

Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

GPO Box 1570 Canberra ACT 2601 ABN 17717 346 075 https://nativeplantscbr.com.au ISSN 1447-1515

Bulletin February 2024

Members Meeting

Thursday, 8 February

7.30 pm** note ANBG access times below.

ANBG Theatrette, Clunies Ross St, Black Mountain.

** Please note —our gate minder will open the ANBG gates at 6.50pm and close them at 7.35pm so (s)he can attend the meeting.

Gate Minder: Gail Ritchie Knight

Meeting Book Sales: See item on page 3.

February Raffle prizes: Plants provided by member grower Phil Fradd.

Show and Tell: Please bring along any plant material or pot plants you think we would find interesting and like to see.

Important Reminder: bring Myrtaceae specimens into ANBG in plastic bags.

ANPSC Membership renewal due 1 January 2024.

ANPSC membership year is the calendar year and you should <u>renew your</u> <u>membership this month</u> via our website. Please go to page 3 for details on how best to do your renewal.

Karen Brien, Membership Secretary.

ANPSC Council for 2023/2024

At its December meeting, Council was pleased to endorse **Catherine Bridges** as an eighth Council member, and most importantly also as **our new Treasurer**. Catherine is a new member of the Society who enjoyed volunteering at our Spring 2023 Plant Sale.

While the Council is now in a much steadier position, we'd always appreciate inquiries from other members interested in joining. Especially, anyone interested to stand for the President role, when I vacate in November. Steve Saunders, President,

president@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Meeting Talk: Flinders Ranges to Mt Remarkable National Park - walking the Northern section of the Heysen Trail.

This talk will cover practical aspects of Peter and Sonia's hike last year, the impressive landforms of the Northern and Southern Flinders Ranges, and plant species they encountered along the way.

Guest Speaker: Peter Chandler

Peter worked as a research scientist at CSIRO Plant Industry for many years, studying hormonal regulation of growth of barley and wheat. His principal research interest was the plant hormone gibberellin, in particular defining the genes involved in hormone synthesis, hormone perception and signal transduction. Since retirement Peter has pursued interests in native plants and conservation.

Rock isotome (Isotoma petraea) in the central Flinders Ranges SA. Photo by Peter Chandler.



New arrangements for our Journal – now online.

As previously advised, ANPSC's Journal is going online and will no longer be printed and mailed out – from now on articles will be posted on our website: https://nativeplantscbr.com.au

Calling for online Journal articles

Our editorial team are eager to receive articles, be they short or long, with or without photos. But remember, a picture tells a thousand words. There will be no deadline for submissions. Rather, they will be posted on the Home page of our website as we receive them.

Articles can cover a range of topics eg your favourite plant, a description of a walk in a local reserve or a camping trip in a national park, your experience in gardening, be it improving an existing garden or starting from scratch, your disappointments or successes, or perhaps your experience in growing your own either by seed or cuttings, or even your opinion of a book you enjoyed. The possibilities are endless. But remember, it's all about Australian native plants.

Submit articles to <u>journal@nativeplantscbr.com.au</u>. Gail Ritchie Knight.

Exhibitions at ANBG

Visitor Information Centre 9.30am to 4.30pm, daily

Transformations: Art of the Scott Sisters Until 25 February

This exhibition brings to life the work of Harriet and Helena Scott. With their paintbrushes, microscopes and magnifying glasses, they worked together to transform nature into art in extraordinary paintings of moths and butterflies.



Gardening Gloves Until 25 February

An exhibition by local artist Sharon Peoples featuring sophisticated individual embroidered gloves using moths and butterflies found in the Canberra hills.



A charm of native bees 29 February to 1 April

Immerse yourself in the marvel of Australian native bees through intricate and lifelike watercolour paintings by Cheryl Hodges. Cheryl's larger-than-life artworks encapsulate the allure and diversity of native bees discovered at the Australian National Botanic Gardens.





'Gardens for Life'
30 September to 4 October 2024
Melbourne Conference and Exhibition Centre

Hosted by APS Victoria
We encourage all ANPSC members to consider attending this conference.

For more details and to register your interest go to: https://apsvic.org.au/anpsa-biennial-conference-2024/

*Australian Native Plants Society Australia

ANBG Thursday Talks

12.30 - 1.30pm, Theatrette

Bookings open Friday before the talk until Wednesday night or until seating limits are reached. (Tickets are Free). https://www.friendsanbg.org.au/calendar

1 Feb	'I am a sucker for getting people out into nature' - Sally Barnes
8 Feb	'The Rare Bloom Project: A partnership approach to conserving Australian wildflowers' - Bradley Desmond
15 Feb	'On estimating waterbird abundance and trend across eastern Australia' - Dr Peter Caley
22 Feb	'Emergency feeding of Mountain Pygmy-possums after the Black Summer fires' - Dr Linda Broome
29 Feb	'Art in the Bark: The Indigenous carved boab trees of northwest Australia' - Distinguished Professor Sue O'Connor

Plant Sales

ANBG Growing Friends Plant Sale Saturday, 2 March, 9.00 to 11.30am (unless sold out earlier)

ANBG Banksia Centre Car Park.

