Australian Plants Society
Armidale & District Group

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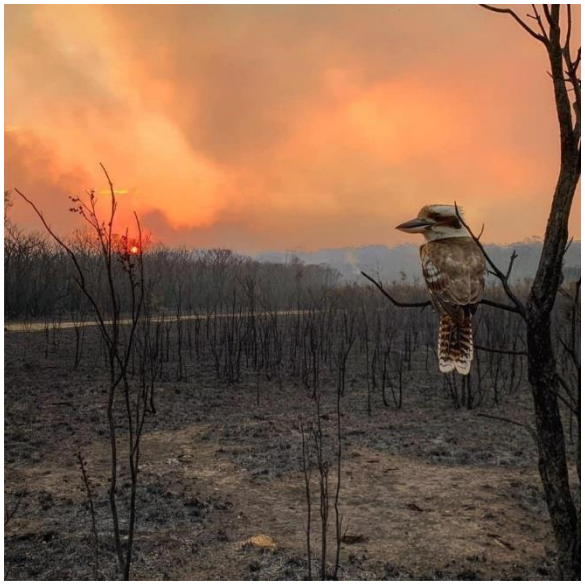
Crowea exalata ssp magnifolia
image by Maria Hitchcock

Winter Edition 2020 - 3



In this issue:

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From the Editor:

We have certainly had a memorable year - the worst drought in living memory followed by the most extensive bushfires seen in Australia, and to top it off, the biggest pandemic the world has seen in 100 years.

The pandemic has made essential self distancing and quarantining to arrest the spread of the Corona virus. As a result, most APS activities have been shelved for the time being. Being in isolation at home has been a mixed blessing. I have made inroads to the resuscitation of the garden. The drought was so severe, I had let things go for a year.

However, recent rains have replenished the water table and filled our rainwater tanks. In Uralla, where poor flows of water through granite country to the town dam had contaminated the water supply with arsenic, bottled drinking water had been used for the best part of three months. Recent rain and a new carbon filtration system for the town water has solved the problem. So, for our situation at Saumarez Ponds, we are back to some degree of normality. However, Tamworth and Armidale remain on level five water restrictions as dam levels remain critically low.

Our garden is now largely weeded, regrowth of grass lawns controlled, dead plants removed and much pruning carried out. I have even started replanting the many areas vacated by dead plants. The green house has been full of plants waiting for the right conditions for planting. I would expect the back log to be out by the end of July and I will them do a pilgrimage down the east coast to all my favourite nurseries to get fresh stock to plant. The weather forecast of a wet, warmish, winter suggests perfect conditons to establish plants before summer hits.

While our face to face activities have been limited, it has been interesting to observe how we adapt. Many of us have learnt to use videoconferencing Apps, such as ZOOM, to communicate with each other and to run virtual meetings. While the App is free to

download and use, sessions are limited on the free version to 40 minutes per session. Fortunately, APS NSW has paid for a subscription to ZOOM that allows time unlimited conferences. Many of the local groups are now using this APP for monthly meetings and the technology allows for distant members to sit in on the meetings. Indeed, there is no reason why we could not have a talk and Powerpoint presentation from an expert at Kew Gardens in London to our group in Armidale. Physical presence is no longer required. This is one of the beneficial results of ingenuity offshoots from our enforced isolation.

Eric Sinclair has organised for our website to be hosted as part of the APS NSW website from now on. Going through the new website will offer the chance to overview the activities of the State body and many regional groups.

Now that the drought is behind us and we have broken the ice with a group gathering to celebrate the June Solstice, we can look forward to longer days, better growing conditions and a slow return to a meeting schedule.

John Nevin, Editor

New Website Arrangements

by Eric Sinclair

New Web Site

The new, simplified web site for APS Armidale is now on the NSW APS site as one of their 'District Groups'. This site is accessed by www.austplants.com.au – or simply by using 'APS NSW' in the search engine (google)

It consists of pages listing:

- Calendar/activities
- Newsletters
- Resources (useful tips on various things, and the Australian Plants of New England book, as well as notes on the Arboretum).
- Places to see and visit (same as it used to be)
- Contact us
- Members only – this goes nowhere. I have left the 'stub' there for the time being in case it should go somewhere in future.

Additional pages can be added as required – for instance I have one (in storage) called 'Market in the Mall': it has not yet been activated, and another 'Current News' yet to be 'made live'. However, space is more limited than our current 'unlimited' site: already I have caused APS NSW to increase their storage allocation on the Wild Apricot site.

Our current (Apr 2020) website (the Neil Wilson site) can no longer be accessed through APS NSW.

Old Web Site (Neil Wilson's site)

The much more complete, spectacular, and colourful site that Neil Wilson wrote is no longer supported. This is currently accessed by www.aps-armidale.org.au . This web address should not be used on our newsletter anymore.
This site has been abandoned because:
• I am not sufficiently skilled, or have the time, to maintain it. Few, if any people, available to APS Armidale would be. I have updated and refined it over the last two years, but it is a nerve-wracking job, and time consuming. If anything major were to go wrong, I would not be able to fix it.
• Our subscription to the web-hosting site, PANTHUR, runs out in July – not a big cost, I think around $144 (I haven't seen the forward costings, but it would be about that)

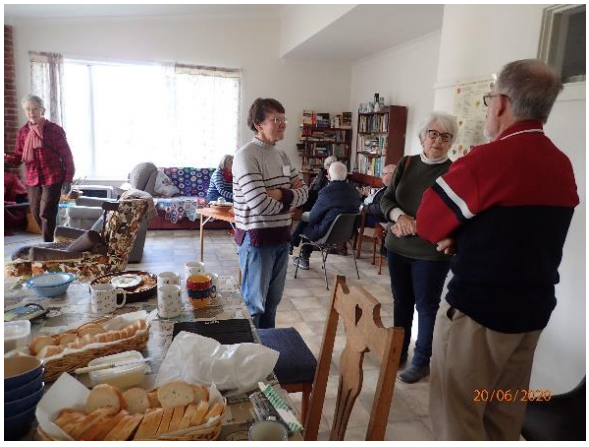
All of its content – photos, forums, etc. are maintained on my computer and its backups.
The future
Our site will no longer be the "stand out" in terms of depth of coverage and colour. It will be utilitarian, providing basic information on us and our activities at what I think is an appropriate level of effort for our society.

