



# **Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.**

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*Wahlenbergia  
gloriosa*

ABN 17717 346 075

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

## **Bulletin**

## **March 2010**

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

**Speakers: Geoff and Cathy Robertson**

**Geoff Robertson** is an economic and social statistician, who has worked extensively for the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the International Monetary Fund both in Australia and abroad. He has a passion for understanding and protecting local biodiversity. With wife Margaret Ning he owns a 700ac property 'Garuwanga' (Manaroo for 'dreaming') near Nimmitabel, which they manage for conservation, and use for workshops and research. Geoff has been active in a number of conservation groups and is currently a member of the Recovery Team for Natural Temperate Grasslands.

**Cathy Robertson** has graduate and post graduate qualifications in arts, public policy and education. She has worked in management and teaching positions for national public sector organizations such as the Australian National University, Airservices Australia, New Parliament House Construction, and the ACT Teachers' Union. She and her husband, Ashton Robinson have deepened their understanding of natural ecosystems via their experience with the management of their property bordering the South East National Park and the Yurramie State Forest near Wyndham, NSW. Cathy has been involved with STEP since its formation and is currently its President. She is currently participating in the Koala Survey organized by the NSW National Parks in the SE Forests.

**Topic: STEP Inc: A project to conserve the biodiversity of the southern tablelands region**

STEP was developed from a concept that was originally promoted by the Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region and Friends of the Grasslands. The objective of Southern Tablelands Ecosystems Park (STEP) is to be a regional botanic garden, education and ecosystem recovery centre for the Southern Tablelands.

**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 Peter Ollerenshaw and Ingrid Adler. To donate future raffle prizes **please contact** Paul Carmen or Cathy Hook ☎ 6288 4208 or **email** [info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au)

**Daytime Activity: Tuesday 16 March, 10.30am**

Visit to **Ben and Irene Stock's Native Plant Nursery at Harden.**

Meet at Murrumbateman carpark at 9 am. Morning tea and light lunches at nursery cafe or you may BYO. Please book and let us know if you need or can provide transport.

**Contact:** Shirley Daniels ☎ 6231 0852

## Editor, ANPS Journal

Council is very pleased to announce that Helen Parsons has agreed to become Editor for our *Journal*. She has an abiding interest in Australian plants which began in South Australia on the family property and was fostered by studying botany and ecology at university. She came to Canberra region in 1992 and has been learning ever since about plants and ecology, adaptation and the impact of climate. On a property outside Queanbeyan she and her partner have been attempting to restore native vegetation and habitat with variable results. She has worked in editing and publishing for about 15 years and is currently managing the *Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*. Thanks Helen!

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

## March FieldTrip

### March 26-29

The March field trip will visit **Booderee NP at Jervis Bay**. This visit is a follow up to a Tuesday meeting to the **Botanic Gardens last year**. There is a range of easy walks on tracks in coastal heathland and woodland (see Park Map) with a wide diversity of plant species to **identify – quite a challenge**. Camping at Greenpatch, Cabins at nearby Huskisson. Park & Camping Fees apply. Contact Roger ☎ 6236 3105 or email [r.farrow@iimetro.com.au](mailto:r.farrow@iimetro.com.au).

## Help for the Autumn Plant Sale

### Friday 19 and Saturday 20 March

If you would like to assist on either set-up day, Friday 19 March, or sale day, Saturday 20 March, please contact one of the Plant Sale Coordinators, either John Carter ☎ 6231 7055, Ben Walcott ☎ 6161 2742 or Paul Carmen ☎ 6288 4208 or email at [plantsales@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:plantsales@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au). Alternatively, you can put your name down on one of the Plant Sale activity sheets at the March evening meeting. The response from members has been encouraging so far but there are still plenty of jobs to be done to make the sale work.

## Daytime Activity- Advance Notice

**13 April:** Garden Visit (Lucinda Royston) and Arid Lands Recovery Talk

**18 May:** Find that Plant! How to use your GPS

**15 June:** Garden Visit to Parliament House

**13 July:** Garden Visit (Phil Trickett and Catriona Bate) featuring banksias

**17 August:** Any Suggestions?

**21 September:** Stroll on Farrer Ridge

**18-19 October:** Overnight visit to Mt. Tomah Botanic Gardens

**16 November :** Garden Visit (Pillans Garden, Jerrabomberra)

**14 December:** Library Visit followed by Xmas Picnic

## Donation of Raffle Prizes

We are still seeking offers of raffle prizes for the monthly evening Members' Meetings, and would like to hear from anyone willing to donate a prize. Plant donations from member growers would be most welcome, but we are also interested in other ideas/offers – cards, books, art/craftwork etc. All donors will be acknowledged in the *Bulletin*. **Please contact** Paul Carmen/Cathy Hook ☎ 6288 4208, email [info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au) to put your name down on the raffle prize roster or to find out more.

