



# Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

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*Wahlenbergia  
gloriosa*

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

## Bulletin

## May 2011

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**Members Meeting: Thursday 12 May, 8pm**

**CSIRO Discovery, Clunies Ross St, Black Mountain**

**Speaker: Terry Korodaj**

Terry Korodaj is the Senior Program Coordinator for the *Native Fish Strategy*, a program aimed at rehabilitating native fish in the Murray-Darling Basin. Terry's background is varied with an early career focussed on 'people' issues and organisational change. As a field ecologist he has worked on Yellow-footed Antechinus, birds in pine forests and now fish! Terry has a strong interest in community engagement and the development of practical adoption and extension efforts.

**Topic: Fish Population Variation in the Murray-Darling Basin**

Native fish populations in the Basin have declined by 90% since European settlement. The *Native Fish Strategy* aims to bring native fish populations back to 60% of their estimated pre-European settlement levels over the next forty years. Underpinned by science, the Strategy works with community to develop and implement local and regional initiatives to improve river health. Terry's presentation to the May meeting will essentially be fishy, with a slightly human dimension.

**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 plants for this meeting have been donated by the ANPS propagation group. 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)

**Combined Daytime Activity and Garden Design Study Group Meeting**

**Tuesday 17 May, 10am**

**Visit to Diana Bennett's garden at 72 Fidge St., Calwell**

This is a garden designed by Landscape Architect and ANPS member, Leon Horsnell. The garden was open last year as part of the Open Garden Scheme. It is a native garden with a skilful mix of local and commercial native plants and with innovative landscaping hardware such as a water course that flows through the back garden down to a pool with water plants in floating 'rocks'. The garden also has a native 'lawn'. The designer and the owner have pooled their skills and desires to build and develop a native plant oasis within a suburb of increasingly exotic plants.



## New Council Members

We are happy to welcome Masumi and John Robertson as members of Council. Thanks to you both for agreeing to serve your society in this way.

## Field Trip May

### 13-16 May Kangaroo Valley Escarpments

Tallowa Dam Four Views walk & Meryla Pass Wombat Lookout. Easy flat 12 km walks.

Sandstone flora. Accommodation Kangaroo Valley Caravan Park Camping & Cabins.

☎ 1300559977. Maps Burrier Bundanoon, Info NPWS Kangaroo Valley Walks.

Contact Roger Farrow [r.farrow@iimetro.com.au](mailto:r.farrow@iimetro.com.au)

## Propagation

### Cutting/Seed Bee

11am-2pm Saturday 28 May

#### 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. There is cover if it is wet. Genera which appear to do best when cut in Autumn include Alyogyne, Anigozanthos, Asterolasia, Astroloma, Baeckea, Bauera, Callistemon, Calotis, Calytrix, Chrysocephalum, Darwinia, Derwentia, Dichopogon, Dietes, Gastrolobium, Goodenia, Homoranthus, Hypocalymma, Kennedia, Kunzea, Lomandra, Micromyrtus, Prostanthera, Pultenaea, Rhodanthe, Templetonia, Thomasia, Veronica, Westringia  
New members welcome, all tuition provided.  
Free plant for each attendee!!

**Contacts: Lyndal Thorburn and Tom Jordan** ☎ 6297 2437

## Plants Wanted for Propagation

ANPS is searching for members who grow these varieties, so we may once again propagate them. If you have them, please contact Jan Simpson ☎ 6281 6118 or Merren Sloane ☎ 6262 7673.

*Phymatocarpa porphycephala* (reddish-purplish puff-ball flowers like *Melaleuca*);

*Correa reflexa* var *speciosa* Green Cape form; *Correa reflexa* Bemm River form; *Correa* 'Marlo Magic'; *Correa* 'Pink Perfection'; *Correa* 'Ivory Dancer'; *Grevillea* 'Carpet Queen'; *Grevillea* 'Granya Glory'.