Solstice Gathering 20th June 2020 **by Penelope Sinclair**

Following easing of restrictions on group gatherings we were able to hold our Winter Solstice celebrations. This took place at the new home of Deirdre and Ken Waters who have recently moved from the farm and house where Ken was born, to begin a new chapter of life in town.

Ten members attended and enjoyed catching up with news and activities while enjoying delicious soups, bread and nibbles prepared by Deirdre with some extras brought in by other members.

Preparations have already begun to establish the gardens which will be a mixture of native plants and other favourites. We welcome Ken and Deirdre to Armidale and look forward to seeing more of them now they are in Armidale. A big thank you for their hospitality.



Passion, Borers and Hibiscus by Patrick Laher

Passion

At the Arboretum in 2018 an unidentified creeping plant appeared that did not respond to *Roundup* and at the time it did not seem to me that it would be a big deal. However, last year there were suckers coming up everywhere and climbing up into the trees and shrubs, and it then became obvious that this was going to be a serious problem. It seemed to love *Roundup* and *Kamba* (broadleaf herbicide) as it began to grow even more vigorously. I was at a friend's home early this year advising on plant species suitable for Uralla, and there before me were the same suckers coming in from next door!

A look over the fence at the jungle in the back yard of the neighbour confirmed my fear that it was indeed a passion fruit vine. A check on Google showed over 5 million hits from people all over the world and all wanting to know how to get rid of this weed. The only information as how to kill this weed was to use *Roundup* straight or a suggestion to use diesel and molasses.

I rang Phil Rose who had never heard of this combination but offered to supply some molasses. Luckily I had some left over herbicide that I had used years ago on blackberries. With nothing to lose, I sprayed the plant and its suckers with this herbicide at the beginning of April and the results on the 9th May looked positive. The herbicide is called *Tree Killer* (made by Heiniger) and it is combined with kerosene.

My advice regarding this weed is to get rid of it immediately. I pity my friend who has a neighbour who just doesn't care and won't get rid of this weed. Good neighbours are priceless.

The flowers of the Passionfruit vine

Borers

Most members would know that borers reduce the life of their wattles. I have made it a practice that every year in autumn, that I check on my wattles for signs of borer attack and rid the tree of this pest. A common method of killing the borer is to insert a wire into the borer hole and spear the pest. My method is to either spray into the borer hole with methylated spirits or plug the hole with Vicks Vapour Rub or Vaseline. I have been doing this for about four years without any adverse effect on the plants. It's a quick and easy method.

Hibiscus

After the beautiful rain early this year, a small yellow flowering plant with a purple centre appeared at the Arboretum. Members were stumped as to its identification and most thought that it was a weed. Farmers consider *Hibiscus tridactylites* a weed as it appears on disturbed ground, on roadsides, grassland and open forests. This plant is native to Queensland and northwest slopes of NSW, and has become naturalised in Victoria, South Australia and the ACT. It is an erect annual plant that can grow up to 1.5 metres and has toothed, lobed or pinnatifid leaves. It was previously included in the *H. trionum* complex, which is an introduced weed from Europe and Central Africa.

I first saw this attractive plant in my garden in Invergowrie back in 1990 and I hadn't recently seen it again for quite a number of years until this year. Have other members seen this plant?

This somewhat weedy species is now presumed to be native to the northwest slopes region of NSW, however its expanded distribution is probably the result of agricultural practices (e.g. movement of machinery). Until recently, it was thought to be *H. trionum* var. *trionum*, which is native to Europe and Central Africa. Within the *H. trionum* complex Craven et al. (2011) also recognises *H. verdcourtii*, previously referred to as var. *vesicarius*. This native species is found widely in inland Australia. The third species, *H. richardsonii*, is native to coastal NSW and NZ.

Hibiscus tridactylites

Frass – sawdust mixed with a silken web overlying entry and damage sites due to Wattle borers

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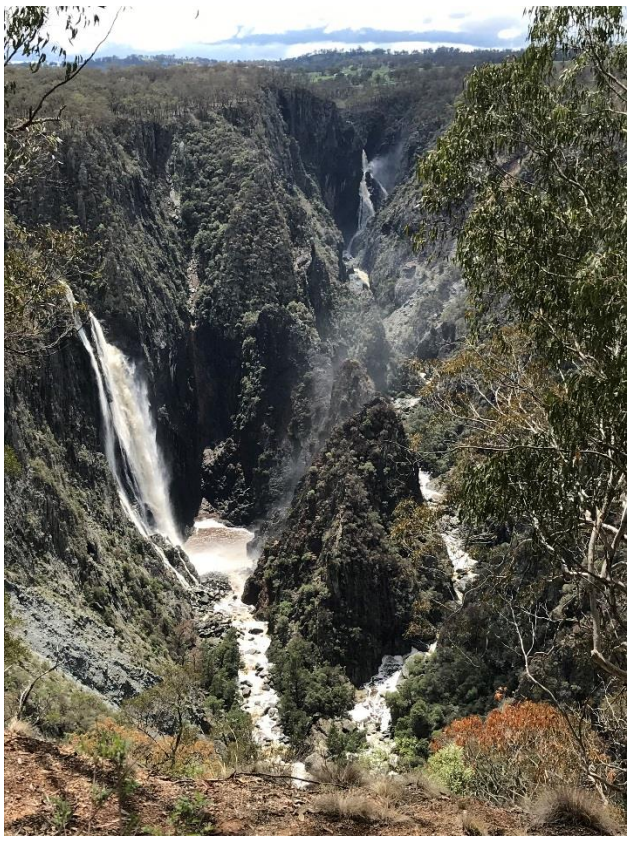
Wollomombi Falls Lookout Platform

by John Nevin

A new lookout has opened offering spectacular views of the mighty Wollomombi Falls in Oxley Wild Rivers National Park. At 260 metres high, Wollomombi Falls are the highest in NSW and just minutes off the iconic Waterfall Way. **#NSWParks #LoveNSW**



Both Wolomombi Falls and Chandler Falls are running strongly after the rain. The old platform was closed when we visited a month ago but a replacement viewing platform has now been completed.

The area is well worth a visit as it is close to town and open to the public. The area was badly affected by the drought but was unaffected by the bushfires.

