

Blandfordia



North Shore Group
(ABN 87 002 680 408)

APRIL 2019

APS NSW QUARTERLY GATHERING 23rd March 2019 at Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden

My heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped to make today such a success. You set up and put away the Caley's Pavilion furniture; packed, moved, sold and bought plants; led walks; sold and bought raffle tickets; sold and bought books and cards; operated the audio-visual equipment; and cooked, set up and put away afternoon tea in Caley's Pavilion.



I made a list of at least 20 people who physically helped today but many more of you helped by cooking and spending your money!!



We had a wonderful spread for afternoon tea and can hold our heads up in pride for our hospitality!!

As I said before, many hands make light work!!!

Thank you Jan, for co-ordinating the afternoon tea this time!



Thanks to all, Sue

Sue Bowen (APS NSG President)

The Presentation on Greenwalls by guest speaker Mark Paul, Horticulturist and Founder of The Greenwall Company was most interesting. Mark showed images of many gardens that they have constructed, both external and internal green walls, private and commercial, big and small. Factors that need to be considered include nutrient, light (often very expensive for indoor gardens) and water requirements. Physical access both in the setting up and maintenance phases is important to consider. The Greenwall Company has developed a recycled medium (a type of expanded plastic waste) for the main base with several essential nutrients bound to this base. They usually establish the plants in standard sized palettes, 1 metre wide by 2 metre high with liners and waterproof membranes to seal them.

Mark is keen for architects and designers to be thinking in terms of the green walls at the design phase, rather than retrofitting the green walls. He commented that this is gradually happening.

For more information: <https://greenwall.com.au/greenwall/>

Written by and images by Jan Williamson

The APS NSW Annual General Meeting and Quarterly Gathering will be held on Saturday, 18 May 2019.

Hosted by the Blue Mountains Group, it will be held at Blaxland Community Hall, 33 Hope St., Blaxland

<https://austplants.com.au/Latest-news/7156997>

Flora and Fauna of Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park (KCNP) (first declared in 1894) Jayden Walsh

There was a good reason why the image to the right accompanied the information about the March general meeting. Jayden often does his research at night as that is when many of the local fauna are out and about. His excellent images reflex his ability to find the animals — his image of a sugar glider elicited a collective “ahh” . His dedication is also demonstrated by the fact that the gear he carries weighs about 10kg.



Image by
Jan W.

Jayden enjoys the large diversity of habitats with KCNP. These habitats are home to at least 10 threatened species and several Rare or Threatened Australian Plants (ROTAP) species: a few examples are *Haloragodendron lucasii*, Giant Burrowing Frog (*Heleioporus australiacus*), Ironbark orchid (*Dendrobium aemulum*). Common fauna species are also present in abundance – broad tailed gecko (*Phyllurus platurus*), red bellied snake (*Pseudechis porphyriacus*), Eastern pygmy possum (*Cercartetus nanus*) and Honeyeaters (often fully or partially nomadic).

“Titbits” that Jayden shared were:

- Geckos used to be more prolific in suburbia when houses were brick and not rendered and painted. Geckos can change their colour to blend with the environment, e.g. grey to ochre.
- Red bellied black snakes in KCNP tend to be along water courses where skinks and frogs are their main diet. In suburbia, these snakes often live under sheets of corrugated iron as a rodents often also live in this habitat, plus the metal creates a warm environment.
- Red Crowned Toadlet (*Pseudophryne australis*) have a distinctive, unique pattern on their bellies. They lay their firm eggs (like little marbles) and then after about 8 weeks the egg softens and the tadpole emerges. Hopefully an appropriate water source will be available and their lifecycle continues. It has been shown that some amphibians are able to burrow deeply enough during fires to survive.
- Sugar Gliders. Jayden will often spot 3-4 per night. They are a shy, nocturnal species and hard to photograph as they frequent the higher branches. They feed on a variety of species of trees, with Red Bloodwoods (*Corymbia gummifera*) being a favourite species and even individual trees may be preferred. The gliders form social groups and huddle together in hollows during the day.
- Death Adders (*Acanthophis antarcticus*) are an ambush predator with a tail tip that twitches enticingly to attract prey. While they generally move slowly, its striking time is the fastest striking at 0.15/second.
- Production of venom requires a high intake of energy so venomous animals are reluctant to part with it. Jayden is respectful of all creatures and understands how to behave around the snakes and advised us to keep at least 2 body lengths away from a snake. Basically, snakes are not out to get people- like all species, when threatened they will respond in their innate defensive ways.
- KCNP has Coastal Upland Swamps with a wide variety of flora and fauna, including Christmas Bells (*Blandfordia* spp.), Sundew plants and native orchids. Tiger snakes, burrowing frogs, pygmy possums are some of the fauna there.

