

Celebrating 60 Years of Sutherland Group 1963 – 2023

About Sutherland Group

We meet at 7:00 pm every third Wednesday from February to November at GyMEA Community Centre, 39 GyMEA Bay Rd, GyMEA. Visitors welcome.

We support awareness and conservation of Australian native plants.

Visit our [website](http://austplants.com.au/Sutherland) & [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/APS.Sutherland)
<http://austplants.com.au/Sutherland>



www.facebook.com/APS.Sutherland

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Newsletter Deadline:

Second Wednesday of the month

Coming up..

Wed, 16 February
..new start time
from 7:00 pm

Sutherland Group Meeting Flowers of South-West WA with members Anthony and Rhonda Jackson – At GyMEA Community Hall, see diary.

Thu, 2 Mar
Sun, 5 Mar

JB Reserve working bees - more information [here](#)

Sat, 11 Mar, 2023

APS NSW Quarterly meeting at Bundeena

Wed, 15 Mar, 2023

Sutherland Group Meeting

Look out for..

[*Melaleuca fulgens*](#) (Honey myrtle)



[*Melaleuca fulgens*](#) in Joseph Banks Reserve (Ph: P. Shelton)

This is a *Melaleuca* from Western Australian. It has different colour forms and can grow well in Sydney. This one has been growing at Joseph Banks Reserve for some time. It is a medium shrub, not likely to grow much beyond 2 m.

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For your diary

Contact John Arney ph 9525 0449, johnarney@ozemail.com.au

Wed, 15 Feb

Sutherland group meeting. Flowers of South West WA with members Anthony and Rhonda Jackson.

Please note the new earlier start to our meetings for 2023. The hall will be open at **7 pm**. Our President Leonie Hogue will formally start the meeting at around **7.30 pm**, followed by our speaker. Come from 7 pm for a cup of tea, chat, plants and books, and enjoy the earlier finish.

After the talk, we'll have our plant table segment which showcases native plants in Shire gardens at this time of year. Bring along a specimen of your own and have it identified. Feel free to accompany specimens by submitting photos for the newsletter.

All visitors welcome **from 7.00 pm** for 7:30 start at GyMEA Community Hall, 39 GyMEA Bay Rd.

Sat, 18 Feb

Screening of Black Cockatoo Crisis, from 7:30 pm

Audley Dance Hall Cafe are hosting an outdoor screening of an amazing film about the plight of the Black Cockatoos, in particular in WA, at Audley on Saturday 18th February at 7:30pm. Here are some links to learn more:

<https://fb.me/e/3XF5TSG69>

<https://audleydancehall.com.au/events/audley-outdoor-movie-night/>

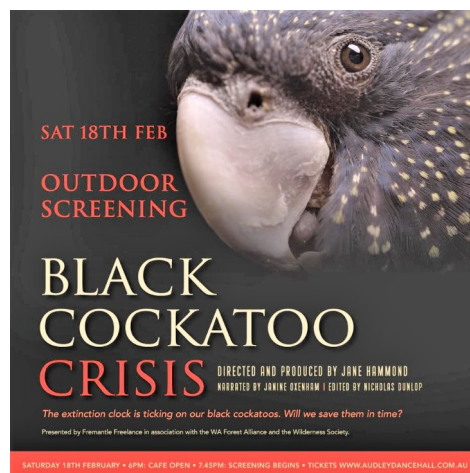
The ticket sales are supporting the film maker and the social impact movement to save their habitat currently under threat in WA.

<https://www.blackcockatooecrisis.com.au>

The cafe will be open from 6pm for takeaway food or table service. Tickets options:

Lawn Seating \$10, bring a rug <https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=130613&restref=130613&experienceId=143975>

Cafe seating \$15 <https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=130613&restref=130613&experienceId=143990>



Thu, 2 Mar

Sun, 5 Mar

Joseph Banks Reserve working bees.

At our recent Thursday session, we were surprised and delighted to see long-time volunteer Gwen Versegi on an outing to Joseph Banks Reserve with her sister Jenny. It was the only place Gwen wanted to go! See page 3.

