



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

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

## **Bulletin**

## **September 2008**

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

### **Speaker: Peter Cuneo**

Peter is the Manager, Natural Heritage, at Mount Annan Botanic Garden, where he is responsible for natural area management, conservation planning and the management of the NSW Seedbank. He is Project Coordinator for the international partnership between the Botanic Gardens Trust and the Millennium Seedbank U.K., established in 2004. Peter's research interest is the role of seeds in ecological restoration and behaviour of invasive species, and he is currently undertaking a PhD project on the weed ecology of African Olive, the dominant weed at Mount Annan Botanic Garden.

### **Topic: Taking a look at Australian seeds – progress in unravelling the secrets**

The talk will look at the main seed types that occur in Australia, with an emphasis on their seed storage behaviour and germination requirements. Peter will also include an overview of research into the 'difficult to germinate' seed groups that have dormancy or other factors controlling germination. Examples from the seed research program at Mount Annan Botanic Garden will be used in the talk.

**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.

### **Proposed Changes to our Constitution**

Council have reviewed our Constitution and will propose some changes. All members of the society will receive notice of the proposed changes, and the reasons for them, either by post or by email soon. Part of the October meeting will be a 'Special Meeting' to discuss the proposed changes and to effect them if approved. If anyone has any questions or comments, they should send them to the Secretary, John Carter, who will notify Council. John Carter **email** [john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au)

### **Membership Renewal**

ANPS member subscriptions are now due. A renewal form will be sent out with the September, October and November Bulletins. You can also renew using the society's website and a credit card at <http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au/>. If you intend to renew your membership, please do so soon.

## Help for Spring Plant Sale

If you would like to assist on either set-up day, Friday 10 October, or sale day, Saturday 11 October, please contact the Plant Sale Volunteer Coordinator, Paul Carmen at [plantsales@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:plantsales@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au) or ☎ (02) 6288 4208. Alternatively, you can put your name down on one of the Plant Sale activity sheets which Paul will have at the September 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 - so please give Paul a call or send an email!

## September Field Trip:

### Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens

Saturday 6 to Tuesday 9 September

Contact: Eurobodalla Gardens ☎ 02 4471 3271

### Additional September Field Trip: Hillsides of Pomaderris along the Mulloon Fire Trail

Saturday, September 27, 2008

The Mulloon Fire Trail in Tallaganda Forest has seven different species of Pomaderris and most of them flower in early spring covering the hillsides in yellow. Even if the Pomaderris are not in full bloom the Wednesday Walkers' plant list for the trail has more than 150 species so you're bound to see something interesting. This is not so much a walk as a car-crawl, stopping along the way for plant wandering and morning tea and lunch: through Hoskinstown, along the fire trail and continuing on to Braidwood. The fire trail is dirt so 4WDs are advisable. We will car pool in Queanbeyan. Bring lunch and water.

**Meet in Queanbeyan at the Warroo St. / Bungendore Rd. (King's Hwy) corner of Spotlight Car Park, to be ready to leave at 9am.**

Contact: Jo Walker [info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au)

## Names for *Journal* and *Bulletin*

Council is accepting suggestions for names for our *Journal* and *Bulletin*. For example, the newsletter of the APS Tasmania is titled *Eucryphia* and the publication of APS Maroondah is titled *Kunzea*. The advantages are short and unique titles for our publications that are easily recognisable by all. Please send your suggestions to Secretary John Carter [john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au).

## Floriade and WeedSwap

Floriade opens to the public two days after the next ANPS meeting. Amongst the colour there are several opportunities to promote Australian native plants. It is not an official ANPS activity but many members have been involved at the weeds garden over the years. It is the ***Plant Me Instead***

**Garden** this year and environmental weeds that affect our local ecosystems and gardens will be displayed alongside non-invasive alternatives. If you would like to volunteer to explain the weeds situation to the public please contact me. The Society's WEED SWAP is a valuable part of our message. The next event is on 25 and 26 October and volunteers who enjoy meeting people and have a sense of humour are needed to give away native plants to those who have removed Cotoneaster, Broom, Periwinkle, Pyracantha, Privet and Ivy from their gardens. For more details and to volunteer please use my new email address [rosemary@blemings.org](mailto:rosemary@blemings.org).

Rosemary Blemings

## Meeting Roster for September

Supper – Warwick and Shirley Daniels

Please contact Bill Willis to join the roster email [bwillis@cumberland.com](mailto:bwillis@cumberland.com).

☺ A very warm welcome to our new member ☺

☺ Carolan Jane Marstin

## Propagation

### Cutting Bee

11am – 2pm, Saturday 20 September

13 Chevalley Loop, Gordon (battle-axe block)

Contact: Linda Johnston [info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au)

For those of you who enjoyed learning or rehonoring your skills at the June workshop, why not come along to this cutting bee for some more practice? If the weather is poor Linda has a garage available. Bring your own lunch – Linda will provide drinks and other goodies.

