

Blandfordia



North Shore Group
(ABN 87 002 680 408)

FEBRUARY 2019

Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden 50th Anniversary Celebration

was held on 14th December 2018. What a night it was.

It was filled with good company, good food, good music and good talks.

A big thank you to Ku-ring-gai Council for hosting the evening and to all who have contributed to KWG over the 50 years.



Bob Failes (APS NSG) and Dennis Collins (KWG) (below left) were both enjoying themselves while informing us about KWG. *Images by Ron Watts*



Rae Rosten proudly displayed her beautiful evening dress which she wore to her nursing graduation in 1957.



Other images by Jan Williamson

APS NSG President's report for 2018

The purpose of a President's report is to :

- record what was done during the year. Reading consecutive reports should give an accurate history of the Group for the period covered.
- record major events and achievements
- record major changes in direction

Description of the Group

This Group is the biggest in NSW. We have about 160 members and undertake many activities, so that active members have a wide choice and are usually very busy. Perhaps because of this, few members attend APS NSW meetings and events compared to other much smaller Groups.

Major events in 2018

We maintained membership numbers when most other groups had falling numbers. Genevieve Meares designed and produced a complete new set of nametags for use at meetings and other functions They are very stylish!

In September we had a memorable trip to the Wollongong district for 4 days. Images of massive fig trees, with buttress roots and Wonga vine 30 cm in diameter in rainforests are still in my mind. Thank you Sue Fredrickson for organising this.

Another event, but very unpleasant this time, was the death of our long-term member Noel Rosten in February. He was checking his letterbox when a car left the road, crossed the nature strip and ran over him. Noel was my close friend and I really miss him. We did plant surveys together for the Hornsby Herbarium almost every week for 20 years. We used to laugh together like a couple of silly old men when neither of us could remember the name of a very common local native plant.

An opportunity to do better

One of the aims in our Strategic Plan is to become the first point of call for the public when they have questions about native plants. In my judgement, we have a way to go to achieve this aim. We often get requests from community groups for speakers to talk about some aspect of native plants but we have difficulty finding members to give these talks. We need to solve this problem. Too many people still do not know about the Australian Plants Society. Our new banner is designed to be hung on busy roads and has a simple message "Like native plants? Learn more..." (with a web address). Hopefully it will help to address this problem.

Reasons to feel proud

For many years we have been awarding a tertiary level research Scholarship (now \$3000) for study in some aspect of native plants. This has built high credibility for APS in local Universities. Free 1 year membership of APS comes with each award.

The on-line Hornsby Herbarium receives about 1600 hits each year and brings much praise for its high-resolution images and value as a resource or plant identification. It has been a labour of love by members of this group for over 25 years. In 2019, we need to develop a whole new platform for the Herbarium following the sale of the company who owns the software on which it is based.

A change of President

I was elected President in 2013, then Vice President in 2016, however no President was elected so in effect, I carried on as president until the end of 2018, making 6 years. A new President (Sue Bowen) begins in February 2019. I welcome Sue and encourage her to make any changes she deems necessary to the management of the Group.

To all members of the management Committee, my sincere thanks for your hard work and dedication over the years. You are truly amazing!

Barry Lees

A HUGE THANK YOU to Barry from all the members for leading the group so capably and willingly for so many years. Your enthusiasm, knowledge, willingness to share and commitment to the role of president have been outstanding and greatly appreciated.

A warm WELCOME to new members Jian Chen, Lydia & Andrew Eatough and Helen Orr.

We hope that you enjoy your association with APS NSG members. We look forward to getting to know you and share with you knowledge and enjoyment of our wonderful native plants.

APS NSG Treasurer's Report for 2018

In 2018, the North Shore Group had income of \$14,194 and expenditure of \$11,316 resulting in a net gain of \$2878, lower than the \$4867 gain in 2017.

Our major fundraising event, the Wildflower, Art and Garden Festival at the end of August was very successful. We had \$7553 in takings, plus \$312 raffle takings and \$235 donation resulting from the sale of greeting cards. Festival expenses were \$3214 (excluding routine propagation expenses during the year), resulting in a net gain of \$4636.

Net cash, cheque and EFT membership takings were \$2172, higher than last year. The takings have been influenced by both an increase in membership numbers and the introduction of multiple year memberships.

Walks and Talks entry grossed \$726, lower than last year due to a reduction in the number of talks. Plant sales at Walks and Talks totalled \$90.

