



Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

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*Wahlenbergia
gloriosa*

ABN 17717 346 075

<http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au/>

Bulletin

April 2010

Members Meeting: Thursday 8 April, 8pm
CSIRO Discovery, Clunies Ross St, Black Mountain

Speaker: Phil Trickett

Phil Trickett has been experimenting with grafting native plants for about five years. His focus for grafting has been banksias, for which he and his wife Catriona have developed a love over many visits to Western Australia. However, he has also experimented with other proteacea such as dryandras, isopogons, hakeas and grevilleas. He has been working with other enthusiasts associated with the SGAP Banksia Study Group who are keen to make the stunning WA banksias more widely available and ensure their survival. There are very few people currently grafting banksias due to relatively low success rates and lack of commercial viability. However, having now retired from the public service, Phil is devoting more time to the challenge of grafting banksias. Phil last reported his progress with grafted banksias to ANPS in 2007, and in 2008 he demonstrated his techniques at an ANPS grafting workshop.

Topic: Grafting West Australian Banksias - progress so far

Phil will talk about the results of his trials to date, identifying successful and unsuccessful species, and strategies to improve success rates and the proportion of viable species. A range of grafted banksias will be displayed at the meeting.

Show and Tell: Please bring along whatever you think we would like to see (limit 3 items per member). Please label your plants, with both the plant's name and your name, and be prepared to say a few brief words about your contributions.

Plant Sale: There may be plants for sale this month.

Raffle Prize: Raffle prize plants this month are kindly donated by Iris Philp.

To donate future raffle prizes **please contact** Paul Carmen or Cathy Hook ☎ 6288 4208 or **email** info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Daytime Activity: Tuesday 13 April, 10.30am

Garden Visit and Arid Lands Recovery Photo Presentation

41 Jamieson Crescent, Kambah

2010 is the International Year of Biodiversity - Lucinda Royston will give a photo presentation on the Arid Recovery program at Roxby Downs in northern South Australian aimed at restoring Australia's arid lands.

Established in 1997, the program is centred around a 123km² fenced reserve which offers complete protection for the animal and plant species within the reserve from certain predators. John L Read wrote about the ecology of this area and the beginning of the Arid Recovery program in his book '*Red Sand, Green Heart*'. Join us for a cup of tea/coffee and a look at Lucinda's garden.

Contact: Lucinda Royston ☎ 6231 6067

Autumn Plant Sale

The Society's Autumn Plant Sale held at the ANBG on 20 March was another great success, with nearly 7500 plants sold (about 88% of the plants supplied). A tremendous turnout of volunteers helped ensure the smooth running of both the Friday 'set-up' day and the Sale itself. We were particularly fortunate this time to have the assistance of several volunteers under the age of 30 – we very much hope they enjoyed their experience and will come again! A really big **thank you** to all the many members (and their relatives) who came along and worked so hard to make the event such a success. The Society made around \$6,000 from the event – well done, everyone!

Paul, Ben, John

Left Behind at the Sale

A few items remained at the end of the day – a child's khaki hat (size M - 53cm), a glasses case (empty), and a tube of 30+ sunscreen. If any of these items belong to you, or someone you know, please contact Paul/Cathy ☎ 6288 4208.



Buyers selecting plants at the ANPS Plant Sale, March 2010 Photo Lucinda Royston

April FieldTrip

April 30-May 2, Ben Boyd National Park

The April field trip will be held on the weekend of 30 April-2May. This date is **two weeks later** than previously announced because of lack of available camp-sites due to school holidays.

We will visit Ben Boyd National Park near Eden, staying at Saltwater Creek campground (motel accommodation available in Eden). We will do two easy sections of the Light to Light walk, enjoying coastal scenery walking through forest, woodland, coastal heath and closed scrub, skirting some spectacular cliffs and rock platforms. Please contact Phil and Catriona on catrionaandphil@grapevine.com.au or ☎ 6257 3143 to register your interest.

Proposal for Short Course in Horticulture of Native Plants

The possibility of running a short course on the horticulture of Australian native plants was raised in Council in the context of declining numbers of growers and people attending propagation sessions. The aim is to share the society's considerable expertise with the wider community, skill up and empower members, and encourage both new growers and use of native plants in the wider community.

A course outline has been prepared and Council now asks for interested members to join a subcommittee to further this proposal. Jan Robbins and Bill Willis have been instrumental in preparing this proposal, so any questions that you have could be directed to them or any member of Council.

Contact: Secretary John Carter ☎ 6277 4306 or email john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au.

Ivan Holliday

Council is sorry to report that Ivan Holliday O.A.M. died on Saturday 20 February 2010. He was a life member and dedicated supporter of APSSA to the end. His books were well-known to many and he communicated with ANPSA members throughout Australia. He will be greatly missed. Some of his titles that you may own are : *Hakeas: a Field and Garden Guide*; *Melaleucas: A Field and Garden Guide* ; and *Banksias: A Field and Garden Guide*.

Australian Plants Award

The Australian Plants Award (APA) Committee invites Member Societies of the Australian Native Plants Society to nominate persons for consideration for the Australian Plants Award. Such persons should have made outstanding contribution to the knowledge of Australian plants in the following categories:

- the contribution that has been made by the recipient in the course of notable professional career in a natural science field.
- the contribution that has been made by the recipient through primarily amateur or voluntary work of interest in Australian plants.