Jayden commented that plants have very specific purposes and relationships with all other components of the environment.

Jayden’s topic drew many visitors to the meeting and I’m sure that none left the talk disappointed. One person commented that while she always enjoys being in the bush, she will endeavour to be more observant in the future. We were all enthralled by his presentation, thanks Jayden. All the best with your future studies in the field of biodiversity.

Written by Jan Williamson

APS NSG Library



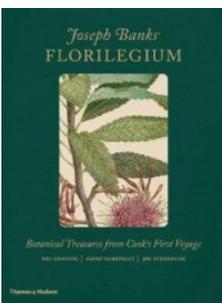
Lyn Kirby gave an overview of the APS NSG library at the March meeting.

This included a brief comment about its formation and the creation of the two storage cases by the late Noel Rosten and Eric Smith. Features include the Dewey cataloguing system, borrowing cards, repairs, regular stocktakes and management of borrowed books and selection of new book purchases and donations. Group funds are allocated each year for the purchase of most of the new books for the library. Occasionally books are donated. Lyn will occasionally purchase books of interest when on their travels throughout Australia.

Lyn can assist members in their searches and has the library catalogued and displayed under the following headings- Dewey numbers, title order, author order and subject order.

If you have any queries please contact Lyn Kirby, or whoever is acting as librarian, at the meeting. Books are only available to members of APS NSG – one of the very important benefits of membership. Lyn has been managing the library for nearly 18 years- **Thank you VERY MUCH.** What a gem!

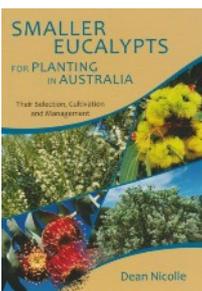
Some of the new books in the library



GOODING, Mel *Banks' Florilegium. Botanical Treasures from Cook's First Voyage* This is the first full-colour publication of some of the most extraordinary botanical prints, a great scientific record and botanical illustrations of outstanding beauty. On Banks' return from Cook's first expedition; Banks commissioned over 700 superlative engravings as a scientific record. These are known as Banks' Florilegium and were never published in his lifetime. This collection has been made from a unique limited colour edition of the prints with expert botanical commentaries provided by Professor David Mabberley. Mel Gooding describes the Endeavor voyage and the making of the Florilegium. An afterword by Joe Studholme outlines the history of the modern printing. He undertook the printing of Banks' Florilegium from the original copper plates between 1980 and 1990. This is a very special book to be loved, enjoyed and treasured.



WOLDENDORP, Richard *The Tree* This book captivates images Richard Woldendorp has taken over a lifetime of exploring the Australian landscape through its trees. His photographs illuminate the ways in which trees have evolved over millennia to thrive in Australia's often harsh environments from fire to flood and blistering heat to snow and the extreme lengths they go to in order to survive. We need the trees and they need us to care for them by protecting the environment and world we both inhabit.



NICOLLE, Dean *Smaller Eucalypts for Planting in Australia* This book has been thoroughly researched, designed and written for anyone interested in the identification, selection, growing, management and appreciation of eucalypts in gardens, streets, parks and on farms. 84 species are included giving details of its natural habitat and distribution, optimum conditions including water, soil, salt, average temperature and light conditions it prefers to thrive and its average height. A well set out book, comprehensive and easy to use.

Helen Ray recently sent this message:

I just ran into this excellent series of articles about native plants in The Conversation. You may know about it, but I didn't. It has regular nicely pitched articles about native plants that can be reprinted or shared, all written by University scientists. I thought it may provide useful items for Blandfordia, or just to let people know that it is there.

<https://theconversation.com/au/topics/beating-around-the-bush-54029>

Cheers Helen



An image of Dianella "Silver Streak", a hybrid, which is enhancing Sue Bowen's home.

Notices and Reminders

APS NSG WALKS and TALKS programme In term 1 the next walks will be:

Monday 8th April (focused on edible plants) and

Monday 6th May (focused on wildlife).



