

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANTS SOCIETY CANBERRA (ANPSC)

2024 ANNUAL PLAN

ANPSC is one of eight state-territory affiliates of ANPSA. We are a small non-profit run by volunteers, earning and spending roughly \$30,000 annually.

The Society's key purposes are improving the horticulture of Australian native plants, plus preserving these plants and their habitats. Seven Councillors were elected at our November 2023 AGM, and with a new Treasurer located shortly thereafter, the Council has 8 members for 2024.

Critical Offices and Jobs, both on and off Council, are difficult to refill and renew with volunteers, and this constrains our capacities.

With finances and memberships steady, in 2023 the Society held two successful Plant Sales, and ran Members' Meetings, Wednesday Walks, Daytime Activity Group/Garden Design Group visits, and Field Trips. These are brief statements of plans and intentions for 2024.

Affiliations and Governance

- * For 2024 at least, the ANPSC President continues as Delegate (and Public Officer) for ANPS Australia. He will continue to log in to ANPSA meetings.
- * As well as ANPSA, other "Friends" of ANPSC continue: Friends of Grasslands, Australian Flora Foundation, Canberra Ornithologists Group, Conservation Council ACT, and Southern Tablelands Ecosystem Park.
- * ANPSC submitted its Annual Return in November 2023, and this has been acknowledged by the regulator. Next Return is due, after November 2024 AGM.
- * ANPSC aims to hold all scheduled Council and Member Meetings, in 2024.
- * ANPSC publishes its Constitution and Policies — a small constitutional change is intended in 2024, to shift to "rolling membership" renewals.
- * ANPSC President has updated the register of "Offices and Jobs" for 2024.
- * The ANPSC has a nominee who links to national "Plant Study" Groups, and individual ANPSC members are prominent in these Groups.

Finances

- * The new (2FA) security arrangements for Society payments will continue under the new Treasurer.
- * 2022–23 Society income (\$47,000) was slightly up, and expenses slightly down (\$42,000), compared with 2021–22.
- * 2022–23 Audit and Financial Statements were finalised satisfactorily.
- * Our new Bookkeeper (Keep HQ) has been asked to provide a quarterly financial report, for Council. His EOY trial balance will feed to our new Auditor, MGI Joyce Dickson.
- * In 2023–24, we aim for a reasonably stable financial situation, although our Plant Sale and Plant Book receipts may dip.
- * Under our new "Donations Policy" as posted online, the priority will be beneficial spends for the Society itself. We'll continue to make donations as opportunities arise.
- * In 2024, our collected raffle proceeds will be donated 2–3 times a year, to aligned organisations of the Council's choice.
- * Society's "Accounts and Delegations" arrangements were strengthened in 2023, and these new arrangements will be updated and revised for 2024.

Memberships

- * At the end of 2023, our total “active subscriptions” were about 240. Society aims to keep membership at around these levels, or higher if possible.
- * Memberships, Plant Sale, and Plant Book, continue, as the key ANPSC revenue-income sources. The membership “pitch” is promoted at Plant Sales.
- * The Society will aim for a full 11 Member Meetings in 2024. We will continue to cover the speaker presentations in our Journal, which is now fully online.

Activities and Working Groups

- * In mid 2024, we will renew our MoU with the ANBG, continuing the customary twice-yearly donation to the ANBG. Under the new MoU, we anticipate access to the new Conservatory at ANBG, its (delayed) opening now set for mid 2024.
- * Under the three-year agreement with ACT Government, to study the rare “Keyacris” grasshopper, we will complete our first season of site visits, and file our first accounting of expenses.

Plant Sale

- * Plant Sales will continue, as flagship events and income-spinners.
- * Our March 2024 (Autumn) Sale will again be a “Small Sale”, and its continuation will be reviewed, year to year. October (Spring) Sale is increasingly the main event.
- * In 2023, total plant sales via our own Propagation Group were 1,675 plants for \$12,245 income. Results may be similar in 2024.
- * For 2024, the “Conditions of Supply” have been revised again, for Member Growers.
- * Our 2024 Sales will be the second year in which ACT “Threatened or Protected Species” (TS) have carried separate labels, as required under ACT regulation.
- * In mid 2024, we will renew our TS licence with ACT Government.

Wednesday Walks etc

- * Our regular Wednesday Walks and Field Trips should be able to continue with normal regularity in 2024.
- * Daytime Activity Group/Garden Design Study Group (DAGs) will continue.

Website and Other Publications

Website

- * Our website (nativeplantscbr.com.au) topics did not change in 2023. However, in 2024 the website will look different, as our new “Journal Articles” section evolves.
- * Our website advertises our \$30 Plant Book, 4th printing of 5th edition. This is our other major revenue-income source, with supplies still on hand from 2021 printing.
- * 2022–23 Plant Book revenue (\$12,500) fell, as compared with 2021–22. While Council has investigated, a “Concise Native Plants” revision, it’s hard to find volunteer support to make this happen.
- * In the meantime, attention shifts to more intensive maintenance and renewal of the new Plant Database, which has been online since 2021.

Other Publications

- * Other publications on the website — Plant Guides, Brochures, Conservation Submissions, Wednesday Walk Reports — are to be maintained or updated as required.
- * ANPSC “Bulletin” (monthly, via Mailchimp) continues to be circulated separately, as a key service to members. However, the former “Quarterly Journal” has now been subsumed by the online “Journal Articles”.
- * Under a long-standing Agreement, RMIT continues to re-publish our ANPSC materials, generating a small revenue for us.