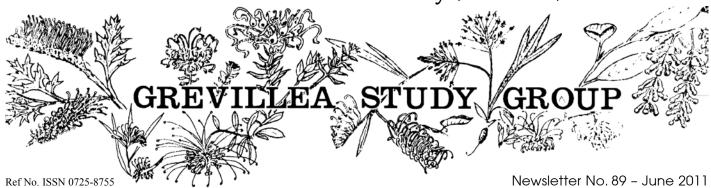
Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) Inc



GSG Vic Programme 2011

Leader: Neil Marriott

693 Panrock Reservoir Rd, Stawell, Vic. 3380 Phone: 03 5356 2404 or 0458 177 989 Email: neilm@netconnect.com.au

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. After the massive rains at the end of 2010 and the start of 2011 the conditions are perfect for large scale replanting of the collection. Offers of assistance would be most welcome.

Annual spring Grevillea Crawl –organised by NSW Chapter for this year.

GSG NSW Programme 2011

For more details contact Peter Olde 02 4659 6598.

New South Wales are organising a field trip to northern New South Wales in October. Dates and times to be confirmed but late October is the most likely. The theme of the trip is 'Grevillea beadleana and its variation'. We hope to examine all the different known populations of this variable species. Members interested should contact the SG leader.

Special thanks to the SE Qld chapter for this edition of the newsletter. Please note deadlines on back page for the following newsletter.

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- Cliff Coddington 1925–2009
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- The futility of desire
- Flinders and Baudin conference
- The 'Gordon' family of Grevilleas

GSG SE QId Programme 2011

Morning tea at 9.30am, meetings commence at 10.00am. For more information contact **Bryson Easton** on (07) 3121 4480 or 0402242180.

Sunday, 28 August

VENUE: Home of Merv and Olwyn Hodge,

81-81 Loganview Rd, Logan Reserve, 4133

Subject: Provisional: "The Grevillea species that

Merv is Growing"

Sunday, 30 October

VENUE: Home of Peter Macqueen,

507 Reushle Rd, Kleinton

Subject: Provisional: Request Peter discuss his

garden development

Sunday, 27 November

VENUE: Home of Jan Glazebrook and Denis Cox

Subject: Grafting workshop conducted by Jan &

Denis. Actual hands on participants will need to pay a fee to cover the costs of

grafting materials

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The treasurer and newsletter editor will also be pleased that you saved her lots of time!!

It is with great sadness that the passing of Pat Clarke whom I met as Pat Turnbull and knew mostly as Pat Shaw is recorded (see separate obituary). Pat was one of those guiet, delightful people with a ready laugh and hospitable manner that makes you want to hug them. She was a motherly figure to me. I only recently came to know her by her maiden name, Clarke, which happened, by extraordinary coincidence, to be the same as my own mother's. Harvey and Pat made a tremendous contribution to the horticultural understanding of Grevillea banksii. They went all the way to 1770 and Agnes Waters in north Queensland to collect G. banksii cuttings from the headlands and hinterland there on behalf of the Study Group. Some of their photos of G. banksii were used in The Grevillea Book Volume 2. As a token to her enthusiasm and dedication an upright pink-flowered form of G. banksii that they collected and planted at Redeemer College, Rochedale was named in her honour at the Study Group Meeting of Sunday 11th July 1999. It is known as Grevillea banksii cv 'Pat Shaw'.

DNA research into the relationship between Hakea and Grevillea has slowed as the principal researchers, Austin Mast and Peter Weston, prepare a paper on Hakea which will soon hopefully be published. Some difficulties have also been experienced in sequencing some critical Grevillea species which will be hopefully resolved with the recent employment of experienced technician in the USA. Austin Mast has also received funding to sequence the whole chloroplast genome of 12 Grevillea species, spread across the genus. It is hoped that these data will resolve the polytomy in which Hakea is currently nested with Finschia and most Grevillea species. Hakea is resolved as monophyletic Cardillo and Lindell Bromham from ANU in their ARC-funded project to reconstruct the phylogeny of the whole Australian Proteaceae down to species level. Interesting times ahead if the Banksia/Dryandra issue is anything to go by.

The 18th International Botanical Congress will be held in Melbourne from 23 – 30 July 2011. It's expensive and a bit technical these days for horticulturists but very valuable symposia are being held. The website for information is http://www.ibc2011.com

Many thanks to Bryson Easton who has taken over as chair of the meetings in Queensland. Noreen Baxter is still doing the admin - and hoping to get a volunteer

to take that job on. Many thanks to Noreen who took over under in exceptionally difficult times with very little experience.

Open Garden 'Silky Oaks'

140 Russell Lane Oakdale NSW 8-9 October 2011

Illawarra Grevillea Park OPEN DAYS 2011

July, Sat 23 & Sun 24 July, Sat 30 & Sun 31 September, Sat 24 & Sun 25 October, Sat 1 & Sun 2

Opening hrs are 10am - 4pm

Location

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

Admission

\$5 adults, children accompanied by adults are free

Barbeque and picnic facilities available

email info@grevilleapark.org or visit www.grevilleapark.org

Vale Patricia Valencia Clarke 1928-2011



I am deeply saddened to report that Pat Clarke passed away at on 30th April this year, aged 83 years. I was informed of this by her son Peter Turnbull.

I first knew Pat as Pat Turnbull and then as Pat Shaw after she married the late Harvey Shaw, her second marriage. She was 55 at the time. Her first marriage took place in 1946 when she was just 18. Pat reverted to her maiden name, Pat Clarke after Harvey died. However, many members of the Society needed no surname – you would only have to mention 'Pat' and everyone knew who you were talking about. She was a real lady in every sense. Whenever there was an SGAP activity you could be sure that Pat would be there taking part.

I have not been in touch with her for the past couple of years because I found it increasingly difficult, if not embarrassing, to try to converse with her. In one of our last conversations it was obvious that she was still mentally alert, even correcting me a couple of times on plant names. It was cruel that her alert mind was imprisoned in a body that was failing due to the progression of Parkinson's Disease.

My first contact with Pat was by phone from Goondiwindi during the 1960's when she set about forming a Goondiwindi Branch of SGAP. As I recall, I first met her in person at our first SGAP flower show in 1969. Unfortunately, when she eventually left Goondiwindi the branch folded in 1974, not having anyone who could reproduce her drive and enthusiasm.

She also accepted positions on the SGAP Qld. Region Council over a number of years. She was awarded an Honorary Life Membership for her services to the Society and was a founding

member of the Grevillea Study Group. She had a deep interest in Grevilleas. *Grevillea banksii* cv 'Pat Shaw' was named in her honour, as was Brachyscome 'Valencia', the daisy group being another of her passions.

