

AUSTRALIAN
NATIVE
PLANTS
SOCIETY
CANBERRA



Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

GPO Box 1570
Canberra ACT 2601
ABN 17717 346 075
<https://nativeplantscbr.com.au>
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Bulletin May 2024

Members Meeting Thursday, 9 May

7.30 pm** note ANBG access times below.

ANBG Theatre, 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: Peter Chandler

Meeting Book Sales: See item on page 3.

May Raffle prizes: Plants provided by ANPSC's propagation group at CIT.

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.

Meeting Talk: In-stream Plant communities of upland areas of the ACT: Description and Disturbance.

'In-stream plants are almost unknown, being generally overlooked in vegetation surveys, yet are functionally important in flowing systems. This talk will describe a project funded by the ACT government to determine what plants – if any – occur in ACT upland streams. Observations made during the survey suggest that recent environmental events (drought, fire, extreme flows) have likely changed distribution patterns for some species, and their recovery is unlikely in the short-term.'

Guest Speaker: Jane Roberts

Jane is an Ecological Consultant and has been interested in 'wetland' plants ever since doing an essay in second-year Botany at Canberra University (when it was a CAE). She pursued that interest moving to Adelaide to do a PhD on cumbungi, then worked in ecological research in western NSW at regional CSIRO labs, and eventually moved back to Canberra.

Life as an ecological (vegetation) consultant in the world of water management of rivers and floodplains in the Murray-Darling Basin was intensely busy for 20 years and fraught with deadlines, and it is only recently that there has been opportunity to indulge in her interest in wetland flora.

Jane is a member of ANPSC and sometimes Wednesday Walker.

ANPSA 2024

Biennial Conference in Victoria

Conference Newsletter No 7 April 2024 is attached to this Bulletin's MailChimp email.

ANPSC's Online Journal

Make sure to keep checking our website for interesting articles in our online Journal. <https://nativeplantscbr.com.au>

Additionally, if you have an article for the Journal send it to journal@nativeplantscbr.com.au.

The range of topics is limitless. You could tell us about your favourite plant, or your successes and challenges in gardening. Our members will want to know. And don't forget a photo. It would enhance your story and provide a peek into your gardening world.

ANPSC Council – message from our President

'Dear Members

As I remarked at April Members' Meeting, Council Meeting didn't proceed in April. Though we now have a Council of eight, we couldn't raise a quorum of six members.

With one Councillor reaching her six year Council limit this year, and me reaching my three year Presidential limit, it underlines our need, to find new members for Council.

We've adjusted the Council Meeting to a 3pm start, to make it a bit easier for our two Councillors (Lena Zaboyska and Catherine Bridges) who work full-time. We can make other changes, if that would make it easier, for other prospective Councillors who are also in the workforce.

Contact me if you might be a possible, whether in the workforce or not. And of course, Lena or Catherine can discuss, the joys of balancing Council with work.

Steve Saunders, President, ph 0402593077.'

Exhibitions at ANBG

Visitor Information Centre
9.30am to 4.30pm, daily

‘Bush Fragrance’

17th Annual Exhibition by the Botanical Art Group
6 April to 5 May

This exhibition celebrates the work of the Botanic Art Group and their love of native flora.

This year’s theme has inspired art that evokes fragrances from boronia, lemon myrtle and flannel flowers to name a few. The works are diverse styles including watercolour, pen and ink, coloured pencil, etchings, and collage.

The exhibition artworks are reviewed by the Gardens to verify that artworks are botanically correct.

A portion of all artwork sales will be donated to the Friends of the ANBG to support Gardens projects.



‘Garden of Letters’

Canberra Calligraphy Society exhibition
8 May - 2 June

Through the artistic form of lettering, artists have created 30 unique works painting a literal story of native flora and its immense importance to the environment.





GARDENS FOR LIFE
ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference - Melbourne
Hosted by Australian Plants Society Victoria
30th September to 4th October 2024

***ANPSA Biennial Conference 2024**
‘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 go to:
<https://apsvic.org.au/anpsa-biennial-conference-2024/>
*Australian Native Plants Society Australia

Conference Newsletter No 7 is attached to the MailChimp email for this Bulletin.

