

Native Plants for New South Wales

A close-up photograph of several hanging, tubular flowers. The flowers have a white-to-pink gradient, with the base being white and the tip being a vibrant pink. The stamens are prominent and curled. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting foliage.

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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 typed or handwritten 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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Front cover: *Styphelia tubiflora* or Red Five Corners.
Photo taken by Mark Abell of North Shore Group.

Back cover: *Hakea bucculenta* or Red Pokers.
Photo taken by Doug Rickard of Sutherland Group.
See page 41 for more information.

Introduction

David Crawford, Editor *Native Plants for NSW*

Again your Society has been busy, and this issue of *Native Plants for NSW* has reports on the national conference held in August in Queensland (p 12), the NSW Get-together held in October in Armidale (p 16), and the most recent NSW gathering held in November in Castle Hill (p 8). There is also notice of the next gathering, to be held in February in the Illawarra (p 14) and early advance notice of the 2014 Get-together to be held in August on the Central Coast (p 11).



In this issue you will find suggestions on how you can use native plants to create a cottage-garden feel. Brian Roach suggests some colourful and reliable plants to consider if you are looking for an 'informal, organised chaos' (p 4). John Knight gives a technical insight into an under-utilised and under-appreciated genus, *Thomasia* (p 20) and Bill Hardin introduces an uncommon Bottlebrush which is being grown in the Threatened Species Garden Project in Tamworth (p 34).

The Website update (p 24) takes the form of an overview of the main page of the APS NSW website. It should help first-timers and infrequent users to get greater benefit from visiting the website – give it a go! APS Out & About (p 36) is from Sutherland group who have held a *Kids' Day Out* for the children of APS members. Remember, to get your group included all you have to do is supply a good picture or two, and tell a little story of what your group is doing.

APS NSW is seeking grant applications for projects to be funded from the Bequest Fund (p 7) and North Shore group is seeking applications for the Val Williams Scholarship in Botany (p 31). Past recipients have been contacted to see where their careers are leading them. It makes interesting reading to see how APS NSW's engagement reaches out into the wider scientific and ecological community. We also remember a Life Member who has passed away and see how an ordinary member can do extraordinary things (p 42).

A reminder that nominations for Life Membership and the Conservation Award are being sought for 2014. (See October 2013 pp16 & 17, or contact the office.)

Volunteers are needed for the Royal Easter Show (p 15) so if you'd like to help, again contact the office. Finally, your editor makes an apology and a correction for some misleading information in the previous edition of *Native Plants for NSW* (p 19).

Native gardens

Native plants for a cottage garden

Brian Roach, North Shore Group

Nearly ten years ago, in August 2004, I had my first opportunity to promote our wonderful native flora to a group of dedicated gardeners outside the umbrella of APS. I remain grateful to the Berowra Garden Club for asking me because, from that first engagement, I have addressed over 30 general gardening groups in the Sydney area, some on three or four occasions. I say this only to establish my credentials in asserting that the interest in Australian plants in the broad gardening community has significantly increased over that period. Because I've been invited back to speak again, on occasions I have had to change the title of my talk, and recently I've used the banner 'Native Plants for a Cottage Garden'.

At first, I mulled over just what was a 'cottage garden'. I found a wonderful description in the book *Creating an Australian Garden* by Angus Stewart and with his permission I've incorporated it into my presentations. Angus says (p.42) 'Cottage gardens are cheerful, romantic and informal. To the casual observer, they may seem haphazard, even messy. In reality, they are examples of carefully organised chaos'. That always gets me off to a good start. Thanks Angus!



Dwarf Kangaroo Paw *Anigozanthos* 'Bush Pearl'



Isotoma axillaris grown in a tight clump

Primarily I see a cottage garden being made up of colourful, herbaceous plants i.e. those not developing a woody stem. For that reason, plants such as *Brachyscome*, *Scaevola*, *Chrysocephalum* and *Anigozanthos* feature prominently in the photographs I present.

But the image that always gets the greatest 'wow' is of *Isotoma axillaris* (Rock Isotome).

What a great plant this is. Best treated as an annual, it puts on a wonderful display from mid-spring through to autumn. And little babies always pop up the following year. The only problem I've encountered (apart from the white sap it exudes) is a little light-green, hairless caterpillar that quickly becomes a much bigger caterpillar if left to its own devices. I've never seen this blighter on any other plant, but it loves *Isotoma*.

No doubt the greatest disadvantage I see in cottage garden-type plants is their vulnerability to extended dry spells. This is due to their shallow roots. At least a few species, such as *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, (Common Everlasting or Yellow Buttons) spread over time by suckering. While they increasingly look bedraggled as the dry sets in, as soon as we get a bit of decent rain they're chirping their little heads off. And while these dry spells inevitably bring little, and sometimes monumental, disasters in any garden, at least these cottage garden natives are easy to propagate by cuttings. In my 35 years of dabbling with the



propagation of native plants, I still get a kick out of seeing roots form on *Brachyscome multifida* (Cut-leaved Daisy) cuttings, so if you're not into propagation, get out there and have a crack!

I think our Westleigh garden in northern Sydney would comfortably fit any definition of a cottage garden. In my 35-year love affair with Aussie flora (some of you may know her), I've slowly moved from the bigger growing plants to the smaller ones, largely because I can grow more of them. And there's always room for another *Isotoma axillaris*.

Left: *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*
Below: *Brachyscome angustifolia*





Scaevola 'Purple Fanfare'

APS NSW Bequest Fund grants

Apply for an APS NSW Bequest Fund grant by Monday 31 March 2014. Each year APS NSW offers grants to individuals or groups to partially or fully fund special projects that promote the objectives of APS NSW which are the growth, propagation and conservation of Australian native plants.

Past projects that have been funded include the Lisle Pearse Garden in Oberon and the Threatened Species Project at the Tamworth Regional Botanic Garden.

There is no application form. An application for a grant must describe the proposed project, the way in which it supports the objectives of APS NSW, the time frame and must contain an itemised budget. It is usual for the monies to be reimbursed upon receipt of paid invoices.

The successful recipient or recipients must acknowledge the grant from APS NSW with appropriate signage.

Applications for a grant must be emailed to office@austplants.com.au or posted by Monday **31 March 2014** to:

The Secretary
APS NSW
PO Box 5026
Old Toongabbie NSW 2146

Contact APS NSW for more information:

- Phone (02 9631 4085) on Thursdays between 9.30 am and 2 pm, or leave a voice mail if the office is unattended
- Email office@austplants.com.au

Report on an APS NSW activity

APS November gathering at Castle Hill

The gathering at Castle Hill was hosted by the Parramatta and The Hills District Group. Activities included an open garden, a guided bushwalk, tours of the Samuel Gilbert Public School gardens, a presentation on native ferns, plant sales and morning and afternoon tea.

A fern for any location – Kylie Stocks' presentation

Rhonda Daniels, Sutherland Group

Kylie and Dwayne Stocks own and operate Verdigris Nursery, a specialist fern nursery near Batemans Bay on the NSW south coast.

Kylie's key message was that ferns are hardier and therefore easier to grow than most people realise. With ferns growing from the desert to the Arctic Circle, there is a fern for every condition, even full sun. But gardeners need the right plant for the right conditions, and the nicer the conditions, the greater the variety of ferns available.

Types of ferns include ground-dwelling, epiphytic, tree ferns and aquatic. Kylie introduced the common genera including *Adiantum* (Maidenhair), *Asplenium*, *Blechnum* (water ferns, which unsurprisingly prefer a damper location), *Cyathea* and *Dicksonia* (Tree ferns) *Davallia* (Hare's foot) *Doodia* (Rasp ferns), *Microsorium* (Strap/climbing ferns), *Pellaea* (Sickle ferns), *Platycterium* (Elkhorns and Staghorns), *Polystichum* (Shield ferns), *Pteris* (Brake ferns) and *Angiopteris* and *Todea* (King ferns), with plenty of specimens in pots handed round for a closer look. Identification of ferns is based on factors such as spore pattern, shape of fronds, number of frond divisions, clumping or rhizome habit, and hairs and scales.



Kylie Stocks surrounded by some of the ferns she spoke about and passed around during her presentation. Photo: Phillip Grimm



Members enjoying the open garden on offer as a morning activity. Photos: Jan Douglas

In choosing what ferns to grow in the garden, consider what growing conditions you can provide, how much moisture is available and can be supplemented, and the canopy and soil type. Look at the fern plant to determine its preferred conditions. For instance, desert ferns have smaller, hairy fronds while those that like heavy shade have larger, darker fronds. Shallow-rooted ferns may prefer heavy or clay soil while epiphytes prefer an open, drier mix.

In caring for ferns, Kylie's tips are: don't overwater, give minimal feeding if in rich soil, feed during the growing seasons of spring and autumn, use half-strength fertiliser, and avoid getting the foliage wet. Ferns suffer from few pests and diseases, but take care in treating any as some ferns are sensitive to chemicals. For instance, *Asplenium* ferns can get white scale, but they don't like white oil.

For more information on ferns:

- Join the Fern Study Group, with monthly activities in the Sydney region (see Study Group directory on page 48).
- Visit www.verdigris.com.au for cultivation sheets on each of the major fern genera, and links to other resources.

Thanks to Kylie for sharing her enthusiasm for ferns.

Other activities at the gathering

The open garden was hosted by Alan and Jean Wright in nearby Baulkham Hills. Their large back garden is divided into two 'rooms' by a selection of large mature shrubs and trees and a very impressive Xanthorrhoea. The second room is concealed when you first enter the garden and provides quite a surprise. Shady areas in the garden were very popular on the hot day. Visitors had no trouble finding plants of interest and many guests went away with a shrub or two in mind to try in their own gardens.