Photos from our 2019 inaugural APS NSG Walks and Talks, which a walk conducted by Helen Thiele. *Phillip Grimm*

These walks are classified as easy and they are free. Contact person for these walks is Helen 9489 1735.

Participants should bring hat, good walking shoes, a snack, sunscreen and insect repellent and water.

After each session, if you wish to have a chat with some participants and enjoy a light lunch please bring your own food and drink. Meet at **Caley's Pavilion at 9.45 am** for a 10.00 am start. Finishing time is usually about 12.30 pm.

Caley's Pavilion- turn right at first T intersection within KWG and follow the road.

GROUP ACTIVITY on SATURDAY 13TH APRIL in WESTLEIGH

Last year it rained on the day this walk was scheduled. It is now offered again because it is a really beautiful walk that should not be missed!

Some of you may have walked in the iconic Blue Gum Forest in the Grose Valley a few years ago when you were young and fit. Well, here is a chance for you to experience a beautiful Blue Gum Forest with minimal effort! As it is located locally in Westleigh, you won't even need to drive the 2 hours or so to get to the Blue Mountains! There's only a fraction of the effort required to get into this beautiful piece of bush and it's mostly downhill! There are fairly easy well made steps down into the valley and after that the track is still well made and mostly flat. The exit from the Blue Gum Forest will follow Larool Creek Normanhurst, where good bush restoration work by locals has been going on and a very pleasant track can be followed. A car shuffle will be organised to enable us to do the walk one-way. This will be a relatively quick afternoon walk of 2-3 hours duration and it will be after lunch.

Meeting place: Warrigal Drive Westleigh, adjacent to the RFS Bush Fire Brigade building.

Meeting time: 1 pm

What to bring: Good walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, water, snacks, Native Plant ID book and walking poles if desired. It may help with the step descent.

Contact person: Sue Fredrickson mobile phone 0401 362 921 . Please ring to check that the walk will go ahead if the weather is very wet or windy.

MAY GROUP OUTING will be a visit to a beautiful native garden at West Pymble on **SATURDAY 11th May** starting at 10am. Please see May *Blandfordia* for further details.

APS NSW Annual General Meeting and second 2019 Quarterly Gathering – Saturday, 18 May 2019

Hosted by the Blue Mountains Group at Blaxland Community Hall, 33 Hope St, Blaxland

<https://austplants.com.au/Latest-news/7156997>

Westleigh Native Plants Brian Roach Plant Sale & Open Garden Sat & Sun 6th & 7th April 9.30 am to 3.30pm
47 Eucalyptus Dr., Westleigh 2120 Free Entry 0418 115 630 bcroach@optusnet.com.au



The Illawarra Grevillea Park Autumn Open Days Weekends of 4th & 5th and 11th & 12th May. 10 am to 4 pm. Adults \$5, children free.

New release of Grevillea "Little Princess" which has been developed from *Grevillea humilis*

www.grevilleapark.org johnelton@grevilleapark.org 0424 830 925

APS NSW Get Together Newcastle 17th & 18th August

Australian Native Plant Society (Australia) ANPSA National Conference and Biennial General Meeting 2019

will be held in Albany WA from 29th September to 3rd October 2019.

Registration for the conference is now open and the tours are proving popular so you might want to let your members know that they should get in early. It all happens from here: www.bloomingbiodiversity.com.au

Did you receive this email??

On 19th March 2019 **ALL** members should have received an email from Australian Plants Society NSW with the subject "March update from APS NSW".

This email informs members about the *Moving Native Plants for NSW to an online Newsletter*.

If you are a member and didn't receive this email please read and follow the following directives.

A note about emails!

Is your email correct in our system? If we do not have your current address, you may not be receiving APS NSW emails and will not receive the new newsletter. If you have an old email address which is still operable, our system records that the message has been delivered, but in fact, you may not have received it.

Emails were sent from APS NSW to all members with email addresses on 6 September, 17 October and 18 February. Did you receive these? Also, we now send reminder emails about renewals of membership. Are you receiving email these notices? They are sent 14 days before your membership renewal along with two email reminders if payment is not made. If you have not received these email messages, your email address may be incorrect in our system.

What to do about it?

- Log in to the website and check your profile to ensure we have your right address
- If you've never logged in, use your email to login and request a new password. Once you're in to the system, you can check your profile.
- If the system won't let you log in, chances we have no email for you or an old address recorded for you. Please contact our Membership Officer, merleaps@bigpond.com, and she can update your email.
- If you can log in using an old email, and you want to change it to a new one, then simply go to your profile and change your email to the new one.

