

AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANTS SOCIETY

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Cover: *Acacia rubida*, Red-stemmed Wattle — a large dense shrub or tree

Photo: Andy Russell, taken at Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park

Journal articles

The Journal is a forum for the exchange of members' and others' views and experiences of gardening with, propagating and conserving Australian plants.

All contributions, however short, are welcome and may be accompanied by photographs or drawings. The editor reserves the right without exception to edit all articles and include or omit images as appropriate.

Submit photographs as either electronic files, such as JPEGs, or prints. Set your digital camera to take high resolution photos. Please send JPEGs separately and not embedded in a document. If photos are too large to email, copy onto a CD or USB drive and send it by post. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you would like your prints returned. If you have any queries please contact the editor.

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The deadline dates for submissions are 1 February (for March edition), 1 May (June), 1 August (September) and 1 November (December).

Send articles or photos to:

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ANPS Council

Would you like the opportunity to be on Council?

Members are needed for our 2017/2018 Council.

Every year at the November AGM, we vote in a new Council when all Council positions are declared vacant. Our Constitution allows for 12 members to make up our Council with 11 of these being elected and one is ex-officio. The past President is automatically a member of Council as an ex-officio member.

The Executive comprises five positions:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

There are also six positions of Councillor.

Council is responsible for the control and management of the society — without it ANPS cannot legally exist or operate.

This year a number of Council members will not be standing for re-election and we will have vacancies including President, Vice-President, Secretary and several Councillor positions. So it is crucial that members come forward and nominate for a position on our next Council.

All the Council members and other members who take on roles, tasks and responsibilities in ANPS are volunteers. ANPS could not function or exist without our members volunteering. One

major job that also needs to be filled is that of **Membership Secretary**. The person doing this job does not have to be on Council but should manage our membership database and mailing lists.

A minimum of six council members is required to make a quorum and a minimum of six Council meetings are required each year for the Society to operate legally. The day and place of Council meetings is up to the Council to decide.

None of the Council roles are onerous and the other members of Council and ANPS are there to support and assist. It can be very rewarding to be involved in the running of the Society and ensuring its continued success. ANPS has existed for more than 50 years and has a deserved reputation for providing quality information about native plants as well as the plants themselves.

Please seriously consider nominating someone or being nominated for a position on our next Council. We will elect our next year's Council members at the Members/Annual General Meeting on 9 November 2017.

You can talk to any Councillor for more information.

Nominations can be made before the AGM by contacting:

the President, Lucinda Royston
Ph 0429 133 449.

Species in the City

Words and photos by Janet Russell

When we moved to our apartment in Constitution Avenue we were living in a different environment from the one we moved from. Our garden in Aranda had eucalyptus trees and an understorey of native shrubs, grasses and forbs.

We are now not far from Mt Ainslie but our immediate environment is almost totally made up of exotic trees, many of them Oak trees. We do overlook three Southern Blue Gums, *Eucalyptus globulus bicostata* to the north of the apartments. They are not a local tree but have been extensively planted around Canberra including Anzac Avenue.

We started to explore Commonwealth and Kings Parks, first around Nerang Pool. I can't help myself, I spent time looking to see what native plants, birds and wildlife there were in what I saw was an alien environment.

I did find some native plants. There were numbers of *Epilobium hirtigerum*, Purple Loosestrife, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Dysphania pumilio*, and *Portulaca oleracea*. I do not like to suggest that some native plants are worthier than others but the latter two would be difficult to market as horticultural specimens.

The water plant, Purple Loosestrife is the pin-up although I am rather fond of the *Epilobium* species because of their attractive silvery seed pods which are often more conspicuous than the flowers. This may be an idiosyncratic affection



Lythrum salicaria



Dysphania pumilio

that is not shared by others. Cumbungi, *Typha* sp also grows on Nerang Pool and other watercourses in the Parks.

A rather attractive native Water Fern, *Azolla filiculoides* was growing further east in the more protected waters of a channel in Kings Park. Once the cooler weather came this plant disappeared. On a different scale, the River She-Oak *Casuarina cunninghamiana* subsp. *cunninghamiana*, such an elegant tree, has been planted along part of the Lake Burley Griffin shore.



Azolla filiculoides

St John's Church is our neighbour and we can observe the comings and goings of people marking the celebrations of the various stages of life from our balcony. At times the sound of ringing bells or the solemnity of bagpipes also permeate our consciousness. There was once a grassland on the property that has since degraded. Earlier this year I found various remnant species on the edge of the grassland that spilled over to the grassy, weedy bank to the road.

Amongst other species, I found the Yellowish Bluebell, *Wahlenbergia luteola*, Scrambled Eggs, *Goodenia pinnatifida* and Australian Bindweed, *Convolvulus angustissimus*.



Azolla filiculoides



Convolvulus angustissimus

On the opposite side of the Avenue I found some more Australian Bindweed growing out of cracks in the pavement, and further along the road in Campbell on one of the new C5 buildingsites, there was a particularly splendid floriferous specimen being supported by a fleabane weed over a metre tall.

Since then, the St John's grassland and the grassy bank has been weeded and tidied up and the building site has been excavated and building begun. The tidying up is part of beautifying the Avenue and side streets. Landscaping has been progressively done along Constitution Ave and is yet to be finished.

If any of the readers would like to take a stroll down Constitution Avenue from London Circuit past Anzac Parade and the C5 development in spring, they can check out the landscaping of native graminoids, forbs and shrubs that have been planted by the ACT Government. I enjoy this walk and am looking forward to the spring flowering. There are also a couple of cafes in Campbell where you can pause awhile and if you are lucky you will catch the antics of the twenty or so King Parrots in the trees opposite.



