AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANTS SOCIETY CANBERRA REGION (INC)



Journal Vol. 17 No. 4

ISSN 1447-1507

December 2012

Print Post Approved PP299436/00143

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Cover: Correa reflexa, Kambah Pool, North; Photo: Martin Butterfield

Journal articles

The Journal is a forum for the exchange of members' and others' views and experiences of gardening with, propagating and conserving Australian plants.

All contributions, however short, are welcome. Contributions may be typed or handwritten, and accompanied by photographs and drawings.

Submit photographs as either electronic files, such as JPGs, or prints. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your prints returned. If possible set your digital camera to take high resolution photos. If photos cannot be emailed, make a CD and send it by post. If you have any queries please contact the editor

The deadline dates for submissions are 1 February (March), 1 May (June), 1 August (September) and 1 November (December). Send articles or photos to:

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Paid advertising is available in this Journal. Details from the Editor.

Society website: http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Printed by Elect Printing, Fyshwick, ACT http://www.electprinting.com.au/

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Canberra Region Report November 2012

Propagation

We have three shade houses and three hotbeds which are in full swing as we prepare for our October plant sale. We have a very active and proficient group that takes cuttings from members' gardens and produces over 1,000 plants for each sale.

Book Revision

Work is progressing on a major revision of our book *Australian Plants for Canberra Region Gardens*. The committee is working hard to create a useful information resource of plants for use in Canberra and other cold-climate gardens. It is anticipated that most plants will have colour images associated with the description.

Monthly Meetings

Our monthly meetings in the evening of the second Thursday have had interesting speakers:

- Brad Pillans on the Flora of Southern Chile and Easter Island: Australian connections
- David Shorthouse on progress of the Southern Tablelands Ecosystem Park in the arboretum
- Lucy Sutherland on the Australian Seed Bank Partnership
- Lyn Craven on Melaleucas

- Lionel Henderson of CSIRO on the commercialisation of Australian plants
- Neil Marriott on landscaping for wildlife.
- Emma De Lande on the National Arboretum Canberra
- Gwyn and Geoff Clarke on the 50 years of ANPS Canberra
- Lyndal Thorburn on Eremophilas and Lucinda Royston on Flowers in the Desert

Daytime Activities

Daytime activities occur generally on the Tuesday in the week following the evening members meeting. The following have been held since the last report in March 2012:

- Daytime and Garden Design Study Group meeting at Andy and Janet Russell's garden
- Daytime meeting and tour of Greening Australia nursery
- Daytime and Garden Design Study Group meeting at Els Wynen's garden
- Daytime meeting was a tour of the native plants on The Australian National University campus
- Daytime and Garden Design Study Group meeting at Marcia Else's garden
- Garden Design Study Group visit to Rob and Norma's garden to help with rejuvenation

- Daytime Activity and Garden Design Study Group visit to Ros Cornish's garden in Carwoola
- Daytime Activity and Garden Design Study Group visit to Roger Farrow and Christine Kendrick's garden in Urila
- Daytime Activity guided walk in the Australian National Botanic Gardens with an emphasis on edible plants

Wednesday Walks

Each week the walkers went to a different site around Canberra. A report is prepared for each walk with a list of plants seen as well as often a bird list as well. The reports are put on our website for future reference.

Plant Sales

Twice a year on the third Saturday of March and October, the Society holds plant sales at the ANBG. In March we sold 5,233 plants of which 783 were grown by our propagation team and in October, we sold 8,069 of which 694 were ANPS Canberra plants. It was wonderful to get so many interesting and different native plants out into gardens. Given the loss of a number of nurseries that used to sell native plants in our area, our sales are becoming more important and appeal to people from a wide geographical area. These sales also provide a significant income to the Society which allows us

to keep our membership dues low and will allow us to publish the new edition of our book.

Field Trips

Each month, the Society holds a field trip which is usually over a weekend. The following field trips have been held this year.

- Early mountain flowers in the Snowy Mountains
- Errinundra National Park
- Macquarie Pass National Park and Budderoo Heathlands
- Croajingalong National Park
- McDonnell Ranges, Central Australia
- Mount Canobolas and other areas around Orange

The Biennial Conference in 2015

Canberra is to host the biennial conference in 2015. A small committee has been formed and we have secured a meeting venue which is the conference facility of the University of Canberra. It is a new facility located on the edge of the campus near bus stops and is surrounded by native gardens. Work is progressing to identify and organise the pre- and post-field trips as well as the daytime trips that are part of the meeting.

Submitted by Ben Walcott 8 November 2012

Whose Bean genus is that?

Words and photos by Martin Butterfield

Before getting down to the thrust of the article I should explain the title. It is common practice to refer to many members of the family *Fabaceae* as 'peas'. However since *Faba* refers to the Latin for 'bean' I prefer to use that word as a vernacular. (Of course, *Faba* is no longer a genus having been replaced by *Vicia* {~Vetches: so perhaps 'Viccies' is even better?} but why has the genus name not been changed to something else that is still in the taxon?)

Whatever. Unless the taxonomists have changed things again while I have been composing this, there are a number of genera within the family *Fabaceae* named after individuals. I thank lan Fraser for a blogpost¹ explaining how *Hardenbergia* is named in honour of Franziska von Hardenberg. The common member of this family is of course *Hardenbergia violacea*.

I then discovered that *Hovea* is also named after a person. In this case a Polish botanist Anton Pantaleon Hove.



Hardenbergia violacea

He seems to have travelled widely in his period of activity (fl. 1785–98² or fl.1785–1829, depending on one's source). Two Australian links for Hove are

- his despatch by Banks to acquire cotton plants from India³ for use in other British colonies; and
- a position as botanist on a covert mission to Namibia to determine whether the area of Botany Bay should be the penal colony to replace (what is now) the USA⁴.

This illustrated member of the genus *Hovea* appears to have been renamed between *H. heterophylla* and *H. linearis* but, according to Plantnet, is currently the former.



Hovea heterophylla

Swainsona is named after Isaac Swainson, a botanist and herbalist, best known for his treatments for venereal diseases⁵. Four members of the genus are found in the ACT of which S. sericea is the more common.



Swainsona sericia

We will now move into the 'egg and bacon' plants, beginning with the genus *Pultenae*a. This taxon is named after Richard Pulteney⁶, an English physician and botanist who authored the first English biography of Linnaeus. He also provided the first accounts of Leicestershire botany. (For those with corvidophagic connections he has, as far as I can determine, no connection with Pulteney Street in Adelaide.) The image offered is *P. procumbens*, a prolific species in our area of interest.