## Weedswap

Jan Simpson needs photos & newspaper cuttings of Weedswap, any year, either side of town, especially from the *Chronicle* which isn't delivered in her area. Jan wants to collect an

illustrated history binder & CD for ANPS/ SGAP posterity. Either bring material to meetings, or email [jansimpson@home.com.au](mailto:jansimpson@home.com.au), ☎ 6281 6118 (answer machine), or snail mail Jan Simpson, 7 Boyce Place, Chifley, 2606.

## 😊 A very warm welcome to our new members 😊

- 😊 Victoria Gilmore
- 😊 Roberta Wallace
- 😊 Jason Cummings
- 😊 David Last

## Gang-Gang Logo

The Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo of the ACT Parks & Conservation Service is under threat from the Hawke Review which has proposed scrapping identifying logos for a number of ACT government agencies. The following points argue against such a proposal for the Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo:

- 1) The Gang-Gang Cockatoo has been the respected symbol of National Park and Nature Reserve management in the ACT region for over 30 years.
- 2) The ACT Parks & Conservation Service is an agency under Section 12 of the Nature Conservation Act 1980. So the name cannot be scrapped without changing legislation.
- 3) The Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo has widespread community recognition and backing.
- 4) The Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo means the Ranger or officer wearing has authority and professional respect - this helps with workplace safety.
- 5) Rangers and officers who wear the logo take on the responsibility of caring for the the Ngunnawal lands. The Ngunnawal Rangers should be consulted before any change is made to the logo as it is important to them. We should show them this respect.
- 6) The Gang-Gang Cockatoo is the faunal emblem of the ACT - it reflects the large seasonal changes of the Canberra environment. Many Gang-Gang Cockatoos migrate from the high mountains of Namadgi National Park and Tidbinbilla to spend the winters in the Canberra suburbs.
- 7) The Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo is more recognisable than any other ACT government branding. When the public see the logo they know it is the ACT Park Rangers.
- 8) The other Australian States and Territory proudly display their Park Services logos, eg. The Lyrebird logo for the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service and the distinctive Parks Victoria logo.
- 9) The Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo is well recognised interstate as well. The top of Mt Buffalo in Victoria has the Gang-Gang Cockatoo

logo at the summit. It shares its place with the NSW NationalParks & Wildlife Service and Parks Victoria logos - as part of the joint Australian Alps management program.

10)The Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo is on signs across the ACT and even interstate in the Australian Alps National Parks. It is on uniforms, fire fighting and general duties vehicles and equipment. The cost of its removal and replacement would be enough to employ an additional Ranger for a number of years. We all would prefer our taxpayer's dollars to go on an additional Ranger - not on wasting dollars changing logos and names.

11) It is nonsensical to throw away the Gang-Gang Cockatoo logo, which is worth millions of dollars in recognition and respect. No private business or other government would throw away such a logo.

12) And remember the ACT Parks & Conservation Service:

- manages 70% of the ACT land area
- is the professional bushfire management agency for the region
  - protects the region's water catchment
- manages some of the rarest native vegetation types in the country

We are dealing with an agency that has the main role in conservation of our unique region of Australia.

**Contact:** Rosemary Blemings **email** [rosemary@blemings.org](mailto:rosemary@blemings.org).

### ***The Land of Flowers: An Australian Environment on the Brink***

I have just re-read *The Land of Flowers: An Australian Environment on the Brink*. Irene Cunningham, Otford Press, 2005.

