



Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

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

Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Benjamin Walcott ☎ (02)6161 2742 or **email** membership@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

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*Wahlenbergia
gloriosa*

ABN 17717 346 075

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

Bulletin

May 2009

Members Meeting: Thursday 14 May, 8pm
CSIRO Discovery, Clunies Ross St, Black Mountain

The Australian National Botanic Gardens into the Future

Leaders: Anne Duncan, Director ANBG
Lucy Sutherland, Assistant Director (Policy and Strategic Planning) ANBG

Five discussion groups will be formed and each group will be allocated two topics to discuss over 30 minutes. The groups will be led by Jan Robbins, John Carter, Ben Walcott and two others drawn from the membership. Please note there may be some variation in the format of the meeting depending on the number of members attending. The discussion groups will be followed by a plenary session and each group will give a brief report summarising the key points discussed.

The five topics for discussion are:

- The ANBG as a national institution (governance)
- The ANBG as a national institution (science and conservation)
- The ANBG's living collection
- The ANBG and climate change
- Partnership/leadership opportunities

Show and Tell: There will be no Show and Tell this month.

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

Daytime Meeting: Tuesday 12 May, 9.30am – 12 noon
Frost Hollow to Forest Walk
Jean Geue

A two hour ramble with an easy, winding route half way up the hill in Aranda Bushland. For more information see details later in this Bulletin.

Contact: Jean Geue **email** info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Advance Notice September Field Trip

Our field trip organisers have been planning a trip to the Pilliga next September to see the spring flowers. Roger contacted Anthony O'Halloran at Binnaway for assistance and he and Annabelle kindly offered to show us around and identify plants for us. They would like us to come on the **last weekend** of September 25-28. The Pilliga flora after recent good rains is shaping up for a fantastic display next spring. Anthony has unlimited camping on his property, budget accommodation in Binnaway \$25 pp pn while there are lots of motels at nearby Coonabarabran. Anthony is thinking of inviting Tamworth ANPS members to participate with us. Please support this trip. It is only a day's drive there and some of us will travel up on the Thursday and return on the Tuesday or even later. Another possibility involves checking out the nearby Coolah Tops NP for a future field trip. Having been guided by Anthony and Annabelle on the Warrumbungles trip in 2003 Roger would highly commend this generous offer.

Contacts: Roger Farrow and Warwick Daniels
info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

May Field Trip

22-24 May **note revised date**

Meet in Cooma on Friday at 2pm near Visitors Centre. From there travel to Bournda National Park between Tathra and Merimbula. We are camping at Hobart Beach Camp Ground - camping fees apply - facilities include toilets and hot showers. For non-campers overnight accommodation is available at either Tathra and Merimbula. On Saturday we will walk up to Bournda trig and on Sunday walk a circuit track near North Tura. The vegetation in the park varies from heaths, wetlands, coastal scrub, tall moist eucalypt forests, sedge lands and patches of rainforest. Topo map 1:25000 - Wolumla. For further information:

Contact: Jean Smith and Bob Small
info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au or write to
PO Box 157 Berridale NSW 2628.

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

- ☺ Lesley Collis
- ☺ Alison McInnes
- ☺ Paul Tyerman
- ☺ Jon Real

Raffle Profits

Are there worthy causes to which the membership would like us to donate the raffle profits for this year? If you have any suggestions please contact Secretary John Carter
info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Propagation Potting Up

10am-1pm, Sunday 31 May
3 Considine Close, Queanbeyan

Contact: Ian Tranter

info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Please bring secateurs, lunch, hat and sunscreen. The hot bed is full, so we have lots to pot up for the spring sale. There are also Acacias and Eucalypts that need potting on from forestry tubes. There is a tray of *E. tricarpa* left over from the autumn sale that could make a stately avenue/grove on a rural block. Any takers?

Plants to Grow in the Current Climate

Ian Anderson, 7.30pm Wednesday 17 June
CSIRO Discovery Centre

This talk will consider plants to grow in Canberra gardens as well as the surrounding rural landscape, although principles raised could have application in the wider Australian landscape. Emphasis will be given to growing food plants in the suburbs, blended gardens of native plants (mainly for wildlife habitat) and such food plants, as well as the potential of tree crops in rural areas. There will be reference to the significance and potential of native grasses and associated forbs for gardens as well as in rural landscapes.

WEED SWAP Autumn 2009

Thank you to those who donated their time to the WEED SWAP on 28-29 March. We gave out nearly 1000 **free** native plants to those who had brought environmental weeds for disposal at the green waste sites. Diana O'Brien featured the event and its purpose in her column in *The Chronicle* so we were able to reach a new group of gardeners. WEED SWAPs are activities which bring out the best in ANPS volunteers who effectively promote wise gardening and native plants. What more could the Society ask? Thank you all.

Rosemary Blemings

Vale John Riddell

It was sad to see that John Riddell, a long standing member of ANPS, died in March after a protracted illness. He was a regular attendee at Griffin Centre meetings of the society and Wednesday Walkers will remember his sister Carol from 2003-4.

