

Native Plants for New South Wales



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Native Plants for NSW

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

Contributions are warmly welcomed. They may be emailed, typed or hand written and accompanied by photographs and drawings. If handwritten, please print botanical names and names of people.

Photographs may be submitted as either high resolution digital files, such as jpg, or prints.

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**Deadline for the July 2016 issue is
1 June 2016.**

**Deadline for the October 2016 issue is
1 September 2016.**

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Front cover: Developing bud on a Woody Pear (*Xylomelum pyrifforme*). Photo: Bruce Cooper

Back cover: Pink Flannel flower (*Actinotus forsythii*) view of the underside of the flower. Photo: Lloyd Hedges

See page 15 for more information.

Introduction

David Crawford, Editor *Native Plants for NSW*



The Annual General Meeting for APS NSW is fast approaching. This year it is being hosted by the Sutherland Group in conjunction with the May quarterly gathering. These gatherings are good opportunities to meet and catch up with APS members from outside your local group, to enjoy native plants in garden and bushland settings, to buy native plants often not available in commercial nurseries and to hear from knowledgeable and informative speakers on a range of plant-related topics. If you haven't been to one yet, give it active consideration. The details for the next gathering are on page 4.

Also in this issue is the program and registration form for the 2016 APS Get-together which will be held in Tamworth in August. A full weekend of activities is outlined (page 18) and after the Get-together there will be a tag-along driving tour of the Pilliga Forest with an expert guide for the more adventurous.

This issue of *Native Plants for NSW* is back to the standard 48 pages as we have had some difficulties with excess postage charges. Please do not let any trimming of the journal be an excuse not to contribute to its content. I have noticed a decline in offerings over recent issues, so please consider contributing an article or even just a brief paragraph or two. If it is of interest to you as a native plant enthusiast it will interest other members. Remember we have members at all stages of their native plant journey – not everyone is an expert, but everyone can make a contribution.

Continuing that theme, APS NSW is conducting its Strategic Planning Workshop in late May. All members are encouraged to participate either directly by attending or indirectly through discussion at group level and sending group representatives who are well-informed and ready to contribute to planning the Society's future.

A full listing of the seed available through the seedbank is on page 27. As usual a number of the Study Groups have been active with newsletters and Wendy Grimm, APS NSW Study Group Coordinator, has condensed their content to provide a snapshot - see page 39. Being an active member of a Study Group provides a rich experience and is a co-operative way to learn about your specific plant interest.

Finally, get out in the garden or into the bush: I'm sure you'll find many fascinating things to enjoy.

Notice of future activity

APS NSW Annual General Meeting and May Quarterly Gathering

Saturday 21 May 2016

Sutherland Multi-Purpose Centre, 123 Flora Street, Sutherland

The next APS NSW quarterly gathering will be held on Saturday 21 May at the Sutherland Multi-Purpose Centre at 123 Flora St, Sutherland (shown on the map below). APS Sutherland Group will be our hosts for the day.

The quarterly gathering will follow the **APS NSW Annual General Meeting**, which commences at 1 pm. The agenda for the AGM, proxy form and nomination of officers form were published in the January 2016 issue of *Native Plants for NSW*, and are available for members on the APS NSW website, or by email from the office.

The Multi-Purpose Centre (marked A below) is an easy 5 minute walk from Sutherland Station (T). There are plenty of coffee shops and food outlets in Sutherland if you wish to buy lunch. The Peace Park and Chuo City Garden (marked B) in nearby Eton St, next to the Sutherland Entertainment Centre, is a pleasant place to have lunch.





Program

Morning activities: 10 am to 12 noon

Two activities have been organised, within easy walking distance of each other (see map above).

Guided tours of Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve, Manooka Place, Kareela (marked A on the map above). The Reserve's car park and Manooka Place should only be used for those with limited mobility, as unfortunately parking space is very limited. Please park in Bates Drive in front of Sylvanvale School and access the Reserve from the pedestrian-only entrance on Bates Drive. The preferred parking location and lower gate access are shown on the map above.

Garden visit, Joan Zande, 8 Bates Drive, Kareela: (marked B on the map above). This is a beautiful formal style garden using Australian native plants. It uses clipped Lilly-pilly hedges with great effect rather than the exotic Buxus.

Afternoon activities – AGM and gathering

- 12 noon – Lunch – bring your own. Tea and coffee will be provided at the Multi-Purpose Centre.
- 12 noon – Registration and plant sales. Entry is \$5 for the gathering, not for the AGM.
- 1 pm – APS NSW AGM
- 1.30 pm – Guest speaker Anthony O’Halloran will talk about threats to the Pilliga Forest near Coonabarabran. Anthony and his wife, Annabelle, run an Australian native plant nursery and cut-flower farm, *Bilby Blooms*, outside Binnaway on the Central West slopes. He has a keen interest in plants of the inland and goes on regular field trips to remote parts of the state collecting plants and seeds to grow in their nursery. Anthony is an expert on the flora of the Warrumbungle Ranges and Pilliga Forest. He is also an active conservationist who is involved in protecting the Pilliga Forest from the effects of coal seam gas mining and logging in the area.
- 2.30 pm – Afternoon tea and plant sales.



Please note that members will NOT automatically receive a copy of the Annual Report, unless they have specifically requested the office to send one by either email or post. A copy of the annual report will be available for members to view on the APS NSW website at www.aust-plants.com.au from mid-April.

Any questions of a financial nature arising from the Annual Report are to be forwarded to the Australian Plants Society NSW Ltd office by either email or post by midday Wednesday, 11 May 2016. All questions will be referred to the Company’s accountants for proper responses, which will be given to members at the AGM.



Coates Wildlife Tours

Specialists in Nature Tours since 1986 (Small groups 12–14 passengers)

Kimberley Discovery

15 Day Camping / Accom Tour – Departs Broome 4th June 2016

Enjoy a wonderful outback experience as we discover the Kimberley's wildlife, spectacular outback scenery, and many wonderfully refreshing waterholes as we explore Purnululu N.P, the many gorges of the Gibb River Rd, El Questro and Mornington Stations.

Rudall River Expedition

15 Day Camping Tour – Departs Perth 2nd July 2016

Join us as we head to the very remote, harsh, yet beautiful Rudall River National Park. Experience the wildlife that the very remote, harsh yet beautiful Rudall River National Park has to offer. Situated approximately 400 Km east of Newman in Western Australia's Great Sandy Desert this is truly one of the most remote wilderness areas in the world.

Kununurra to Alice Springs Expedition

14 Day Camping Tour – Departs Kununurra 14th July 2016

This trip is packed with highlights including a Lake Argyle cruise, the Keep River National Park, Duncan Highway, Wolf Creek Crater, Lake Stretch, the Tanami Road, New Haven Sanctuary and the West MacDonall Ranges

Lake Eyre Basin and Flinders Ranges Expedition

15 Day Camping Tour – Departs Adelaide 24th August 2016

This tour covers some of South Australia's most historic outback locations in the Lake Eyre Basin and the spectacular Flinders Ranges. Both regions offer vastly different examples of our great country and offer an opportunity for a wide range of flora and fauna.

W.A.'s Mid West Wildflowers

10 Day Accommodated Tour – Departs Perth 3rd September 2016

See botanical hot-spots north of Perth during wildflower season. The trip covers a diverse array of landscapes with the farm lands of the wheat belt, the station country around Mt Magnet and Yalgoo before covering the highlights of the Kalbarri National Park and the northern sandplains around Eneabba, Badgingarra and the Mt Lesueur National Park.

South West Birds and Botany tour

15 Day accommodated Tour – Departs Perth 9th October 2016

Experience one of the worlds flora hot spots during Western Australia's spectacular spring wildflower season. The birdlife that is attracted to the region is plentiful and varied. woodland, including the historic woodlines (where timber cutters operated from 1899 to 1964) and the ironstone Helena Aurora Ranges which are currently under threat of being mined.

Contact us for our full 2016 tour program:

Free Call: 1800 676 016

Web: www.coateswildlifetours.com.au • Email: coates@iinet.net.au



Pink Flannel Flowers

Lloyd Hedges, Menai Wildflower Group

Flannel Flowers are among the best loved of native plants, both with enthusiasts and the general public. I have to admit that they are among my personal favourites. I cannot separate my appreciation of the flower from the associations that come from my childhood and holidays and simply being 'in the bush'. I had heard that the Menai Wildflower Group were having some success growing the elusive Pink Flannel Flower (Actinotus forsythii). This is a plant which for me has almost mythic qualities, I had heard about it, read about it, but never seen it before a recent trip to the Menai group. I asked Lloyd Hedges if he would write an article about this elusive gem. He was hesitant as the Menai Group still have quite a bit of work to do before they can confidently say that the plant can be propagated reliably. I did manage to get Lloyd to agree to provide this little 'teaser' and some wonderful images. This will have to satisfy most of us for the next year or two. – Ed.

