

President	Secretary	Treasurer
Maria Hitchcock	Liisa Atherton	Phillip Rose
6775 1139	6779 1968	6775 3767

Your President writes:

It's been a long cold and windy winter and I'm really looking forward to some warmer weather. With the moisture around and regular rain all our plants are full of bud and just waiting to burst forth. It's also been a sad time for us as we lost one of our long term members, Barbara Colledge. We have a winter break because it is too cold to meet at night and nothing much is happening in the garden. This break allows our members to travel or do those big construction jobs. During our winter break we had two events on the calendar. First was our Solstice luncheon at Liisa Atherton's place near Guyra. The second event was the trip to Hat Head which will be written up in the next newsletter. I hope you had a good break and are rearing to go for our new spring season.



Solstice Luncheon - Sunday, 19th June

Text and images by Maria Hitchcock

About 14 members met at Liisa and Finlay Atherton's home on the outskirts of Guyra. It was quite a feast with everybody bringing along some delicious dishes to share. We walked off the calories (well, maybe only some of them) with a tour around the garden and then down to the hangar. Liisa has developed a large essentially exotic garden with natives tucked in here and there. Finlay built their 2 seater plane which they use for trips around the country. Back at the homestead we held an informal discussion about the future of our work on the Arboretum over a cuppa. Everyone realises that our regular volunteers are getting older and we need a way of cutting back on maintenance. Patrick, Phil and John will now meet again and report back to the committee. Thank you very much Liisa and Finlay for opening your home to us and hosting the luncheon.



IMPORTANT

Some of our members are missing out on important notices. If you do not have an email address perhaps you have a friend, relative or neighbour with one who can pass on those messages. Please send me a contact email address so we can add you to our list.

Thank you to all contributors. All articles, snippets and photos are welcome. There is **NO DEADLINE** for this newsletter.

Articles will be included based on a **FIRST COME** basis. Please send your articles, snippets, letters to Maria at maria.hitchcock@gmail.com or send a hard copy to PO Box 735 Armidale NSW 2350.

PHOTOS should be sent individually as jpg files either via email or copied onto a disk.

GROUP INFORMATION

The Armidale and District Group of APS---NSW started on 6th August, 1977 as the New England Group of the Society for Growing Australian Plants. It has been running continuously since that time with a couple of name changes. We are a very friendly and helpful group who enjoy monthly forums and meetings, garden visits and field trips to help members enjoy the search for knowledge about our native flora and our local environment. We range from raw beginners to others who have been gardening and researching for many years - all willing to share their knowledge.

Formal Meetings are held at 5.30pm on the second Tuesday of each month at Col Mulquiney's place. Members are welcome to attend. **Native Plant and Garden Forums** are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (except June, July, December and January) from 7.30 – 9.30 where members talk about plants in flower from specimens displayed on the flower table and share information about gardening topics. The Forum is followed by a delicious supper and an interesting speaker. Old and new members, visitors and families, are very welcome to these meetings and to our outings (see page 8 for details). **Annual General Meeting** is held in February. **Solstice Function** is held in June. This is usually a lunch and garden ramble at the home of one of our members.

Wattle Day Activity is held on a day closest to 1 September. **Christmas Party** is held early in December at the home of one of our members.

ALL YOU NEED TO JOIN OUR GROUP IS AN INTEREST IN OUR NATIVE PLANTS

Vale

Barbara Janet Colledge



Barbara came to Armidale from Victoria with Pat in the mid 1980s. She had a love of gardening but developed her passion for Australian Native Plants when they joined our branch of the Australian Plants Society in the late 1980s. Barbara loved the garden with its ponds surrounded by masses of flowering shrubs which attracted lots of little birds. It gave her great pleasure to sit in the dining room and observe their visitations especially in the late afternoon when everything was still. After her separation from Pat, she was determined to maintain the garden as best as she could despite working during the day. She replaced any losses with bird attractive plants and nurtured them carefully until they were established. Barb was very generous with her time but found that she could not take on any committee positions as she would be rehearsing for the Armidale Musical Society on meeting nights so she would open her garden to our members

and the general public on Open Days. She relished the hard work involved with that and we often laughed about the Open Days as she was on a very steep learning curve with names that were changing continuously and a numbered labelling system which needed to be updated regularly. She last opened her garden in December 2010 for our Christmas party, at a time when she was very ill and undergoing debilitating treatment. It showed her courage and determination to not let her terminal illness defeat her fighting spirit.

