

Wednesday Walk – Coornartha Nature Reserve – 28 September 2016

It's only five months since our last visit to this reserve, and we returned to check out some early flowering plants and to visit another part of the reserve along a gully. We were indeed rewarded by a proliferation of flowers on the *Olearia idiochroa* and the Hovea, tentatively identified as *H. purpurea*, but I should have pressed some specimens to get an authoritative identification from the herbarium. The walk starts in a cleared area of native grassland bordered by a shrubbery of *Ozothamnus conditus* where we noted in flower, *Cymbonotus* sp, *Dodonaea viscosa* subsp *angustissima*, *Exocarpos strictus* and *Cryptandra amara* var *longiflora*. Following the trail into the dry woodland beyond we found extensive stands of *Olearia* and *Hovea* in flower as well as *Leucopogon virgatus*, *Acacia rubida*, a single *Clematis leptophylla*, festooned over the bushes of *Ozothamnus conditus*, and a curious unidentified pea in bud. We also saw a small patch of tiny greenhoods in bud, probably a species of *Hymenochilus* according to Tony Wood. Little else was in flower and other plants seen are already covered in the March visit apart from new records for *Acacia falciformis* and *Indigofera adesmiifolia*. The rather open woodland contains fine examples of *E. rossii* and *E. mannifera*.

From there we returned to the cars and drove about a kilometre west to a gully that crosses the road. We descended a slope with senescent *Acacia mearnsii* and an understory of scattered gruggly bushes, *Melicytus* sp, a form yet to be described. As we moved into the woodland along the steep sides of the gully, with exposed platforms of metamorphic rocks, we found a curious white Brassicaceae with a basal rosette of spoon-shaped leaves and a small umbel of white flowers on a leafless stem. As we progressed through the area we found more of these plants in distinct stands. Trawling through the web on my return I tentatively identified the plant as *Cardamine gunnii* but the genus is under revision. In the gully we also found a stand of *Pomaderris pallida* that is not recorded from this area, a species that is on the NSW endangered list and I notified Keith McDougall of National Parks and Wildlife Service Queanbeyan of our find. We added quite a few species from this area to the list including *Acacia gunnii*, *Bossiaea riparia*, *Brachyscome spathulatum*, *Grevillea lanigera*, and *Hovea heterophylla*.

This is a very large nature reserve and there remains much more to explore but it was time to adjourn to the 'rabbit farm' cafe in Bredbo for our afternoon tea.

All photos by Roger Farrow.



Cardamine gunnii



Olearia idiochroa



Dodonaea viscosa ssp *angustissima*



Hovea ?purpurea



Pomaderris pallida



Pomaderris pallida



Cryptandra amara var longiflora



Leucopogon attenuatus



Grevillea lanigera

Plant List for Coonarth Creek Nature Reserve – 29 September 2016

? indicates that those present were unsure of the plant name

Acacia aureocrinita	Elymus scaber	Pimelea linifolia
Acacia dawsonii	Enneapogon nigricans	Plantago sp
Acacia dealbata	Eucalyptus dives	Poa meionectes
Acacia falcata	Eucalyptus mannifera ssp maculosa	Pomaderris pallida
Acacia gunnii	Eucalyptus rossii	Pomax umbellata
Acacia mearnsii	Eucalyptus rubida	Pultenaea procumbens
Acacia parramattensis	Eucalyptus viminalis	Rumex sp
Acacia rubida	Exocarpus strictus	Scleranthus biflorus
Acaena ovina	Fabaceae Unknown	Senecio quadridentatus
Ajuga australis	Galium gaudichaudi	Solenogyne dominii
Austrostipa scabra ssp falcata	Geranium solanderi	Stackhousia monogyna
Austrostipa sp	Grevillea lanigera	Themeda triandra
Bossiaea buxifolia	Hardenbergia violacea	Viola betonicifolia
Bossiaea riparia	Hibbertia obtusifolia	Vittadinia cuneata
Brachyloma daphnoides	Hovea heterophylla	Vittadinia gracilis
Brachyscome dentata	Hovea ?purpurea	Vittadinia muelleri
Brachyscome spathulata	Hydrocotyle sp	Wahlenbergia sp
Bursaria spinosa	Indigofera adesmiifolia	
Callitris endlicheri	Joycea pallida	
Cardamine ?gunnii	Juncus sp	
Cassinia aculeata	Lepidosperma laterale	
Cassinia longifolia	Leucopogon attenuatus	
Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia	Leucopogon fletcheri ssp brevisepalus	
Chrysocephalum apiculatum	Lomandra filiformis ssp filiformis	
Chrysocephalum semipapposum	Lomandra longifolia	
Chrysocephalum semipapposum (grey form)	Lomandra multiflora	
Clematis leptophylla	Luzula sp	
Crassula sieberiana	Melicytus sp	
Cryptandra amara ?var floribunda	Melichrus urceolatus	
Cymbonotus sp	Microlaena stipoides	
Daviesia leptophylla	Monotoca scoparia	
Dianella revoluta	Olearia iodochroa	
Dichelachne sp (2)	Oxalis sp	
Dichondra repens	Ozothamnus conditus	
Dillwynia sericea	Panicum effusum	
Dodonaea viscosa ssp angustissima	Persoonia rigida	