Keen group of APS members exploring Fred Caterson Reserve with Jennifer Farrer
Photo: Phillip Grimm

The guided bushwalk in Fred Caterson Reserve was led by Jennifer Farrer and was restricted in numbers for practicality.

The Samuel Gilbert Public School has extensive native gardens which the Parramatta and The Hills District Group have been involved with over a number of years. People attending the talk and garden tour were invited to add to the plant list that is being compiled.

The plant sales were very popular and this time included Verdigris Fern Nursery, so members had an ideal opportunity to stock up on native ferns while getting expert advice from Dwayne and Kylie.

Finally the day was rounded-off with a very impressive afternoon tea. It was not possible to enjoy all of these activities unless one wanted to set a frantic pace, so most members made a selection that suited their taste.



Plant sales are always popular – Dwayne Stocks was kept busy as there was great interest in acquiring some native ferns
Photo: Jan Douglas



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Advance Notice of APS NSW event

2014 APS NSW Annual Get-together

Central Coast

Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 August 2014

Hosted by the Central Coast Group

The APS NSW annual Get-together for 2014 will be held on the NSW Central Coast. A range of activities is planned, including opportunities to see the Central Coast flora at its best.

Further details will be published in future issues of *Native Plants for NSW*. The APS NSW web site www.austplants.com.au will also be updated regularly.

Be sure to write these dates in your diary.

Report on an APS activity – ANPSA conference

Why go to a national conference?

Leanne Pattinson, President Newcastle Group

There are many reasons to recommend attending one of the biennial national Australian plant conferences. I would suggest that primarily it is to enjoy the company of like-minded Australian plant enthusiasts. There were 16 of us from NSW (four from Newcastle) who attended the 2013 conference on the Sunshine Coast in August. It was held at Alexandra Park Headlands in a beautiful and poignant bushland setting. The conference lived up to its name with a **diversity** of speakers, workshops, outings, habitats and species.

Our Queensland hosts were welcoming and well-organised and there was a great balance of activities. With so much packed into the week it will take time to digest all the information, and all the food.

SPEAKERS The variety of topics covered satisfied the different interests of those attending. There was something for everyone – gardeners, bushwalkers, scientists, whatever your particular interest. The delivery was appropriate to the audience and of great quality. The passion and knowledge of each speaker engaged the audience.

WORKSHOPS There were many options to choose from, including native bees, grafting, and flower arranging just to name a few. They were well-prepared and conducted by people with lots of enthusiasm and skill. There were lots of helpful tips and suggestions to be successful at your chosen activity. It was great to do something hands-on like basket weaving and be able to take the finished item home.

OUTINGS The two days of outings were well orchestrated to maximise our experience. We were taken up mountains, over sand dunes, through rainforest and into the stunning Wallum heath. Each habitat held new and special surprises. There were stunning clusters of *Xanthorrhoea* (Grass Trees), forests of *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Broad-leaved Paperbark) with an understorey of *Banksia robur* (Swamp Banksia), thickets of *Austromyrtus dulcis* (Midgen Berry), and heath dominated by *Banksia aemula* (Wallum Banksia) up to 2m high, interspersed with *Ricinocarpos pinifolius* (Wedding Bush) and other treasures.

Some of the species in full flower and creating a spectacular display included *Acacia leiocalyx*, *Commersonia*, *Ricinocarpos*, and lots of species of yellow peas like *Aotus lanigera* (Golden Candlesticks).

Another highlight was the sculpture gardens at Maroochy Botanic Gardens. The volunteers who met us at each venue enriched our experience of visiting a new area.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES Our room mates were delightful company and we hope to keep in touch and catch up with them in the future. We were all early risers and enjoyed walks on the beach and seeing the sun rise. The conference dinner was lots of fun with seats drawn out of a hat and the history of Queensland's remote towns was re-written. There was also happy-hour each day, slide shows and even a small market one night. No wonder we were pleasantly exhausted by the end of the conference.

And finally, a perspective from a conference virgin:

Helen Williamson, Newcastle Group

What a great way to meet enthusiastic gardeners like myself. Not all members of native plant societies are botanists and the like, but just like me – sharing a love of growing Australian native plants.

This was my first taste of an APS national conference, hence the title, and thanks to a great experience it will not be my last. The help and encouragement that was shared was rewarding and I was never made to feel inadequate because of my limited knowledge of botanical names.

The workshops, and in fact the whole experience, were aimed at a wide audience. The speakers gave me insight into the propagation of natives that I never knew existed. So I thank the organisers and the hosts for a fantastic week, and for those of you who were there on that memorable conference dinner I shall never forget the town of Thargomindah and its newly discovered species of plant '*Thargomindah stuffiensus*'. (Don't try to find that one in any botany text.)



NSW contingent at ANPSA Conference

Notice of future APS NSW event

APS NSW February Gathering Saturday 15 February 2014

Our next quarterly gathering is in the Illawarra area and features everybody's favourite native plant genus – the *Grevillea*. The wide range of species and cultivars, the extraordinary flower shapes and colours and the overall diversity provide continuing interest and fascination.

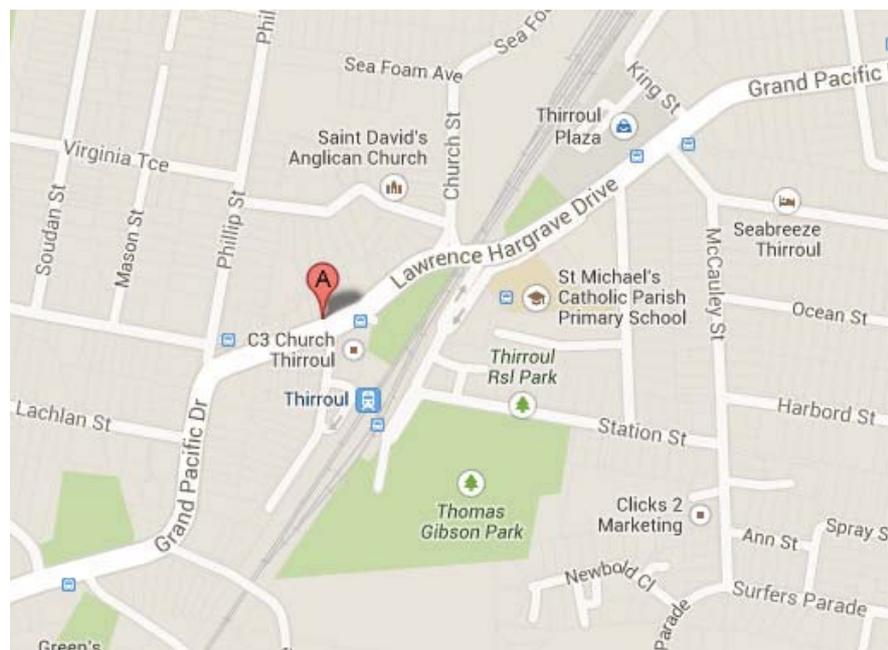
The gathering will be held at the Thirroul Community Centre Excelsior Hall at 352-358 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul (see map below).

During the morning the Illawarra *Grevillea* Park at *Grevillea* Park Road Bulli will be open for free viewing.

The Excelsior Hall program will commence with a self-provided lunch at noon. This will be followed by our two speakers, Peter Olde and Peter Weston.

Peter Olde is a well known APS identity and expert on *Grevilleas*. He is the co-author of the three-volume *Grevillea Book* and will talk on *New types of Grevilleas for the garden*.

Peter Weston is a Senior Principal Research Scientist at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney and will talk on *The relationship between Grevilleas and Hakeas*. After the presentations and questions, afternoon



tea will be provided. The usual plant sales and other attractions will also be available.

The program

- 10 – 12 pm Illawarra Grevillea Park at Bulli will be open
- 12 – 1 pm Lunch (self-provided) and plant sales at Excelsior Hall, Thirroul
- 1–2.30 pm Grevillea Talks at Excelsior Hall by Peter Olde and Peter Weston
- 2.30 – 4 pm Afternoon tea and plant sales at Excelsior Hall

Due to the costs associated with running these events (venue hire, catering etc), a small entrance fee of \$5 per person will be charged for the 2014 gatherings. The quarterly gatherings have been popular and we wish to continue them and preserve their financial viability.

So please note Saturday 15 February and let's all meet in the Illawarra and get the 2014 gatherings off to a friendly and successful start.



Volunteers needed to help APS NSW at Easter Show

Volunteers are required to staff the APS NSW stand at the Sydney Royal Easter Show for six days from Thursday 10 April till Tuesday 15 April 2014 from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm.

APS NSW has been allocated a 2 m x 2 m space for presenting a display of Australian plants and information about the Society.

It is planned to have at least two members at the display at all times to answer questions from the general public about the plants on display and the Society and also to distribute membership information to those interested in joining.

On each day, there will be two shifts: the first from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm and the second from 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm.

If you are able to assist in any way, please contact the office on 9631 4085 or by email at office@austplants.com.au

Report on APS NSW activity

2013 APS Get-together in Armidale

Mark Abell, North Shore Group

This year the Armidale and District Group hosted the annual APS Get-together in October. With over 120 people attending from all over the state, plus a few interstate visitors, it was the biggest get-together yet. Having been one of the organisers for the previous get-together, I can attest to the large amount of work that is required to host an event of this size. For a relatively small group it is even more challenging. The end result of a well run and enjoyable weekend without any problems is a credit to the entire organising committee.

For those arriving early, there were a couple of activities organised on the Friday. The two that I attended were a visit to the University of New England Herbarium and a visit to the Armidale Tree Group's nursery and nearby plantings. The herbarium visit highlighted the great floral diversity that exists in the New England area, with a chance to see first-hand some of Australia's very earliest herbarium specimens. I took advantage of the range of local endemic plants at the Tree Group Nursery in the afternoon as well as looking over the revegetation in the adjacent area.

