

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANTS SOCIETY (AUSTRALIA) INC

GREVILLEA STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO. 122 – JUNE 2022

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NEW MEMBERS

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THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE NURSERY INDUSTRY

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

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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.

Sunday, 28 August

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

TOPIC: Propagation

Sunday, 30th October

VENUE: Hosted by Don & Sandy Capner, 108 Farrants Road, Farrants Hill

(via Clothiers Ck Road, off M1)

TOPIC: Differences in *Grevillea robusta* flowers

Sunday, 27th November

VENUE: Hosted by Jim Standing, 369 Mt Clunie Rd (via Woodenbong)

TOPIC: Garden tour

A FEW WORDS FROM PETER

Peter Olde, NSW

I have just received news that my paper on two new species related to G. macleayana has been published in Telopea. The species which has been known as the Deua population is named G. gilmourii after the ecologist Phil Gilmour who discovered the species some years ago in Deua National Park in volcanic soil. It is currently known only from a few plants in the wild and from cultivation at the Eurobodalla Botanic Garden, Batemans Bay. Unlike G. macleayana, it is a small tree and always has few to many divided leaves. G. macleayana is a sandstone shrub and only has simple, entire leaves. Grevillea milleriana is named for the collectors Robert Miller and Jan Miller who discovered a plant on Maddens Plains, New South Wales last year. First reported by Nathan Kirkwood who at the time thought it was G. caleyi it has been difficult to relocate. It is a remarkable plant growing in low dense wet heath on Maddens Plains with Hakea teretifolia, Banksia paludosa and other swamploving species. At the moment it is known from a single plant but there is anecdoatal information of a further two small populations. Now that we have a representative of this species, it will not be too long hopefully that further discoveries can be made. G. milleriana differs from G. macleayana in its toothed leaves and its shorter pistils.

I particularly want to thank Study Group members John Knight and Mark Noake for their assistance and company in searching out wild populations of *G. macleayana*.

There are numerous projects that members can involve themselves in. I am currently looking into differences between the Mundubbera populations of *G. whiteana* and the Biggenden-Mt Walsh populations. Any Queenslander with further information is invited to contact me by phone or email. Of course, *G. banksii* needs a thorough going over too.

I want to draw attention to the article in this newsletter by Dr Roger Farrow who has written an interesting report on *G. renwickiana*. Roger reported on a population of *G. patulifolia* which I have always assumed to be root-suckering. However the plant he discusses in the article is not suckering and it prompted a visit to its population by Phil Trickett, Catriona Bate, John Knight and and myself as part of the PIG Newsletter Group Study (an investigation into the *Linearifolia* Subgroup in eastern Australia). Members are welcome to join the email newsletter group and to make contributions if they are so inclined to assist. The first newsletter is still a work in progress. I am encouraged by offers of help from a number of members.

I also took a visit to Heathcote NP with Lloyd Hedges, Patsy Nagle, Tony Henderson and Nathan Kirkwood last October when *G. patulifolia* was flowering. We discovered that this population also does not sucker, as previously thought, raising questions about its taxonomic status as well.



Illawarra Grevillea Park

NEXT OPEN DAYS - WINTER 2022

July 2, 3, 9, 10

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 <u>Illawarragrevilleapark@gmail.com</u> or visit <u>Illawarragrevilleapark.com.au</u>

SE QLD GREVILLEA STUDY GROUP MEETING, SUNDAY 13 MARCH 2022

At home of Denis Cox & Jan Glazebrook, Logan Village (re-scheduled due to floods in Feb.)

11 members and 3 visitors attended. The raffle included grafted specimens. We (Queensland GSG) are responsible for supplying articles for the June newsletter; Send them anytime, to Chris Guthrie, bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au, or peter.olde@exemail.com.au. II: Bev brought a *Grevillea baileyana* seedling that wasn't yet showing signs of the 'gold' underside and donated it to the raffle.

Discussion topic: 'Soil pH & problems'. The discussion was very general, and the secretary didn't take any notes. One member had produced a list (NFP) comparing various soil types with tolerant Grevillea species, which sparked some interesting discussions. We then embarked on a garden tour.

SE QLD GREVILLEA STUDY GROUP MEETING, SUNDAY 24 APRIL 2022

At Mt Nathan Nursery, Clagiraba.

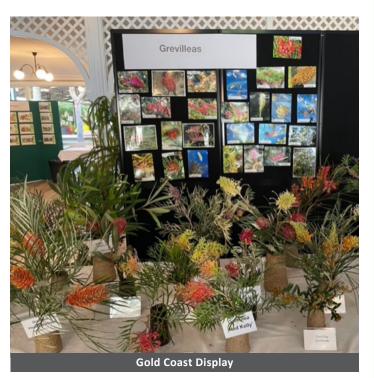
Thanks to Cath Williams & Helen Howard for hosting us. 21 members and 1 Visitor attended. The raffle again included grafted specimens. There was discussion on presenting a GSG display at the Gold Coast plant sale on 19th June at Nerang Country Parklands Grand Hall and Barn Area.

Show & Tell: Laylee brought a sample, *Grevillea treueriana*!?, for discussion. Helen & Cath had a vase of *G.* 'Robyn Gordon', *G.* 'Little Robyn' and *G.* 'Peaches & Cream' on the table.

Discussion topic: Grafting demonstration by Helen. There was a 5 minute drive to Clagiraba Road to inspect Cath's new (October 2019) home Grevillea garden. There was remarkable growth for the time, with some 'deaths' due to the drenching recent rain.

Native Plants Queensland, Gold Coast Branch held a native plant sale at Nerang on Sunday 19 June and in support, GSG & Small Plants Groups mounted displays at the venue. It was a great success.





SHOALWATER BAY GREVILLEA BANKSII

Ray Baxter, Qld

In May 2010 we had the good fortune to gain access to the Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area. Entry to the area is prohibited and while within this large area we were generally under the watchful eye control of a Military Environmental Officer. One of the places visited was "One Mile Beach" which is used as an amphibious landing zone. A little inland from the beach the land rises steeply and is covered with a thick carpet of very low growing vegetation no more than 100 to 150mm in height due to the constant wind that blows onshore. Leading from the beach is a narrow dirt track that runs through a narrow gully between two very steep hills which provides access inland.