A year or so back I heard that the Pink Flannel flowers were out in the Blue Mountains. We hurried up with scrawled instructions on their whereabouts and were immediately rewarded.





Twining up the black, graveyard bones of many old deceased banksias and twirling around the seedling youths of the coming generation were the delightful pink flowers of *Actinotus forsythii*.

There was no doubt about it. I had to have a try at growing this mystical product of fire, smoke and the high mountains, so ephemeral that to many they are a myth.

First we tried the standard smoke-water trick we use on the local flannel flower, *Actinotus helianthi*. This met with some success but then when we tried a repeat it proved elusive, so we moved on to the other usual suspects such as scarification, temperature and age. I think we are making some progress.

Whereas I treat *A. helianthi* as a biannual (though you can get another year or two at times if you are willing to put up with a scrappy plant) *Actinotus forsythii* is definitely just an annual. That is perhaps why it is yet to be in cultivation.

Stay tuned for further developments.

[See the back cover of this issue for another of Lloyd's photographs of this stunning flower – Ed.]

Report on recent activity

February 2016 quarterly gathering

Rhonda Daniels, Sutherland Group

Grow your own bush tucker

The first quarterly gathering of the year on Saturday 27 February was hosted by APS Northern Beaches Group whose President Conny Harris gave an acknowledgement of country to recognise the traditional owners and custodians of the land where we met. Garden designer and horticulturalist Narelle Happ presented on bush tucker plants. She concentrated on those which grow well in Sydney's temperate climate, and are available at Sydney Wildflower Nursery at Heathcote where she works. Growing bush tucker plants has increased in popularity with the gardening public in recent years. The nursery had some bush tucker plants when Narelle started nine years ago, but not a dedicated bush tucker section which she has since established.

Narelle explained the culinary uses of a range of plants including trees, shrubs, groundcovers and tufted plants. A great tip for growing some of the larger food trees is to keep them pruned to a manageable height to harvest the fruit and berries more easily. For instance, Narelle keeps *Antidesma bunius* (Wild Cherry) and *Backhousia citriodora* (Lemon Myrtle) to 3 m. One of her favourite trees is *Archirhodomyrtus beckleri* (Rose Myrtle), with its weeping habit, attractive white or pink blossoms and red berries for six to eight months of the year.



Narelle Happ presenting to the gathering

(John Arney)

For gardeners who want small plants without pruning, there are many options. *Austromyrtus dulcis* (Midyim Berry), a shrub to half a metre, has small sweet speckled white berries with an unusual flavour. *Austromyrtus* 'Copper Tops' is a hybrid of *A. dulcis* and *A. tenuifolia*; it produces more fruit than its parents. Other low plants to consider include the spiky *Astroloma humifusum* (Native Cranberry), *Carpobrotus glaucescens* (Pigface) and *Mentha satureioides* (Native Mint).

Bush tucker plants can be grown in pots. Narelle recommends using a good quality potting mix, refreshing or replacing it every 2 years, using pot feet to help ensure good drainage, and putting mulch on top of the pot. *Citrus australasica* (Native Finger Lime), with many hybrids available, does well in a pot. It loves shade, cow manure, compost and water.

There were also samples to sniff, touch or taste. My favourites were the sweet powdered leaves of *Eucalyptus olida* (Strawberry Gum), and the pesto homemade with *Tetragonia tetragonioides* (Native Spinach or Warrigal Greens), macadamia nuts and oil, and a fair bit of garlic. A range of products including some inland and arid area plants are available through *Outback Pride* at www.outbackpride.com.au.

Keep a few tips in mind with bush tucker. Check a reputable source before eating plants. For instance, not all acacias have edible seeds and some plants may need to be processed to make them safe for eating. *Tetragonia* leaves need to be blanched for 60 seconds in boiling water to leach out the oxalic acid. As bush tucker plants have not been bred and developed for size, a lot of berries or seeds are needed to make a meal, so combine what's available to get a 'fruit salad' effect or use as a garnish or flavour enhancer. To our western palates, many fruits such as *Ficus coronata* (Sandpaper Fig) or *Davidsonia pruriens* (Davidson's Plum) will taste sour at first, but the more we eat, the more our palates will change.

I've always wondered why *Melastoma affine* is known as 'Blue Tongue'. Narelle explained it's because the purple fruit stains the tongue blue when eaten.

Narelle runs bush tucker, permaculture and other plant courses through the year. Check details on her website (www.agardenforlife.com.au).

[At least two local groups have provided quite comprehensive notes on Narelle's talk for those who want more detail. See *Calgaroo* (newsletter of the Parramatta-Hills Group) volume 43, No 3 March 2016 and *Caley* (newsletter of the Northern Beaches Group) issue April 2016. These can both be accessed by APS NSW members from the APS NSW website (www.austplants.com.au) but you will need to log on as an APS member to access this content. - Ed.]



APS members and visitors learning about bush tucker options for Sydney gardens. (John Arney)



Narelle Happ with some of the many bush tucker plants she discussed. (Georgine Jakobi)

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on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/APSNSW



Review of new bush tucker book

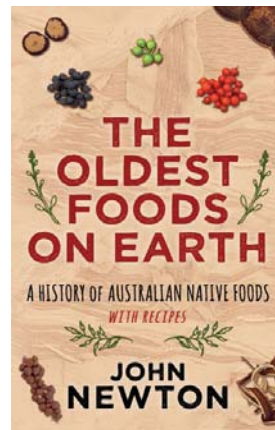
The Oldest Foods on Earth

The Oldest Foods on Earth: A History of Australian Native Foods with Recipes by John Newtown, released in February 2016, is a very readable account of Aboriginal and Torres Strait farming and land management practices from as long as 40,000 years ago.

Drawing on the research of Bruce Pascoe in *Dark Emu* and Bill Gammage in *The Biggest Estate on Earth* among others, Newton connects this history with contemporary Australian society through the introduction of the unique flavours of Aboriginal foods into our modern cuisine.

The recipes of renowned chefs such as Jean-Paul Bruneteau, Philip Searle, Beau Clugston, Kylie Kwong, Clayton Donovan, Tony Bilson, Andrew Fielke, Peter Gilmore and others will encourage us to reconcile with the land and its original inhabitants.

Available for \$29.99 + \$10 postage through Florilegium Bookshop at www.florilegium.com.au or phone 9571 8222.



President's Report

John Aitken, President APS NSW

It's hard to believe that the AGM and the election of new officers is so close. Last year, most positions were filled, especially the key positions. Harry Loots, our Treasurer, has done a wonderful job getting on top of our finances. Despite having had a steep learning curve, Harry has involved himself wholeheartedly in this very important role and has made a wonderful contribution to improving our understanding of the finances of APS NSW.



I encourage you to attend the next quarterly gathering in May, not just to buy plants and listen to our guest speaker Anthony O'Halloran on the Pilliga Forest, but also to consider standing for a position on the Board.

There has been an enormous amount of planning for the Strategic Planning workshop on 28–29 May. I would like to thank Alix Goodwin, APS NSW Vice President, and Heather Miles, APS NSW Secretary and delegate for Hunter Valley Group, for their tireless efforts in the preparation and organisation of the workshop. We are most fortunate to have Alix and Heather, two highly professional people, on the Board of APS NSW as they bring a wealth of corporate knowledge and experience to APS NSW.

By the time you read this, most Groups will have been visited by a Board member to explain the need for a strategic plan for APS NSW and give you the opportunity to discuss issues that you feel are important in improving our public profile. If we are to grow as a society, we must both attract more members (especially younger members) and retain the members we already have. As an organisation, we cannot rest on our laurels and say that all voluntary organisations are facing the same problems as our own. As members we need to carefully consider the strengths and weaknesses of APS NSW so that we can make it relevant and attractive to members of the public. It would be wonderful if each Group could send at least one representative to the workshop, so that any decisions and conclusions made are jointly owned by the District Groups and their members.

It was with regret that the Board accepted Rhonda Daniels' resignation as a Director due to her work commitments. Rhonda was the delegate for Sutherland Group and was the Chair of the Growth and Promotions Committee for a number of years. She was a tireless worker, who made valuable contributions to the organisation of APS NSW during her time on the Board. We will miss her valuable insights and her many skills

which she generously shared with us. The Board wishes Rhonda every success in her new business venture.

