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Contents

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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 and may be accompanied by photographs or drawings. The editor reserves the right without exception to edit all articles and include or omit images as appropriate.

Submit photographs as either electronic files, such as JPEGs, or prints. Set your digital camera to take high resolution photos. Please send JPEGs separately and not embedded in a document. If photos are too large to email, copy onto a CD or USB drive and send it by post. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your prints returned. If you have any queries please contact the editor.

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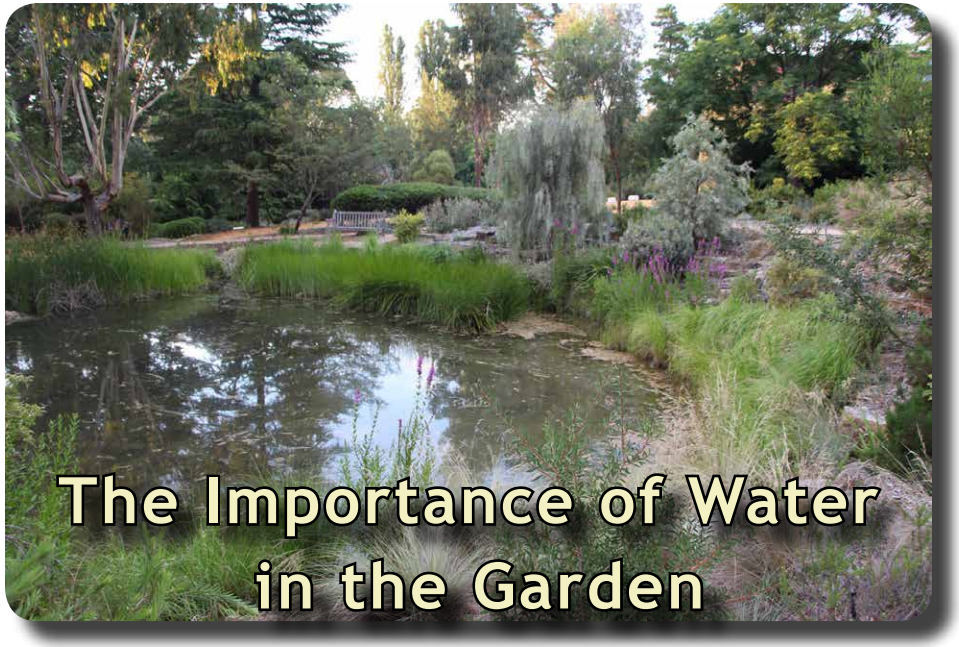


The Importance of Water in the Garden

Large pond, Walcott garden; Photo: Ben Walcott

By Ros Walcott

Water in the garden has a long history, as long as gardens themselves. Any history of gardens and gardening will show that the Mesopotamian, Egyptian, Chinese, Roman, Japanese, Persian, Mughul, Aztec, French, Italian, Dutch and Spanish gardens all featured water prominently in their designs.

I particularly remember reading *The Gardens of Mughul India*, text by Sylvia Crowe and Sheila Haywood, with photographs by Susan Jellicoe, published in 1972, which showed the essential nature of water in these gardens of Persian tradition introduced into India during 1500–1700.

The Paradise Garden was enclosed and always included water, in the form of fountains, pools and rills. The tradition of dividing the garden by rills continues to this day, for example, in Spain.

Gardens that we have visited that use water particularly well include Villa d'Este near Rome, Italy. Not everyone has the means to divert a whole river to provide water for the fountains and pools of their garden, but Cardinal Hippolito d'Este did just this in 1550. Water is present everywhere in this garden, spouting from every orifice of every statue and culminating in a water organ, which does play sweetly.

Neptune Fountain, Villa d'Este, near Rome;
Photo: Angus Stewart

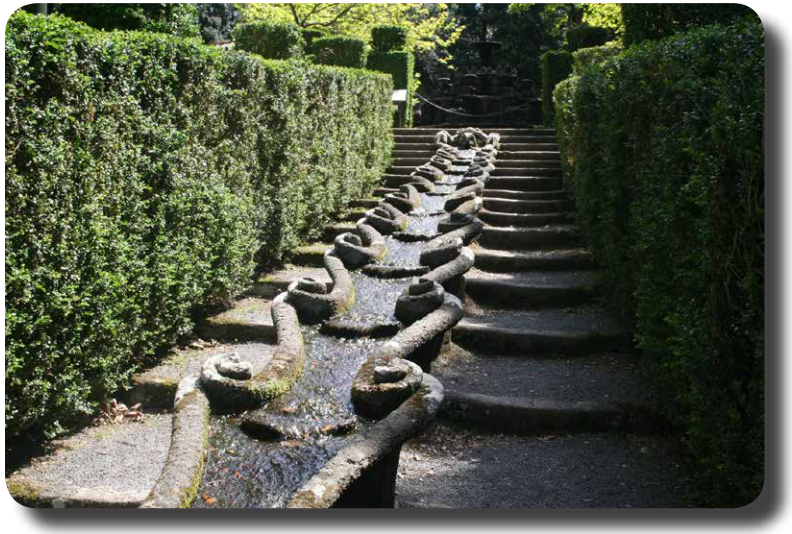
Spouting fountain heads, Villa d'Este, near Rome
Photo: Angus Stewart

The garden at Ninfa in central Italy was built in 1921 amongst the ruins of a medieval town which was devastated by malaria in the 1500s and deserted for several centuries. These picturesque ruins provide a romantic backdrop for the garden, but the major feature of the garden is a stream that runs through the whole garden. This steam, drawn from the nearby mountains, is so clear that the bottom vegetation is seen as bright green gently waving ribbons.

Garden at Ninfa, Italy; Photo: Angus Stewart

Garden at Ninfa, Italy; Photo: Angus Stewart

The sound of water is featured in many gardens. At Villa Lante near Rome this ornate water feature provides a backgound tinkling sound that enhances the garden around it.



Villa Lante cascade near Rome; Photo: Ben Walcott

Gardens which occupy the best sites always include water in the vista. The Jardin de Santa Clothilde in Spain includes the ultimate water feature, the sea, in its design on the Costa Brava. The garden at Villa Carlotta on Lake Maggiore is careful to feature the lake in every garden view.

One of the most beloved water scenes has been constructed at Giverny outside Paris, the garden of the Impressionist painter Claude Monet. A lake filled with waterlilies provided much inspiration for Monet and for countless painters after him.

Jardin de Santa Clothilde, Costa Brava Spain;
Photo: Ben Walcott

Villa Carlotta, Lake Maggiore, Spain;
Photo: Ben Walcott

The waterlily pool at Giverny, France; Photo: Angus Stewart

In Australia, a dry country, water has always been included in our garden designs. At the Royal Botanic Gardens in Cranbourne the water features are large and impressive.

The Rockpool Waterway consists of an escarpment wall built of red rusted steel and a wide shallow waterway with flat rocks included. The dry river bed is symbolic of all the dry creekbeds and riverbeds in Australia.

Rockpool waterway, Royal Melbourne Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne;
Photo: Ben Walcott

Ephemeral river bed, Royal Melbourne Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne; Photo: Ben Walcott

Horse Island garden, NSW coast; Photo: Ben Walcott

The magnificent Horse Island native garden on the south coast of New South Wales, is surrounded by the Tuross estuary, which forms a background to the whole garden. This garden includes a formal pool and rills at the centre of the main garden.

Even small water features can have tremendous impact — here is a small pool at the garden of Peter and Lyn Woodbury which acts as a gathering place in the garden.

Our own garden has a series of pools connected by a creek running over stones which provides background water music for the garden. The largest pool has a natural clay bottom and is filled with reeds, fish and birds.

This article was previously published in the Garden Design Study Group Newsletter No 103 June 2018.

Little pied Cormorant, a frequent visitor;
Photo: Ben Walcott

Little pied Cormorant, a rare visitor;
Photo: Ben Walcott

Woodbury garden, Googong, near Canberra; Photo: Ben Walcott

Correction

On page 7 of the June 2018 issue of the *Journal* (Vol 19 No 6), the photo at the bottom of the page was incorrectly named. It should read: *Eremophila youngii* yellow.