Some interesting endemic plants such as the unnamed *Prostanthera* and *Westringia* grow in the area.

Hard Yakka

by John Nevin

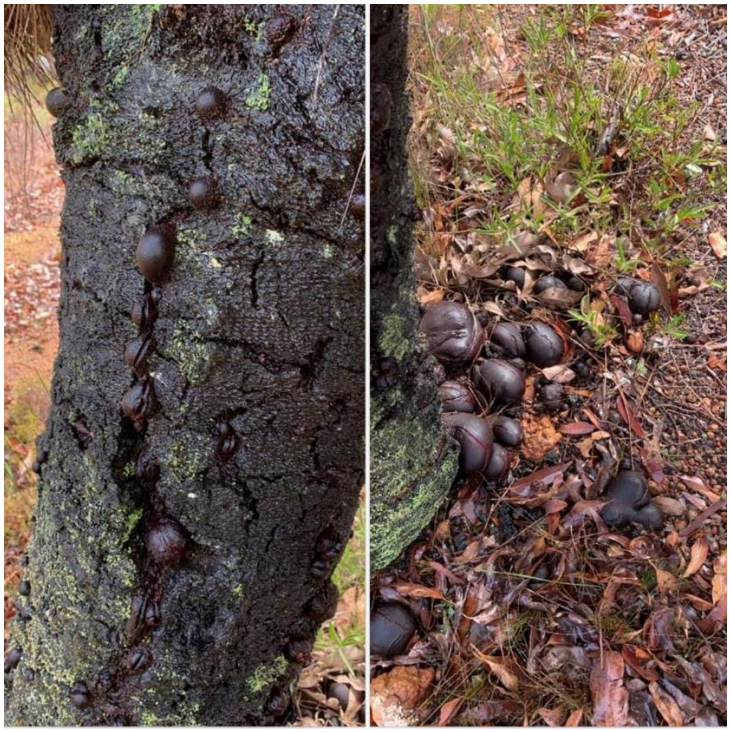
The grass tree (*Xanthorrhoea*) is a genus of about thirty flowering plants that are endemic to Australia. They have been used by the Aborigines in many ways including as a drink from the flowers, lightweight spears or fire making tools from the flower stems, and a tough glue for weapon construction.

The trunk provides a highly useful resin, which can be found as exuded nodules attached to the tree's trunk or at the base of the plant to where the nodules have fallen. The nodules are dark red to black in colour.

The resin nodules are harvested and heated to form a type of heat sensitive reusable glue. To reduce the brittle character it is often mixed with other material such as charcoal or fur. The glue so produced was then used to bind

axe heads to handles, spear points to their shafts and as a general purpose glue. The resin is very tough and is also waterproof. As such, it was used to patch damaged water containers and canoes.

The traditional name for the plant with the *Nunga* groups in South Australia is *Yacca* (or Yakka). This name gave rise to the term "*Hard Yakka*" with non-Aboriginal people harvesting the resin by non-traditional harvesting methods. In the 1920's the resin was used to produce explosives, varnish, incense and as an alternative to shellac gramophone records.



Resin nodules on the trunk of a Xanthorrhoea and at the base of the trunk to where they have fallen.

Torrington and Gibraltar Range six months after the fires

By John Nevin

Following the lifting of travel restrictions after several months of being quarantined, I had a serious case of "Cabin Fever". Therefore, at the first

opportunity I began travelling to the surrounding National Parks with the aim of doing a day of walking there each week.

First trip was to Torrington that I had earlier visited after the fires but before the Corona virus hit. The Torrington area has had a lot of rain and this is encouraging a lot of regeneration and germination of seedlings. Most of the houses that burnt down have had the sites cleaned up, but there is little sign yet of any rebuilding.

Access is still very limited. The Silent Grove Road through to Mole Station is open with damaged hazardous trees cleared about ten metres back on either side of the road. The main tracks remain closed including Mystery Face, Blatherarm picnic area and the Nomad picnic area. The Nomad area was burnt out and there is work being done to rebuild the picnic facilities and toilet. Sarah Caldwell recently reported on the work as they are being contracted to supply plants for the revegetation of the area. The state of the other areas is unknown as access was not possible and unstable dangerous trees need work before the roads are opened.

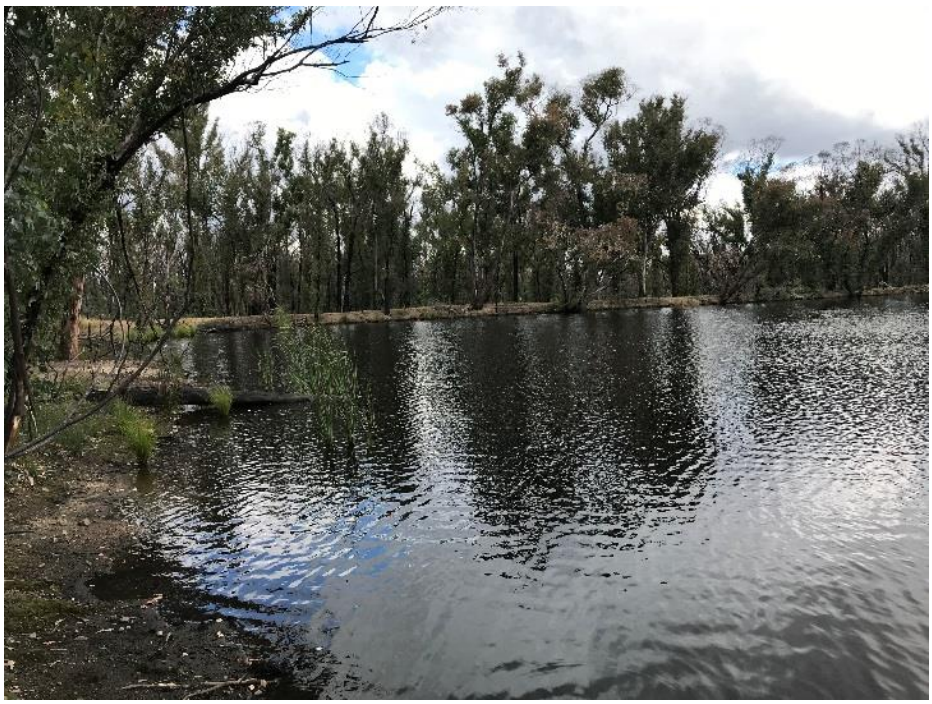
Consequently, exploration was limited to the rock shelves which provided a refuge from the fires to some extent. Even these have been badly hit with mature plants such as *Leionema rotundifolium* and *Phebalium glandulosum subsp. eglandulosum* burnt out. The former is regenerating from seedlings but no sign of the latter. It will be years until the granites there recover to their former beauty.

