

# 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** September 2023

### **Members** Meeting

### Thursday, 14 September

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: Daryl Crapp

Meeting Book Sales: See item on page 3.

**September Raffle prizes:** Plants will be provided by: member grower Damian De Marco, ACT & Southern Tablelands Native Tubestock Nursery, Wallaroo.

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

**Reminder** it is important to bring any Myrtaceae specimens into ANBG in plastic bags.

#### Vacancy - Treasurer's Position We urgently need to fill this position.

Our Treasurer has now retired. Over past years the duties of the Treasurer have been simplified as much as possible by splittingoff tasks (like membership), converting to cash accounting, the use of direct debits to pay most (not all) bills and from this current year, engaging a bookkeeper to maintain the accounting records. The skills required are:

- ability to do internet banking; and
- a basic knowledge of Excel.

Full support for the handover and training will be given to a new Treasurer – or to two or more persons who would take on this task as a team.

If you can help out, please contact our secretary, Christine Kendrick, at secretary@nativeplantscbr.com.au

### Meeting Talk: 'Morphology Matters'.

John will attempt to portray how morphology assists in developing a greater appreciation of the plants we grow.

From the history of grouping plants, to the knowledge of today, plant morphology is key to our understanding of the world of plants. Simple bushwalks, such as those of the WWs, are made memorable when we are able to recognise the plants about us, and for those not recognisable, there are many sources of information to enable us to determine just what those unrecognisable plants are.

John will use 2 well recognised families - Proteaceae and Rutaceae - to illustrate this presentation.

#### **Guest Speaker: John Knight**

John is a Horticulturist, who joined SGAP – now APS - in 1972. During 1980's, John developed an appreciation of the value of indigenous plants in horticulture, and through this period promoted the use of using local plants in gardens. He began researching what plants grew around the greater Melbourne area prior to the suburban sprawl, and with fellow SGAP Maroondah members, visited hundreds of remnant reserves to record what still existed. This led to co-authoring the Flora of Melbourne, which detailed over 1100 taxa. John was Manager of Austraflora Australian Plant Nursery, Montrose, at the time the largest Australian plant nursery, educated and encouraged by Rodger Elliott and Bill Molyneux, to travel widely to develop a great affinity with the 'bush'.

Through Rodger, John was offered the opportunity to re-develop Karwarra Australian Plant Garden on Melbourne's Mt. Dandenong. This garden, on deep volcanic soil held an enviable collection of plant treasures. Collections of Boronia and Waratah are registered with the Garden Plant Conservation Trust.

In 1992, John accepted a position to develop Eurobodalla Native Botanic Garden, as the plans for this project was to use only local indigenous plants throughout the 100 acre site. The opportunities presented by now ERBG included the need to explore the large collection area of ERBG to learn what grows where, and then to attempt to cultivate as many plants as practical. After 20 years, John retired, but is still involved. Importantly he is still learning about the NSW south coast flora.

\*ANPSA 2024 Biennial Conference – Melbourne\* Newsletter No 4 is attached to this Bulletin email.

Deadline for items for our December Journal is 1 November. Please send articles, long or short, with or without photos. Send high resolution images separately, not embedded in a document. Send them to Gail Ritchie Knight, our Journal Editor, at journal@nativeplantscbr.com.au

## **Exhibitions at ANBG**

Visitor Information Centre 9.30am to 4.30pm, daily

#### **Bushland Retrospective** 9 August to 17 September

A glimpse of paintings by Anton Uildriks produced over two decades. This exhibition aims to provide the viewer with an appreciation of Australian flora and fauna, and to inspire young artists to pursue their own creativity.



## Plant Stories: Woven Tapestry Narratives

#### 20 September to 29 October

Through contemporary woven tapestry, ten artists, explore their associations with, interests in and memories of particular plants, state and national floral symbols, markers of the seasons, night and day, geographic locations, connection to nature, renewal and

growth. They draw, collage, print, paint from observation and imagination to develop designs for weaving in tapestry.

Selected images are woven in wool, cotton, silk and other materials. The final works are intense in the craft production and compelling as artworks.