And on page 38 of the same issue, the photo at the top was also incorrectly named. It should read: *Anigozanthos* 'Federation Flame' a PBR selection of *A. rufus*.

Text was correct when submitted by the authors.

Eremophila youngii yellow

Anigozanthos 'Federation Flame' a PBR selection of *A. rufus*

A Walk in Cuumbean Nature Reserve August 2018

Morning tea at Cuumbean Nature Reserve

Words by Kris Nash
Photos by Brigitta Wimmer

Wednesday Walkers braved the windy conditions to venture into the northern part of Cuumbean Nature Reserve (NR), the area formerly known as Scabbing Flat Crown Land.

We walked a circuit of about 5.5 km starting at the gate on Captains Flat Rd, about one kilometre from the Captains Flat/ Kings Highway roundabout, walking northwards along Scabbing Flat Fire Trail, eastwards along a footpad paralleling the Kings Highway, southwards along a boundary trail and finally going cross-country westwards to our parked cars.

There were a few moments of unease when we identified a pile of rotting debris as evening gowns, handbags and shoes but we moved quickly past. Dumped rubbish is obviously an issue along the outskirts of the reserve.

Cuumbean NR is dominated by dry sclerophyll forest of *E. rossii*, *E. nortonii*, *E. macrorhyncha*, *E. mannifera* and *E. polyanthemos*.

Views across the relatively young trunks of various hues and textures — stringy, wrinkly, squiggly, flaky, smooth — were a feature of the walk although there were many artistically sculptured old trees with hollows and a fantastic view from the top of the ridge. My apologies for suggesting this was a flat walk where really it is hilly and rough in places.

The understorey consists of *Rytidosperma pallidum* interspersed with numerous shrubs often dominated by *Dillwynia sieberi*.

Patches of forbs including *Microseris lanceolata*, *Craspedia variabilis* and *Leptorhynchos squamatus* were emerging from dry ground while numerous prickly shrubs were well chewed. In flower were *Styphelia triflora*, *Acacia gunnii*, Acacia *genistifolia* and stunning *Melichrus urceolate* although many other acacias, daviesias, peas and heaths were in bud. Spring is nearly sprung.

Acacia gunnii

Acacia paradoxa

Cryptandra amara

Acacia genistifolia

Styphelia triflora

Allocasuarina nana female (above) and male (below), The Big Hole walk July 2018; Photos: Kris Nash

Hardenbergia violacea local

Words and photos by Masumi Robertson

This is the second last instalment of the series highlighting 10 plants from each category in our book. There are just three categories left: ferns, climbers and container plants. Since the number of plants in each of ferns and climbers are very small, these two categories will be covered together.

Ferns

Ferns are a group of plants which do not produce seeds, but rather they reproduce by spores on fronds, which is their leaf-like structure. They do not have flowers, so it is the texture of these fronds which are the feature of these plants.

Most ferns prefer a shady, moist spot, a difficult requirement for most gardens in Canberra. But if you have a shady, damp spot, these plants fit the bill.

Cheilanthes sieberi

This rock fern is a common sight in Canberra Nature Parks. They are found in damp shady spots as well as open, dry sites exposed to full sun. In summer, they appear dead from the dry but with the rain the fronds green up, showing how tough this plant is once established.

This species occurs in all states and territories, so plants from the local area are more likely to cope with the extremes of the Canberra environment. While it can cope with

Dicksonia antarctica

shade to full sun, clay, loam or sandy soils and dry to damp sites, it grows best in moist soil with supplemental watering when dry.

Dicksonia antarctica

Soft tree fern is one of the two commonly available tree ferns, the other being *Cyathea australis*, rough tree fern. Both species occur in the ACT.

D. antarctica is probably more commonly available, as rootless-trunks salvaged from development sites can be sold. Plants must have a certificate to indicate this.

If this species needs to be moved, it can be cut at ground level, or any height, and potted up or moved to a sheltered site with regular watering which will produce roots.

We removed two such plants, since the site was too sunny and dry, and the shorter plants are doing well in pots in the shade.

The fern garden at the National Gallery of Australia shows old tree ferns in a landscaped garden space. And of course they are thriving in the rainforest gully at the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG)

Polystichum proliferum

Mother shield fern is an adaptable fern. It usually grows to about 0.5 m high and wide. A plant from the local area should be frost hardy and it can tolerate periods of dry once established.

Still, being a fern, ours does best in some shade with regular watering during the warm months. Old fronds are pruned in spring when the new fronds are emerging. It responds well to regular feeding and watering.

Climbers

Climbers are vines which climb on other plants, fences and trellises as well as on themselves. Some climbers can climb up to the tops of trees, while others are not so vigorous. Either way, they are useful plants when you want a screen in a narrow space, or any space, as a plant can be shaped to fill the area. Some climbers form a mound on themselves, acting like a shrub, and others are useful groundcovers by spreading.

I found the climbers I tried are not as frost hardy when first planted out, even though most are listed as frost hardy to -7°C in our book. I now know that this is because the temperature at the ground level is about 5°C colder than the reported temperature (higher up in air). These climbers, once they have climbed up into the warmer zone, are indeed very frost hardy.

Hardenbergia violacea is a great climber and it is one of the few species of climbers that can take hard frost at ground level, when a local hardy clone is obtained. This species was covered in ground covers in the December 2016 Journal. Climbers are also useful to cover structures, such as a shed or a watertank.

Billardiera scandens

This is a weak climber and often seen as a small shrub around Canberra. Yellow-green flowers are followed by green berries, which

eventually turn reddish brown when mature. Ros Cornish had a beautiful climbing plant on her fence.

Clematis microphylla var. leptophylla

This is a very hardy climber, a common sight on Black Mountain in spring as a splash of white amongst the green, even though the flowers are greenish cream. It is a moderate climber and relatively quick to grow. Plants come as male or female, so you need both plants to get the seeds that are in a fluffy fruit.

Clematis microphylla var *leptophylla*

Jasminum suavissimum

Native jasmine is a joy in spring and also thoughout summer. White flowers are beautifully scented, so even when there are just a few flowers open, they sweeten the air for a long period.

There is a large, old plant near the ANBG Visitor Centre door (the photo) and you may have seen this plant in full flower. Our plant is not affected by the cold/frost and it continues to grow even in winter. It can be a vigorous climber so it is best to provide a sturdy support. It is a great plant near a window.

Jasminum suavissimum

Kennedia rubicunda

This was the hardier of the two I tried in our garden, the other was *K. retrorsa*. Leaves, and some of the stems, of both species are killed by frost, but they regrow vigorously in spring from the base of established plants.

Kennedia rubicunda

K. rubicunda continues to grow well during the warmer months, requiring frequent pruning of the vines to keep it under control. Large, dark red pea flowers attract nectar feeding birds.

Pandorea jasminoides

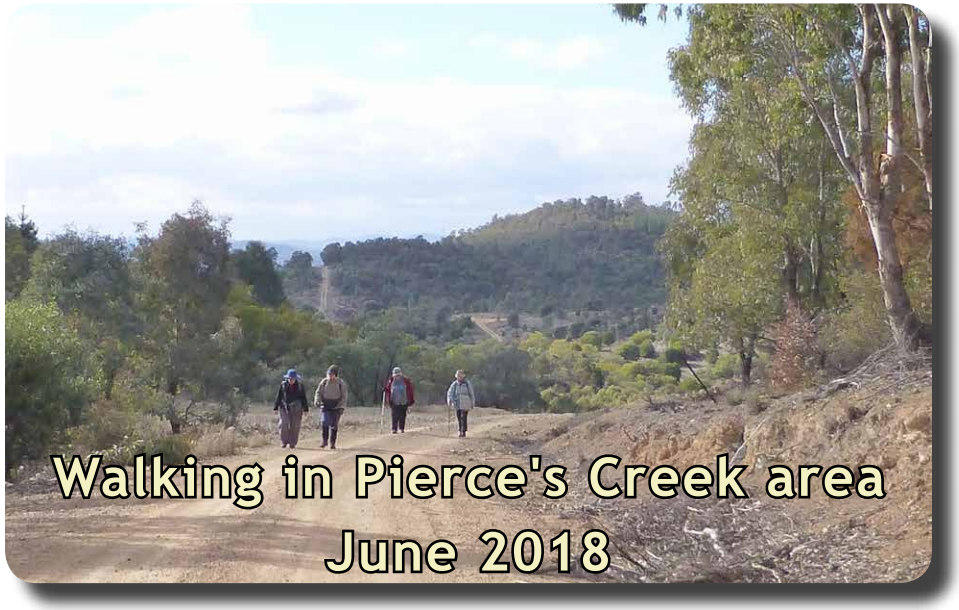
This is a hardy climber with lots of large showy flowers over a long time. Ours flower from late spring, through summer, autumn and into early winter, with peak flowering in spring. It responds well to regular watering and some feeding, but it can tolerate periods of dry.