**\*No propagation activity in October\***

## Becoming a Member Grower

Have you been growing some Australian native plants for yourself and are now interested in growing plants for the ANPS Sale? If your answer is yes, please contact Merren Sloane for detailed information, then volunteer to help out at the upcoming Spring or Autumn Sale so that you can learn how things work and get a feel for what you will need to do as a grower.

Contact: Merren Sloane email [sloane.merren@ozemail.com.au](mailto:sloane.merren@ozemail.com.au).

## Designers Wanted

Would you like to contribute your drawing skills to the next edition of the ANPS book? We need a volunteer to help design the symbols for the plant descriptions.

Contact: An Van den Borre on [vandenborre@actewagl.net.au](mailto:vandenborre@actewagl.net.au).

## Vacancy on Council

Ian Anderson has been elected to Council. Welcome, Ian. After Ian's election there is still one position open. Please consider serving your Society by standing for election to Council and send your nominations to John email [john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:john.carter.reps@aph.gov.au).

## Australian Plants as Bonsai

This ASGAP study group is led by local member Roger Hnatiuk. Please contact Roger email [rjhniuk@yahoo.com.au](mailto:rjhniuk@yahoo.com.au).

## Garden Design Study Group

Next meeting will be on Monday 29 September at Jan and Michael Robbins, 21 Urambi Village, 10am-12.30pm. Please join us.

**Contact:** Shirley Pipitone email [pipitone@netspeed.com.au](mailto:pipitone@netspeed.com.au).

## Wednesday Walkers

Walks are posted on the calendar on the ANPS website each week. To find out more please phone either Jo Walker or Ros Cornish [info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au](mailto:info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au)

## Grasses Group

This group practices grass identification at the ANBG every fortnight. For more information contact Merren Sloane email [sloane.merren@ozemail.com.au](mailto:sloane.merren@ozemail.com.au).

## Quote of the Month

"SGAP members who have some involvement with Canberra Region will find it difficult to think of SGAP in that region without thinking about the Clarkes. Geoff (b. 1936) and Gwyn (b. 1939) joined SGAP in 1969 and have been central figures in Canberra Region ever since. Gwyn has spent a total of twenty years on the Regional Council, serving as President, Vice-President and Secretary while Geoff has served for eight years in similar roles. The Clarkes have also been very active within ASGAP and Gwyn was leader of the Calytrix Study Group from 1984 until 1995. Geoff's main interest is photography and his slides have been used to illustrate his talks as well as talks given by Gwyn and other speakers. Geoff has also spent a great deal of time lobbying the ACT Government and other authorities on conservation matters, one of his successes being the modification of the guidelines governing the use of native plants in the landscaping of new suburbs. Gwyn's main contribution (aside from her administrative abilities) has been in the area of propagation, leading the Regions propagation group and improving and maintaining their plant labelling database and plant propagation database. Both the Clarkes willingly share their knowledge with the Region's members via talks, leading excursions, and regular contributions to the newsletter." John Walter, p. 212, *SGAP: the*

*Story of Arthur Swaby and the Society for Growing Australian Plants*, Australian Plants Society (SGAP Victoria), 2007.



Gwyn and Geoff at Mount Annan, September 2007  
Photo Ben Walcott



Photo by Jean Geue



Photo by Lucinda Royston

## What's On – September 2008

### Australian National Botanic Gardens

#### Wattle Day

#### Understanding Mulga

Dr. Joe Miller

Monday 1 September, 12.30pm

#### Update on ANSI

Wendy Rainbird

Thursday 4 September, 12.30pm

#### Biotechnology

Ben Phillips

Thursday 11 September, 12.30pm

#### Floriade Special Programs at ANBG

Last two weeks of September and first week of October

**All talks at ANBG Theatre, except when otherwise specified**

**Contact:** Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

#### Next Council Meeting:

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

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

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 October Bulletin reaches me by Wednesday 24 September.

## Contacts

### Conservation Council ACT Region

☎ (02) 6247 7808, email

[director@consact.org.au](mailto:director@consact.org.au)

### Friends of the ANBG

Message service ☎ (02) 6250 9548 or email

[friendbg@netspeed.com.au](mailto:friendbg@netspeed.com.au)

### Friends of Grasslands

Margaret Ning ☎ (02) 6241 4065 or email

[margaretning@iprimus.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:bluewrenplants@netspace.net.au)

## Calendar of Events

- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 11 Sept.   | Members Meeting                |
| 15 Sept.   | ANPS Council                   |
| 24 Sept.   | Oct. <i>Bulletin</i> Items Due |
| 27 Sept.   | Pomaderris Field Trip          |
| 29 Sept.   | GDSG Meeting                   |
| 30 Sept.   | ANPS Collation                 |
| 11 October | Spring Plant Sale              |

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