Three Banksias for your Garden

Banksia 'Yellow Wing'

By Ben and Ros Walcott
Photos: Ben Walcott

There are many attractive Banksias for the garden. Many species such as *Banksia serrata* are quite large as are some of the cultivars such as *Banksia ericifolia* 'Red Rover'. Other cultivars are relatively small and low growing such as *Banksia spinulosa* 'Birthday Candles' and 'Coastal Cushion'. It is often useful to have a plant that is intermediate in size between these extremes and we have found three such plants that work well in our garden.

Banksia 'Yellow Wing' is a cross between *Banksia* 'Giant Candles' x *B. spinulosa* (Carnarvon Gold) 'Birdwire', developed by Austraflo Nurseries in Victoria. It is a medium rounded shrub (1.8m x 1.8m) with fine foliage and large golden nectar-rich flowers from



Banksia 'Yellow Wing'

autumn to winter and are very attractive to spinebills and wattlebirds. The shrub has a rather open habit which allows the flower spikes to be very prominent and allow a view through the plant.

In our garden, we underplanted the young Banksias with *Eremophila* 'Kalbarri Carpet' which thrives in the partial shade and climbs up into the lower branches. There is an attractive contrast between the grey leaves of the Eremophilas and the green of the Banksia.

Moderately fast growing and hardy in frosty climates like ours, the plants are growing in heavy clay soil along one edge of our natural pond in full sun. The plants have many flowers which seem to last for months on the bush. The flower spikes are large, almost as big as *B. 'Giant Candles'* but the plants are much more vigorous. In our garden *B. 'Giant Candles'* does not thrive and becomes very chlorotic which no amount of Iron Chelate or other supplements seems to cure.

Each summer, we remove all the old flower heads but otherwise leave the plants alone. They do get some additional water during the summer and we use a small amount of slow release native fertiliser in spring and autumn. So far we haven't pruned the plants and have let them form their natural rather open shape. *Banksia 'Yellow Wing'* is a very successful low maintenance plant in our garden.

A second plant is ***Banksia 'Bulli Baby'*** which is a cultivar of *Banksia ericifolia nana* which was originally found in the Bulli area. It has fine linear bright green leaves and spectacular orange/red spikes during autumn and winter. These flower spikes can be up to 20cm long and are produced in large numbers



Banksia 'Bulli Baby' (above and below)



on even a quite small plant. It prefers a sunny to partly shaded position in well-drained soil although it is growing well in our rather heavy clay. It is in full sun although among other plants and is about two metres high and upright in shape. It is narrower than *B. 'Yellow Wing'* and much more upright.



Banksia spinulosa 'Honey Pots' (above and below)

Finally, the third is ***Banksia spinulosa* 'Honey Pots'**. This plant was originally developed in Victoria in 1999 and has been available for many years in a number of nurseries. While some sources suggest it is a "dwarf", in our garden it is at least 1.5 m high and wide. It is thriving in fairly heavy clay soil in full sun with exposure to frost and winds. It is relatively fast growing and is quite a dense shrub. It flowers profusely with gold flowers with bright red styles. The flowers have a very strong honey scent hence the name of the plant.

All three of these banksias are great garden plants particularly where there is limited space. Because they are taller



than other cultivars such as *Banksia* 'Birthday Candles', other plants can be established among them. They flower profusely during the winter months which provides nectar for the birds and pleasure for the gardener.

ANPSA 2018 Conference — Hobart Grass Roots to Mountain Tops



Hobart Waterfront — Business Events Tasmania



The Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) Inc. (ANPSA) National Biennial Conference, in conjunction with the ANPSA Biennial Meeting and Seminar, is being held in Hobart, Tasmania in January 2018.

Dates

Sunday 14 January

Seminar and Biennial Meeting

Monday 15 to Friday 19 January
Conference

Highlights

Pre- and post-Conference tours on King Island, Bruny Island, alpine and rainforest areas of the Tasmanian mainland and Hobart and Environs including National Parks and World Heritage areas.

Program

An excellent program of speakers: A J Swaby Address, Conference dinner, Reception at Government House, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens 200th year, excursions to local plant communities and members' gardens, Study Group focus and of course, socialising with old and new friends.

Key Dates

King Island Tour closed

Early-bird registration closed

15 December standard registration closes

Registration

Registration is open. Follow the links on the ANPSA website Home page <http://anpsa.org.au> to the Biennial Conference website.

Large Shrubs

Words and Photos by Masumi Robertson

Large shrubs are woody plants from 2.5m to 6m in height. They are great screening plants, but they may become leggy if left unattended. Some of them may be too large in smaller block gardens in Canberra. Some large shrubs could be used as small trees especially when pruned into a single trunk.

I chose 10 hardy, large shrubs from our book. They are good starting plants for a new garden to establish some protection for smaller, more delicate plants.

Acacia rubida



This is a very hardy wattle, found locally in Nature Parks and National parks. The shrub is covered with fragrant yellow ball flowers in spring. It is definitely drought, cold and clay hardy. We have cut back our 20-plus-year-old plant and it grew back well rejuvenated.

There are many large wattles in this section, many are hardy, but care should be taken which plant to use since some are known to spread by seeds and suckering. Some of these are becoming weedy in our bush. They include, but are not limited to, *A. boormanii*, *A. iteaphylla*, *A. longifolia* and *A. vestita*.

Babingtonia pluriflora



Our plant has been pruned every few years to keep it dense and about two metres high. Left as is, it will grow to four metres high. Its weeping

branches are covered with small white flowers even in the summer heat, late November to early December for us.