Further away from the beach, the wind velocity decreases and the vegetation tends to increase in height. About 300 metres inland there is a dense growth of both red and white *Grevillea banksii* happily growing together This growth extends along the hill on the north side of the track for about 100 metres and is about 25 to 30 metres in width. Like all the vegetation nearer to the beach the plants are quite short but increase to about 2 to 3 metres

tall further inland. As these plants are growing in a remote and in a prohibited area they should, apart from some form of natural disaster, remain safe and secure in future years.



POST FIRE SURVIVAL OF GREVILLEA RENWICKIANA, A HIGHLY LOCALISED ENDANGERED SPECIES WITH FEW FLOWERS, NO SEEDS AND CLONAL REPRODUCTION

Roger Farrow & Erika Roper NSW Department of Industry, Environment & Heritage



Grevillea renwickiana has an illustrious pedigree having been first collected by William Baeuerlen near Little River in the Braidwood district in the 1880s and named by Ferdinand von Mueller in 1887 (in the genus Hakea): 'Some hitherto undescribed plants of New South Wales. Proceedings of the Linnaean Society of New South Wales, Series 2 1(4):1105'. The specific name renwickiana honours Sir Arthur Renwick, member of the New South Wales parliament, who arranged finance for many of Mueller's expeditions (Olde & Marriott 1995).

G. renwickiana belongs to the holly leaf group of prostrate Grevilleas and is one of several species that are sterile and clonal reproducing by runners spreading from ancestral parents. It has an extremely restricted occurrence in woodland and heathland remnants between Nerriga and Mongarlowe in the Southern Tablelands. Nine clonal populations have been identified and occupy <70 ha in an area of about 50 km² (James & McDougall 2014). Flowering has not been observed since 2015.



The northern populations in the Corang area were affected by the Currawang fire that incinerated the forb, shrub and tree communities in its path in January 2020. The Australian flora is highly fire adapted and plants readily regenerate from seed, rootstocks, lignotubers and epicormic strands post fire (Farrow 2021). In the aftermath of this fire in the Nerriga area, all the species present before the fire are regenerating by these different mechanisms. However, it was not known if the *G. renwickiana* had survived and by what mechanism, as its colonies had not been previously visited post fire. In the heathlands between Nerriga and Tianjara, *Grevillea baueri*, *G. patulifolia* and *G. asplenifolia* are regenerating in large numbers from seed, an option not available for *G. renwickiana*.

We inspected selected populations in the fire affected Corang area and further south in the fire free Nettleton Creek area on December 2, 2021. In the Corang area, *G. renwickiana* was regenerating from its rootstocks and fresh runners up to 1 m in length were seen but no flowers. No pre-fire remnants were detected. It is not known what proportion of rootstocks survived the fire and reshot.



In the unburnt Nettleton Creek area, extensive carpets of *G. renwickiana* were found in both the *Allocasuarina nana* shrubland and in the adjacent open woodland. These probably all belong to 2 or 3 clonal populations only. Most individual plants carried a few flowers, the first for many years.



In conclusion, it appears that fire is not a threat to *Grevillea* renwickiana survival. The biggest threat comes from land clearing in the area, especially the *Allocasuarina* nana heathlands much of which are not formally conserved.

Disclosure

These observations were made by the first author on a field trip as a volunteer with NPWS Saving our Species program and led by Erika Roper from the NSW Department of Industry, Environment & Heritage, Threatened Species Unit

Further correspondence with regard to *G. renwickiana*:

The *A. nana* heathlands around Nettleton Creek are all on private properties, several of them managed for livestock production. One landholder we visited is keen to conserve them because of the Grevillea and other plants. We learnt that another is quite hostile to that attitude and refuses permission for any inspection of his heathlands and insists that travellers stay on the unfenced public road that passes through his property. Luckily, we did not encounter him as we had a quick look at his *G. renwickiana*.

I imagine that most of the *G. renwickiana* at Corang is on private property but we do have that roadside population that formed the basis of my article. It would be good to revisit all the known populations

At Half Moon near Mongarlowe, all the properties have Conservation agreements in place to protect everything. *G. renwickiana* has not been seen there in the extensive *A. nana* heathlands but this area does contain some rare plants such as *Kunzea cambagei*, *Boronia rhomboidea* and the listed *Corunastylis superba* that we are studying.

There is an issue with the long term management of the *A. nana* shrublands. Like all heathlands and grasslands they do need intermittent fire to rejuvenate the *A. nana* and to open up the habitat for the understory to survive. Botanist Jackie Miles has been studying this in the Wabilliga NP where several controlled burns of the shrublands have been undertaken by NPWS.

References

Farrow RA. 2020. Post-fire regeneration of vegetation: a 'remarkable' phenomenon or a natural occurrence. Journal of the Australia Native Plant Society Canberra. 20(8): 18-27.

James EA, & McDougall, K. 2014. Spatial genetic structure reflects extensive clonality, low genotypic diversity

and habitat fragmentation in *Grevillea renwickiana* (Proteaceae), a rare, sterile shrub from south-eastern Australia. Annals of Botany **114**: 413–423

Olde PM & Marriot NR. 1995. The Grevillea Book.

GREVILLEA CALEYI NOT Peter Olde, NSW

Readers of the Study Group Newsletters might remember an article (Newsletter 69) on the search for *Grevillea caleyi* in the Illawarra. The species was reportedly seen by Nathan Kirkwood while riding his bike in the area as a teenager. A search was mounted but the results were disappointing. Nathan also reported that he had seen *Grevillea macleayana* in the same area. Again, we were disappointed in the search for this species. After the search period, Robert Miller spent many private hours traversing the area, but again to no avail.

Moving forward to my announcement in the last newsletter of a new species discovered on the Maddens Plains south of Helensburgh, and which is known still from a single plant. I travelled with Nathan and others to the site and we had a good look at the flowers and foliage. The resemblance of this new species markedly approaches *G. macleayana* but differs in its sparingly toothed leaves. Nathan informed me that this was the plant he saw riding his bike so many years ago and, because he had not seen *G. caleyi*, presumed its identity to be the same. Sadly then, neither *G. macleayana* nor *G. caleyi* can be assumed to grow in the Illawarra.

