

APS EAST HILLS GROUP NEWSLETTER



May 2020

**NEXT EHG MEETING:
7.30 pm, Wednesday 6 May 2020
HAS BEEN CANCELLED
BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK**

WELCOME to the May 2020 edition of the APS East Hills Group Newsletter. In this issue we take a walk around two gardens, enjoy a stroll in California, and reveal the answers to last issue's quiz questions. (How did you go?) There's also a crossword.

Is it your turn to share some photos from your garden? (Please try to get them sharply focused – it really makes a difference!) Or a plant-growing tip? Or a question about Australian native plants? Please send me something, otherwise our newsletters will be dull! A big thank-you to this month's contributors!

We had a successful trial online meeting in April using Zoom – more a chat than a meeting. Our President, Graham Fry, would like to hear from you about having more meetings using Zoom.

Details of and invitations to APS NSW meetings held by Zoom are being emailed to members by APS NSW so make sure your contact details are up to date!

The next APS NSW meeting is on Saturday 16 May. It includes the AGM and a talk by Dr Brett Summerell. Check your inbox for 23 April for the email! **Remember that you need to register in advance to participate in the AGM.**

Did you happen to notice that on Thursday 30 April, Wikipedia's feature article was about East Hills Group's emblem, *Isopogon anemonifolius*? (Dave pointed it out to me.)

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FROM OUR APRIL MEETING
APS EAST HILLS GROUP MEETING – APRIL 2020

Our April 2020 meeting, planned for 1 April, was cancelled, but members were invited to a meeting on-line, using Zoom, on Wednesday 22 April, and nine members participated. It was really just a chance to chat and touch base with each other. Our President, Graham Fry, would like you to contact him with your views on having more meetings using Zoom.

IN THE GARDEN: Marie and Des O'Connor

I asked Marie if she would write a few words about how she manages the *Grevillea* 'Kimberley Gold' which, as you can see from the photos, is a real feature of Marie and Des's front garden - *Editor*.

A few lines on our grafted *Grevillea* and our little *Corymbia*.

Marie O'Connor

Our grafted *Grevillea* 'Kimberley Gold' is in a prominent position at the front of our garden, which is north-facing and has sandy soil over rock lying about 40cm below the surface. We have received many positive comments about the plant and our garden.

Not long after we bought our plant, Karlo mentioned that this variety can grow quite tall. I was most grateful, for this gave me a guide on how to manage the plant. My aim is to keep it at a height of about 150cm.

To achieve this, I constantly remove the tips of the new shoots and when the new growth is at its peak I prune the plant to bring it back to the required height. The middle of the plant I have also kept pruned to keep a good air flow and reduce growth. When the flowers are finished I cut them off just below the last flowering part and new flowers will appear. I repeat this until the stalk withers. This encourages new growth and means that the plant is not putting its energy into producing seeds.

The *Corymbia ficifolia* 'Baby Orange' which grows on the verge has also received similar treatment, as it can grow to 4m. It had two branches from its base, so I removed one and have encouraged the other to form the main trunk. It's kept pruned and thinned out, and the majority of the gumnuts are removed.

I have learned a great deal from APS members over the last 30 years by asking questions, from trial and error, and from others' gardens.

Now let's take a walk around Des and Marie's garden, starting with the front garden.



Above L-R: 1 View from the street with *Corymbia*, *Banksia* and *Grevillea* in the foreground; 2 View from the house; 3 Water feature and surrounding plantings

Below L-R: 1 Corymbia and Grevillea in flower in January; 2 Corymbia in April showing pruned form; 3 Grevillea in April; 4 Banksia in flower and Grevillea leaves in close-up



And now a few photos from the back garden.



Above L-R: 1 *Xanthostemon chrysanthus* (Golden Penda); 2 Grevillea; 3 *Hibiscus tiliaceus* in flower and *Doryanthes excelsa* (GyMEA) in bud; 4 *Hoya australis* in bud; 5 *Pterostylis curta* (Greenhood orchid) emerging.

A STROLL IN CALIFORNIA: *Graham Walters*

Graham and Margaret Walters have been more affected than many of our members by the Covid-19 restrictions. Being unable to get out into the bush or a local native garden, Graham has shared photos taken in Orange County, California by Ann Lesser, the daughter of a friend, some of which include Australian native plants.