In 1977, Olwyn and I, along with Pat and Mrs. Gerry Parker from NSW drove around Australia in two cars to attend an SGAP Conference in Perth. Pat drove her own car the whole way. We could not have wished for better companions for the trip. Her attendance at Study Group meetings in recent years was curtailed by her immobility but she still made occasional appearances courtesy of Bryson Easton who picked her up and took her home.

It is a pity that I have to sum up the life of such a wonderful person with a few of the many fond memories, but I am sure that others will have lots more memories of her.

My condolences to the family – her three children have lost a wonderful mother and I have lost a wonderful friend. I feel privileged to have known her.

Pat served in many positions in the Society for Growing Australian Plants. Initially, she was the founding Chairman of the Goondiwindi Branch in 1969. When she moved to Brisbane, she served in the following positions on the Regional Council.

Seed Curator 1976-1979
Treasurer 1980-1982
Regional Councillor 1982-1983, 1984-1985
Vice President 1986-1989
Displays Officer 1989-1991
Publicity Officer 1991-1992
Technical Officer 1992-1997
Honorary Life Membership awarded 1989



Cliff Coddington 1925-2009



The passing of the Toowoomba gardening personality Cliff Coddington aged 84 years is recorded. Cliff was a founding or early member of the Grevillea Study Group and made a valuable contribution not only to the cultivation of grevilleas but to all native plants, even though he had no formal training in horticulture.

Recovering from a heart bypass operation, Cliff personally conducted me around his multi award-winning garden in Ironbark St Rangeville in August 2007. I was struck by the healthy and

well-maintained plants that he grew, as well as the landscaping in which they were thriving. All gardens, front and back, were devoted to his passion and grevilleas played a major part. His aim was to build a drought tolerant show garden featuring native plants from all over Australia as a model to others of what could be achieved. His garden won at least 15 first prizes during the 12 years he competed in Toowoomba's 'Carnival of Flowers'.

He reputedly established the first rainforest garden on the Gold Coast when he retired there from New South Wales, before returning to his Toowoomba birthplace in 1996. Once there, he set about removing all the exotic plants from the established cottage garden. Within 18 months he had won his first prize. The most difficult plants were always a challenge to him. Cliff was a gentle man, retired for many years from his profession as a training supervisor with the NSW and Queensland Ambulance service.

A CD with photos of numerous *Grevilleas* that he grew has been donated to the Grevillea Study Group. One of his sayings was "Think like a native plant before you put your hand in your pocket".

Peter Olde

Research Notes on the chemistry of Grevillea species

Some recent research papers that may be of interest to some of our members are noted below, the first conducted in China on pollution tolerance.

1. XIAO Hong-dong et al. (2008) Preliminary study of the tolerance of *Grevillea banksii* to air fluoride and sulfur pollution. *Journal of Anhui Agricultural Sciences* 11.

Seedlings of *Grevillea banksii* were planted in two districts-Wuxindian and Yunyong forest center for 10 months and concentrations of fluoride and sulfur were detected in the air and on the leaves of *Grevillea banksii* to probe its tolerance to air fluoride and sulfur pollution. The results showed that the concentration of air fluoride of the two districts were lower than the national standard

grade two, while air of Wuxidian and Yunyong was polluted by sulfur. Air sulfur concentration of Wuxidian was found to be 11 folds higher than national standard grade two. The concentration of sulfur and fluoride in leaves differed obviously and have close relation with air concentration. The plants could grow in sulfur polluted district, which indicated its tolerance to sulfur pollution. We also found that *Grevillea banksii* had strong capacity in uptaking air fluoride and sulfur, thus could be a candidate tree for air polluted districts.

2. Uvidelio Castillo et al. (2003) Kakadumycins, novel antibiotics from *Streptomyces* sp. NRRL 30566, an endophyte of *Grevillea pteridifolia*. *FEMS Microbiology Letters* 224 (2):183–190.

An endophytic streptomycete (NRRL 30566) is described and partially characterized from a fern-leaved grevillea (Grevillea pteridifolia) tree growing in the Northern Territory of Australia. This endophytic streptomycete produces, in culture, novel antibiotics - the kakadumycins. Methods are outlined for the production and chemical characterization of kakadumycin A and related compounds. This antibiotic is structurally related to a quinoxaline antibiotic, echinomycin. Each contains, by virtue of their amino acid compositions, alanine, serine and an unknown amino acid. Other biological, spectral and chromatographic differences between these two compounds occur and are given. Kakadumycin A has wide spectrum antibiotic activity, especially against Gram-positive bacteria, and it generally displays better bioactivity than echinomycin. instance, against Bacillus strains, kakadumycin A has minimum inhibitory concentrations of 0.2-0.3 ?g ml?1 in contrast to echinomycin at 1.0-1.2 ?g ml?1.

Both echinomycin and kakadumycin A have impressive activity against the malarial parasite *Plasmodium falciparum* with LD50s in the range of 7–10 ng ml?1. In macromolecular synthesis assays both kakadumycin A and echinomycin have similar effects on the inhibition of RNA synthesis. It appears that the endophytic *Streptomyces* sp. offer some promise for the discovery of novel antibiotics with pharmacological potential. **Keywords:** Streptomycete, Malaria, Endophyte, Tandem mass spectrometry, Anthrax, DNA.

3. Hao Wang, Centre for Phytochemistry and Pharmacology, Southern Cross University, Lismore, NSW and several other authors including Paul Forster from Queensland herbarium have published a number of papers in recent years. The opening paragraph of a paper in 2009 is reproduced below with slight modifications.

Early phytochemical work on the genus *Grevillea* focused on the common and widespread species *G. robusta* and *G. striata* and most of the compounds isolated have been resorcinol derivatives [2-6]. Considering its size and ecological importance in Australia information on the chemistry of this genus is surprisingly scanty. Consequently we have undertaken a phytochemical survey of a number of species.

As part of this survey we have already reported the profiles of compounds present in G. robusta [7], G. banksii [8] and G. floribunda [9]. In all those species the major classes of compounds were again bisresorcinols, together with arbutin derivatives. The results of an investigation of a sample of G. whiteana McGillivray for which no previous results have been reported. Eleven new bisresorcinols including four mixtures each of two isomers and one resorcinol/phloroglucinol derivative, together with five known resorcinols have been isolated from the ethyl acetate extract of sterns. This is the first record of pyranobisresorcinols in the genus and the first report of a phloroglucinol terminal Phenolic unit in any Grevillea species. Grevillea whiteana is a small tree up to 5 m tall of limited distribution in south-eastern Queensland from Boondooma northward to Mundubbera and also on Mt Walsh near Biggenden.