Pulltenaea procumbens

Daviesia commemorates Hugh Davies⁷, a Welshman who compiled the first volume to cross-reference plant names in the Welsh language with their scientific names. This book is still regarded as the most complete list of plant names in Welsh. Its treatment of the flora of

Anglesey was also the first detailed consideration of the flora of a Welsh county, as opposed to the more common approach of that time of uncoordinated plant investigations.



Daviesia ulicifolia

Dillwynnia was named in favour of Lewis Weston Dillwynn⁸ who was born in Essex UK but lived for much of his life in Wales managing the family industrial assets. His best known work *The British Confervae* is an illustrated study of British freshwater algae. Proving that he, like his son Lewis Llewellyn Dillwyn⁹, was an all-round naturalist he also named *Lithopoma gibberosa*, a species of sea snail.



Dillwynnia phyllicoides

Followers of modern music (or US politics) might hope that Bossiaea was named after Bruce Springsteen. Alas it is not so. This genus was named for Joseph Hughes (or Hugh) de Boissieu (de) La Martinière¹⁰ a member of La Perouse's expedition of two ships which disappeared in the Solomon Islands in 1788. Surely this is the most arbitrary collection of characters from one name to form a second, especially since the gentleman was also known, more simply, as Joseph La Martinière! As the expedition visited Botany Bay en route it is possible that he saw representatives of the genus to be named after him.



Bossiaea buxifolia, showing the leaves to be like that of the English Box.

The exotic locust-bean genus gets a run in the ACT Plant Census (presumably through "feralisation"). This genus¹¹ is named after the royal French gardeners Jean Robin and his son Vespasian Robin, who introduced the plant¹² to Europe in 1601. (In view of the name of the founder of Melbourne it is perhaps surprising that no plants have been named after John Batman.)

An interesting reversal is the genus *Genista* which is simply the Latin for 'broom'. It was however slightly adapted – via *Plantae Genista* — into the name Plantagenet¹³! It is claimed the nickname arose because Geoffrey of Anjou wore a sprig of the common broom in his hat.

Looking through these names I am interested that at least two seem to have a Welsh connection and another two names celebrate people who were the first to compile a list for a relatively small area of territory. Perhaps members of ANPS have a chance to get a genus (or at least a species) named after them if they develop lists of their patch?

- 1 http://ianfrasertalkingnaturally.blogspot.com.au/2012/09/of-broken-hearts-and-purple-flowers.html
- 2 The notation 'fl.' should be interpreted as 'flourished' and from the examples cited is obviously a somewhat flexible term!
- 3 http://www.mangosteen.com/historyandfolklore.htm
- 4 http://www.christies.com/lotfinder/lot/penal-colony-in-namibia-captain-4256264-details.aspx?intObjectID=4256264
- 5 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac_Swainson
- 6 http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Pulteney,_Richard_(DNB00)
- 7 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugh_Davies_(botanist)
- 8 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis Weston Dillwyn
- 9 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis Llewelyn Dillwyn
- 10 http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Hugues_Boissieu_La_Martini%C3%A8re
- 11 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robinia
- 12 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint-Julien-le-Pauvre#Other_features
- 13 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genista



The Wednesday Walkers had a good winter, visiting many old favourite places as well as a few new ones. We always manage to find things of interest and this winter was no different.

Kambah Pool, North

We have been visiting the Murrumbidgee Corridor regularly over the years and it was time to check again the regeneration after the 2003 bushfire. In mid-June we decided to go north from Kambah Pool, starting near the top car park and first crossing a grassland, then a creek, before climbing high above the Murrumbidgee River. We walked about three kilometres to where Station Creek runs into the river. We had lunch up high with the view then a few went down to the river, checking that the *Cryptandra propinqua* population was still there and healthy — it was in great abundance and in bud.

The river area where we used to have lunch was unrecognisable — overgrown and with piles of debris from floods. There weren't many flowers — a few on Westringia eremicola, one Hibbertia riparia, some Correa reflexa (green) and some Grevillea juniperina. There was every indication that there would be a great display of Acacia buxifolia, A. rubida and Pomaderris pallida in spring. The recovery after the fire is quite remarkable with dense areas of wattles and eucalypt saplings as well as many grevilleas. Even the Discaria pubescens population seemed more extensive than we remembered. We added many grass species to our post-fire list which probably reflects the breaking of the drought since our last visit in 2008.



Brachyloma daphnoides buds, Kambah Pool, North; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Xerochrysum viscosum, Gale; Photo: Graeme Kruse

were lots of buds on several pomaderris species as well as *Cryptandra amara* var. *longiflora, C. propinqua, Clematis microphylla* and *Brachyloma daphnoides*. There were also a few early (or late?) flowers on *Dillwynia sericea* and *Xerochrysum viscosum*.

Gale

This is a favourite of ours because it has a wealth of species — including many weeds unfortunately — and there is always something of interest. On this visit, in late June, it was freezing cold and foggy with the sun only appearing just before lunch. The area is at the southern end of the suburbs of Queanbeyan, bordered by the Old Cooma Road, Wickerslack Lane and the Queanbeyan River. This time, we entered from Wickerslack Lane and followed some trails in the upper areas, away from the river.

We added a few new species to our list, one of which was Lotus australis — several plants. The wattles were gearing up for a good display in spring particularly Acacia pycnantha, A. rubida, A. dawsonii and already there were some nice flowers on A. genistifolia. There



Styphelia triflora, Gale; Photo: Roger Farrow



Red Rocks Gorge, Kambah Pool, South; Photo: Martin Butterfield

Kambah Pool, South

The end of June saw us back at Kambah Pool but this time to walk south to Red Rocks Gorge. The track follows the cliffs above the Murrumbidgee River with one descent to the river. Unfortunately there are far more

weeds on this walk than on the walk to the north. We added several new species to our post-fire list though, including *Allocasuarina* verticillata, Astroloma humifusum, Cassinia longifolia and a few grasses — Sorghum leiocladum and Poa induta.