Congratulations and thanks to the Northern Beaches Group who hosted the wonderful February gathering. Our guest speaker, Narelle Happ, gave an excellent talk on bush tucker and inspired us all to plant more Australian native plants that we could harvest. Personally, I have had a good look around my garden and decided that there are a few plants that can be replaced by bush tucker plants. It is a joy to be able to eat what you grow. Currently, we have five Davidson Plums growing in our garden and we enjoy a bountiful harvest each year. The plums are so sour that not even the possums eat them. However they make the most delicious jam and chutney.

This year's APS NSW display at the RAS Easter Show was once again fabulous and a great credit to Leonie Hogue, Marie O'Connor, Liz Aitken and Graeme Ingall who set up the display and prepared the wonderful floral arrangements. The stall and display is a wonderful way to promote APS and let the public know about the Society, the various district groups and what we can offer. I was impressed by the large number of people the display attracted and their enthusiasm for Australian native plants. I was, however, surprised by the significant proportion who were unaware of the Australian Plants Society. We obviously need to do a lot more to publicise the Society. A special thanks to those members who gave up their valuable time to staff the display and promote APS NSW. You all did a wonderful job and everyone involved is to be congratulated on their commitment and enthusiasm. Visit our Facebook page to see pictures of our stall and the floral display.

I wish you all good health and look forward to seeing many of you at the May quarterly gathering and AGM.

Cover images

Front Cover Photo taken by Bruce Cooper whose website www.sydneynativeflowerimages.com contains approximately 500 images of wildflowers with a strong accent on orchids in and around Sydney. *Xylomelum pyriforme* occurs from the coast to the mountains around Sydney and north in coastal areas to Queensland. The inflorescence is a dense spike covered with long rusty velvety hairs. *Xylomelum* is a genus of five species in the Proteaceae family, all of which have the common name Woody Pear.

Back Cover Photo taken by Lloyd Hedges. Rear view of the flower of *Actinotus forsythii* (Pink Flannel Flower). See the article on page 8 for more information about this seldom-seen plant which may be available to APS members in the next year or so.

Conservation Report

Dan Clarke is the Conservation Officer for APS NSW and can be contacted by email at conservation@austplants.com.au



Proposed Biodiversity Conservation Act

My attention has been focused recently on the progress of the proposed new *Biodiversity Conservation Act* for NSW. It was widely reported that a range of environmental advocacy groups including the Total Environment Centre, Nature Conservation Council and National Parks Association withdrew from talks with Premier Baird on the new legislation. Their main concerns are that the NSW Government is seeking to allow easier land clearing mechanisms, especially on rural land, and not assuring that current protection, mitigation and assessment measures will stay in place. The new legislation will repeal the *Threatened Species Conservation Act*, the *Native Vegetation Act* and parts of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*. The draft legislation is due to be released later this year for public comment and I will be drafting a submission for APS NSW.

I agree with the key environmental groups that biodiversity conservation legislation in NSW should (as a minimum) account for:

- offsetting requirements for patches of removed native vegetation
- site-specific assessments and surveys
- mechanisms to enable new listings of threatened flora and fauna
- maintenance of current conservation areas with policies to identify and acquire new significant areas and
- policies for monitoring and research of our unique and complex biodiversity.

I encourage members to read a recent article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on the issue which provides much food for thought: www.smh.com.au/comment/the-problem-with-nsws-new-biodiversity-act-20160223-gn1pnm.html

APS NSW Conservation Committee

Just a reminder that Alix Goodwin and I are working to establish a conservation committee for APS NSW to gain greater consensus on APS NSW submissions and identify additional matters to take a stand on. Members of the committee could bring conservation issues to the

committee's attention, write their own submissions or provide feedback on submissions before they are sent out. Please communicate your interest to Alix or me if you would like to be on the committee.

***Prostanthera densa* monitoring**

Plans are underway for our second monitoring exercise of the endangered *Prostanthera densa* in the Royal National Park as part of the Saving our Species program. We have a known second location of plants which requires detailed recording. I will communicate the dates on the APS website once they are finalised, most likely in April (we have been waiting for this warm weather to subside). Please do join us if you can, although be prepared for some off-track bush exploration!



11th FJC Rogers Seminar

"Native Terrestrial and Epiphytic Orchids"

***Hamilton Victoria
Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th October 2016***

Program

Saturday: Full day conference and formal dinner

Sunday: Field Trips to Hamilton, Casterton & Grampians Bushland.

To Register Your Interest ...

Contact Mr Kevin Sparrow

Post: 35 Swan Street, Warrnambool Vic 3280

email: ksparrow93@gmail.com

This seminar will be popular, make sure you get in early.



Future APS NSW event

APS NSW 2016 Get-together Tamworth 19–21 August 2016

APS Tamworth Group is pleased to host the annual get-together on 19–21 August 2016, with a seminar on Saturday morning followed by afternoon activities, and a range of activities on Sunday. Please register **no later than Friday 5 August 2016**.

Friday 19 August Presidents' Dinner

Information about the annual dinner will be sent direct to group Presidents and Secretaries.

Saturday 20 August Seminar at Department of Primary Industries Tamworth Agricultural Institute Training Centre

From 9 am – **Registration**

9.30–10 am President's Welcome, and Welcome to Country by Aboriginal Elder Leonard Waters who will also tell us about the *Plants that are of significance to the Kamilaroi People*.

10–10.30 am *Rainfall: There is Nothing Average About the Average*. Hydrogeologist Martin O'Rourke will help us to understand why drought – or rather low rainfall – is normal for Australia.

10.30–11 am *Conservation Values of Travelling Stock Routes*. There are native plants and ecological communities that now survive only in Travelling Stock Routes. These corridors are becoming increasingly valuable but are under threat. Phil Spark will discuss the management issues under consideration.

11–11.30 am **Morning Tea**

11.30–12 noon *Density and Diversity*. Learn from nature. Botanist Warren Sheather, well known to APS members, will outline the advantages of growing plants close together using a wide range of species – even three plants in the one hole!

12–12.30 pm *Been Away to Grow Wildflowers*. Growing Australian native plants for cut flowers. Anthony and Annabelle O'Halloran of Bilby Blooms left Canberra to start a wildflower farm. After 16 years, what have they learnt?

12.30–1 pm **Attractive Native Plants of the Tamworth Region.** Plant taxonomist and photographer Dr John Hosking will give an illustrated talk on the many plants with horticultural potential that are native to the Tamworth area and which are not currently in cultivation to any extent.

1–1.45 pm **Lunch** (included in cost)

1.45–2.20 pm **Visit the Department of Primary Industries' Native Agro-forestry Trial.** This is a short walk from the Training Centre. Planted in 1996, the purpose was to determine the suitability of native species for timber production in an area of lower rainfall. Brendan George from the Department of Primary Industries will talk on various aspects of this site.

2.20–2.55 pm **Visit the Grassy Yellow Box Woodland.** This is a short drive from the Training Centre and is one of the few remnants of Yellow Box Woodland surviving in the Tamworth area. While *Eucalyptus melliodora* dominates, there are several other species of native trees present. Peter Dawson from Northwest Local Land Services will be on site to provide further information.

3 pm **Visit Kerrie and Michael's award winning garden nearby.** This three acre garden is a mixture of exotics and natives. Creating new native gardens featuring grevilleas, hakeas, banksias and callistemons has been a focus since purchasing the property nine years ago. Refreshments available.

Dinner, 7 pm At Gregory's Restaurant in the Best Western Plus All Settlers Motor Inn, 191 Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth at \$48 per head.

Sunday 21 August

There is a range of activities to choose from:

8.30–10 am **Breakfast with the Birds at the Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens** with the Tamworth Bird Watchers.

10–10.30 am **View the Rare and Threatened Species Garden at the Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens.** This garden was established by members of the Tamworth Group led by the late Bill Hardin who received the APS NSW 2015 Conservation Award. It features species from the NSW northern tablelands, north-west slopes and plains. Martin O'Rourke currently oversees the garden and will be on hand to answer any questions.

11 am–12.30 pm **Visit to Peel Wetlands.** Sited at the conjunction of stormwater outlets, the area was a bare flat horse paddock in 1995. Now the wetlands play a vital role in wildlife conservation, filtering sediments, chemicals and rubbish from the stormwater run-off and supporting a diversity of flourishing plants. Meet with Brett Coble who has been the force behind this transformation. Refreshments will be available courtesy of Peel Wetlands.