Gwen Versegi with her sister Jenny, and volunteers Anne Webb and Joan Zande (photo: R. Daniels)



19-26 Feb, 2023

Charlotte Pass – A week of walking in the Kosciuszko National Park.

We are all set for a great week of walking. If you want to join, there may be some vacancies remaining, but you will have to be quick.

Contact John Arney, 0418 607 685 and the booking instructions will be sent to you.

Wed, 1 Mar

Visit the Australian Maritime Museum with Menai Wildflower Group

This visit to the Australian National Museum is not obviously botanical, but we hope to find some plants amongst the maritime heritage, especially in the Wildlife Photography of the Year exhibition. This is a great chance to see a fantastic museum at a discount price and with your own experienced guides. Total cost should be around \$15.

Full details are attached in a separate PDF. Note that we need to confirm numbers for the booking so you need to let us know you will be attending **before 24 February**.

Contact Greg greg.jackson100@gmail.com

Sat, 11 Mar

**Sutherland Community Nursery Open Day
345 The Boulevard, Gympie, 8 am to 1 pm**

Drop in on your way to the APS NSW quarterly gathering at Bundeena. Browse an extensive range of local plant species at Sutherland Council's Community Nursery Open Day. Plants are sourced through seed and cuttings collected by staff and Bushcare volunteers, including Sutherland Group members. The plants are perfect for gardens and planting projects around Sutherland Shire.

Bring your free native seedlings voucher from your annual rates notice to collect two free native seedlings.

Apart from the open day, the nursery is usually open 7 am to 3 pm, Monday to Friday.

Sat, 11 Mar

APS NSW Quarterly Meeting at Bundeena Can you help?

APS NSW is having its first get together for the year at Bundeena on Saturday 11 March.

Sutherland Group is hosting this event. I hope not only that you can attend but that you can help as well – accompanying the walks, helping with afternoon tea etc.

Contact Leonie 0416286083

For more details on the event see this [link](#)

Wed, 15 Mar

Sutherland Group Meeting. A crash course in flying fox conservation and management, with Matthew Mo and Libby Timmis.

Wed, 5 Apr

Sutherland Committee Meeting.

Wed, 12 Apr

Easter Show Flower display.

This year the Easter Show is on from 6 - 17 April. Sutherland Group will again put in a few arrangements so that people can see Australian Plants at the Show.

If you can supply some flowers which we sorely need, please deliver them to Leonie's at 75a Wattle Rd Jannali on Wednesday 12 April as we will be doing arrangements early on Thursday and delivering them to the Show very early on the Friday. If you want to help with the arrangements please do.

Contact Leonie 0416286083.

Other APS groups nearby

Have you considered visiting another local APS group?
Each group welcomes APS members and visitors, so check your diary.
Please try to confirm meetings at the group sites provided.

Harbour Georges River (formerly East Hills)

Saturday, 11 Mar, joining the APS NSW quarterly meeting at Bundeena.

Check their activities page [here](#)

<https://austplants.com.au/Harbour-Georges-River/>

Menai Wildflower Group

Saturday 4 Mar, 1 pm

Illawong Rural Fire Brigade

Old Illawarra Rd, Illawong

Check latest here:



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068944233153>

<https://austplants.com.au/Menai-Wildflower>

Illawarra Group - check for activities at their [web site](#)

At the November meeting

The History and Ecology of Illawarra's Five Islands Nature Reserve

Kevin Mills, a retired ecological consultant in NSW and passionate plant lover, gave us a very interesting talk on the Five Islands Nature Reserve of the Illawarra Region.

The Five Islands are located off Port Kembla Harbour and Hill 60, within about 4 km from the shore.

Now, let me attempt to get this straight: there were thought to be 5 islands initially, as the biggest island, Big Island, appeared to be 2 islands from certain on-shore angles. However, the "two islands" of Big Island are actually connected by a spit, forming one island. So that makes 4 islands! However, a fifth island was eventually discovered further out to sea – so we are back to 5 islands! (So, no need for a name change – that's lucky!)