Washpool and Gibraltar Range were visited on another day. The fire there was really hot and the damage seems to be greater than that at Torrington. Most of the park infrastructure such as Mulligan's Hut and picnic tables were intact with extensive damage only metres away. I suspect that there was some targeted water bombing on these assets. Again, many of the tracks are closed. The rainforest remains but has been nibbled at the edges by the fire.

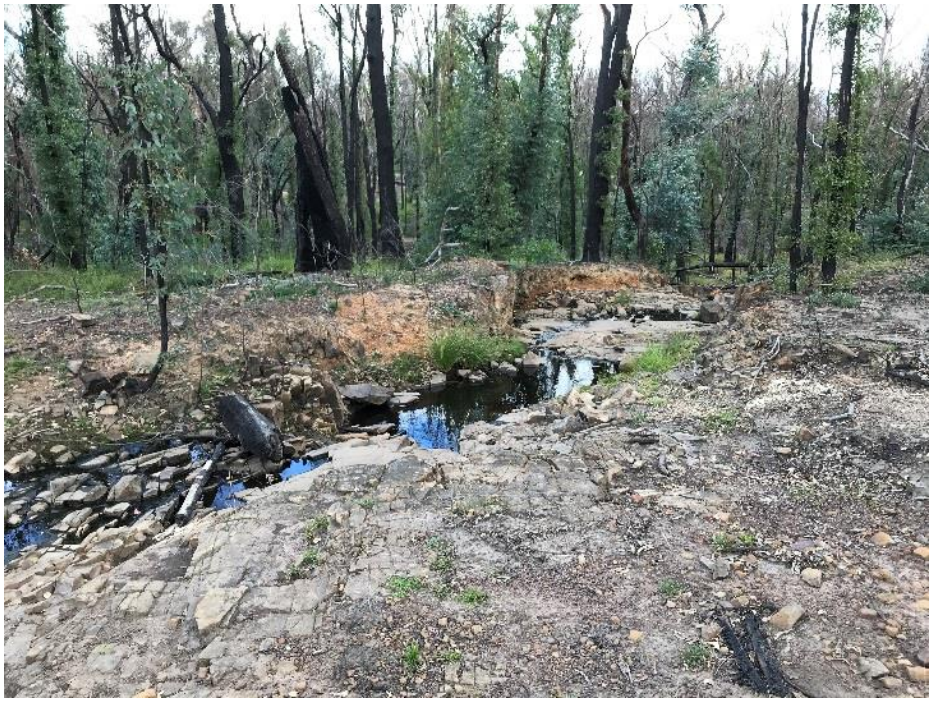
Some plants that I was interested in have been burnt. The recently described *Phebalium sylvaticum* and the unnamed *Prostanthera* have been burnt out. The latter has extensive seedling regeneration but I suspect it will take years for them to reach their six to seven metre height. I could find no *Phebalium* regrowth or seedlings, but it will take a more experienced eye than mine to

assess this. This plant has a limited number of sites so it will need to be checked as to how endangered it is.

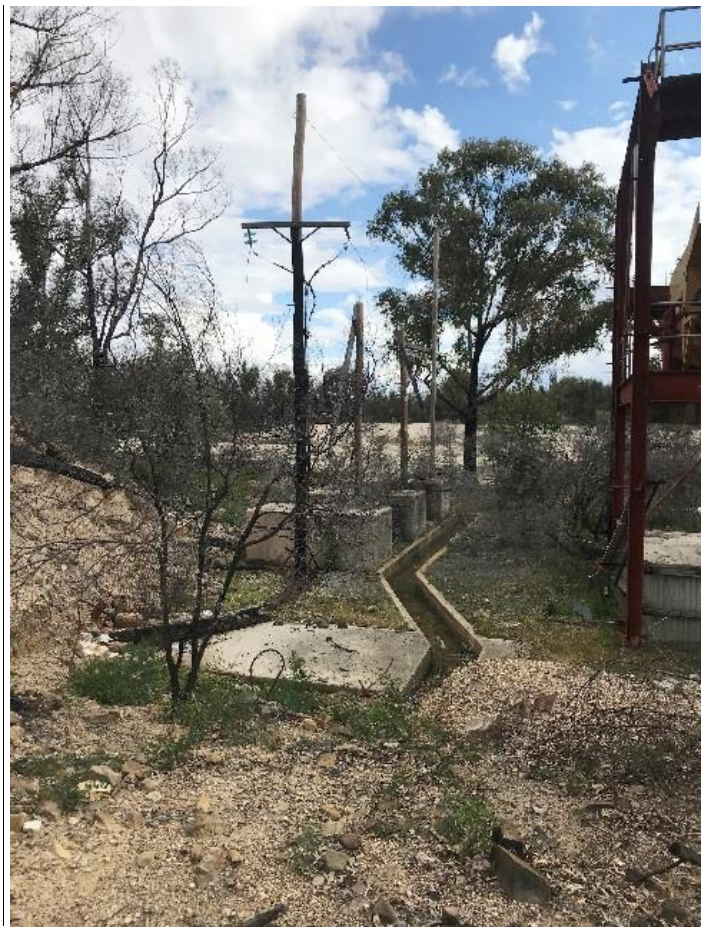
I have made a point of putting in my diary to visit in December as the Christmas Bells usually flower prolifically after fire and should be putting on a beautiful display next summer.



Bismuth Dam at Torrington with burnt out vegetation on the edges. No doubt the fire service found the dam a useful resource in fighting the fires.



The spillway for Bismuth Dam showing fire effects with Eucalyptus epicormic regrowth.



The disused Bismuth ore processing facility with burnt out power poles and downed power lines from the fires.

Small Eucalypts

by Patrick Laher

Since I moved to Uralla 6 years ago, I have planted over 60 eucalypts! This came as a surprise to me as I was walking around the garden to count and identify some of the species for this article. Several are multiples of the same variety. For example, I have planted 7 plants of *E.cordata* and 4 of *E.pulverulenta Baby Blue*. All trees but four, I would classify as small growing, ie. up to 10 m tall.