Any issues, please don't hesitate to ask.

For further information, please contact Rhonda Daniels (rhDaniels@bigpond.com), John Aitken (johnstaccaitken@gmail.com) or Heather Miles (secretary@austplants.com.au).



Members of Newcastle APS and North Shore APS enjoy admiring the coastal plants and scenery at Snapper Point Munmorah State Conservation Area during the March Group outing.



Mark Abell admires a prostrate form of *Casuarina glauca* "Cousin It"



Early flower "buds" of *Banksia spinulosa* var. *Collina*, at Wybung Head.



Beautiful copper coloured new leaf growth on *Banksia aemula*, Wybung Head.



Help wanted

A person is required who is willing to familiarise themselves with how the APS NSG microphone works and be willing to look after the microphone between meetings. Barry used to be responsible for this. The microphone means that our speakers can be readily heard which makes for a much more satisfying experience for all.

Please contact Sue Bowen on 0478 957 951 if you are interested or would like more information.

Plant Propagation at KWG on Wednesdays from 1pm to 4pm on **10th & 24th April 2019**

Contact:

Margaret Hamilton on 9488 5234

Ku-ring-gai Council Bushcare at KWG on Wednesdays (fortnightly) at 9 am on **3rd & 17th April 2019**

Contact Sue Bowen on 0478 957 951

Monday [Walks and Talks](#) at the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden St Ives.

Walks only on 8th April and 6th May

Contact for walks Helen 9489 1735
Walks and Talks resuming on Monday 17th June.

Contact: Bob Failes 9417 5217

The Knoll KWG Fridays 10am to 12 noon. 12th & 26th April 2019

Contact: Michael Griffith
michaelgriffith1@gmail.com

Members and friends are always welcome at these activities.

Next Meeting of our North Shore Group

Friday 12th April 2019 (7.30 pm for 8 pm)

Beatrice Taylor Hall
Willow Park Community Centre,
Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby



Speaker: Linda Groom

Topic: Save Kosci Walk

Background: Linda Groom's most recent volunteer position was Convenor of Save Kosci Inc. She was formerly Curator of Pictures at the National Library, Convenor of the National Photography Festival, past-President of the Canberra Bushwalking Club and president of a number of national professional organisations.

Wild horses are recognized by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage as threats to at least 9 plant species, including 2 orchids, as well as to sphagnum bogs. The talk gives a brief introduction to these species and the mechanisms by which wild horses pose a threat to them, then describes a 2018 protest walk and the public reactions to the walk. The issue of horses in national parks remains a controversial issue, but the presenter sees some hope that it can be resolved by emphasizing the positive – in this case the beauty of national parks – and by raising awareness of the environmental impacts of the horses.

Next meeting **Friday 10th May** *Speaker: John Whale* (2018 Val Williams Scholarship) *Topic: Genetic Variation in Red Gum Species*

March Committee Notes

- APS NSW Quarterly Gathering
- Financial matters including 2019 Budget
- Membership concern
- APS NSW : digital publication of *Native Plants for NSW*
- APS NSW matters
- Request from Daily Documentary Sydney for programme at KWG
- APS NSG Library
- Thank you gift for external speakers at general meetings
- Printing of *Blandfordia* to continue for those members without access to emails.

Committee Contacts

President: Sue Bowen 0478 957 951

Secretary: Judy Jeffery 0429 438 598

Address for general correspondence:

Australian Plants Society, North Shore Group, PO Box 141 ROSEVILLE 2069

Email: secretary@blandfordia.org.au

Website: <https://austplants.com.au/North-Shore>

The preferred method for Membership Applications & Renewals is to go to the APS NSW website and follow the instructions at <https://www.austplants.com.au/about-membership>.

If joining or renewing online presents any problems assistance can be given at any general meeting. Please speak to Genevieve Meares or Helen Ray.

Alternatively email your query to membership@blandfordia.org.au.

For your convenience, an EFT payment option is now available.

Newsletter Editor: Jan Williamson

9875 2262 janw7531@gmail.com

Newsletter submissions: Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of the month.

For the May 2019 edition this will be 19th April 2019 Editor: janw7531@gmail.com

Blandfordia

The Newsletter of the Australian Plants Society North Shore Group PO Box 141 ROSEVILLE NSW 2069