Other papers on the subject

Wang H, Leach DN, Forster PI & Waterman PG (2008) Secondary metabolites from *Grevillea* robusta. Biochemical Systematics and Ecology 36(5-6): 452-453.

Wang H, Leach NL, Thomas CM, Blanksby JS, Forster PI, Waterman PG. (2008) Bisresorcinols and arbutin derivatives from *Grevillea banksii* R. Br. *Natural Product Communications*, 3, 57-63.

Wang, H, Leach, DN, Forster, PI, Thomas, MC, Blanksby, SJ & Waterman, PG (2009) Prenylated alkylbisphenols from *Grevillea whiteana*. *Natural Product Communications*, vol. 7, pp. 951-958.

Wang H, Leach NL, Forster PI, Thomas CM, Blanksby JS, Waterman, PG. (**2009**) Prenylated bisresorcinols from *Grevillea floribunda*. *Phytochemistry Letters*, *2*, 41-45.

Yamashita Y, Matsunami K, Otsuka H. Shinzato T & Takeda Y (2010) 5-Alkylresorcinol glucosides from the leaves of *Grevillea robusta* Allan Cunningham. *Journal of Natural Medicines* 64(4) 474–477.

SE Qld meeting notes and comments

Our recent Grevillea Study Group meeting Held on April 17th at Gondwana Nursery in the Border Ranges New South Wales was very interesting. Joy and Gahan the owners made us very welcome, and most of us managed to purchase something new and interesting from their nursery. The nursery is so well run and they have great quality plants that supply many local and interstate nurseries. It was a great thing to be allowed to visit a wholesale Nursery and view an array of plants that one would normally not see in one spot. Bryson Easton conducted our meeting with great enthusiasm .He encouraged the group to grow more Grevillea species and share the knowledge we have so that progress can be made in saving them for future gardeners. The main topic for the meeting was 'Variation in foliage of Grevilleas'. As we wandered around Gondawana's large collection of mainly hybrid grevilleas it was obvious that there was extreme variation in foliage. Another topic often discussed at previous meetings was that so few Grevillea species were available to the public for sale. Why this is and what can we do to change the trend?

My observations from my years involved with the South East Queensland Grevillea Study Group and the nursery industry has been the lack of *Grevillea* species produced and marketed through wholesale nurseries. A problem relating to this is the glut of "average" hybrids that appear on the market without much attention given to the trials those plants need in different climatic conditions. I must take my hat off to the lovely hybrids that have come from Phil Vaughan's collection. One outstanding hybrid is *Grevillea* Mallee Sensation (nudiflora X pectinata)

Without research, and monitored serious hybridisation we will have a lot of similar hybrids that seem dull and boring.

I have put my hand up to do something about this and will begin a collection all over again. My old garden at Helidon (which has sold twice in the last 2 years) has quite a few unusual grevilleas and as the garden is going to be bulldozed by the new owners soon I have only a short time to save the best. There is a wonderful *Grevillea pteridifolia* about 3.5metres and a *Grevillea wickhamii* that is in full flower next to the verandah.

Grevillea macrostylis and G. decora have thrived there and G. hodgei, G. delta and G. agrifolia, G. insignis, G. flexuosa, G. varifolia have been such a success so I am thankful to have the chance to graft and save these and other not so common grevilleas, like G. pilosa ssp. redacta and ssp. pilosa, G. rubicunda, G. fulgens, G. infundibularis, G. commutata, G. angulata and G. arenaria all worth saving and growing seriously. I wondered why we have not seen Grevillea quadricauda, floribunda and G. singuliflora in numbers for sale in South east Queensland even a Grevillea scortechinii is fairly rare in the average garden. So I see plenty of work for the future of Grevillea research and distribution.

My goal is to produce as many species as I am confident will grow and thrive either on their own roots or grafted. It was made quite obvious with the recent flooding that in one clean swipe gardens can be physically washed away or be contaminated by waterborne diseases.

Thankfully to date we as a club and enthusiasts of native plants have been able to spread the plants around by grafting and sharing and this has helped to save some of those species that grow well in South east Queensland and northern New South Wales.

Beauties like *Grevillea levis, G. varifolia, G. agrifolia, G. leucopteris, G. commutata, G. alpina, G. flexuosa, G. ripicola, G. wickhamii, G. treueriana, G. striata* etc.. These are a few species that grow well throughout South east Queensland and northern New South Wales and some species can survive well on their own roots? Basically we need to identify the plants that do well on their own roots and graft those that need to be grafted to survive the climatic conditions.

Queenslander!!!

It's about this time of year that all of us north of the border juice up and start to get excited. State of Origin time! My goodness isn't it great to be a Queenslander. So it occurs to me that I'm being selfish and that we should share with you the joy of knowing that, wherever you are in our State there will be one of our truly magnificent grevilleas. Rather than trawl through the more academic literature we thought it might be easy to provide an alphabetic/geographic guide to our ?40 species (42 taxa) and an indication of their conservation status (V) = vulnerable, (E) = endangered.

albiflora – Large shrub to 4m with white flowers. Grows in deep red sand and with *Grevilla juncifolia* between St George and Cunnamulla.

baileyana – A tall coastal rainforest tree growing from Townsville to Cape York. White flowers and coppery underside to the leaves are a feature.

banksii – Growing from Hervey Bay in the south to Townsville in the north and inland to about Eidsvold .Along the seashore it becomes quite prostrate with a particular prostrate form, cv. 'Ruby Red', growing on the headlands east of Byfield.

coriacea – Small tree, single trunk to 8m. Growing in the 40 Mile Scrub west of Tully extending to the Cape. White cylindrical racemes.

cyranostigma – Small shrub occurring in small stands around the Canarvons and Mt Moffat area and further north on the Drummond Ra. Green almost translucent flowers and glossy leaves.

decora – two subspecies, subsp. decora and subsp. telfordii. Large spreading shrub, simple grey and rusty leaves. Southern most occurrences in Salvador Rosa NP. Also recorded from Springsure. Growing on Great Dividing Range east of Barcaldine and scattered along the divide to the Burra Ra and as far north as Laura.

dryandri subsp. dryandri – Small spreading shrub to 1.3m. Occurring inland from Ingham to Princess Charlotte Bay and west of a line from Normanton to Mt Isa. Huge red and white inflorescences with flowers that turn as they open.