The flowers attract many insects: bees, butterflies, beetles and hundreds of hover flies. It is a very hardy screen plant. It has gone through a couple of name changes from *Baeckea virgata*, to *Babingtonia pluriflora* and now to *Sannantha pluriflora*. Today *B. virgata* is not an Australian plant, it occurs only in New Caledonia.

Banksia ericifolia



This is one of the most reliable Banksias, originating from the eastern side of our continent. Unlike those from WA, it is more tolerant of our clay soils and Phytophthora. Our plants are about five metres high and wide after 30 years. Its orange flowers in winter are a favourite source for the many nectar feeding birds in our garden. There are several smaller medium shrub size cultivars and different flower colours.

Banksia spinulosa

Another hardy banksia, usually much smaller than *B. ericifolia*; our plants are less than two metres high after more than 20 years. There are many different forms; plant sizes range from ground



Banksia spinulosa

cover through to small to large shrubs. Flower colour of this species is variable and a form with black styles is very striking. The best known cultivar is 'Birthday Candles' but other smaller size cultivars are worth a try.

Callistemon citrinus



This red bottlebrush is hardy and very adaptable; it can be pruned often to be a formal hedge, or left to grow up to be a small tree of five metres high with a single trunk. The plant flowers best when spent flowers are pruned keeping the plant bushy. Its main flowering is in spring with lots of large red brushes covering the plant, and it often flowers again in autumn. One of its cultivars, 'Splendens' (also known as 'Endeavour')

has lots of large, bright red flowers and is only two metres high. There are forms with other flower colours. One of the smallest ones is 'White Anzac'.

Goodia lotifolia



Lots of cheerful yellow pea flowers cover this very hardy shrub from September to October. Our plants are remaining smaller than two metres high. We expect the plant will grow taller with more moisture, but it still flowers well in a dry site with very little summer watering. It is a relatively open shrub for us.

Grevillea 'Poorinda Peter'



This quick growing *Grevillea* is a favourite hiding place for small birds, such as finches and wrens. The dense growth is also useful as a nesting site.

The plant flowers for a long time from spring into autumn; the new growth is followed by well-displayed red toothbrush flowers, frequented by our nectar feeding birds. The whole plant; red new growth, attractive leaves and red flowers serve well as cut flowers too. Our original plant died leaving a gap of over five metres diameter, but left a chance layered (rooted) branch which has now grown up and is flowering well.

Hakea macraeana



One of several hardy, white flowering *Hakeas* from the east. Unlike the WA species, these eastern Australian species are reliable and hardy. This large shrub becomes covered with fragrant, white flowers in spring. The needle like leaves are not as sharp as they appear and the slightly weeping branches are very attractive. We find it relatively quick growing and good for small birds.

Kunzea ericoides

A very hardy local species, it can form a dense hedge when pruned often, or grow up to three metres high and two metres wide. Its small white flowers cover the plant in summer, about December for us, and insects move from our *Babingtonia pluriflora* to this *Kunzea*,



feeding on its abundant nectar. Our plants were planted in autumn-winter, watered in once and left on their own. Many of the Wednesday Walkers would have heard of Ros's battle with this plant on her block. They are hardy in their native habitat, as well as many garden situations, but can become invasive in disturbed soils. We have not seen any volunteers in our garden, however. Another favourite is *K. ambigua*.



Pomaderris intermedia

This is the yellow flowering *Pomaderris* on Black Mountain, often seen from Belconnen Way in spring. The shrubs grow up to 3 m high and are covered with bright yellow flowers. Pruning after flowering to remove spent flowers will keep this handsome large leaved plant looking good. It is one of several species found in the ACT region and it's flowers are very attractive.



Olearia tenuifolia, a rare plant, Mt Majura Nature Reserve; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer



Catfish Waterhole

Words and photos by Roger Farrow

Most of you know that Christine and I spend our winters at our hideaway in the Daintree rainforest. One of our favourite spots to visit is Lakefield National Park to the north, a tropical savanna woodland dotted with lagoons that are fed by a network of channels and rivers during the wet season.

The park is accessed from Cooktown across the rugged Battlecamp Range, a road that is now thankfully largely sealed. Before we climb the range, the road crosses Isabella Falls, a great place to stop for morning tea and observe a wide range of plants that flower there in winter. Species in the genera *Banksia*, *Hibbertia*, *Hovea*, *Jacksonia*, *Leucopogon* and *Tricoryne*, are easily

recognised from their temperate counterparts but others are more exclusively tropical such as *Dischidia* and *Melastoma*. *Melastoma affine* is an interesting shrub as its flowers exhibit heteranthy (two types of stamens). The anthers are poricidal (pollen released through terminal pores) and are buzz pollinated by native bees.



Isabella Falls



Jacksonia thesioides



Hibbertia sp.; Note the asymmetric stamens



Wire Lily, *Tricoryne anceps*



Native lasiandra, *Melastoma affine*, showing two types of stamen



Button orchid, *Dischidia nummularia*; Not an orchid



Leucopogon ruscifolius



Climbing the Battlecamp Range

The climb up the Battlecamp Range reveals extensive views over a rugged country that the miners had to cross from Cooktown to reach the Palmer River Goldfields. During the right season, you may see the spectacular orange-flowered gum, *Eucalyptus phoeniceus*, in this area. This is normally only seen in the Kimberly but there is a local occurrence in the Battlecamp Range.



Eucalyptus phoeniceus

Another spectacular but widespread plant is the Golden Parrot tree, *Grevillea pteridifolia*, that is a parent of many garden hybrids. The spectacular mistletoe, *Dendrophthoe glabrescens*, may be seen hanging from some of the eucalypts.