Helicopter Rescue, Kambah Pool, South; Photo: Merelyn Southwell-Keeley



Acacia doratoxylon and buds (inset), Kambah Pool, South; Photos: Roger Farrow

Not surprisingly, there were very few flowers, just some *Grevillea juniperina* and *Veronica perfoliata*. We were pleased to see very good regeneration of *Callitris endlicheri*. At Red Rocks Gorge some descended the steep slope to the river and found *Westringia eremicola, Calytrix tetragona, Leucopogon attenuatus, Callistemon sieberi*, lots of *Acacia doratoxylon* and a few water plants.

We had an exciting finish to the walk when one of our number broke her ankle and had to be airlifted to Canberra Hospital by the Snowy Hydro SouthCare chopper.

Bango Nature Reserve

Bango Nature Reserve is a fairly new reserve (created August 2011) located north of Yass on Blakney Creek Road South. It is 409 hectares and heavily wooded. This was our first visit and we only managed to explore a small portion of the northern end.

The trees were Eucalyptus blakelyi, E. rossii, E. bridgesiana, E. macrorhyncha, E. melliodora and some E. nortonii with huge juvenile leaves. The understory is fairly sparse but contained some interesting things.

The highlights were the large colonies of orchids — *Diplodium fischii* and *Acianthus collinus* — which were new to most of us. We also found lots of other orchid leaves — *Diuris, Thelymitra, Microtis* and a few strange ones we couldn't identify. There were not many other plants with flowers — a few *Hibbertia obtusifolia*, one large *Acacia*



Bango Nature Reserve; Photo: Roger Farrow

ulicifolia and the fern, Ophioglossum lusitanicum. Other plants of note were Daviesia leptophylla, Phyllanthus hirtellus, Cheiranthera linearis, many Thysanotus patersonii, Dillwynia sericea, D. phylicoides, Acacia gunnii, A. dealbata, A. implexa and A. Parramattensis.

Most importantly, we saw the Yass Daisy — Ammobium craspedioides. It is a Threatened Plant, classed as Vulnerable under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act. We will be returning to this Reserve to explore it more fully.

The Red Track

On a cold, sparkling morning in July, we did The Red Track — a newly signposted walk which starts from the top of Red Hill. There are wonderful views of Canberra at the start and finish of the walk. It first

heads south to a saddle then steeply down to the east where it runs north, parallel to Mugga Way, finally climbing steeply back to the road.

There were lots of young trees eucalypts and wattles — interspersed with some very old ones — E. blakelyi, E. E. bridgesiana, melliodora. E. polyanthemos, E. mannifera, Acacia implexa, A. dealbata and A. mearnsii. There were not many flowers but we were delighted to find a small hillside of Cryptandra amara var. longiflora in bud as well as a large patch of the endangered (under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act) Rutidosis leptorhynchoides with a few flowers. Other plants of interest were Linum marginale, Pimelea glauca, Dichanthium sericeum, Indigofera adesmiifolia and Calotis lappulacea.



Pimelea linifolia, Farrer Ridge; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Brachyscome spathulata, Yanununbeyan SCA; Photo: Roger Farrow

Farrer Ridge

Farrer Ridge is an old favourite. This time, we started from Hawkesbury Crescent at the north-eastern part of the Reserve. We did a short loop, getting to the power lines, and were surprised at the floriferous displays.

We saw a wonderful hillside of Leucopogon attenuatus in full flower. Other flowers were Pimelea linifolia, Hardenbergia violacea, Stypandra glauca, the odd flower on Dillwynia sericea and Xerochrysum viscosum and many buds on Clematis leptophylla and Leucopogon fletcheri ssp. brevisepalus. One seemingly out of place shrub had us puzzled but we eventually decided it was Leptospermum brevipes. There were also quite a few orchid leaves appearing.

Yanununbeyan State Conservation Area (SCA)

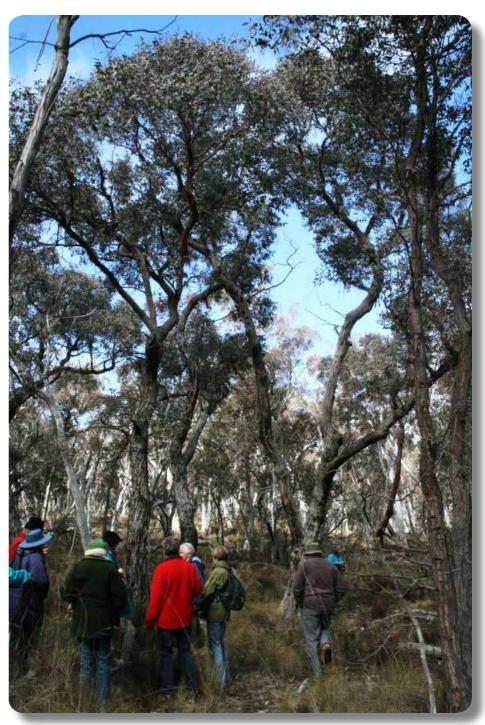
Yanununbeyan SCA is at the end of Woolcara Lane which runs off the Captains Flat Road, south-east of Queanbeyan. It is mostly heavily wooded and is partly bordered by the Queanbeyan River.

We stopped first at the beginning of the SCA and found some flowers on Tetratheca bauerifolia and Brachyscome spathulata. We also saw Persoonia rigida, Comesperma ericinum, Acacia rubida (nearly flowering) and Mirbelia oxylobioides. The trees were Eucalyptus pauciflora, E. rubida, E. rossii and E. dives.

We then moved on to a new picnic area, positioned in a grove of E. stellulata, for morning tea, before heading to the intersection with Spring Creek Fire Trail where we looked at the unusual and rare Eucalyptus cinerea ssp. triplex. We then backtracked to the area where, on a previous visit, we had walked in to the Queanbeyan River. Here there was a lot of Leucopogon attenuatus flowering well. We found the river and had lunch perched above it with nice views and sun. Then the more adventurous descended to the river and eventually found the flat-leaved pea that we had found on an earlier visit — Bossiaea riparia.

Cullulla Road and Oallen Reserves

This was a car crawl rather than a walk. We went from Bungendore, via Tarago, to Cullulla Road and had several stops to admire some *Acacia terminalis* flowering well. We stopped at the quarry — a usual occurrence when we are out this



Journal, Australian Native Plants Society, Canberra Region Inc — December 2012



Eucalyptus cinerea ssp. triplex (facing page) and buds (above), Yanununbeyan SCA; Photos: Linda Spinaze (facing page) and Roger Farrow (above)

way — and found a wealth of plants recolonising the rocky slope.