erythroclada – Or is it? This plant was discovered by the Murrays on the Wenlock River in the Gulf of Carpentaria near Weipa and was identified by Peter Olde. Merv Hodge was growing a plant at one stage. It has white flowers.

floribunda – two subspecies, subsp. floribunda and subsp. tenella. Southern inland Grevillea to

2m. Fairly widespread from just west of Kingaroy, Barakula SF and Southwood on the Moonie Hway with an isolated occurrence at Crows Nest north of Toowoomba. Rusty or yellowgreen flowers.

glauca – Clothes Peg Grevillea, so called for its fruits. Small tree to10m, single trunk, curly white hanging racemes, large hakea size thick-walled fruit. Grows Great Dividing Range east of Barcaldine and N to Cape York and as far west as Normanton. About the same range as G. pteridifolia.

glossadenia – Spreading shrub with orange flowers in a short spike. Grows in dry country on the W side of Atherton Tableland near Irvinebank. (V)

heliosperma – Kimberley and Northern Territory grevillea coming into Qld about Lawn Hill and growing as far east as Mt Isa. Pink-red flowers.

helmsiae – Tree 10-15m growing in dry scrubs from Ormeo and Beenleigh in the south to Mundubbera and Blackdown Tableland in the north. Unusual green and white flowers with a spicy scent.

hilliana – Large tall tree, scattered in coastal rainforest from the border to Cooktown. It has white curled flowers and the leaves have white hairs on the underside.

hockingsii – Occurs in Qld, where known from three disjunct areas: Coominglah State Forest west of Monto, Callide Range east of Biloela, and Razor Back Range near Mt Morgan. Grows in shrubby understorey in eucalypt woodland or open forest, around rocky sandstone breakaways, occasionally on sandy flats or around soaks. Shrub to 3m with pink-purple new growth. Flowers are reddish pink. Named after David Hockings. (V)

 ${\it hodgei}$ – Tall shrub growing in and around the Glass House Mountains with honey-coloured short cylindrical inflorescences. Named after Merv Hodge. (V)

humilis – subsp. *lucens*. Low pink-flowered shrub confined to the Glasshouse Mountains at the foot of Mt Tunbubudla. Might be a distinct species.

juncifolia – Large bush to 4m.Grows in two areas between St George to Cunnamulla, Quilpie to Windorah, Windorah to Jundah and on the divide east of Barcaldine and Boatman Rd south-east of Charleville. Always growing in deep red sand. Orange conical racemes with glandular hairs.

juniperina ssp. **allojohnsonii** — Rare in Queensland. Known from a collection at Quart Pot Creek, soth-east of Stanthorpe in Girraween Ntnl Park. It is a sprawling shrub with bright red flowers.

kennedyana – Occurs at Naryilco station on the Bygrave Peak in the Grey Range in far southwestern Qld. Silver-leaved prickly shrub with magnificent reddish flowers. (*V*)

leiophylla – Small pink-flowered shrub growing in coastal heaths on the Sunshine Coast with an aff sp in the Wide Bay area.

linsmithii – Small bush with green and pinktipped flowers occurring on Mt. Greville near Cunninghams Gap. (E)

Iongistyla – Lignotuberous shrub to 2m with red glandular-haired flowers in loose cylindrical clusters. Fairly wide spread in southeastern and central Qld. Eidsvold, Gurulmundi-Chinchilla, Taroom, Blackdown Tableland, Barakula, Robinson Gorge, Salvador Rosa, 8k south of Charlville, generally north of the Warrego Hwy.

mimosoides – Large shrub, single trunk, growing north of a line Townsville to Mt Isa. White flowers on a branching raceme.

nematophylla ssp. **nematophylla** – The Queensland herbarium records this plant from the Gregory South Pastoral Division but it is more widely distributed in other states.

parallela – Small tree to 8m with black trunk widespread throughout Qld north of a line Rockhampton to Longreach and spreading into the NT north of Camoolweal. Hanging white cylindrical inflorescences. Foliage sometimes silvery.

pteridifolia – Large shrub, growing north along the Great Dividing Range from Lochnagar (36k east of Barcaldine) coming on to the coast about Townsville and going to the tip of CapeYork, but no further west than Normanton. A prostrate form grows along the seashore at Cape Flattery within shouting distance of the sea, dead flat spread of about 10m.

quadricauda – Spreading bush to 1.5m. Random scattered bushes in the hills just north of Helidon. (V)

refracta ssp. refracta – Recorded from Settlement Ck but occurs right across the top end. Orange and yellow flowers.

reptans – Tin Can Bay Grevillea. Small prostrate plant from Burrum Heads south to Tewantin and

Cooloola National Park. Pink villous flowers similar to *G. leiophylla* but with long scandent branches.

robusta – Large tall tree with orange-red racemes growing Maryborough to Grafton and about 100k inland, mainly on the river systems.

scortechinii ssp. scortechinii – Small, prostrate, to 1.5m spread with black flowers. In the Dalveen - Stanthorpe area. Most plants have disappeared because of cultivation. Larger flowers than ssp. **sarmentosa** which occurs just south of the border. (V)

sessilis – Large shrub growing on the Divide east of Barcaldine and on the Burra Range west of Townsville. White condensed cylindrical inflorescences. A natural hybrid exists between *G. sessilis* and *G. pteridifolia* on the Burra Range.

singuliflora – Tiny shrub with simple green flowers. Growing Helidon Hills, Blackdown Tableland and Barakula.

stenobotrya – An inland shrub with white blossoms, grows on the top of sand hills west and south of Windora.

striata – Beefwood. Can be a large spreading tree. Widespread through out the inland coming onto the coast north from Gladstone. White cylindrical inflorescences.

whiteana – Tall shrub growing in the South Burnett. Durong - Mundubbera road and Gayndah - Biggenden area. A white-flowered *Grevillea* with rusty buds occurring on top of Mt Walsh could be *G. whiteana*.

wickhamii – Spreading bush to 2.5m. Northern inland species. In Qld 100k south of Winton and in the mineral area around Mt Isa. ssp. aprica in Qld. Orange-red and sometimes yellow only flowers.

venusta – Large shrub. A coastal species occurring in the Port Curtis, Rockhampton and Byfield area. Multicoloured flowers green, orange with maroon style. Flowers on the old wood as well. (*V*)

viridiflava – Small yellow-flowered shrub recently distinguished from *G. linearifolia*. Suckers in Girraween NP at Stanthorpe.

By now you will planning your next holiday!!!

Acknowledgements. My colleague, Graham Nosworthy of the Study Group has been a great contributor. The Queensland Census 2010 available online, Flora of Australia also available online and Peter Olde also gave assistance.