## Last Chance to attend this Conference -



State Conference, Cairns 14 to 18 September 2023 Details at https://npq.org.au/state-conference/



## 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

7 September	'Wattle days are here again' - Dr Suzette
	Searle
14 September	'The diversity of Australian Alpine plant- pollinator communities' - Dr Francisco Encinas-Viso
21 September	'Plant Stories: Woven Tapestry Narratives' - Emeritus Professor Valerie Kirk AM
28 September	Eclipse Chasers: astronomical observations in Australia and the Pacific' - Dr Toner Stevenson
5 October	'Moths in the ACT: what might the Scott Sisters have found if they were here?' - Glenn Cocking

## **Plant Sales**

### ANBG Growing Friends Plant Sale Saturday 16 September, 8:30 – 11:00am (or earlier if sold out) Banksia Centre Car Park

All plants for sale are propagated by the Growing Friends from cuttings/seeds sourced from the ANBG. Plants \$6 and \$10. All proceeds go to support the Gardens. Arrive early for the best selection.

## **Canberra Orchid Show**

Saturday 16 September, 10am – 5pm and Sunday, 17 September, 10am – 3pm Ainslie Football Club, 52 Wakefield Av, Ainslie The Canberra Orchid Show will feature a diversity of epic Australian native orchids – epiphytic, epilithic and terrestrial – in addition to an extensive taxonomic sample of exotic orchids. Native orchids will be available to buy at very reasonable prices.

## Australian Native Plant Market

At Cool Country Natives, Pialligo Next Market Day - Saturday 7 October, 8.30am-3pm.

\*Some of our member growers will be there\*. 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 <u>https://nativeplantscbr.com.au/</u>

## 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 11 September at 12.30pm, Dickson Room, Banks Building, ANBG.

**Council Business - Council Minutes are on our website in Members Area under 'Minutes'.** August Council Minutes will go up on the website after they are approved at the September Council Meeting

**Next Bulletin: October 2023**: If you have any items you think would be of interest to our members including photos, please send them by Wednesday 27 September to <u>bulletin@nativeplantscbr.com.au</u>

### **Members Meeting Speakers**

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

#### 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 ie

- Email Address, First Name, Last Name
- Members Groups activity preferences: Field Trips,

Propagation Group, Wednesday Walks, Daytime Activities. 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: Christine Kendrick secretary@nativeplantscbr.com.au 20403 199 211

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

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

## **ANPSC Notices**

#### Welcome to our new Members:

- 🏶 Pamela Mathie
- \* Antoinette Wade
- 🏶 Skip Smith
- Denis Anderson
- 🏶 Ruth Lang

#### 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: <u>office@austplants.com.au</u> For more information go to: <u>https://anpsa.org.au/about/publications/</u>

# 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



stralian Plant

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

Flowering in Bill Willis' garden in Severne St, Greenleigh. Bill Willis photos



Philotheca 'Swanson's Hybrid'





## Conservation

## Item of interest from Glynn Shepherd

ABC News on line: 'Desert kurrajongs, the compass and water trees of the outback'. https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-08-01/desertkurrajong-compass-water-trees-of-theoutback/102558440

## **Members Activities**

#### **ANPSC Plant Sales**

Our Plant Sale Coordinators are Alison Roach and Georgie Till. Contact: <u>plantsales@nativeplantscbr.com.au</u>

> ANPSC's Spring Plant Sale is 21 October at ANBG. To volunteer at the Sale contact plantsales@nativeplantscbr.com.au

### From our Plant Sales Coordinators

#### \*Spring Plant Sale – Volunteers needed\*

**Before the Sale:** There are a number of things to get done in the weeks leading up to Saturday 21 October. We need volunteers to put out the 10 **Road Side signs** in the north side of Canberra. Also we need someone to help with the **publicity of the Sale**.

We know advertising works especially to have firsttime buyers come to our Sale.

**On Friday Set up Day and Saturday Sale Day:** we need someone to co-ordinate the volunteers and especially to help the new volunteers.