Photos above are by Ann Lesser

PHOTOS FROM A WALK AROUND THE GARDEN IN APRIL: Carol Drew

Grevillea 'Peaches and Cream' always flowers reliably for me in part shade. The *Lomatia ilicifolia* (Holly Lomatia or Native Holly) is having a second flush of flowers. *Chrysocephalum apiculatum* has been flowering continually since being planted six months ago. The Banksia and Correa are just starting to flower, along with *Hoya australis*. (I don't know what that insect is that seems to be feeding on it.)



Above: *Grevillea* 'Peaches and Cream'; *Lomatia ilicifolia* (Holly Lomatia); *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*



L to R above: *Banksia*; *Correa*; *Grevillea*; *Melaleuca thymifolia* (Thyme-leaf Honey-myrtle)
Below: Buds and flowers of *Hoya australis*



APRIL QUIZ – PART 1 - ANSWERS

Eremophila cuneifolia x *fraseri*

Corymbia maculata

Cupaniopsis anacardioides

Glochidion ferdinandi

Grevillea bronwenae

Grevillea preissii subsp. *glabrilimba*

Hibiscus geranioides

Homoranthus porteri

Spotted Gum

Tuckeroo

Cheese Tree

Spider Net Grevillea

A	Photo 1
B	No photo
C	No photo
D	Photo 6
E	Photos 3 & 4
F	Photo 2
G	Photo 5
H	Photo 7

QUIZ PART 1: CAN YOU MATCH THE PLANTS LISTED ABOVE TO THEIR PHOTOS BELOW?

HINT: Two plants have no photos and one plant has two photos!



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6



Photo 7

The photos above are by Karlo Taliana.

APRIL QUIZ – PART 2 – a few ANSWERS



QUIZ PART 2: CAN YOU NAME THE PLANTS IN THE PHOTOS ABOVE - A COMMON NAME? THE GENUS? THE SPECIES?

This quiz was a bit of a trick I guess! Some of the photos don't have enough information to allow you to identify the species, and some of the plants don't have common names. Did you have a try anyway?

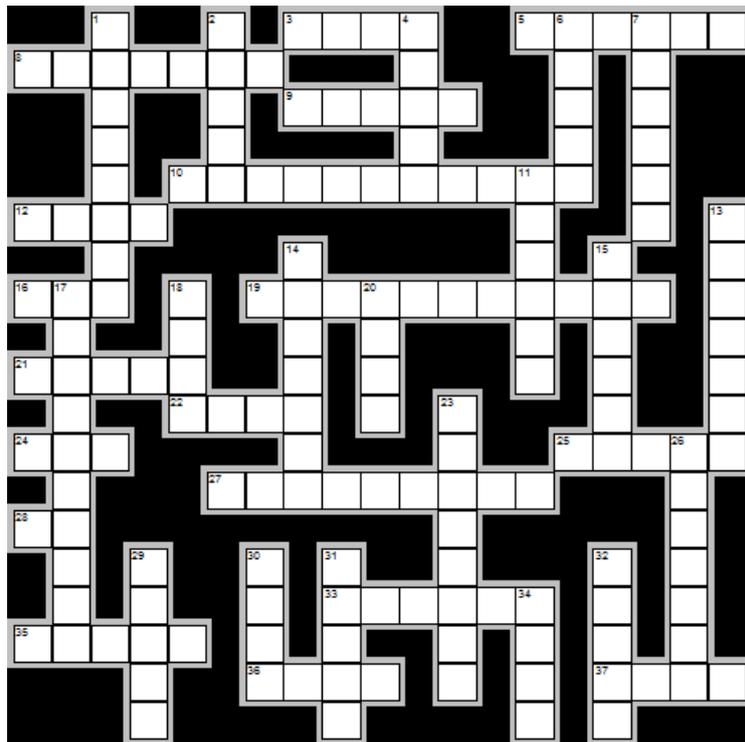
Here are some answers, numbering the photos left to right.