Of course, the argument about *G. caleyi* and its distribution in the south of Sydney did not start with Nathan. A specimen of *G. caleyi* was purportedly collected by Mr Don Cross between Bulli and Appin in 1933 (NSW19901). The following note is appended to the specimen.

[Loc. doutbful. cf. Cross's collections of *G. sericea* and *G. punicea* (*G. speciosa*) purporting to be from this area but not picked up by anyone else. Possibly collections have been mixed. The labelling may have been done at any time. Cross was not a punctilious labeller. L. J[ohnson 3 Jun 1960. *G. caleyi* never confirmed from S of Port Jackson; parts of the Bulli-Appin Road have apparently suitable habitat and soil, but this record best regarded as highly doubtful, given the D. Cross precedents cited by Johnson below. R.O.Makinson 4 Jan 2002].

We were not only hoping to find *G. caleyi* but to restore the reputation of Don Cross. Frankly I am not aware of any suitable habitat that matches the quite specific requirements of *G. caleyi* in its main centre of occurrence (See Department of Environment (2004).

As to the likely occurrence of *G. caleyi* in the Illawarra, it has to be highly doubtful. However, the discovery of a new species in the area is the result of our interest and inquiry. The naming of *Grevillea* sp. Maddens Plains is underway but is still not formalised publicly.

Update on propagation of *Grevillea* sp. Madden Plains by Euan Mills, propagator at Mt. Annan Botanic Garden

I've got a total of eight grafted plants through, four on *G*. "Carrington Cross" and four on *G*. robusta. All are growing well and the first flower starting opening last week. I'll let them grow for another few weeks and then take some cuttings. There should be plenty of good material then. See photos below.







References

Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW) (2004) Grevillea caleyi (a shrub) Recovery Plan. (NSW DEC: Sydney)

https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/-/media/OEH/ Corporate-Site/Documents/Animals-and-plants/Recoveryplans/grevillea-caleyi-recovery-plan.pdf

Guthrie C (2019) *Grevillea caleyi* (Caley's Grevillea). *Grevillea Study Group Newsletter* **113**: 7.

McGillivray DJ, Makinson RO (2000) *Grevillea caleyi*. Grevillea, Proteaceae Pp. 54–55.

Olde PM (2004) A southern distribution for *Grevillea caleyi*. *Grevillea Study Group Newsletter* **69:** 6.

Olde PM, Marriott NR (1995) The Grevillea Book Vol. 2, P. 79–80.

Regan HM, Auld TD, Keith DA, Burgman MA (2003) The effects of fire and predators on the long-term persistence of an endangered shrub, *Grevillea caleyi*. *Biological Conservation* 109: 77–83.

GREVILLEA BRACTEOSA SUBSP. HOWATHARRA

Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC), August 24, 2017

This week's Threatened Species of the Week is *Grevillea bracteosa* subsp. *howatharra*. It is listed as Declared Rare Flora in WA under the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950, and in August 2017 was accepted by the federal Minister for the Department of Environment and Energy as Critically Endangered due to its limited extent of occurrence.

The Geraldton Regional Herbarium nominated the *Grevillea bracteosa* to be listed under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act in 2015 as populations were declining and there was an opportunity to apply for federal funding to undertake habitat restoration. Unfortunately, at the time the species was not federally listed. There are a total of only 377 mature plants known to exist – which can be found in five locations in the NACC NRM region, including road, rail or gravel reserves, private properties and nature reserve.

Threats to the *Grevillea bracteosa* include fragmentation of habitat, accidental destruction of plants during road, rail or firebreak maintenance, poor recruitment, grazing from rabbits or livestock, and competition from weeds. The species benefited from a 20 Million Trees Project – Yanget Station Protecting Threatened Flora – through which the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DCBA) (in partnership with NACC and Central Regional TAFE) undertook 15 hectares of revegetation. This revegetation work was carried-out in 2015 and 2016 in a bid to improve the extent and connectivity of habitat for the *Grevillea bracteosa* and two other federally-listed threatened flora species.

Further habitat restoration for the species is being undertaken in the Moresby Conservation Park by DBCA and NACC. 16 hectares were planted in 2017, and plans are afoot to rehabilitate a total of 35 hectares. Other recovery actions for the species that have been undertaken in the last couple of years has included seed collection for the Threatened Flora Seed Centre, and a translocation undertaken in 2017 to increase the size of one of the small populations.

Information Source: Government of Australia, Department of Environment and Department of Parks and Wildlife Western Australia

#ThreatenedSpecies of the Week: Grevillea bracteosa subsp. howatharra - NACC - Northern Agricultural Catchments Council



THE GHOST OF THE EYRE PENINSULA

It was late 2017 and after returning from a trip up the Great Northern Highway I was excitedly reporting back to any Grevillea enthusiast who'd listen (usually Brian Freeman or Weir) about the various plant discoveries I'd made along the way. It was during one of these phone calls that I was randomly asked whether I'd ever seen the silver-leaf form of *Grevillea pauciflora* subsp *pauciflora* as seen in The Grevillea Book Vol 3 on page 85 (63A). The truth was no I hadn't.... I was immediately intrigued by the fact that such an attractive plant had basically disappeared from cultivation and furthermore was native to my home state of South Australia. I've always loved a challenge and it was at this point I decided to try and hunt the thing down... little did I know the Eyre Peninsula is a bloody big haystack!

Although it was being cultivated by SGAP members in Adelaide, Neil Marriott reportedly found this form in the wild growing alongside the Eyre Highway in 1981, just east of the Kimba township, on his way over to the west. My first foray in 2018 concentrated on this area but unfortunately after searching the narrow strip of remnant vegetation between the highway and adjacent farmland nothing even resembling a Grevillea could be found, apart from *G. huegelli*. It turns out that Neil had also searched there not long after his original finding but found it had already disappeared from the area way back then.... I guess he was just making sure? Peter Olde also searched for it in 1986 without success.