Just past the quarry we checked on the *Pomaderris delicata* which was growing well and covered in buds. It is classed as Critically Endangered under the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act*. We then went on to the reserve above Oallen Ford and found *Epacris microphylla* and *Banksia marginata* flowering before having lunch by the Shoalhaven River. After lunch we did a short walk in the reserve south of the river which we had found last year and decided that we should return and explore this area much more fully.

Pine Island

Pine Island is a popular picnic spot on the Murrumbidgee River, not far from the Tuggeranong Town Centre. We headed south initially, from the central car park, to locate the rare Muehlenbeckia tuggeranong (classed as Endangered under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act) and were eventually successful but it was not looking well — dead twigs plus a few leaves. However, we saw a good patch of Leucopogon attenuatus

flowering and a few flowers on Phebalium squamulosum ssp. ozothamnoides, Correa reflexa (red and green), Amyema cambagei and Acacia dealbata.

Heading north on the river loop, we found lots of buds on Acacia rubida, Lissanthe striaosa, Pomaderris angustifolia, Bertya rosmarinifolia and Cryptandra amara var. longiflora. There were also large numbers of Hakea microcarpa, with their characteristic open fruit. We found a few new plants for the area — Asperula ambleia, Linum marginale, Leptospermum obovatum, Cassinia aculeata and Cymbopogon refractus. We had lunch beside the river under some Casuarina cunninghamiana and then returned by the high route, finding more Leucopogon attenuatus, Cryptandra amara var. longiflora as well as Kunzea parvifolia.

Mt Jerrabomberra

Mt Jerrabomberra is near Queanbeyan, with access from Halloran Drive, Jerrabomberra. Our walk mainly followed the road to the summit but with some off track diversions to see plants of interest. It is mainly woodland, *Eucalyptus rossii, E. macrorhyncha* and *E. polyanthemos,* with a varied understory.

There were many plants starting to flower, giving us the feeling that spring was on the way — Grevillea ramosissima (buds just bursting), Acacia pycnantha, A. ulicifolia, A. genistifolia, Veronica perfoliata, Pimelea linifolia, Leucopogon fletcheri ssp. brevisepalus, Hakea decurrens, Stypandra glauca, Brachyloma daphnoides, Stylidium graminifolium and Phyllanthus hirtellus. There were also many buds on Pomaderris andromedifolia ssp. confusa and P. betulina.

Touga Road

This was our last walk (drive really) for winter. We drove from Bungendore via Tarago and Oallen Ford to the Nerriga Road, then headed east across the Endrick River and through Bulee Gap, turning left onto Touga Road. The area was so impressive that we thought it warranted its own article. See later in this issue.

You can read a short description of our various walks, look at the list of plants we found (and often, the birds we spotted) and see some photos in the Wednesday Walks section of the ANPS website — http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au.



Dichelachne micrantha, Mt Jerrabomberra; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Amyema cambagei, Pine Island; Photo: Graeme Kruse





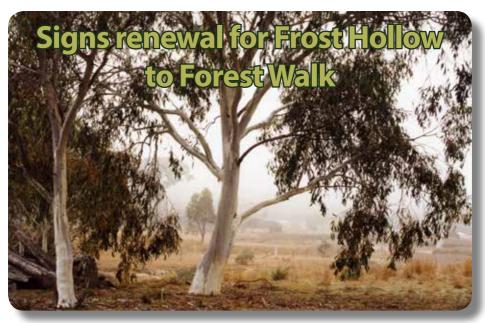
Acacia terminalis, Cullulla Road; Photos: (left) Martin Butterfield, (right) Graeme Kruse



Acacia dealbata, Pine Island; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Grevillea juniperina, Kambah Pool, South; Photo: Roger Farrow



Aranda Snow Gums in fog, 30 Jul 2001

Words and photos by Jean Geue

Nothing lasts forever. Friends of Aranda Bushland's self-guided walk was reaching a tipping point and in danger of losing its appeal. Our ten-year-old signs were looking distinctly shabby with chips from falling branches and pealing seal. Only one showed deliberate vandalism. However, it was surprisingly difficult to identify grants for interpretation, especially for a renewal project.

We were delighted to obtain small grant funds from NSW Landcare under Caring for Our Country, Communities in Landscapes, Box-Gum Woodland in the Murrumbidgee Catchment. We ticked all their boxes. Our Frost Hollow to Forest Walk showcases Box-Gum Woodland in the context of a transition from frost hollow grasslands through remnant

Snow Gum woodland, open Box-Gum woodland then uphill into closed dry sclerophyll forest — all in an easy one-to two-hour walk. We introduce ten species of eucalypts (half the main ones in the ACT) and show how each has its own place in nature. Peter Ormay's 1990 vision is confirmed by newspaper stories and field guides.

Our Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) funded signs (1999–2002) contain botanic drawings of bark, leaves, buds and nuts showing people how to see the subtle differences that underlie species diversity. We were privileged to use elegant drawings and maps contributed by Winifred Mumford, an ANPS Wednesday Walker. Replacing these NHT signs was possible as they had not dated, Screenmakers still had the data and the skills to migrate to new software and hardware.



Ros, Jo and Margaret, Plant Survey, Aranda Snow Gums,

Our project

Our revitalisation project involved manufacture, replacement and installation of ten replacement plates for the ten existing NHT signs and creation of one complete new sign. We moved two signs; one because a critical eucalypt had died and the other as fire trail widening had taken out the juvenile leaves. We overhauled the whole route. upgraded parts of the track, closed parts and created a new alternative return for an eleventh sign. We added more track markers as experience proved we needed more to make the route clear without regular brushcutting. We also needed extra markers for the new return. We were delighted when ACT Parks and Conservation Service replaced all logos and arrows and provided even more track markers and track upgrading than we had requested.

The project was finalised with a new, full colour edition of our walk brochure,

a guided walk with the sparkling new signs for the ACT Heritage Festival, photographic PlaceStories for websites and a well attended launch in March 2012 with federal and territory politicians.

Getting funds

Grants not only provide money, but are also valuable in attracting additional resources to achieve worthwhile projects. Our initial grant in March 2011 was enough to get us started, but not everything we wanted. Fortunately,



Winifred Mumfred & Anne Phillips, 29 Jun 2005



Installing new sign, 16 Sep 2011



Site for the moved Applebox sign; 30 Aug 2011

we received second round funding in August giving a total of \$4,021 (but a carrot of 20% was held over until we made PlaceStories for their website). Moving signs proved at least five times as much effort as installing but Parks and Conservation came to the party and contributed \$660 in cash.