There will be well over 1000 plants species. The full list of plants, and their descriptions, will be available on the Friends website 1-2 weeks prior to the sale.

Plants are \$6 and all sale proceeds help support the Gardens. Sales will be by card only and prospective buyers are encouraged to socially distance.

Next ANPSC Plant Sale is our Autumn Sale on 16 March 2024 at ANBG

Australian Native Plant Market At Cool Country Natives, Pialligo Next Market Day - Saturday 3 February, 8.30am-3pm.

This market is held on first Saturday of the month except in January and June to August.

Where to buy Native Plants in the Canberra Region Brochure

The 2023 version of ANPSC's *Where to buy Native Plants in the Canberra Region* is now available. Go to https://nativeplantscbr.com.au/

ANPSC calendar & services

Book Sales at Members Meetings

We have a few titles of new books at set prices - all very good value and a good range of second-hand books, donated by members, for a donation of your choice.

Next Council Meeting: Monday 5 February at 12.30pm, Dickson Room, Banks Building, ANBG.

Council Business - Council Minutes are on our website in Members Area under 'Minutes'.

December 2023 Council Minutes will go up on the website after they are approved at the February Council Meeting.

Next Bulletin: March 2024 If you have any items you think would be of interest to our members including photos, please send them by Wednesday 28 February to bulletin@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Members Meeting Speakers

Send speaker suggestions to our speaker organiser, Roger Farrow at r.farrow@iimetro.com.au

Write-ups of Member's Meetings talks

For those who may not be able to attend meetings, we are including articles on the speaker presentations in our Journal.

Updating your email Preferences

To change your Mailchimp preferences/details:

- Personal details; and
- Members Groups activity preferences.

Go to a link at the bottom of the page of any Mailchimp announcement such as your Bulletin email. Just above the **black rectangle with MailChimp at the very bottom of the page is an underlined link <u>update your preferences</u>. If you click on that you will be sent an email that you use to take you to the webpage where you can change your details. Example:

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.



ANPSC Contacts

President: Stephen Saunders

president@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Secretary: Vacant

secretary@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Membership Secretary: Karen Brien membership@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Bulletin Editor: Lucinda Royston bulletin@nativeplantscbr.com.au

ANPSC Notices

No new Members to report this month:

Renewing your membership Instructions on how to renew have been emailed to all members.

Renewals are done using our website through the Members Area. **Please do not use** the new membership area.

Life members please contact the membership secretary to be given your voucher code to renew without making a payment.

Any queries please contact Karen Brien at membership@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Item of Interest - from Bill Willis

'Another study on soil microbial diversity.'

Fungal and bacterial diversity linked to 3 factors: climate, pH and land cover. pH is the only one you can manage.

So,

- 1. Don't worry about your soil's microbial diversity.
- 2. If you want to manage it, don't let your pH get too low. pic.twitter.com/pvcjUU1zq8

Andrew McGuire @agronomistag 11/1/24

ANPSC's Plant Database - photos wanted.

You can specify if the Society can use your photos for other purposes or just the online Plant Database. You can check if a species is already illustrated by searching the Database at

https://plantdatabase.nativeplantscbr.com.au Contact for queries is Lyndal Thorburn at lthorburn@viria.com.au

Australian Plants publication

Produced quarterly by the Australian Plants Society, NSW on behalf of the Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) (ANPSA).

Members who wish to subscribe to

Australian Plants contact:

office@austplants.com.au
For more information go to:

https://anpsa.org.au/about/publications/



Members Activities

Conservation

Item of Interest - from Rosemary Blemings

'Beauty's in the eye of the landholder Senecio macrocarpus - a daisy story' https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2a5qD7-b g

Propagation Propagation group queries to propagation@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Newcomers are always very welcome to join the propagation group activities and no experience is necessary. You do need to register your interest by emailing propagation@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Propagation Cutting Bee Saturday 17 February, 9.30 to12.30 CIT, Charles Weston Lane, off Eade St, Bruce.

'We will be doing cuttings. By then some weeding will no doubt be needed as well.

Please bring cuttings from your garden, secateurs, water and a snack and mug for morning tea.

All welcome. There are always plenty of jobs to go around; no experience necessary.

If intending to come, please let me know by email to propagation@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Nola McKeon



Eucalyptus grandis, Flooded Gum, the largest tree in NSW. It is 400 years old, 76.2m above mean ground level, Myall Lakes National Park.