A year or so later I happened to google "Grevillea pauciflora" and up popped not only a photo of the silver variation but a GPS location of where it was found as well. I couldn't believe my luck! Ironically it was featured on a Queensland plant website of all places?!!! With this new information it wasn't long before I was heading over to the Eyre Peninsula again on the seven hour long trek from Adelaide.

Along the way I took the opportunity to stop in at Owen and visit Ken Warne who graciously gave me some locations of some other Grevilleas he'd found on the Eyre Peninsula over the years. Most people know Ken as one of Australia's leading *Eremophilia* authorities but he also provided the SA herbarium with specimens of *Grevillea parallelinervis* back in '68 for botanist John Carrick to formally identify and publish in 1976. [Ken was co-collector of the type specimen but all the credit was given to Bruce Copley for the type collection. PMO ed.]

After reaching the GPS location from the QLD website (near Fountain on the lower Eyre Peninsula) I was again left disappointed... no sign of any *G. pauciflora* anywhere even after an exhaustive search.

Fortunately, I had better luck finding some other grevilleas on that trip including:

- G. aspera (Lower EP form), near Ungarra
- G. ilicifolia (yellow flower), near Cummins
- G. halmaturina, near Wanilla
- G. pterosperma, near Iron Duke
- G. huegelii, near a lot of places!

Fast forward to the Spring of 2020 and I was over on the Eyre Peninsula again searching but this time also looking for the rare *G. pauciflora* subsp *leptophylla* as well. Finally, luck was on my side after searching a dirt road near Koolidie Station for what seemed like ages. I'd pretty much spat the chewie and pulled over to look at some Hakeas instead and just happened to glance across the dirt road and spied a small plant which looked different to the rest. Upon closer inspection it was bearing typical grevillea-like seed pods (no flowers present) and after a quick cross check with Peter Olde it was confirmed as the narrow-leaf *G. pauciflora* subsp *leptophylla*. Hallelujah! From what I could see there were only two plants left in the area with both growing precariously close to the roadside and in danger of being wiped out by grader crews.

Having found the rare *G. pauciflora* subsp *leptophylla* I had renewed enthusiasm for finding the silver- leaf form again even after all the other previous failed expeditions. I ended up getting in touch with the creator of the Queensland plant website, Rodger Fryer, to discuss in more detail where he actually found and photographed the plant. It turns out he actually stuffed up the GPS coordinates on the website (a typo) and it was actually a couple of kilometers further along the Flinders Highway from where I'd searched. [I suspect that this is why we cannot re-locate Neil Marriott's collection (PMO)]. In February 2022 I headed over again to search the new area and wouldn't you know it – no sign of it once again.... vanished like a ghost!

There was one consolation though, the search uncovered a prostrate variation of *G. ilicifolia* which was very different to the more upright bushy forms found around the lower Eyre Peninsula. This same trip also involved a trip out to Minnipa to see *G. sarissa* subsp. *umbelifera* which is also very hard to find in cultivation. I had also searched fruitlessly for this *Grevillea* on a previous occasion but luckily was introduced to a local farmer/plant enthusiast who had spotted it recently in the district. The *G. sarissa* subsp. *umbelifera* subspecies is noticeably different to the 5 other *sarissa* subsp found over in WA. Its leaves are somewhat broader and have more of a bluey tinge to them. Being separated by such a large distance I wouldn't be surprised if it becomes reclassified as a distinct species one day.

At the time of writing, I have been chasing the silver-leaf G. pauciflora for over 4 years now and still no closer to finding it in situ after 6 or 7 expeditions! The SA herbarium has even offered support with Dr Bill Barker asking his team of field surveyors to keep an eye out for it in the future surveys on the Eyre Peninsula which I am very grateful for. Both Neil Marriott and Phil Vaughan had this plant in cultivation back in the 90's on its own roots but have long since lost them. Neil suspects that it's a short-lived Grevillea species [just waiting for a fire (PMO)]. The Eyre Peninsula covers a massive area and the fact that it's been found in two locations 200km apart is not assisting me in narrowing down the search area. Like a dog with a bone, I will persist in my quest as I've got too much skin in the game now and love the thrill of the chase. However, if there is anyone out there who has it growing in their collection and can put me out of my misery, please contact me because it's bloody hard tracking down ghosts!











GREVILLEA CELATA COLQUHOUN GREVILLEA, MOLYNEUX (VULNERABLE)

From: Save Our Flora E-Bulletin No 45 February 2022 p7.

Description: Erect, open, to low and dense, root-suckering shrub, 0.4–1.8 m tall (Molyneux 1995). The leaves are elliptic, alternate, hairy and grey-green, to 44 x 18 mm. The lower leaf surface is almost white and densely hairy; the leaf margins are curved under, sometimes almost obscuring the lower surface (DSE 2005a). Flowers appear from July to February, and are red and yellow with curved tubes about 12 mm long. The flowers are hairy outside but densely hairy inside, and split into four lobes to release a red, hairy style to 25 mm long (Molyneux 1995; DSE 2005a). The fruit is a leathery, hairy capsule, longitudinally ridged, which splits to release winged seeds (Walsh & Entwisle 1996).

Distribution: Colquhoun Grevillea is a Victorian endemic and occurs in the Colquhoun State Forest in central eastern Gippsland, east and south of Bruthen in Victoria (Molyneux 1995). The total range of all known populations is approximately 11 km². It is estimated that between 1000 and 1600 individuals exist. These plants occur in nine populations. The extent of range and abundance of Colquhoun Grevillea prior to European settlement is unknown.

Life history and ecology: Fire appears to be the critical factor limiting the abundance of Colquhoun Grevillea. In many parts of the species' range, cool fuel reduction burns appear to have been very frequent, resulting in high densities of fire-promoted species (notably Austral Bracken (Pteridium esculentum)). Colquhoun Grevillea appears to respond slowly following fire in terms of growth, and/or

juveniles may be severely browsed by native herbivores. For these reasons, Colquhoun Grevillea tends to be confined to roadsides and natural forest clearings with high light levels. The best specimens occur in the few populations which are burnt less. A 10- year fire cycle may be most appropriate for Colquhoun Grevillea: anything less may lead to very high cover of Austral Bracken and will not provide suitable habitat.