The children of Aranda Primary School gave us a generous donation of \$400 which made an eleventh sign possible. We used aerial photos to show how in 1997 and 2004 a circle of eucalypt regeneration developed around mature canopies shown in 1945 and 1980. Parks and Conservation contributed \$1,400 in cash for 16 new track markers, logos and arrows making the whole route more visible plus \$1,380 @ \$30 per hour for installation and track enhancement.

Our grant included funds for a new edition of my brochure promoting the walk. Technology had changed and the new brochure had to be colourful so we contributed funds for graphic design by Mariana Rollgejser. My key 'people in landscape' photos are of Wednesday Walkers. It cost \$991 for a print run of 3,000 copies.

When I crunched the numbers, the final project total was \$27,227 made up of \$4,021 grant funds, \$3,440 cash/kind Parks and Conservation, \$400 Aranda Primary School children and \$19,366 (mostly kind) Friends of Aranda Bushland.

Conclusion

Our project demonstrates the valuable multiplier effect when funds for community volunteers from federal and territory government are involved and cooperation results. Canberra's bushland hills, ridges and buffers were kept free of buildings in the 1910s for their landscape values and now for their surprising biodiversity. Our parkcare grant was a federal one on ACT managed land that is 'designated' as of national importance. We can work better together.

It was critical for Friends of Aranda Bushland to renew our signage before its perceived value was mostly lost. It was worrying that grant bodies seem keener on making their mark with the new rather than revitalising the best of the old. Why was it so much easier to get grants for on-ground rather than for interpretation?



Wednesday Walkers on dark trunked slope, 27 Jul 2011

Fixing things on-ground is essential. But if people don't love their own country and their own landscapes, then there will never be enough resources to fix on-ground problems. Part of our love of Australia's iconic landscapes is appreciating the untidiness and the diversity that gives resilience through drought and flooding rains.

Without our expertise and enthusiasm our *Frost Hollow to Forest Walk* would not have information-rich and elegant signs.

Parkcare can make a difference.

References

www.FriendsOfArandaBushland.org.au

'Frost Hollow to Forest Walk, signs make our self-guided walk a reality' by Jean Geue. Australian Native Plants Society, Canberra Region Journal vol 13, no 9 March 2004, p19–21.



An intrigued Wednesday Walker, 27 Jul 2011



Wednesday Walkers at morning tea under Snow Gums, 29 June 2005



Wednesday Walkers on white trunked slope, 27 Jul 2011



Launch of Frost Hollow to Forest signs, 31 Mar 2012

Touga Road Touring (or is it Tolwong Road?)

Words by Ros Cornish

In late October 2011, the Wednesday Walkers discovered the Bulee Gap and Touga Road on the Braidwood-Nerriga-Nowra Road — see Journal Vol. 17 No. 1 March 2012. We called it "Walk of the Year" and planned further exploration of the area. Frances and Martin Butterfield returned shortly afterwards to venture further along Touga Road and confirmed that there was plenty more to see.

An opportunity to go there arose in late August 2012 — our last winter walk. After such a long, cold winter, we weren't expecting much but we were treated to an outstanding display once again. The latest Nerriga 1:25 000 map (3rd edition, 2007) has the road labelled as Tolwong Road (running off Turpentine Road) however, the signpost says Touga Road, if you're trying to find it.

We drove without stopping (always hard for us!) from Bungendore via Tarago and Oallen Ford to the Nerriga Road, then headed east across the Endrick River. Without stopping at Bulee Gap this time, we turned left onto Touga Road where we immediately stopped for morning tea. It was very rewarding with a lot of colour. We overlooked many of the plants that were so stunning last October because they weren't yet flowering. Instead, we had a whole new range of early flowers but the most stunning was Acacia elongata — a mass of bright

yellow flowers nearly concealing the dainty, narrow phyllodes.



Acacia elongata; Photo: Masumi Robertson

Other plants contributing to the floral display were A. ulicifolia, Banksia ericifolia, B. spinulosa, Hakea sericea, Leucopogon ericoides (with masses of pink buds), L. fraseri, Boronia algida, B. rigens, Dampiera stricta, Dillwynia ramosissima, Cryptandra amara var. floribunda, Pomaderris andromedifolia, P. lanigera, Grevillea baueri ssp. asperula and G. patulifolia.



Leucopogon fraseri; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Boronia rigens; Photo: Masumi Robertson



Dampiera stricta; Photo: Martin Butterfield

We also saw a very interesting bush with pea flowers that we couldn't put a name to but after some homework. Jo Walker worked it out to be Bossiaea kiamensis — a new species for us all and very handsome it was. Some of the other plants we put names to that weren't fully flowering included Banksia paludosa, Isopogon anethifolius, Petrophile sessilis, Lomandra obliqua, Caustis flexuosa, rotundifolium, Leptospermum Aotus ericoides, Kunzea parvifolia, Calytrix tetraaona. Allocasuarina distyla, Persoonia mollis and P. levis.



Dillwynia ramosissima; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Bossiaea kiamensis; Photo: Masumi Robertson

We continued along Touga Road for about seven kilometres, noticing a change in the vegetation with *Acacia hamiltoniana* being the main wattle flowering — also impressive. We stopped at the rock shelves just before a feature called The Jumps, a magnificent pagoda cliff formation. Many of the plants were the same as those already seen but we



Isopogon anethifolius; Photo: Martin Butterfield



Calytrix tetragona; Photo: Graeme Kruse

added a few more species which were flowering: Conospermum taxifolium, Hibbertia monogyna, Philotheca scabra ssp. latifolia, Epacris calvertiana (tucked under The Jumps cliff) and Phyllota phylicoides. We also saw some very nice mallee-type trees, Eucalyptus stricta.



The Jumps; Photo: Martin Butterfield

We had lunch on a rock shelf with a view of The Jumps and the country below the plateau to the north-west. We didn't spend much time looking at the view though because several books were produced and identifications made.

We then drove up The Jumps to a higher plateau and explored some more rocky platforms which had many of the same plants already seen but we added Mirbelia platylobioides, Boronia anemonifolia, Actinotus minor, Olax stricta, Tetratheca thymifolia, Goodenia heterophylla and Patersonia glabrata — all flowering. We also saw a lot of orchid leaves with the promise of things to come. On the way back on Touga Rd, we stopped to check some Pomaderris andromedifolia thickets and found a few in flower.