We found the other species, *P. pandorana,* is more vigorous and frost tolerant, but it flowers just once in spring. So it is worth the extra effort to grow *P. jasminoides* for the continuous flowering. Flowers of both species are attractive.

Pandorea jasminoides

Pandorea pandorana — smaller flowers, more trumpet like

Philotheca salsolifolia, The Big Hole walk July 2018; Photo: Kris Nash



Wednesday walkers on the Vanity Crossing track

Words by Kris Nash
Photos by Brigitta Wimmer

Although cold to start, the day warmed up and everyone gradually shed their layers. Not much was flowering except for some *Monotoca scoparia*, but there were many acacia buds to admire and strangely deformed *Dodonaea* sp to ponder.

The views were terrific and the stories about the old pine forests were interesting, albeit a bit gruesome at times. After much discussion and later measuring of the *Dodonaea* sp growing profusely, we agreed that the leaf was much wider and more spatulate than those we were more familiar with. Perhaps we should stick with the previous classification of *Dodonaea viscosa* ssp. *spatulata*

Dodonaea viscosa ssp *spatulata;* Photo: Kris Nash

Deformed *Dodonaea viscosa* ssp *spatulata;*
Photo: Kris Nash

Acacia implexa

Acacia pravissima

Brachyloma daphnoides

Eucalyptus melliodora

Melichrus urceolatus

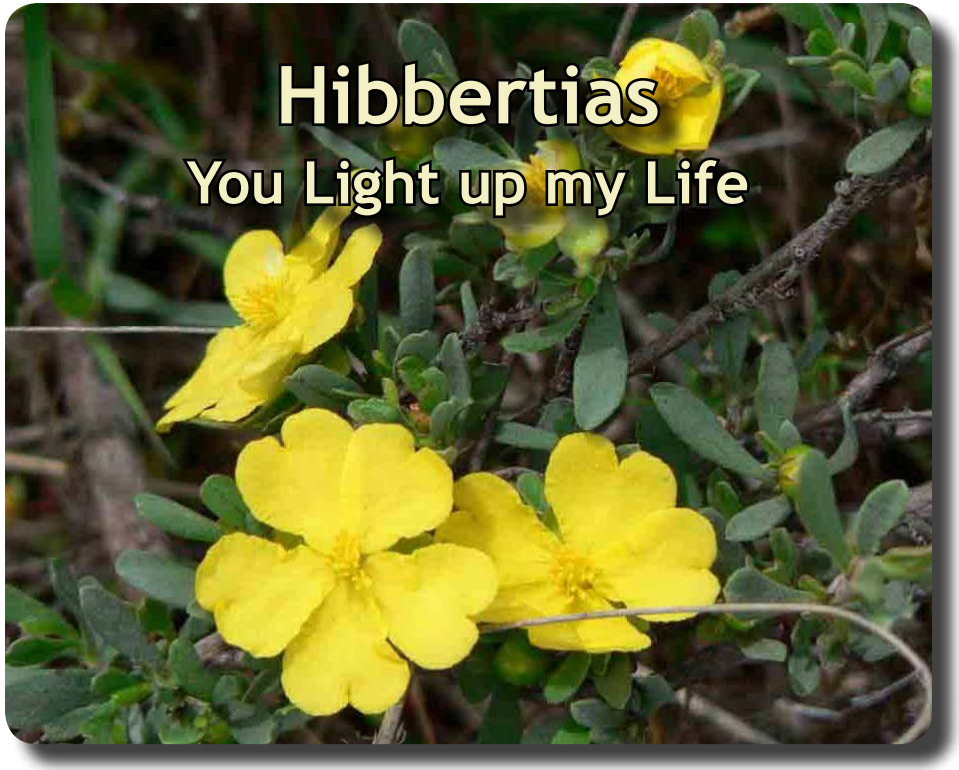
Pomaderris eriocephala

Leucopogon virgatus

Cassinia quinquefaria

Pierce's Creek
cont'd

Dalek in sight



Hibbertia obtusifolia; Photo: Jean Geue

By Jan Simpson

Wildflowers of Western Australia by C. A. Gardner states there are 64 species of Hibbertia in that state alone. All except two species have yellow flowers. Most of those from Western Australia are shrubby bushes.

He says, 'Members of this family are **easily recognised by the five free concave persistent sepals and the five, usually notched, deciduous petals which fall early; the usually numerous stamens ... and the almost free carpels, commonly two to five in number, which open outwards to liberate the seeds**.'

Hibbertia's common name is Guinea Flower, from the golden pre-decimal coins called 'guineas' — somewhat the same colour as a one- or two-dollar coin today, but bigger than a 50 cent piece. When they used this name they were describing *Hibbertia scandens* from the sand dunes, whose flower really is as big as that.

Hibbertias well deserve this name, as they look like pieces of sunshine lying on the ground and light up the shady places under trees and

leggy, bare-ankled bushes. They are a perfect species to add to a garden, about five years down the track, to give it a lift, without having to totally change everything.

Hibbertias are really understorey plants, although a few will grow in very sunny positions. Most are not fussy about soil type, but none like soggy root systems. This need not be managed by raised beds, but by siting the small plant among already established shrubs, where competition for water will keep the Hibbertia on the dry side and provide the necessary overhead cover at the same time.

I've always had some Hibbertias. In fact, I had my first until the 2003 fires, *H.scandens,* which I planted in the very beginning, 45 years ago, to be a creeper for one panel of the southern boundary fence. It was slow to take off and was pruned by the frost until it found a more congenial home inside the large Melaleucas that made up the wind break.

Now my *Melaleuca lateritia* sports the odd huge yellow flower from November through to March, which looks rather incongruous next to the burnt orange bottlebrush spikes. Barbara Daly grew this species very well in Cook, but has a lot of cover for it. If it likes you, individual arms may reach three metres.

Another early planting was the prostrate green form of *H. obtusifolia*, which I bought at the Monaro Nursery in Queanbeyan in May 1978. This form, will root at the nodes in damp litter and reach over a metre wide. When established, it will also withstand dry conditions and frost isn't a problem.

I planted out some of these rooted pieces, trying to extend the carpet, but the rooted pieces need to be layered into a pot while still attached to the parent, so that they can develop a really substantial root system before being detached. I never managed to layer one from scratch.

In hindsight, I suspect I didn't keep the pot moist enough. These plants disappeared because I dug them up to revamp the area after a wet winter, when plants died from Phytophera. I broke them into smaller pieces and tried to pot them, so I could later replant. The pieces were too big to support themselves by the severed roots.

Trim the pieces you are rescuing, so they have a small amount of top to a large amount of root. Cultivate patience while they settle in and enlarge again. Now that I have an empty space instead of a *Hakea gibbosa*, I've planted a new *Hibbertia obtusifolia* to brighten my life.

Because of these two successes, I planted *H. empetrifolia* (syn. *H. astrotricha*) facing east against the back fence, in a 12" pot of friable soil, under the *Callistemon lilacinus*. It took off like a rocket, putting up five one-metre arms inside the Callistemon. It was a picture the next year when it smothered itself with flowers.

It died three years later when I tried to repot it. These days, before trying something like that, I'd take tip cuttings for new plants. Gwen Elliott's book on container plants says this can make a 1m x 2m tangled mound of ground cover without something to support it.