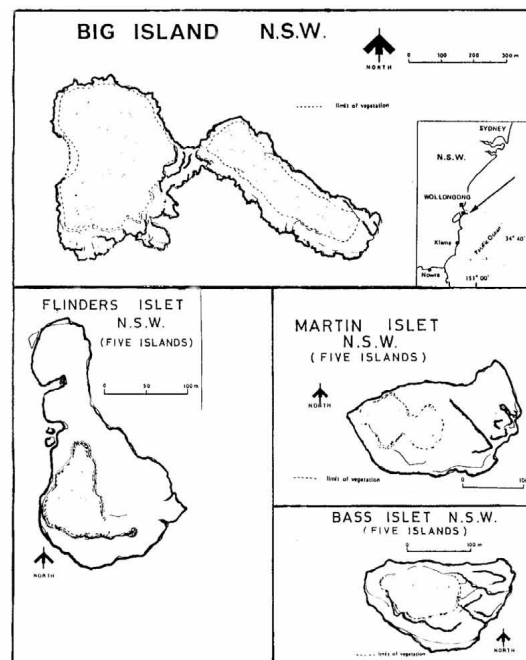
The Five Islands Nature Reserve comprises about 26 ha. The Islands are:

1. Big Island (17.7 ha in size) (also known as Rabbit or Perkins Island)
2. Martin Islet (2.33 ha)
3. Flinders (or Toothbrush) Islet (2.73 ha)
4. Rocky Islet (0.5 ha) and
5. Bass Islet (2.63 ha)

Most of the terrain of the islands is rocky and barren but Big Island supports a lot of coastal vegetation, which has become highly degraded since European occupation.

The geology of the islands consists of volcanic rock – namely Gerringong volcanics overlain by much more recently deposited sand dunes. The islands were likely created about 6,500 years ago after the last sea level rise.

The islands have been subject to a history of inaccurate mapping in the early days, as well as erroneous on-shore landscape paintings and sketches.



From NPWS Plan of Management, 2005

Regarding pre-1770 history and the use of the islands: the islands belong to the Dharawal Nation and there is much evidence of their use of the islands. There are middens on Big Island. There is a Legend of Creation attached to the islands. (As I do not want to do this story any injustice, please see this weblink here for the details: <https://www.coomaditchie.org.au/dreaming-stories>). A traditional camp was established at Red Point on the mainland, immediately adjacent to the islands, and 4 of the islands have Dharawal names.

Moving to past this time: In 1770, Lt. Cook named one of the islands Red Point, a name which has been

transferred to the adjacent point on the mainland. It is thought Cook did not correctly discern the disconnect of the islands from the mainland (though, I have read a theory that Cook may have done such things deliberately for the purposes of easier land claims for the King!).

The islands were then visited and studied further by Matthew Flinders and George Bass in 1796-1797 (probably the first Europeans to land on the islands). Bass mapped the islands in more detail.

Justice Barren Field also visited the islands in 1824 and took time to describe the vegetation and layout.

Charles and Louisa Mundy were two people involved in making sketches and paintings of the location around 1850. It is documented that European settlement of the islands occurred around this time.

In 1849, a campfire got out of control on Big Island, and set the entire island ablaze for several days. It is thought that this would have had a substantial impact on the vegetation of the island.

Someone reported that there was a pig running around on one of the islands and it caused some local interest as to how it got there. It is now thought this would have been a seal!

Rabbits and goats were introduced to the island around 1840-1850. There was an established European practice, to introduce feral animals onto islands, so that any stranded sailors could possibly hunt and eat. Amazingly, Kevin showed a newspaper article published in 1861, stating that anyone caught destroying rabbits on Big Island would be prosecuted! (please...spare us from such horrible history!).

In 1861, cattle were introduced to the high points of Big Island. In 1867, a house was built on Big Island by the Perkins Family (hence the alternate island name) who initially hunted sharks for oil and ran cattle. The family occupied the island for some time. In 1925, a mining lease was granted over two hectares of sea floor for the purposes of harvesting shell grit. It is thought that the current research hut on Big Island, lies on the foundations of the earlier Perkins House.