The weekend proper started with morning tea in Maria Hitchcock's garden. With Maria a past leader of the Correa Study Group (and author of a book on Correas) and current leader of the Waratah and Flannel Flower Study Group, there were high expectations. In spite



Herbarium curator – Ian Telford



At the Tree Group Woodland Centre & Nursery – some great endemic plants



Above: Plant sales at the Nevin Garden
Right: Dangars Falls gorge



of the area being in a drought, the garden did not disappoint. As well as the expected Correas and Waratahs, there are large garden beds, featuring a broad range of native plants.

Following this was a lunchtime visit to the garden of John and Margaret Nevin. Another large garden, this started out as more of an English style garden, with mainly exotic plants. However over the years it has undergone a transformation to a garden that is a showcase for native plants.

The next item on the agenda was an excursion to Dangars Falls in the afternoon. This spectacular chasm usually has water flowing over it, but due to the drought, the falls were not flowing. During a walk we heard of the lengths that some botanists go to collect plants from the areas around the edges of the gorges.

The dinner in the evening was at the historic McCrossin's Mill in Uralla. The Mill features a series of paintings on the death of the bushranger Captain Thunderbolt. The evening was further rounded out with a colourful account of Thunderbolt's exploits from a local historian.

Anyone who has read *Native Plants for NSW* over the last ten or so years will have come across the numerous articles from Warren and Gloria Sheather. It was to their garden (Yallaroo) that we all ventured on Sunday morning. This is a very large garden and densely planted, with an enormous range of plant species. Of particular interest was the propagation setup which was an enclosed unit with bottom heat and misting from Sage Horticultural in Melbourne. This unit is used to propagate almost all the plants in this large garden. After morning tea, Warren kindly offered all and sundry to take whatever cuttings we wanted – claiming that it would save on pruning things later.



Warren Sheather explaining his propagation setup.

In all, it was a most enjoyable weekend, a great chance to catch-up with like-minded people from across the state, and a chance to see gardens and places that you might not otherwise get to see. If you have never been to a get-together, then you are missing out on one of the highlights of the APS year. Look out for the next one in August 2014, hosted by Central Coast Group.



Group photo of Get-together attendees at Yallaroo on the Sunday.

Correction and Apology

David Crawford, Editor Native Plants for NSW

An article in the October 2013 issue of *Native Plants for NSW* caused concern among some members and quite a lot of discussion and follow-up research. The article *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* (Tamworth Threatened Species Project) on pp 24 and 25 was incomplete and misleading. As editor I take full responsibility for its shortcomings. Members especially from the NSW south coast are familiar with *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* as a common forest tree in that area and not endangered as indicated in the article.

The original draft of this article was headed *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* syn. *E. quinniorum* and I ill-advisedly dropped the reference to *E. quinniorum*. I did this because The Australian Plant Name Index indicated that it was not a valid synonym for *E. cypellocarpa*.

Eucalyptus quinniorum and another species, *E. oresbia*, were described from *E. cypellocarpa* in 1999. It is *E. quinniorum* that has a ROTAP grading of 2RCa and grows in low woodland, on ridges or amongst granite boulders, its populations restricted and disjunct, from Kingstown area to Upper Moore Creek (N of Tamworth) as was presented in the article. Bill Hardin chose the title for the article based on information from the CSIRO *Euclid* publication (electronic identification and information system for eucalypts) which has the three species in synonymy: 'At the northern end of the range of *E. cypellocarpa* two other recently described taxa, *E. quinniorum* (in the Kingstown area) and *E. oresbia* (in the Nundle area) are also placed in synonymy as their differences from *E. cypellocarpa* are slight.'

Your editor has learned an uncomfortable lesson and will try to be more careful in future. But one certainty is that we will continue to make mistakes (but hopefully not too many). The encouraging aspect is that people noticed and cared enough to do something about it.

Another certainty is that taxonomy – trying to put plants with their natural variability into a defined classification structure – will always be a work in progress.

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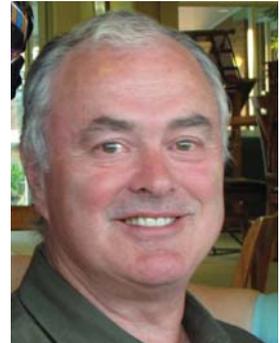
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Native Plant Profile

The Genus *Thomasia*

John Knight continues his regular series presenting some of the better-known plant families and genera that APS members commonly grow.



Thomasia was described by the Swiss / Italian botanist Jacques Etienne Gay, who was born in Switzerland in 1786. The genus is named for a family of Swiss botanical collectors from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Whilst the genus name gives us no clue as to determining what makes a plant a *Thomasia*, the paper in which he describes the plants, *Monographie des cinq genres de plants que comprend la tribu de Lasiopetalees dans la famille de Buttneriacees* (An account of five genera of plants that includes the tribe Lasiopetaleae in the family of Buttneriaceae) published in 1821, points to the very important identifying feature, from the Greek lasio, meaning hairy or shaggy, and petalon, meaning leaf or petal, referring to the hairy calyx.

Comprising about 40 species, this small genus is confined almost exclusively to the south west corner of Western Australia, with only one species extending to South Australia and western Victoria. In 1863 in Volume 1 of *Flora Australiensis*, George Bentham described just 25 species.

If we delve into the mysterious world of plant keys, we find *Thomasia* has recently moved from the family Sterculiaceae, and has been placed into the Malvaceae family. Within this large family there is included the subfamily Byttnerioideae, and within that the tribe Lasiopetaleae. This change was brought about due to recent DNA research. However we can still use morphological characters to distinguish Gay's placement in the Lasiopetalum group.

Plants within this group are small to medium woody shrubs. The leaves, at least the under-surface, and stems are covered with brownish stellate (star-like) hairs of equal length.

Flowers are regular, but usually comprised of only one whorl, a colourful calyx of five at least partly joined sepals, usually mauve to purple, which look for all the world like petals.

Beneath the calyx are from one to three calyx-like bracteoles which look a bit like sepals! Within the sepals sits a superior ovary surrounded by five stamens with dark red anthers.

Taking out our 10x lens, a close look at the base of the calyx lobes shows tiny tufts of glandular hairs which are the nectar holding glands which attract suitable pollinators. Little is known of these pollinators, but at least four species of native bees are recorded as visiting the flowers.

Genera in the subfamily Byttnerioideae can be identified as follows;

Petals noticeable, up to as long as the calyx

Rulingia

Petals absent or minute, much shorter than the calyx

Calyx lobes with 3 – 5 raised ribs

Guichenotia

Calyx lobes with 1 thickened rib

Calyx divided to near the middle

Thomasia
(Paper Flowers)

Calyx lobes without a thickened rib, and divided well below the middle to appear that the sepals are free.

Lasiopetalum
(Velvet Bushes)



Close-up of *Thomasia grandiflora* showing some of the features of the genus
Photo: Carol Drew

Thomasia are generally shrubby plants. The foliage is often softly hairy, the stalked leaves are alternate, with entire or lobed margins. The flowers are held proud of the foliage in few-flowered racemes, which develop opposite the leaves, but are subtended by a pair of leaf-like stipules.

Below the colourful calyx are three prominent green bracteoles which are often joined at the base.

The calyx comprises five ovate to triangular lobes divided to near the middle, and with just one vein thickened into a mid-rib.

Anthers number five, and are usually free, although they may appear joined at their base. If there are staminodes present, they are placed between the stamens, but are very much smaller and scale like. In fruit, the calyx enlarges and envelops the fruit.

It is a shame that few species of *Thomasia* have made it to common cultivation, as they are generally well-behaved garden plants which require little attention. Interestingly, over the 50 years *Australian Plants* journal has been published by the Australian Plants Society, less than 20 references have been made on the genus, and only six species have been mentioned.

However, in Victoria at least, 13 species are known to have been available commercially. The reasons for the apparent ignorance of *Thomasia* are unclear, as the plants are not difficult to propagate, and present well in 140mm pots, although the plants can suffer from leaf drop in humid or wet weather due to the hairiness of the foliage.

Most species are naturally dense in habit, often with foliage to ground level. As such they can be used as informal hedging plants, and will respond positively to clipping or regular pruning. However plants develop their flower buds for next season soon after finishing their current flowering, so timing of pruning is important, otherwise next year's flowers can be pruned off. One way to overcome this is to use the flowers as indoor decoration, as they last for weeks as cut flowers.

In cultivation, plants require well drained soils, but when young will not suffer drying out, so supplementary watering during dry spells is beneficial until plants are well established. But the watering should be at the base of the plants rather than over the foliage.

Conditions in many gardens change as they mature, with trees and larger shrubs adding more shade than expected, and often the soils become drier, which impacts detrimentally on the showy, flowering plants which once held pride of place. It is under these conditions that many species of *Thomasia* thrive, and as such will add interest to areas which may have become neglected because of the difficult conditions.

Propagation of *Thomasia* can be by either seed or, more usually, cuttings. Seed collected and sown fresh will usually germinate successfully. This can be assisted by soaking the seed in hot, but not boiling, water for up to 24 hours.

Cuttings are taken of current season's new growth. Pieces with about six leaf nodes are ideal. The stems should be still green, not yet turning brown. These soft pieces will wilt easily, so the cuttings are best placed in a shaded area. As the cuttings are usually very hairy, regular misting of the foliage should be avoided to prevent mould growth. Large leaves can be reduced in size to prevent the cutting wilting. In selecting suitable cuttings, be aware that material with flowering nodes will usually not root.

References:

George Bentham assisted by Ferdinand Mueller (1863) *Flora Australiensis, A description of the plants of the Australian Territory* Volume 1.

William E. Blackall and Brian J. Grieve (1981) *How to know Western Australian wildflowers*, Parts 1, 11.

