



Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

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*Wahlenbergia
gloriosa*

ABN 17717 346 075

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

Bulletin

July 2010

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

Speaker: Joe Miller

Joe is a plant systematist at the Centre for Plant Biodiversity Research (CPBR) at CSIRO Plant Industry in Canberra. He is also the research group leader at the CPBR with a larger goal of developing an understanding of the rich flora of Australia. His personal research interests focus on the evolution of the plant genus *Acacia*. His immediate goal is to understand the evolutionary relationships of species within the genus and to translate this into a classification of *Acacia*.

Topic: Acacias

Joe will present the latest data on his research into the evolutionary relationships of *Acacia*. To begin the seminar, he will provide an overview of the genus and describe its relationship to the acacias of Africa and the Americas. The focus of the talk will be the description of a phylogenetic tree of over 200 *Acacia* species which he will use as a backdrop for describing some of the diversity of the genus. There are several *Acacia* related projects that he will introduce including an *Acacia* project with the *Atlas of Living Australia* and the *Acacia Tree of Trees* at the ANBG.

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 this month will be a book voucher.

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 July, 10.30am

Native Gardens of Parliament House

Tour the outer native gardens of Parliament House, Canberra. Meet in the forecourt of Parliament House adjacent to the aboriginal mosaic.

Contact: Shirley Daniels ☎ 6231 0852 or Bill Willis ☎ 6297 5615



Acacia floribunda

FieldTrip, 16-19 July

Royal National Park

The July field trip is to Bundeena and the Illawarra Grevillea Gardens.

Camping at Bonnie Vale in RNP or B&B accommodation in Bundeena (see website)

Contact: Pat or Warwick Wright ☎ 62813088

October Field Trip

October Field Trip to Dunns Swamp will now be 15 -18 October to avoid clash with ANBG 40th Anniversary celebrations

Plant Pest

Uredo rangelii (Myrtle Rust)

Posted: 4 May

The Nursery & Garden Industry Australia has issued a Pest Alert for the Australian Nursery Industry. Plant material sampled from a cut flower/foilage producer in NSW has been confirmed as *Uredo rangelii* (Myrtle Rust). This is the first time this fungus has been found in Australia and is identified as a disease of significance in the **Nursery Industry Biosecurity Plan**. This rust is known to infect a variety of genera in the family Myrtaceae. The current outbreak has been detected on cultivated plants of Callistemon (Bottlebrush), *Agonis flexuosa*, and Syncarpia (Turpentine). Overseas it has been known to affect Syzygium species, among others. Early identification of this rust is **vital to eradication efforts**. A hotline number has been established for reporting symptoms, on wild or cultivated plants. A Nursery Industry Pest Alert Fact Sheet, with identification sheet and images is available by contacting: anthony.kachenko@ngia.com.au

Propagation

Cutting/Seed Bee

11am-2pm, Saturday 24 July

13 Chevalley Loop, Gordon

Come to help produce plant cuttings in a sheltered, sunny courtyard in the company of like-minded members. Newcomers are encouraged to attend. Bring your lunch. As well as tea and coffee, I'll be making a warming soup.

Plants that have grown well at this time of year include Banksia spinulosa, Correa, Eremophila, Grevillea, Bauera, Lasiopetalum, Olearia, Prostanthera, Westringia, Thomasia and Ziera.

Please bring any reliably identified cutting material you may have in your garden. If there is anything you would like to see for sale at the Plant Sales, please bring it along, and we'll help it happen.

Contact: Linda Johnston ☎ 6294 3390

Journal Editor's Contact

Here is Helen Parson's contact information again for those who would like to submit information for the next issue of our Journal. Please consider writing a short article about your favourite plant, area or field trip.

Contact: helen.parsons@anu.edu.au or home phone ☎ 6238 2673 and home address P.O. Box 1114, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Lang's Native Plant Nursery

Lang's Native Nursery in Mildura is well known to many Society members for their large range of Australian native plants in tubes and pots. Lang's wishes to inform us that their hours of operation have changed to **9am-5pm Tuesday through Saturday, closed Sunday and Monday**. The nursery will also be **closed for the months of February and July**.

Contact: Peter and Marion Lang
564 Eleventh Stree, Mildura, Victoria,
☎ (03) 5023 2551, fax (03)5023 2551 or email langsnursery@hotmail.net.au.

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

☺ Bec Bernard

☺ Allan Gibson

Shadehouse Minders Needed

Earlier in the year the Propagation Group called for expressions of interest for hosting or minding a shadehouse for the Society. Members in Kambah, Queanbeyan, Farrer and Ainslie kindly responded and are contemplating the logistics of accommodating such a structure. We really need some people who could volunteer to mind the shadehouse before we can determine which location would be best.

The minders role is not onerous. Each shadehouse has two or more minders who check that the irrigation is functioning, fertilize, weed, and prune the plants. Prior to sales (twice a year), the minders count, list and label the plants that will be sold.

If you feel that you could assist in this role the enthusiastic and helpful Propagation Group would love to hear from you.