- 1 *Acacia elongata* Swamp Wattle See <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Acacia~elongata>
- 2 *Olearia* sp. Many *Olearia* species are called Daisy Bushes.
- 3 *Correa reflexa* Native Fuchsia or Common Correa.
- 4 *Dendrobium linguiforme* (Synonym *Dockrillia linguiformis*) Tongue Orchid
<http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Dendrobium~linguiforme> .
- 5 *Banksia integrifolia* (Coast Banksia).

CROSSWORD

Jan Douglas

In 2009 I struggled with an on-line crossword-making program and managed to come up with a crossword for the East Hills Group newsletter (which Dave was editing at that time). In 2011 I tried again and gave up. This time, I thought I would just republish the 2009 one! Two of the clues (22 across and 32 down) will be hard for newer members, but you should just regard this as an extra challenge! Answers next issue (or you could go back to the relevant newsletter from 2009 if you happen to have it...) (This crossword is an amateur effort that breaks many crossword conventions – it's not symmetrical and has too many black squares!)



Across

3. Not a branch - it's smaller
5. Multi-trunk eucalypt
8. Bush regeneration method developed by sisters Joan and Eileen
9. *Brachychiton acerifolius* is the Illawarra _ _ _ _ _ Tree
10. Family of orchids
12. Prostanthera are commonly called _ _ _ _ bushes
16. Hoveas, Goodias, Kennedias and Daviesias all produce _ _ _ flowers
19. Bottlebrushes belong to this genus
21. No flowers, no leaves - just fronds
22. Initials of the school where APS East Hills Group used to meet
24. Dodonaea species are _ _ _ bushes
25. Genus named after Baron Christian Ludwig von Hake
27. A Xanthorrhoea (5, 4)
28. Measure of acidity / alkalinity of soil etc
33. How you would feel if you discovered a new species
35. Hairs, pendulous leaves, waxy coatings on leaves, and leathery leaves are all adaptations to prevent _ _ _ _ _ loss
36. Patterns of these help to identify ferns
37. *Kunzea ambigua* is also called _ _ _ _ bush

Down

1. *Eucalyptus globulus* is the flora emblem of which state?
2. *Toona ciliata* is the Australian Red _____
4. *Doryanthes excelsa*
6. _____ dumpling - Billardiera
7. Foliage
11. Some plants in this genus are called Lilly-pillies
13. The Silky oak is *Grevillea* _____
14. Genus of plants named for Sir Joseph
15. 'Federation Belle', 'Fat Fred' and 'Dusky Bells' are all kinds of _____
17. Emu bush
18. *Doodia aspera* is the _____ fern
20. *Calostemma purpureum* is the Garland _____
23. One of the Flame Peas is *Chorizema* _____
26. Plants found only in a particular region are _____ to that region
29. Parts of the fruit that contain all the information needed to create a new plant
30. Pattersonias are sometimes called Native _____
31. The fruit of *Austromyrtus dulcis* is called a Midgin _____
32. Jean Brian helped spread these orchids through our Group - *Pterostylis* _____
34. Plants from the genus *Duboisia* have been used to produce the _____ Hyoscine which is used for travel sickness etc

COMING EVENTS

Because of the Covid-19 outbreak, there are no face-to-face events to report. However, some meetings are being held on-line, using Zoom. For details, see the APS NSW newsletter which you should be receiving by email. Also, there are lots of Internet sites to visit. For example, remember to look at www.anpsa.org.au Australian Plants online from the Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) and the APS NSW site <https://austplants.com.au/> I also strongly recommend the APS NSW newsletter, edited by Rhonda Daniels. Your emailed copy of the May 2020 issue should have arrived in your Inbox on or about Wednesday 29 April.

So far, no one has sent me any internet addresses of their favourite (preferably non-commercial) sites related to Australian native plants for inclusion in future newsletters.
It's not too late!
In the meantime, the May 2020 APS NSW newsletter includes several interesting sites.

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Golden Penda (*Xanthostemon chrysanthus*) street tree in Oatley West, March 2020



1 & 2 :*Banksia robur* new leaves and bud (Swamp Banksia);
3: tiny flowers of *Ficinia nodosa* (Knobby Club-rush).

Photos on this page are by Jan Douglas.

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