## Vale George Chippendale

Members will be sad to hear that the botanist, George Chippendale died on 16 February. He was active in NPA and SGAP since he arrived in Canberra in 1966 as a botanist for Forestry and Timber Bureau. Many members will have been on his annual Black Mountain rambles, attended his U3A botany courses or read his books on eucalypts. George was one of the 1987 NPA team who created the Yerrabi Track in Namadgi. His 1973 book on WA goldfields eucalypts probably helped popularize these very decorative species. Jean Geue

## Fred Rogers Seminar 2010

Bairnsdale and District Group of the East Gippsland Region of Victoria are the organizers of the next Fred Rogers Seminar to be held Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 August 2010. The theme chosen is Grevillea hybrids, cultivars and new species. Both Peter Olde and Neil Marriott will be guest speakers on Saturday. There are five gardens to visit, plants for sale, and the possibility of an escorted trip before or after the seminar to the forest north of Bairnsdale.

There is an excellent variety of accommodation in Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance, Paynesville and Metung.

**\*\*Brochures are included in this mailing of the *Bulletin*.\*\***

**Contact:** Dawn Barr ☎ (03) 5156 4674 or consult their website

<http://www.apsvic.org.au/fjcrogers/index.html>

## Native Succulents

### Attila Kapitani

**2pm Sunday, March 14, ANBG Theatrette**

Enjoy a colourful visual tour of lesser known Australian plants which are among the most dry tolerant of all plants.

**Contact:** Visitor Information Centre ☎ 6250 9540

## Open Days 2010 – Illawarra Grevillea Park, Bulli

The park was created by members of the Grevillea Study Group, SGAP and is well worth a visit. It is only open a dozen times a year.

24 and 25 April

1 and 2 May

17-18, 24- 25 July

25 -26 September

2 and 3 October

For more information see [www.grevilleapark.org](http://www.grevilleapark.org).

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

☺ Gordon Elliott

☺ David Moore

☺ Rebecca Bernard

## National Parks – Can They Take the Heat?

### CSIRO Discovery Centre, 7-8 May

This symposium is to celebrate the National Parks Association ACT's golden anniversary and will focus on the future of national parks in a changing climate and with increased urbanisation. Fees are \$30 for Friday pm, \$40 for Saturday or \$60 for both days. Please register by mid-February: email [admin@npaact.org.au](mailto:admin@npaact.org.au) or ☎ 02 6229 3201 or consult [www.npaact.org.au](http://www.npaact.org.au).

### 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.

### Please forward nominations to:

APA Committee

PO Box 220

Strathmerton

Victoria 3641

**All nominations must be received by Friday,  
10 December, 2010.**

### Organizer Needed

Council needs a volunteer to organize a Working Bee at Burrendong Arboretum, Mumbil, NSW (near Wellington) in June 2010. As part of our donation of \$2000 from the raffle proceeds last year to Burrendong Arboretum we promised to organize a Working Bee to help the Arboretum in some fashion.

Please contact Secretary John Carter ☎ 6277 4306 or email [john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au).

### Propagation

**No Propagation in March  
owing to sale**

### Quote of the Month

'It is good to be reminded that ALL our gardens are formal and the extent to which any garden is formal is just a matter of degree. The more formal the garden the more likely the hard structure - shape of paths, garden beds and water features – will adhere to some simple geometric pattern of straight lines, squares, rectangles, circles etc. Symmetry is king in these gardens. The more formal the garden the fewer different plants will be on show and these plants will be repeated and arranged with some mathematical precision... I have often referred to Australian gardens like my own as being 'naturalistic' but they are nothing of the sort. Are they gardenesque? If only I knew more I could answer this question with confidence. Gardens I have been in the habit of referring to as 'naturalistic' have curved paths and flower beds not easily described geometrically; they are usually gardens dominated...by flowering plants from a range of habitats from different areas of Australia. They in no way resemble any natural area I've ever seen.' Chris Larkin, pp.10-11, *Newsletter 69*, Garden Design Study Group, ANPS, February 2010.

## Plant of the Month



Hakea 'Burrendong Beauty', a chance seedling at Burrendong Arboretum  
Photo by Parkland Nursery

## Australian National Botanic Gardens

### **Bloomin' Showbiz**

**Bill Stevens**

Thursday 4 March, 12.30pm

**Plants of the World – Tibet**

**Roger Farrow**

Thursday 11 March, 12.30pm

**Albury Children's Garden**

**Paul Scannell**

Thursday 18 March, 12.30pm

**Cryptogams**

**Christine Cargill**

Thursday 25 March, 12.30pm

**Contact:** Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

## What's On – March 2010

### **Next Council Meeting:**

12:30-2pm, Monday 15 March. Sponsorship Board Room, CSIRO Discovery, Black Mt.

**Next Collation:** 7pm, Tuesday 30 March .

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](mailto:bulletin@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au).

**Note:** Please ensure material for the April *Bulletin* reaches me by Wednesday 24 March.

## Calendar of Events

- |             |                                 |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| 11 March    | Members Meeting                 |
| 15 March    | ANPS Council                    |
| 16 March    | Daytime Activity                |
| 24 March    | April <i>Bulletin</i> Items Due |
| 26-29 March | Field Trip – Booderee NP        |
| 30 March    | ANPS Collation                  |
| 10-11 April | WEED SWAP                       |

**\* March 20 Autumn Sale\***

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