About the same time, I put in *H. procumbens* between *Callistemon* 'Dawson R' (weeping), *Banksia cunninghamii* and a white *Calytrix tetragona*. This one was slow to take off because of the raw tanbark we had spread as mulch. This soon was impenetrable to water as it matted together with a white fungus.

We scraped this back and planted a second *H. procumbens* as the first looked so sick. I covered the bare soil with stone chips for a mulch. This new one died but the original still lives and is happily warming the feet of the Calytrix. It also roots at the nodes, if encouraged with moist humus, and has reached a metre wide.

In Canberra, it flowers from late spring to early summer, and can withstand dry periods once established. This one came up from the roots after the fires and still [2018] exists.

My early active years in the Society for Growing Australian Plants coincided with our grand spring extravaganza of a native plants' exhibition which took up the whole of the commercial pavilion at the showground.

Lyn Parry, of Floralands at Gosford, came as one of the nurseries invited to sell plants to the public, as we did not grow enough. Devotees were buying plants by mail order and paying exorbitant freight.

We all went mad and bought up big from the invited nurseries, as they gave us Canberrans access to plants we never would have known about otherwise. Talk about drought crazed, thirsty horses and feeding frenzies! (I'm not rambling — there is a connection.)

Lyn Parry introduced *H. stellaris* to the Canberra public. This stunning Western Australian plant is a fuss pot in Canberra. It is very unhappy in deep cold, even without frost. When kept in a pot at the foot of a gum tree, it needed plenty of water in high summer. These days, I'd use a self-watering pot.

As none ever survived a winter and cuttings are easy to strike, I would treat them as an annual. It is worth persevering with, as you can't see the leaves for the flowers when it's in bloom. Two colour forms were

Hibbertia stellaris; Photo: Glenn Pure

available — one was the regular orange. A bronzy gold form also existed, which could be described as 'early season mandarin'. I saw the orange form growing with a dizzy blue Leschenaultia at Burrendong Arboretum one time and that was a combination to knock your eyes out!

In 1996, this combination was used as one of the late flowering displays at Floriade. All last summer [1990s] *H. stellaris* was in the display pipes outside the Australian National Botanic Gardens Visitors' Centre.

Because *H. procumbens* did well, I decided to plant *H. serpyfolia*, which is totally prostrate with little round leaves and may grow to a metre wide. My plant never thrived and now, wouldn't you know it — when my trees offer more overhead cover and have space underneath, I can't find any! Gwyn and Geoff Clarke had it and I also remember seeing it trailing out of six foot plastic bags at one stage.

After the conference in Perth, I was given a *Hibbertia cuneiformis*, which is hardy in Warnambool gardens. This Western Australian is a bushy shrub that can grow up to three metres but I didn't expect that in Canberra. I planted it under a large *Pimelia ligustrina* and a *Callitris endlicheri*. It had a boulder to protect it since the sun shines on it from 9am till lunch.

It did well in the beginning, but as the Callitris grew bigger it needed more water; the overhead cover went when the Pimelia died of old age and I used the boulder for the pond. Once-weekly watering has not been enough this very dry summer, so I will move it to a more congenial site.

That is all of the historic plants. Last year, 24 years from the first planting of the southern fence area, old age claimed my *Grevillea alpina* (Parry's yellow).

As this opened up a space, I decided to outline a path with prostrate gold plants to complement the Senna, *Helichrysum semipapposum*, *Mirbelia oxyloboides, Acacia wilhelm*, and the gold in the *Hakea victoriae* leaves. Along with Goodenias, Vellias and *Helichrysum apiculatum*, I put in *H. microphyll*a and *H. humifusa* which I bought at Willow Park.

H. microphylla is another Western Australian, and has small round leaves with recurved edges that tend to hang downwards along the stems. It can grow to 60cm x 80cm, but mine has been so trimmed of cuttings, it's no bigger than when I bought it.

It has settled in well, but it wasn't a hard winter. So far, it's doing well on a weekly watering. The cuttings strike easily, and some have been passed around for trials, so it will be showing up soon, in ANPS plant sales.

H. humifusa is a prostrate plant that comes from the Grampians. The flowers are carried on long stalks with its narrow pointed hairy leaves arranged in outward pointing bunches. Because Wrigley and Fagg recommends full sun, that's how I planted it.

My plant appeared to get sunburnt. It dropped most of its leaves and made an almost successful suicide attempt. It's still wearing the sunshade I gave it last year, and should not dry out completely between waterings. I can only surmise my plant is not correctly labelled, as Wrigley and Fagg isn't usually that far off. None of the cuttings taken before I planted it has rooted.

(Having looked up Rodger Elliot's *Field Guide to the Grampians' Flora*, I can now say I probably have two plants of *H. fasicularis*.)

I have planted another new species in the dappled shade under a *Baeckea densifolia,* with a log for protection. It's called *H. asicularis* on the label, but I can't find it written up anywhere. It was too small for cuttings and died over the 1997 winter. I have bought two more plants from Binalong to see if it will establish over the warmer months.

I've begun planting the pool surrounds, and have included a local

H. obtusifolia of upright grey form. This is one very tough plant that grows in thin, dry, stony hillside soil. While it grows easily from soft tip cuttings, getting these soft cuttings is not easy. The plant puts them out irregularly in response to good water supply. Not only do you have to be there at the right time, but you need to have beaten the kangaroos as well.

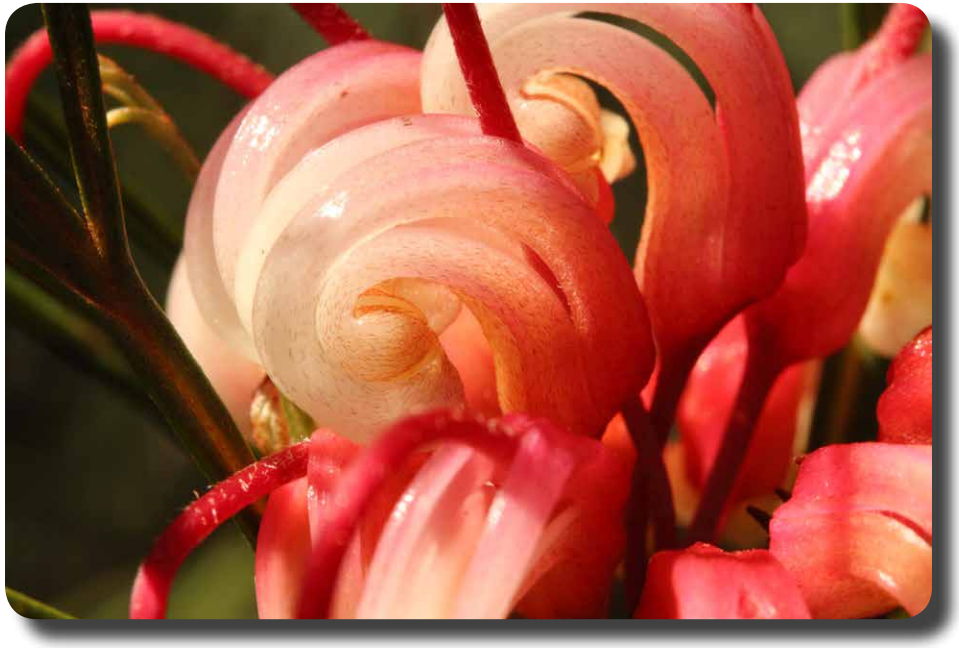
The local *H. obtusifolia* varies in colour from lemony gold, yellow, gold, buttercup and to the orange side of gold and flowers range in size from a five to ten cent piece. Old plants may be up to 1m x 1m. Could you imagine how splendid an informal hedge of them separating your's and your neighbour's drives would be in early summer?

These plants are really attractive and deserve to be grown more. Someone else besides me must have some bare-bottomed bushes needing brightening up, or a corner needing colour.

Look for them at the next sale. I'll make sure there are some.

Happy Hibbertday to you all.