In the understorey you may get a glimpse of the scarlet of the bloodroot,



Golden Parrot tree, *Grevillea pteridifolia*



Mistletoe, *Dendrophthoe glabrescens*



Bloodroot, *Haemodorum coccineum*

Haemodorum coccineum, and a wedge pea, *Gompholobium pinnatum*, among the grasses. You will notice that the keel of this *Gompholobium* is reversed to a dorsal position with the flags below. This allows large carpenter bees in the genus *Xylocopa* to land and push back



Wedge pea, *Gompholobium pinnatum*

the keel to gain access to the pollen bearing anthers.

After descending from the Battlecamp Range, the road crosses the flood plain of the Norman River and enters the National Park. The first lagoon worth visiting is Horseshoe with its abundant birdlife, although the margins are

increasingly churned up by feral pigs searching for water lily bulbs. Scattered trees of the freshwater mangrove, *Barringtonia acutangula*, grow in shallow water but most of the water surface is covered with giant waterlilies, *Nymphaea gigantea*, whose individual blooms last only a morning.



Giant water lilies, *Nymphaea gigantea*



Horseshoe lagoon with freshwater mangrove



Young *Corypha* palms lining farther lagoon bank



Corypha palm in fruit

The *Corypha* palm, *Corypha utan*, is a dominant tree of the gallery forests along the watercourses. It is monocarpic, that is, it grows for many decades and only flowers once, producing many thousands of fruits, and then dies. The leaves senesce as the head of flowers develop giving the palm a totally different appearance.

Depending on the amount of late rains and timing of the visit, moist table drains on the roadside are often a good source of small herbaceous plants in the Park.



Ectrosia leporina



Fringe Lily, *Thysanotus chinensis*



Xyris pauciflora



Xenostigia tridentata



Unknown

The road north through the park passes New Laura and Lakefield ranger stations and a series of lagoons and watercourses that support gallery forest. The White Lily Lagoon and the misnamed Red Lily Lagoon (actually a Pink Lotus Lagoon) are renowned for their displays of aquatic plants and birds. However, a series of unusually dry wet seasons over the last decade has adversely affected the flowering of *Lotus nelumbo*. This is the only lagoon to be protected from pig damage by a boundary fence.



White lily lagoon



Limnophila sp. with a sugar bag bee visitor
(*Tetragonula* sp)



Water Primrose, *Ludwigia octovalvis*



Lobelia ?douglasiana



Sundew, *Drosera* sp.



Red Lily Lagoon covered with
sacred lotus, *Nelumbo nucifera*,
showing seed pods

My favourite spot in the Park is Hahn Crossing, where the road crosses a rock bar on the Kennedy River. Downstream is a series of deep waterholes lined by a thin strip of gallery forest, dominated by *Melaleuca*, *Elaeocarpus* and *Buchanania*.



Kennedy River, downstream waterhole



Same spot; Photo: Christine Kendrick



Arnhemland Quandong, *Elaeocarpus arnhemicus*,
(cauliflorous)



Satinwood, *Buchanania obovata*



Carpet of snowflake upstream of the crossing. The river is flowing over a shallow rock platform and safe to wade.



Snowflake, *Nymphoides indica*



Native Water hyacinth, *Monochoria australasica*



?*Commelina* sp.



Mounds of the grass-feeding magnetic termite, *Amitermes laurensis*, at Nifold

Turning west the road crosses the vast plain of Nifold, a treeless grassland characterised by large magnetic termite mounds. Its lack of trees is attributed to its cracking black clay soils.

The route leaves this grassland and enters paper bark seasonal swamp, dominated by *M. cajuputi*, grass-trees, *Xanthorrhoea johnsonii*, and a range of herbivorous plants. In wetter areas, there are trigger plants and lobelias, among others.



Paperbark seasonal swamp with grass-trees, *Xanthorrhoea johnsonii*



Paperbark, *Melaleuca cajuputi*



Hibiscus forsteri



Euvolulus alsinoides



Trigger Plant, *Stylidium* sp.



Buchnera tetragona



Teucrium sp.



Lobelia ?douglasiana

The next place worth a visit is Saltwater Creek which is notable for a stand of Kapok trees, *Cochlospermum gillivraie* (Bixaceae) growing on the wooded slopes away from the creek. This small tree loses its leaves in winter when its large golden flowers emerge and are succeeded by fat green pods which produce the fluffy kapok-like seeds.

It was collected by Solander on the Cook expedition and is shown in Banks' Florilegium. The pollen is shed from the anthers through terminal pores, called porocidal anthers, that are almost certainly vibration stimulated, probably by large bees, but this needs investigation.



Kapok tree, *Cochlospermum gillivraie*, flowers & fruit



Porocidal anthers of *Cochlospermum* flowers

There are two more lakes worth visiting, Low Lake and Sweetwater. These are surrounded by paper barks and gallery forest.

The lakes contain yet more waterlilies and waterside plants, including the unusual *Caldesia*, growing in shallow water, and the frogsmouth, *Philydrium lanuginosum*. The latter grows along the shoreline, a plant that occurs all the way down the east coast to Nowra and beyond.



Low Lake, one of the largest expanses of water in the Park



Caldesia oligococca



Acacia calyculata, Isabella Falls

I have not mentioned the many species of eucalypt and wattle that are found in the park, nor the rainforest trees and shrubs found in the gallery forests. Here



Frogsmouth, *Philydrium lanuginosum*

is my token wattle, *A. calyculata*, an attractive small, white-flowered species seen at Isabella Falls. There are also many species of plant that flower in the wet season (December to March) when the Park is closed.

