

Wednesday Walk – Gorooyarroo Woodland Reserve, ACT – 2017-05-31

On the last day of autumn, we set out to enjoy a cool but pleasant day at the Gorooyarroo Woodland Reserve. Entering off Horse Park Drive, we walked through grassland and open woodland and eventually climbed some easily-accessed hillsides before walking along a creekline and having lunch at the dam.

There were extensive swards of exotic grasses in the lower areas, mostly *Phalaris aquatica*, but we did see some native grasses — Red-anther Wallaby Grass (*Rytidosperma pallida*), Brushtail Speargrass (*Austrostipa densiflora*), Redleg Grass (*Bothriochloa macra*) and Weeping Grass (*Microlaena stipoides*).

We walked through stands of Blakely's Red Gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*) on the lower slopes where the dominant wattle was Hickory Wattle (*Acacia implexa*), but there were a few populations of Silver Wattle (*A. dealbata*) and *A. parramattensis*. On the slightly higher ground, we walked beneath Scribbly Gums (*Eucalyptus rossii*), Brittle Gums (*E. mannifera*) and Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*). Quite a few of the trees were draped with large Mistletoes — all those we examined were *Amyema miquelii*.

The understorey was sparse and consisted mostly of *Cassinia quinquefaria* and *C. arcuata* with a few *Bursaria spinosa* ssp. *lasiophylla*. There were some smaller shrubby plants, but these were rather scattered. There was one small population of Silky Parrot Peas (*Dillwynia sericea*) and some Urn Heaths (*Melichrus urceolatus*), the latter beginning to flower. With some careful looking, we did find some herbaceous plants amongst the grasses — Vanilla Glycine (*Glycine tabacina*), Scrambled Eggs (*Goodenia pinnatifida*) and Scaly Buttons (*Leptorhynchus squamatus*) and, here and there, a few patches of the Woolly New Holland Daisy (*Vittadinia gracilis*) and the Narrow-leaved New Holland Daisy (*V. muelleri*). In the more open areas, the Rock Ferns (*Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia*) were doing well.

As we were walking along the creek, we passed an outcrop of smooth limestone forming a bank. Most of the rocks in the part of the reserve we explored were metamorphosed sedimentary rock, but there was one large seam of quartz, and, in an area of red soil along one of the tracks, there was a small area of shiny ironstone.

We had lunch by a dam fringed with Tall Sedge (*Carex appressa*). The surface of the dam was hidden in places by mats of the oval leaves of the plant we previously knew as *Potamogeton tricarinatus* (but which is now under revision) and, on the exposed mud at the edge of the dam, were some very flat Creeping Knotweed (*Persicaria prostrata*). On the slightly higher but still damp areas, there were a few small specimens of Hyssop Loosestrife (*Lythrum hyssopifolia*).

While we were sitting by the dam, four bright green parrots landed on the far bank but took off again very quickly before there was a chance to identify them. But, on the way back to the carpark, we did identify a Tawny Frogmouth perched on the top of a dead tree trunk, only to find when we were slightly closer that it was a very deceptively shaped piece of dead wood!

By Jo Walker; Photos by Brigitta Wimmer

Plant List

Acacia ?deanii	Bossiaea buxifolia	Cymbopogon refractus
Acacia dealbata	Bossiaea prostrata	Daucus glochidiatus ?
Acacia gunnii	Bothriochloa macra	Daviesia genistifolia
Acacia implexa	Brachyloma daphnoides	Dichelachne sp
Acacia mearnsii	Bulbine bulbosa	Dillwynia sericea
Acacia parramattensis	Bursaria spinosa	Diuris chryseopsis
Acaena ovina	Carex inversa	Dodonaea viscosa ssp angustissima
Acrotriche serrulata	Cassinia arcuata	Drosera peltata
Allocauarina verticillata	Cassinia longifolia	Einadia nutans
Amyema miquelii	Cassinia quinquefaria	Eleocharis sp (small)
Amyema pendula	Centipeda minima	Elymus scaber
Aponogeton elongatus	Cheilanthes austrotenuifolia	Eragrostis sp
Aristida ramosa	Chrysocephalum apiculatum (green & grey)	Eryngium ovinum
Arthropodium minus	Chrysocephalum semipapposum	Eucalyptus blakelyi
Asperula conferta	Convolvulus erubescens	Eucalyptus bridgesiana
Astroloma humifusum	Cotula australis	Eucalyptus dives
Austrodanthonia carphoides	Craspedia variabilis	Eucalyptus mannifera
Austrodanthonia laevis	Crassula sieberiana	Eucalyptus melliodora
Austrostipa densiflora	Cryptandra amara var longiflora	Eucalyptus rossii
Austrostipa scabra ssp. falcata	Cymbonotus lawsonianus	Eucalyptus rubida
Austrostipa sp.		Euchiton Q involucreatus

Exocarpos cupressiformis
 Galium gaudichaudii
 Geranium sp.
 Glycine clandestina
 Glycine tabacina
 Gompholobium huegelii
 Gonocarpus tetragynus
 Goodenia hederacea
 Goodenia pinnatifida
 Haloragis heterophylla
 Hardenbergia violacea
 Hibbertia obtusifolia
 Hovea heterophylla
 Hydrocotyle laxiflora
 Hypericum gramineum
 Indigofera australis
 Isoetopsis graminifolia
 Joycea pallida
 Juncus sp
 Leptorhynchus squamatus
 Lissanthe strigosa
 Lomandra bracteata
 Lomandra filiformis ssp coriacea
 Lomandra filiformis ssp filiformis

Lomandra longifolia
 Lomandra multiflora
 Luzula sp.
 Lythrum hyssopifolia
 Melichrus urceolatus
 Microlaena stipoides
 Microseris lanceolata
 Muellerina eucalyptoides
 Opercularia hispida
 Ophioglossum lusitanicum
 Ottelia ovalifolia
 Oxalis sp.
 Panicum effusum
 Persicaria prostrata
 Pimelea curviflora
 Plantago varia
 Pleurosorus rutifolius (fern)
 Poa sp
 Potamogeton tricarinatus*
 Rumex brownii
 Senecio quadridentatus
 Solanum cinereum
 Solenogyne dominii
 Sorghum leiocladum

Stackhousia monogyna
 Stellaria pungens
 Stypandra glauca
 Themeda triandra
 Thysanotus tuberosus
 Tricoryne elatior
 Triptilodiscus pygmaeus
 Typha domingensis
 Veronica sp.
 Viola betonicifolia
 Vittadinia gracilis
 Vittadinia muelleri
 Wahlenbergia communis
 Wahlenbergia sp
 Wahlenbergia stricta
 Wurmbea dioica
 Xerochrysum viscosum

*The *Flora of the ACT & Region* field guide names the species *Potamogeton tricarinatus*. This species is now considered to be restricted to central Qld. Pending research publication the ACT species may be *P. cheesemanii* or *P. sulcatus*.



Amyema miquelii



Cassinia arcuata



Goodenia hederacea



Eucalyptus blakely



Euchiton Q involucreatus



Lythrum hyssopifolia



Potamogeton tricarinatus



Solanum cinereum0



Amyema miquelii fruit



Wahlenbergia stricta



Potamogeton tricarinatus on water