Grevillea 'Honey Gem'

I want to tell you about what I consider to be one of the greatest Queenslanders to have graced our fair planet. Known throughout the land to you all. A humble Qld'er of uncertain parentage but yet able to roam the land in many different circles. Some 6 metres in stature and 4 metres of width... Easy to get on with and dripping with honey. A real favourite with the BIRDS!! Decades of respect have been earned. I speak of course ... *Grevillea* 'Honey Gem'.

This amazing hybrid has been with us for 30 or more years and stillretains its place and favour in horticulture and landscaping Australia-wide. Surely an accomplishment that deserves recognition. It received a Certificate of Registration from A.C.R.A. in 1980 and has been FREELY available ever since, with not a cent being returned back to the originator of this most remarkable of grevilleas. How the world changes. I would like to document a few salient points about this plant and give recognition to Cherrell Gierke. Formally registered as Cherrel Jerks she and her husband John reverted back to the family name Gierke in 1981. In the late 1970s Cherrell was attending a S.G.A.P. meeting in Toowoomba and thought that she had been given a seedling of Grevillea pteridifolia. Having desired that plant for some time it wasn't until growing it on at her property in Taringa Qld. that Cherrell astutely realized that this was not G. pteridifolia but perhaps a hybrid. When it flowered she was amazed at the colour, shape and flowering period. She called it a Grevillea 'Honey Gem'... a wonderfully apt name. What is not widely known is that by sheer chance she happened at the same time to own two dogs Honey and Gem! Thanks to Cherrell one of the greatest Australian native hybrids exists and thrives in our gardens.

Some interesting incidentals relating to *G*. 'Honey Gem' are that it is thought to be a hybrid of *G. pteridifolia* and *Grevillea banksii* (red). This would certainly account for Honey Gem's flower shape and colour. The colour being towards *G. pteridifolia* while the flower is entirely whorled like *G. banksii*. This would also account for the almost continuous flowering period. What of leaf profiles/colour and growth habit. I look at this plant and see a dominant parent of *G. pteridifolia* BUT not much *G. banksii*. Can we ever know??? ... DNA???

G. 'Honey Gem' is rather unusual as an F1 hybrid in that it produces viable seed with many seedlings having arisen. Jan Glazebrook reports "Some that have appeared in nurseries are: Grevillea 'Butterscotch', Grevillea 'Midas Touch' and Grevillea 'Sunset Bronze'. Others are Grevillea 'Amy Lou' and Grevillea 'Yamba Sunshine'. Seedlings that arose at my previous home at Loganlea were planted out at Logan Village in the eighties. One plant remained small and bushy when most other seedlings grew tall. The flower colour was initially similar to G. 'Honey Gem', but aging to a pink-orange colour. The styles are a pale yellow. After propagating by cutting, and trying in several other locations, the plant was deemed to have a place on the market because of its smaller size. Plants grow to 2.5 to 3 metres tall, by 3 metres across. Flowering is continuous throughout the year. It has been marketed as Grevillea 'Little Honey'".

Other F2 hybrids to reach the nursery trade are Grevillea 'BirdSong', Grevillea 'Blood Orange', Grevillea 'Honey Barbara' and Grevillea 'Jester' while two variegated sports exist, G. 'Honey Wonder' and Grevillea 'Lime Spider'. I have used G. 'Honey Gem' and G. banksii red as hybrid parents many many times only because I have not got access to G. pteridifolia Qld form. G. 'Honey Gem' is ready all the time. As an aside can anyone inform me as to where the decumbent form of G. pteridifolia occurs naturally other than in horticulture? It does exist in our gardens of SE Qld but only as a consequence of Jan Glazebrook and Merv Hodge collecting and growing on seed from a prostrate plant in Jan's garden. This decumbent form grows easily on its own roots for me and flowers spectacularly. Also it is reported (Kerrie Rathie) that the prostrate form of G. pteridifolia resists grafting onto Grevillea. robusta but will much ready graft onto G. banksii. I must say that in the 20 or more hybrids (G. "Honey Gem"/G. banksii red) I have raised not a single one has the single flower colour of the one grandparent G. pteridifolia. All my hybrids use G. banksii as the seed parent and all are an amazing colour range from burnt treacle/brown to sunset orange reds. They all have the shrub and habit size of the parents and that wonderful flower habit of the tropical grevilleas.

It is worth mentioning the other Queenslander that has DEFINITELY come from *G. pteridifolia*. A natural swarm population of hybrids occur on the Burra Range between the two parents *G. pteridifolia* and *G. sessilis*. This hybrid replicated itself spontaneously in the garden of Mr.Dave Gordon OAM in the 1970's to produce what we know as *Grevillea* "Sandra Gordon". What an amazing grevillea of such habit and generosity

but seldom seen any more in the trade or gardens. It would be a massive shame to see this plant lost. I understand the trend towards smaller, longer-flowering grevilleas but PLEASE surely there has to always be a fit for these remarkable QUEENSLANDERS!!!!

Laylee Purchase

Colour variants in Grevilleas

I have seen many colour variants in *Grevillea wickhamii*, from yellow through orange to red, and all sorts of inter-grades inbetween. I have also seen many colour variations in *Grevillea refracta*, but never in my life have I seen a **yellow** flowering *Grevillea pteridifolia*, until we accidentally found 3 plants in among many orange flowered plants, just below Bamaga, Cape York.

As is always the case when I discover a 'new' colour I think I am the only person in the world to have found it. Even Peter Olde had not seen a yellow *G. pteridifolia*. Unfortunately, botanist Arthur Chapman was visiting just as I started this article, and yes, Arthur had seen the yellow colour variant – at Pentland, in the Burra Ranges. However, he had thought his yellow pteridifolia was actually a hybrid with *Grevillea sessilis*. After close inspection of my photos, he confirmed my find to be a pure pteridifolia. It is so handy having a botanist well versed in Australia flora living just around the corner.

Here is Peter Olde's explanation of why colour variants exist:

"Simple gene switching can cause change in flower colour. If successful, the plant will do it again and again."

Nevertheless, I find it incredible that in the absolute millions of *G. pteridifolias* that there should be so very few yellow ones. I have found yellow *G. wickhamii* at numerous locations and although rare, they persist in many different

populations. There are quite a few along the Canning Stock Route (top end), and I've seen a few along the Telfer Mine Road (on the way into the northern entrance to Rudall River National Park). I've also spotted yellow *G. wickhamii* below Broome. But the most perfect pure yellow I've seen is just north of Well 45 on the CSR.