[While the Hibbertia Study Group is now closed, past newsletters can be downloaded from the Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) website: http://anpsa.org.au/hibbertia.html]



Grevillea johnsonii; Photo: Glenn Pure

An Awful Loss

By Dick Burns

In March 2017, biosecurity people at the Department of Agriculture, Queensland destroyed 105 herbarium specimens, meant to go to Tony Bean, a botanist at the Queensland Herbarium. They were on loan from the herbarium of the Jardin des Plantes at France's Muséum National d'Histroire Naturelle.

I became aware of what could politely be called a mistake through an article in *Good Weekend (GW),* the magazine that comes with *The Age* each Saturday. I checked other articles online to try and find what was actually lost but, like the *GW* article, those I found were written by non-botanists. The Department of Agriculture is not allowing its people to be interviewed and Tony Bean is prohibited from speaking to the Press.

The *GW* article had an illustration of a specimen of *Lagenophora* collected by Allan Cunningham and one of the other articles I found also used an illustration of a specimen of the same genus. Tony Bean's website mentions that he is working on a revision of the genus *Lagenophora*.

The GW has a photo taken of the storage shelves at the French herbarium showing the gap where the destroyed specimens should be. The Tasmanian Herbarium keeps all specimens of the same species then genus together, so it is reasonable to suggest that the loss was of the genus *Lagenophora*. In the body of the GW article this is confirmed.

What compounds the loss is that among the incinerated lot were type specimens and material collected by botanists working with Jacques-Julien Houtou de Labillardière while in Van Diemen's Land on the 1791–1793 d'Entrecasteaux expedition of science and to search for La Perouse's lost expedition. Such historic specimens are irreplaceable. Botanists are quoted using 'priceless' and 'obscene' to describe the specimens and their destruction.

Labillardière nearly lost his material collected on the expedition. Among the causes were the death of the commander and his deputy, illness of crew and the eternal wars between the French and British. You can find detail of the travails of the Frenchmen in books and on websites, or you could check *Pathfinders in Tasmanian Botany*, p. 216 [written by Dick Burns. It was sold at the Canberra conference and is available at the Australian National Botanic Gardens Bookshop].

The loan of herbarium specimens between scientific institutions is a standard and essential practice. Whenever a botanist is examining what is likely to be a new taxon or is revising a genus, reference has to be made to the first specimens used in initially describing species, what is referred to as the type specimen. Many type specimens for Australian taxa are held in overseas herbaria.

As a result of the destruction of specimens, overseas herbaria have suspended sending any kind of museum material to Australia, and the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria agreed to not request herbarium specimens.

The director of one of the USA's major herbaria commented to *GW* on Australia's 'infamously bureaucratic customs regulations'. Most countries send such material without declaration forms.

It seems the bungle started when the French herbarium sent the specimens without the paperwork required by Australian customs. After some mix-ups, the Queensland Herbarium provided the appropriate documents to the Department of Agriculture on March 23, but on March 29 the Department informed the Herbarium that the specimens had been destroyed.

The director of the herbarium at Jardin des Plantes has pointed out that in destroying the specimens, Queensland customs had destroyed part of Australia's history.

Why?

The Department of Agriculture, as far as *GW* could determine, first denied culpability. No apology.

I have thought of several reasons for the Department's action, but they have narrowed down to two, centred on bureaucracies.

- In the past few decades governments have reduced the sizes of many of their departments with many senior staff taking early retirement. That loss of history and understanding has been shown in other cases and noted in other articles. In this case it could be that none of the remaining staff understood the special way of dealing with herbarium material.
- Anyone who has had encounters with a government department has also encountered the sets of rules and requirements, proper forms and avenues to follow. One reads regularly of cases of people coming up against brick walls because they have not used the correct pathways, recently described as 'bogan authoritarianism'.

  I have encountered arrogance of people who have the shelter of a rulebook.

  Soon after I started teaching, I sent a letter to the department seeking clarification on my salary. The reply finished with 'you are directed to forward [future] correspondence . . .'. I was fresh enough to believe that teaching was a treasured profession, so I wrote back stating that I don't respond well to being directed, but will generally do what is required if asked.

  We can imagine an office worker in the Queensland Department of Agriculture with the rulebook in front of them, deciding customs rules have to be followed. To exemplify this, around the same time, Canberra authorities destroyed a package of rare New Zealand lichens.

Since March 2017, protocols for museum specimens have been developed for Australian biosecurity officials. One would hope that these are backed up by understanding and common sense.

This article was previously published in *Eucryphia*, Journal of ANPS Tasmania Vol 23 No 2 June 2018.

June Walk — McLeod's Creek

Acacia gunnii buds; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

Astroloma humifusum; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

Grevillea lanigera; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

Melichrus urceolatus; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

ANPSA
What's New at the National Level

By Riitta Boevink, President, ANPSA

At the Australian Native Plants Society Australia (ANPSA) teleconference Council meeting the following appointees were confirmed:

- Jan Sked, Rules and Bylaws officer
- Eddy Wajon, Conservation officer
- Dave Murray, Australian Flora Foundation rep
- Ruddocks, Auditor

New delegates Bob Bannon from Queensland and Zig Madycki from the Northern Territory were welcomed.

Rules and ByLaws

Jan Sked has prepared a number of minor amendments to the rules and bylaws that we follow. Some were voted on at the biennial meeting in Hobart in January. Others will be confirmed at the next ANPSA Council meeting in November. Delegates are expected to bring up any changes in their respective member societies for discussion and voting.

The main alteration was to simplify the appointment of officers (Bylaw1.1) by not specifying the titles eg 'The Newsletter Editor', so that the roles can be discontinued or changed as required without needing changes in the bylaws each time. One of the motions adopted at the biennial meeting was the publication of the rules and bylaws on the ANPSA website: http://anpsa.org.au/ANPSA/rules-by-laws.pdf

Conservation

Three separate conservation issues were extensively discussed.

Eddy Wajon as the new conservation officer had proposed that ANPSA prepare comments on the management of brumbys in the Kosciusko National Park. Due to time constraints this did not eventuate, but discussion at the meeting revealed that Geoff Butler from Canberra had made a submission. I have read it since and found it an extensive and well-researched one.

All the conservation officers are encouraged to communicate with each other and Eddy so as to be able to act as a united lobby on conservation issues when necessary as well as to provide Eddy with the local knowledge.

The second conservation project relates to proposed clearing of native bushland adjoining Jandakot airport in Western Australia for commercial development.

Jandakot Airport Holdings had previously agreed with the Department of Environment to conserve the area in perpetuity. The area in question includes the Commonwealth-listed Threatened Banksia Woodland ecosystem, Garnaby's cockatoo and Grand Spider Orchid. Eddy has been organising a delegation to meet the shadow minister Anthony Albanese in Canberra, if possible, to present the case. The land in question falls under the Commonwealth jurisdiction.

The re-emergence of Myrtle Rust (*Uredo rangelii*) as a national concern was brought up by Lawrie Smith. The potential threat to plants of the Myrtaceae family was raised several years ago. Australian Plants Society Victoria journal *Growing Australian* March 2012 issue had a front page article on it. It seems that the initial alarm quietened down as the incidence appeared to be limited to nurseries.

Lawrie alerted us to information provided by Dr Jarrah Wills of the Queensland Herbarium and I quote: 'we had been lulled into a false sense of security in the last couple of years as this insidious airborne 'predator' of the family Myrtaceae seemed to have reduced impact. Instead the myrtle rust has been steadily spreading north and south from its original illegal entry point into Australia in the Gosford area'.

A draft Action Plan for a national response has been published and a possible response by ANPSA working together with Queensland members was proposed.

Website

We all owe gratitude to Brian Walters for the wonderful work he is doing managing the ANPSA website. May he long continue! However, we need to consider plans for the future. The comments at the Council meeting were not at all optimistic about anyone offering to manage the website on a voluntary basis.

At the request of the Council, Brian has produced thoughtful comments on the future possibilities that we will need to discuss. Should we engage a commercial operation to run the website? What would be the cost? What content on the website would serve the members best? What about the general public? What would be essential or the minimum to include?

