



Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

Telephone (02)6251 1501

PO Box 217 Civic Square ACT 2608

Vice-President: Jan Robbins **email** president@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Benjamin Walcott **email**

membership@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

ISSN 1447-1515

*Wahlenbergia
gloriosa*

ABN 17717 346 075

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

Bulletin

December 2008

Members Meeting: Thursday 11 December, 8pm
CSIRO Discovery, Clunies Ross St, Black Mountain

Members' Night: This month we will be having a Members' Night, with four of our members giving short presentations. The program for the evening is as follows:

Ben Walcott – Grevillea Park at Bulli

Bill Willis – Report on a propagation trial

Alan Ford – West of Centre – an adventure in the Western Deserts

Lucinda Royston – Burrum Coast National Park, south of Bundaberg



Christmas Meeting Supper: Don't forget it will be our Christmas meeting this month. To celebrate the festive season everyone is encouraged to bring a plate of food to share over a cup of tea or coffee after the meeting. Come along and enjoy our last meeting for 2008 and celebrate with other ANPS members.

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.

Daytime Meeting: Tuesday 9 December, 10.30am

Xmas Lunch

41 Gaunson Crescent, Wanniasa

Bring a plate to share and coffee and tea will be provided. Optional short walk to a local lookout.

Contact: Shirley Daniels Email: info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Membership Renewal

ANPS member subscriptions were due November 1, 2008. A final renewal form was sent out with the November *Bulletin*. You can also renew using the society's website and a credit card (click PayPal) at <http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au/>. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so now, or this will be the last *Bulletin* that you receive.

Future of the ANBG – Meeting with Minister Garrett

On the 22 of October, Senator Kate Lundy convened a forum on the Future of the ANBG with the support of the Friends of the ANBG and ANPS Canberra Region. A summary report from this forum was prepared by Senator Lundy, the Friends and ANPS. This summary was presented to Minister Peter Garrett and Director National Parks Australia Peter Cochrane at a meeting on November 24. Six key issues were presented and discussed:

1. Formation of an independent advisory board for the ANBG
2. Expansion of ANBG education programs for school groups
3. Increase horticultural research in collaboration with CSIRO and universities
4. Immediate boost to resources for garden maintenance
5. Continuing and expanding ANBG's national leadership of botanic gardens
6. Promoting ANBG as a tourist attraction

A case was also made to make the ANBG an independent statutory authority with its own budget.

Parks Australia is beginning a required process of Review of the ANBG Management Plan which will take at least until the end of 2009 to complete. This review must then be presented to Parliament for its approval. It was pointed out that many of the above points could not wait until such a review was completed. Many areas of the ANBG, for example, were in dire need of maintenance and rejuvenation. There was support for the independent advisory board and the sense was that it could be created in time to have input to the review process. Other issues should be considered as part of the review. It is important to maintain the pressure on Government to try to increase the immediate resources available for maintenance in the ANBG. To that end, letters should be written by individuals to the Minister expressing concerns about specific maintenance issues and asking questions about particular solutions. All in all, progress is being made but it is a slow process that requires constant pressure.

Ben Walcott

December Field Trip

December 13-14

Kiandra, Long Plain, Coolemon Plain

Camping at Long Plain Hut. Non campers should book early at Talbingo, a 20 min drive from Rules Point and Long Plain. It is suggested that campers and non campers arrive on the Friday night. Easy walks for sub alpine flowers on

Saturday at Kiandra and 3 mile dam, and Sunday at Long Plain and Coolemon plains.

Contact: Roger info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Trial Plants

From time to time the Propagation Group grows plants which cannot be sold to the public until they have been trialled in Canberra conditions. The group is asking for members to volunteer to trial plants and report on their progress. **Contact:** Merren Sloane info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au to volunteer.

ANPS Canberra Region, Journal

The editor, Robyn Diamond, is always on the look out for articles from members. Write an article about my favourite plant or my favourite place or a trip you have been on or a book you have read or anything vaguely related to Australian native plants or their relatives overseas. Its makes her job much easier if she has a full quota of articles for future editions of the journal. **Contact:** Roger Farrow or Robyn info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Propagation

Christmas Cutting Bee

4 - 7pm, Monday December 15

3 Considine Close, Queanbeyan

Contact: Lyndal and Tom

info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

If you have been to any of the Propagation Group activities this year - cutting or potting bees, Cutting Workshop or Grafting Workshop, or if you are interested in plant propagation, please join us for the last activity of the year. We will do cuttings from 4-6pm (don't bring too much cutting material!!) and then have dinner. Bring something to share.

