosa*, are endemic to the broader Sydney region and together they combine to produce a plant with a very upright habit and mid-pink 'spider' flowers for much of the year. It's the linear growth that makes this plant so amenable to narrow or tight spaces with a spread of only around 50cm yet a height of up to 2m; at least that's my experience in growing the plant for decades. Not only will it accept a hot, sunny spot but also, again in my experience quite a sheltered location and yet still flower well. Care needs to be taken when handling the foliage because of a sharp point to the end of the leaves.

Propagation is quite easy by cuttings from firm new growth through most of the year. And once again in my experience, the final quality makes it a stand-out – very hardy! It's also regularly visited by honeyeaters along with a few different species of native bees. If anyone wants a tumbler or ten, just drop me an email to westleighnativeplants@gmail.com



SOME UNUSUAL NEW SPECIES IN THE LIVING COLLECTION

Neil Marriott, Vic

Grevillea integrifolia

Despite being relatively common in the southern wheatbelt region of WA, *Grevillea integrifolia* has remained virtually unknown under cultivation. However a few years ago, Rodger Wileman, a keen native plant grower from Geelong area in Victoria, spent some time on his sister's property near Corrigin, WA. From here, he travelled throughout the region collecting cuttings of interesting plants he found. These were sent to Marilyn Sprague, expert propagator in Mandurang, central Vic. Marilyn struck most of the plants sent to her, and gave me quite a range of unusual Grevilleas, including *Grevillea integrifolia*. These were planted into deep well drained sandy soils in full sun, and have thrived, flowering well in early spring. The leaves of *G. integrifolia* are silky grey and flattened, oval to almost linear in shape and undulate to wavy.

At present we are finding cutting grown species such as this are growing so much better than similar species such as *G. biformis*, *G. incrassata* and *G. shuttleworthiana* that have been grafted onto *G. robusta*. Perhaps there are compatibility problems, or more likely, our conditions are just too hot and dry for a tropical species like Silky Oak?



Grevillea integrifolia flowering heavily on its own roots, Panrock Ridge, Stawell.

Grevillea* aff *integrifolia

Also collected by Roger, this beautiful *Grevillea* flowers in late spring with bright lemon-yellow flowers as distinct from the more cream flowers of *G. integrifolia*. Several plants are now growing steadily in well drained sandy loam beds where they are in full sun. They have simple silky grey incurved, but flattened leaves that are never undulate as in *G. integrifolia*. There are numerous botanical differences including smaller fruits and markedly longer conical styles of *G. integrifolia*. Discussions with Peter confirm that it may turn out to be yet another new species for the West.



Grevillea aff *integrifolia* flowering heavily on its own roots, Panrock Ridge, Stawell.

***Grevillea anethifolia* – Rankin Springs, NSW form**



Grevillea anethifolia – Rankin Springs suckering to create beautiful drifts amongst other plants

CONTINUED >

Not a new species, but one that is seldom seen in gardens, despite its great charm and ease of cultivation. *Grevillea anethifolia* – Rankin Springs, NSW is the type locality for this species which currently extends to South Australia, with occurrences in the northern Eyre Peninsula/Gawler Range area, and then across the continent to a large area of southern Western Australia. Further ongoing research by Peter Olde will see the revision of this loose association into a number of new taxa.

The Rankin Springs form is a lovely low shrub 0.4-0.6 tall and wide with fine, divaricately divided green leaves and massed cream flowers in spring. Its light suckering habit makes for attractive drifts through the garden. Any plants coming up where they are not wanted can be carefully dug up to create new plants for other sites in the garden.

Grevillea refracta

I never thought I would be able to grow this beauty that I have seen in a number of locations in the north of Australia. However when Richard Tomkin listed it for sale as grafted plants I could not resist the temptation! Grown on in a

12" pot and kept in the glasshouse over winter, it is now showing off its glorious orange flowers against the dramatic silver divided leaves in our courtyard. It is already around 1m tall and looking wonderful with our hot summers. I will return it to the hothouse as soon as the weather begins to cool. Variable in flower colour, I have the orange flowered form of *subspecies glandulifera*.



Grevillea refracta ssp *glandulifera*

GREVILLEA 'RSL SPIRIT OF ANZAC'

Neil Marriott, Vic

We found this beautiful hybrid planted as a hedge behind the shops at Toodyay a couple of years ago. Digby Growns confirmed that it is *Grevillea* 'RSL Spirit of ANZAC'. It has turned out to be a very versatile hybrid. It grows well in Albany, in Leonora and parts of Qld. It is also doing well in the US and tolerates temperatures to around minus 5 Celcius.

We have it growing at Panrock Ridge but it looks nothing like the vigorous hedges at Toodyay! Peter Olde also has it growing at Oakdale where it has grown quite large.