W. Rodger Elliot and David L. Jones (2010) *Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants suitable for Cultivation* Volume 9.



Close-up of the delicate flowers of *Thomasia pygmaea*.

Photo: Karlo Taliana



Part of *Thomasia pygmaea* shrub with mass flowering.

Photo: Wikimedia Commons (Melburnian)

APS NSW Website update

A Guide to the APS NSW Website

Mark Abell, APS NSW Publicity Officer and Web Master

This is an overview of the various parts of the main page of the APS NSW web site. It is presented to help members navigate the site effectively and get as much from the site as possible.

The screenshot shows the APS NSW website interface with the following numbered callouts:

- 1**: Home > Home breadcrumb
- 2**: The Australian Plants Society - NSW logo and banner image
- 3**: Main navigation menu (Home, Calendar, District Groups, Study Groups, Contacts, Membership, Forum)
- 4**: Main Menu sidebar (Home, Contact us, Membership, Calendar, Study Groups, District Groups, Discussion Forum, Special Events, Upcoming Events, APS Facebook Page)
- 5**: Resources sidebar (Australian Native Plants Society (Australia), Seed Bank, Conservation, Articles and Fact Sheets, Publications, Links, State Council, Jeff's Tips, Photo Albums, APS YouTube Videos)
- 6**: Popular sidebar (What I have learnt trying to grow our native plants, Web Site News, membership, Australian Plants index to Vol 25)
- 7**: Members section (Members are from all age groups and ways of life from amateurs who want to learn a bit more about Australian plants to professionals - from artists, florists, farmers and nurserymen to plant scientists: anyone who has an interest in Australian flora.)
- 8**: Search bar
- 9**: Newsflash (Welcome to The Australian Plants Society - NSW web site. Each month a new plant will be featured from our extensive set of "Plant Profiles". APS Members can access the full collection of these profiles from the "User Menu". Read more...)
- 10**: Login form (Username or email, Password, Remember me, Login, Forgot login?, Register)
- 11**: Forum Latest and Who's Online sections
- 12**: Latest News section (Members, Leptospermum brevipes, Grevillea Golden Lyre, Melaleuca micromera, Who are we?, AIMS, membership)
- 13**: The Australian Plants Society - NSW social media link (Like button, You like this.)
- 14**: Image of a plant (likely related to the latest news or featured plant)

The numbers below match to the numbers on the image of the web site. If you want to view them in more detail it would be advisable to open your web browser with the web site open – <http://austplants.com.au>

1. Breadcrumbs – shows the pages that you have recently visited – you can click on these to go back to a specific page.
2. Main Page Header – a banner image that appears at the top of all pages.
3. Top Menu – links to main areas on the web site, stays at the top of all pages.
4. Main Menu – similar to the top menu, has links to the main APS website areas.
5. Resources Menu – links to useful resources / sections on the APS website.
6. Most Popular Articles – these are the most viewed articles on the website.
7. Featured Articles – a central area that shows the current featured articles. These are changed to keep the website ‘fresh’ and to suit the Society’s current requirements.
8. Search – you can search against all of the website articles here.
9. Newsflash – randomly displays one of the ‘newsflash’ articles.
10. Website Login and Registration – used to login to the website (to access the members only content).
11. Forum Latest & Who’s Online – if you are logged-in it shows the most recent forum updates & who is currently logged-in.
12. Latest News – shows the most recent updates to website articles
13. Facebook ‘Like’ area – allows you to ‘like’ the APS NSW Facebook page.
14. Random Photo – a random photo from the selection of website images.

When you are logged in you will also see a ‘User Menu’ (top left, next page), the ‘Login’ area will change to show that you are logged in, and the ‘Forum Latest’ will show more detail.

User Menu

- + Annual Report 2012
- + Plant Profiles
- + Plant Profiles – Sorted
- + District Group Newsletters
- + From Our Cold Climate Garden
- + Your Details
- + Submit an Article
- + Member Documents
- + Formatting Articles
- + Logout

Login

Hi, Mark Abell

Logout

Forum Latest

Latest Forum updates...
Orchids – the species.
Today

prostanthera ovalifolia may be dying...help!!
Today

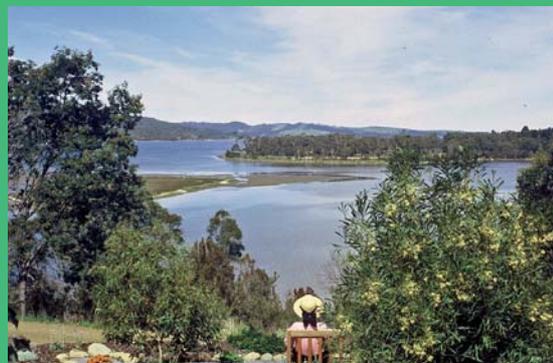
A gum tree question
15 Nov 2013

Who's Online

- abellm

Inverawe Native Gardens

Tasmania's Largest Landscaped Native Garden



Be Inspired! Thousands of colourful native plants, stunning views, interpretive signs and bird life add to the experience.

Open 7 days,
1 September to 31 May,
9.00am last entry 6.00pm.
Behind the Margate Train,
15 minutes south of Hobart.

www.inverawe.com.au p 6267 2020 gardens@inverawe.com.au

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: Barbara Nevin ☎ (02) 6775 2128
Email: barbaranevin@hotmail.com
Secretary: Helen Schwarz ☎ (02) 6772 1584
PO Box 166, Armidale NSW 2350
Email: woshes@bigpond.com

Meetings: Native Plant Forum, TAFE Library Seminar Room, Beardy Street, Armidale
3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm (excluding December, January, June, July).

Blue Mountains

President: Dick Turner ☎ (02) 4839 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: John Andrews ☎ (02) 9985 9073
Secretary: Liz Hoese ☎ (02) 4339 1274
Email: elizabeth44@optusnet.com.au

Meetings: Phillip House
21 Old Mount Penang Road, Kariang
2nd Friday of the month (excl. Jan, Dec) at 7.30 pm.

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: Dr M Duggan ☎ (02) 6649 3202
Email: morris@guarana.org
Secretary: Gwyn Clarke ☎ 0419 414 324
123 Sandstone Dr, Kungala NSW 2460
Email: gcl.38500@bigpond.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
Secretary: Vacant

Meetings: Peakhurst South Primary School
Library, Monterra Ave, Peakhurst.
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.au

Meetings: This group is currently inactive but is
keen to restart.

Hunter Valley

President: Ross Carlton ☎ (02) 4988 6026
Secretary: Kevin Mantle ☎ (02) 4937 3200
29 Wallaroo Road, Seaham NSW 2324

Meetings: The Polish Hall, Cnr Grant & Old
Rose Sts, Maitland
3rd Wednesday of the month (Feb-Nov) at 7.45 pm.

Macarthur

President: Shirley Henderson ☎ 0447 234 373
Secretary: Rod Bray ☎ (02) 4647 9928
147 Holdsworth Drive, Mt Annan NSW 2567
Email: yarbdor@westnet.com.au

Meetings: Birriwa Community Hall, Fitzpatrick St
Mount Annan NSW 2567. 3rd Wednesday of
the month at 7.30 pm (Feb-Nov).

Menai

President: Jason Cockayne ☎ (02) 9570 8559
Secretary: Annette Tuckfield ☎ (02) 9543 1490
Email: menaiwildflower@austplants.com.au
PO Box 3104, Bangor NSW 2234

Meetings: Illawong Rural Fire Service.
2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30 pm
(excluding January).

Continued page 30

Membership application and renewal form

Those members associated with a Group should renew directly with their Group Office Bearer.

Please print clearly and include all person/s covered by this membership.

Date: _____ Application Renewal

Surname/s: _____

Given name/s: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

If renewing, is this a change of address? Yes No

If Yes, previous Postcode: _____

Telephone (____) _____ Business (____) _____

Fax (____) _____

Email _____

Renewing members: We/I belong to a District Group Yes No

Group Name: _____

We/I belong to the following Study Group/s:

New members:

Age: Under 16 17-21 22-39 40-59 60-79 80+

Interests/Skills: _____

Are you able to volunteer assistance in the Society's activities in an area convenient to you? Yes No

Gift membership: If you wish to give a subscription to a family member or friend, use this form or write out the full particulars. Include any personal card you wish to accompany the new member's pack.

District Group directory continued

Newcastle

President: Leanne Pattinson ☎ (02) 4977 2773
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:
Jan Krone ☎ (02) 9938 3857
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 7.30 pm
(February-November).

North Shore

President: Barry Lees ☎ (02) 9653 3691
Email: barrylees99@bigpond.com
Secretary: Wendy Grimm ☎ (02) 9144 5600
PO Box 344, St Ives NSW 2075
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
Meetings: Nowra Town Band Hall,
174 Kinghorne St, Nowra. 2nd Thursday of the
month (Feb-Nov) at 7.30 pm sharp.

Parramatta and Hills District

President: Tony Maxwell ☎ (02) 9651 6682
Secretary: vacant
Meetings: Bi-monthly meetings 4th Friday of
Feb, April, June, August, September and
November at 8 pm Barton Hall, Hopetoun
Village, Anglican Retirement Villages, David
Road, Castle Hill.
Website: www.apsparrahills.org.au

South East Region

President: John Knight ☎ 0434 674 347
Secretary: Mog Bremner ☎ 0401 968 899
Email: mogbremner@mogajon.com.au
Meetings: Alternating locations, contact
President or Secretary. 1st Saturday of odd
numbered months. Field trips and other
functions at other times.

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: Bob Galland ☎ 0407 248 154
Email: rcgalland1@bigpond.com
Secretary: Gudrun Delbridge ☎ 0417 651 811
Email: gudrun.delbridge@gmail.com
Meetings: Only when essential – our group is
concentrating on walks and other activities.

