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Welcome to our September newsletter



Native Plants for NSW – September 2019

The monthly newsletter of the Australian Plants Society NSW



Awabakal Nature Reserve, Below: *Lyperanthus suaveolens* at Awabakal (photos Kevin Stokes)

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Welcome to the newsletter



This month, we're sharing photos from the Newcastle get together. As members view the newsletter on different devices, the photos and layout may vary. If you prefer a different format, issues of this newsletter are also available as



pdf files [here](#). Please send any articles, story ideas or photos to the editor, Rhonda Daniels, at enewsletter@austplants.com.au The editor does escape her computer occasionally.

From the President John Aitken



Congratulations and thanks to Newcastle Group for hosting our recent and very successful weekend gathering. Over 80 members attended two days of wonderful activities which provided excellent opportunities to see the local flora and to renew old friendships as well as form new ones.



I would also like to thank the representatives from the District Groups who attended the Presidents' dinner on the Friday night for their contributions. The discussion provided a valuable insight into what groups throughout NSW are doing in their local communities.

Representatives reported that their groups were actively involved in a variety of projects ranging from propagation of indigenous plants for plant restoration projects, shopping centre gardens, and the planting and protection of endangered species. Our thoughts were particularly drawn to Martin O'Rourke reporting how the drought was adversely affecting the Tamworth region and the difficulties in growing and maintaining plants with the severe water rationing in the area.



From discussions, NSW will have a very strong representation of members at the ANPSA biennial conference in Albany, WA. This will be great support for our presentation of the 2021 biennial conference which APS NSW will be hosting at Kiama. I congratulate Heather Miles and Ralph Cartwright on the excellent video presentations they have put together for the conference. Look out for a link to the videos in



our next newsletter.

Congratulations to Australian Plants Award winners

The 2019 Australian Plants Award recipients are Professor Kingsley Dixon, Western Australia (professional category) and Glenn Leiper, Queensland (amateur category). The awards will be presented at the ANPSA conference in Albany, Western Australia, 29 September – 4 October.

Read more about the worthy recipients and their achievements [here](#).

September activities

September is the time to get out and about and enjoy spring festivals and open garden days with guided walks, plant sales and other activities.

- 7–8 September – Spring Native Plants Show at Glenbrook Native Plant Reserve, Glenbrook. Plant sales. Free entry. Details [here](#).
- Sunday 8 September – Spring Festival at [Stony Range Botanic Garden](#), Dee Why. Plant sales. Free entry.
- 7–8 and 14–15 September – The [Illawarra Grevillea Park](#) at Bulli is open for spectacular spring flowers, showcasing the benefits of heavy pruning. Plants sales including Menai Group's pink flannel flowers *Actinotus forsythii*. Entry \$5 per adult.
- 7–8 and 14–15 September – Muogamarra Nature Reserve, near Cowan, is only open six weekends a year. Entry \$15 per person (national park passes not valid) with self-guided or paid walks. Details [here](#) and [here](#).
- Sunday 15 September – Open day at [Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum](#) near Wellington. Plant sales. Free entry.
- 28–29 September – Plant Lovers Fair at Kariong on the Central Coast, with over 40 exhibitors. Entry \$12 per person (online) or \$14 (at gate). Details [here](#).
- 29 September–4 October – 'Blooming Diversity' ANPSA biennial conference, Albany, Western Australia. There's still room to join the 250 native plant enthusiasts who have already booked. More information and register [here](#).
- Sylvan Grove Native Garden at Picnic Point is open on weekends throughout spring until the end of November, as well as weekdays as usual. Details [here](#).

September Walks and Talks at Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden



North Shore Group's Monday Walks and Talks at Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden, 420 Mona Vale Road, St Ives continue in September. Meet 9.45 am at Caley's Pavilion for 10 am to 12.30 pm. Wear suitable shoes and hat, and bring water. Cost \$5 (includes notes). More information [here](#).

Monday 9 September – Pea flowers

Monday 16 September – Fire and sandstone flora



Monday 23 September – Waratahs.