Eucalyptus is a predominantly Australian genus of spectacular and varied trees. There are over 700 species and all but 12 are native to Australia. They are spread across our continent, from the tropics to snow covered mountains, from coastal regions to deserts. With this climate diversity there also comes soil diversity, from sands to clays to loams.

It's been during the last two to three years that I have probably planted about a third of my small growing eucalypts. This has been due to a moderating climate, an improved microclimate in my garden, and the availability locally of these small and beautiful flowering trees.

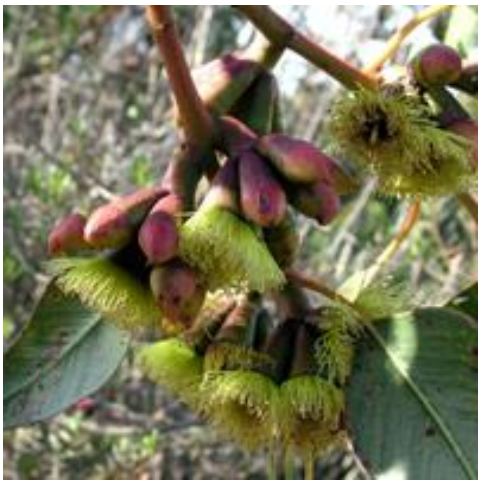
My first trees were *E.stricta*, *kybeanensis*, dwarf *leucoxylon* and *gregsoniana*. The *E.leucoxylon* is the only plant that hasn't thrived. The *E.gregsoniana* have lovely cream multi trunks (mallee) and white blossoms. *E.stricta* and *kybeanensis* will also have white flowers. Mallee trees can be trained to a single trunk, and I have done this to several species. These small trees I expect to grow to about 6 metres. Many are mallee types, such as *E.synandra* and *roseus*, and have thin whippy trunk and a light canopy. They are planted close to my cottage.

My experience with growing these small trees is limited to my sandy granite soil over clay and observation of some of these tree species at the Arboretum, which has rich black basalt soil. The other common soil type in our area is Trap (sedimentary) to the east and west (Invergowrie) of Armidale. If severe frost can be overcome, then a sunny position with good drainage would be an important requirement. These small trees will not compete well with big trees such as *E.viminalis*.

Whilst it's still early days, members have been impressed with the healthy growth of these small trees at the Arboretum. Many are WA species such as *E.tetraptera* (pink flowers) and *E.grossa* (yellow-green flowers). Because both these species are shrub-like, they have been planted in the garden beds. Another large flowered small tree to 10m is *E.youngiana* (red, yellow or cream flowers) and it has been planted along a pathway.

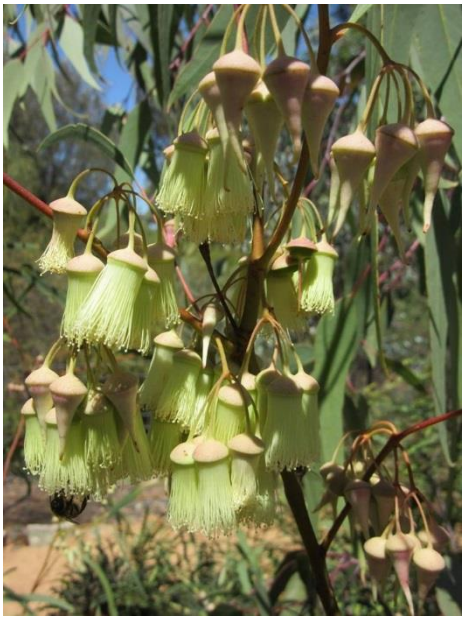
Dean Nichols has published a great little book on small *Eucalypts* and much information can be found on the web. Our country needs more trees to cool our planet and I believe that shade from trees will become more important than protection from frost.

Eucalyptus youngiana



Eucalyptus grossa

Eucalyptus tetraptera



Eucalyptus synandra

Plants that coped with Drought

by John Nevin

Asteraceae

Brachyscome multifida

Cassinia leptocephala

Chrysocephalum semipapposum

Olearia microphylla

Olearia minor

Olearia phlogopappa

Olearia viscidula

Ozothamnus diosmifolius

Casuarinaceae

Casuarina cunninghamiana

Casuarina glauca

Cupressaceae

Callitris oblonga (Tasmania)

Cyperaceae

Gahnia aspera

Dilleniaceae

Hibbertia pedunculata

Hibbertia sericea

Fabaceae

Acacia acinacea

Acacia adunca

Acacia amoena

Acacia baileyana

Acacia binervata

Acacia boormanii

Acacia caerulescens

Acacia conferta

Acacia covenyi

Acacia cultriformis

Acacia decora

Acacia diphylla

Acacia falciformis (NE form)

Acacia fimbriata

Acacia flexifolia

Acacia floribunda

Acacia granitica

Acacia howitii

Acacia imbricata

Acacia implexa

Acacia ingramii

Acacia irrorata

Acacia juncifolia ssp serpenticola

Acacia leptoclada

Acacia lineata

Acacia longifolia

Acacia melanoxylon

Acacia muelleriana

Acacia neriifolia

Acacia paradoxa

Acacia penninervis

Acacia pravissima

Acacia pubifolia

Acacia pycnostachya

Acacia rubida

Acacia sicculiformis

Acacia spectabilis

Acacia stricta

Acacia subulata

Acacia torringtonensis

Acacia triptera

Acacia vestita

Acacia viscidula

Acacia wilhelmiana

Dillwynia juniperina

Eutaxia cuneata

Hovea lanceolata

Jacksonia scoparia

Mirbelia confertifolia

Oxylobium ellipticum

Pultenea pedunculata

SennaSation

Swainsona galegifolia

Swainsona queenslandica

Geraniaceae

Pelargonium australe

Pelargonium rodneyanum

Goodeniaceae

Dampiera adpressa

Laminaceae

Prostanthera aspalathoides

Prostanthera calycina

Prostanthera cuneata

Prostanthera lasianthos 'NE Variant"

Prostanthera lasianthos 'Wollomombi"

Prostanthera lasianthos ssp coriacea

Westringia 'Deep Purple"

Westringia 'Wollomombi Falls'