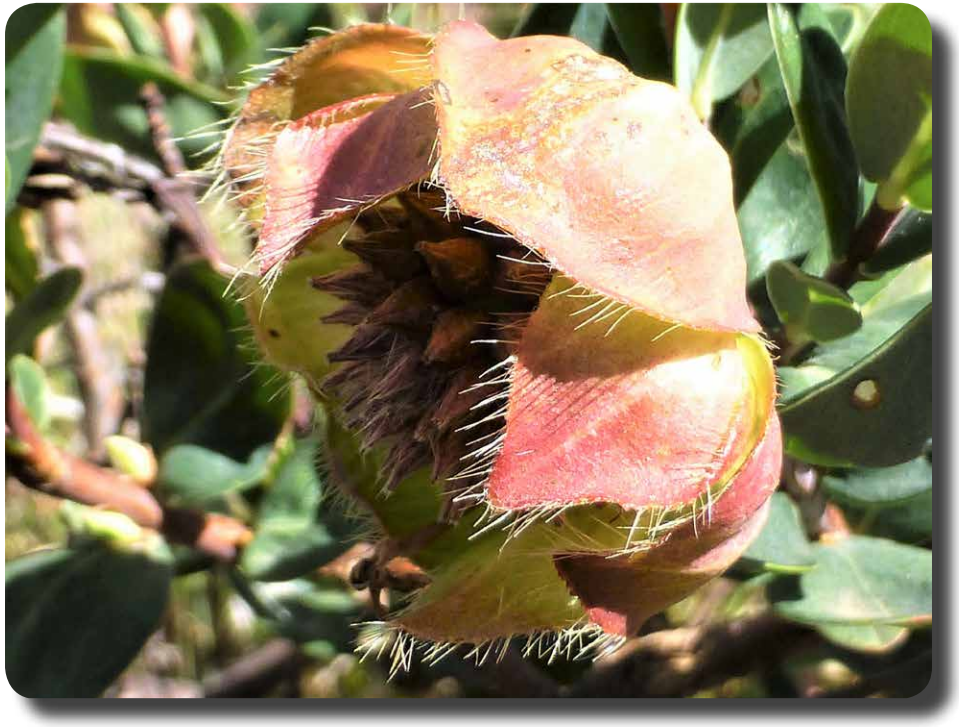
Study Groups

Jane Fountain, our Study Group Coordinator, reports that there are still fifteen active study groups. All are producing a newsletter at least once a year with interesting information. Sadly, the Boronia and Allied Genera Study Group is closing.

Thanks to Sheryl Backhouse, many of the old study group newsletters have been scanned and are now available on the website for anyone to peruse. Most of the current study group newsletters are available on the website as well.

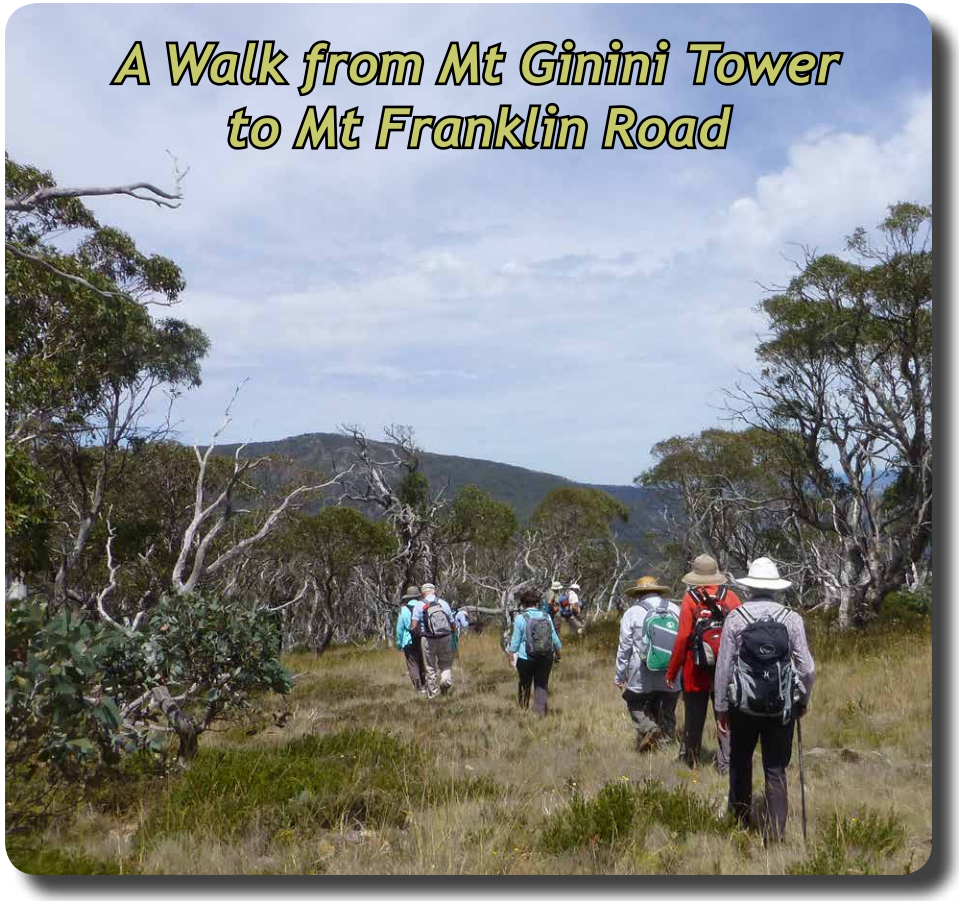
Nicky Zanen informs us that she will be resigning from her position as publicity officer at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). We will be sad to see her discontinue and hope that she will continue her active involvement in other capacities.

The next Council teleconference meeting is planned for the 27th of November and will be preceded by an AGM.



Pimelea ligustrina, Mt Ginini to Franklin Road walk; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

A Walk from Mt Ginini Tower to Mt Franklin Road



The group starting downhill; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

A new walk in February following the ACT/NSW border south from the tower

By Roger Farrow

New walks are always rewarding, as apart from the fresh scenery and new vegetation to explore, there is always the possibility of finding new plant species to record and add to our lists. In this case, even finding a satisfactory route was quite an exercise.

The walk initially follows an old 4WD track south from the radar tower through cleared alpine snow gum woodland. The track eventually turns west so we carried on south through an open rocky ridgeline, passing a border post, before entering snow gum woodland. This entailed scrub bashing down through the heath and some gentle falls on the rocky uneven ground underfoot. Finally, we reached the

Eucalyptus pauciflora ssp debeuzevillei; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

easily identified saddle and turned east down a steep rocky slope to the Mt Franklin road and returned to the lower car park.

On arrival at morning tea, we checked out the diagnostics of the Jounama Snow Gum, *E. pauciflora* subsp *debeuzevillei,* that is endemic to the area. It is distinguished from the typical Snow gum, *E. p.* subsp. *pauciflora*, by its glaucous angular buds, smaller, more rounded leaves and low branching habit. Mike informed us that de Beuzeville was not some eminent French botanist but Wilfred de Beuzeville, a forester from Bombala, but no less distinguished as a plant collector.

Before we started the walk, I wanted to obtain the coordinates of a single *Cassinia monticola* plant to the north-west of the tower along the old 4WD track, now quite obscured by shrubbery (mostly *Bossiaea foliosa* complex and *Podolobium alpestre*).

In 2008 we discovered the first sighting of *C. monticola* for the ACT on a Wednesday Walk in Ginini Flats but this has not been seen since. So I was interested to find out whether the specimen at the summit was in NSW or the ACT. According to Google Earth, which has the border marked, this plant is definitely in NSW in Bimberi Nature Reserve. It is probably the same plant recorded by Betty Woods a decade ago.

Cassinia monticola; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

The first part of the walk down the 4WD track is dominated by snow grass, *Poa* spp. and Asteraceae although there is increasing encroachment by heaths, mostly *Bossiaea foliosa* complex and *Acrothamnus hookeri* (in bud).

Acrothamnus hookeri fruit; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

The daisies include *Microseris lanceolata* (finished flowering) now distinguished from the lowland form named *M. walteri*, *Brachyscome aculeata* (mostly finished flowering), a *Celmesia* in flower, probably *C. costiniana*, large patches of *Coronidium monticola* in full flower, scattered plants of at least two species of *Craspedia,* and clumps of *Rhodanthe anthemoides* and of *Xerochrysum subundulatum*. *Wahlenbergia gloriosa* was still in flower as was *Lobelia pedunculata,* an extensive ground cover.