In the earlier article on our first trip to this area, I said that early to mid-October



Actinotus minor; Photo: Martin Butterfield

would be a rewarding time to visit. We can now extend that to say that any time between late August and mid-October is worth a visit and Touga (Tolwong?) Road goes much further than where we stopped. A future visit is on our list.

The plant list for the trip and more images can be found in the Wednesday Walks section of the ANPS website — http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au.



Philotheca scabra ssp. latifolia; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Hibbertia monogyna: Photo: Masumi Robertson



Kunzea parvifolia; Photo: Martin Butterfield

Study Group Snippets

This is my first report as Canberra Region Study Group Liaison Officer, having taken over from Shirley Daniels in November. I would like to thank Shirley for the excellent work she has done in the role.

There are currently 20 study groups Australia wide, seven of which are mentioned below

Acacia Study Group

In the September 2012 newsletter Maria Hitchcock's new book, A *Celebration of Wattle* was mentioned. The book was launched on Wattle Day in Canberra by The Honourable Peter Garrett, Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth.

Victoria Tanner has an article in this journal about the acacia field trip to the Northern Tablelands in NSW this year.

Garden Design Study Group May 2012

Leader Jo Hambrett writes a poignant epistle to members about the love of a garden and the sadness of having to leave after 30 years of creation.

There is also an article by Beverly Hanson Vic. entitled 'Design'. It tells the story of Ellis Stones, pioneer of the Australian Design Group. Ellis Stones "began to create urban landscapes in naturalistic character using rocks, timber, pebbles etc, and even the revolutionary step

of using native plants. He earned the nickname "Rocky Stones" — jokingly he would inform people that to his friends it was because he always used rocks in his garden, to others, it was because he had "rocks in his head"." I found it a beautiful read — garden design expressed as an art form.

Correa Study Group May 2012

Cherree Densley encourages members to make a calendar of flowering times. She also welcomes Russell Dahms who will look after the newsletter and memberships after June.

Hakea Study Group Newsletter No 50

Paul Kennedy writes about a fabulous gathering of hakea enthusiasts to WA—The Katanning Hakea Weekend. There were speakers and visits to properties. One of the speakers Tony Crawford from Tasmania spoke of his experience growing hakeas in cool climates and gives a list of those species.

Paul Kennedy also has hakea seed for members.

Eucalyptus Study Group October 2012

A very informative description of growing eucalypts from seed. There is an article on the tallest and most productive trees on earth and a plant profile on *Eucalyptus scoparia* which is possible to grow in a cold climate. However it does suffer from disease attacks caused by insects and followed by sooty mould.

There is much in the newsletter to interest.

Eremophila Study Group October 2012

Canberra member Lyndal Thorburn writes about preparing an excel spread sheet on flowering times of eremophilas in her garden. It is a useful guide to season and how prolific a species is.

Ken Warnes reports on a 'Desert Discovery' trip in August. He was part of the botany team for a natural history survey of the Rawlinson Range. That is a good read.

Grevillea Study Group October 2012

Two different field trips, In Search of *Grevillea beadleana* and *G. kennedyana* are described.

An obituary of Donald John McGillivray (1935–2012), botanist.

Lesley Page, Study Group Liaison Officer, ANPS Canberra Region December 2012



Dillwynia sericea, Gale; Photo: Graeme Kruse



Coopernookia barbata, Cullulla Road; Photo: Martin Butterfield

Acacia Study Group Field Trip Glenn Innes Area, NSW (18–20 Aug 2012)

Words and photos by Victoria Tanner

With its the numerous national parks, nature reserves and conservation areas located nearby, the city of Glenn Innes proved an excellent choice as the base for the first Acacia Study Group's field trip. Field trips over the three days used tag-along self-drive travel, visiting five separate reserves: Torrington Conservation Area, Bolivia Hill Nature Reserve, Gibraltar Ridge National Park, Goonoowigall State Nature Reserve and Ironbark Nature Reserve.

Most attendees arrived in Glenn Innes on the Friday night and met for dinner, which was followed by a presentation provided by Maria Hitchcock (the 'Wattle Lady', formerly the 'Correa Lady'). Maria's talk and slide show was based on her revised and recently released book, A Celebration of Wattles. John Nevin (our local guide and acacia expert), also briefed the group on the planned activities and provided an extensive package of information on the acacias we were likely to see over the next three days.

On Saturday morning an eager group of about 12–15 people gathered at the Visitor Centre for car pooling and the start of our 'stop and start' busy day. John's itinerary for the day included 15 planned stops at different locations and despite driving on until dusk we failed to manage them all. However the numbers, variations and the beauty of the acacias

and the other plants that we did see, provided more than enough satisfaction for members of the group! My own list of acacia species viewed on the first day totalled around 20 but I am sure that I probably had missed some.

The route of the first day led the group's convoy of four cars initially north of Glenn Innes to a spot about 50 kilometres away and to a granite dome not far from the roadside (granite domes were to become a frequent feature of our stops and search for acacias). Here we found *A. rubida* and *fimbriata*, two species that frequently reappeared at a number of other locations.

Another six kilometres along the road and we paused to explore a disused railway line and cutting which formed a very pretty gorge high in Bolivia Hill Reserve. This reserve is located 48 kilometres from Tenterfield on the northern tablelands of NSW. It is known for its high floral diversity supporting 505 plant species. Within its boundaries 52 regionally significant species and seven threatened plant species can also be found. Members of our group delighted at the tall, flowering and very pretty A. pycnostachya (Bolivia Wattle, listed as vulnerable) and A. neriifolia (Oleander Wattle), while the rocky, steep sides of the gorge supported many fern species and even a native fig (perhaps a Port Jackson fig).



Bolivia Hill Nature Reserve, exploring the old railway cutting — *Acacias pycnostachya* and *neriifolia* in flower

Many picturesque *Xanthorrhoeas* added to the features of this reserve as did the views across the road to the yellow-coloured (acacia flowering) hills, within the Torrington Conservation area.