PANROCK RIDGE

Neil Marriott, Vic

I just found this old picture of our gardens pre the 2006 bushfires! *Grevillea georgeana* –pink/orange form and *G. bracteosa* ssp *howatharra* can be seen, but sadly both now gone! Is anyone still growing these two species?



THE LIVING COLLECTION JANUARY 2022

Neil Marriott, Vic

Following almost two years of lockdown due to Covid, combined with some health problems, the Living Collection is now in a rather sad and sorry state. Weeds have proliferated following good winter rains, and a lot of trees and shrubs have been broken following a year of violent winds and storms. It is hoped we can have a Grevillea Study Group get together and working bee at Easter to get the garden back in shape. Let me know by phone or email asap if you can attend and I will book a bed for you!

Grevillea gordoniana

Despite the setbacks, we have had a very good year of rain for 2021, with 700 mm for the year, cf 750mm annual rainfall pre Climate Change. This is the best rain we have since 1996, and has been very beneficial to the gardens, with one of the best spring-summer flower displays for decades. Flowering for the first time is *Grevillea gordoniana* named in honour of the great Dave Gordon, pioneer grower of a large range of Australian plants at Myall Park, Glenmorgan, Qld. It is a rather uncommon plant under cultivation, coming naturally from the Shark Bay-Exmouth area of WA. I have had several plants of this species grafted onto *Grevillea robusta*, however all of these have failed. The one we have in flower is grafted onto *G. robusta* with an unknown (probably *G. "Bronze Rambler"*) interstock. The plant is now around 3m tall and 2m wide, with long terete simple grey leaves.



Grevillea gordoniana flowers Panrock Ridge, Vic

Grevillea hilliana

Also flowering at the moment, this time in our 'rainforest gully', is the beautiful rainforest tree *Grevillea hilliana* White Silky Oak. This tree is now around 4m tall and is thriving following the good winter rains. It is happily grafted onto *Grevillea robusta* and is growing in dappled shade where it flowers and sets abundant seed every summer. Even when not in flower it is an extremely attractive small tree with its large glossy green simple, and coarsely divided large leaves.



Grevillea hilliana White Silky Oak

***Grevillea annulifera* 'Prickly Plume Grevillea'**

The good winter rains resulted in one of the best years flowering for this species that I have ever seen! Our plants, which are now around 3m tall and over 4m wide were literally covered in flowers. These are initially cream, but soon turn a hot pink as they are pollinated. The combination of colour is wonderful to behold! But even more exciting, come this summer, is the extensive seed set this year! Normally I am lucky to get a dozen or so seed each year, but this year, it seems that just about every flower must have been pollinated as we now have hundreds of big spherical seed pods developing. This is an extremely rare Grevillea in cultivation, primarily due to its ability to so far, defy all attempts at grafting! Robert Brown got one to take for some time (not sure if still alive) when he did a cotyledon graft onto *G. leucoptervis*, to which it is very closely related. Members need to try this and other combinations until we eventually discover the secrets to grafting this spectacular Grevillea. However, in the meantime, it grows very well in deep well drained sunny sites on its own roots.

CONTINUED >



Grevillea annulifera massed flowering

To encourage this, I am offering free *G. annulifera* seed to any member who sends to me a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Due to its rarity in cultivation this is a great opportunity to obtain seed and grow and research this beautiful Grevillea. Even if you can't graft, if you have a very well drained deep sandy soil you can grow it on its own roots! Members coming up for Easter can get some seed then!



Massed follicles on *Grevillea annulifera*



The unique large seeds of *Grevillea annulifera*

Grevillea kennedyana

As with *Grevillea annulifera*, this species has also flowered prolifically this year, again obviously due to the good rains as my plants are mostly grafted onto *G. robusta*. It is a spectacular plant in the garden, where it demands a hot, sunny site. It's simple, small silver leaves contrast strongly with the glowing orange-red flowers. Plants respond favourably to regular tip pruning to maintain a good compact shape.



Grevillea kennedyana in full flower

Income

Interest 1.29

Donations 170.00

Total income \$171.29
Expenditure

Newsletter publishing \$00.00

Total expenditure \$00.00
Bank account details

Balance in current account

16/02/2022

\$3,676.72

DONATIONS

The newsletter is now free but groups are encouraged to make an annual donation. Individual donations are always welcome. Direct deposits can be made into the Grevillea Study Group account.

BSB: 112-879**Account Number: 016526630****(St George Bank)**

Please notify the Treasurer of transfer by email (bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au)

SEED BANK

There are no changes. Please see newsletter No. 119 for details.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Thanks to the Vic's members who contributed to this newsletter. It is SE Qld's turn next time. Please send your content to grevilleanews@optusnet.com.au by April 30.

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To be notified of the latest newsletter, email recipients must be registered. Please ensure your email address is registered and up to date and any changes are advised to Christine Guthrie at bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au