And we need volunteers to help with the set-up on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> (8:00 am to 3:00 pm, or part thereof) and to run the Sale on Saturday 21st (7:00 am to 2:00pm, or part thereof).

To volunteer please email:

plantsales@nativeplantscbr.com.au.

Thank you, Alison Roach.

Remember volunteers may buy up to 10 plants before the Sale opens.





Scott Reserve - Acacia ulicifolia, Rt Melichrus urseolatus. Lucinda Royston photos

### Wednesday Walkers (WWs)

Contact: Christine Kendrick at <u>secretary@nativeplantscbr.com.au</u>

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'.

## Report and photos from WWs outing to Scott Reserve on 30 August

The following is taken from Jean Egan's comprehensive Report of the walk.

13 people descended on Scott Reserve, just 151 hectares, and were welcomed with a few rain drops that quickly cleared to a cool but pleasant day. It was an easy "out and back" walk on a grassy track of approximately 5 kms.

Allocasuarina littoralis was the dominant tree throughout the walk, with a sprinkling of Eucalyptus species, some Kunzea ericoides and a few young specimens of Persoonia linearis. Flowering Acacia genestifolia and A. ulicifolia, were both present. Many of the low shrubs were starting to flower, among them Leucopogon virgatus, Melichrus urceolatus, Tetratheca bauerifolia, and Hovea heterophylla. The orchid enthusiasts were kept busy finding leaves of many genera. There was a downside, many of the large trees had fallen, due to the recent drought, and although they gave perfect seats for our morning tea and lunch it was depressing.

At the end of the walk it was agreed, given the variety of plants and very little weed, that it would be delightful to return in mid-spring.





#### **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

## **September Potting Bee**

**Saturday 16 September from 10am to 1pm -** note the earlier time - we are optimistic that the weather will be starting to warm up, hence the earlier start.

#### **Tom&Lyndal's, 3 Considine Close, Greenleigh.** This will be our first potting bee of the season - we have a stack of cuttings ready for potting up, to kick off spring.

Please bring your own secateurs, hat/sunscreen, gloves, and a mug for a hot drink. We will supply tea/coffee. Morning tea edibles to share are welcome.

Please let Nola know of your intention to attend, by emailing propagation@nativeplantscbr.com.au Contact The is 0418 972 438.

### **Advance notice**

#### In October, we will be preparing for the Plant Sale and having a bee on Sunday 8 October at CIT Bruce (where all our sale plants will be held) will focus on weeding, sorting and labelling.

Please let Nola know if you can assist on this day, or earlier (for pruning and cataloguing of plants for the sale).

And in November, we have been invited to a member's garden about an hour's drive out of Canberra to do our cuttings, taking them from his garden - look for more info in the November Bulletin.

## **Field Trips**

## Our Field Trip Coordinator is Jeanette Jeffery

Contact: <u>fieldtrip@nativeplantscbr.com.au</u> Email Jeanette to go on the emailing list and keep up to date with Field Trip arrangements.

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 Report No trip was organised for August.

## September Field Trip

Monday 18 to Thursday 21 September. Central west NSW - Griffith, Jindalee NP, Ingala NR near Temora- and Cocopara NP.

Drive is 370km/4.5hrs from Canberra. **Program:** Monday - on the way a short stop at Jindalee NP (optional) Tuesday/Wednesday - 2 days short walks in Cocopara NP Thursday - short stop at Ingala NR on the way home

Thursday - short stop at Ingala NR on the way home (optional).

Accommodation: Monday to Wednesday nights camping at Woolshed Flat Camp. Cocoparra NP. <u>https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/camping-and-</u> <u>accommodation</u> OR other options in Griffith about a 40 min drive to Woolshed Camp.

**Contact** Roger Farrow if you intend going or you would like more info on **2**0427 431 275, 6236 3105.

#### **Future Trips suggestions**

Clockwise from far

Lt - Hovea Heterophylla, -Rhodanthe anthemoides, -Phebalium nottii, -Dillwynia sieberi, -Eremophila glabra cv Amber Carpet.