Jean Geue



Ice Creams at Captains Flat Photo by Jean Geue
Wednesday Walkers April 2009

Sylvia Curley Oration

Peter Andrews

2pm, Sunday 24 May

Peter Andrews, grazier and author of *Back from the Brink: How Australia's Landscape can be Saved*, and its sequel *Beyond the Brink*, will discuss the landscape history of Mugga-Mugga Cottage and surrounds. This will be followed by afternoon tea in the Mugga Education Centre.

Please RSVP for this free event ☎ 6235 5677 by 20 May. The entry to the Mugga-Mugga property is off Narrabundah Lane, opposite the Therapeutic Goods Administration building.

Daytime Meeting: Tuesday 12 May, 9.30am to 12 noon, lunch optional Frost Hollow to Forest Walk

A two hour ramble with an easy, winding route half way up the hill in Aranda Bushland. Discover four distinct ecosystems and see how plant species change with aspect. Identify the ten eucalypt species using NHT funded interpretive signs with drawings by Winifred Mumford. BYO morning tea, hat, sunblock, water, sturdy shoes and friends. Join us later for lunch at Jamison - bookings can be made at the start of the walk. Access is via Glenloch Interchange but NOT through Caswell Drive. Tuggeranong Parkway drivers should take the left (Belconnen) lane at the Glenloch Interchange approach then get into the right lane. Watch for the brown sign to 'Black Mtn Reserve carpark' and turn right a bit later at the small 'U turn' sign. Then turn left a second brown sign for 'Black Mtn Reserve carpark'. This takes you to what was the bottom (southern end) of the old Caswell Drive. Look for the stile at the left and park at right angles to the fence. Parkes Way drivers should take the right lane through Glenloch Interchange, watch for the brown 'Black Mtn Reserve carpark' sign and turn right at the above 'U turn' sign. The turn left at the second brown sign to 'Black Mtn Reserve carpark', then park near the stile as

above. Belconnen Way drivers have the easiest route as you turn south into Bindubi Street, left at the T intersection into William Hovell Drive, left at the brown sign for 'Black Mtn Resrve carpark' then park on the left near the stile. Return is possible through the carpark (on what was Rani Road) then north up new Caswell Drive or via Glenloch Interchange to Parkes Way or Tuggeranong Parkway.

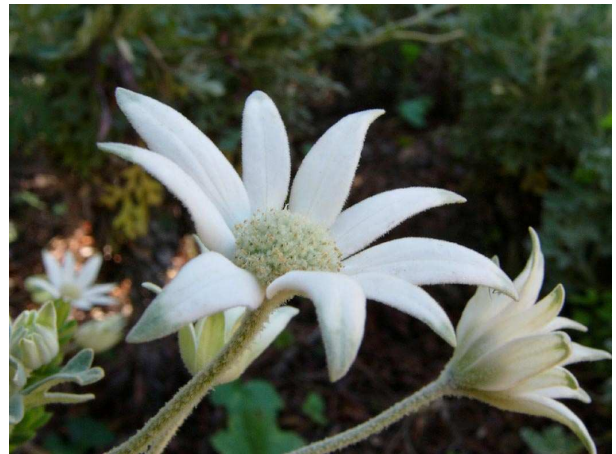
Contact: Jean Geue info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Quote of the Month

'the secret is in understanding that Flannel Flowers have a three year cycle. When you plant the seed, little baby plants spring up. They will have no flowers the first year. In their second year they will be in full flower. In their third year they will grow old and scraggy, and will set copious amounts fo seed, usually around Christmas. This can either be harvested or left to fall into the soil and germinate there, producing new little baby plants. If this three year cycle is allowed to continue over many years, you will always have plants that are flowering, plants that are growing old and setting seed, and new little plants coming up ready to flower the following year. That's the secret, says Peg. Peg does not keep the plants after their third year. She pulls them out after they have seeded and discards them.

Where does she recommend planting the seeds? She likes to have them coming up underneath other plants. This gives them some protection from sun and wind. She does not recommend planting them in seed trays because they do not like having their roots disturbed.

Peg McAllister, *How to Grow Flannel Flowers Without Tears*, p.6, **Kunzea**, (Australian Plants Society Maroondah) March 2009.



Actinotus helianthi Flannel Flower
Photo by Glenn Pure

Plant of the Month



Eucalyptus leucoxylon rosea
Photo by Ben Walcott

What's On – May/June 2009

Next Council Meeting:

12:30-2pm, Monday 18 May. Sponsorship Board Room, CSIRO Discovery, Black Mountain.

Next Collation: 7pm, Tuesday 2 June. 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 June Bulletin reaches me by Wednesday 27 May.

Australian National Botanic Gardens

Australian Network for Plant Conservation Bruce Boyes

Thursday 7 May 2009, 12.30pm

Geology of the ACT

Douglas Finlayson

Thursday 14 May, 12.30pm

Recovery After the 2003 Fires

Kate Armstrong

Thursday 21 May, 12.30pm

Biodiversity in Belize

Lucy Sutherland

Thursday 28 May, 12.30pm

Botanical Illustration

Helen Fitzgerald

Thursday 4 June, 12.30pm

All talks at ANBG Theatrette, except when otherwise specified

Contact: Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

Calendar of Events

12 May Daytime Meeting

14 May Members Meeting

18 May ANPS Council

22-24 May Field Trip

27 May June *Bulletin* Items Due

31 May Potting Up

2 June ANPS Collation

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