This concludes my botanic tour of Lakefield National Park and its approaches. Isabella Falls and the Battlecamp Range can be visited on a day trip by 2WD from Cooktown. Seeing the remainder of the park involves camping with a 4WD vehicle (tent, camper-trailer or off-road caravan), preferably taking 3–4 days to cross the Park to Musgrave. There is accommodation just outside the northern end of the Park at Lotusbird Lodge.

Terra Australis Garden at the National Arboretum Canberra

By Ben Walcott

The National Arboretum in Canberra features 100 forests of rare, endangered and symbolic trees from around Australia and the world. It has become a national tourist destination even though many of the trees are still young but two of the forests are nearly 100 years old. More than 44,000 trees from over 100 countries are growing across the 250 hectare (618 acre) site, making it one of the world's largest living collections of rare, endangered and significant trees.

The National Arboretum is in the process of creating a 'Gallery of Gardens' which is a chain of seven gardens spread along a hillside from the main Visitors Centre. These gardens have been developed to raise awareness of, or pay tribute to, a range of Australian charities and community groups through a garden.

The Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) (ANPSA) has secured one of these gardens, the '**Terra Australis Garden**', as a wholly native plant garden featuring attractive modern cultivars and hybrids of Australian native plants.

The proposed design for the garden is an oval shape about 30m x 19m, surrounded by a hedge. **Lawrie Smith**, who designed the Roma Street

Parklands among many other botanic gardens, is leading the design team. Native plant expert **Angus Stewart** is helping out while we and others, will provide local knowledge of what will grow in Canberra on that site. We think this is a wonderful opportunity to not only show the public how attractive native plants can be but to encourage more people to use them in their own gardens.

The draft plan for the garden should appeal to all regions of Australia as there will be representative plants from most areas. The garden design concept takes the basic form of the Australian continent; the oval garden represents the island coastline and the Great Dividing Range sweeps across the continent from north-east to south, physically expressed in an appropriate landform.

Within this geographic form, the design philosophy is to create and interpret selected environments and plant communities of Australia that are known to be suitable to withstand the rigours of the Canberra climate.

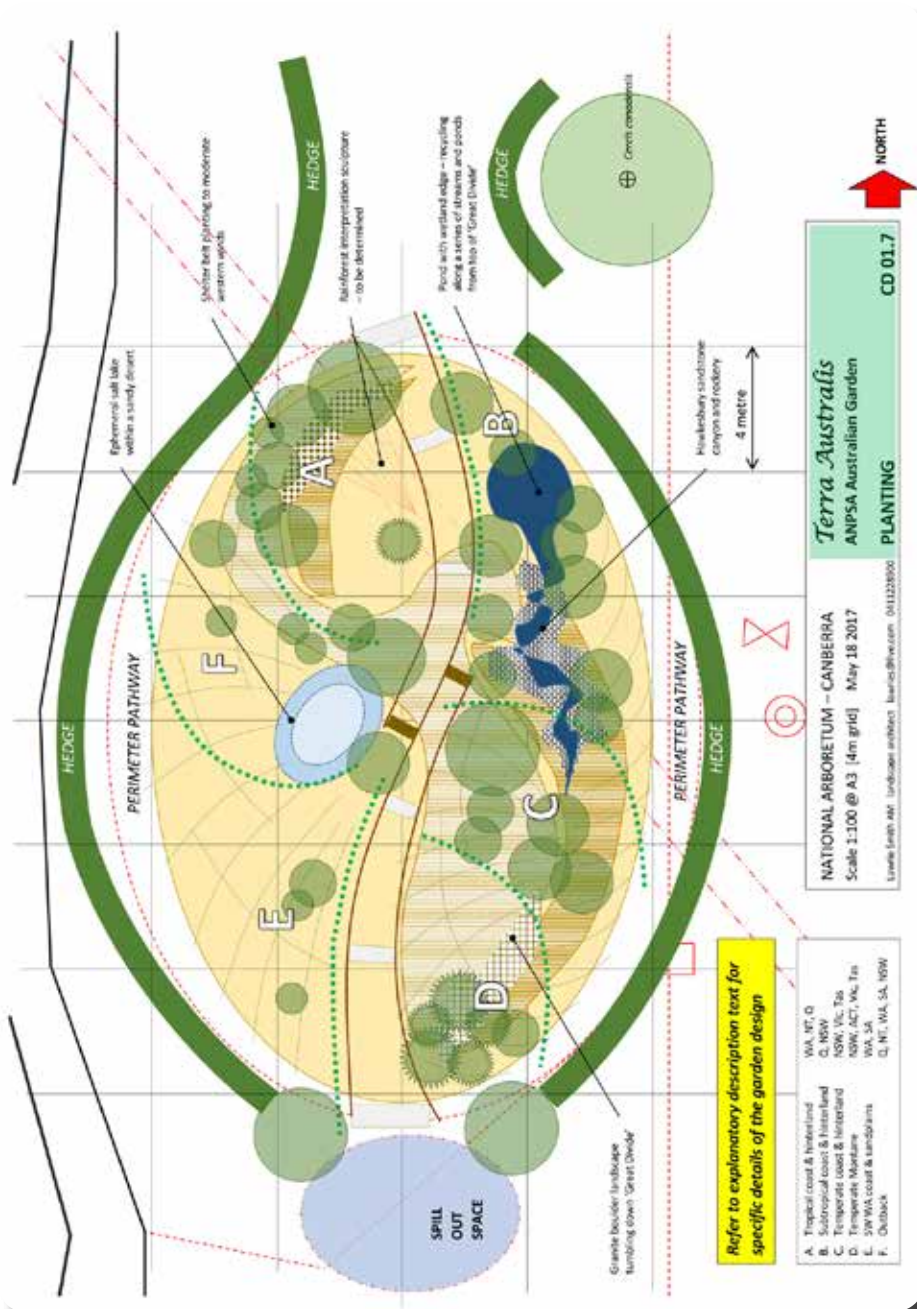
The intent is to invite the viewer to 'explore' the flora of Australia by meandering along the central pathway from north to south (or vice versa)



Events Terrace — Illustration of the Gallery of Gardens with the *Terra Australis Garden* at the most southern end

crossing the 'Great Divide' to experience a representative selection of the flora of the 'regions' traversed. The 'Great Divide' is represented on the plan in dark yellow for the gentler slopes and brown where they are steeper. Similarly, the perimeter pathway recalls the voyage of discovery and exploration around the coastline by many mariners.