Ref: <u>Microsoft Word - 211 Colquhoun Grevillea 2008.doc</u> (environment.vic.gov.au)

See also the National Recovery Plan for the Colquhoun Grevillea *Grevillea celata*: https://www.awe.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/g-celata.pdf



JULIMAR CONSERVATION PARK: A FUTURE NEW NICKEL PROVINCE?

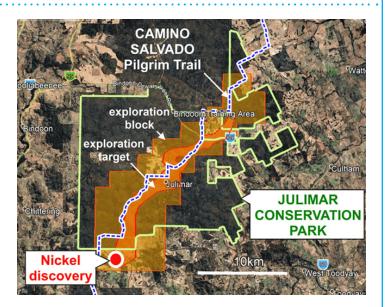
Peter Olde, NSW

Reprinted from Hikewest Newsletter

https://www.hikewest.org.au/julimar-conservation-park-a-future-new-nickel-province/

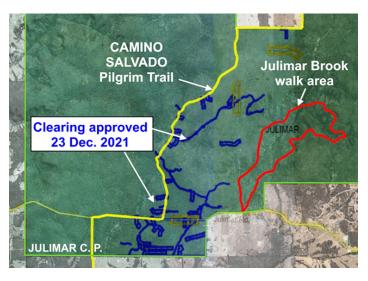
Posted 9 April 2020. Updated 17 April 2020; 6 Mar. & 15 Nov. 2021; 4 Jan 2022.

A <u>"spectacular" nickel-copper-palladium discovery</u> in early 2020 highlighted the ever-precarious future of our conservation parks and nature reserves. The discovery of the 'Gonneville' polymetallic deposit immediately south of the Julimar Conservation Park (referred to by the miner Chalice Gold Mines Ltd as "Julimar State Forest") highgraded an exploration prospect, the 'Julimar Complex', 26km long and 7km wide, extending to the northeast across the Park. The current mineral exploration program began in mid-2019 and the first drilling commenced in Q1 2020.



Following further exploration, the miner <u>announced in early November 2021</u>, that Gonneville is now estimated to be the largest nickel discovery of its type worldwide since 2000. About 93% of the Julimar Complex extends beyond Gonneville through the Conservation Park. The miner plans to conduct exploratory drilling within the park on the highest priority target. An initial permit for clearing work was approved by DWER in December 2021. (See map below.) Future updates on the project will be found on the miner's Julimar Project page.

The miner's reports so far indicate potential for target zones at Julimar from near surface down to ~850m depth. If exploration results prove successful, future mining might be a combination of open-pit and underground. WA's massive Mount Keith nickel mine near Wiluna is to date the largest open-cut nickel mine in the world, 300m deep. No 'world's best-practice' environmental solution can hope to adequately rehabilitate the environment once such mining is over.



Julimar CP, northwest of Toodyay, is well known to many bushwalkers for the beauty of its wandoo woodlands. Julimar Creek runs through the southeastern area of the exploration block and the route of the Camino Salvado Pilgrim Trail through the area happens to coincide with most of the prospect (see map). The park also plays a key role in DBCA-Parks & Wildlife Service's 'Western Shield' wildlife recovery program and currently hosts one of the healthiest known chuditch populations in WA. Like national parks, conservation parks and nature reserves are set aside under the Forest Management Plan to protect biodiversity and natural and cultural features. They are generally smaller than the national parks and do not have the same level of protection from competing land uses. They are especially vulnerable in W.A. to the encroachment of mining exploration and extraction which is approved and governed by separate legislation and processes.



Examples of other conservation parks and reserves, that are familiar to many bushwalkers, and have been, or in the future will be heavily impacted by mining include: Gyngoorda CP, Gibbs CP and Lane Poole Reserve. Gyngoorda CP previously covered the entire Bannister Hill area near Albany Highway, but was subsequently reduced by more than 60% in the Forest Management Plan so as to accommodate future bauxite mining plans. The Gibbs CP, eastern Darling Range, previously covered an area of the upper Dale River catchment, but was subsequently also reduced by more than 60% to accommodate future bauxite mining plans. Lane Poole Reserve, south of Dwellingup has also been 'adjusted' to accommodate the current expansion of the Willowdale bauxite mining operations.

A comment. The Julimar Conservation Park, like several others, appears to represent conservation in name only. Here a particularly rich floral area set aside and conserved while elsewhere the agri-mining conglomerates received carte blanche for development has now been imperilled by government decision. The park contains a large population of Grevillea scabra, G. hortiorum, G. bracteosa subsp. bracteosa, G. synapheae, G. pilulifera and many other Grevillea species, not to say species in other genera. Some time back Fred and Jean Hort sent me specimens of a Grevillea in the Triloba Group that I could not positively identify. However, when working in the G. biternata group recently, I realised that the specimen is a close match for the type of *Grevillea biternata* and from an area near Toodyay where James Drummond must have collected it. The implication of this is that specimens currently referred to G. biternata are better accommodated in a separate species. The true *G. biternata* is therefore known at present from only two small populations and the best of them in the Julimar is obviously now at very great risk.

SURVEYS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Email correspondence between Greg Keighery and Peter Olde.

From Greg

The Wildflower Society has allocated some bequest monies to undertake/co-ordinate surveys of plants that are either listed as priority species (or even not listed) in SW Western Australia that need urgent survey to clarify their conservation status. Currently *Grevillea ornithopoda* and *Grevillea obtusifolia* (mainly the prostrate form which seems to be very rare and declining) have been included.

Do you have a couple of SW species that you feel/know really need on ground survey for this year and next year? They can be anywhere from Geraldton to Esperance. We hope to try and interest the Northern Sandplains NRM to look for *Grevillea speckiana*.

Grevillea commutata subp. pinnatisecta looks like one they could do with the Geraldton group this year, especially as it looks pretty uncommon but has NO conservation ranking. Also shrubs, with really good guides such as The Grevillea Books, tend to be easier to find, count, (or not find), with volunteers.

From Peter

Grevillea pinifolia for sure, (not pinaster). Grevillea commutata ssp pinnatisecta (= G. pinnatisecta). Most of the specimens with locality data may be misidentified (tear even mine from Meanarra Hill). To be checked against the type. I will give this further consideration and get back to you shortly.