Sutherland

President: vacant
Secretary: Rhonda Daniels ☎ (02) 9521 8381
Email: rhdaniels@bigpond.com
Meetings: GyMEA Community Centre, GyMEA
Bay Rd, GyMEA. 3rd Wednesday of the month
at 8 pm (February-November).
Website: <http://sutherland.austplants.com.au/>

Tamworth

President: Matt Cosgrove ☎ (02) 6765 2693
Email: cosgrove72@bigpond.com
Secretary: Lee Esdaile ☎ (02) 6760 8525
PO Box 1193, Tamworth NSW 2340
Email: pjltesdaile@gmail.com
Meetings: Botanic Garden Meeting Room.
10.30 am on 4th Saturday Feb to Nov. Outings
and field trips at other times – contact the
Secretary.

Val Williams Scholarship in Botany

A call for applications and a review of past recipients

Wendy Grimm, Secretary, North Shore Group

The Scholarship honours the memory of the late Val Williams, an esteemed APS North Shore Group member, former APS NSW President and a student of botany and conservation. To qualify, the research must contribute to the knowledge, conservation or propagation of native plants in the Sydney or surrounding regions.

The Val Williams Scholarship in Botany is administered and funded by the North Shore Group of APS and the award is decided by a selection committee of three tertiary-qualified, experienced and knowledgeable, Group members.

This year APS NSW has kindly agreed to provide a one-year membership to the recipient of the Scholarship.

For application forms go to www.blandfordia.org.au/Scholarship.html

Enquiries: (02) 9144 5600. **Applications close 14 March 2014**

Since 2009 this scholarship has helped fund research by seven tertiary students into various aspects of native plants. But, where are our past recipients now and what are they involved in?



Lisa Xian (2009 UWS & UQ) is monitoring grasses from arid areas of western Queensland. She is specifically studying *Triodia* sp. ('Spinifex'), investigating the physiology of native grasses and their response to arid conditions. Lisa is using a Licor 6400 portable photosynthesis monitor to measure the gas exchange of *Triodia* to determine the water balance in these plants.



Alison Hewitt (2010 UWS) combines studies on *Melaleuca deanei* and other *Melaleuca* species, lecturing and tutorial responsibilities with caring for three young boys. Alison is using DNA studies to increase our understanding of the clonality and population structure of this vulnerable species. Observations include flowering frequency and its relationship to fire events.

Nathan Emery (2011 USyd) asks if natural variability in the populations of Flannel Flower, (*Actinotus helianthi*), will buffer them sufficiently from the effects of climate change. This research is being carried out in association with work at the Australian Botanic Garden at Mount Annan.



Pythons are just part of a day's work for consulting-industry ecologist **Tanya Bangel** (2011 UWS). By conducting threatened species searches, vegetation mapping and BioBanking assessments across various regions of NSW, Tanya has gained valuable experience. Some of the threatened species she has targeted include *Grevillea parviflora* subsp. *parviflora*, *Dillwynia tenuifolia*, *Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *juniperina*, *Persoonia nutans*, *Diuris tricolor*, *Bothriochloa biloba* and *Triplarina nowraensis*.

Diane Warman (2012 UoN) provides academic support and is preparing a paper for publication on the very limited distribution of *Grevillea shiressii*. She does this while juggling the competing demands of a family with two young children, a vegetable garden and a Land for Wildlife bushland restoration project which includes a wet gully forest on an old property on the NSW Central Coast.



Berin Mackenzie (2012 UNSW) has the enviable task of studying various species of *Boronia* to improve our understanding of the ecology of Australian Rutaceae. Finding out the role of seasonal and fire cues in seed dormancy and germination for some of the threatened species (*B. serrulata*) and more common species of *Boronia* will prove useful for his day-job as part of a team working on ecosystem management science.

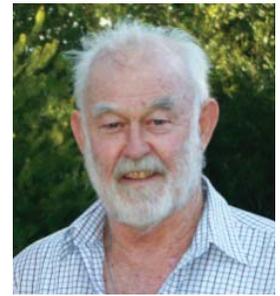
Our current scholarship holder, **Jessica Mowle** (2013 UWS) will present her findings on the role microbes may play in the conservation and future regeneration of Wollemi Pine to the North Shore Group meeting on 14 March 2014.



Native Plant Profile

Callistemon pungens

Bill Hardin continues his series introducing some of the plants which are being grown in the Tamworth Threatened Species Garden.



Callistemon pungens is known by the common name of Prickly Bottlebrush. It is listed as vulnerable with a ROTAP code 3RC-, meaning that the plant is found in a range of over 100km but in small populations, that it was considered rare (but with no identifiable threat at the time of listing) and that it occurs within a proclaimed reserve but the population size in that reserve is unknown.

It is not listed under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act*, the relevant legislation in NSW. But it is listed as vulnerable under the Federal Government's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* and as vulnerable under Queensland's *Nature Conservation Act*. The main identified threats to its survival are habitat loss, riparian weed invasion (particularly Japanese Honeysuckle and Blackberry), excessive fragmentation of bushland and inappropriate fire regimes.

Because of the proposal to include all *Callistemon* species in the genus *Melaleuca* it also goes by the name of *Melaleuca williamsii*. The species



Callistemon pungens shrub in full flower. Photo: Warren Sheather

name is different because there is already a shrub *M. pungens*, native to WA, so that name is not available. As the proposed name change does not appear to have gained general acceptance outside Queensland I prefer to use *Callistemon pungens*.

It is a very attractive shrub or small tree from 2 to 5 metres tall. Its branches are rigid and the new growth is silvery. The thick and leathery leaves are alternate, narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate, 2–3 cm long, and 3–5 mm wide. The apex has a short, stiff sharp point, between 1-2 mm long, hence the specific name. Lateral veins are usually not apparent and both leaf surfaces have numerous small glands. It flowers in summer with purplish to reddish pink bottlebrush-type spikes 5–8 cm long and 4 cm wide. Woody capsules are crowded together on the stem 7–9 cm long.

Callistemon pungens grows in or near rocky watercourses, usually in sandy creek beds on granite or sometimes on basalt. In NSW it is found naturally from near Inverell to the eastern escarpment of the New England National Park. It also occurs in Queensland in the Stanthorpe area.

For our planting at Tamworth, cuttings were collected and propagated by Sarah Caldwell from Tenterfield. Seven specimens were planted at a working bee at the Tamworth Regional Botanic Garden in March 2011 by APS members and friends of the Botanic Garden.

All the plantings at the Botanic Garden are doing well and came through the very dry period we experienced extremely well, with very few losses.



Callistemon pungens
close-up of flower
Photo: commons.
wikimedia.org

APS Group activities in focus

APS Out and About

On 25 September in the school holidays, Sutherland Group had an APS Kids' Day Out for members' children, with 17 children attending and impressing all with their enthusiasm and behaviour. The following is a report by Samuel (11 years old).

When we first arrived, we were seated and all of the activities were explained. They were: making a necklace, identifying plants, planting a strawflower seed, smelling some stuff (plant material), colouring-in and going for a small bushwalk.



An introduction,
then on with the
activities
Photos: P. Shelton



John, Liz and Leonie preparing lunch. Photo: J. Arney

We started by doing the activities; all of the ones I tried were great. Then we went for a small walk in the bush. Our guide, John Arney, showed us some native plants and some weeds. One of the natives we learnt about was the cheese tree. When we arrived back at base camp, lunch was ready. We were given some sausage sandwiches, they were extremely nice. Thank you to John Aitken for making them. We then played on the nearby play equipment, it was fun. There was even a flying fox there! I really enjoyed the day, it was so fun. The APS kids' day was a great day out. Thank you to John Arney for organising the day. I also have to give a big thanks to everyone who helped out including Leonie Hogue who gave each of us a goody bag to take home.



APS NSW on the web

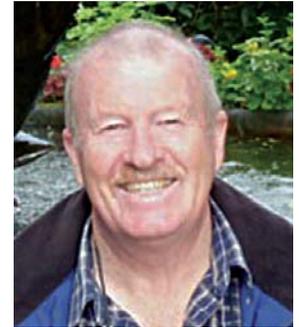
www.austplants.com.au

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.

APS NSW administration

President's report

John Aitken, President APS NSW



The 2013 Annual Get-together at Armidale in October was an outstanding success, with over 130 people attending the weekend. The organising committee, under Maria Hitchcock's leadership, organised a wonderful, varied and balanced program, providing something for everyone to enjoy. The Presidents' dinner on the Friday night was very well attended and proved an excellent forum for the exchange of information. The dinner on the Saturday night at McCrossin's Mill was fully booked and proved an enormous success.

It was also wonderful to see Ben Walcott, President of ANPS Canberra, his wife Ros and four fellow members from Canberra, and Barry Janke and his wife from Queensland attending the weekend.

I would like to thank and congratulate Maria, as the convenor, and the organising committee of Barbara and John Nevin, Patrick Lahay and Helen Schultz for their wonderful efforts and organisation, which ensured that the weekend was an outstanding success. Thanks also to the members of Armidale and District Group for their very warm welcome.

Gardening Australia Live held at Moore Park in Sydney in October provided a wonderful opportunity to promote the Society and to encourage members of the public to join. Despite the disappointing numbers attending the show, there was a lot of interest in APS. The discounted membership rate attracted 11 new memberships. Thanks to Leonie Hogue and Rhonda Daniels for setting up the display. Although the space allocated was very small, Leonie and Rhonda did a fabulous job creating a very attractive and eye-catching display. Thanks also to those volunteers from Sutherland Group who staffed the display and also to Angus Stewart for his support in promoting the Society during his talks.