With all of these processes, we can imagine how the natural vegetation of the island would have been impacted.

In 1960, the islands were dedicated as a faunal reserve with a local committee established. There were concerns over erosion and sea gulls (with an estimate that 40,000 gulls were inhabiting the area). It was changed to a nature reserve in 1967 under the National Parks Act. No one can now land on the islands without a permit.

In the 1960s, it was decided to introduce the common turf and pasture grass, Kikuyu Grass (**Cenchrus clandestinus*), to the islands to try and abate the erosion issues. This grass has had a massive impact on Big Island and has taken over a large amount of the vegetated area. Other troublesome weeds include Mirror Bush (**Coprosma repens*) and Morning Glory (**Ipomoea indica*). Native plants such as *Correa alba* have suffered detriment. Despite this, Little Penguins and other birds such as Shearwaters are known to breed on the islands.

Kevin began working on the islands in 1989. He conducted vegetation surveys and constructed a floristic species list for the islands. The other mission Kevin had, was trying to figure out the main native plants that would have occurred on the island, pre-1770.

A vegetation rehabilitation strategy was then devised and we were able to hear about the positive outcomes of this at the APS Biennial Conference in Kiama through a presentation by National Parks and Wollongong Council.

Rehabilitation was carried out on Big Island. The kikuyu was sprayed with herbicide by helicopter and the resulting dead biomass left *insitu*. Native plants were then planted and ecological monitoring plots established. Species such as *Banksia integrifolia* and *Myoporum boniense* have established well. Bird monitoring also takes place. It has been observed that seagulls will not nest in the dead kikuyu; however, shearwaters will.

Lomandra longifolia has been used extensively, as has *Tetragonia tetragonioides*, *Hibbertia scandens* and *Scaevola calandulacea*.

Some progress has been made with the National Parks Services ferrying volunteers across in boats. Even with this, landing on Big Island can be tricky and the weather has to be safe enough. Unfortunately, we heard at the conference that the COVID pandemic set things back somewhat, with no works undertaken. However, weeding has recommenced in 2022.

It was a fascinating talk by Kevin, especially the pre and post-1770 history. We hope the rehabilitation works on the islands can continue towards conservation of both native flora and fauna.

Dan Clarke

On the plant table

The plant table is a great way to see what grows well in Sutherland Shire and what flowers when. Please free to email some photos in addition to showing the plant specimens at the meeting. These may be included in the newsletter. You can email by reply to the newsletter or to Dan Clarke at: dmclarkebotanical@icloud.com

Plant steward Phil Keane's nursery, [Ausplants R Us](http://AusplantsRU.com), is in Sutherland. Visits by appointment or check out sale days (often Saturday 12 – 4:30) on <https://www.facebook.com/ausplants/>
Ph: 0435 410 857 or ausplantsrus@gmail.com

...and some will be on the APS online plant profile database <https://resources.ausplants.com.au/plant-database>

Myrteaceae

Kunzea ambigua (Tick Bush) Naturally forms dense thickets in sandstone areas. Easy to grow shrub to about 5 m tall. Prolific white/cream and honey-scented inflorescences in October-November.



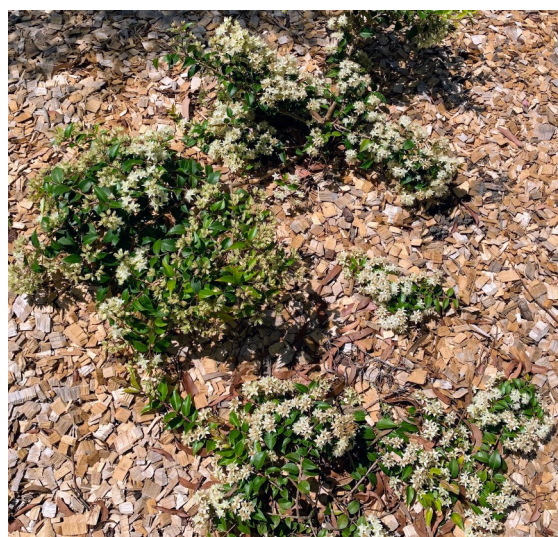
Kunzea ambigua (Tick bush) (Ph: L. Islip)

Melaleuca thymifolia (Thyme Honey-myrtle) A shrub to usually about 1 m tall with bright purple inflorescences. Found naturally in moist environments in NSW but takes well to gardens. Can be temperamental, but if you pick the right spot, it will grow well. Give some moisture.