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>

2 May	Rachael Dawes, Carma Sweet, Sam Ning and Jo Wallner - ‘Canberra’s trees: the plans, the problems, and the progress’
9 May	Dr Gemma Hoyle - ‘Can we bank the cloud forests? Conservation and ecology of threatened species endemic to tropical mountaintops in Far North Queensland.’
16 May	Jane Cottee – ‘STEP by STEP: 15 years for Forest 20’
23 May	Dr Tobias Hayashi - ‘The sexual chemistry of greenhood orchids’
30 May	Graham Fifield - ‘Can I get paid to plant trees?’

Plant Sales

Next ANPSC Plant Sale is our Spring Sale on 19 October 2024 at ANBG

Australian Native Plant Market

At Cool Country Natives, Pialligo

Next Market Day - Saturday 4 May, 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

ANPSC’s *Where to buy Native Plants in the Canberra Region* is available at <https://nativeplantscbr.com.au/>

Book for Sale

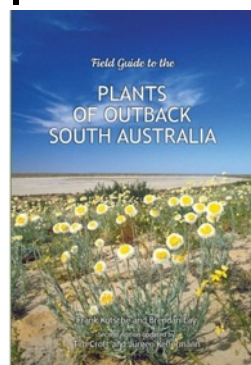
Now available - a new, 2nd edition of:

Field guide to plants of outback South Australia

by F. Kutsche, B Lay, T. Croft & J. Kellermann.

RRP \$44.

For more information and to purchase a copy go to



<https://www.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/science-conservation/state-herbarium/publications-and-resources/field-guide-to-the-plants-of-outback-south-australia>

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 6 May at 3pm in the Dickson Room, Banks Building, ANBG.

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

There was no April 2024 Council Meeting. Council Meeting Minutes go up on the website after they are approved at the next Council Meeting.

Next Bulletin: June 2024 If you have any items you think would be of interest to our members including photos, please send them by Wednesday 29 May 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 [update your preferences](#). 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 [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).



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

New members:

No details available this month.

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/>



A 'garden' and a skink on the granite rocks on the Booroomba to Honeysuckle WW walk. Photos by Lucinda Royston



Members Activities

Conservation

2024 Call To Action - Stop African Lovegrass in Canberra's Inner North

A weed - African Lovegrass - is spreading quickly in the Inner North. It is a tall grass – knee to waist high – impacts lawns, insects (as it competes with native grasses/flora), and is a fire risk.

The weed spreads quickly. It has already spread to median strips - Belconnen Way, Canberra Avenue – is on sidewalks, local parks and lawns in O'Connor/Lyneham/Ainslie/Turner and other suburbs.

What you can do:

- If you detect this grass in your lawn:
 - Remove seed heads **before they spread** (put seeds in plastic bag and leave in sun to kill seeds, place sealed plastic bag in rubbish bin – *not* green bin as it risks being turned into mulch).
 - Kill the weeds on your lawn.
 - After rain, sprinkle seeds of grasses you wish to have on your lawn, to replace the Lovegrass.

Detection:



For further information, please contact president@nativeplantscanberra.com.au in the first instance.



On the Booroomba to Honeysuckle WW walk - recovery after fire.
Lt *Oxylobium ellipticum*, Rt Blackened trunks, epicormic growth.
Photos by Lucinda Royston

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 bee

Saturday 11 May, 10am to 1pm

At our Queanbeyan Igloo at 3 Considine Close, Greenleigh, NSW

We will be doing potting up and some cuttings. Please bring named cutting material, secateurs, hat and sunscreen and a mug.

We will provide tea and coffee. A beginners' propagation workshop will be held in parallel, please see the separate notice.