'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* 

#### More plants flowering in Bill Willis' garden in Severne St, Greenleigh. Bill Willis photos









## Day Activity Group\* & Garden Design Study Group

Contact: dagsleader@nativeplantscbr.com.au

#### **Coordinating Committee members:**

Digby Gascoine, Tom Jordan, Maureen Mallard, 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.

### DAG September Activity Tuesday 19 September

Fiona Matthews garden in Burra

# Fiona has provided the following background and description of her bush block garden:

"I became custodian of this Burra property in 1999. It is a 40acre bush block with mostly Eucalyptus mannifera and rossii, Rytidosperma pallidum (Red-anther Wallaby Grass) and Acacia paradoxa and some tea tree. The earth is rocky with shale and not a lot of soil (not great for a gardener that was enamoured with English style gardens).

Slowly, the realisation of the limitations due to soil (or lack thereof), climate (drought, severe frosts) and attack by critters (wallaby, kangaroos, rabbits, hares, and even the echidna) led me to create a more wild and natural garden using native plants. There are many repurposed and recycled items as garden sculpture that are immune to the attack of local critters (mostly!) Whilst the garden has been neglected of late due to a lack of work/life balance, my recent retirement has enabled me to get back into the garden and tidy up (may not be completed by the time of the DAGS visit). The garden blends into the native bush and many seats take advantage of the different aspects, to chase the sun or shade depending on the season and to contemplate and appreciate the quiet hum of nature.

The benefit of COVID lockdowns was spending more time wandering the block and discovering plants I hadn't seen before like the Green-comb spider orchid, Viola betonicifolia, Purple beard orchid, Craspedia variabilis, Clematis leptophylla, Greenhoods Maroonhoods, Midge orchids, sun orchids, as well as the ones I already were familiar with, Calytrix tetragona, Fringe lily, Dillwynia, Cryptandra, Nodding chocolate lily, Stylidium, Wahlenbergia, Kunzea parvifolia, Diuris (many species), Hovea, Caladenia, Hibbertia, Pimelia, Olearia, rock ferns, Wax lip orchid and Hardenbergia. I've recorded these on Canberra Nature Map under the pseudonym of Safarigirl. Hopefully some of these will be out for the DAGs visit." Fiona.

Details will be sent out to Day Activity Group members. If not a member of DAGs, join soon via the ANPSC website as per instructions in note above \*\* Enquiries to <u>dagsleader@nativeplantscbr.com.au.</u>

#### DAGs August Activity Report On Sunday 13 August, a group of eleven DAGs members visited Peter Olde's Oakdale garden, "Silky Oaks".

'Peter is a grevillea expert, co-author of "The Grevillea Book" and his garden has one of the largest collections of Grevilleas in Australia.

After the drive from Canberra we were met by Peter and he told us some of the background of his wonderful native garden set on a 30 acre block while we enjoyed a picnic lunch.

Peter then took us on a tour of the garden which has a wonderful collection of grevilleas as we all expected, but also a very large enclosed fernery, a large rainforest garden, as well as many other species of native plants. Many were in full flower. Peter also explained how he took the 'chain saw' to fully grown grevilleas if they'd grown straggly. It was amazing to see grevilleas with significant sized trunks cut almost back to the ground, covered in new growth and flower buds.

It was an extremely interesting and educational day for us all. Thank you Peter.' Pam Morrison