I have travelled through the heavy populations of *G. pteridifolia* in WA and NT in areas like the Kimberley, and from the Qld/NT border through Hell's Gate to Limmen National Park, Roper Bar and through the Coburg Peninsula. While these areas boast the very best, deeper orange flowers, it was in N Qld, where the orange colour is less intense, that I saw this yellow *G. pteridifolia*.



The futility of desire

Finding familiar grevilleas growing wild in the bush brings a strange excitement. It brings on a good feeling to finally see a known species growing in its natural state with all the variations of shape, colour and size. Many are species we may be growing at home or have just seen them in nurseries, at plant sales, on garden visits or in books. However there are many species that are never seen growing in the Melbourne area, some are magnificent plants. I always believe the plants I don't have are better then the ones I do have, so I track down plants I don't have or graft that species, then I move onto the next on the wanted list and repeat the procedure. This can become a problem on trips north.

One species that I came across just west of Kaltukatjara (Docker River) on the Great Central Highway (impressive name for a poor road), 200k west of Uluru, was Grevillea stenobotrya commonly called the rattle pod Grevillea because the dry seed pods rattle against each other in the wind or when you brush past the plant. What I found of interest, even though I had read it, was it grows on top of sand dunes. At Kaltukatjara the dunes behind the camping ground were approximately 10m plus high, and right on the very top were stands of G. stenobotrya in full flower. It was a very hot and arid place for anything to grow, but they looked happy in the deep sand as did in other places along the way Grevillea albiflora and Grevillea pterosperma, all are similar species. G. stenobotrya grows alongside some unpleasant company, namely Gyrostemon ramulos (Camel Poison Bush) blamed for the death of some of Ernest Giles camels.

On attempting to graft Grevillea stenobotrya, Grevillea albiflora and Grevillea pterosperma I found the grafts had very low to nil success rates similar to Grevillea candelbroides, Grevillea leucopteris, Grevillea spinosa, "Desert Gold", Grevillea eriostachya, Grevillea excelsior, Grevillea juncifolia, and "Canning Classic". The success rate is almost in the order they are written here starting from low to nil. All these species come from different groups but are similar in having soft fleshy branchlets. The basic grafting technique and using G. robusta was not successful for me so a few of these plants had to be purchased from a more experienced grafter. One day I may do intergrafts and since good eyes are needed to do cotyledon grafting, this may have passed me by.

Other species that I have seen on northern trips and obtained are G. agrifolia, G. wickhamii and G. pteridifolia. I managed to keep G. agrifolia and G. wickhamii growing on grafts in pots for a number of years by keeping them in a glasshouse during winter. However, last winter I built a poly house and put them in there. My post mortem on these plants suggests that since the glasshouse had a concrete floor and was brick up to 1m high, this must have retained some heat overnight, whereas the poly house had a dirt floor and was just as cold inside as outside overnight. I had also placed them too close to an outside wall. Since these grevilleas come from the Kimberly area, I believe they will not survive if the surrounding overnight temperature drops much below 5 degrees for any length of time and they will not survive a frost if kept in the open. I did have G. agrifolia survive one winter in the open, it knocked it back hard but it regenerated well but did not survive a second winter. I also doubt that they would ever flower even in a glasshouse. But that's no reason to ignore them.

Grevillea wichhamii ssp aprica and G. pteridifolia are spectacular and very common plants in the Kimberly area. G. wickhamii ssp aprica conflorescence can be as spectacular as G. georgeana and on driving past the many stands of G. pteridifolia reminded me of a small G. robusta. It's a shame they won't survive here, but, not to be discouraged I now have G. aurea, G. dryandri ssp dasycarpa, G. formosa, G. refracta and another G. pteridifolia to watch over and the futile management this coming winter.

Direct deposits can be made into the Grevillea Study Group account

BSB 112-879 Account Number 016526630

(St George Bank).

Please notifiy the Treasurer of transfer by email

(bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au)

or by post to Grevillea Study Group, 32 Blanche St Oatley, NSW 2223

Flinders and Baudin

A commemoration of the voyages of discovery to New Holland by the English and French 1800-1805, aboard the English ship Investigator commanded by Matthew Flinders and the French ships Geographe and Naturaliste under the command of Nicolas Baudin

Conference

A one day conference on the scientific significance of the Flinders and Baudin expeditions will be held at Bulli on **Saturday 10 September 2011**, sponsored by the Illawarra Grevillea Park.

Venue: Woonona Bulli RSL Club, Princes Highway, Woonona.

Conference outline

8.30 – 9.00am	Early bird registration by 8 August \$50.00, \$70 at door includes lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea (info@grevilleapark.org for bank deposit details)		
9.00 – 9.15am	Welcome and opening address – Ray Brown		
9.15 – 9.45am	Brown, Bauer, Koalas and Honeyeaters: the local connection - Michael Organ		
9.45 - 10.30am	Matthew Flinders – Paul Brunton		
10.30 - 10.45am	Morning tea		
10.45 – 11.15am	Robert Brown and other botanists of that time – Peter Olde		
11.15 – 12.00pm	Nicolas Baudin was just doing his job under pressure from the elite – Margaret Sanky		
12.00 - 1.00pm	Lunch		
1.00 – 2.00pm	Aborigines their influence of that time - Keith Vincent Smith		
2.00 – 2.30pm	The importance of historical repositories to the researcher/writer – Candice Bruce		
2.30 - 3.00pm	The antiquariat supplying the Libraries & Collectors – Leo Berkelouw		
3.00 - 3.30pm	Discussion		

The printed papers from this conference are included in the registration cost.

Interesting early material relating to the voyages and contemporary collectable items will be on display. Some books will be for sale.

Opening of Memorial Garden

The Flinders Baudin Memorial Garden, located within the Illawarra Grevillea Park, Bulli, will be opened on **Sunday**, **11 September 2011**. A plaque will also be unveiled.

Sunday – cost to be advised.