Contact: for further information - Lyndal Thorburn on 0418 972 438 or email [lthorburn\(at\)viria.com.au](mailto:lthorburn(at)viria.com.au)

Workshop - 'Plant Propagation for Beginners'

Saturday 11 May at our Queanbeyan Igloo.

The propagation group is again offering a 'Plant Propagation for Beginners' workshop in parallel with the potting bee.

The workshop will start at 10am and will run for about an hour and a half, and will focus on cuttings, after which participants will be paired with an existing propagation group members to learn potting up 'on the job' - the potting bee will run until 1pm, participants can leave earlier if they wish.

If you are interested in attending, please email Lyndal Thorburn at [lthorburn\(at\)viria.com.au](mailto:lthorburn(at)viria.com.au), providing your name and a contact phone number. You can also phone Lyndal on 0418 972 438 if you have other questions. More information, including about what to bring, will be sent to participants and workshop notes will be available after the event.

There is a limit of 8 people at this event.



ANPSC Plant Sales

Our Plant Sale Coordinator is Alison Roach
Contact: plantsales@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Report on ANPSC's Autumn Plant Sale

Because of the small number of plants, approximately 3,000, ANPSC advertised this as a "small sale" on Facebook, the plant lists, and our website. The ANBG did their usual web-page events notification, using the "small sale" wording, but no road-signs were put out.

The Sale organisation went smoothly, with the right numbers of volunteers. Twenty-nine volunteers signed on for the Friday, with 21 for the Saturday, but actual numbers were higher. Plant Sale Coordinator (PSC) organised the Friday set-up to be more relaxed in timing, with a dedicated lunch (and social) break. This was appreciated by volunteers.

Plants supplied were of good quality, although our Queanbeyan shade-house had some plants removed, circumstances with their caretakers having been tricky this time. Plant-label printing from Innovative Tags (Victoria) went smoothly, and once again the Society's Greg Quinn was happy to print last-minute labels.

After an initial small rush, sales were steady up until close, around 1 pm. Several improvements for next time are to be noted, including more and improved signs inside the sale boundaries, plus getting another administrator or two to help with our Facebook page.

Newly returned grower Paul Walker indicated he would come again for Spring Sale, bringing similar plant numbers. Philip Fradd and John Robertson will also grow similar numbers. These growers gave our PSC positive feedback.

Damian De Marco and family will return for spring, looking at bringing 3,500 plants. Damian volunteered to put out northside road-signs and be a mentor if Wagtail Natives were able to join Spring Sale.

Overall clearance of plants was around 85%. About 60% of sales were made in small or 7cm pots, nearly all the remainder being medium or 9cm pots.

Nearly 80% of the receipts were down to Propagation Group plants, most of the remainder being down to commissions earned from growers. After expenses, the surplus to the Society was close to \$8,200 - almost identical to the Autumn 2023 result.

Thanks to all Society members who volunteered or attended, for what was a successful "small sale" in favourable weather.

Via PSC Alison Roach, and Treasurer Catherine Bridges.

Field Trips

Our Field Trip Coordinator is Jeanette Jeffery

Contact: fieldtrip@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Email Jeanette to receive emailed news on future trips.
jefferyjeanette@gmail.com

For a particular field trip, email the trip contact person for info and to book your spot.

Field Trips proposed so far

6 to 9 November to the Orange Area, NSW

'We plan to walk on several areas on Mount Canobolas, looking at different plant communities, including a heritage listed lichen site. Some 950 different species have now been recorded at Mount Canobolas State Conservation Area. We also hope to visit a native garden at Lister Southwest of Orange.'

Pat and Warwick.

Future Trips suggestions welcome

I'm sure you will get takers!' *Jeanette*



Eucalypt bark at Mt Buffalo in January.

Photos by Lucinda Royston

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'.

Walk on 1 May is to a private property at Sutton.

Report WWs Booroomba Rocks carpark to Honeysuckle Creek campground on 3 April

Excerpt from Kris Nash's report to WWs.