Callistemon 'Little John' Bottlebrush shrub up to 1 m high with attractive dark red inflorescences. Responds well to pruning.

Backhousia myrtifolia (Grey Myrtle) A local tree which is found on freshwater creeklines on alluvium or sandstone, it has ovate dull-green leaves with a sweet smell. Very similar to a Lilly Pilly in appearance, it produces white staminate flowers on the terminals. Slow growing to start with but can then grow quite quickly. Give an enriched soil with plenty of mulch. There is now a dwarf

form available which flowers most of the year, which appeared at the November meeting.



Backhousia myrtifolia (prostrate form) at Illawarra Grevillea Park (Ph: P. Shelton)

Eucalyptus pulverulenta 'Baby Blue' This species is small tree native to NSW, with a very restricted distribution and is considered threatened in the wild. It grows from around Bathurst, south to Bombala. It has distinctive blue-grey orbiculate (circular) to heart-shaped leaves with makes it attractive to grow. A cultivar called 'Baby Blue' is on the market which is likely just a form of the species. Flowers well and produces nice fruit. Tolerates heavy soils and frost. Likely hardy. Can be pruned into all sorts of shapes and appearances.

Lamiaceae

Plectranthus argentatus (Silver Plectranthus)

An herbaceous plant with a habit and appearance resembling a Salvia, growing to about 1 m tall. It has soft wood and large diamond shaped leaves which have an overall grey-green sheen. It has small purple flowers produced at the terminals. Grows very well from cuttings, it likes partial shade and well-drained soils. It needs a hard prune every 2 years. Do not over water. Makes a great dense shrub cover if pruned.

Araliaceae

Trachymene incisa (Native Parsnip) A native herb that resembles parsley in its overall appearance. It grows to 80 cm tall and has a parsnip-like root. It was classified in the Apiaceae (carrot) family but has been reclassified into the Araliaceae (Ivy) family.

The leaves are mostly basal and deeply dissected with an overall rounded shape. It produces aerial thin stems which hold umbels of white flowers.

It grows on sandy alluvial soils along the NSW coast and northern inland. It can be grown in a

garden with plants lasting up to 2 years. Adds to cottage-style gardens and rockeries. An interesting one to grow.



Trachymene incisa (Ph: Lucinda Islip)

Goodeniaceae

***Goodenia ovata* (prostrate form)** Prostrate shrub with ovate leaves and bright yellow flowers. Excellent for rockeries. It creates a dense trailing groundcover if happy and will spill-over walls



Goodenia ovata (prostrate form) (Ph: L. Islip)

Elaeocarpaceae

***Elaeocarpus reticulatus* (Blueberry Ash)**

Locally common large shrub on sandstone soils, it has laurel-type leaves with a leathery texture. Flowers are white and finely fringed and hang downwards. An attractive and hardy plant which can be pruned to create a denser habit. There is pink-flowering form "Prima Donna" which is now very popular. Makes a nice street tree.

Asteraceae

***Ozothamnus diosmifolius* (White Dogwood)**

A shrub potentially reaching about 4 m tall. White compound inflorescences (conflorescences) produced in corymbs at the ends of the branches, reminiscent of little cauliflowers. Grows on a variety of soils.

***Cassinia aureonitens* (Yellow Cassinia)** An attractive daisy-shrub that resembles *Ozothamnus*, it shows up the Royal National Park on the edges

of the wet sclerophyll and rainforest areas. It can be grown but may be short lived and may be hard to source. The plant produces a broad head of daisy florets – deep yellow in colour with small dark green leaves. Plant on a well-drained enriched soil in semi-shade.