More activities

- 12–13 October – Open day and plant sales at Brian Roach's Westleigh nursery. Free entry. Details [here](#).
- 7–9 November – Symposium on the Blue Mountains by the Linnean Society of NSW. Details of field day, scientific sessions and public lectures [here](#).
- Saturday 16 November – APS NSW quarterly gathering. Northern Beaches Group will be hosting our final gathering of the year at Warriewood, near Warriewood Wetlands.

[Email](#) our web manager Heather Miles to add your activity to our website and promote it here. Please also [email](#) me reports and photos of your activities after the event to share in the enewsletter.

Highlights from Newcastle get together

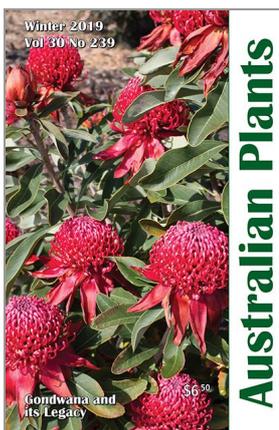


Many members enjoyed a weekend at Newcastle with a talk by Dr Stephen Bell on endemic flora of the Hunter region, guided walks in natural and planted areas and plant sales – and of course, morning teas and lots of socialising.

Read a review by Andrew Pengelly of *Flora of the Hunter Region* by Stephen Bell, Christine Rockley and Anne Llewellyn [here](#).

See a photo gallery by Kevin Stokes [here](#).

Winter issue of Australian Plants



The Winter 2019 issue of *Australian Plants* was posted to members and subscribers in late August. The issue features Gondwana and its botanical legacy, with a cover photo of waratahs from Inala Jurassic garden in Tasmania. It also includes corrections to the previous issue on carnivorous plants.

See the list of articles [here](#).

Study Group news

Find out more about our 18 Study Groups, the newsletter archives and how to join a group [here](#) to read the most recent newsletters which are summarised by our Study Group coordinator Nicole Maher.

[New Study Group – Australian Plants for Containers](#)

Ros and Ben Walcott have recently restarted this group to investigate and trial those Australian plants that may be suitable for growing in pots or other types of containers. Containers are useful for people who have only a balcony or small garden, and are also a good way to have plants that otherwise wouldn't tolerate local conditions. Ros and Ben are keen to hear from people who would be interested in joining (free of charge), and encourage people to submit photographs of interesting native plants in pots, with a short description. Read more [here](#).

[Dryandra Study Group, No. 77, July 2019](#)



'Mound' dryandras are small shrubs less than one metre, distinguished by their formation of dense long leaves over a mound of closely packed flowers. Most of the mound dryandras are hardy and attractive, making them excellent garden plants. Group Leader Margaret Pieroni reflects on the significant contribution made to the Study Group, and the broader knowledge of dryandras, by Keith Alcock, who has recently moved to England. Keith has been involved with the group for over 35 years, including many as leader, and his meticulously recorded collection of field and herbarium specimens has improved our understanding of dryandras.

There is a disappointing account of an out-of-control prescribed burn last year in the Stirling Ranges which destroyed almost all individuals of the local population of two rare *Dryandra* species. Members are trying to change burning policies, but have not yet had any success.

[Fern Study Group, No. 43, June 2019](#)

There are details of the group's many upcoming activities, with monthly explorations in the Sydney region. There are reports on recent bushwalks, with an adventure in Numinbah Valley, Queensland rewarding participants with sightings of an incredible 30 species of ferns!

New on the APS NSW website

Our [website](#) has our membership benefits, how to join, District Group details, office-bearers, annual reports and many resources including our Plant Profile database. Recent articles include:

- [Celebrate Wattle day on 1 September](#)
- [Wattle day – why is it 1 September](#) by Alan Fairley
- [Ablaze with colour: the Illawong Fire Station garden](#) with photos by Lloyd Hedges
- [Eremophilas – tough, fast growing and colourful](#) by Ian Cox
- [Suggestions from Facebook for spring wildflower walks](#)

Photo finish



Isopogon cuneatus at the Illawong Fire Station garden (photo Lloyd Hedges)

Photos: John Aitken, Rhonda Daniels, Lloyd Hedges, North Shore Group, Kevin Stokes.

This newsletter is emailed to members of the Australian Plants Society NSW

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