'The walk is about 4kms long, mostly downhill, and is a small section of the Autralian Alps Walking Track. Cars are left at both ends. The narrow track meanders through regenerating woodland mainly dominated by *Eucalyptus pauciflora*, *E radiata*, *E dalrympleana* and *E dives*. The understorey is variously shrubby or grassy, with the occasional swampy sections crossed by metal walkways. Outcrops of granite provide interest and habitat for less common plant species. The scars from previous bushfires were evident in blackened trunks, narrow crowns of eucalypts due to epicormic growth and the density of saplings and shrubs in places.

Interestingly, some commonly occurring or generally obvious species on our plant lists were not noted possibly due to changes in plant composition as a result of fire or else a lack of attention. We added a few species to an already extensive list and, due to several orchid enthusiasts, we also refined the orchid species list.

Bird enthusiasts attempted to point out the melodies of a wide range of birds but their songs were drowned out by the chirping, scolding, loud calls and general chattering of the human participants having a great time.'



Photos by Kris Nash

- WW rock lizards
- *Persoonia chamaepeuce*
- *Hibbertia obtusifolia*
- *Clematis aristata*
- Walking through the swamp area
- *Grevillea lanigera*
- *Hibbertia obtusifolia*



Day Activity Group (DAG) & Garden Design Study Group

Contact: dagsleader@nativeplantscbr.com.au

Coordinating Committee members:

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

Register your interest

To register your interest in the DAG and receive emails detailing the next activity, go to the bottom of any ANPSC Mailchimp email and click on 'update your preferences'.

Future Activities

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 May Activity

Tuesday 14 May at 10.30am

Visit to the garden of Bob Nader at Wallaroo, NSW

Bob Nader's expansive garden, at his property in Wallaroo, has a mix of exotics (especially trees) and natives planted over the past twenty years. With luck there will still be some autumn colour on the deciduous trees to complement the natives when the Day Activity Group visits. The drive out from Canberra is very pleasant, and the view of the Murrumbidgee Valley from just beyond Bob's gate is not to be missed.

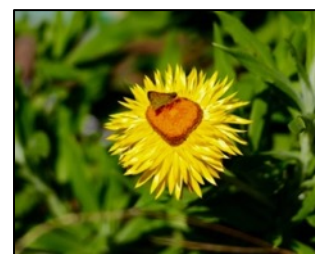
On the way back to Hall for lunch, the Hall Cemetery (on the left just before the Barton Highway) is one of the few known habitats for the very rare Tarengo Leek Orchid - and also contains the grave of the famous author Bryce Courtenay.

Report on DAG April Activity

Visit to Jen's garden

After a very cold start to the morning, the DAG members gathered in warm sunshine at Jen's garden. Everyone was very impressed by the growth of the plants over such a short period and by the huge variety of the extensive plantings. Thanks Jen for the opportunity to visit and I'm sure people will be keen to return in a few years to see how the garden matures. Members then enjoyed lunch at a nearby cafe.

Photos in Jen's garden by Paul Goggin



Show and Tell – Flowering now at ANBG.

Text by Ros Walcott and photos by Ben Walcott.



Banksia aquilonia is a tree to 8 metres tall, with long green leaves and young tan flowers that develop into pale yellow brushes. This plant is native to northern coastal Queensland.



Grevillea 'Mason's Hybrid', is a spreading bush with large spider blooms of pink, red and orange. This hybrid arose from seed collected from an upright glaucous form of *Grevillea bipinnatifida* while the other parent is presumed to be *G. banksii*.



Banksia ericifolia 'Bird Song', a small banksia with fine, bright green foliage and large orange brushes.



Banksia spinulosa var. *cunninghamiana*, a small tree with dull gold flowers with black styles, native to the three eastern states extending along the coast from Victoria to Cairns.



Correa 'Catie Bec' is a small shrub with curled pink flowers over a long period. This plant, developed at Bywong Nursery by Peter Ollerenshaw, grows in a wide range of soil types and is frost hardy and drought tolerant.

Epacris longiflora 'Nectar Pink', a very floriferous small shrub covered in slender pink bells with white tips.