There is a Foreword by Denis Saunders and high praise and recommendations from Frank G Clarke, Joan Winch, Keith Brady, Beth Schultz and Mark Wahlqvist. Irene grew up in the West Australian Midlands sharing her partly-wartime childhood with Aboriginal children and their parents. She returned in the eighties, bought land near those roots and, instead of continuing to graze sheep and trialling new crops, watched as the land restored itself. Her 'Waylo' property became an amazing island in a sea of clearing, over-grazing and chemicals-based farming. There is no doubt that this chronicling of the settling of Western Australia makes a depressing read. Following diligent research and investigative persistence Irene traces the history of the colonists' treatment of indigenous people and the fatal retribution against Aborigines who dared to react when their lands were stolen, their culture denigrated and denied. Readers are buoyed by the beauty of unique flora, the

tenacity of the land itself, its people, its wildlife and the flair of Irene's writing. The book reaffirms that we are on the right track. Let us hope we can continue to attract more fellow-travellers. The book is available through the ACT Library Service, The Botanical Bookshop and The West Australian Wildflower Society (the latter being a presumed recommendation and verification).

**Contact:** Rosemary Blemings **email**

[rosemary@blemings.org](mailto:rosemary@blemings.org).

### **Meeting Suppers**

We need volunteer(s) to arrange the suppers after our monthly meetings. Barbara Daly has been performing this service for us for many years and is stepping down from this position. Unless we get volunteer(s) to buy milk, tea and biscuits for our suppers they will be discontinued. Please help if you can. Thanks very much to Barbara who has persevered with this task over so many years.

**Contact:** Secretary Jodie Durrant ☎ 0408 251 312 or **email** [twodogs@homemail.com.au](mailto:twodogs@homemail.com.au).

### **Quote of the Month**

#### ***Hakea neurophylla***

'Since receiving the Wildflower Society of Western Australia award for promoting the flora of the Lesueur area we thought that the time had come to do so through the WSWA Newsletter. *Hakea neurophylla* or Pink Flowered Hakea is a geographically restricted species that occurs naturally between Mount Lesueur and 'Hi Vallee' (Don and Joy Williams property). It can be very common locally and grows on very shallow sand over clay to clay with some laterite gravel. ..The species flowers regularly from the last week of July to the first week of September, therefore avoiding the rush of the traditional wildflower people who miss this species. It has masses of very delicate coral pink flowers with a subtle scent. The leaves are most attractive with the highly visible nerves or veins, hence the name neurophylla from neuron, nerve and phyllon, leaf. One local common name is nerve leaf Hakea. The species sets a prolific amount of fruit with large amounts of viable seed... The species is tolerant of a wide variety of soils when grown outside its normal area.. In a garden situation it grows to about two metres tall and can tolerate an amount of pruning. Whilst the leaves are stiff they are not as prickly and aggressive as most Hakeas. Don and Joy Williams, p. 25, *Wildflower Society of Western Australia Newsletter* v.49(14) February 2011.

## Flower of the Month



*Hakea neurophylla* Photo by Ivan Holliday

## Australian National Botanic Gardens

**Paul Scholtens**

**Landscape Architecture in Canberra**

12.30pm, Thursday 5 May

**Hazel Rath**

**Gudgenby Bush Regeneration**

12.30 pm, Thursday 12 May

**Murray Fletcher**

**Bugs I Have Known and Loved**

12.30 pm, Thursday 19 May

**David Taylor**

**Planting With a Purpose**

12.30 pm, Thursday 26 May

**Brett Odgers**

**What Were Walter and Marion Up to in 1911?**

12.30pm, Thursday 2 June

**Contact:** Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

## **What's On – May 2011**

### Calendar of Events

- 12 May      **Members Meeting**  
13-16 May   **Field Trip Kangaroo Valley**  
16 May      **ANPS Council**  
17 May      **Daytime Activity/GDSG**  
25 May      **June *Bulletin* Items Due**  
1 June      **ANPS Collation**  
**\* Spring Sale October 15 \***  
**\* Weed Swap October 29-30 \***

### **Next Council Meeting:**

12:30-2pm, Monday 16 May, Sponsorship Board Room, CSIRO Discovery, Black Mt.

**Next Collation:** 7pm, Tuesday 1 June.

Collation is from 7pm at Pauline Adams, 4 Beeby Street, Ainslie. Please come along to 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 June *Bulletin* reaches me by Wednesday 25 May.

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