Corunidium monticola; Photo: Roger Farrow

Xerochrysum subundulatum; Photo: Roger Farrow

The daisies were being visited by a host of butterflies, notably the Spotted Alpine Xenica (*Oreixenica orichora),* as well as by reed bees in the genus *Exoneura*.

Wahlenbergia gloriosa; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

Lobelia pedunculata; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

Oreixenica orichora; Photo: Roger Farrow

After leaving the track, we entered another boulder-strewn clearing where we saw an original border marker so we knew we were on the right route.

Euphrasia caudata; Photo: Roger Farrow

There was the first sighting of the mauve flowers of *Euphrasia caudata,* distinguished by the long point to the leaf (caudata = tail).

This was followed by the sighting of a large Apiaceae in fruit that turned out to be *Gingidia harveyana*, a species not previously seen by the Wednesday Walkers (WW) in this area, although it has been recorded by WWs from Yerrabi (thanks Martin).

Further down this rocky slope we entered snow gum woodland with an understory of *Grevillea diminuta* and *Podocarpus lawrencei,* plus patches of *Podolepis robusta* and *Euphrasia caudata* in full flower.

Ahead we could see the saddle where the accumulated moisture caused a lush vegetation to develop, dominated by *Senecio linearifolius* subsp. *latifolius* and *Xerochrysum subundulatum*. Here we were entertained by the antics of numerous mountain crickets, *Acripeza reticulata*.

Gingidia harveyana; Photo: Roger Farrow

Grevillea diminuta; Photo: Brigida Wimmer

Podolepis robusta; Photo: Roger Farrow

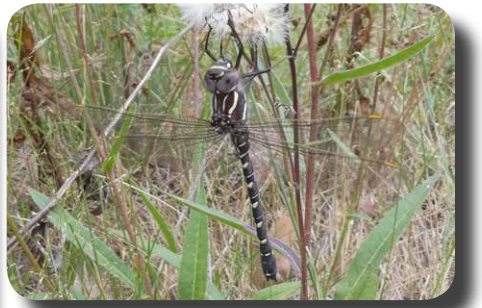
Senecio linearifolius ssp *latifolius;*
Photo: Brigida Wimmer

Acripeza reticulata; Photo: Roger Farrow

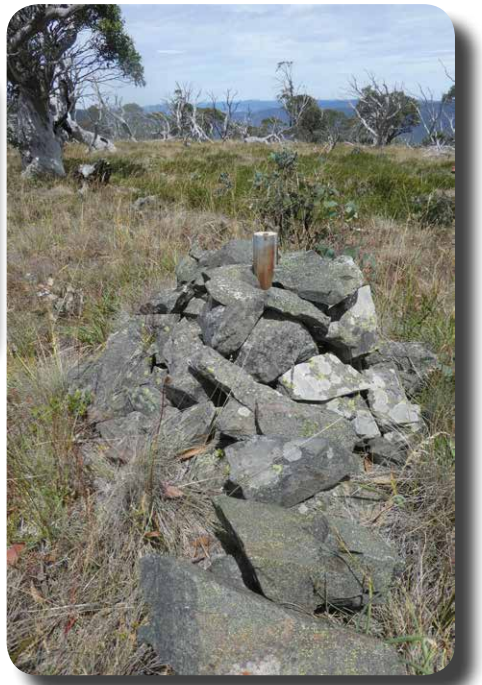
From the saddle, there was a steep descent to the road through patches of *Polyscias sambucifolia* and other shrubs. We should try to find a better route here next time.

Not much to see on the return as the roadside vegetation had been extensively slashed, leaving only the *Podocarpus* untouched, although the highlight of the day for me was a spectacular dragonfly pointed out by Linda and yet to be identified.

More on the slashing: I noted that a large *Ozothamnus secundiflorus* just north of the tower turnoff, that I had



Austroaeschna inermis; Photo: Roger Farrow



ACT–NSW border marker; Photo: Roger Farrow

seen on a January trip, was gone. Disappointing, as this is a rare plant in this part of the Park.

This walk would be worth repeating in mid-summer when the *Gingidia* and many Asteraceae would be in full flower.

What's Happening at WAMA?

By Neil Marriott
Site Development Team Leader

In late 2017 the Wildlife Art Museum of Australia (WAMA) was successful in its application to BGANZ (Botanical Garden Association of Australia and New Zealand) in the Care for the Rare scheme.

This scheme plans to supply rare and endangered plants to established botanic gardens around the country, thereby increasing the numbers of these plants under cultivation. In doing so, botanic gardens will be increasing the survival chances for these species, while at the same time educating the public on the importance of protecting and growing our rare and beautiful Australian plants.

Essential for our project is the perimeter predator-free fence, and plans are underway for this to begin construction shortly. A number of working bees have been held to clear the fence line, and tenders will soon be issued for the final clearing and construction. This will transform the WAMA site, as we currently have to guard every plant we put in. It will also mean that the prolific natural regeneration we are getting in the covenanted bushland areas will be secure.

No complete flora and fauna surveys have been done yet, so it was exciting to discover several new plant species for the site while we were clearing the fence line. Lovely large plants of Grampians Correa *(Correa reflexa* var. *angustifolia)* were found, fortunately in an area safe from the fence works. Also discovered were several climbing plants of Sweet Apple-berry *(Billardiera cymosa)*.

Meetings and site inspections of the WAMA site have been held with the brilliant landscaper Phillip Johnson and his team. As most readers would remember, Phillip was responsible for winning the Gold Medal for Best Exhibit at the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show in 2013.

Since then Phillip has created many superb iconic Australian landscapes around the country, including in the back yard of our own book sales team of Bill and Sue. It is hoped that Phillip and his team will be able to work with WAMA to create a sustainable wetland in a truly iconic Australian landscape to wow both national and international visitors.

We are very excited to have the full support of Rural Development Victoria, who are fully aware of the huge financial benefits that WAMA will bring, not only to the Grampians region, but to the whole of Victoria. As a result they have nominated WAMA to the government for financial support for the next financial year.

WAMA's Australian Geographic 2018 Wildlife Art calendar is available for only $15, with ALL monies going to help with the establishment of WAMA. Calendars can be purchased from AG stores or online at www.wama.net.au.

Also available are tickets for our latest raffle, the first prize being two nights in our lovely BnB cottage. Other prizes are wine from renowned local winery Bests and a framed wildlife print from a WAMA supporting artist. Contact WAMA or me to purchase tickets.

The WAMA website (www.wama.net.au) gives more detailed information on WAMA. Visit the site to also find out about upcoming events, to keep up to date with regular WAMA newsletters or to sign up and become a supporter.

This article was previously published in *Growing Australian*, APS Victoria No 244 June 2018.

Correa reflexa var. angustifolia; Photo: Neil Marriott

The Type Collection of Sturt Pea *(Swainsona formosa)*

By Alex George

Sturt Pea is a spectacular plant when in flower. Under suitable conditions: warmth and sufficient rain events between the seed germinating and the plant maturing. Plants can live for several years and cover three square metres. Plants of this age and size make a spectacular display.

While many people know Sturt Pea (note not Sturt's Pea) it has a contorted nomenclatural history. This means Sturt Pea has lots of different scientific names, a number of which can be used. Much of this contorted nomenclatural history is related to what plant specimen has been designated as the Type specimen.

On 1 September 1699 (Gregorian calendar) William Dampier made the first collection of Sturt Pea on East Lewis Island (an island in the Dampier Archipelago). His specimens were described by English botanist John Ray in 1704 but this predates the official starting date for accepted modern botanical nomenclature (1 May 1753) so has no formal status.

Many early collections followed. Allan Cunningham made the second collection in 1817 near Regent's Lake (now Lake Cargelligo) in New South Wales. The following year, during a coastal survey by Phillip Parker King, another collection was made on our north-west coast.

In 1832 Scottish botanist George Don Jnr described two species based on these specimens, calling them, respectively, *Donia speciosa* and *Donia formosa*. Cunningham himself also published a name, in 1835, *Clianthus dampieri*, commemorating the first discoverer but this was to replace *Donia formosa* and has no standing in considering the correct name.