The design also incorporates three distinct geological formations of basalt, sandstone and granite, plus a waterway (shown in dark blue) of a coastal river system flowing down through a sandstone 'gorge' to a pond that is suggestive of east coast bays and harbours. In the centre is an ephemeral dry lake (shown as a light blue oval).



Planting plan 1 — A general plan of the Garden with some indicative planting

The letters show six different Australian plant communities that will be represented, some using the actual plants where they will grow in Canberra's climate and others, such as the tropical zone community, in a more figurative or sculptural way:

Rather than only growing species plants, it is important to present to the public through this garden the continuing research and development process with Australian native plants. New selections and cultivars are regularly released commercially and this garden provides an ideal opportunity to establish and promote some of these 'new plants' — at least those that are likely to be successful in this location.

The garden should demonstrate in each of the zones a pleasing combination of colours and textures to ensure that at all times and seasons the garden

is attractive and has the necessary 'wow' factor. This means that seasonal rotation of some plants will be advisable/necessary to enhance the overall aesthetic and complement the permanent specimens. As the garden's design process continues, it may be simplified to ensure that the end result is appropriate as a public garden.

The Arboretum will hire a full-time gardener who will maintain the gallery of gardens as well as the event terrace gardens. This will be done initially in consultation with volunteers but ensures that maintenance is ongoing and doesn't depend on volunteers.

ANPS Canberra Region has been very generous in their support and the other regions of ANPSA have as well. We hope that the tenders will go out in September and that construction can start in November.



Solanum cinereum (detail), Uriarra Road Reserve; Photo: Brigitta Wimmer



Flowering in the snow in the Brindabella Mountains

Bush scene at Mt Franklin carpark

Words and photos by Lucinda Royston

It was a lovely, sunny, Canberra winter's day so we thought we'd go up to the snow in the Brindabellas. Only a short drive of an hour or so to Mt Franklin and Lloyd, who has lived all his life in the western plains of the Riverina, had never seen the snow.

From the Brindabella Road we turned onto Mt Franklin Road and got as far as Bulls Head where the gate across the road was locked. At least there was a bit of snow still left under the trees and in spots out of the sun. Luckily though as we had a cup of tea the Ranger arrived to open the road, letting us and another group through to Mt Franklin. It was a drive through snow-covered landscape and along a snow-covered, gravel Mt Franklin Road that was slippery from the melting, wet snow.

The next gate to Mt Ginini at Mt Franklin carpark was closed, as was the track up to Mt Franklin. Here there was enough snow for the other people to make a one-metre-tall snowman and for Lloyd to experience a snowy environment for the first time. It was a picturesque scene of snow gums and shrubs in the snow with the whiteness of the snow and the sunshine really brightening up the landscape.

It was the sight of *Grevillea lanigera* flowering though that was a treat — the lovely grey-green leaves and fat red flowers standing out in the white snow background and against the white and grey trunks of the snow gums (*Eucalyptus pauciflora*). It is a lovely native plant and one to grow in your garden. It is on the ANPS Plant Label database and appears regularly at our Plant Sales.

Grevillea lanigera

Description: Spreading shrub, mostly 0.2–1.5 m high

Leaves narrow-oblong to oblanceolate or \pm linear

Inflorescences usually pinkish at base and green to cream above

Flowering: winter/spring

Location: Grows in moist rocky places, in light to heavy soils



Lloyd and others in Mt Franklin carpark

We had a lovely drive in the sun to see our beautiful bushland in snow. Summer or winter, a visit to the Brindabellas is always worthwhile. Lloyd's verdict — snow didn't feel like he thought it would!



Grevillea lanigera flower



October 28th and 29th 10 am–4pm

Yellow Box — Spring Range

447 Spring Range Rd, Spring Range NSW
'Yellow Box' comprises about a hectare (ha) of a great variety of densely planted native plants on an elevated rocky knoll.

The garden, started in 1997, includes many meandering, pleasant paths taking visitors to many garden sections, including vegetable beds and an orchard. The 19 ha property, featuring some native pastures, also includes Landcare shelter belts on its perimeter.

Refreshments available.

November 11th & 12th 10 am–4pm

Pillans Garden

30 Aspen Rise, Jerrabomberra NSW

Planting of this large all-native garden began in 2003 — today there are over 1000 individual species, including many acacia and grevillea species, making for a spectacular spring display. One section of the garden has been developed as a dry 'rainforest' gully using species with glossy, dark green leaves.

Members of Open Gardens Canberra free (membership \$25/year, non-members \$8)

www.opengardenscanberra.org.au



Grevillea cultivars

Words and photos by Jeanette Jeffrey

What does an ANPS Study Group do with its expertise and propagated material acquired over many years?

Well the ANPS Grevillea Study Group started the Illawarra Grevillea Park at Bulli. The Botanic gardens, at both Sydney and Canberra, realised the value of their scientific collection and helped with approaches to the Wollongong City Council for land at Bulli.