Cassinia aureonitens (Yellow Cassinia) seen in Royal National Park (Ph: P. Shelton)

Proteaceae

***Persoonia levis* (Broad-leaved Geebung)**

A common *Persoonia* found up and down the NSW Coast on sandy soils, it has large and broad leaves to 15 cm long and 8 cm wide which resemble phyllodes. Flowers are yellow and produced individually but arranged in groups up and down the stems which then turn into green drupes ripening to purple. Has interesting papery bark.

It can be difficult to grow in cultivation but more and more results are coming forth with *Persoonia* propagation. Will likely need a sandy soil to do well with fast drainage. It is an attractive shrub. Will grow to potentially 5 m tall.

***Grevillea sericea* (Pink Spider-flower)** A locally common shrub, mainly on sandstone country with pungent leaves and spider-like inflorescences ranging from light to dark pink. Bee-attracting. Easy to grow. There are some profusely flowering forms available.

***Grevillea* 'Sylvia'** One of the 'toilet-brush' *Grevilleas* with stunning rosy-pink inflorescences and divided greyish foliage. Potentially reaching 4 x 5 m. Prefers well-drained soils in full sun to thrive. Bird attracting.

Dan Clarke

More information can be found at these websites:

www.anspa.org.au www.anbg.gov.au
plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au www.wikipedia.org
www.austplants.com.au/plant-database

Plus: Dan Clarke has all the monthly plant table information compiled in his [Plant Table Master List](#) document available from [our web site](#).

News and More

Membership

If you are not receiving the monthly APS NSW enewsletter, please email enewsletter@austrplants.com.au so we can sort out whether we have your correct email address in our records. Each monthly issue is emailed at the end of the previous month.

Membership renewal

Members receive an email from APS NSW when their membership is due through the year and can renew online on the APS website. Check your membership status with our treasurer Anne Webb at the next meeting or by phone.

More free books and magazines for new members

At our October meeting, look out for books and back issues of *Australian Plants* journals from the collections of our members including Doug Rickard and others. A gold coin donation for significant books, but many available for free.

Defibrillator now installed at Joseph Banks Reserve

There is now an AED device (automated external defibrillator) in a cabinet on the outside wall of the toilets at Joseph Banks Reserve. A defibrillator is a device that uses electricity to re-start the heart or shock it back into its correct rhythm. AEDs can be used by anyone in an emergency. They won't give a person an electric shock unless it is necessary, so you can't harm someone by using an AED. Using an AED early on someone who has a cardiac arrest can greatly increase their chances of survival. Beware – the cabinet makes a noise when the door is opened!

We still have funding from our Volunteer Grant for first aid training. Book a one day first aid course at the St George and Sutherland Community College at Jannali here:

www.sgsc.edu.au/courses/WorkSkills/first-aid-courses. Pay the college directly and let me know at rhodaniels@bigpond.com so we can reimburse you on course completion. Plus, you can take up the first aid course as below where this will be shown as well.

Rhonda Daniels

For more information on AEDs: <https://www.aeds.com.au/how-to-use-an-aed.php>



Sutherland Group Committee report, 25 January 2023

At our committee meeting on 25 January, we discussed the following issues:

- We discussed ideas to celebrate our group's 60 years anniversary in 2023 including the Heritage Festival at Joseph Banks on Saturday 22 April and garden visits later in the year.
- We discussed the quote from Lucid in October 2022 to convert our Coastal Plants of the RNP CD with 1,200 photos of 300 plants to a free app. After considering possible advantages and disadvantages, we agreed to proceed at a maximum cost of \$15,000 (but likely less, depending on final options).
- We emailed Sutherland Council on 17 November about a breach of the Council code of conduct by a staff member at Joseph Banks Reserve, after a co-worker contacted APS for support and described unprofessional behaviour. We have not received an official response on the outcome.
- We discussed a renewed focus on WHS issues, and the need to remind members of risk assessment at meetings and for activities. See the draft set of policies, documents and guides on the APS NSW website here: <https://www.austrplants.com.au/Health-and-safety>.
- We were saddened by the sudden death of member Marie Irving while on mission in Kenya in November, after seeing her at the Bundeena Sustainability Expo. Several members attended her funeral in December. Some of Marie's books will be donated to the group to share.
- We noted the Neutrog online shop is now open all the time for ordering at member discount rates, with deliveries being 4 times a year.