Open 10 am–2 pm **Carr's Park Garden**. This 5 acre property in a semi-rural area of Tamworth is planted with a wide range of eucalypts and also features acacias, grevilleas, eremophilas, hakeas and macadamia cultivars. Refreshments available. Bring a picnic lunch or food to barbecue.

Post-Meeting Field Trip: Pilliga – Diversity, Sand and Gas

Join Anthony and Annabelle O'Halloran for a tag-a-long drive around some wonderful parts of the biggest inland woodland left in NSW.

Registration

Cost of attending the Saturday seminar is \$30 which includes morning tea and lunch.

To attend, please complete and return the registration form **by no later than Friday 5 August 2016**. Post to:

AGT 2016 – APS NSW
c/- Lee Esdaile
63 Meadow Banks Drive
HALLSVILLE NSW 2340

Registration forms can also be scanned and emailed to pjltesdaile@gmail.com

Payment in full must be made at the time of registration either by cheque or direct deposit.

Cheques should be made payable to *Australian Plants Society Tamworth Group*.

Payments by direct deposit should be made to:

BSB 932 000
Account No 728682
Account Name Australian Plants Society Tamworth Group
Reference AGT16 **followed by your last name**

If paying by direct deposit, please email Lee Esdaile at pjltesdaile@gmail.com advising that you have made payment and the amount paid.

Accommodation

Numerous websites give a range of accommodation options in Tamworth, including booking.com, tripadvisor.com.au, wotif.com and trivago.com.au. Alternatively phone the Tamworth Visitor Information Centre on 02 6767 5555.

2016 Annual Get-together registration form

Person 1	
Surname:	First Name:
Person 2	
Surname:	First Name:
Postal Address:	
Email Address:	
Home Telephone No:	
Mobile Phone Number	
I/we will be attending the seminar at \$30 per head (Yes/No)	
I/we will be attending the dinner at \$48 per head (Yes/No):	
Person 1 meal requirements (e.g. vegetarian, gluten-free):	
Person 2 meal requirements (e.g. vegetarian, gluten-free):	
Total Cost:	
Method of payment (Cheque or direct deposit):	

Signature:

Date:

New members April 2016

Merle Thompson, Membership Officer

The Australian Plants Society NSW warmly welcomes the following 38 new members (32 memberships) and wishes each of you a long, rewarding and enjoyable association with the Society.

Susan Anderson	Faulconbridge
Phillippe Beaumont	Riverstone
Burrendong Botanic Garden & Arboretum	Wellington
Margaret Cupitt	Bathurst
David Brown	Lilyfield
Norman & Lesley Hulands	Moruya
Georgie Huxtable	Hamilton East
Sue & Will Johnson	Cudal
Leonie Kestel	Depot Beach
Carolyn Killen	Wapengo
Helena Law & Gerard McLaughlin	Kyeemagh
Shirley McLaran	Armidale
Christine Muir	Katoomba
Mary-Jane O'Brien	Narooma
Norah Palmer	North Epping
John Prats	Illawong
Gabi & Tony Robey	Malua Bay
Lindy Rohr	Kandos
Susan Schmiedte	Bolwarra Heights
Sue Short	Forster
Janet Sidhom	Ashfield
Jennifer & Garry Smith	Blaxland
Jan Whittle	Coffs Harbour
Stephen Wilkes	Glenbrook
Wing Hang Johanna Wong	Western Sydney Uni
Ash Wright	Eugowra

We welcome back the following former members

Andrea Baker	Emerald Beach
Simone Disney	Lilyfield
Shane Doherty	Dalmeny
Pauline McAfee	Picton
Gordon & Carol Ann Meiklejohn	The Oaks
Patricia & Paul Shearston	Hamilton

District Group directory

District Groups are located in many areas throughout New South Wales and range in size from fewer than 20 to over 100 members. Group members are able to take part in many activities including bushwalks, bush regeneration and conservation projects. Regular meetings enable members to keep in touch with people of similar interests and to hear expert guest speakers. Contact the Secretary of a specific group for further information.

Armidale and District

President: Phillip Rose
Email: prosecarwell@bigpond.com
Secretary: Helen Schwarz ☎ (02) 6772 1584
PO Box 735, Armidale NSW 2350
Email: woshes@bigpond.com
Meetings: ASCA House, 166 Barney Street, Armidale
3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm (excluding December, January, June, July).

Blue Mountains

President: Dick Turner ☎ (02) 4739 5362
Secretary: Alix Goodwin ☎ (02) 4739 1571
PO Box 23, Glenbrook NSW 2773
Website: www.apsbluemtnsgroup.org
Meetings: Native Plant Reserve, Great Western Hwy, Glenbrook
1st Friday of the month at 8 pm (Sep-May) and
1st Sunday of the month at 10 am (Jun-Aug).
No meeting when there is an outing in the month.

Central Coast

President: Richard Street ☎ 0414 762 324
Secretary: Liz Hoese ☎ (02) 4339 1274
Email: aps.cc.secty@gmail.com
Meetings: Phillip House, 21 Old Mount Penang Road, Kariang
Generally 2nd Friday of the month (excl. Jan, Dec) at 7.30 pm but winter meetings on Saturday afternoons. Check website for details.
Website: www.australianplants.org

Central West

President: Gillian Baldwin ☎ (02) 6332 1583
Secretary: Lyn Burgett ☎ (02) 6331 9170
Email: l.burgett@bth.catholic.edu.au
Meetings: Bimonthly at alternating centres.
Contact the secretary for details.

Coffs Harbour

President: Alison Moore ☎ 0439 597 118
Email: anchorsmoore@westnet.com.au
Secretary: Robert Watt ☎ (02) 6655 0043
PO Box 241 Bellingen NSW 2454
Email: rob8milehill@yahoo.com

Meetings: Coffs Harbour Botanic Gardens Display Room normally on the 2nd Wednesday of alternate months at 7.30 pm (excluding Jan).
Website: www.coffs.australianplants.info

East Hills

President: Graham Walters ☎ (02) 9534 3039
Email: agwalters@bigpond.com
Secretary: Karlo Taliana ☎ (02) 9709 6135
Email: karlo.taliana@optusnet.com.au
Meetings: Lugarno–Peakhurst Uniting Church
909 Forest Road, Lugarno
1st Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm (excluding January).

Hawkesbury

Contact: Arthur Rutter ☎ (02) 4577 3271
99 The Terrace, Windsor NSW 2756
Email: aande42@bigpond.com
Meetings: This group was re-launched at the APS NSW gathering in November 2014.

Hunter Valley

President: Michael Belcher ☎ (02) 4930 1458
Secretary: Kevin Mantle ☎ (02) 4937 3200
1505 George Booth Dr, Buchanan NSW 2323
Email: mantlej58@gmail.com
Meetings: The Polish Hall, Cnr Grant & Old Rose Sts, Maitland
3rd Wednesday of the month (Feb-Nov) at 7.45 pm.

Illawarra

President: Kath Gadd ☎ 0414 333 475
Email: kath@malleedesign.com.au
Keith Hunter ☎ 0481 599 008
Email: keithjohnhunter@gmail.com
Facebook: type 'APS Illawarra' in the Facebook search bar.
Activities: This group is aiming to have an activity each month – check the Facebook page or contact the leaders.

Continued page 26

Australian Plants Society NSW

A Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee

Membership application and renewal form

Please select your application type.

New member. I wish to apply for membership of the Australian Plants Society NSW Ltd and agree to the Memorandum and Articles of Association at www.austplants.com.au

Renewing member: Membership number _ _ _ _ _
Please tick if any details have changed from last renewal

Gift membership. Donor name _____
Include any personal card you wish to accompany the new member's pack.

1. Complete your details

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone () _____

District Group (if relevant) _____

2. Select your membership type

12 months membership. Rates at 1 January 2015. GST inclusive. Joint membership applies to two people at the same address. Each receives a membership card. A concession is available to Seniors, people on a limited fixed income and full-time students.

- | | | | |
|---|----------|--|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual – Concession | \$45 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joint | \$61 | <input type="checkbox"/> Joint – Concession | \$53 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas | A\$60 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Optional donation to APS NSW | \$ _____ | | |

3. Select your payment method

Cheque or money order payable to Australian Plants Society NSW

Visa MasterCard

Card number _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _ / _ _ _ _

Expiry date _ _ / _ _

Cardholder's name _____

Cardholder's signature _____

Direct deposit

Bank Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Account name Australian Plants Society NSW Ltd

BSB 062 217

Account no. 0090 7163

Please use as the reference your surname and 6-digit membership number which is on your membership card and your journal mailing envelopes. Please email merleaps@bigpond.com to advise of your deposit.