One of Barb's many interests was knitting and at many a meeting would be engaged with knitting garments for injured or baby animals. Her many friends would remember another of her interests was games such as Mah-jong and Jigsaws amongst others. Her weekend escapes included going to the coast where she enjoyed camping, fishing and taking in the local flora. Then just for fun she took up tap dancing for exercise. Her involvement with the Armidale Musical Society saw her on stage in the chorus in many a production and working behind the scenes in costume and props. This was her true passion and it's wonderful to know that she managed to live a full if sadly shortened life.

Barbara had just retired and was looking forward to following her many dreams when she was diagnosed with cancer. We were all shocked to hear of her illness and greatly admired her for the dignity and courage that she showed when facing this. She underwent many rounds of chemotherapy and it must have been devastating to her to face the reality of not being able to beat the cancer. She was determined however to not let it stop her from participating in activities right up until the last. Our lives will be a little emptier with her joyful, honest face and infectious laugh missing from our group happenings.

Barbara Nevin and Maria Hitchcock

Two Hakeas for the garden

Text and images by Warren & Gloria Sheather

Hakea drupacea, (Sweet-scented Hakea) is a tall, spreading shrub that will reach a height of at least four metres. Bright green leaves are terete, prickly and about 13 centimetres long. The flowers are in clusters, white, sweetly scented and carried in the leaf axils. Flowering extends from March to June. Flowers are followed by light brown, egg-shaped, persistent woody fruits.



Hakea drupacea

Some years ago on a visit to the National Botanic Gardens, Canberra we were impressed by a tall Hakea covered in white, highly perfumed flowers. This was our first exposure to *Hakea drupacea* and we were impressed by its foliage, flowers and perfume. We now have three specimens in the garden and they are about four metres tall. The only downside to this species is the time taken to mature and flower profusely. We had a few scattered flowers on one plant last year (2010). Our plants are well over ten years old and this year is the first time one plant has presented us with a bonanza of blooms. The upside is that over the years our Sweet-scented Hakeas have played host to many nesting finches and honeyeaters.

Hakea suaveolens was the previous name of this species. The present name took precedence because it was the original name. The previous species name is more appropriate because it means sweet-scented. The present name means drupe which is a fleshy fruit such as

prunes. The botanist who named the species (in about 1810) had either a vivid imagination or very strong teeth. Unfortunately, as with many Australian plants, *Hakea drupacea* is a declared environmental weed in South Africa. Propagate from seed and probably cuttings.

Hakea gibbosa is a compact, upright shrub. Our specimens have reached a height of three metres in four years. The leaves are needle-like, with a sharp point and up to eight centimetres long. An interesting feature is the long hairs that cover the stems and juvenile leaves. Flowers are cream and carried in clusters in the leaf axils. The coastal flowering period extends from April to July. In our high altitude garden a later flowering period occurs in August and September. Large woody fruits are up to 4.5 centimetres long and hold two winged seeds that germinate readily.

Hakea gibbosa is found in heath, often on sandstone ridges in the Sydney region. We came across the species in Brisbane Waters National Park where it is a common understorey shrub. On exposed headlands *Hakea gibbosa* is said to be reduced to a small, compact shrub. Perhaps cuttings taken from these dwarf shrubs may maintain the compact size.

Because of the very prickly foliage this species may not be suitable for small gardens but bird-friendly gardens would benefit from the addition of this Hakea because of the shelter provided by the foliage. *Hakea gibbosa* was first cultivated in Europe in 1790. Unfortunately the species has also become a problem in South Africa. Once established our specimens have proved to be free-flowering, drought tolerant and untouched by frost.