Work began in 1983 and the park opened in 1990. It continues to be run by volunteers (regular working bees on Mondays).

The Park has significant infrastructure of raised garden beds, paved walkways,

café and fencing. A Visitors Centre is planned. They are in the process of putting the planting list of each garden bed on their website — and we all know how much work is involved in that! Colin and I enjoyed a July morning there on one of their 12 Open Days each year.

There is a terrific range of Grevilleas as well as Banksias, Correas, Westringias and Prostantheras to enjoy. One of the aims of the Park is “to encourage the appreciation and study of native plants”.

There are examples from all states, many grafted on to root stock which tolerates heavier, wetter soil and higher humidity. Some of them have been ‘wild’ sourced.

The Park has also become a repository for material from the Westringia and

Prostanthera Study Group. Many plants have clear name plates but still many do not and while we were there, people were tiptoeing on the beds to try to catch sight of a label or left wondering what the beautiful yellow grevillea putting on such a show was called.

Plantings show how native plants can be used in a domestic garden setting. *Grevillea* ‘Marmalade’ is used as a screen at the front of the Park, *Banksia integrifolia*, *G. banksii* and *G. ‘Royal Mantle’* are displayed as ground covers, rockery subjects or standards.



Grevillea ‘Marmalade’ — used as a large screen



Grevillea wickhamii



Grevillea ‘Royal Mantle’ — standard



Grevillea banksii ‘Ruby Red’



A mixed planting

G. 'Bulli Beauty' is a cultivar that arose from a seedling within the park. It was officially launched at a July 2005 Open Day.

An interesting range of natives is available for sale on Open Days. Unfortunately none from the propagation work of the Study Groups.

Unfortunately, on a visit to the Park, there is no trace of a connection to the Society or the Study Groups. This seems to be a lost opportunity to promote membership of our society or even awareness of a group to contact for further information.



Grevillea 'Honey Gem'

The Illawarra Grevillea Park is just off the Pacific Highway, behind Bulli Showground and the next Open Days are the weekend of September 2nd, 3rd and 9th, 10th. It is well worth a visit.

Visit to Oakey Creek



Planted avenue of mixed Eucalyptus species

Words: Bob Nader; Photos: Bill Willis

On 13 June this year, members of ANPS Canberra Daytime Activities Group and Garden Design Study Group visited Bob Nader's garden in Wallaroo, NSW. Following is his garden story.

In May 2003 we moved to Oakey Creek, four months after the devastating bushfires in Canberra. 'The Rivers', the property we had been leasing on Uriarra Crossing, was engulfed in the most severe firestorm. Luckily, we survived, along with our seven horses and four of our five dogs.

The previous owners of Oakey Creek had built the house and completed some basic landscaping. Apart from that the property was in a fairly run-down

condition. The property had not been properly fenced and there was erosion on the creek and a profusion of broad-leaved weed and African lovegrass.

Consequently there was a lot of work to do. We started off expanding the garden around the house by planting deciduous trees, a common practice on properties such as this one. Cedric Bryant, whom I have known for many years, visited us a few times and recommended to plant trees in clumps. You will notice that trees have been planted in groups of fours and fives around the farm.

The native plantings started reasonably early in combination with soil conservation. The creek was very eroded



Acacia species used in creek restoration

and you can still see areas to this day of fairly deep erosion gullies. In those days they used to 'batten down' the banks which entailed getting a bulldozer in and flattening the banks and filling in the erosion gullies. This practice was largely unsuccessful as after heavy rain the gullies reappeared.

After contacting Soil Conservation, I was advised that the best approach would be to fence the area off and let nature take its course. We began by very generously fencing off the creek. I met Damien who, as you know, has a nursery with some very fine plants for sale. Damien had a small group of tree planters available and we started planting trees along the creek. I improved the paddock fencing

and fenced off the road to the house, planting trees on both sides of the laneway.

Next we created tree-lanes, in particular on the north-eastern, eastern and south-eastern boundaries of the property. This included a remnant stand of eucalypts on the north-eastern side which now displays regrowth. We sometimes have picnics there in the summer.

After speaking to Leon Garry, (ex Mayor of Yass), who had developed a technique of self-seeding trees, I contacted Greening Australia who consequently implemented this technique to sow trees including

eucalypts and wattles along the top three borders of the property.

We also continued planting native shrubs and trees in the area in front of the house on the eastern side. It had originally been excavated to build up the garden around the house. There was a rocky hollowed out area there so I had a few loads of soil and mulch delivered to improve that area of the garden before proceeding to plant various natives.

These plants had to suffer through many years of severe drought; however, they were resilient and somehow survived. Through experience, I have learnt that for plants to thrive in this country, which is mainly granite, they

need to be carefully planted and kept well mulched.

I have recently started working on the garden on the western side of the house. The first job was to remove a gigantic Banksia Rose which took up a considerable amount of space and was also impacting on the integrity of the guttering and foundations of the house. We then planted out the area with a variety of beautiful natives which is to me the icing on the cake.

Along with improving our quality of life we are also attracting more species of native birds and animals. The creek area which was originally very barren, now has a resident population of wombats and is a real pleasure to walk through.



Poa species used in creek restoration

The creek now retains more water and we now have permanent billabongs with waterbirds and frogs galore.

We now have a secure water set-up on the property including an 8,000 gallon-an-hour bore which reticulates water to troughs in the paddocks and to the garden around the house. All the dams are fenced off to provide a haven for native vegetation, wildlife and birds.

More recently, we have reticulated water to dam areas and other areas with recent tree plantings around the property.

