

Report on WW trip to Tianjara Falls Lookout and Jerrawangala Lookout and road- 27 Sept 2018

A hardy band of WWs braved the elements and set off from Bungendore for the Nerriga plateau with a temperature hovering around 8C and the threat of more rain. We met the Tricketts and Arthurs at Tianjara car park and did our usual walk out to the lookout followed by the short walk north across the rock platforms to the large gully. The Falls were dry and it was evident from the number of dead and dying shrubs on the sandstone of how severe the drought had been although a heavy shower had crossed this area earlier this morning. A surprising number of shrubs were seen in flower including some new species not seen on earlier visits that were later in the year. We had come here to see the rock orchids and were not disappointed as there was a large specimen of *Thelychiton speciosus* flowering below the lookout. Most of the usual suspects were seen including a range of different peas, but there was an outstanding clump of *Boronia anemonifolia* in full flower as well as a mass of yellow from a *Pomaderris andromedifolia* and the whites of several species of *Leucopogon* and *Epacris microphylla*. There was an interesting small wattle with rod flowers that I have not been able to ID.

We continued on to Jerrawangala Lookout, stopping at an area of heathland where we found more peas including the pink-flowered *Mirbelia rubiifolia* as well as the blues of the *Dampiera fusca*. After lunch at the Lookout (in deteriorating weather) we skirted the rock platforms taking care of the vertical drops from the cliff edges where the striated rock orchids, *Dockrilla striolata*, grow in the crevices. We finally found a photogenic patch in an approachable gully together with *Dracophyllum secundum*. The dominant heath here was *Woolisia pungens* plus some *Leucopogons*. A *Zieria* was also in flower here and I think it may be *Z. pilosa*. Compact clumps of the pink-flowered *Leucopogon fraseri* were also seen on the platforms. The cliff edge is dissected by a number of deep crevices and at the base of one of these we saw a few palm leaves, probably of *Livistona australis*, as well as an unidentified orchid. Crossing the road to another area of heathland and scattered bloodwoods, where the beekeepers place their hives in summer, we saw attractive stands of *Calytrix tetragona* and *Philothea salsolifolia*. An interesting prostrate *Dodonaea camfieldii* was also seen in the undergrowth.

The cold damp weather experience was compensated by a very rewarding day flower wise. The heavy rain that fell earlier in the day will no doubt help restore the levels of soil moisture and bring on more flowering.

Roger Farrow

Tianjara Falls



Acacia subtilinervis



Boronia anemonifolia



Chloanthes stoechadis



Comesperma ericinum



Dampiera stricta



Dilwynnia ramossissima



Epacris microphylla



Grevillea patula



Grevillea asplenifolia



Leionema diosmeum



Leucopogon esquamatus



Leucopogon juniperinus



Olearia viscidula



Patersonia sericea



Persoonia mollis leptophylla



Pomaderris andromedifolia



Pultanaea sp



Rhytidosporum procumbens



Thelychiton speciosum



Xanthosia pilosa

Jerrawangala



Calytrix tetragona



Conospermum taxifolium



Daviesia latifolia



Epacris obtusifolia



Leucopogon fraseri



Mirbelia rubiifolia



Dockrillia striolata



Dracophyllum secundum



Philotheca salsolifolia



?*Phyllota ericoides*



Pittosporum undulatum



Zieria ?pilosa