The APS NSW gathering held at the Samuel Gilbert Public School, Castle Hill in November was also a very successful event with over 70 members and their friends attending. Many thanks to the members of Parramatta and The Hills District Group for hosting the gathering and for providing the wonderful morning and afternoon teas. Thanks also to Kylie Stocks, from Verdigris Nursery, for the wonderful talk she gave on growing native ferns in the garden and to our Program Officer, Tony Maxwell for his great efforts in organising the event. Those attending

were spoiled by the huge choice of plants available for sale and most could not resist taking home a number of additions for their gardens.

The next APS NSW gathering will be held at Thirroul on Saturday 15 February 2014, with a morning walk around the Grevillea Park at Bulli and talks by Peter Olde and Peter Weston. For more details see page 16. We will also use this opportunity to relaunch the Illawarra Group. Kath Gadd, an APS member from East Corrimal, is very keen to see the Group re-established and is prepared to take on the responsibility of re-forming the Group. It would be wonderful to see as many members as possible attending the gathering not only to enjoy the program, but also to show their support for the new Illawarra Group.

I am sure that the thoughts of all members are with those who have been affected by the terrible recent bushfires in the Blue Mountains and other parts of NSW. On behalf of APS NSW, I extend our sympathies to John and Joan Joyce from Blue Mountains Group, whose home was destroyed by the fires at Winmalee. I cannot imagine the loss they are experiencing.

Lastly, I wish you and your families a safe and relaxing holiday period and a happy new year. Best wishes to you all. John

APS NSW Seed Bank update

An updated list was published in the April 2013 issue of *Native Plants for NSW*. This list can also be found on the APS NSW website at www.austplants.com.au by selecting **Seed Bank** in the **Resources** pane on the Home page.

Requests for seed can be sent by mail to:

John Randall
8 Coachmans Place,
Mardi NSW 2259

Please enclose a stamped (\$1.20) self-addressed envelope (110 x 220 mm) for return of the seeds. There is a limit of six seed packets per request. Inquiries can be made to John at johnannette@dodo.com.au or by telephone on (02) 4353 9390.

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.

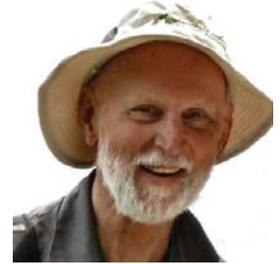
Additions: none

Deletions: *Cordyline stricta* and *Darwinia macrostegia*

Donors: none

Save Our Flora!

Bob Ross, Conservation Officer for APS NSW



When I started work as the Conservation Officer of APS NSW in January 2012 I contacted Margery Street from the North Shore Group – Margery has been providing leadership in conservation matters for APS NSW for many years and she represents us on the Nature Conservation Council of NSW. During 2012 I worked with Margery on submissions from APS NSW to Federal and NSW governments on major issues like the Murray-Darling proposals. We put in some major submissions and I think what we did was worthwhile and necessary. However it took a lot of time and the results were not encouraging. We didn't get meaningful feedback from the bodies that received the submissions or from APS NSW, and there were always more conservation issues arriving.

We decided to go to the members and try to find out what they thought were the conservation priorities for native plants in NSW. I published an article in the April 2012 issue of *Native Plants for NSW* asking members for suggestions. Unfortunately the results were not good – we received only one reply! I admit I didn't do a good job of writing it – too boring, not interesting.

Then I got an idea after reading an article by the APS Victoria Conservation Officer in the APS Victoria journal. Maybe the way to stir up conservation interest in NSW was to have an article on threatened, rare and endangered native plants in each issue of *Native Plants*! Three articles have now been published – all on rare and endangered natives in our area (the Far South Coast).

Several weeks ago Wendy and I drove 1,000 km to Armidale and spent two nights (three days) with Maria and Don Hitchcock. While we were there we talked about lots of things but the most productive was an idea of Maria's for a new group – she has named it **Save Our Flora**.

The Save Our Flora (Project) aims to build an Australian register of gardeners and conservationists who are growing threatened, rare and/or endangered native plants. Along the way we hope to not only find out who is growing what, but also share seeds, cuttings and information. Maria has sent out a flyer inviting interested people to contact her and she is getting lots of interest – including quite a few people who are not members of APS. The first newsletter (Bulletin #1) is due to be despatched (in pdf format only, by email) and we are starting to tie

down the legal requirements for collecting and growing and sharing endangered native plants. We also hope to work with specialist native plant nurseries that supply rare or threatened species of native plants. It is very exciting!

If you want to join this new project you can contact either me or Maria Hitchcock.

Email: saveourflora@gmail.com
Telephone: Maria 02 6775 1139 or Bob 02 6495 0306



Prostanthera staurophylla (above) is listed as endangered under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (NSW). It is currently known from a single granite outcrop in the Tenterfield area of the New England tablelands, and is one of the native plants that will be included on the *Save Our Flora* register. (Photo: Maria Hitchcock)

Cover images

Front cover: *Styphelia tubiflora* by Mark Abell – Grows in dry sclerophyll forest and heath on sandy soils over sandstone, widespread, from Sydney and the Blue Mtns to Jervis Bay. The species should be given a moist, well-drained position, preferably in semi shade. The common name, Red Five Corners refers to the ribbed fruit.

Back cover: *Hakea bucculenta* by Doug Rickard – An upright narrow-leaved shrub with tapered orange-red flower spikes which present a superb visual effect. From WA, its natural habitat is the northern sand plains from Geraldton to Shark Bay. Grafting is recommended for humid environments such as coastal NSW.

[Thanks to Doug and Mark who both responded to a recent call for cover images – Ed]

Vale Life Member, Mary Hancock

Gwen Smith on behalf of Nowra Group

It was with sadness that we heard that Mary Hancock had passed away on 27 August 2013. Mary was a long-term member of the Nowra Group with an association of over 30 years and was granted APS NSW Life Membership in 2001 for her contributions to our native plants.

Mary spent most of her childhood in the Fairfield and Cabramatta areas of Sydney, and also spent holidays in the Blue Mountains where she developed an interest in native flora. Following her husband's retirement in 1972, many touring holidays were taken and Mary began to photograph plants. She seemed to have had a flair for photography and was soon producing spectacular photos.

In 1983, following the death of her husband, Mary went to Western Australia and met Margaret Pieroni, a botanical artist and secretary of Wildflower Society of WA. Mary joined this group and the Naturalists Club of WA. She participated in many field trips with both bodies and she also did many trips through outback Australia, often acting as the



Mary beside 'Old Blotchy'
Photo: Alan Stephenson



Lesley McKinnon filling the memorial birdbath
Photo: Gwen Smith

wildflower guide. During all this time she continued to take photos and collect specimens. Mary worked with the herbaria in Perth and Sydney, working closely with Dr. Mary Tindale at RBGS where about a thousand of Mary's specimens were held.

About 1996, The Perth Herbarium began to put Mary's photos on their database (and had over a thousand there in 2001). Mary became very interested in the genus *Eremophila*, and often carried the nickname 'Eremophila Mary'.

Although Mary never held 'office' in the Australian Plants Society, she was recognised with a Life Membership for her contribution to the bank of scientific knowledge.

Just prior to her passing, Mary's photos were being evaluated, named and recorded by Sue Patrick. Approximately 16,000 photos are now at the Australian National Botanic Garden Centre in Canberra; in addition Mary's extensive library is housed in the same facility for the general public to access.

In mid November 2013, members of Nowra Group met at the Wirreecoo Garden site at the Lady Denman Complex at Huskisson to dedicate a bird bath to the memory of Mary. Nowra Group President, Lesley McKinnon, spoke of Mary's achievements, followed by reminiscences of Mary from various members. A ceremonial 'filling of the bird bath' was performed and a plaque honouring Mary's life will soon be added. These formalities were followed by an afternoon tea – in all a very fitting occasion to remember this remarkable lady's life and contribution.

New members January 2014

Merle Thompson, Membership Officer

The Australian Plants Society NSW warmly welcomes the following 56 new members (44 memberships) and wishes each of you a long, rewarding and enjoyable association with the Society.



Bruce Abell	Cessnock
Peter Abell	Bilpin
Bruce & Renita Anderson	The Oaks
Marek Bowman	Glenbrook
Janine Brown	Caringbah
Karen Bulbert	Kings Point
Barry & Julie Bulmer	Bonnet Bay
Gilbert Campbell	Sutherland
Mike Coleman	Emerton
Bryan Croll	Redfern
Karen Dahl	Forrest
Jeff & Lois Dennes	Armidale
Maree & Elizabeth Filipczuk	Hassall Grove
Paul Gadsby	Mt Colah
Thomas Gleeson	Orange
Kerrie Gray & Michael Dyson	Loomberah
Ernestine Harbott	Singleton Heights
Elizabeth Hemphill	Wyoming
Michael & Valerie Holton	Cobargo
Sandra & Anthony Hooke	Petersham
Geths Lathouras	Ramsgate
Philip Leslie	Lalor Park
Alan & Anne Macindoe	Bundeena
Pauline McAfee	Picton
Cherrie McDonald	Berry
Susan McIntosh	Grays Point
Heather Miles	Killara
Margaret Osborne	Bowral
Brian Parry	Bunyah
Ellie Prodromou	Marrickville
Ray & Beth Reid	Pacific Palms
Jason Salmon	Caringbah South
Bruce & Marianne Terrill	Nemingha
Mary Van Der Westhuyzen	Pearl Beach

Greg Vance
Penne Vincent & Paul Tracy
Colin Walters
Janice & Edward Warner
Jane Weekes
Roy White
Joan Zande

Winmalee
Armidale
Edgecliff
Woronora
Woy Woy
Macarthur
Kareela

We welcome back former members

Samantha Barratt
Helen Walker
Colleen Werner

Beacon Hill
Wollstonecraft
Birdwood

Vale

It is with sadness that we learnt of the deaths of the following members:

Mary Hancock of Nowra Group who was a Life Member of APS NSW see article on page 42.