4. Return your form by post or email

Australian Plants Society NSW
Membership Officer
PO Box 3066
BOWENFELS NSW 2790

Membership inquiries

Merle Thompson, Membership Officer
merleaps@bigpond.com
Ph (02) 6352 3805 Fax (02) 6351 2384



Australian Plants Society NSW Ltd
ACN 002 680 408
www.austplants.com.au

01/16

District Group directory continued

Macarthur

President: Robin Davies
Secretary: Rod Bray ☎ (02) 4647 9928
147 Holdsworth Drive, Mt Annan NSW 2567
Email: yarbdor@westnet.com.au
Meetings: Jack Nash Club Rooms, Nash Place
Currans Hill NSW 2567. 3rd Wednesday of the
month at 7.30 pm (Feb-Nov).

Menai

President: Jason Cockayne ☎ (02) 9570 8559
Email: Jay.shaz@hotmail.com
Secretary: Annette Tuckfield ☎ (02) 9543 1490
Email: menaiwildflower@austplants.com.au
PO Box 3104, Bangor NSW 2234
Meetings: Illawong Rural Fire Service.
2nd Saturday of the month at 1 pm (June–Aug)
2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.00 pm (others
excluding January).

Newcastle

President: Colin Lawrence ☎ (02) 4965 6110
Email: president.aps.newcastle@gmail.com
Secretary: Maree McCarthy ☎ (02) 4943 0305
Email: secretary.aps.newcastle@gmail.com
Meetings: The Wetlands Centre, Sandgate Rd,
Shortland
1st Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm
(excluding January).

Northern Beaches

President: Conny Harris ☎ (02) 9451 3231
Email: conny.harris@gmail.com
Joint Secretaries:
Lynne McNairn ☎ (02) 9982 7964
Julia Tomkinson ☎ (02) 9949 5179
PO Box 393 Dee Why NSW 2099
Meetings: Stony Range Botanic Garden, Dee
Why. 1st Thursday of the month at 7.15 pm
(Feb-Nov).

North Shore

President: vacant
Email:
Secretary: Sue Bowen ☎ 0478 957 951
PO Box 141 Roseville 2069
Email: secretary@blandfordia.org.au
Meetings: Willow Park Community Centre,
25 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby.
2nd Friday of the month at 8 pm (Feb-Nov).
Website: www.blandfordia.org.au

Nowra

President: Lesley McKinnon ☎ (02) 4443 4004
Secretary: Gwen Smith ☎ (02) 4443 3497
PO Box 140, Sanctuary Point NSW 2540
Email: rapidpulse@bigpond.com
Meetings: Pavilion Committee Room, Nowra
Showground at the end of Junction St. 2nd
Thursday of the month (Feb-Nov) at 7.30 pm.

Parramatta and The Hills District

President: vacant
Secretary: Brodie Sutcliffe ☎ (02) 8809 0833
Email: brodie.fuller@hotmail.com
Meetings: Bi-monthly meetings 2 pm on 4th
Saturday of Feb, April, June, August, Sept and
Nov at Gumnut Hall, Gumnut Place, Cherrybrook
Website: www.apsparrahills.org.au

South East Region

President: Margaret Lynch ☎ 0408 447 678
Email: yaraan@southernphone.com.au
Secretary: Michele Pymble ☎ (02) 4473 8587
Email: mishpymble@gmail.com
Meetings: At various locations, generally on
1st Saturday of every month except January.
Contact President or Secretary.

Southern Highlands

President: Wendy Johnston ☎ (02) 4883 6376
Secretary: Jane Pye ☎ (02) 4862 3750
Email: iandjpye@gmail.com
Meetings: CWA Room, next to council building
in Elizabeth St, Moss Vale. Bimonthly at 2 pm on
the 1st Thursday of February, April, June, August
and November.

Southern Tablelands

President: Tim Hayes ☎ 0468 472 237
Email: knockaroura@skymesh.com
Secretary: Bob Galland ☎ 0407 248 154
PO Box 1046 Goulburn NSW 2580
Email: rcgalland1@bigpond.com
Meetings: Only when essential – our group is
concentrating on walks and other activities.

Sutherland

President: John Aitken ☎ (02) 9589 1363
Email: jeaitken@gmail.com
Secretary: Leonie Hogue ☎ (02) 9528 6083
Email: leoniehogue@gmail.com
Meetings: Gymea Community Centre, Gymea
Bay Rd, Gymea. 3rd Wednesday of the month
at 8 pm (February–November).
Website: www.sutherland.austplants.com.au/

Tamworth

President: Matt Cosgrove ☎ (02) 6765 2693
Email: cosgrove72@bigpond.com
Secretary: Kerrie Gray ☎ 0427 652 986
PO Box 1193, Tamworth NSW 2340
Email: dyso57@bigpond.com
Meetings: Botanic Garden Meeting Room.
10 am on 4th Saturday Feb to Nov. Outings
and field trips at other times – contact the
Secretary.

Seed Bank 2016 Annual List

John Randall, Seed Bank Curator

Requests for seed can be sent by mail to:

John Randall
8 Coachmans Place,
Mardi NSW 2259



Seed is available free to members. The seed list is published annually in the April issue of *Native Plants for New South Wales* (following on pages 28 and 29) with additions and deletions being published in the other three issues. The list can also be found on the APS NSW website www.austplants.com.au by selecting **Seed Bank** in the **Resources** pane on the Home page, or it can be accessed directly by pasting austplants.com.au/seedbank.html into your browser.

There is a limit of six seed packets per request. Inquiries can be made to John at johnannette@dodo.com.au or on (02) 4353 9390. Please enclose a stamped (\$2.00) self-addressed envelope (110 x 220 mm) for return of the seeds. Please list seed requests in alphabetical order and include a list of alternative selections.

Seed donations are always welcome and are vital if the seed bank is to remain viable. Please state the source of the seed, whether from natural or cultivated material. Please do not send seed from hybrid plants.

The Australian Plants Society - NSW



APS NSW on the web
www.austplants.com.au

For the latest information about your Society see the web site, where you can read articles and newsletters, and participate in the forum about all aspects of native plants.

Seed bank list: April, 2016

Acacia – buxifolia, conferta, covenyi, cultriformis, deanei, decurrens, elata, elongata, falcata, falciformis, fimbriata, iteaphylla, littorea, linophylla, macradenia, melanoxyton, neriifolia, obtusifolia, pravissima, prominens, pubescens, pulchella, pycnantha, rubida, saligna, simsii, sophorae, stricta, suaveolens, ulicifolia, ulicifolia var. brownei, verniciflua, vestita, victoriae

Allocasuarina – distyla, littoralis, nana, torulosa, verticillata

Angophora – costata

Artanema – fimbriatum

Banksia – ericifolia, integrifolia, oblongifolia, serrata

Bossiaea – stephensonii

Brachychiton – acerifolius

Callistemon – linearis, montanus, pinifolius (red), rigidus, rugulosus, sieberi

Callitris – intratropica, muelleri, oblonga, preissii, rhomboidea

Calothamnus – quadrifidus

Casuarina – cunninghamiana, glauca

Clematis – gerantioides

Corymbia – (formerly Eucalyptus) citriodora, intermedia, tessellaris

Dodonaea – baueri, peduncularis, rupicola

Doryanthes – palmeri

Drypetes – australasica

Elaeocarpus – angustifolius

Eucalyptus – acaciiformis, acmenoides, apiculata, astringens, bancroftii, behriana, botryoides, caesia ssp. caesia, caesia ssp. magna, camaldulensis, capitellata, clelandii, coccifera, cordata, cordieri, coronata, crebra, curtisii, delegatensis, dumosa, dwyeri, ebbanoensis, elata, erythrocorys, eudesmioides, fibrosa, gardneri, globoidea, grandis, grossa, luehmanniana, longifolia, macrandra, maidenii, moluccana, nicholii, nutans, ovata, paniculata, pellita, phoenicea, pilularis, piperita, platypus var. platypus, pleurocarpa, polyanthemus, punctata subsp. punctata, racemosa, resinifera, rhodantha, robusta, saligna, siderophloia, sideroxyton, stowardii, tensis, torquata, viminalis, woodwardii