TAXONOMY

GREVILLEA THELEMANNIANA

Email correspondence between Peter Olde and Tanya Hevroy.

From Peter

I am currently writing up a taxonomic treatment of the new species in the *Thelemanniana* Group. I have just caught up with your monumental PhD thesis. I just wanted to congratulate you on it. It addresses every interest I have in botany especially species concepts, phylogeny, species delimitation etc. I have re-read it three times so far. Although I have had it in my library, I never got round to actually reading it because of your earlier paper on the same species on different lines. I feel saddened we have lost your skills on the analysis of the Australian flora.

As far as genetic work is concerned, I am challenged by lack of education on the matter but reading your paper and that of Mast et al (2015) and the fantastic references you have cited has helped enormously and will do so into the future.

Is it there a reference to the locations where you sampled your species? I am concerned that some of them may have been misdetermined. I'm not sure. I feel *G. cooljarloo* is more widespread than you have indicated. I have collected it and *G. delta* on the Coorow–Greenhead Road. I also collected *G. delta* further south at Cockleshell Gully. Both collections have longer leaves than the populations at Mt Lesueur. Is it a different taxon?

I think *G. pinaster* is more diverse taxonomically than your genetic results suggest - another reason for questioning the locations sampled.

Anyway, if you can find the time to respond, it would be good. Otherwise wishing you all the best in your chosen line of work

From Tanya

Thank you so much for your very kind email. I must say I felt a bit starstruck – your Grevillea Book was my bible for 4 years. I'm sorry for the delayed response. December was a busy month at work and then the holidays came along.

I do miss my taxonomy days, for the past 7 years I have worked as a researcher/regulator at the Radiation Protection Authority in Norway, specifically on ecosystem effects. So quite a different field from my PhD! After your email I went back and read parts of my PhD, I forgot how long it was...

When it comes to the *Grevillea thelemanniana* group I agree with your assessment — the species around Mt.Lesueur/ Cervantes/Jurien are much more widespread than assumed. I walked those areas many times and found Grevillea along or in every creek and dried creekbed I spotted. There's a huge morphological range as well, that wasn't obvious in the genetic data. I have attached my MasterMap of all the coordinates I visited and found Grevillea (at least I think so — been a while since I have looked at the data!).

TAXONOMY

Let me know if there is anything else I can help with, I know that my supervisors and I have been keen on publishing the taxonomy for a long time — but I think it could use with a deeper dive into some of the subgroups first.

From Peter

Great to hear from you and to hear that you are doing well in your new employment.

I could not understand why it has taken so long to publish the new names in the Thelemanniana Group.

Greg Keighery and I have now finished the taxonomic writeup and I am now awaiting some final details and will submit hopefully next week. I will send you a copy. I am raising G. preissii ssp glabrlimba and G. variifolia ssp bundera to species rank. Certainly, the relationship of *glabrilimba* to *G. preissii* is far more uncertain than the current name implies. I am still trying to find time to go through the MasterMap you sent.

I am also thinking that *G. olivacea* may be more closely related to *G. commutata* than the *thelemanniana* subgroup (comprising all the morphologically obvious taxa around *G. thelemanniana*)

There is a large COVID-interrupted DNA study involving 400 nuclear genes sampling the whole Grevillea genus led by Dr Marcel Cardillo at ANU presently in train which appears to allow recognition of both Grevillea and Hakea. At present about half have been tested and the results are in. I will keep you in the loop.

GREVILLEA NEWS

AT MYALL PARK BOTANIC GARDEN

Correspondence between Peter olde and Joan Wilkinson, Chapel Hill, QLD

From Joan

Thanks for Newsletter No. 120. The taxonomy of *Grevillea triloba*, *Grevillea lawrenceana* and related subsp. and new species are of particular interest to me. At Myall Park Botanic Garden near Glenmorgan, Qld we have had issues with these closely related species or subspecies.

In 2011 or 2012, Nita Lester organised Herbarium specimens to be taken from a large clump of grevilleas of varying appearance. We received the following results from the Qld Herbarium:

CG 79: Grevillea uniformis

CG 80 and CG 84: Grevillea triloba

CG 81: Grevillea curviloba subsp. incurva

CG 82 and 83: Grevillea vestita subsp. vestita

(CG being the initials of the collector)

None of the above seemed to be suckering but I haven't viewed the clump for some time. I will be visiting in November so can check again to see if they are still viable.

Grevillea triloba seeds prolifically at the Garden and comes up in most Garden Divisions, flowering profusely, dying down and coming up again. I have noticed a certain amount of variation in the different locations. I will check again in November. I will let you know what I discover. P.S. There are several specimens of *G. pectinata* nearby which may not be of any significance at all.

From Peter

Thank you for your correspondence. It would have been good if I had seen the specimens to which you refer. In my mind the identifications remain uncertain. Follicle morphology is important to accurate identification. A few pictures would be useful. Nonetheless I do remember on a visit there when Dave Gordon was alive a hybrid swarm, the parentage of which I cannot now remember, but which was problematic at the time. My knowledge at that time was very much in its infancy.

From Joan

I think actually that Nita Lester might have done the IDs. The samples will be on file at Myall Park. We have a current Herbarium as well as all of Dave Gordon's Herbarium samples. If Nita did them, she will also have duplicate samples. We usually did them in three's so a third might have gone to the Qld Herbarium. I will check them out if I can locate them.

In the last few months Peter has received a few emails from Fred and Jean Hort. They are always on the lookout for interesting and possibly new grevilleas.

Hi Peter

Today we visited Mt William in the district of Hoffman State Forest east from Yarloop. The Grevillea on the summit caused us a dizzy fit. These looked less than vaguely like *Grevillea tenuiflora* and grew to over 2 m high. Jean pulled out her phone and was very quickly informed that these were *G. prominens*, one we had not seen before. When we got home, we were annoyed that we did not get some better images. Have we got a hybrid here?







Hi Peter

We thought this was *Grevillea spinosissima* growing in Charles Gardner Nature Reserve, South Tammin on 17 May 2022. This was in the SE corner of the reserve following a recent burn. Hopefully now this one can be found in a conservation reserve.