Imbota Reserve

Text by Maria Hitchcock

Following Peter Metcalfe's talk on Yellow Box at our May Forum, 12 members met on Sunday 22nd May to walk through Imbota Reserve, a fairly recently preserved piece of bushland to the east of Armidale. Led by Peter Metcalfe, the group followed a few signposted pathways and observed a good representative sample of our local woodland flora. Plants noted were:

<i>Eucalyptus</i>	<i>melliodora, blakelyi, viminalis, caliginosa bridgesiana</i>
<i>Acacia</i>	<i>implexa, filicifolia, dealbata, ulicifolia</i>
<i>Cassinia</i>	<i>quinquefaria, leptoccephala</i>
<i>Goodenia</i>	<i>hederacea, beledifolia</i>
<i>Hibbertia</i>	<i>longifolia</i>
<i>Lomandra</i>	<i>longifolia, multiflora</i>
<i>Olearia</i>	<i>viscidula, elliptica</i>
<i>Exocarpus</i>	<i>cupressiformis</i>
<i>Pultenaea</i>	<i>microphylla</i>
<i>Davesia</i>	<i>latifolia</i>
<i>Hardenbergia</i>	<i>violacea</i>
<i>Melichrus</i>	<i>urceolatus</i>
<i>Scleranthus</i>	<i>biflorus</i>
<i>Allocasuarina</i>	<i>littoralis</i>
<i>Lissanthe</i>	<i>strigosa</i>
<i>Calotus</i>	<i>cuneifolia</i>
<i>Ajuga</i>	<i>australis</i>
<i>Dianella</i>	<i>2 species</i>

Dr John Hunter published a report on the vegetation of Imbota in *Cunninghamia* 10(2): 2007. In the report he states that the Reserve which includes 218 ha of remnant native vegetation was dedicated in 1999. It was formerly known as Eastwood State Forest. Although it had been selectively logged and grazed since the 1920's, John identified 55 families and 132 genera of native plants occurring within distinct eucalypt communities.

At the car park entry on Long Swamp Rd is the most magnificent example of a Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*). The species has been in decline on the Tablelands and a project is now underway to encourage landowners to replant this species. Peter is leading this revegetation project. He is looking for landowners who can answer the following questions.

Did your property once have yellow box?
Do you still have yellow box remnants on your property?

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority has funds for protecting yellow box remnants and planting corridors that include yellow box in the species mix. Spring of 2012 is the proposed planting time for this project. Interested landowners can contact Peter at the Armidale Tree Group (6771 1620)

APS NSW - Armidale & District Group August-September Newsletter 2011

The Values of Yellow Box

Text by Peter Metcalfe

Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) melli = sweet, odora = smelling is well named. It has long been recognised as one of the best multiple-use eucalypts of eastern Australia. Yellow Box is a magnificent nectar producing tree. Every year it flowers for months and provides a wonderful flow of nectar and plenty of pollen that is attractive to many species of honeyeaters and also lorikeets and woodswallows.



Eucalyptus melliodora Yellow Box

Photo: M. Hitchcock

Besides the birds, many insects utilise this food source. Native bees, wasps, butterflies and a myriad of little flies and beetles visit by day and by night glider possums, moths and nectar bats (so called flying foxes) visit for nectar and pollen. Yellow Box honey is recognised for its flavour and clarity and this species still plays an important role in honey production state-wide.

Yellow Box is a key-stone species in New England as it fills a large and vital few months in the annual cycle of nectar production that the resident honeyeaters rely upon. Stringybarks, Blakely's Redgum, New England Peppermint and White Gum or Ribbon Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) also have a role to play in the nectar supply but a minor one compared to Yellow Box. The other species tend to be sporadic; flowering well every few years. Mistletoes too supply nectar and make an important contribution at a time of the year when few trees are flowering.

The Values of Yellow Box (cont.)

The leaves of Yellow Box are eaten by koalas and possums. Unfortunately Christmas beetles also eat their leaves but not the same level of defoliation suffered by New England Peppermint. Annoyingly, rosellas nip the flowers right off, seeking the nectar and pollen. Rosellas are not equipped with brush tongues like the better adapted lorikeets which merely run the flowers through their beaks and leave the blossoms to produce nectar for days.

Yellow Box is a very durable hardwood, much sought after as fence posts. I have 100 year old stumps that are still quite sound where nearby redgum stumps have rotted away and peppermint stumps have long vanished. It is also a premium firewood. If there is one short-coming of Yellow Box it is that it does not produce tree hollows as quickly as other eucalypts do. The wood is resistant to fungal attack and termites so you rarely see a yellow box with a hole suitable for hole nesting birds or animals such as bats and glider possums.