Since the recent ANPS visit to our property, which we very much appreciated, we have had some extensive landscaping completed including the installation of a pond and fountain.



Bob Nader (right) talking to DAGs



Ian Tranter (centre), Mike Shihoff (right) admiring an *Allocasuarina nana*

Snapshots from the Atherton Tableland

Photos: Gail Ritchie Knight



Rainbow Lorikeet feeding on *Grevillea Moonlight*, Herberton



Eastern Spinebill Honeyeater feeding on *Banksia spinulosa* (Hairpin Banksia), Herberton



Ficus virens Cathedral Fig Tree, Danbulla; about 500 yrs old



Basket fern, Gillies Lookout, Danbulla



Millaa Millaa Waterfall

Study Group Notes

By Brigitta Wimmer, Study Group Liaison Officer, ANPS Canberra Region

Acacia Study Group

Newsletter 17, July 2017

- From the Leader
- Welcome
- From Members and Readers
- *Acacia phasmoides*
- *Acacia granitica*
- *Acacia spirorbis* ssp *spirorbis*
- *Acacia glaucoptera* and *A. bifaria*
- *Acacia nicholsonensis*
- *Acacia wollarensis*
- Australian Botanical Links to Uruguay
- Weedy Acacias in the news
- Books
- Seed Bank
- Study Group Membership

Brachychiton and Allied Genera Study Group

Newsletter 45, June 2017

- Flowering patterns for 2016–2017
- Red Peduncles
- A few assorted images — *B. sp.* Ormeau, *B. grandiflorus*, *B. Mt White*
- Climate etc.
- Welcome to new (& returning) members

Newsletter 46, late June 2017

- Flowering patterns for 2016–2017
- Hybrid flowers last summer at Beachmere
- New unflowered hybrids

- Other flowers from last summer
- Battered bottle tree soldiers on
- A buttress-rooted kurrajong
- Seeds available

Eremophila Study Group

Newsletter 11 May 2017

- Contents Letter from the Editor
- What's New in the Study Group
 - New members
 - Leavings
 - Website
- Eremophilas in the News
- Update from Pinery Fires
- *Eremophila calcicola*
 - Horticulture
 - Propagation
- *Eremophila glabra* Canning Stock Route
- Chimeras
 - How to tell if you have a chimera
 - Distinguishing chimeras from hybrids
 - Eremophila chimeras
 - How to create a chimera
 - Uses of a chimera
- Eremophilas in Sydney — the effects of flooding rains
- Open Garden at Lyn Barfield's
- Events
 - Sydney meeting
 - Queensland meeting
 - ESG Gathering 8–10 Sept 2017
 - Victorian meeting

- From Your letters
- Subscriptions
- Future Newsletter Themes
 - *Eremophila calorhabdos*
 - Eremophilas in Hanging Baskets
 - Grafting survey
- Errata
- About the Study Group

Garden Design Study Group

Newsletter No 99

- Leaders Comments
- Correspondence:
 - Diana Snape
 - Anita Dwyer
 - Liz Bartholomeusz
 - Jill Mitchell
- Congratulations and thanks!
- Report of Melbourne meeting
- GDSGQ Meeting notes May 2017
- GDSGQ Correspondence
- GDSG Residential Garden Design
- Garden Design Workshop
- GDSGQ Meeting notes July 2017
- Drawing Garden plans with Word
- Canberra Garden Visit
- Treasurer's report
- Index

Grevillea Study Group

Newsletter 107, June 2017

- GSG Programmes for 2017 — Vic, NSW & SE Qld
- Editorial
- Obituaries
- Taxonomy
- Grevillea News
- In the Wild
- In the Garden
- Seedbank
- Financials

Waratah & Flannel Flowers Study Group

Newsletter 13 June 2017

- Maria writes
- From the members
- Telopea trials
- Growing Flannel Flowers
- *Telopea aspera*
- Sylavan Grove Native Garden
- Checklist of *Telopea* species and varieties
- Checklist of *Actinotus* species and varieties



Mangroves, Cowie Beach, Cape Tribulation, Qld; Photo: Gail Ritchie Knight

For Sale



Snowy Mountains cottage nature retreat, Talbingo NSW

I have a Snowy Mountains cottage nature retreat in Talbingo NSW that I am hoping to sell in the near future. In the yard I have planted an extensive food forest (ie berry plants, fruit and nut trees, veggie beds and heaps of herbs), mixed with native plants to attract native birds and insects.

The house has two bedrooms, one bathroom and one enclosed car space, with room for more in the driveway. It is heated via the wood stove in the lounge area and has two decks — one of which boasts stunning views over



Jounama Dam and the mountains in the North and West.

At the moment, I am looking for expressions of interest from keen gardeners and people who genuinely care for local wildlife.

Mary Ormay Ph: 0415 629 924

Australian Native Plants Society, Canberra Region Inc.

The aims of the Society are to foster the recognition, conservation and cultivation of Australian native plants.

Meetings are held at 8 pm on the second Thursday of each month, February to December, in Canberra. Visitors are always welcome.

Day and weekend field trips to locations of outstanding botanical interest are organised on a regular basis.

The Society publishes a Bulletin in all months except January, and this quarterly Journal in March, June, September and December.

Website: nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Membership Fees

Single or family memberships are the same price.

Basic membership including Bulletin and Journal — \$35 (\$18*)

Full membership including Bulletin, Journal and Australian Plants — \$50 (\$33*)

Life member subscribing to Australian Plants — \$15

* Concession rates apply to pensioners (Centrelink), full-time students and unemployed.

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Back cover: *Banksia robur*, flower developing, Australian National Botannic Gardens; Photo: Helen Brewer