Plant sales at monthly meetings yielded \$1416, significantly more than the 2017 takings of \$1087, but just under the 2016 takings.

Other significant income items included:

- Festival raffle (donated to Nature Conservation Council).....\$312
- Donations.....\$611

This year, our major expenditure item, the scholarship, was increased from \$2500 to \$3000.

Other significant expenditure included:

- Val Williams Scholarship.....\$3000
- Donations to other organisations (including festival raffle proceeds).....\$1154
- Propagation.....\$808
- Supplies for meetings (including new speakers).....\$551
- Website.....\$425

Helen Ray



At a recent Presidents' Workshop, the Board outlined the challenges it was experiencing in undertaking all the tasks required to keep the Society operating, let alone progressing the strategy.

While financial management has successfully been outsourced to Accounting for Good, there are still many jobs still to be done, whether as a Board member or in a non-Board capacity. These include:

- Assisting with managing the website and developing content including fact sheets and plant profiles
- Developing communications to members as well as online content/journal for members e.g. online journal
- Overseeing organisation of Gatherings and Get togethers (i.e. Program Officer)
- Editing the *Australian Plants* journal
- Developing promotional and marketing communications and materials for non-members
- Assisting with the Biennial Conference in 2021 including design and organisation of the event, as well as pre- and post-conference tours
- Engaging other stakeholders with similar aims and ambitions to APS NSW
- Being part of the Board of APS NSW. Our board are both board members (governance) as well as do operations of the organisation. Roles include event coordination, risk management, secretarial responsibilities

If you are interested in assisting with any of these jobs or part of these jobs, please contact John Aitken (johnstaceaitken@gmail.com) or Heather Miles (heather@heathermiles.com.au) to discuss ideas and what might make sense. Together, we can hopefully keep the Society successfully operating for the next 60 years.'

Notices and Reminders

APS NSG WALKS and TALKS programme at Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden (KWG) 420 Mona Vale Road St Ives provides an excellent way to learn more about native plants. The sessions are led by very experienced people who are more than willing to share their knowledge. The 2019 programme is as comprehensive and as interesting as ever. The accompanying image shows one of the planning sessions in action.



In term 1 there will be 3 Walks only: Monday 4th March (focused on the history of KWG), Monday 8th April (focused on edible plants) & Monday 6th May (focused on wildlife). These walks are classified as easy and they are free. Contact person for these walks is Helen 9489 1735.

In terms 2, 3 & 4 there will be Walks & Talks. It is actually a talk and then a walk, each lasting about an hour.

Contact person for these sessions, and the programme, is Bob Failes 9417 5217.

Australian Plant Society members \$2, non members \$5. A set of notes is provided.

Unlike other local walks and talks programmes where there is more talk and little walking, the APS NSG W&T includes no bought coffee and long rambling chats. The content is designed to educate participants about native plants and associated features such as soil types, pollination etc.

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 ACTIVITIES

The first outing for 2019 will be on the afternoon of **Sunday 10th MARCH** and will be a **walk at Normanhurst**. Sue Fredrickson will be leading this walk. The full details will be in March *Blandfordia*.

GARDEN VISITS. Clare Bell will be co ordinating these. If you are happy to allow members to visit your garden, or know of someone with a suitable native garden, please contact Clare on her mobile phone 0416 094 396 or by email confettigardens@hotmail.com.

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. <http://www.wildflowersocietywa.org.au/event/anpsa-2019-albany/>

APS NSW QUARTERLY GATHERING is being hosted by APS NSG on SATURDAY 23rd MARCH at KWG

The programme is yet to be finalised but the format is usually an interactive event in the morning, BYO lunch and then a brief meeting and a guest speaker in the early afternoon. Plants will be for sale from APS NSG and other suppliers.

HELPERS are needed. Our group runs the morning activity and provides tea and coffee and afternoon tea. Please contact Jan Williamson janw7531@gmail.com or 9875 2262 if you are able to assist in any way: walks, plant sales and moving them to and from Caley's Pavilion, afternoon tea etc.

It is the day of the NSW State Elections so, if you volunteer to assist, please remember to vote.