The early European settlers quickly came to recognise 'Yellow Box Country' as a landscape where the rainfall was good and the soils were generally of reasonable fertility. This is why the species was almost cleared to extinction across its range from Victoria to Queensland. Less than 1% of the estimated original area remains. Very little Yellow Box is represented in national parks or nature reserves as Yellow Box country was taken up by farmers and graziers long before national parks were thought of.

Yellow box is a tree suitable for planting mid-slope across Northern Tablelands. It fits mid-slope-with Redgums below the Stringybarks on the ridges and above the ribbon gums and peppermints on the lower slope and Snow Gums and Black Saltees in the frost hollows. Because of all its good features Yellow Box should be included in all plantings on suitable sites. Many properties where Yellow Box used to grow still have the stumps as a reminder of past glories.



Allocasuarina littoralis (Female flowers) Photo: M. Hitchcock

Arboretum Report

by Patrick Laher

April

Members planted out 12 plants in the western end of the New England Flora Bed and *Callistemon ptyoides* (Torrington pink form) in the central bed. Four plants went into the WA/*Eremophila* Bed and we also weeded and watered this bed in preparation for mulching at our May working bee. Thanks to Phil and Julia Rose and Colin Wilson. Apologies from John Nevin and John Love.

Most of us have difficulty in growing *Eremophilas*, however, they are growing and flowering in this dry and rock hard bed. To plant in this bed, we first partially break up the surface with either a pick or crowbar and fill the hole with water to later dig it up for planting. This bed is elevated and sunny with an excellent micro climate due to surrounding trees and vegetation. At the time of our April working bee, the following plants are either in flower or have started to do so: *Eremophila maculata* (red, hot pink, apricot, Winter Gold, Wendy and Aurea). *E. glabra* (yellow, red and orange), *E. 'Summertime Blue'*, *E. 'Yana Road'*, *E. bignoniiflora x polyclada*.

Other plants also in flower in this bed were *Prostanthera euphrasioides* with soft lavender flowers, *Hemiandra pungens* purple, the pink flower bush form of *Sollya heterophylla*, *Correa 'Dusky Bells'*, *Lambertia uniflora* and *Grevilea semperflorens*.

May – June

During these two working bees we mulched the WA / *Eremophila* Bed and hope to complete it at our July working bee. It would be fantastic if this year we could mulch the remaining two beds and then concentrate on planting next year.

Some of the *Eremophilas* flowering in April were still in flower as well as *Hakea petiolaris* and *Grevillea victoriae*. Other plants in flower in various beds at the arboretum included *Banksia marginata* (Tinderry tree form) *B.spinulosa*, *B. neoanglica*, *Grevillea rosmarinifolia* lutea, *G. jephcottii* and the beautiful *Hakea laurina*. The autumn flowering form of *Acacia pycnantha* was still in flower whilst the spring flowering acacias were in bud. A Robin Red Breast was spotted amongst the shrubs. Thanks to Phil Rose, Colin Wilson and John Nevin.

After our last working bee, I asked Ray Dufty (Armidale Dumaresq Council), to meet me at the arboretum and ask if council staff could assist us in cleaning up areas adjoining our garden beds. Ray organised his staff to do some mowing, to remove privet and dead trees and shrubs. Whilst there is more to be done, the clean up has made a huge improvement to the overall look of our section of the arboretum.

Curl Grubs

Text and Images by John Nevin

For a couple of years we have been growing a dwarf *Hymenosporum flavum* "Native Frangipani". We obtained this from one of the April plant sales organised by Peter Olde and the Grevillea Study Group. The original plant had been seen as a chance mutant in the zoo in Melbourne and came with a reputation for beauty and for the unusual. For some years, we had been trying to get a normal full sized plant to grow in the garden, despite the challenge of the frosts. All efforts had been unsuccessful, even after growing the tree to an advanced stage in a pot for some years, and then planting it out. So, we bought the miniature plant and planned to have it as a pot plant and keep it in the glasshouse over winter. It thrived, and despite the reputation that it had from the coast of being hard to get to flower, we were very happy with its display.