The next few stops of our acacia journey occurred within Torrington Conservation Area, about an hour's drive from Glenn Innes. This area is an important reserve for flora and fauna with over 750 species of plants and 45 nationally endangered

or rare plants. The reserve contains heathlands, swamps, rocky outcrops and woodlands. Acacias growing here and identified by the group included: A. longfolia, buxifolia (quite common), venulosa, macnuttiana (endangered), williamsiana, betchei (not in flower), brownii (very similar to ulicifolia, which was also seen), dealbata (flowering well), flexifolia and torringtonensis. Other plant species of note in this area were: Boronia ledifolis (just starting to flower), Hovea



Acacias blooming on the hills of Torrington Conservation Area, viewed from Bolivia Hill

lanceolate, pedunculata and heterophylla (spectacular purple flowers).

Flowering *Banksia integrifolia* with its brown/black or dark crimson flowering form and a Banksia formerly listed as *Banksia spinulosa subspecies* but now *B. Neoanglica* with a lovely yellow flower), were also stunning highlights of this trip.

Other plants of interest found in Torrington included *B. marginata, Hakea solisfolia, Leucopogon malacoides* and *Prostanthera teretifolia* (which was more recently rediscovered after 150 years), and found growing in the faults of a granite rock dome.

Our acacia procession then drove around Emmaville and then followed

Gulf Road near to its end, but not without problems. Running out of daylight, John 'took off' in his leading vehicle but unfortunately did not 'leave us in his dust'. Consequently, the rest of the convoy became temporarily lost and plant author, come rally driver; had to then back-track to re-connect with our leader who was by this time, at the last stop. Despite some grumpiness, all was forgiven as John and his explorers had again found new species! Acacia burbidgeae (unfortunately not yet in flower) and A. granitica were growing here by the roadside. Not far from this point, numerous Zierra cystisoides (white flowers) and Olearia ramosissma (ranging in colours of white, purple and blue) were flowering, growing in and around granite rock areas. So after some time at this last stop on a very long, but enjoyable day, the oncoming darkness sent the well satisfied, if not weary group back to Glenn Innes. We arrived at our temporary home around 6.30pm just in time for dinner. Over dinner we had time to reflect on the activities of a great day and the many acacia species we had seen including: A. prunea, decurrens, montana, dawsonii, latisepala and pruinosa.

Sunday morning and with a slightly smaller group, an itinerary of only eight stops had been planned. So on the second day of the event, the acacia



Hovea pedunculata



Mirbelia speciosa (pink/purple pea flowers) and the white flowering Leucopogon melaleucoides were in splendid form throughout most of the reserves we visited.

convoy again headed out of Glen Innes this time heading north-east along the Gwydir Highway to Gibraltar Range National Park. Less than ten kilometres out of town our first stop allowed us to view stands of bipinnate wattles on both sides of the road. While examining the bipinnate wattles, someone in the group suggested that these wattles in particular, are very good for attracting small birds. They explained that insects were very attracted to them and that the foliage provided many 'nooks and crannies' for both insects and the small feeding birds.

Another few stops and we soon arrived at Glen Elgin Forest and very different, wet sclerophyll vegetation. New species of acacias identified along the way included: A. ficifolia, falciformis, siculiformis, irrorata (large tree), barringtonenis, melanoxylon and obtusifolia (the latter found only by John, sprig in hand to prove it!).

Having eventually re-grouped, our next stop was at a quarry area on the side of



Banksia neoanglica



Banksia integrifolia

the road about 45 kilometres from Glenn Innes. Here we discovered *A. floribunda* in flower as well as *A. falciformis*. A few kilometres further along and *A. falcate* was identified while other nearby stops 'bagged' *A. stricta, suaveolens* and *terminalis*. Rarer finds included the small but delicately leaved *A. mitchelli* which was found growing in a roadside quarry and the scrawny and elusive *A. beadleana*,

spotted during a roadside bush/granite boulder scramble (again with John's help). A sudden change in plan had the group spending morning tea in the lovely surroundings of Boundary Falls' picnic area, a great choice! This allowed a quick, short walk down to the falls and a visit to the site extremely worthwhile. The falls at a height of over 30 metres, were flowing well.



Boundary Falls, worth a visit

After more stops and even more acacias, lunch was taken in the main picnic area at the entrance to Gibraltar Range National Park (just off the highway). As this was going to be the last opportunity for most of the group to say thanks to John Nevin for his extraordinary efforts in regards to his extensive planning and preparation for this trip, Bill Atkinson (Group Leader), made a presentation to John. He was thanked for making this a wonderful and extremely informative trip. It was obvious that John had spent numerous hours locating about 50 acacia species that we viewed over the three days and even more hours in preparing the acacia and park information packets for

everyone (at no cost!). Once again, thank you John and thanks also to your wife!

With formalities and lunch completed, we re-traced our steps briefly to visit yet another small quarry area just off the main road (must be something about quarries and granite domes that acacias like?). After this site, the second last stop and afternoon tea was taken at the picnic area alongside Dandahra Creek and Mulligan's Hut. Here we viewed a number of acacias growing side by side, took a few comical pictures of the group hanging out the hut's windows and wandered over the new bridge. In the picnic shelter, John showed the group how the CD Wattles of Australia

(B. Maslin, CSIRO), could be used to identify unknown acacia species. He also talked about using the New England Acacia short key to common species of the New England Tablelands (J.B. Williams & G.J. Harden, University of New England, 1979). Bill displayed his collection of acacia books and Maria spent some time identifying two acacias that we had found at a previous stop but not been able to identify. Using her key, she identified one species as A. orites and the second to be A. ixodes (both not previously seen in this park). So as we headed for home, the group had to make one last stop to again locate these plants and to take photos, samples and GPS readings (very serious business indeed). With all the required information in hand, the convoy then headed back home for an earlier evening. For others, tomorrow was yet another day seeking acacias but for me, it was a very early night before the long drive home the next day.

While I was driving the ten hours back to Canberra on Monday, the smaller group of about six remaining members had other plans. Their itinerary included a visit to Goonoowigall Nature Reserve and Ironbark Nature Reserve, both near Armidale. I wished I had more time but decided that I would certainly be back later!

Ironbark Nature Reserve along with Bornhardtia Voluntary Conservation Area, are located on the north-western slopes of the New England Tablelands, 85 kilometres north of Tamworth and 75 kilometres west of Armidale. These parks are located where the regions overlap between tablelands and the western slopes communities of plants. The reserves protect significant areas of dry open forest and woodland. John

had again done his homework and had identified the acacias growing in Ironbark Nature Reserve including: A. falciformis, implexa, buxifolia, dawsonii, ulicifolia, flexifolia, nova-anglica, falcate, viscidula, neriifolia and rubida.