Rick Jamieson, former office bearer of Hawkesbury Group.

The Board extends condolences to their families and friends.

Direct Deposit Payment Option

Members are reminded that membership renewals may be made by direct deposit either at a bank or via the internet. Direct deposit reduces the costs for APS compared to paying by credit card. Bank details for direct deposit are as follows:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)
Account Name: Australian Plants Society NSW Ltd
BSB: 062 217
Account No: 0090 7163

Please note that you must include your membership number and surname as a reference when paying by direct deposit. It is essential that we can identify the depositor so we can record that you have paid. Your membership number is the six-digit number which can be found on your membership card and also above your name on your journal mailing envelopes.

Study Groups notes

Rhonda Daniels, Study Group Liaison Officer

Study Groups are about asking questions and sharing information. Study Group newsletters provide a lot of information, but only because members write in and share their own experience. Most groups welcome short snippets about what is growing in a member's garden – you don't have to write a long article. Photos are also welcome. So sign up for your favourite group and make a contribution. Details are on the following pages.



Boronia and Allied Genera Study Group (October 2013, No. 1)

The inaugural newsletter from the newly re-established Study Group explains that it has become difficult to purchase many *Boronia* species in nurseries and many of those occasionally available are not suitable for growing in the local area. Many of these plants are purchased by people who do not understand their preferred cultivation conditions, so that when the plant dies they tell all their friends how hard *Boronia* are to grow. This results in people not wanting to buy Boronias so that nurseries cease stocking them. The Study Group Leader calls for a team of experienced enthusiasts to spread information more widely about the species and the cultivation conditions that allow Boronias to thrive in their particular climate. He shows the way by writing about growing Boronias at Mt Victoria in NSW. A reminder is included that allied genera in the Rutaceae family include *Correa* (with its own Study Group), *Crowea*, *Eriostemon*, *Phebalium* and *Zieria*.

Grevillea Study Group (October 2013, No. 96)

This issue, produced by the NSW chapter, features the recovery plan for *Grevillea kennedyana* (Flame spider-flower) found in far north-west NSW, seed germination of *G. kennedyana*, the search for Cunningham's type specimen of *Grevillea lanigera* on the Monaro, and a propagation experiment to replicate the ant nest phenomenon by covering seed with a deep layer of pumice. The hyperlinks in the newsletter are now interactive which means you can click on them and they will open up in your browser.

Fern Study Group (October 2013, No. 129)

This issue includes tips for growing *Platyserium* (the south side of the tree is usually the best place), reports on recent Sydney activities, and more on treating white louse scale and how to cope with scrub turkeys amongst the ferns. The Sydney chapter has monthly meetings in February and March 2014.

Acacia Study Group (September 2013, No. 122)

The wide-ranging content includes discussion of what seed raising mix might be suitable for raising acacias, growing 56 wattle species in a Canberra garden, two species which flower for most of the year: *Acacia calamifolia* and *A. subulata*, some new acacias in development, and drawings of wattle blossom fairies.

Hakea Study Group (October 2013, No. 53)

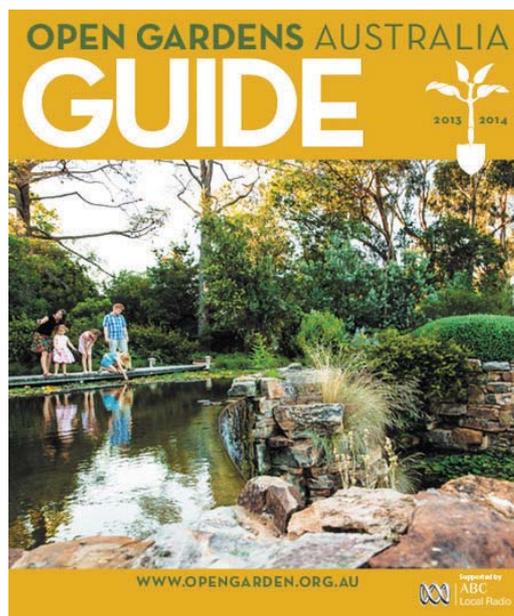
The Study Group is asking members to look at what pollinates *Hakea*, both in the wild and in the garden, as very little is known about pollination of individual species of *Hakea*. From the size of and arrangement of flowers and their parts we can suggest for each species its likely class of pollinator in terms of insects, birds and mammals. The Study Group is planning a 'Hakea Crawl' in Western Australia in September 2014, in the area north of Perth.

Epacris Study Group (Spring 2013, No. 36)

The Epacris Study Group is also focusing on pollination with an article on determining the pollinators of eight of Tasmania's rare and endangered *Epacris* species and implications for conservation. A report prepared for the Australian Flora Foundation is available at www.aff.org.au The Study Group is continuing its project to record the flowering times of *Epacris* species, calling for contributions from members.

Garden Design Study Group (November 2013, No. 84)

The Canberra garden of the Study Group's Leader and Newsletter Editor, Ben and Ros Walcott, is featured on the front cover of the 2013-14 Open Gardens Australia Guide. Diana Snape writes that the importance of having great gardens of Australian plants in the Open Gardens scheme can't be overstated. People are influenced and inspired by seeing beautiful gardens that appeal to them, especially if they live nearby or in a similar area. Check the Guidebook to see what's open in your area. Another bumper newsletter issue of 27 pages with many colour photos.



Waratah and Flannel Flower Study Group (December 2013, No. 6)

The Study Group plans to launch a seed bank to provide *Telopea* and *Actinotus* seed free to members. That sounds like a great incentive to join. As *Telopea* seed is often very difficult to obtain, members are also welcome to contribute well-labelled seed. If that's not enough, join to share experiences about growing Waratahs such as tackling scale, ask questions, and get up-to-date lists of *Telopea* and *Actinotus* species and varieties.

Study Groups directory

Fees are listed as Australia/Overseas/Email

☎ (02) 9363 0619

Email: doug.coates@bigpond.com

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

Leader: Bill Aitchison

13 Conos Court

Donvale, VIC 3111

☎ (03) 9872 3583

Email: acaciastudygroup@gmail.com

Brachychiton and Allied Genera

(\$5/\$10)

Leader: Kerry Rathie

6 Bright St

Toowoomba South QLD 4350

☎ (07) 4638 4305

Email: krathie6@bigpond.com

Australian Plants as Bonsai

(\$14/\$19)

Leader: Roger Hnatiuk

PO Box 450, Jamieson Post Office

Macquarie ACT 2614

☎ (02) 6251 2228

Email: rjhnatiuk@yahoo.com.au

Correa (\$10/\$10/\$6)

Leader: Cherree Densley

9 Koroit Port Fairy Rd

Killarney VIC 3283

☎ (03) 5568 7226

Email: cherree@hotmail.net.au

Admin – David and Barbara Pye

1220 Bacchus Marsh Road

Bullengarook VIC 3437

☎ (03) 5428 9369

Email: pye@ssc.net.au

Australian Plants for Containers

(\$8/\$10)

Leader: Gill Muller

35 Blackfriars Road

Port Elliot SA 5212

☎ (08) 8554 3621

Email: gilly@lomandra.id.au

Dryandra (\$10/\$12/\$5)

Leader: Margaret Pieroni

22 Ravenhill Heights

Denmark WA 6333

☎ (08) 9848 3331

Email: mpieroni@bigpond.com

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

Leader: Cas Liber

PO Box 83, St Pauls NSW 2031

☎ 0400 475 862

Email: casliber01@yahoo.com

Epacris (\$5/\$10)

Leader: Gwen Elliot

81/72 Kangan Drive,

Berwick VIC 3806

☎ (03) 9879 1427

Email: gwenelliot@optusnet.com.au

Boronia & Allied Genera (\$10 email)

Doug Coates

305/87 Yarranabbe Rd

Darling Point NSW 2027

Eremophila (\$5)

Leader: Colin Jennings
 4 Kinnaird Cres
 Highbury SA 5089
 ☎ (08) 8264 6490
 Email: cje97694@bigpond.net.au

Eucalyptus (\$10)

Leader: Warwick Varley
 PO Box 456, Wollongong NSW 2520
 ☎ 0402 763 414
 Email: tallowwood@hotmail.com

Fabaceae (\$5/\$10)

Leader: Lachlan Garland
 15 Duff Street
 Sandringham VIC 3191
 ☎ (03) 9598 4963
 Email: lachlangarland@bigpond.com

Fern (\$5)

Peter Bostock
 PO Box 402, Kenmore QLD 4069
 ☎ (07) 3202 6983
 Email: pbostock@ozemail.com.au

Garden Design (\$15/\$20/\$6)

Leader: Ros Walcott
 10 Wickham Cres
 Red Hill ACT 2603
 ☎ (02) 6161 2742
 Email: rwalcott@netspeed.com.au

Grevillea (\$5/\$10)

Leader: Peter Olde
 140 Russell Lane
 Oakdale NSW 2570
 ☎ (02) 4659 6598
 Email: peter.olde@exemail.com.au

Hakea (\$5/\$10)

Leader: Paul Kennedy
 41 Stodart Street
 Colac VIC 3250
 ☎ (03) 5874 5239
 Email: hakeaholic@gmail.com

Hibiscus and Allied Genera

(\$10/\$20/\$5)
 Leader: Geoff Harvey
 PO Box 46, Buderim QLD 4556
 ☎ (07) 5445 1828
 Email: bannh@bigpond.net.au

Isopogon and Petrophile

(\$5/\$10/\$2.50)
 Leader: David Lightfoot
 36 Arundel Cres
 Surrey Hills VIC 3127
 ☎ (03) 9836 0601
 Email: isopogons@gmail.com

Palm and Cycad (\$5/\$12)

Leader: Kerry Rathie (refer to
 Brachychiton and Allied Genera
 above)

Wallum & Coastal Heathland (\$5)

Leader: Barbara Henderson
 36 Railway Terrace
 Moore QLD 4306
 ☎ (07) 5424 7073

Waratah and Flannel Flower (\$5)

Leader: Maria Hitchcock
 16 Hitchcock Lane
 Armidale NSW 2350
 ☎ (02) 6775 1139, 0421 961 007
 Email: maria.hitchcock@gmail.com

The following study groups are all in
 recess requiring new leaders.