Westringia eremicola

Westringia eremicola 'Aberfoyle"

Lomandraceae

Lomandra longifolia

Lomandra multiflora

Malvaceae

Brachychiton populneus

Lasiopetalum baueri

Lasiopetalum micranthum

Thomasia petiocalyx

Myrtaceae

Angophora floribunda

Callistemon 'Pink Champagne'

Callistemon brachyandrus

Callistemon pallidus

Callistemon pearsonii

Callistemon pinifolius

Callistemon pityoides

Callistemon pungens

Callistemon sieberi

Callistemon subulatus

Callistemon teretifolius

Callistemon viminalis

Callistemon violaceous

Calytrix sessilis

Calytrix tetragona

Eucalyptus 'Little Euky'

Eucalyptus aggregata

Eucalyptus argophloia

Eucalyptus cinerea

Eucalyptus dawsonii

Eucalyptus latens 'Blue Lagoon'

Eucalyptus melliodora

Eucalyptus michaeliana

Eucalyptus nicholii

Eucalyptus pauciflora

Eucalyptus prave

Eucalyptus saligna

Eucalyptus scoparia

Eucalyptus sideroxylon

Eucalyptus woodwardii

Eucalyptus boliviana

Eucalyptus lacrimans

Grevillea 'Rock'n Rod'

Homoranthus croftianus

Homoranthus prolixus

Kardomia odontocalyx

Kunzea ambigua

Kunzea bracteolata

Kunzea ericoides

Kunzea occidentalis

Leptospermum brachyandrum

Melaleuca armillaris

Melaleuca decussata

Melaleuca elliptica

Melaleuca laterita

Melaleuca micromera

Melaleuca nodosa

Melaleuca tamariscina

Melaleuca teretifolia

Melaleuca wilsonii

Rinzia orientalis

Sannantha angustifolia

Verticordia plumosa

Phormiaceae

Dianella revoluta

Dianella tasmanica

Pittosporaceae

Bursaria spinosa

Pittosporum angustifolia

Podocarpaceae

Podocarpus elatus

Proteaceae

Adenanthos ileticos

Banksia blechnifolia

Banksia canei

Banksia collina

Banksia dryandroides

Banksia gardneri

Banksia neoanglica

Banksia spinulosa

Dryandra polycephala

Grevillea 'Amethyst'

Grevillea 'Apricot Charm'

Grevillea 'Forest Rambler'

Grevillea 'Goldfever'

Grevillea 'Honeyeater Heaven'

Grevillea 'Ivanhoe'

Grevillea 'Molongo'

Grevillea 'New Blood'

Grevillea 'Spider Mist'

Grevillea alpina

Grevillea arenaria

Grevillea bauera ssp aspera

Grevillea bipinnatifida

Grevillea curviloba

Grevillea diminuta

Grevillea filifolia

Grevillea iaspicula

Grevillea johnsonii

Grevillea juniperina 'Tingha Form'

Grevillea lanigera prostrate

Grevillea longifolia

Grevillea pinaster

Grevillea robusta

Grevillea rosemarinfolia lutea

Grevillea rosemarinfolia (Bathurst)

Grevillea semperflorens

Grevillea sunaphea

Hakea 'Burrendong Beauty'

Hakea cinera

Hakea decurrens

Hakea elliptica

Hakea eriantha

Hakea francisiana

Hakea francisiana X bucculenta

Hakea gibbosa

Hakea laurina

Hakea macreana

Hakea macrorrhyncha

Hakea microcarpa

Hakea minyma

Hakea miltilineata

Hakea neurophylla

Hakea octoptera

Hakea pachyphylla

Hakea petiolaris

Hakea purpurea

Hakea salicifolia

Hakea trifurcata

Hakea verrucosa

Isopogon anemonifolius

Isopogon anethifolius

Isopogon dawsonii

Isopogon 'Coaldale Cracker'

Lomatia silaifolia

Persoonia asperula

Persoonia pinifolius

Persoonia pinifolius X juniperina

Petrophile ericifolia

Rhamnaceae

Pomaderris andromedifolia

Rutaceae

Boronia crenulata

Boronia glabra

Correa 'Green Dream'

Correa 'Ivory Beacon'

Correa alba var alba

Correa alba var pannosa

Correa baeuerlenii

Correa decumbens

Correa glabra green

Correa glabra hybrid

Correa glabra red

Correa lawrenceana var lawrenceana

Correa lawrenceana var rosea

Correa reflexa 'Torrington form'

Crowea 'Poorinda Ecstasy

Crowea exalata 'Blush'

Crowea exalata 'Pink Heart'

Crowea exalata ssp magnifolia

Leionema 'Green Screen'

Leionema elatius ssp beckleri

Nematolepis squamea ssp retusa

Nematolepis wilsonii

Phebalium glandulosum ssp eglandulosum

Phebalium graniticola

Phebalium nottii 'Isla Gorge'

Phebalium nottii 'Kay Bryant'

Phebalium obcordatum

Phebalium speciosum

Phebalium squamulosum ssp ozothamnoides

Phebalium squamulosum ssp squamulosum

Phebalium stenophyllum

Phebalium verrucosum

Phebalium whitei

Phebalium woombye

Phebalium woombye 'Gibraltar Range'

Phebalium squamulosum ssp lineare

Philotheca angustifolia ssp montana

Philotheca difformis

Philotheca epilosus

Philotheca verrucosa 'Double'

Zieria cytisodes

Zieria granulata

Zieria prostrata

Sapindaceae

Dodonaea sinuolata

Scrophulariaceae

Eremophila divaricata

Eremophile drummondii

Eremophila glabra

Eremophila maculata

Eremophila nivea

Eremophila racemosa

Eremophila subfloccosa

Eremophila weldii

Myoporum bateae

Myoporum floribundum

Myoporum montanum

Myoporum parviflorum

Surianaceae

Cadellia pentastylis

Xanthorrhoeaceae

Xanthorrhoea australis

Xanthorrhoea glauca

Xanthorrhoea johnsonii

Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata

Plants that struggled with Drought

By John Nevin

Fabaceae

Acacia verniciflua

Acacia denticulata

Acacia covenyi

Acacia leprosa 'Scarlet Blaze'

Lamiaceae

Prostaanthera ovalifolia

Prostanthera 'Rowley's Gorge'