Next committee meeting: Wednesday 5 April.

Rhonda Daniels

From the President – Sixty Years of APS Sutherland Group 1963 - 2023

Welcome Back everyone. 2023 is the 60th anniversary of Sutherland Group of APS. I was thinking back to when I first joined the Society in the late 1980's. It was called the Society for Growing Australian Plants then. It was one of the few places where you could get information about Australian plants or meet people who had knowledge of the local flora. All the books and information available were about northern hemisphere plants,

conditions and gardening. Remember there was no internet then. The only books were self published and there seemed to be a lot of misinformation about how Australian plants didn't need to be looked after.



This photo was taken April 1993 with Aileen Phipps, Leonie Hogue and Cl Byron Hurst representing the Sutherland Shire Council at the 'opening' of the Wedding Area at Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve. This was the first of several major landscaping efforts by the Council over the years at the Reserve.

Now, 60 years later, the Australian Plants Society has an excellent website which disseminates the latest information, has an active YouTube channel, Facebook site and an active membership which keeps in contact through newsletters and email.

Our Sutherland Group is only as successful as you, the members, allow. With your support, the group can continue to be relevant for another 60 years. Please support your committee.



Christmas 2023 at Joseph Banks Reserve

Leonie Hogue

Our office bearers for 2023

Following our AGM in November 2022 and our first committee meeting on 25 January, the following positions were confirmed.

President	Leonie Hogue	0416 286 083	leoniehogue@gmail.com
Secretary	Rhonda Daniels	0491 629 760	rhodaniels@bigpond.com
Treasurer	Anne Webb	9523 6067	
Newsletter Editor	Peter Shelton	0411 286 969	pshelton.2232@gmail.com
Website Editor	Simon Bastin		simon.bastin@gmail.com
Speakers/Publicity	Ralph Cartwright	0416 030 872	ralphc@spin.net.au
Conservation Officer	Dan Clarke	0435 087 252	daniel@lykos.com.au
Librarian	Clare McColl	0409 813 569	clare.mccoll@bigpond.com
Plant Stewards	Phil Keane	0435 410 857	ausplantsnursery@gmail.com
	Dan Clarke	0435 087 252	daniel@lykos.com.au
Supper	Joan Collins		joancollinsau@gmail.com
Activities	John Arney	0418 607 685	johnarney@ozemail.com.au
Delegate to APS NSW board	Lisa Godden	0437 969 475	lisa@lisagodden.com

Committee members

Heather Clark, for new member support, hjcartist@yahoo.com.au

Lucinda Islip, lucindaislip@gmail.com

John Aitken, APS NSW Vice President, 0458 366 022, johnstaceaitken@gmail.com

Our annual report for 2022

Our longer annual report will appear in the APS NSW annual report. Highlights in 2022 included:

- Celebrating John Aitken being awarded life membership of APS NSW at the AGM in May for his many years of service including as editor of *Australian Plants*.
- Enjoying monthly meetings with guest speakers organised by Ralph Cartwright in February and March by Zoom, then meetings at Gynea including on swamp wallabies, tree hollows, upland swamps, fossicking, identifying native plants, orchid conservation, bees, Five Islands, and koala habitat.
- Enjoying activities including walks and promotions at Bundeena Sustainability Expo and the Bushcare Fair at Menai.
- Supporting the very successful ANPSA biennial conference in September, with Ralph Cartwright and John Aitken on the organising committee over several years, and many members supporting on tours, excursions and at the conference.
- Supporting Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve with working bees twice a month, and plant labels.
- Creating a showcase of native flowers and winning prizes with our Australian plant entries at the Royal Easter Show.
- Writing submissions on local conservation issues.
- Supporting the Australian Flora Foundation with a donation.
- Supporting APS NSW with John Aitken as Vice-President, Lisa Godden as monthly enewsletter editor, and Dan Clarke as Conservation Officer.
- Welcoming new members, and supporting the emerging Illawarra Group, while saddened by the death of members Patrick Ovens and Marie Irving.