Contact: Pauline Adams ☎ 6247 4643

Ivan Holliday's Photo Collection

Russell Dahms has scanned Ivan Holliday's entire life collection of slides. These thousands of slides are a reflection of over forty years of Ivan's love affair with the Australia bush. They are being progressively uploaded to an internet Flickr site where they are organised into genus sets in alphabetical order. Please take a look at this beautiful set of photos.

The web address is:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/westflora/sets/>

Open Garden 2-3 October Volunteers Needed

STEP has offered to support **Andy and Janet Russell** with opening their garden. This event is expected to bring a fresh focus on biodiversity to the design of domestic gardens in our region.

The Russell's garden in Aranda features a courtyard and a terraced garden and highlights Southern Tablelands plantings.

We need your help as volunteers to assist us on both Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 October. (This will overlap with Floriade 2010) The venue is 6 Gidabal Street Aranda.

Contact: Cathy Robertson ☎ 6257 1951 or email limestone@grapevine.com.au.

Black Mountain Wildflower Ramble

9.30am to 12 noon, Saturday 9 October

Belconnen Way entry, just before Caswell Drive turnoff (look for the balloons)

Join wildflowers lovers for the 39th annual Burbidge/Chippendale ramble around Black Mountain to enjoy the spring diversity. This will be an easy guided walk on Saturday 9 October from 9.30am sharp to 12 noon (or later) from the Belconnen Way entry. Our leaders this year will be Laurie Adams, Isobel Crawford, myself and possibly Peter Ormay. All welcome – it is a great way to celebrate the spring and find out how to look for our sometimes cryptic wildflowers. Bring your friends especially those who are new to plant identification. BYO morning tea, hat, sunblock, water and stout shoes.

Contact: Jean Geue ☎ 6251 1601

Australian Botanist's Companion by Alex George

A gold mine for those interested in Australian botany, with information on standard texts and sources, current and historical data, place names, people, expedition ships and much more. Four Gables Press, 2009. 671 pp. casebound. \$77 including GST; packing and postage in Australia \$13. Payment by cheque or money order made out to A.S. George or direct deposit by arrangement. Orders to Alex George, 'Four Gables' 18 Barclay Road, Kardinya, WA 6163. **Contact:** ☎ 08 9337 1655 or email a.george@murdoch.edu.au.

Quote of the Month

Owen Brown 1923-2009, *Grevillea* Breeder

'Owen decided to learn to grow plants for himself as a cheaper alternative. He was an avid reader and researched every book on the subject..one of them being Don Burke's *Growing Grevilleas*, a book he claimed was a major influence on his activities. He became obsessed with the subject, to the exclusion of almost

everything else. He began growing grevilleas from seed. One of the first plants he produced was *Grevillea* 'Caloundra Gem' which was released by Lakkari Nursery in 1986 and is still sold today... Although he did actually cross-pollinate a number of plants, his main technique was to germinate seed from known cultivars growing in his garden. 'The birds did all the work' he once remarked to me. He kept a close watch on the seedlings as they grew in his seedling tray ...If one looked a bit different to his keen, discerning eye, he would select it out... Before long he had so many plants he did not know what to do with them. So he teamed up with the developers of the Pelican Waters subdivision, which planted out literally thousands of his plants, thereby extending his garden without having to maintain it. From this some of his most beautiful cultivars emerged. The Coastal series were marketed in the 1990's and after 2000 by Birkdale Nursery.' Peter Olde, p.5, ASGAP *Grevillea* Study Group *Newsletter* 86, June 2010.



Grevillea 'Caloundra Gem' Photo by Windyridge Nursery



Grevillea 'Coastal Sunset' Photo by Australis Plants

Photo of the Month



Acacia podalyriifolia

Photo by Ben Walcott

Australian National Botanic Gardens

The Australian Inland Botanic Garden Ken Mansell

Thursday 1 July, 12.30pm

Australian Mountain Stories

Matthew Higgins

Thursday 8 July, 12.30pm

Seven Mile Beach Regenerataion Plan

James Doak

Thursday 15 July, 12.30pm

The STEP Project

Cathy Robertson and Geoff Robertson

Thursday 22 July, 12.30pm

Ou Future Vegetation

John Carnahan

Thursday 29 July, 12.30pm

Contact: Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

Calendar of Events

- 8 July **Members Meeting**
- 12 July **ANPS Council**
- 13 July **Daytime Activity**
- 16-19 July **Field Trip Royal National Park**
- 24 July **Cutting/Seed Bee**
- 28 July **August *Bulletin* Items Due**
- 3 August **ANPS Collation**
- * **October 16 Spring Sale***
- * **October 30 Weed Swap***

What's On – July 2010

Next Council Meeting:

12:30-2pm, Monday 12 July, Sponsorship Board Room, CSIRO Discovery, Black Mt.

Next Collation: 7pm, Tuesday 3 August.

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 August *Bulletin* reaches me by Wednesday 28 July.

If undelivered return to:
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