Prostanthera 'Schofields Gap'

Prostanthera caerulea

Prostanthera lasianthos 'Badja Peak'

Prostanthera lasianthos 'Donnybrook'

Prostanthera lasianthos NENP

Prostanthera phylicoides

Prostanthera rotundifolia

Prostanthera rotundifolia 'Barren Mountain'

Prostanthera sp 'Gibraltar Range'

Myrtaceae

Eucalyptus cypellocarpa

Eucalyptus olida

Eucalyptus salmonophloia

Eucalyptus stellulata

Kunzea parvifolia

Kunzea pauciflora

Melaleuca gibbosa

Melaleuca thymifolia

Regelia megacephala

Sannantha crassa

Picrodendraceae

Micrantheum hexandrum

Pittosporaceae

Cheiranthera telfordii

Proteaceae

Banksia integrifolia

Banksia oblongifolia

Banksia paludosa

Grevillea 'Fireworks'

Grevillea armigera

Grevillea georgeana X redacta

Grevillea pinaster

Grevillea scortechinii ssp scortechinii

Grevillea victoriae "Murray Valley Queen'

Grevillea wilsonii

Hakea bakeriana

Hakea bucculenta

Hakea coriacea

Isopogon formosus

Lambertia formosa

Rutaceae

Asterolasia asteriscophora

Boronia keysii

Correa calycina

Correa glabra var leucoclada

Correa lawrenceana var cordatifolia

Phebalium daviesii

Phebalium sylvaticum

Philotheca 'Bounda Beauty'

Philotheca myoporoides

Zieria floydii

Plants that have died in the drought

by John Nevin

Asteraceae

Bedfordia arborescens

Brachyscome macrocarpa

Anthericaceae

Caesia calliantha

Asphodeliaceae

Bulbine glauca

Cunoniaceae

Eucryphia moorei

Euphorbiaceae

Ricinocarpos pinifolius

Ricinocarpos tuberculatus

Fabaceae

Acacia phasmoides

Acacia prominens

Goodeniaceae

Coopernookia chisholmii

Haemodoraceae

Conostylis juncea

Lamiaceae

Prostanthera densa

Prostanthera incisa

Prostanthera 'Poorinda Constance'

Prostanthera lasianthos 'Kallista Pink'

Prostanthera scutellarioides

Westringia longifolia

Malvaceae

Allogyne huegellii

Myrtaceae

Baeckea omissa

Callistemon 'Woods Reef'

Calothamnus quadrifidus

Calytrix fraseri

Homoranthus binghiensis

Leptospermum 'Rudolph'

Leptospermum juniperinum

Leptospermum lanigerum

Leptospermum spectabile

Melaleuca stypheloides

Picrodendraceae

Micrantheum hexandrum

Plantaginaceae

Veronica formosa

Proteaceae

Banksia baueri

Banksia ericifolia

Banksia integrifolia

Banksia integrifolia 'Angourie Form'

Banksia marginata

Grevillea beadleana

Grevillea jephcottii

Grevillea speciosa

Grevillea shiressii

Hakea lorea ssp lorea

Hakea nodosa

Lomatia arborescens

Lomatia fraseri

Lomatia phylicoides

Lomatia tinctoria

Petrophile scabriuscula

Telopea 'Corroboree'

Telopea 'Shady Lady' (all 3 colour forms)

Rhamnaceae

Crypatandra amara

Pomaderris aspera

Pomaderris graniticola

Solanaceae

Cyphanthera anthocercidea

Solanum aviculare

Thymelaeacea

Pimelea nivea

Rutaceae

Asterolasia hexapetala

Boronia denticulata

Boronia gracilipes

Boronia heterophylla

Boronia microphylla

Boronia muelleri

Correa calycina

Correa nummularifolia

Correa reflexa (all forms except local)

Crowea exalata (except local form)

Leionema coxii

Leionema lamprophyllum

Phebalium daviesii

Phebalium squamulosum ssp argenteum

Zieria arborescens

Zieria laevigata

Lessons from the drought

1. **Recently planted plants die despite regular watering.**

2. **Locally sourced plants are hardier to drought than those sourced from other areas.**

3. **Correas are drop dead plants in drought except for local endemic forms or *Correa glabra* or *lawrenceana***

4. **Banksia are drop dead plants except for spinolosa forms.**

5. **Waratahs are drop dead plants without exception**

6. **If a plant cannot survive on its own after establishment (2 years) then they are destined to die – no point wasting water resources on them.**

7. **In past years, Spring has been the planting season. With climate change, Summers getting hotter and Winters warmer. The time to plant is Autumn and Winter.**

8. **For maximum chance of success, plant endemic plants unless you are experimenting with the hardiness of plants from outside the area. Expect the latter to have a high mortality rate.**

Leek and Carrot Soup

by Deirdre Waters

Ingredients;

1 cup cooked rice (prepared before)

60 g butter,

1 cup Sunshine Instant Full Cream Milk Powder and 2 cups water.

½ cup cream (or full cream milk)

3 Chicken stock cubes and 2 further cups of water.

Pinch cayenne pepper

chopped parsley.

Vegetables:

2 leeks, 1 large onion, approx 500g carrots, 250g potatoes. 125g green beans.

Split leeks lengthwise then chop in rounds.

Cook leeks in butter until soft, using the large pan in which the soup will be cooked.

Remove cooked leeks from pan and set aside to add later

Peel and chop carrots and potatoes.

Add remaining butter and place carrots, potatoes and onion. Cook and stir for 3-4 minutes.

Add beans, Sunshine and water and cook gently for 30 minutes, stirring frequently.

Use a food blender to puree vegetables.

Add Cayenne pepper, then the cooked leeks.

Simmer for about 20 minutes.

Mix in cream and cooked rice, and simmer a further 7 minutes, but do not boil.

Lastly add chopped parsley

(N.B. Pumpkin may be used instead of carrots for a different taste.)

Arboretum Report 29th May 2020

by Pat Laher

Members planted out 20 assorted plants, cut out some dead Banksia and generally cleaned up the site. Quite a few members now believe that autumn and early winter are the best times to plant out due to the unpredictability of the climate. We haven't had good spring rains for years and September now comes with heatwaves.

We are hoping to get plantings established before the heat arrives. Level 5 water restrictions are preventing us from adding or replacing more plants at the Arboretum and we are fortunate to have Colin Wilson cart water for us from his bore at Rocky River.