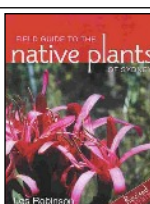
Dictionary of Botanical Names by Don Perrin



This is a revamped version with many more new plants added and colour pictures. It is in a handy A5 size with a soft colour cover. Search the genus or species name to see what language the word was derived from and what it means in its botanical context. Cost \$29.95 + \$8.65 postage

Contact: Mutiara Perrin 0421 465 464

Email: greendataprojects.com.au



Field Guide to the Native Plants of Sydney by Les Robinson

has been reprinted and is now available from many book sellers
ISBN: 9780731812110

APS NSG Committee 2019

President	Sue Bowen
Vice president	<i>not filled</i>
Correspondence secretary	Judy Jeffery
Minutes secretary	Jan Williamson
Treasurer	Helen Ray
Conservation officer	Anne Matheson
Membership officer	Narelle Barden
Assistant membership officer	Genevieve Meares
Excursions co-ordinator (i) walks	Sue Fredrickson
(ii) garden visits	Clare Bell
Health and Safety officer	Gae Watson
Publicity officer	Rae Rosten
Delegate to APS NSW	Roger Starling
Web master	Max Gregory
Newsletter editor	Jan Williamson
General Committee member	Wendy Grimm, Hugh Jones, Bill Jones, Alan Wilson
Festival Coordinator	Jan Williamson
Val Williams Scholarship Convener	Tania Lamble
Immediate Past President	Barry Lees

ANNUAL SPEAKER PROGRAMME

At the recent committee meeting it was agreed that a separate position be formed for the position of coordinator of the annual APS NSG programme. This person would consider and collect topics, liaise with the speakers and organise the photo and short background information from the speaker. A full position description will be developed during the year. Please give filling this position your consideration.

The committee always welcomes suggestions for topics and/ or speakers at our meetings. If you have heard a suitable speaker, or heard a media speaker/topic which you deem of interest to the group please have a chat with any member of the committee or else contact the secretary on secretary@blandfordia.org.au.

Floating Landcare 2019 would like your company too

Below are the activities on the Hawkesbury Estuary for the first few months of 2019.

Island Hopper - Spectacle and Long Island Nature Reserve and possible Pumpkin Point

Saturday 16th February 2019. 8:45am to 2pm. From Mooney Mooney Bush regeneration

Flannel Flower Beach, West Head, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park

Tuesday 19th February 2019. 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. From Cottage Point Bush regeneration

Gentlemans Halt, Marramarra National Park

Sunday 24th February 2019. 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. From Mooney Mooney Marine Debris Clean up

Berowra Creek Camp, Berowra Valley National Park

Saturday 23rd to 24th March 2019 Weeding, camping, paddling

Start / Finishing time and camping location, etc will be provided on confirmation of your RSVP. Numbers are limited.

Portugese Beach, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park

Tuesday 2nd April 2019. 8:15am to 2:00 pm. From Taylors Point Clareville Bush regeneration

Keen to Volunteer????

All you need to do is email rebecca.mooy@lls.nsw.gov.au with the dates of the activities you would like to attend and your best contact phone number.

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/flora-and-fauna/bushland-management/floating-landcare>

Plant Propagation at KWG on Wednesdays from 1pm to 4pm on **13th & 27th February 2019**

Contact:

Margaret Hamilton on 9488 5234

Ku-ring-gai Council Bushcare at KWG on Wednesdays (fortnightly)

at 9 am on **6th & 20th February**
Contact Sue Bowen on 0478 957 951

Members and friends are always welcome at these activities.

Monday [Walks and Talks](#) at the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden St Ives. These will resume in 2019 with Walks only on 4th March, 8th April and 6th May

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

Contact: Bob Failes 9417 5217

January Committee Notes

- 2019 APS NSG Programme
- Val Williams Scholarship 2019
- APS NSG Quarterly Gathering on 23rd March
- Finances
- ANPSA Biennial Conference 2021

Next Meeting of our North Shore Group

Friday 8th February 2019 (7.30 pm for 8 pm)

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

Speaker: Kathy Potter

Topic: Getting involved with frogs



Background:

Kathy Potter from the Frog and Tadpole Study Group (FATS) will talk about local frogs, backyard frog habitat, the wonderful pastime of frogging and the Australian Museum's FrogID citizen science project. I will also bring some of the live frogs with me.

The AGM is also held on 8th February. The AGM is a brief meeting which usually takes about 10 minutes.

Friday 8th March Speaker: Jayden Walsh

Topic: Flora and fauna of Ku-ring-gai National Park

For the full year's programme go to:

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

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 March 2019 edition this will be 15th February 2019 Editor: janw7531@gmail.com

Blandfordia

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