Australian food plants**Calytrix****Daisy, the Australian****Orchids, Indigenous****Prostanthera and Westringia****Rainforest****Rhamnaceae****Succulents, Native****Verticordia****Wetlands (and Water Plants)****Wildlife and Native Plants**

District Groups' diary

Compiled by Jan Carnes, Blue Mountains Group

All members are welcome to attend Group meetings. For further details on another Group's activity that you may be interested in attending, contact that Group's secretary.



If your Group has an activity that you would like included here, email details to the APS NSW office.

You can also view the current Group diaries and any recent updates or changes on line at the APS NSW website at www.austplants.com.au.

January 2014

Date	Day	District Group	Event
4	Sat	South East Region	Meeting at alternating locations. Contact Secretary on 0401 968 899
		Blue Mountains	Picnic at Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens
8	Wed	Parramatta and Hills District	Propagation 10 am at Bidjivong Community Nursery
12	Sun	Coffs Harbour	Outing for details contact Secretary
22	Wed	North Shore	1.30 to 4 pm Plant Propagation at Kur-ring-gai Wildflower Gardens
26	Sun	Blue Mountains	Glenbrook Australia Day stall
29	Wed	Armidale	8 am to 1 pm Markets in the Mall
		North Shore	Bush Regeneration at Kur-ring-gai Wildflower Gardens
31-3	Fri - Mon	Blue Mountains	Mt Perisher weekend away

February 2014

Date	Day	District Group	Event
5	Wed	East Hills	Meeting 7.30 pm at Peakhurst South Primary School Library, Monterra Ave, Peakhurst
		Newcastle	Meeting 7.30 pm at The Wetlands Centre, Sandgate Rd, Shortland
6	Thu	Northern Beaches	Meeting 7.30 pm at Stony Range Botanic Garden, Dee Why
7	Fri	Blue Mountains	Meeting and AGM 8 pm at Native Plant Reserve, GWH, Glenbrook

February 2014 (continued)

Date	Day	District Group	Event
12	Wed	Coffs Harbour	Meeting 7 pm at Botanic Gardens Display Room, Hardacre St, Coffs Harbour.
		Menai	Meeting 7.30 pm at Illawong Rural Fire Brigade Services, Old Illawarra Rd, Illawong.
		Parramatta and Hills District	Propagation 10 am at Bidjwong Community Nursery
13	Thu	Nowra	Meeting 8 pm at Nowra Town Band Hall, 174 Kinghorne St, Nowra.
14	Fri	Central Coast	Meeting 7.30 pm at Phillip House, 21 Old Mount Penang Rd, Kariong.
		North Shore	Meeting 8 pm at Willow Park Community Centre, 25 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby. Speaker: Peter Clarke on Native Bees
		Newcastle	Mid-weekers outing
15	Sat	NSW APS February Gathering	At Thirroul and including the option to visit Bulli Grevillea Gardens in the morning and talks by Peter Olde and Peter Weston on Grevilleas in the afternoon
18	Tue	Armidale	Native Plant Forum 7.30 pm in TAFE Library Seminar Room, Beardy St, Armidale.
19	Wed	Sutherland	Meeting 8 pm at Gynea Community Centre, Gynea Bay Rd, Gynea. Topic is Landscaping with Trees in the Home Garden
		Macarthur	Meeting 7.30 pm at Birriwa Community Hall, Fitzpatrick St, Mount Annan
		Hunter Valley	Meeting 7.45 pm in Polish Hall, corner of Grant and Old Rose Streets, Maitland
22	Sat	Tamworth	Meeting 10.30am at Botanic Garden Meeting Room
23	Sun	Armidale	8 am to 1 pm Markets in the Mall
28	Fri	Parramatta and Hills District	Meeting 8 pm at Barton Hall, Hopetoun Village, Anglican Retirement Villages, David Rd, Castle Hill

March 2014

Date	Day	District Group	Event
1	Sat	South East Region	Meeting at alternating locations. Contact President or Secretary
3	Mon	North Shore	Walks and Talks: Introduction Ku-ring-gai Wild-flower Garden

March 2014 (continued)

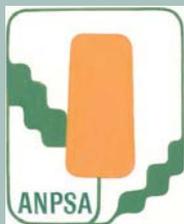
Date	Day	District Group	Event
5	Wed	Newcastle	Meeting 7.30 pm at The Wetlands Centre, Sandgate Rd, Shortland
		East Hills	Meeting 7.30 pm at Peakhurst South Primary School Library, Monterra Ave, Peakhurst.
		Armidale and District	1 pm – 3 pm Arboretum working bee
6	Thu	Northern Beaches	Meeting 7.30 pm at Stony Range Botanic Garden, Dee Why
7	Fri	Blue Mountains	Meeting 8 pm at Native Plant Reserve, GWH, Glenbrook. Speaker: Akos Lumintzer on Reptiles of the Blue Mountains
10	Mon	North Shore	Walks and Talks: The Plant Kingdom
12	Wed	Coffs Harbour	Meeting 10 am at Botanic Gardens Display Room, Hardacre St, Coffs Harbour.
		Menai	Meeting 7.30 pm at Illawong Rural Fire Brigade Services, Old Illawarra Rd, Illawong.
		Parramatta and Hills District	Propagation 10 am at Bidjivong Community Nursery
13	Thu	Nowra	Meeting 8 pm at Nowra Town Band Hall, 174 Kinghorne St, Nowra
14	Fri	North Shore	Meeting 8 pm at Willow Park Community Centre, 25 Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby. Speaker: Jessica Mowle on Microbes and the Wollemi Pine
16	Sun	North Shore	Bushwalk
17	Mon	North Shore	Walks & Talks: Parts of the Plant – Flowers
18	Tue	Newcastle	Mid-weekers outing
		Armidale and District	Native Plant Forum 7.30 pm in TAFE Library Seminar Room, Beardy St, Armidale.
19	Wed	Hunter Valley	Meeting 7.45 pm in Polish Hall, corner of Grant and Old Rose Streets, Maitland
		Macarthur	Meeting 7.30 pm at Birriwa Community Hall, Fitzpatrick St, Mount Annan
		Sutherland	Meeting 8 pm at Gymea Community Centre, Gymea Bay Rd, Gymea.
22	Sat	Tamworth	Meeting 10.30 am at Botanic Garden Meeting Room
23	Sun	Armidale	8 am – 1 pm Markets in the Mall
		Coffs Harbour	Outing for details contact Secretary
24	Mon	North Shore	Walks & Talks: Parts of the Plant – Stems and Leaves

March 2014 (continued)

Date	Day	District Group	Event
31	Mon	North Shore	Walks & Talks: Parts of the Plant – Banksias (Proteaceae)

Advance Notice

Date	Day	District Group	Event
16 – 17 Au- gust	Sat – Sun	APS NSW 2014 Annual Get-together	Hosted by APS Central Coast Group



Australian Native Plants Society (Australia)

Visit ANPSA on the web at <http://anpsa.org.au>

Cultivation and propagation information, extensive photo gallery, ANPSA events, online magazine and much more.

Great Native Plant Photos

Many APS members are keen and capable photographers. The evidence is plain to see in some of the group newsletters. This journal also 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 (see p 55 for details). I am pleased to say that several members with excellent images have come forward in response to this request. Members will be enjoying the benefit in the pages of *Native Plants for NSW*.



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.

☼ **Forests NSW Nurseries**
10% discount on all potted lines. West Pennant Hills, Narrandera and Dubbo.
For locality details
☎ 1800 000 123
www.forestrycorporation.com.au/business/nurseries

☼ **Sydney Wildflower Nursery**
9 Veno St, Heathcote 2233
www.sydneywildflowernursery.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 Coxs 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.muswellbrookforestnursery.com.au
8.30 – 4.30 7 days
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

☼ **A.R. Native Plant Nursery**
177 Terania Ck Rd, The Channon 2480. Open Fri/Sat/Sun 9am–5pm; other times by appointment.
☎ (02) 6688 6365
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

Office: Shop 1, 33 Emma Crescent, Wentworthville

Administration Officer: Sharlene Cormack

Office hours: Wednesday 9 am to 2.30 pm

Phone: (02) 9631 4085 **Fax:** (02) 9631 4293

Postal address: PO Box 5026, Old Toongabbie NSW 2146

Email: office@austplants.com.au **Website:** www.austplants.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/APSNSW

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Graeme Ingall and Mark Abell

Honorary Secretary

Graeme Ingall

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Publicity Officer

Mark Abell

Program Officer

Tony Maxwell

Property Officer

Roger Starling

Nature Conservation Council Representative

Margery Street

Committees and services

If you are able to contribute and join a committee, please contact the Convenor.

Management and finance committee

John Aitken and Graeme Ingall

Projects committee

Harry Loots

Publishing committee

APS NSW Email: office@austplants.com.au

Appointments to external committees

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Graeme Ingall ☎ (02) 4322 8296

John Aitken ☎ (02) 9589 1363

Australian Cultivar Registration Authority

David Murray ☎ (02) 4229 2171

Australian Flora Foundation

Ross Smyth-Kirk ☎ (02) 9909 3052

Burrendong Arboretum

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