Goonoowigall Nature Reserve is located in scenic granite country and within the reserve and nearby roads many acacias could be seen including: A. triptera, leptoclada, neriifolia, penninervis, novaanglica, implexa, penninervis, leucoclauda, falciformis, venulose, pruinosa, filicifolia, viscidula, rubida, ulicfolia, ixiophylla and deaneii.

As this was the first field trip of the Acacia Study Group, plans for the next field trip were discussed. Perhaps Canberra could host the next field trip with two days spent in areas in and close to the Australian Capital Territory (including viewing the Australian National Botanic Gardens' wattles in flower on Wattle Day), and another day spent finding acacias in the southern highlands or other nearby areas? (We surely have the people with the expertise.) As there was significant interest in this idea, I hope that people will show an interest in participating, either by leading or volunteering to organise and run such an event.



Acacia burbidgeae — so many wattles, so little time....

Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) Study Groups

Active Groups March 2012

Acacia

Bill Aitchison
13 Conos Court
Donvale VIC 3111
E: aitchguy@gmail.com

Australian Plants as Bonsai

Roger Hnatiuk

Fees: \$14 / \$20; Due: Jun

PO Box 450

Jamison Post Office MACQUARIE ACT 2614 E: rjhnatiuk@yahoo.com.au

P: 02 6251 2228

Brachychiton & Allied Genera

Kerry Rathie

Fees: \$5 / \$10; Due: Jun Lot 5, Salston Road GREENBANK QLD 4124 E: krathie6@bigpond.com

P: 07 3200 0268

Correa

Cherree Densley *Leader* Fees: \$10 / \$10 / \$6; Due: June 9 Koroit-Port Fairy Rd KILLARNEY VIC 3283

E: correastudygroup@gmail.com

P: 03 5568 7226

Correa

Russell Dahms *Admin* 13 Everest Avenue Athelstone SA 5076

E: correastudygroup@gmail.com

P: 08 8336 5275

Dryandra

Margaret Pieroni Fees: \$10 /\$12 / \$5; Due: Jun

22 Ravenhill Heights

DENMARK WA 6333

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P: 08 9848 3331

Epacris

Gwen Elliott

Fees:/ \$5 / \$10; Due: June

PO Box 655

HEATHMONT VIC 3135

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P: 03 9879 1427

Eremophila

Colin Jennings Fees: \$5; Due: Jun 4 Kinnaird Crescent HIGHBURY SA 5089

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P: 08 8264 6490

Eucalyptus

Warwick Varley *Leader*

Fees: \$10 / \$20 / \$5; Due: Jun

PO Box 456

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Eucalyptus

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Fern

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E: pbostock@ozemail.com.au

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Fern

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Garden Design

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Grevillea

Peter Olde

Fees: \$10/\$10/\$5;

\$40 / \$40 / \$20 for 5 yrs; Due: Jan

140 Russell Lane Oakdale NSW 2570

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Grevillea

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Oatley NSW 2223

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P: 02 9579 4093

Hakea

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STRATHMERTON VIC 3641 E: hakeaholic@gmail.com

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Hibiscus & Related Genera

Geoff Harvey

Fees: \$10 / \$20; Due: Jun

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Isopogon & Petrophile

David Lightfoot

Fees: \$5 / \$10 / \$5 (2yr); Due: Jun

36 Arundel Crescent SURREY HILLS VIC 3127 E: isopogons@iprimus.com.au

P: 03 9836 0601

Palm & Cycad

Kerry Rathie

Fees: \$5 / \$12; Due: Jun

5 Salston Road

GREENBANK QLD 4124

E: krathie6@bigpond.com

P: 07 3200 0268

Wallum & Coastal Heathland

Barbara Henderson Fees: \$5; Due: Jun 36 Railway Terrace MOORE QLD 4306 P: 07 5424 7073

Waratah & Flannel Flower

Maria Hitchcock Fees: -/-/\$5 16 Hitchcock Lane ARMIDALE NSW 2350

E: maria.hitchcock@gmail.com

P: 02 6775 1139

Membership: Limited to 50 individual

members — no groups

Wildlife & Native Plants

Christine Jones

Fees: \$10 / \$20: Due: Jun

PO Box 131

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E: ausbush@internode.on.net

P: 08 8532 2698

Fees: Aust/Overseas/Email

Study Group Newsletters received June 2011 to February 2012

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Inactive groups this year

Australian Food Plants

Jan Lee

Fees: \$5; Due: Jun PO Box 21 Hoyleton SA 5453 E: ian@klfss.com.au

P: 08 88631226: M: 042 821 1156

Australian Plants for Containers

Hoping to revive but moving house Gil Muller

E: gilly@lomandra.id.au

Banksia

Cas Liber Fees: 10 / \$20 / \$7; Due: Jun PO Box 83 ST PAUL'S NSW 2031 E: casliber@ozemail.com.au

P: 02 9559 2656

Indigenous Orchids

Into recess 2011 Don & Pauline Lawie Fees: \$5 / \$12; Due: Jun PO Box 230 BABINDA QLD 4861 P: 07 4067 1577

Rainforest

Into recess but leader trying to revive as email only

Kris Kupsch

Fees: \$5 / \$10; Due: Jun 28 Plumtree Pocket BURRINGBAR NSW 2483

E: tropicalbotanics@hotmail.com

P: 02 6677 1466

Wetlands

Into recess but leader trying to revive Adam Merrick

E: grampiansreveg@hotmail.com P: 5354 2593; M: 0419 575 805

Australian Native Plants Society, Canberra Region Inc.

The aims of the Society are to foster the recognition, conservation, and cultivation of Australian native plants.

Meetings are held at 8pm on the second Thursday of each month, February to December, in Canberra. Visitors are always welcome.

Day and weekend field trips to locations of outstanding botanical interest are organised on a regular basis.

The Society publishes a Bulletin in all months except January, and this quarterly Journal in March, June, September and December.

Membership Fees

Single or family memberships are the same price.

Basic membership including Bulletin and Journal — \$35 (\$20*)

Full membership including Bulletin, Journal and Australian Plants — \$50 (\$32*)

Life member subscribing to Australian Plants — \$15

* Concession rates apply to pensioners and full-time students.

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Back cover: *Diplodium fischii,* Bango Nature Reserve; Photo: Roger Farrow