In late autumn, I noticed that it looked dry, so it was given regular extra drinks. All to no avail, as the leaves continued to droop, crying out "give me a drink". I took the plant out of the pot with a view to replacing the potting mix to see if this would help. To my amazement, the plant had very little root structure, and the thirty litres of potting mix contained fifty very healthy curl grubs.

I have previously seen this with the Sydney Waratah. I would try to grow these in a pot until a lignotuber developed, thereby increasing the likelihood of successful establishment in the garden. Unfortunately, after a promising start over several years, they would cease to thrive and die. Post mortem would show no roots and a pot full of curl grubs.



Curl grubs

What are curl grubs? These are the white "C" shaped grubs that you find in the garden. They have six legs and a distinctive head and abdomen. In Armidale, they are the larvae of Christmas beetles or scarab beetles. They feed on organic matter in the soil, including the roots of grass and pot plants. The beetles lay their eggs in late spring to early autumn. The larvae pupate over winter and hatch out as Christmas beetles in early summer and proceed to feed on Eucalypt leaves. They were the cause of "Eucalypt Dieback" across the Northern Tablelands in the 1970s.



Bucket containing 50 curl grubs

What to do with the pot plant so affected? I gave the plant a good prune to try and reduce water loss by transpiration, re potted it, gave it a good feed, and now wait to see if it will recover. I hope it will – my Waratahs did not survive the root attack.

What else can be done? Insecticides, such as Confidor, can be used. Unfortunately it will kill other "goodies" in the mix, such as, earthworms. Other suggested methods are to drench the potting mix with potassium permanganate (Condy's crystals) or bleach. I think the message is to replace the potting mix in late summer before the grubs get established.

Has anyone else had this problem? I have seen big clusters of snail eggs (little white balls) in the bottom of some of my pots. I suppose the ideal situation would be to upend pots at least once a year and check. Does anyone have another solution? Ed.

PS. I once had a fox bury a decapitated rabbit in one of my Correa pots. Easy digging but no food security for the fox. 'Now I know it was here somewhere....'

Sturt's Desert Pea Challenge

Who would be interested in joining this challenge? I've just read an article by Gwen Elliot of Maroondah APS (Vic) which was published in the June 2009 ACT Journal. I am hoping to get about 6 members to use Gwen's method and then we can compare results at the end of the year. Let me know if you want to join in. *Maria*

Growing Sturt's Desert Pea in Containers

by Gwen Elliot

We have for many years been growing Sturt's desert pea, *Swainsona formosa*, in self-watering or 'water-well' pots- and having quite good success.

We treat our plants as annuals and this is not difficult or expensive to do, as plants produce copious amounts of seed each year and it only takes a little bit of effort to then grow the seed for the next summer's display.

You can start off with a packet of seed, which is readily available commercially, or by purchasing a plant, either seed grown or grafted, which will produce seed for you to grow in future years.

We usually sow our seed in August to October. Place the seed in a cup and cover with water of about 60°C. Allow to soak for 3-5 hours. Each seed has a hard coat which is softened by the soaking, but the use of boiling or near-boiling water is too hot for Sturt's desert pea seed. If you are collecting your own seed, you need to remove the seeds from the pods, which can actually be quite difficult. The pods are extremely firm, undoubtedly protecting the seeds from all being eaten by creatures of the desert.

Creatures of our gardens also appreciate Sturt's desert peas, and young seedlings usually need some protection from snails and slugs. Even older plants can be eaten, damaging the stems and sometimes ringbarking them, particularly if plants are being grown in the garden.

Sturt's Desert Pea seedlings quickly develop very long roots which allow them access to moisture deep down in the desert sands. Plants can resent root disturbance so we try to keep this to a minimum. We plant seeds individually, or sometimes just two or three seeds, in each 5cm pot. Some people like to plant the seeds directly into larger containers or even straight into prepared areas of the garden. If you have plenty of seed you may like to try several different methods.

When our seedlings are 5-6cm tall, they are carefully transferred into water- well containers. We usually put about three young plants into each container. A standard good quality native plant potting mix is used with just a very small amount of native plant fertiliser, or no fertiliser at all. It is common that not all young plants will survive, so having more than just one plant in a pot allows for losses.



