

Australian Native Plants Society Canberra (ANPSC)

Annual Plan For the Year 2022

ANPSC is one of the eight state-territory affiliates of ANPSA. We are a small non-profit organisation run by volunteers, earning and spending less than \$50,000 annually.

The Society's key purposes are improving the horticulture of Australian native plants plus preserving these plants and their habitats. Elected at the 2021 Annual General Meeting, our governing body is a Council of seven members, which must meet at least six times this year. In the Constitution, at least eight general meetings (Member Meetings) ought to be held each year, but we aim for 11 in 2022.

COVID has disrupted Society activities in 2021 — pushing Council meetings to Zoom, forcing cancellations of some Member Meetings and Field Trips, the October 2021 Plant Sale, and Wednesday Walks generally. But the Propagation Group has mostly continued, the new Plant Database went live in July 2021, and the Society's plant book Australian Plants for Canberra Region Gardens and other Cool Climate Areas went into another reprint.

The Society makes these brief statements of its plans and intentions for 2022.

Affiliations and Governance

- At January 2022, ANPSC President is also the Delegate and Public Officer for ANPSA. As Delegate, they will continue to log in to ANPSA meetings.
- Apart from ANPSA, other "Friends" of ANPSC are Friends of Grasslands, Australian Flora Foundation, Canberra Ornithologists Group, Conservation Council ACT, and Southern Tablelands Ecosystem Park.
- Our members will attend the ANPSA national conference, September 2022.
- ANPSC duly submitted its Annual Return to the ACT regulator in December 2021. The next Return is due after our AGM of November 2022.
- ANPSC held 10 Council Meetings in 2021, but only five Member Meetings, due to COVID. We seek to hold the full commitment of meetings in 2022.
- ANPSC publishes its Constitution (last amended November 2019) and other Policies on its website.
- ANPSC President maintains a register of Society "Offices and Jobs".
- The ANPSC has a nominee who links to national "Plant Study" Groups, and individual ANPSC members are prominent in these Groups.

Finances

- 2020–21 Society income was lower than usual. In 2021–22, we aim for higher income figures, to meet or beat expenses.
- The Auditor will be asked to give a better breakout of expenses and assets in the 2021–22 Financial Statements.
- While maintaining prudent reserves, the Society will look for fresh opportunities under its Donations Policy (covering research support, plant and book donations, and "untied" support for organisations).
- Society's "Accounts and Delegations" arrangements are to be revised in 2022.

Memberships

- At January 2022, total Society membership including partners was close to 300. The Society aims to keep membership around this level, or higher.
- With Plant Sales, membership fees are a valuable ANPSC income source.
- The Membership "pitch" will be promoted at public events like Plant Sales, and other promotions may be considered, should memberships flag.
- The Society will continue to promote and conduct at least eight (ideally 11) Member Meetings annually, seeking relevant speakers, and with good attendance.

Activities and Working Groups

- ANPSC pursues its key objectives through an array of activities and working groups, always seeking fresh opportunities for these.
- ANPSC has Memoranda (MoUs — Memoranda of Understanding) for cooperation with ANBG and Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT), covering use of their facilities. In return, we give ANBG a financial donation after each Plant Sale, and CIT receives plant donations, usually 100 annually.
- Twice-yearly Plant Sales continue as the Society's flagship public event and income spinner. COVID permitting, we aim for two sales, not one, in 2022. The Sales will continue to innovate, in its marketing and its technical organisation.
- Plants come from affiliated Growers and the Propagation Group, which despite COVID disruption in 2021, sold 1900 plants. In 2022, the Propagation Group seeks to resume service to normal Plant Sales, also holding regular working bees and putting more emphasis on training.
- Wednesday Walkers and Field Trips are popular field activities, but with COVID disruption, 2021 saw few Walks and only three Field Trips. Under 2022 COVID conditions, only a gradual recovery can be anticipated.
- Daytime Activity Group/Garden Design Study Group (DAGs) continued strongly in 2021, meeting regularly, apart from July–September.
- Plant Book Working Group is in abeyance, but the Book (see below) continues to be popular and was reprinted late 2021.

Website and Other Publications

- The website (nativeplantscbr.com.au) is the Society's information gateway, key pitch to potential members, and key resource for existing members.
- Website topics are Plant Guides, Events, Book, About Us, Memberships, Publications, Council, Our Policies, and Conservation (Submissions).
- Conservation Submissions are a way into a broader environment role.
- In addition, the front page of the website highlights the Society's new "Plant Database" of "Over 2500 Plants [suitable] for the Canberra Region".
- At January 2022, the Society was dealing with an issue over photo copyrights on the Database, to be resolved this year. The old "Plant Label Data Base", from Sunlit Plains, is scheduled for removal.
- The website advertises the Society's notable \$30 Plant Book, the go-to for Canberra region native-plant growers, now into the second printing of the 5th edition. With Plant Sales, the Book is a valuable ANPSC income source.
- Other publications on the website are Plant Guides, Brochures, Conservation Submissions, and nearly 400 Wednesday Walk Reports, many of which contain invaluable plant lists for the location(s) visited.
- The webmasters ensure that website information is regularly assessed for timeliness, relevance and accuracy.
- ANPSC "Bulletin" (monthly, via Mailchimp) and "Journal" (quarterly, via hard copy) are circulated separately, as key services to members. For members only, both are also available online at our website.
- In the case of the Journal, given the limited Society resources, an issue for 2022 is to survey members as regards frequency and format.