9.30 – 10.00am	Official Opening of Memorial garden by Marie Bashir NSW Governor General & morning tea.	
11.00am	Garden & Waratah plantation tour leaves Illawarra Grevillea Park	
12.00pm	Lunch & visit Peter & Margaret Olde's "Silky Oaks" Australian native plant garden	
2.00pm	Waratah Farm visit	
4.00pm	Return to Illawarra Grevillea Park	

The 'Gordon' family of Grevilleas

We were recently in Queensland and took the opportunity to visit Myall Park Botanic Garden, the former home and property of Dave and Dorothy Gordon, near the small town of Glenmorgan, some 400 km west of Brisbane. Now while the Gordons may not be household names, one of their plants certainly is, Grevillea "Robyn Gordon". This is widely grown throughout Australia and overseas and has the distinction of being the first Australian plant cultivar registered with the Australian Cultivar Registration Authority in 1968, just five years after it appeared in the Gordon's garden in 1963. Dave Gordon is usually described as a grazier and wheat grower but from 1941, he and his wife Dorothy collected and grew plants from all over Australia and Dave built up a huge herbarium of over 7000 botanical specimens, largely of Eucalyptus and Acacia, but with many others as well. Dorothy was also a talented artist and painted many of these plants. They are on display in the gallery attached to the Information Centre. Dave specialised in plants from the arid, semi-arid and dry subtropical regions. Today his property still operates as a working farm but some 132 hectares of natural bushland has been set aside "to conserve and display species from arid, semiarid and dry tropical regions, with an emphasis on rare, threatened and vulnerable species". The gardens are managed by a Board of Honorary Directors and visitors are welcome, with various levels of accommodation being available on the property. For more information, see their website www.myallparkbotanicgarden.org.au

The Gordon family of Grevilleas

I am sure that we are all familiar with *Grevillea* "Robyn Gordon". It seems to have been around "for ever' (in reality since about 1968 when Dave Gordon distributed cuttings to nurserymen Alex Scott and Sid Cadwell – "Robyn Gordon" does not set seed and can only be propagated by cuttings). He named it Robyn after his oldest daughter who died tragically in 1969 at the age of 16. It is a medium shrub to about 1.5m but can spread to several metres. It has dense, dark green, deeply divided leaves and flowers profusely, often for much of the year with a peak in spring. Its parents are the Queensland *Grevillea banksii* (red form), a tall, bushy shrub or small tree and the Western

Australian Grevillea bipinnatifida, a low growing shrub from the Darling ranges, which were growing together in one of the Gordon gardens. The flower heads are spectacular, long racemes of up to 100 individual flowers, deep red and generally showing prominently on the bush. It is very hardy and long lived, and it was a very pleasant surprise to Liz and I to see the original plant still growing in the gardens, now protected by a wire fence and nearly 50 years old! One of the problems with growing "Robyn Gordon" is knowing whether you have a true form. There are plenty of imitations - "Ned Kelly", "Coconut Ice", "Superb" - and even some forms of unknown origin sold through the nursery trade as "Robyn Gordon". However, the "true" "Robyn Gordon" has all red flowers, with no orange or yellow visible; the styles in particular are all red.



I had known that there was at least one other Gordon *Grevillea*, *G*. "Sandra Gordon" (named after the Gordon's second daughter Sandra Neill) but was surprised to learn about a third, *Grevillea* "Merinda Gordon". "Sandra Gordon" is a tall shrub with spectacular yellow-orange flowers, typical of many of the Queensland tropical grevilleas, and is reasonably popular in that state as a garden and landscaping plant. Its parents were *Grevillea pteridifolia* and *Grevillea sessilis*, both Queensland plants and it appeared in the same garden section as "Robyn". Sadly, the original plant succumbed to an attack of termites a few years ago and all that is left today is a stump. Plants of the parents are still being

grown in the garden. *G.* "Merinda Gordon" could be described as the "Cinderella" of the three and I am unsure whether it is even available through the nursery trade. One reason for this is that it is very prickly, one of its parents being the very pretty but prickly *Grevillea insignis* (the other is *Grevillea asteriscosa*, if possible, even more prickly), both Western Australian. It may also be that it is difficult to keep alive except in a dry, hot climate; it also needs perfect drainage. The plants we saw were about 2m by 2m and were sparsely flowered although April was probably not their peak flowering season.



Flowering head on Grevillea Merinda Gordon - photo Liz Cavanagh

It appears that the above are not the only plants named after the Gordon family. Of course, there is Grevillea gordoniana, named for the patriarch himself, Dave Gordon who lived to the ripe old age of 101 (1899-2001). His life spanned the entire 20th century. Grevillea gordoniana is an unsusual species from north of Kalbarri with terete leaves and bean-like fruits. It was named in 1964 by the botanist Charles Gardner. One of Dave's closest friends was George Althofer. He was best man at his wedding to Dorothy. George was the predominant nurseryman supplying native plants in New South Wales from 1939 -1960s. He made a couple of trips to Myall Park and on one of these he collected seedlings and seed from near a Grevillea juniperina. One of these plants was named Grevillea 'Glen Sandra'. It had red flowers like Grevillea rosmarinifolia which it closely resembles. This plant is still grown but rarely sold. Plants were listed for sale in Tasmania by Max Roberts in 2008. John Mahony, Glenleith Nursery, Mount Duneed, Victoria also was still growing it as recently as a few years ago.

Around the same time (1962) a seedling was named Grevillea 'Dorothy' by George Althofer. The source of the seed is not known. Little is known of this plant which was named for Dave's wife Dorothy Gemmell (1930-1985). It grew to about 2.5m but flower colour is also unknown. Little is known of this cultivar which has not survived in horticulture and does not appear to have been exploited commercially. The circumstances of Dorothy's death were sad. She drove the car to the mail box, some distance from the house, after a domestic argument. It was found quite a distance off the road smashed into a tree. She was found dead inside. The circumstances were such that suicide was a possible cause and left the family very distraught. It was later determined as more likely that she had suffered a stroke or heart attack as she drove.

More recently (2007) a Myall Park seedling of *Grevillea beadleana* was registered with ACRA as *Grevillea* 'Dorothy Gordon'. It is very similar to the species but has pale pink styles and Myall Park propose to market it commercially soon.

During the period when Robyn was ill, the Gordon family became very worried about the cause which was never properly diagnosed at the time. It is now thought to have been leukaemia. Dave took Robyn to Melbourne in the hope of finding a diagnosis and cure. On the way he visited the Althofers and also called on Bill Cane (1911-1987), proprietor of Clearview Nursery, Maffra, Victoria, who was very touched at Robyn's plight. He named a plant for her, Grevillea 'Clearview Robin', a seedling that he thought had arisen in his own garden. His friend, Leo Hodge, disagreed and claimed it had been dug up on his property and was the plant later named Grevillea 'Poorinda Illumina'. The possible error, surely a genuine mistake if made, escalated to the point that it became the focus for the end of their previously close friendship, though there may have been other reasons for this as well.

So, all in all, the Gordon family have done pretty well out of *Grevillea* and its cultivars.