Our finances in 2022

In 2022, we had income of \$1,477 including membership rebates of \$850 from APS NSW, raffle ticket sales of \$346, sales of 4 Coastal Plants of RNP CDs of \$88, plant sales of \$60, and donations of \$95.

We had total expenses of \$1,362 including a donation of \$500 to the Australian Flora Foundation, Gynea hall hire of \$67 (low, because we had been in credit), newsletter printing and postage of \$419, fees to speakers of \$100, refund of first aid course of \$120 and other sundries of \$156.

Our total financial assets at 30 December 2022 were \$43,048 (very similar to 2021) including \$11,304 in our cheque account and term deposits of \$31,744. We will be spending some of our funds, which have accrued from sales of our Coastal Plants of Royal National Park CD-Rom since 2006, on paying Lucid to convert our CD-Rom to an app in 2023.

Rhonda Daniels

Neutrog online shop



The next Neutrog pick-up date is "early March" and options to buy for that date closed on 9 February. The date will be announced soon.

<https://shop.neutrog.com.au/>

A recent promotion was a trial program under way where you can acquire the Popul8 product for free. Register at the link above. You can make your purchase any time and await notification of the next pick up date. There has been good feedback for the program and John Aitken is happy to talk about it if you have any more questions.

Bundeena and MaianBar Art Trail –

<http://www.arttrail.com.au/>

Here is some information about some of the Art Trail events happening at Bundeena the weekend before our APS NSW event.

Something different:

A song to support Invasive Species solutions, forwarded by Ian Cox:

[Her Excellency Linda Hurley's song for the Invasive Species Solutions Trust – YouTube](#)



Jan Taylor nominated in NSW Seniors Awards

Jason Salmon from Bushcare nominated Jan Taylor in this year's NSW Seniors Festival Local Achievement Awards. His nomination read:

Jan Taylor Joined Bushcare as a volunteer in February 2002. In this time Jan has volunteered at a number of sites including Kyogle Place Reserve, Grays Point Reserve, Savilles Creek Reserve, Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve and at the Sutherland Shire Community Nursery propagating native plants.

Not only has Jan volunteered her time to improve our natural areas she has always brought with her an assortment of home made cakes, slices and biscuits. Much to the delight of staff and other Bushcare Volunteers.

Jan is also a long serving member and volunteer at The Australian Plants Society Sutherland Group She has a deep passion for native plants and native gardens with her garden at Grays Point featuring in books and open garden schemes.

Prior to her significant involvement in Bushcare, Jan was a well regarded soccer coach at The Grays Point Soccer Club.

In recent times age has caught up with Jan but she still makes a huge effort to come along to as many workdays as possible. She has a wicked sense of humor and is a great joy to work with.



Jan was accompanied on the day by her family and friends with Sutherland Council Bushcare represented by Cristine Breitenbach. Local Cronulla MP Mark Speakman introduced the 7 finalists and with Mark Coure as Minister for Seniors also on hand for the presentations.

Whilst Jan was not the overall winner, all in attendance were in awe of her dedication and work over more than 2 decades. Be sure to congratulate her at our next meeting.

Ralph Cartwright.

New species named in the Royal - [Lepidosperma prospectum](#)



Dr Russell Barrett and detail of an *L. prospectum* flower from [The Leader](#)

The full story is available at this link: [The Leader](#). Here is a brief excerpt:

The rare, grass-like plant with sharp blades grows around Cook's landing place in Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Royal National Park, as well as Manly, but is found nowhere else in Australia.

Researchers from Australian Institute of Botanical Science, which made the announcement, have given the new sword sedge species the name *Lepidosperma prospectum*.

Dr Russell Barrett said the species was first recognised as new when he collected it from the top of North Head, near Manly, with Karen Wilson.

From [The Leader](#).



Christmas at 2023 at Joseph Banks Reserve (Ph: J. Arney)