Flindersia – australis

Gahnia – melanocarpa, sieberiana

Gossypium – sturtianum

Graptophyllum – ilicifolium

Grevillea – banksii (red)*, johnsonii, longistyla

Hakea – archaeoides, grammatophylla, petiolaris

Hibiscus – geranioides, panduriformis

Hovea – acutifolia, lanceolata
Hymenosporum – flavum
Isopogon – anethifolius
Isotoma –
Ixiolaena – brevicompta
Kennedia – rubicunda
Kunzea – ericoides
Leptospermum – arachnoides,
juniperinum, laevigatum,
lanigerum, petersonii,
polygalifolium, rotundifolium,
rupesre, speciosum, squarrosus
Libertia – paniculata
Lomatia – fraseri, myricoides,
silaifolia
Lophostemon – confertus
Melaleuca – armillaris,
hypericifolia, nesophila,
preissiana, quinquenervia,
saligna
Notelaea – ovata
Olearia – axillaris
Orthrosanthus – laxus

Pandorea – jasminoides,
pandorana
Paraserianthes – (syn. *Albizia*)
lophantha
Philydrum – lanuginosum
Pittosporum – angustifolium,
revolutum
Pultenaea –
Rhodosphaera – rhodanthema
Senna – acclinis, aciphylla,
artemisoides subsp artemisoides,
barclayana, clavigera,
coronilloides, nemophila var.
zygophylla, odorata, odorata
(prostrate)*, planitiicola, sturtii.
Sophora – tomentosa
Stenocarpus – sinuatus
Swainsona – sejuncta (yellow)
Syncarpia – glomulifera, hillii
Tecomanthe – hillii
Toona – ciliata
Viminaria – juncea
Wahlenbergia –

* Where colours and specific growth habits are shown against the name of the species, this indicates that the seed came from a plant with those features. There is no certainty that the colours or features will be retained by seedlings.

We would like to encourage all members to participate in the seed bank and thank the following recent donors: M. Sleigh, E. Smith and P. Lawer.

Plant profile

Acacia diphylla

Warren Sheather is well-known to many APS members. He is a member of the Armidale Group and has volunteered to write an occasional column about plants of the New England region. His website www.yallaroo.com.au contains a wealth of information about Australian plants.

The Northern Tablelands, of NSW, is home to over 60 wattle species. *Acacia diphylla*, the Gorge or Wollomombi Wattle, is one of the tallest of these. The common names refer to the gorge country near Wollomombi Falls, east of Armidale. The other major stronghold, of this plant, is along Thunderbolts Way in the vicinity of Gloucester NSW.

Acacia diphylla can reach a height of 15 metres. The bark is fissured and grey in colour and the foliage is dense. In mid-Spring plants produce golden yellow, rod-shaped flower clusters. During the flowering period the plants become columns of gold. The flowers are followed by linear, narrow pods that hold small seeds. The growth habit, foliage and flowers are all attractive features.

The species is distinctive, often carrying both juvenile and adult phyllodes on mature plants. Both juvenile and adult phyllodes are the same size,





up to 17 cm long, but juvenile phyllodes are soft and shiny while the adult phyllodes have a leathery texture. It is the concurrent presence of two types of phyllodes that gives the plant its specific epithet.

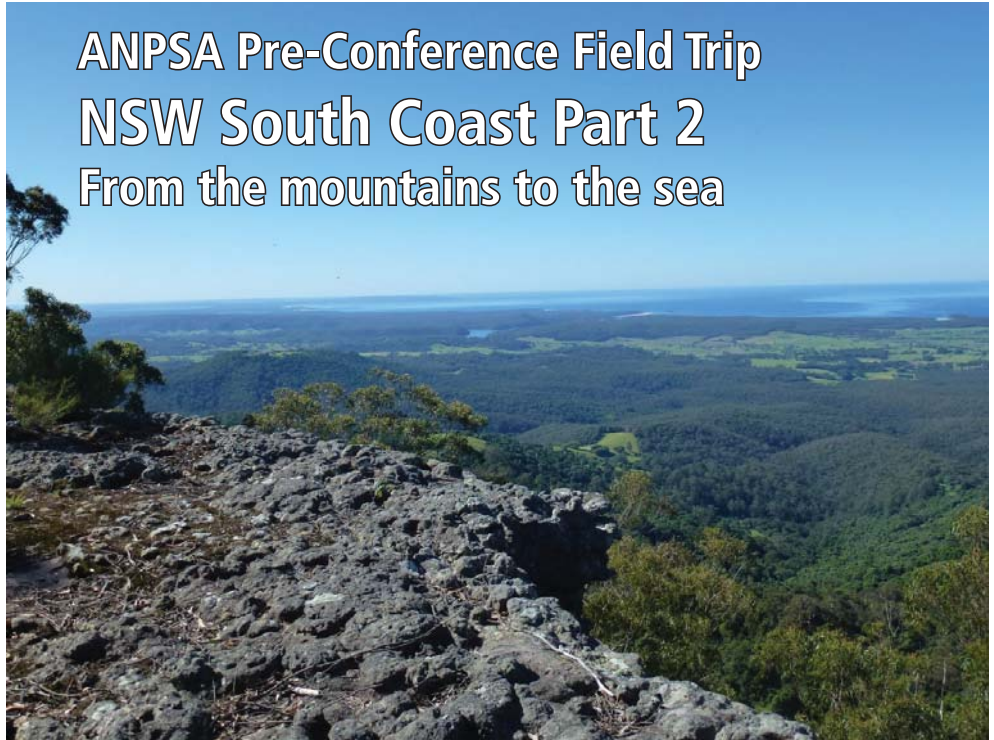
In our garden we have a large number of specimens that are over ten years old. In that time they have not required pruning. *Acacia diphylla* can be grown as a 'stand-alone' specimen, as an avenue tree on rural properties or as a street tree where there are no power lines. Growers can propagate *A. diphylla* from seed, which should be treated with boiling water before sowing. Cuttings are also successful.

The type specimen was collected at Bakers Creek Falls in the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park near Armidale. The Gorge Wattle is sometimes considered to be a subspecies of *Acacia blakei*, but this species does not have two types of phyllodes.

Vale

It is with sadness that we learnt of the death of Bill Hardin, Life Member of APS NSW, recent winner of the APS NSW Conservation Award and former President of Tamworth Group. The Board extends condolences to his family and friends.

ANPSA Pre-Conference Field Trip NSW South Coast Part 2 From the mountains to the sea



John Knight APS SE NSW Group

We left the adventurous field-trippers midway through the third day of the tour. It was raining and they had just managed to extract their bus from a wet and greasy section of dirt road. Salvation had been delivered in the form of hot fish and chips. We return to the story at the next stop on the itinerary. (Those wishing to refresh their memories can find the first instalment on page 20 of the January 2016 issue.)

South Pacific Heathland Reserve

On the water's edge just south of Ulladulla is this 14 hectare reserve. The rich diversity within the reserve includes several types of heath and coastal woodland. Based on Sydney sandstone, it contains a remarkable number of flowering plants, and local botanist, Nick de Jong, joined us to show us the variety of plants. Unfortunately the rain continued, walking tracks were under water, and some abandoned the walk. Those who persisted enjoyed learning about the over 250 plant species recorded. The heathland contains banksias, grevilleas, correas, isopogons, petrophiles, acacias, hakeas, casuarinas, flannel flowers and orchids, as well as many types of pea flower. There are unusual low forms of *Grevillea linearifolia* and *G. macleayana*, *Banksia serrata* and *B. spinulosa*.

Ulladulla's **Gondwana Coast Time Walk** introduced us to the geological history of the Shoalhaven. The walk was established by volunteer



geologists, who joined us and explained the specimens on display. The 255 m walk through landscaped rock gardens, with rock specimens containing world-class fossils, begins some 510 million years ago with the oldest known rocks on the south coast and goes forward to the present time. Then we followed the geologist to the harbour rock formations where we were shown many examples of fossils. By now the rain had all but left us, but it is worth noting that the Ulladulla area recorded 52 mm from 9 am, the highest in the state, and it seemed that big black cloud had stalked us all day.