Swainsona formosa Sturt's Desert Pea Photo: M. Hitchcock

Swainsona formosa is the floral emblem of South Australia. A member of the pea family, Fabaceae, Sturt's Desert Pea is found only in Australia, where it occurs in the drier parts of all mainland states except Victoria. Captain Charles Sturt noted the occurrence of *Swainsona formosa* in 1844 while exploring between Adelaide and central Australia. The genus name *Swainsona* honours Isaac Swainson who maintained a private botanic garden near London in the late 1700s. The specific name *formosa* is Latin for 'beautiful'.

In its natural habitat Sturt's Desert Pea is a perennial plant with silky grey-green pinnate foliage arising from prostrate stems. The leaves and stems are covered with downy hairs. The flowers are about 9 cm long and arranged in clusters of six to eight on short, thick, erect stalks. The petals are usually blood red or scarlet with a glossy black swelling or 'boss' at the base of the uppermost petal, the standard. Other colour forms range from white to deep pink, either with or without a black boss, and rarely a bicoloured form, in which the standard is scarlet and the other petals, the wings and keel, are white tipped and edged with scarlet. The fruit is a legume about 5 cm long which splits at maturity releasing several flat kidney-shaped seeds.

Sturt's Desert Pea occurs in arid woodlands and on open plains, often as an ephemeral following heavy rain. It is able to withstand the marked extremes of temperature experienced in inland deserts, and light frosts are tolerated by established plants.

www.anbg.gov.au/emblems/sa.emblem.html

FOR YOUR DIARY: June 2011 – August 2011

August

Tuesday 2	1.00 pm	Arboretum Working Bee
Tuesday 9	5.30 pm	Meeting – Col Mulquiney’s place - Restructure review - Forums venue
Tuesday 16	7.30 pm	Native Plants Forum - Armidale Tree Group Woodland Centre Speaker: Nick Sadgrove – <i>Chemical properties of Australian plants</i>
Sunday 21	8.30 am	Goonoowigall Bushland Reserve on the Tinga Rd, 5km S of Inverell. Meet at saleyards at 8.15 for car pooling. Morning tea at Goonoowigall at 10.30 (Bundarra to Inverell Rd entry – closest to Inverell. Next turn after Golf Club. Bring morning tea and lunch. Contact: Patrick Laher 0427 327 719 (Walking easy to moderate)
Sunday 28		Tree planting to honour Barbara Colledge - Alma Park Uralla (Ring Maria 6775 1139)
Sat/Sun 27/28		APS State Groups get-together - Burrendong Arboretum
Sunday 28	8.00-12.30pm	Markets in the Mall

September:

Tuesday 6	1.00pm	Arboretum Working Bee
Sunday 11		Visit to Tamworth Gardens (Contact Maria 6775 1139 for program)
Tuesday 13	5.30 pm	Meeting – Maria Hitchcock’s place
Tuesday 20	7.30 pm	Native Plants Forum - Armidale Tree Group Woodland Centre - Speaker: Kate Boyd - <i>Weed control and management</i>
Sunday 25	8.00–12.30pm	Markets in the Mall

October:

Tuesday 4	1.00pm	Arboretum Working Bee
Mon-Sat 2–7		ANPS conference in Adelaide (Additional pre-conference and post-conference tours)
Tuesday 11	5.30 pm	Meeting – Col Mulquiney’s place
Tuesday 18	7.30 pm	Native Plants Forum – Venue: to be announced. Speaker: Kel Hardingham - <i>Prostantheras</i>
Sat/Sun 29/30		Mole Station Weekend (Contact Patrick Laher for program. 0427 327 719)
Sunday 30	8.00-12.30pm	Markets in the Mall



The group at Imbota: Joan Boyd, Julia Rose, Frances Spiller, Phil Rose, Peter Metcalfe, Tony Spiller, Col Wilson, Thelma Dennis.
Other participants not in photo: Liisa Atherton, Peter Clarke, Steve Thiele, Maria Hitchcock

APS Trips

Each month we try to put on a trip to entice our members out into the bush or visiting gardens. It has been pleasing to see so many of you joining us on the short local trips over the past year.

Have you ever thought of coming on one of our day trips? We do try to car pool to save on petrol and to offer a seat to anyone who doesn't want to drive the distance. The Goonoowigall trip has a number of tracks ranging from very easy walking on the top to a moderate level of difficulty down and around following the long track. There are interpretation boards on the topic of indigenous usage of plants and also some historical information. It's a very interesting reserve and is a must for anyone who hasn't been.