Meeting Roster for December

Raffle – Weston CIT/Bill Willis

Please contact Bill Willis to join the roster

info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

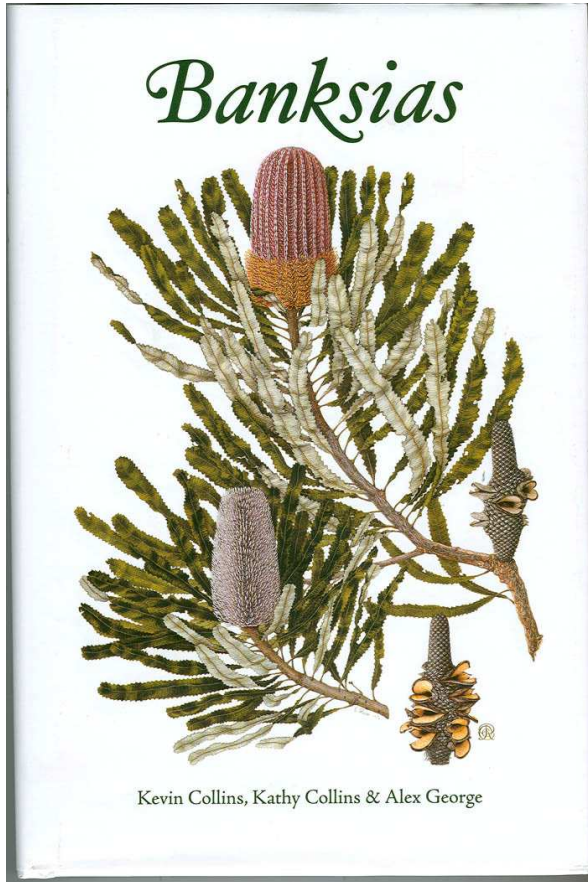
☺ **A very warm welcome to our new members** ☺

☺ Jon Eggins

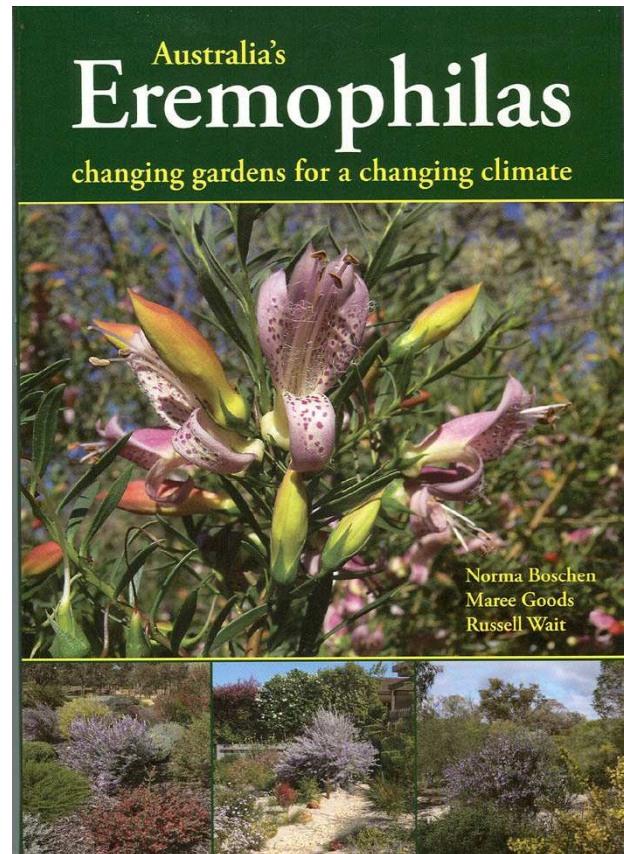
☺ Richard Blyton

Quote of the Month

“Banksias continue to be one of the most popular, well-known Australian wildflowers...The horticultural text is based primarily on Kevin and Kathy Collins' experience in growing Banksias on Banksia Farm at Mount Barker, in the south of Western Australia... The final chapter gives an account of each species, subspecies and variety – its discovery, description, occurrence in the wild and particular details about its cultivation.”
Kevin and Kathy Collins and Alex George, p. iv, *Banksias*, Bloomings Books, 2008.



Banksia prionotes. Photo Ben Walcott



“Eremophilas are becoming an extremely popular plant in the garden because of the tremendous variety in foliage and their masses of stunning flowers ...which attract birds, butterflies and native bees to the garden.” From the cover of the book above published by Bloomings Books in 2008.



Banksia ericifolia. Photo Ben Walcott

What's On – Dec. 2008/Jan. 2009

Australian National Botanic Gardens

generate – Charles Darwin inspired art
Julie Ryder

2 December 2008 – 26 March 2009
Free entry

Summer Concerts

Each weekend in January 2009

Saturdays on the Eucalypt Lawn
Sundays on the Cafe Lawn

Snakes Alive!

ACT Herpetological Association

Admission fee applies

Contact: Visitor Information Centre
☎ 6250 9540

Contacts

Conservation Council ACT Region

☎ (02) 6247 7808, email

director@consact.org.au

Friends of the ANBG

Message service ☎ (02) 6250 9548 or email

friendbg@netspeed.com.au

Friends of Grasslands

Margaret Ning ☎ (02) 6241 4065 or email

margaretning@iprimus.com.au

SE NSW Group of the Australian Plants Society

Stan Powell ☎ (02) 6495 6584

Wagga Wagga Group of the Australian Plants Society

Claude Paton email

bluewrenplants@netspace.net.au

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 9 Dec. | Daytime Meeting |
| 11 Dec. | Members Meeting |
| 13-14 Dec. | Field Trip |
| 15 Dec. | ANPS Council |
| 15 Dec. | Xmas Cutting Bee |
| 28 Jan. | Feb. <i>Bulletin</i> Items Due |
| 1 Feb. | Cutting Bee |
| 3 Feb. | ANPS Collation |

If undelivered return to:
Australian Native
Plants Society
Canberra Region Inc.
PO Box 217
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608

PRINT
POST

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

ANPS Bulletin
Print Post Approved
PP229219/00061