GREVILLEA IN THE WARRUMBUNGLES

Email correspondence between Paul Hansen and Peter Olde

From Paul

I've found an unusual miniature Grevillea on my bushwalk in the Warrumbungles near Connabarabran. All the recent rain has brought wild flowers and fungi out I've never seen before. This particular beautiful orange Grevillea was so small I almost trod on it. There was one other similar plant next to it but with no flowers. I searched the whole area but could find no others. It was next to an ancient volcanic plug from the Warrumbungle volcano. I'll send you some photos with this email. I hope you can help identify these as I don't know who else to contact about this.

From Peter

The small grevillea is Grevillea floribunda. It is probably small because it is a seedling. It will likely grow much larger.







STANDARDS Helen Howard, NSW

Email correspondence between Brian Weir, Peter Olde and Euan Mills

From Peter

I am seeking some assistance from you, Brian, if you can. I am looking for a selection of photos of Grevilleas on standards. There are a number in Issue 112 of the Grevillea SG newsletter taken at your garden but I am unable to extract the images. I am sure there are more too. I have to give a talk on Friday night and was wondering if you could email me a selection of say 10–20.

I would also like to place an order for *Grevillea calliantha*, *G. tenuiloba*, *G. plurijuga* and *G. dryandroides* as 2 m standards. I will pay you up front and call down when they are ready. I am happy to purchase more if you can send a list. *Grevillea* 'Bluey' is being sold up in Sydney. It was listed for sale by the Illawarra Grevillea Study Group, Bulli plant sale recently. Can you send me a dried specimen: flowers and leaves with a range of leaf sizes? Just pop them in a paper bag and I can do the rest. It looks like a good plant but I did not know about it until the plant sale at Bulli.

From Brian

I am sorry that I can't help you with your request for standards but I didn't put any rootstock seed in last September, I was just to crook. I have picked up a fair bit now so if I don't fall off the perch anytime soon I will still do a few low graft in 2023.

Alf alerted me to the fact that *G*. 'Bluey' was on the Grevillea Park sales list, probably John Elton, really happy to see it is travelling interstate. It is a good prostrate ground cover here, extremely dense and a great weed mat. Bernie is travelling your way soon, maybe I can talk him into taking some pieces north. How has your garden, 'Silky Oaks', survived with all the rain your area has received? I hope it is not to badly impacted.

From Peter

Many thanks for the images Brian. What a remarkable testament to your skills. I am hoping to travel down to Melbourne this winter and I will call in to say hello. It depends on a lot of things though. If Bernie is coming up maybe he could bring material. John Elton was the source but pulled them off market as they had developed fungus.

Our garden has suffered tremendously. Cartloads of dead plants, mainly those from Mediterranean climates. Grafted plants were not immune, though they did much better. Heaps of dead Myrtaceae and small grevilleas including *G. rudis* (low graft). Generally *G. robusta* grafts were OK. The problem was the fungus and lack of sun. It got them in the foliage plus collar rot. Tropical grevilleas were fantastic and banksias.

From Brian

Sorry to hear your garden news, heartening though that *G. robusta* has once again proved its reliability. Peter, do you know if *G. spinosa* is compatible straight on *G. robusta*, I got a couple from Alf. They were growing well, then the older one started slowly dying from the bottom up. Just wondering? It's not totally gone, some branches still have 6 inches of green foliage on the ends but I think it is only time.

From Peter

Mt Annan have *G. spinosa* on *G. robusta* and it is going well. I also have two but one is going poorly and one is doing OK but slowly. My feeling is that an interstock (?G. 'Honey Gem') is needed. I will copy Euan Mills to this chat as he is their sensational grafter. Unfortunately, they are not yet into standards. We need to get G. deflexa on something it likes too.

From Euan

We've always grafted *G. spinosa* straight onto *G. robusta* without too much hassle, but I have noticed that at least one plant (and maybe more if Peter's are poorly) from the last batch is doing something similar to what you describe, foliage dropping off and only being retained on the ends of the branches. I assumed it was the positioning as the specimen that isn't doing well is in a spot that probably doesn't receive enough direct sun.

With the relative ease and vigour that we've had with grafting it onto *G. robusta*, I haven't previously considered any incompatibility issues. Perhaps it could be due to variability within *G. robusta*? Maybe I'll try other rootstocks/interstocks this season and see how it goes. The oldest plant we have in the garden is on *G. robusta* and is about 10 years old and still in good health.



GREAT SOUTHERN BIOBLITZ OCTOBER 28-31 2022

Peter Olde, NSW

The Great Southern BioBlitz (GSB) is an 'international period of intense biological surveying that aims to record all the living species within local government areas across the Southern Hemisphere in spring using the iNaturalist application and website'. The purpose of this event is to highlight both the immense spread of biodiversity across the Southern Hemisphere in the flourishing springtime, as well as to engage the public in citizen science data collection and nature education. The event will be held with survey areas based on local government boundaries. Each participating area's organisers can define its observation boundaries as being one or more local government areas if they so desire.

The Great Southern BioBlitz (GSB) is held in spring, with over 273 participating areas (in 2022) with participants recording nature in their local environment using the free citizen science platform, <u>iNaturalist</u>. The GSB provides an opportunity to engage your local community and interest groups while increasing biodiversity awareness broadly.

We are pleased that the event has been embraced by the Botanical Society of South Africa (BotSocSA), South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) and their community action group Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers (CREW). These organisations use the event to promote community involvement in biodiversity monitoring and awareness. We believe there is scope for Australain Native Plants Society NSW to do the same. Over the last two years, this event has proven to be a great way to engage people about nature and to learn about the animals and plants in their area.

While there are already many local areas we would like to invite your organisation to connect with local organisers, and hold an event on the weekend. If there is no project in your area, we propose creating an area and joining as an organiser (nominate here bit.ly/GSB2022OrganiserSignup).

More information can also be found on various platforms here: https://linktr.ee/gsbioblitz.



NEW MEMBERS

Leicia Petersen, Frenchs Forest, NSW

My interest at the moment is the critically endangered *Grevillea caleyi*. I would like to know more about how to propagate and grow the species to help avoid becoming extinct.