In early September we have been invited to visit some Tamworth gardens. As well as visiting a couple of private gardens we will be given a tour of the Tamworth Botanic Gardens. I know the Tamworth Group will go to a lot of trouble to make us feel welcome. I'm sure they will be cooking all day on Saturday. It would be great to have a few carloads go down (shame to waste all those cakes). Contact Maria if you would like to come.

Become a member and save!

Did you know that there are a range of discounts available to members? Tell your friends and urge them to join our group.

Armidale & District members only (25% discount)

All Mole Station plants at the **APS stall** at the Mall Markets and our annual plant sale. At \$2.00 per plant discount, you can easily save your annual subscription each year.

Cool Natives, 16 Hitchcock Lane Armidale 2350 Ph. 6775 1139. Specialist in Frost hardy plants, Correas, New England Flora Online catalogue coolnatives.com.au Open by appointment. Selling at Farmers Market/Mall Market/Mail order

All members of APS-NSW

Glenbrook Native Plant Reserve, Great Western Highway, Glenbrook 2773 Ph (02) 4739 4465. Sat, Sun, Wed. 12am-4pm. 10% discount to members Web: www.apsbluemtnsgroup.org

The Wildflower Place, 453 The Entrance Rd, Erina Heights 2260. Ph (02) 4365 5510. 5% discount - tell staff before purchase

Wombat Gully Native Nursery, 1729 Coxs Creek Rd, Rylstone 2849 Ph (02) 6379 6202. 5% discount

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

Leeanne Neal at Newcastle Wildflower Nursery, 260 Lake Rd, Glendale 2285 Ph (02) 6379 6202. 10% discount

A.R. Native Plant Nursery, 177 Terania Ck Rd, The Channon NSW 2480 (far north coast) Ph (02) 6688 6365 10% discount Fri/Sat/Sun 9am-5pm other times by appointment

Bonney Hills Garden Centre, 1055 Ocean Drive, Bonney Hills 2445 Ph (02) 6585 5764 10% discount on all plant purchases

Earthcare Nursery, 'Timbertown', Oxley Hwy Wauchope 2446 (opp. Timbertown) Ph (02) 6585 2117 10% discount

All Greengold Nurseries (except landscape materials or discounted stock) see www.greengold.com.au for location details etc.

Annangrove Grevilleas 98 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst 2156 Ph (02) 9654 1380. 7 days 9am-5pm

Florilegium: The Garden Bookstore 65 Derwent St, Glebe 2037 PO Box 644 Rozelle 2039. Ph (02) 9555 8589. 7 days 9am-5pm. 10% discount

Forests NSW Nurseries 10% discount on all potted lines. West Pennant Hills, Musselbrook, Gunnedah, Wagga Wagga, Narrandera, Dubbo & Forbes For details see <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/forests/business-services/nurseries>

Sydney Wildflower Nursery, 9 Veno St Heathcote NSW 2233. Ph (02) 4739 4465. Sat, Sun, Wed. 12am-4pm. 10% discount. Web: www.sydneywildflownursery.com.au

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM for Australian Plant Society (ABN 87 002 680 408)

MEMBERSHIP TYPE: (please tick appropriate box)	Annual Fee	Concession
<input type="checkbox"/> Single	\$50	\$42
<input type="checkbox"/> Joint (two adults at the same address)	\$58	\$50
Concession applied for:		<input type="checkbox"/> Limited Fixed Income <input type="checkbox"/> Full Time Student

PERSONAL: Joint members please complete a) and b)

a) Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr other	b) Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr other
Given Name(s):	Given Name(s):
Surname:	Surname:
Postal Address:	
	Postcode:
Tel: Home ()	Work: ()
Fax: ()	Email:

Please return form with payment to: **Membership Officer, APS Armidale Branch, PO Box 735, Armidale NSW 2350**

PAYMENT: \$..... is enclosed by:

- Cheque, payable to APS Armidale Branch
- Money Order, payable to APS Armidale Branch
- I do **NOT** wish my contact details to be made available to other members. Signature:

If not able to be delivered, please return to:
Armidale & District Group, PO Box 735, Armidale NSW