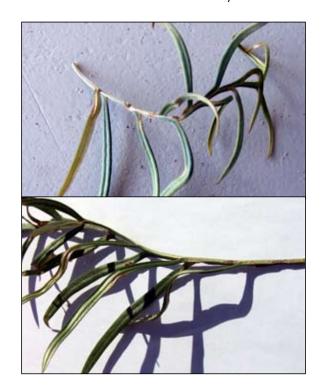
Dear Grevillea Study Group,

Can you please look at these photos and help me identify the problem with these *Grevilleas*. We are not sure if it is a disease (fungus) or insect (can't find any). Have tried spraying with both fungicides and insecticides but can't seem to stop it. We can spend time cutting off damaged leaves, then spraying, but it comes back (almost immediately) It mainly occurs on 140ml pots and newly potted 200ml. It has been a problem for a few years now and I'm really getting frustrated. So frustrated I'm wondering if it is worth persevering with growing grevilleas. Help would be greatly appreciated.

Beryl Raddatz, Northside Natives

Hi Beryl, you must get an opinion from DPI but it looks like a nutrient issue in the potting mix to me. Alternatively you should check for psyllids and spray with a miticide such as Procide. I hasten to add that I am not an expert in this field.

Peter Olde



Seed Bank

Matt Hurst

37 Heydon Ave, Wagga Wagga 2650 NSW Phone (02) 6925 1273

\$1.50 + s.a.e.

Grevillea armigera Grevillea monticola Grevillea aurea Grevillea nudiflora Grevillea baileyana Grevillea paniculata Grevillea candelabroides Grevillea petrophiloides Grevillea drummondii Grevillea polybotrya Grevillea excelsior Grevillea pulchella Grevillea decora Grevillea refracta Grevillea floribunda Grevillea superba Grevillea glauca Grevillea teretifolia Grevillea johnsonii Grevillea tetragonoloba Grevillea leucopteris Grevillea triloba Grevillea longistyla Grevillea wickamii ssp Grevillea magnifica ssp aprica magnifica Grevillea wilsonii

Please note: seed from hybrid -substitute -cultivated plants does not necessarily come true to type.

Please include a stamped self addressed envelope.

Free + s.a.e.

_		
ſ	Grevillea banksii – grey leaf form	Grevillea longistyla
l	Grevillea banksii – red tree form	Grevillea mimosoides
l	Grevillea banksii – red prostrate	Grevillea 'Moonlight'
l	Grevillea bipinnatifida	Grevillea 'Moonlight x Ivanhoe'?
l	Grevillea Bon Accord	Grevillea occidentalis
l	Grevillea caleyi	Grevillea petrophiloides
l	Grevillea crithmifolia	Grevillea plurijuga
l	Grevillea decora	Grevillea preissii
l	Grevillea didymobotrya	Grevillea pteridifolia
l	Grevillea diversifolia ssp	Grevillea robusta
l	subtersericata	Grevillea 'Sandra Gordon'
l	Grevillea eriostachya	Grevillea superba
l	Grevillea floribunda	Grevillea synapheae
١	Grevillea goodii subsp goodie	Grevillea treueriana
l	Grevillea johnsonii	Grevillea tripartite ssp macrostylis
l	Grevillea johnsonii 'Orange'	Grevillea vestita
l	Grevillea leucopteris	Grevillea wilkinsonii
L		

Fresh stocks of garden seed are desperately needed as most species are almost out of seed. Can members asking for seed please give an alternative list in case some species are no longer in stock. It is preferred if requests are sent with a small padded post pack. It costs less to send at approx \$1.50 per letter than padding an envelope at \$2.00 each or more so the seed will survive the trip down the sorting rollers. It's a good idea to send extra stamps with requests as extra postage is usually needed to be paid with almost every request. Leftover stamps would be sent back with your seed.

Financial Report - June 2011

Income	
Subscriptions	\$410.00
Interest	92.11
	\$502.11
Expenditure	
Newsletter publishing	\$240.00
Printing (x2)	506.62
Postage	107.75
Stationery	13.97
Bank fees	5.00
Transfer to Business Account	2,000.00

\$2,873.32

Amount in Interest Bearing Deposit till 1/9/2011 **\$26,404.23**

Balance in Current Account 9/6/2011

\$7,485.43

Balance in Business Cheque Account 28/6/2011 **\$1.484.97**

Office Bearers

Leader

Peter Olde 140 Russell Lane, Oakdale NSW 2570 Phone (02) 4659 6598 Email peter.olde@exemail.com.au

Treasurer and Newsletter Editor

Christine Guthrie 32 Blanche Street, Oatley NSW 2223 Phone (02) 9579 4093 Email bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au

Curator of Living Collection

Neil Marriott

PO Box 107, Stawell Vic 3380 Phone (03) 5356 2404 or 0458 177 989 Email neilmarriott@westnet.com.au

Curator of Grevillea Park Bulli

Ray Brown 29 Gwythir Avenue, Bulli NSW 2516 Phone (02) 4284 9216

Curator of Seed Bank

Matt Hurst

37 Heydon Ave, Wagga Wagga 2650 NSW Phone (02) 6925 1273

Email Group

This email group was begun by John and Ruth Sparrow from Queensland. Free membership.

To subscribe, go to groups.yahoo.com and register, using the cyber-form provided. You must provide a user name and password as well as your email address to enable continuing access to the site which houses all emails and discussions to date.

You will receive a confirming email back and then you are able to access the site wherein you can select the groups to which you would like to subscribe. In this case search for 'grevilleas' and then subscribe.

Following this you will receive the latest emails regularly in your email to which you can respond. This is a good way to encourage new growers and those interested in the genus.

Postmessage: grevilleas@yahoogroups.com Subscribe: grevilleas-subscribe@yahoo.com Unsubscribe:grevilleas-unsubscribe@yahoo.com List owner: grevilleas-owner@yahoo.com URL to this page: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/

Online Contact

grevilleas

- 1. President's email address peter.olde@exemail.com.au
- 2. The email group grevilleas@yahoogroups.com
- 3. URL for Grevillea Study Group website http://asgap.org.au/grevSG/index.html

Deadline for articles for the next newsletter is 30 September 2011, please send your articles to peter.olde@exemail.com.au before this date.

If a cross appears in the box, your subscription is due. Please send to the Treasurer, Christine Guthrie, 32 Blanche Street, Oatley 2223.

Please make all cheques payable to the Grevillea Study Group.

2010	2011	-
		If a cross appears in both boxes this will be your last newsletter.

Membership fees

The annual subscription is \$10 per year or \$40 for 5 years. If you choose to receive the newsletter by email there will be a 50% discount ie membership will be \$5 per year - \$20 for 5 yrs. I would encourage everyone to take advantage of the savings by paying for 5 years, and choosing email.