It seems that *Banksia marginata* and some forms of *B.integrifolia* could be lost from our landscape as they don't appear to be able to adapt to the dryer and hotter climate. I lost all five of my *B. marginata* plants, the exception being a coastal form from Tasmania, and other members have had similar experiences.

Thanks to the following for their help: Eric & Penelope Sinclair, John Nevin, Phil Rose, Colin Wilson.

OAM for Peter Olde in June Honours list.

We were delighted to read that Peter Olde was awarded the OAM in the June Queen's Birthday Honours List. Peter has been a stalwart for the Australian Plants Society in NSW for decades. He was NSW State President when I first used to attend NSW Committee meetings in Sydney and had been a power of strength for the Sutherland group for many years.

Peter entered adult life with a 'holiday' in Vietnam for a year as a conscript in the Army, working in intelligence. On his discharge from the Army, he did teacher training and then taught as a Latin teacher. No doubt his proficiency in Latin was of great assistance with his interest in Botany as, until recent years, Latin was the universal language of botanical science, with research papers describing new species being written up in Latin.

From early days, the Proteaceae, and especially the Grevilleas, have impressed Peter with their diversity and beauty. In the 1960's and 1970's, there was a surge in interest in Australian plants and many of us realised just how little information there was about them from both the botanical and horticultural aspect.

Peter was instrumental in setting up the Grevillea Study Group and has been the leader of this group since its inception. That group, with the band of enthusiasts that he gathered around him, pioneered much of the advances that we have seen in our interaction with the Australian flora. Together with Neil Marriott, Merv Hodge and Ray Brown, he and his group traversed the length and breadth of Australia looking for, collecting and describing the many grevilleas unknown to us at that stage.

Peter, together with Neil Marriott, wrote the three volume books on Grevilleas that remain an important reference today. They have set up living collections of the Grevilleas around Australia, with special displays at the Grevillea Park at Bulli, near Wollongong that is overseeen by Ray Brown, and another large display at Neil Marriott's home at Stawell.

When the family business that his father had establised (Olde Piano Removals and Storage) Peter relocated to a large block at The Oaks south of Sydney where he developed his own display garden for Grevilleas in particular. This

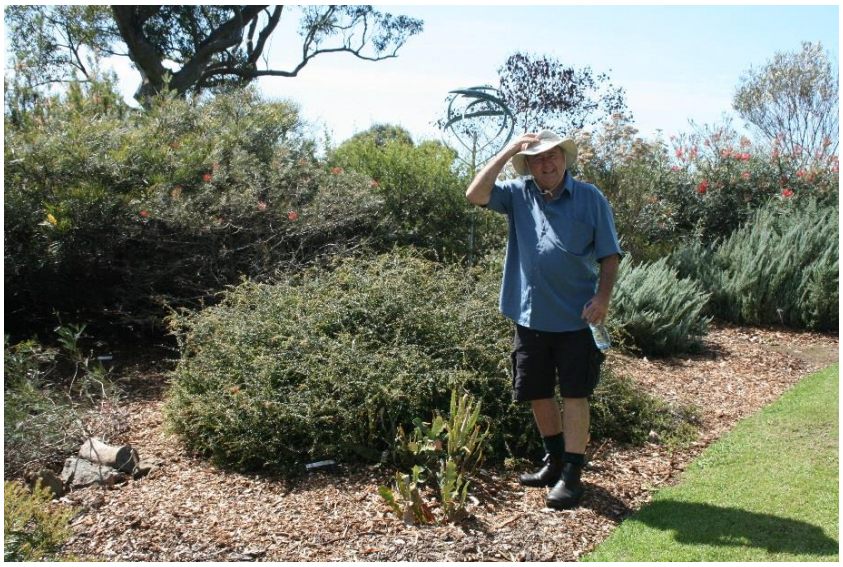
has been open to the public quite often and is a catalyst for nurturing interest in our flora with the general public.

For many years, Peter organised the annual plant sale at Mt Annan where hundreds of different and unusal Australian plants could be purchased for the garden. The sale also served to raise funds for the research activities of the Grevillea Study Group. In more recent years, the sale was moved to Peter's home at The Oaks.

In recent years, Peter has had an Honorary appointment at the Herbarium of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Sydney and could be found there most days except when off on field trips or other plant associated activities. He had continued to write up and describe many new species of Grevillea. Not surprising is that one of the species growing on the Central Coast is named after him – *Grevillea oldei*.

Peter's extensive work with the Grevillea genus has been voluntary (ie unpaid) and he has made a huge contribution to botany in Australia. Through all this he has raised a family, with one daughter making a career as an opera singer (Peter has a good voice of his own and sings in choirs). His wife Margaret has supported Peter in his interests although her botanical interest is with ferns.

So, congratulations to Peter Olde on the OAM award. This is well deserved recognition of his important contribution to the understanding and appreciation of the Australian Flora.



Peter Olde standing alongside a large grafted plant of *Grevillea oldeii* in the native garden of Trevor Kennedy at Horse Island on the South Coast of NSW. Photo taken on the pre-conference tour associated with the biennial meeting of ANPS at Canberra in 2017.

Zoom Meeting 18th July 4pm

Here is the reminder about our **zoom meeting this month - 18th July at 4.00pm**.
This is the rescheduling of our March Forum meeting which was postponed because of the Covid-19 shutdown.

Our speaker will be **Dr Lorena Ruiz Talonia** and her topic will be:

Awakening the sleeping beauties: relieving dormancy and other germination constraints of native seeds.

Dr Ruiz Talona leads the research unit at BioBank (Uralla) and has been working in seed ecology of NSW species for the past seven years at UNE. She is interested in all aspects of plant propagation, revegetation and ecological interactions and in linking academic knowledge with practice.

You can join the meeting using the details provided below.

Topic: Armidale and District. Australian Plants Society
Time: Jul 18, 2020 04:00 PM Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86052740775?pwd=M094OTFyNUF1WHA2VUt1ejJPdEduQT09

Meeting ID: 860 5274 0775
Password: 007284

The meeting will open at 4.00pm and the talk will begin shortly after.

Hope you can join us for this. If you have problems please contact Phil Rose on 02 6775 3757. If unsure best to do this beforehand.