In 1849 the great Scottish botanist Robert Brown decided that all these were one species but adopted the name *C. dampieri*. This remained in use until 1909 when two German botanists, P.F.A. Ascherson and K.O.R. Graebner, reviewed the

The holotype of *Donia formosa* G. Don, sheet G00418563 in the Phanerogamic Herbarium, Conservatoire et jardin botaniques, Département de la culture et du sport chemin de l'Impératrice 1, 1292 Chambésy, Switzerland, reproduced by permission

names and decided that the correct epithet was *speciosa*, publishing the combination *Clianthus speciosus* (the ending changed to *-us* to agree with the masculine gender of the generic name).

Forward fifty years until the next change: two botanists in New South Wales, applying the requirements of the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature*, found that the epithet *speciosus* was incorrect and took up the alternative, *Clianthus formosus*. The next change also came from NSW when Joy Thompson decided that Sturt Pea belonged in the genus *Swainsona*, publishing the combination *S. formosa* (the gender returning to feminine).

Then it was my turn. Because it has features that set it apart from all other species of *Swainsona* (large, typically red and black flowers with the petals oriented differently, and large pods) in 1999, I placed it in its own genus, commemorating the first collector, as *Willdampia formosa*. This name has not been taken up by the Australian herbaria but is acceptable under the *International Code* and may be used by anyone should they so wish.

As indicated above, the name *formosa* was given to the collection from the north-west coast. Here there is another winding story. In the original publication of 1832 this was attributed to King and the locality given as the Curlew River, where his ship had anchored in February 1818. The Curlew River never became an official name but was a tidal inlet at the mouth of the Ashburton River.

From his journal we know that Cunningham was unwell and did not go ashore there, but a pea flower called a *Dolichos* was brought aboard by the master's mate, Frederick Bedwell. This has sometimes been thought to refer

to a specimen of Sturt Pea but Cunningham's notes show that it was a different kind of pea.

By 1849 Robert Brown wrote that he was unable to find the specimen on which the description of *Donia formosa* was based but he accepted the name *Clianthus dampieri* for it (this was long before we had the *International Code*). Nor did the later workers mentioned above see it — Joy Thompson, without seeing it, stated that it was in the herbarium of the Natural History Museum in London but no-one was able to find it there.

For some years, after searching in several herbaria, I believed that this collection was indeed lost and was on the point of nominating a neotype, a procedure we can follow to replace the original type with a modern collection. Then I was advised to contact a number of herbaria where the type might have ended up and, lo and behold, it turned up in the Herbarium of the Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques, Geneva.

Amazingly, this did more than reveal the resting place of the missing specimen: it also showed that the locality we had been using was wrong. On the sheet, 'Curlew River' has been crossed out and ' "Malus Island", and others of Dampiers Archip — 1818 A.C.' written above in Allan Cunningham's hand. At some date after Don's publication of 1832 he must have seen the specimen, noticed the error and added his correction.

The fact is also clear from Cunningham's unpublished journal from the voyage: his entry for 1 March 1818 reads: 'I was not a little surprised to find Kennedia speciosa, a plant discover'd in July 1817 in sterile bleak open flats near the Regent Lake on the Lachlan River in Lat. 33°13'S and Long. 146°40'E. It is not common, I could only see 3 plants, of whom one was in flower. ... This island is the Isle Malus of the French.' ['*Kennedia speciosa*' was Cunningham's manuscript name for Sturt Pea.]

It may be noted that these islands are less than 20 kilometres from East Lewis Island where Dampier collected Sturt Pea in 1699. His specimens, still in excellent condition, are in the herbarium at Oxford University.

Interestingly, in the *Flora Australiensis* in 1864, George Bentham cited a collection from Dampier Archipelago by Cunningham but no-one associated this with the original description of *Donia formosa*.

There is one further significant date in the history of the Sturt Pea: on 23 November 1961 it was proclaimed as the floral emblem of South Australia.

Swainsona formosa; Photo: Jim Barrow

A more detailed account of this story has just been published: A.S. George, The type of Sturt Pea found. *Swainsona* **31**: 49–53 (11 April 2018).

This article was previously published in the *Wildflower Society of Western Australia Newsletter* Vol 56 No 2 May 2018.

Eucalyptus gregsoniana, Wog Wog; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer

Study Group Notes

By Brigitta Wimmer, Study Group Liaison Officer, ANPS Canberra Region

Acacia Study Group

Newsletter 141, June 2018

- From the Leader
- Welcome
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- *Acacia ingramii*
- *Acacia pataczekii*
- Acacias at RBG Kew
- *Acacia paradoxa*
- Endangered Species
- Acacias in the News
- Seed Bank
- Study Group Membership

Eucalyptus Study Group

Newsletter No 70, March 2018

- Eucalyptus beyond Its Native Range: Environmental Issues in Exotic Bioenergy Plantations
- Ancient Tall Trees
- Abstract- Intraspecific diversity of terpenes of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (Myrtaceae) at a continental scale
- Abstract — Biomass Losses Caused by Teratosphaeria Leaf Disease in *Eucalyptus globulus* Short Rotation Forestry
- Eucalyptus trail finds stories in the trees
- Abstract — Impacts of Early Thinning of a *Eucalyptus globulus* Labill. Pulplog Plantation in Western Australia on Economic Profitability and Harvester Productivity
- Abstract — Stumps of *Eucalyptus globulus* as a Source of Antioxidant and Antimicrobial Polyphenols
- Abstract-Seedling Growth and Physiological Responses of Sixteen Eucalypt Taxa under Controlled Water Regime
- Beating the Eucalypt blues — new ways to model air quality
- Abstract — Seed viability of early maturing alpine ash (*Eucalyptus delegatensis* subsp. *delegatensis*) in the Australian Alps, south-eastern Australia, and its implications for management under changing fire regimes
- Eucalyptus Research finds Australian toughness key to survival
- Species profile: *Eucalyptus cosmophylla*; Cup Gum, Euclid
- Are Australian Eucalyptus to blame for California's wildfires
- Australia could fly on Eucalyptus
- Abstract — Insect herbivory on snow gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*, Myrtaceae) saplings near the alpine treeline: the influence of local- and landscape-scale processes
- Abstract — Genetic diversity and the insular population structure of the rare granite rock species, *Eucalyptus caesia* Benth

Fern Study Group

Newsletter 141, July 2018

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- Program for the Sydney Region
- Excursion and General Reports
- Excursion to Cougal Cascades (Springbrook Natl Park), June 2018
- Wilson River Picnic Area, Willi Willi National Park
- Recent changes in higher-level taxonomy of ferns
- Plant surveying on Mt Tiptree and Davies Creek, SE of Mareeba
- Fern's sequenced genome holds environmental promise
- Financial Statement
- ANPSA Fern Study Group Fees for 2018–2019

Garden Design Study Group

Newsletter 103, June 2018

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- Coming 'Garden' Events
- Treasurer's Report
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Garden Design Study Group

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- New Coastal Garden Jo Hambrett
- 'Senzai Bori' — Transition Japan/ Australia Olga Blancha
- GDSG-Q Visit Lawrie's New Garden Bob Bannon
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- Membership Matters

Grevillea Study Group

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Hakea Study Group

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Waratah & Flannel Flower Study Group

Newsletter15, June 2018

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- From the members
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- Vale Noel Rosten
- What I've learned about Waratahs
- Memorabilia
- WIN Farm tour
- My OAM journey
- Checklist of Telopea species and varieties

More from McLeod's Creek

Eucalyptus goniocalyx, McLeod's Creek;
Photos: Brigitta Wimmer

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 7.30pm 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.

Website: nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Membership Fees

Single or family memberships are the same price.

Basic membership including Bulletin and Journal — $35 ($18*)

Full membership including Bulletin, Journal and Australian Plants — $50 ($33*)

Life member subscribing to Australian Plants — $15

* Concession rates apply to pensioners (Centrelink), full-time students and unemployed.

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Back cover: *Correa baeuerlenii*; Photo: Glenn Pure