Thursday dawned fine, but the odd shower threatened as we travelled to Vincentia to inspect the only known population of *Banksia vincentia*, an extremely rare banksia, discovered in 2008 and named in 2014 after confirmation by the NSW Herbarium that it was a distinct species. There are only 14 known plants, eight of which are considered to be dying, possibly due to drainage issues relating to nearby development. The species was provisionally listed, on an emergency basis, as a critically endangered. *Banksia vincentia* is part of the *B. spinulosa* complex, and is considered closely related to *B. spinulosa* var. *collina* and *B. neoanglica*. However, the closest population of either of these is 180 km to the north. A lignotuberous plant which reaches a height of 1 m with a width 1–2 m, its leaves are broader and shorter than *B. spinulosa* var. *spinulosa* which is widespread south of Sydney. *Banksia*

vincentia co-occurs with *B. ericifolia*, *B. spinulosa* and *B. paludosa* growing in sandy soil over clay on sandstone in sclerophyllous shrubland dominated by *Allocasuarina littoralis*, *B. ericifolia* and *Hakea teretifolia* with *Persoonia mollis*, *Lambertia formosa*, *Isopogon anemonifolius*, *Hakea laevipes*, *Aotus ericoides* and species of Restionaceae and Cyperaceae.



Phil Trickett, who was co-leader of our tour, has this plant in cultivation and reports that it is difficult to establish, with losses while the lignotuber develops. However, once established it seems to be hardy.

Wirreeco Wildflower Garden at Huskisson was established by APS Nowra Group in 1985. Mounded garden beds support thriving accent plants including beautiful grass trees, and local mallee eucalypt species. *Doryanthes excelsa* (Gynea Lily), ferns and *Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* (Alexander Palm) make a statement in the shaded gully. APS member volunteers maintain the garden.



The main display area, the face of the garden where lawn areas meet garden, presented a colourful palette of paper daisies as well as other colourful groundcover plants like *Dampiera stricta*, pretty *Hibbertia dentata*, *Actinotus helianthi* and *Bulbine bulbosa*.

The APS members also put on a sumptuous morning tea as the sun began to shine, and then guided us along a boardwalk taking in the foreshore mangroves, before we moved to Greenfields Beach on Jervis Bay for lunch. Beneath venerable *Eucalyptus botryoides*, a range of understorey shrubs jostled for space on the sandy soil. Dominant were *Syzygium smithii* and *Elaeocarpus reticulatus*, both in full flower. A busy echidna rustled through the fallen leaves in search of something to eat, pausing every now and then to allow photos to be taken. The sand on the beach was so white and fine, it squeaked with each step.

The planned trip to Little Forest Plateau was abandoned, as the road up is steep and narrow, and the group decided not to risk another bogged bus. This allowed an early arrival at Catriona Bate and Phil Trickett's garden, situated on the edge of the escarpment below Little Forest Plateau, at an elevation of 350 m. The site is affected by westerly winds, and many plants have been securely staked to prevent blowing over. Rainfall of 1,200 mm annually, and no frost, supported by well drained Milton monzonite soil, means that most plants grow quickly and flower



prolifically. Many rocks of varying size lie close to the surface, and when garden beds were developed the rocks were used as path edging, or if more substantial, as features within the beds.

The garden features many desirable and often hard-to-grow plants. Waratahs of many forms provide a spectacular backdrop to the house gardens, and include *Telopea speciosissima*, *T. mungaensis*, *T. oreades*, and a range of cultivars.

Phil specialises in grafting plants, and has about 40 species of grafted *Banksia*, 23 grafted *Hakea* species, 40 grafted *Eremophila* species and 14 grafted *Isopogon* species, as well as other plants such as grafted *Grevillea*, *Dryandra* and *Pimelea*. An extensive collection of *Persoonia* thrive on their own roots. The raised beds showed spectacular results. There was something for everyone in this garden. Grafting of difficult but desirable plants will allow a huge range in previously unreliable plants to come to the market. We just need to appreciate that such plants will cost more, but the results are well worth the extra expense.



Our last day together, and the pace was beginning to show for a few participants. We headed off early to Granite Falls in Morton National Park travelling through Stringybark and Bloodwood forests, and then Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) as the road led up the hill. The understorey comprised *Zieria caducibracteata*, *Phebalium squamulosum* and *Prostanthera violacea*. The road was badly damaged by traffic following the recent rains so the group walked the extra 700m each way to the falls, enjoying the opportunity to closely examine the flora along the way. Flowers included *Lambertia formosa*, *Petrophile pedunculata* and *P. pulchella*, *Isopogon anethifolius*, *Persoonia mollis*, *Bossiaea kiamensis*, *Phyllota phyllicoides*, *Boronia thujona* and *Tetradlea thymifolia*.

Unfortunately the trip to Boyd Lookout and the special rainforest walk could not proceed due to poor road conditions. Heading west we came



to Jerrawangala section of Morton National Park. The roadside featured massed displays of pink-mauve *Kunzea capitata*. Upon reaching our destination, a 'Road Closed' sign confronted us, so we disembarked and walked in among the heath, which was recovering from a fire in the previous year. On the reconnaissance a few *Blandfordia nobilis* (Christmas Bells) were seen, but were too far in to walk to. We did see the Kangaroo Paw relative, *Haemodorum corymbosum* with its almost black flowers, and contrasting yellow *Goodenia glomerata*.

A short five minute stop at the carpark to Tianjara Falls to view *Grevillea aspleniifolia* turned to 20 minutes before the driver suggested we might miss lunch at the famous Nerriga Pub. After a pleasant lunch, and a final chance for chatting, we continued on Braidwood Road looking for three recently named grevilleas:

Named in 2000 *Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *amphitricha* is usually but not always a prostrate plant found on the roadside. Flowers are usually yellow but red ones can be found elsewhere. Peter Olde suggested this as a hardy plant for horticulture. Another spectacular ground hugging plant is *Pultenaea subspicata*, whose brilliant orange and red flowers lit the roadside for some kilometres.

The Corang River area has swampy areas with woodland of *Eucalyptus aggregata*, *E. pauciflora* and *E. ovata*. This is of particular significance



as *E. aggregata* has a limited distribution and is poorly conserved. Here, *Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *villosa*, also named in 2000, is found. They are mostly red-flowered shrubs, but there are occasional yellow-flowered plants. They have beautiful form but the leaves are extremely pungent. A population of *Grevillea oxyantha* subsp. *ecarinata* is recorded for this location also but it was not found.

G. renwickiana is a very prostrate plant with attractive lobed foliage. This newly-located roadside population is suckering also in adjacent bushland. Some of these prostrate plants have produced bluish pink to cream flowers but generally the species is very shy of flowering. Once thought to be rare, new populations with thousands of suckers have been found in recent years in undisturbed bushland near Nerriga.

This was our last stop before Canberra and the ANPSA Conference. A CD on Canberra's wildlife, titled 'Four Seasons of the bush capital' featuring local naturalist Ian Fraser was available for listening to on the bus but few had the reserves of energy to enjoy it as many succumbed to tiredness following a busy but enjoyable week.



Study Group notes

Wendy Grimm, Study Group Liaison Officer

Jane Fountain has taken on the national role of Study Group Coordinator for Australian Native Plants Society (Australia). Sheryl Backhouse is the leader of the newly revived study group for Australian Food Plants and Kevin Collins succeeds Cas Liber in leading the Banksia Study Group. See the Study Group Directory on page 44 for contact and membership details.



Waratah & Flannel Flower Study Group (Dec. 2015, No. 10)

Although the Queensland Tree Waratah or Red Silky Oak (*Alloxylon flammeum*) is a rainforest canopy tree from the Atherton Tablelands in north Queensland, it can be cultivated in a wide range of soils and it flowers reliably at the Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney. Members of the study group have also contributed propagation tips for another *Alloxylon* species, *A. pinnatum*, the Dorrigo Waratah.

Growing Flannel Flowers (*Actinotus helianthi*) is possible for many APS members in NSW. Study Group Leader Maria Hitchcock has published her trial potting-on protocols for *A. helianthi* seedlings, and she hopes that other members will use the protocols and provide feedback on the success rates in their gardens. Seeds are available to study group members and membership of this SG is free.

Acacia Study Group (Dec. 2015, No. 131)

The Acacia Study Group conducted a trial of solutions suited to preserving cut acacia flowers during the recent ANPSA Biennial Conference. Members are invited to continue these trials at home.

Participating in field trips is a most enjoyable way to learn about acacias and to make contact with other growers with a passion for acacias. Trips to the Grampians in Victoria and to Girraween in southern Queensland are under consideration.

Special collections of pictures and manuscripts held at the National Library of Australia in Canberra offer material of great interest to many *Acacia* enthusiasts.

Acacia seeds are available to study group members.

Australian Plants as Bonsai Study Group (Dec. 2015, No. 29)

Banksia integrifolia (Coast Banksia) plants are easy to obtain from nurseries and they grow naturally in challenging conditions such as at

Point Lookout in the New England Tablelands and in windswept, coastal sites. In this issue a series of photographs illustrates how the species can respond to several years of bonsai cultivation. Leader Roger Hnatiuk challenges members to have a go at working with *Casuarina cunninghamiana* (River She-oak) to produce a bonsai reminiscent of the old, gnarled paddock trees seen along country streams in NSW.