Gemma Rimmer, Albion Park, NSW

I'm a new member to the APS NSW but I've always had a keen interest in native plants and have a small native garden at home. I love Grevilleas and I'm looking to learn more about them. I look forward to being part of the Grevillea Study Group!

Claire Mullin, Armidale, NSW

I am in the cold part of the world up here in Armidale NSW so I'm always on the look out for frost hardy suggestions. I have some local endemics and many from the Bywong Nursery family and some from the Southern Tablelands but am looking to add and trial some newies.

Julie Broadfoot, Duranbah, NSW

I am developing a native garden up here is northern NSW, so I am a beginner really, with a big love of native plants as well as regenerating.

THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE NURSERY INDUSTRY

Helen Howard, NSW

This last year 2021 to 2022 has been a trial for all creatures of this earth especially with the climate changing. Plants have struggled more than ever from wet feet, low light (due to constant rain) extra insect attacks and higher humidity. The ferilisers are being dissolved in bigger doses in nursery environments and the poor drainage has affected normal growing conditions.

I work in a wholesale nursery in SE Queensland and propagate many native plants by cuttings. I graft grevilleas to help preserve species and even grafting onto my usual rootstock (*Grevillea robusta*) many of the species that would normally thrive have done poorly. Most 'grey' foliaged grevillea species died or lost all foliage to eventually keel over gasping for life especially air.

It's sad for us to lose plants at any time but so many healthy plants just passed away not able to cope.

Poor ventilation, lack of good drainage and poor light conditions with constant rain for months left us with a list of plants that will probably be off our production list from spring. We can't sell plants that are unreliable for our customers but, we can give best advice for growing on many of the survivors and tougher plants.

Its funny most of the original older hybrids are so resilient and the one that stands out the most is *G. semperflorens*. When I first saw this grevillea years ago, I was amazed at its beauty. I had it growing very well on its own roots in three different gardens around Toowoomba where we lived. Then the grevillea had almost become unknown in the nursery world. Having reintroduced it through a few nurseries it is now available to enjoy.

A great group of resillient hybrids are G. 'Flora Mason', G. 'Red Sunset' and G. 'Lemon Supreme'.

The parentage says it all... *G. olivacea* has proven to be so resilient in our tough climatic conditions

and on poorer soils. I have been amazed by *G. olivacea* and its constant healthy condition, both grafted and ungrafted. *G. endlicheriana* performed extremely well on its own roots. It does not graft (still trying or trialing!) as its out of the ordinary in the grevillea world. It is great as it actually grows well from cuttings.

G. iaspicula is another classic species which has performed better than most. G. nudiflora has been miserable on its own roots but thriving as a grafted plant in high humidity. Most of the G. bipinnatifida hybrids have suffered greatly under high humidity so we will be very selective with our varieties in next seasons' production. G. bipinnatifida glauca has performed well over the last year or so but other G. bipinnatifida forms have not done so well, either grafted or ungrafted.

Some plants that we buy in from other wholesale nurseries being produced under licence (PBR) or tissue culture will no longer meet our standards because of their performance in the present climatic conditions, though I can say G. 'Dorothy Gordon' grows well on its own roots with good ventilation and good drainage. Grafted it performs at its best. The nursery industry needs to be more aware of plant performances both in garden situations and in production to continue profitability and giving best customer service. Plant varieties have to be chosen carefully.

Most grevilleas from the Victoriae group have lost their leaves which have gone spotty and miserable but new growth has reappeared and the plants are being persistent. *G. burrowa* is one such plant, grafted it has a better chance of survival. *G. parvula* is another plant that loses its leaves but returns to new growth eventually. Don't be too hasty with pulling your plants out of garden as they may come back. In a nursery situation it's easier to check the root conditions to see what chance the plant has of recovery. *G. lanigera* and its hybrids has performed poorly. *G. juniperina* and its hybrids seem to have been OK also. *G. curviloba* both ssp *incurva* and ssp *curviloba*, have thrived in these conditions both on their own roots and grafted.

What to do for best results:

Choose local plants, if possible. Research the climatic conditions where a grevillea species come from.

For hybrids, the information of hybrid parentage is mostly available online, Check with your nursery if you have trouble finding information. Grafted plants are great but this form of propagation does not always save the plant. It will give the plant a better chance of survival if the variety is out of its climatic comfort zone or soils are generally poor in garden situations.

Fertiliser:

Watch for fertilisers being used. Some application fertiliser is OK when planting, like organic liquid Nitrosol but go light on the fertiliser as most grevilleas will be OK, as the potted plant will have some, probably enough for 6 months after planting. Prune your plants once a year for good shape and airflow. Remove dead or diseased material. Apply annual feed once established, either slow release or natural fertiliser preferably organic based pelleted form low in phosphorous.

Keep feeding the birds and by having a mix of grevillea species and hybrids you will have a greater variety of birds. Be aware that the larger birds will visit your garden for the bigger blooms.

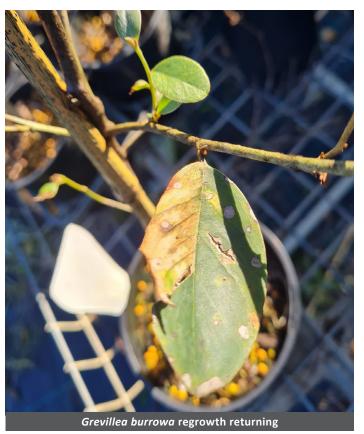
Balance your plantings to 75% species and 25% hybrids if possible. This will provide lots of hiding places for little birds by planting smaller bushy, even prickly plants in between larger flowering species or hybrids. Recently it has been noted that there are fewer small birds in native gardens. The balance in planting should help keep an even balance for both bird sizes.

The native bees also love the grevillea species so you are giving gifts to all creatures by keeping the balance including yourself.









FINANCIAL REPORT OCTOBER 2021

Income

Interest \$1.79

Total income \$1.79

Expenditure

Newsletter publishing \$00.00

Total expenditure \$00.00

Bank account details



Balance in current account

26/06/2022 \$3,678.51

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 SE Qld's members who contributed to this newsletter. It is NSW's turn next time. Please send your content to grevilleanews@ optusnet.com.au by August 31.

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