The APA will take the form of a medallion inscribed with the recipient's name and the year of presentation together with a relevant citation which will normally be presented in conjunction with the Biennial Conference. There is no restriction on nominees for the Award in terms of nationality, residence, membership of the Society, or the nature of the contribution for which the Award is being presented. However previous Award winners may not be nominated.

In any one biennium, there shall be only one recipient chosen in each category, but under exceptional circumstances, there may be two awards or none chosen in either category.

Previous winners from our society are:

David Jones (professional category) 1999

Ian Fraser (amateur category) 2001

Gwyn and Geoff Clarke (amateur category) 2001

Please forward nominations to: Secretary

John Carter ☎ 6277 4306 or email

john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au

All nominations must be received by 31 August, 2010.

ANBG Growing Friends Sale

8.30am – 11am, Saturday April 10

Venue : Small carpark behind Crosbie Morrison Centre

Plant list available at <http://friendsanbg.org.au>

Orchid Query

Diplodium alveatum/Pterostylis alveata - Greenhood Orchid

Does anyone have this orchid growing?

If you do would you please contact Merren

Sloane ☎ 6262 7673 or email

sloane.merren@ozemail.com.au.

Lake Burley Griffin

6pm, 12 May, Conference Room, ALIA House 9-11 Napier Close, Deakin

Shirley Pipitone will be giving a talk to the Australian Garden History Society ACT Branch about some of the results of her study on the social value of Lake Burley Griffin and its surroundings.

For the full report of the study see

www.nationaltrust.org.au.

Propagation

10am-1pm, Saturday 17 April

Cutting /Seed Bee

3 Considine Close, Queanbeyan

Please bring cutting material (in water), secateurs, gloves if you need them, and your lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. Genera which have recently propagated well when cut at this time of year include Correa, Grevillea, Brachyscome, Olearia and Hakea. As the pot racks that we use in the igloo hold 20 potted plants, we will experiment with 20-25 cuttings per punnet in the hope of getting full racks of one species once these have been potted up; so please bring up to 25 cuttings of each species.

Contact: Lyndal Thorburn and Tom Jordan

☎ 6297 2437

ANBG Weed List

The Australian National Botanic Gardens has an extensive list of species that it deems to be weeds and which we cannot sell at the biennial plant sales, nor use for Weed Swap. These include several (often easily propagated) species of Callistemon, Melaleuca, Acacia, Hakea, Leptospermum, Eucalyptus and Grevillea. The Botanic Gardens also has banned about 80 cultivars of certain species from sale. To avoid disappointment, or if in doubt, please call us if you want to find out if your potential cuttings are "weedy". Plants that have been registered under Plant Breeders' Rights also cannot be sold by ANPS; if in doubt please search on the PBR database at

<http://pbr.ipaustralia.plantbreeders.gov.au/>

☺ A very warm welcome to all our new members ☺

- ☺ John and Coral Whiting
- ☺ Jeff Gollasch and Jill Strong
- ☺ Neil Macumber
- ☺ Damian Gray
- ☺ Jacqueline McLoughlin
- ☺ Racheline Jackson
- ☺ Joseph Henry
- ☺ Ellie McFadyen
- ☺ Susan McVie
- ☺ Jenny Barnes
- ☺ Meredyth Mackay

Quote of the Month

'Although banksias are grown in many gardens .. far from their native habitat, as a group they have not proved reliable as cultivated plants. Generally they resent fertilisers, particularly superphosphate, and require light, well-drained, slightly acid or neutral soils, although some species are quite happy growing in well-drained limy soils. They are also susceptible to certain soil fungus diseases, such as ..*Phytophthora cinnamomi*.' Ivan Holiday and Geoffrey Watton, p. 7, *Banksias: a Field and Garden Guide*, 3rd rev.ed., 2008.



Banksia burdettii, Burdett's Banksia, growing at Royal Botanic Gardens, Carnbourne. Photo Ben Walcott

Photo of the Month



Ben Stocks at Stocks Native Nursery, Harden with members of ANPS Daytime Activity, March 2010.
Photo Lucinda Royston

Australian National Botanic Gardens

Botanic Gardens of the American West Alan Munns

Thursday 1 April, 12.30pm

Urban Food Production Under Stage 3 Water Restrictions

Richard Stirzaker

Thursday 8 April, 12.30pm

Thomas Appleby – Lanyon Shepherd to Wattle Bark Gatherer

Fred Mitchell

Thursday 15 April, 12.30pm

Making a DVD From Stills

Sheila Cudmore

Thursday 22 April, 12.30pm

Pamela Fallow

Fairy Wrens in the Garden

Thursday 29 April, 12.30pm

Contact: Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

Calendar of Events

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|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 8 April | Members Meeting |
| 10 April | Growing Friends Plant Sale |
| 10-11 April | WEED SWAP |
| 12 April | ANPS Council |
| 13 April | Daytime Activity |
| 28 April | May <i>Bulletin</i> Items Due |
| 30 April | Field Trip |
| – 2 May | Ben Boyd National Park |
| 4 May | ANPS Collation |

What's On – April 2010

Next Council Meeting:

12:30-2pm, Monday 12 April. Optiportal Room, CSIRO Discovery, Black Mt.

Next Collation: 7pm, Tuesday 4 May .

Collation is from 7pm at Pauline Adams, 4 Beeby Street, Ainslie. Please come along and help.

Bulletin Editor: Rosalind Walcott ☎ 6161 2742
or email bulletin@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au.

Note: Please ensure material for the May *Bulletin* reaches me by Wednesday 28 April.

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