Photos by Gail Ritchie Knight

Grevillea obtusifolia subsp. fecunda. Declared endangered, Capertee National Park.



ANPSC Plant Sales

Our Plant Sale Coordinators are Alison Roach and Georgie Till.

Contact: plantsales@nativeplantscbr.com.au

ANPSC's next Plant Sale is our Autumn Sale on 16 March at ANBG.

Volunteers needed for the Plant Sale

'The Sale is being held on Saturday 16 March, with setup day on the Friday, and organisation is underway. As always, we really need and value our volunteers helping out at this. If you are new - don't worry. The Sale is a really worthwhile and interesting thing to participate in, and there is always someone to teach you the various jobs that need doing.

If you are able to volunteer some of your time (even a couple of hours is valuable) then please send an email to the plantsales@nativeplantscbr.com.au address so we can add your name to the list. This sale's coordinator is Alison Roach.

There are lots of different things that need doing, and even jobs for those who would rather talk on the phone than doing something physical.'

Alison Roach

Field Trips

Our Field Trip Coordinator is Jeanette Jeffery

Contact: fieldtrip@nativeplantscbr.com.au

If you are interested in attending field trips please make sure Jeanette has your emails to send you further news on future trips.

Email: jefferyjeanette@gmail.com

For a particular field trip, email the contact person for that trip for more information and to book your spot on their list.

Field Trip – January/February.

There is a Field Trip to the Victorian Alps from 30 January to 2 February to enjoy the alpine wildflowers.

Future Trips suggestions

'If you have thoughts on a place to go with good companions and friends, please make a suggestion. I'm sure you will get takers!' *Jeanette*

Wednesday Walkers (WWs)

Contact: Christine Kendrick at christine.kendrick@me.com

If you would like to receive information on future Wednesday Walks, go to the bottom of any ANPSC email and click on 'you can update your preferences'.

Day Activity Group* & Garden Design Study Group

Contact: <u>dagsleader@nativeplantscbr.com.au</u>
Coordinating Committee members:

Digby Gascoine, Tom Jordan, Maureen Mallard, Fran Middleton, Pam Morrison.

* DAG

**Register your interest in DAG in your membership record in our website members area to receive DAG MailChimp emails detailing the next activity.

2024 Program

If you have a garden you'd like to share with the group, in 2024 or have a garden suggestion, please contact the DAG Committee at

dagsleader@nativeplantscbr.com.au

DAG February activity Tuesday 20 February 10.00am (note earlier start so we can walk in the cooler part of the day)

Visit to Parliament House native gardens

Nine hectares of native gardens surround the eastern, southern and western side of Parliament House outside Parliament Drive. There are 4,500 trees and 135,000 shrubs and groundcovers growing in the landscape, many of which are indigenous to the Australian Capital Territory.

The walk will take a leisurely 1 and a quarter to 1 and a half hours followed by lunch at a nearby cafe.

Report on DAGs & GDSG & WWs Christmas Gathering

'On a very hot 19 December day, a large number of ANPSC members enjoyed a tour of Peter and Lyn's very impressive native gardens as well as the amazing fully covered enclosure housing a wide variety of fruit trees and berries where more than a few samples were tasted. It is aways interesting to see what developments have occurred since our last visit.

This was followed by lunch where, as usual, there was a large spread of dishes, both savory and sweet to be savoured.

Many thanks to Peter and Lyn for once again hosting the lunch and going to a lot of effort to make the event so enjoyable. 'Maureen Mallard



Christmas Gathering photos – by Lucinda Royston









Show and Tell – Flowering now at the ANBG. Text by Ros Walcott and photos by Ben Walcott.



Backhousia citriodora, or Lemon Ironwood, is a small tree with shiny green leaves and white, fluffy heads of flower with prominent bracts. This plant is endemic to the tropical rainforest areas of Queensland between Brisbane and Mackay. The leaves of this plant are strongly lemon scented.



Calothamnus tuberosus is a stiff upright bush with spiky grey-green linear foliage and bright red fluffy flowers. This plant is endemic to southwestern Western Australia.



Hibiscus heterophyllus subsp. heterophyllus has with many white flowers with deep red centres. This plant can be a tall shrub or small tree and is native to coastal New South Wales and Queensland.



Acacia parvipinnula, or Silver Stemmed Wattle, is a tree with dark green, ferny foliage and pale yellow, scented ball flowers. This wattle is native to central eastern New South Wales



Calostemma purpureum, or Garland Lily, has clusters of pink bells on thin stems. This plant is well-known in the Riverina district and is native more widely in western New South Wales, northwestern Victoria and South Australia.



Pilidiostigma rhytispermum, or Small-leaved Plum Myrtle, is a woody shrub with small leaves and cream cup flowers with prominent stamens. This plant is native to the coast of southeastern Oueensland and the black fruits are attractive to many fruit eating birds.