#### DAG - Future planned activities:

**Tuesday 3rd October 10.30am**, Visit to the garden of Jo Walker in Wanboin.

**Sunday 29th October 10.30am**, Visit to the garden of Els Wynen in Flynn.

**Tuesday 14th November 10.30am**, Visit to the garden of Fran Middleton in Isaacs.

**Tuesday 19th December 12 noon**, End of year function at Lyn and Peter Woodbury's in Googong.

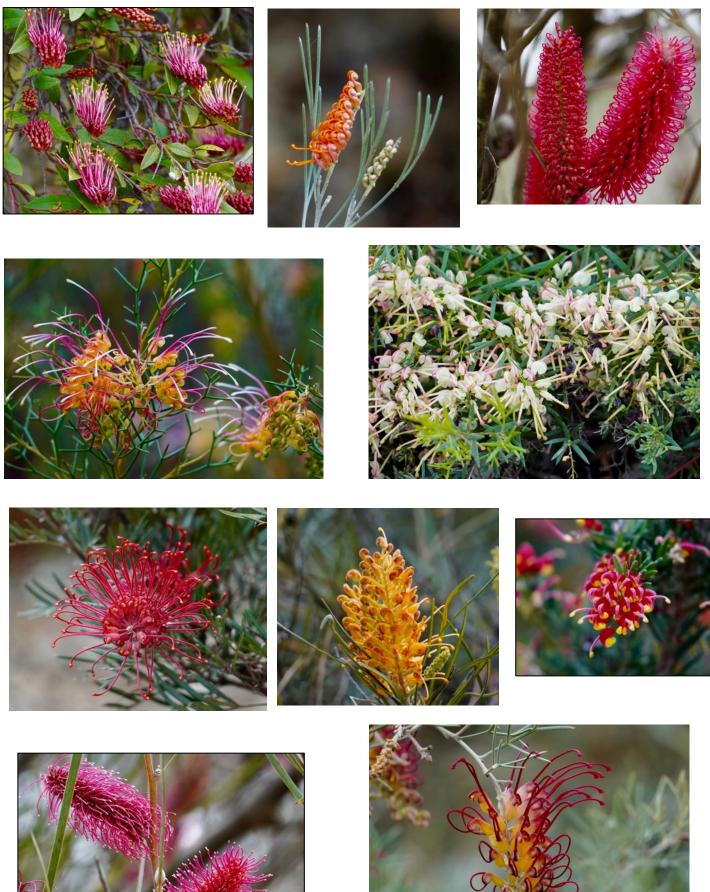
If you have a garden you'd like to share with the group, in 2024 or have a garden suggestion, please contact the DAG Committee at

dagsleader@nativeplantscbr.com.au

## Photos from August activity by Paul Goggin



# More beautiful photos of stunning grevilleas from Paul.





Show and Tell – Wattles flowering now in Ros and Ben's Red Hill garden. Text by Ros Walcott and photos by Ben Walcott.



Acacia 'Bilby Blue' We planted one of these shrubs, 3m x 3m, with grey green foliage and bright yellow ball flowers in April 2017.



Acacia rubida – Red Stemmed Wattle We planted this small tree, with light green foliage and yellow flowers, in July 2005. This is a hardy wattle which tolerates most soils, dryness and frost and is native to Victoria, ACT, NSW and Queensland.



Acacia cardiophylla - West Wyalong Wattle This Wattle, 3-4m high, began as the most reliable of our wattles, with attractive feathery foliage and masses of bright yellow ball flowers in the spring. We planted 12 of these fast growing, tough plants in many different positions in the garden in 2003 and 2006, but they are a little frost sensitive in Canberra. We now have one remaining plant which was planted in February 2020. This plant is native to central and southern NSW.



#### Acacia 'Twilight Glow'

We planted this hybrid A. howittii x leprosa seedling, 4-5m high x 2-3m wide, with rich green foliage and mustard pink ball flowers with yellow stamens, in 8/2019. This plant was eaten to the ground by kangaroos 12/2019 and is looking poorly. We removed the original plant for failure to thrive 2/2022. We purchased another specimen to plant along the right-hand boundary in 7/2021 and were rewarded with our first flowers in 9/2022.



#### Acacia longifolia – Sallow Wattle

We planted this fast-growing shrub, height 3-10m x width 2-8m, with leathery leaves and scented rod flowers, in May 2010. This tree adds winter colour and attracts nectar feeding birds. Native to coastal area of south-eastern Queensland, NSW, Victoria and South Australia.



Acacia covenyi – Blue Bush or Bluebush We have planted nine of these vigorous small trees, height 5-6 m, with bluish-grey foliage and bright yellow ball lowers, from 2004-2015. This species is from Deua National Park (NSW) and is listed as rare. Several of these plants have been blown over in windstorms, but four survive.