Garden Design Study Group (Feb. 2016, No. 93)

Many articles in this issue will inspire gardeners from diverse regions of NSW. Winter is a great time to develop new beds and planting in early Spring or Autumn encourages strong growth in the new feature plants. In mid-altitude frost-prone gardens, the microclimates afforded by north-facing walls and boulders permit heat-loving plants such as kangaroo paws to thrive.

The choice of appropriate mulch is a significant part of planning a garden. Coarse gravel proved successful for a dry climate garden near the Grampians in Victoria, whereas a product, consisting of mulched trees and dirt that was generated at the local tip, works well for a sloping garden in Murrumbateman in inland NSW. In a third garden, the extensive use of groundcovers to border the paths has downplayed the visual impact of choice of mulch.



Spring callistemons and leptospermums at Cloudy Hill in NSW. Photo: Fiona Johnson

Dryandra Study Group (Jan. 2016, No. 70)

Sample collection for the *Dryandra conferta* project is well under way in Western Australia and several study group members from NSW and Victoria have taken part.

Hakea Study Group (Feb. 2016, No. 60)

Hakea macrocarpa is a shrub or small tree found in semi-arid to arid regions of northern Western Australia and Northern Territory and in western Queensland. It is ideal to plant in new gardens as it is fast to establish and flower and its large yellow inflorescences are bird-attracting.



Hakea macrocarpa flowers Photo: Paul Kennedy

Hakea salicifolia (Willow-leaved Hakea) performs well as root-stock for grafts of hakeas whose roots do not tolerate extended wet periods.

Grevillea Study Group (Feb. 2016, No. 103)

Applications of general organic fertilisers suitable for native plants can be augmented with pelletised potassium sulphate to boost the performance of sparsely flowering grevillea plants. The study group invites members to report how their plants respond to this treatment.

Neil Marriott reports that *Grevillea rhyolitica* 'Deua Flame' grows well as a hedge 'in well-drained gravelly loam with regular watering via drippers' in Stawell, Victoria. The evidence is clear to see in the image below.



Grevillea rhyolitica 'Deua Flame' Photo: Neil Marriott



The orange flowered form of *Grevillea johnsonii* Photo: Neil Marriott

The Collector's Corner provides species descriptions and humorous anecdotes for three uncommon but outstanding *Grevillea* species: *G. calliantha* 'Black Magic', the orange flowered form of *G. johnsonii* and *G. acropogon*, the 'Unicup Grevillea'.

Grevilleas use various methods to survive fire. Many species respond by reshooting from the protected epicormic buds found in branches, trunks and basal lignotubers and even in the roots. Some species recover by seedling recruitment and yet others may fail to survive by either strategy.

The Illawarra Grevillea Park at Bulli will be open 10 am to 4 pm on 2–3 July, 9–10 July, 3–4 September and 10–11 September 2016. Details available at: www.grevilleapark.org.

Fern Study Group (Feb. 2016, No. 135)

Monthly outings to locations in Sydney are planned for April, May and June 2016 while April and June excursions to Girraween and Lamington National Park will be more accessible to members from northern NSW and Queensland.

This issue contains practical advice on how to maintain a range of local *Adiantum* species. Despite their apparent fragility, they can be grown in 'perfect appearance and good health' in your garden, fernery or in pot culture. For those interested in growing ferns from scratch, see the list of fern spores available to study group members.

Great Native Plant Photos

Many APS members are keen and capable photographers. This journal needs good quality images to adorn its pages. If you have outstanding photos of native plants please share them with other members by contacting the editor via the office. Several members have already provided great photos that members have been enjoying in the pages of *Native Plants for NSW*.



Study Groups directory

Fees are listed as Australia/Overseas/Email

Acacia (\$10/\$20/\$7)

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Australian Food Plants

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Australian Plants as Bonsai

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Banksia (\$10/\$20/\$7)

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Rainforest

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Wallum & Coastal Heathland (\$5)

Leader: Barbara Henderson
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Waratah and Flannel Flower (free)

Leader: Maria Hitchcock
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The following study groups are all in recess and require new leaders. If you are interested in a role contact the APS NSW Study Group Liaison Officer, Wendy Grimm at wagrimm@tpg.com.au

Australian plants for containers**Calytrix****Daisy, the Australian****Epacris****Fabaceae****Hibiscus and Related genera****Orchids, Indigenous****Palm and Cycad****Prostanthera and Westringia****Rhamnaceae****Succulents, Native****Verticordia****Wetlands (and Water Plants)****Wildlife and Native Plants**

Membership discounts

Discounts are available from the following organisations to Society members who present their current membership card.

Sydney

⊗ **All GreenGold Nurseries**
5% discount, except on landscape materials, garden design services or discounted merchandise.

⊗ **Florilegium**
The Garden Bookstore
65 Derwent St, Glebe 2037
PO Box 644, Rozelle 2039
☎ (02) 9571 8222.
Mon–Sat 10am–6pm, Sun
11am–5pm.

10% discount on some titles. Please check before purchasing.

⊗ **Sydney Wildflower Nursery**
9 Venio St, Heathcote 2233
www.sydneywildflownursery.com.au
10% discount

Armidale

⊗ **Cool Natives**
Retail mail order nursery
16 Hitchcock Lane,
Armidale 2350
Open by appointment only
☎ (02) 6775 1139
0421 961 007
Email: maria@coolnatives.com.au
www.coolnatives.com.au
10% discount

Blue Mountains

⊗ **Glenbrook Native Plant Reserve Nursery**
Great Western Highway,
Glenbrook 2773
☎ (02) 4739 8597
Sat, Sun, Wed. 12 noon–4pm.
10% discount to members,
20% for roster participants.

Central Coast

⊗ **The Wildflower Place**
453 The Entrance Rd,
Erina Heights 2260
☎ (02) 4365 5510
5% discount

Central West

⊗ **Wombat Gully Native Nursery**
1729 Cocks Creek Rd, Rylstone
☎ 6379 6202
10% discount

Hunter Valley

⊗ **Muswellbrook Forest Nursery**
New England Highway,
Muswellbrook
☎ (02) 6543 2622
Email: mfn@hlmaus.com.au
www.muswellbrook
forestnursery.com.au
M–F 8.30am–4.30pm
Weekends 10am–3pm
10% discount

Nepean Valley

⊗ **Darvill Nursery**
Darvill Rd, Orchard Hills 2748
Contact for price list or
arrange to visit beforehand
☎ (02) 4736 5004
www.darvillnursery.com.au
10% discount

Newcastle

⊗ **Leearne Neal at Newcastle Wildflower Nursery**
260 Lake Road, Glendale 2285
☎ (02) 4954 5584
Open 7 Days 9am–5pm.
10% discount

North Coast

⊗ **Bonny Hills Garden Centre,**
1055 Ocean Drive,
Bonny Hills 2445
☎ (02) 6585 5764
10% discount on all plant
purchases

⊗ **Greenbourne Nursery**
Oxley Hwy, Wauchope 2446
(opp. 'Timbertown')
☎ (02) 6585 2117
10% discount

Mildura

⊗ **Native Nursery, Mildura**
10% discount on the
purchase of any native plants
or other products, including the
Watertube ordered online at
www.nativenursery.com.au

South Coast

⊗ **Wildgems Native Nursery**
Illawambra Valley Road,
Yowrie 2550
☎ 0427 937 398
Wholesale / retail nursery.
Please ring and arrange day
before arriving.
10% discount

⊗ **Verdigris Fern Nursery**
Currowan Creek 2536
Mail order is available through
the website which includes
useful information on fern
cultivation. The nursery is
open by appointment.
☎ (02) 4478 1311.
Email: verdigrisferns@gmail.com
Wholesale price for APS
NSW members

APS NSW contacts



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Editor <i>Native Plants for NSW</i>	David Crawford
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Property Officer	Roger Starling
Conservation Officer	Dan Clarke
Study Group Liaison Officer	Wendy Grimm
Seed bank curator	John Randall
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John Aitken, John Andrews, Rhonda Daniels, Alix Goodwin, Mary Hedges, Graeme Ingall, Harry Loots, Tony Maxwell, Roger Starling, Richard Street and Merle Thompson.

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Australian Cultivar Registration Authority	David Murray
Australian Flora Foundation	Ross Smyth-Kirk
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Nature Conservation Council	Margery Street
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