



Australian Native Plants Society Canberra Region Inc.

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*Wahlenbergia
gloriosa*

ABN 17717 346 075

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

Bulletin

September 2009

Speaker: Maree Goods

Maree and Graham Goods became interested in native plants 36 years ago and began growing them to attract birds to the garden of their property on the Wimmera Plains in central western Victoria. Over the years Maree developed a particular interest in eremophilas, and she co-authored the book *Australia's Eremophilas: changing gardens for a changing climate* which was published last year. She is a Life Member of the Wimmera Growers of Australian Plants (Graham is currently President). They have travelled widely through arid Australia, and, when they are at home, operate a small wholesale nursery specialising in eremophilas.

Topic: Gardening on the Wimmera Plains

With an average rainfall of 350mm for the last 15 years, and summer temperatures reaching to more than 40°C, gardening on the Wimmera Plains is a challenge. Maree will talk to us about their low water, one acre garden, and also about Graham's restoration of the native grassland/understorey of the Buloke (*Allocasuarina luehmannii*) woodland which surrounds their house and garden.

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.

Daytime Meeting: Tuesday 8 September, 10am

The Daytime meeting for September will be a stroll around Farrer Ridge Nature Park Trail to see the first flush of spring flowers. After the walk there is a cafe at the Farrer Shops for those wishing to adjourn for a coffee or sandwich. Meet at the Hawkesbury Crescent entrance to Farrer Ridge at 10am (plenty of parking available opposite houses 83 and 85 in Hawkesbury Crescent).

Contact: info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Membership Renewal

ANPS member subscriptions for 2009/2010 are due November 1. 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 (click PayPal) at <http://nativeplants-canberra.asn.au/>. If you intend to renew your membership, please do so soon to avoid unnecessary paperwork..

Help for the Spring Plant Sale – October 16-17

It is the time of year again when the Plant Sales Coordinators are seeking volunteers for various jobs both before and during the ANPS Spring Plant Sale. If you would like to assist on either set-up day, Friday 16 October, or sale day, Saturday 17 October, please contact one of the Plant Sale Coordinators, either John Carter, Ben Walcott, or Paul Carmen Email at plantsales@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au. Alternatively, you can put your name down on one of the Plant Sale activity sheets which Paul will have at the September evening meeting.

November Members' Night

A members' night is planned for the November evening meeting, following the AGM. On these occasions several short (5 –15 minute) presentations are given by our members on a native plant related subject of their choice. If you would be interested in giving a brief talk or presentation, or would like more information, please contact the evening speaker coordinators Paul Carmen and Cathy Hook info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Secretary's Statement

Council is turning its mind to the November AGM when there will have to be a substantial change in Council membership. The Society will need a new President; a new Secretary; and several new Council Members (for the past year we have been operating without a President and with a bare minimum of general Council members). One of the advantages of the ANPS Constitution is that it requires there to be a turnover of Council membership. This means that fresh faces and fresh approaches can keep the society moving forward. Unfortunately, the experience has been that the membership is happy to have services delivered, some people have been happy to provide advice, but few have been prepared to step up to the plate. You might feel you don't have sufficient expertise to join Council. Now I can tell you for a fact, that you don't need horticultural or technical botanical expertise—when I was President in the 1980s I knew very very little about Australian native plants. What you do need is common sense and maturity of judgement—and I know that the Society has this in spades! Council meets on Monday at a lunch time, but this time is not set in concrete and it is quite feasible to meet at a different time—the new Council sets its meeting time. So I urge members to nominate for Council—as I said, all you need is common sense and a willingness to contribute. It would be absolutely fantastic if we had to hold a ballot for a

position for once! The bottom line is folks: no Council—no Society!

John Carter

September Field Trip 25-28 September

Our field trip organisers have planned a trip to the Pilliga this 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 is \$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

ASGAP 2009 Conference Geelong, 26 Sept. – 1 Oct.

Following a call for delegates in the July Bulletin and direct contact by John Carter, four members have offered to be delegates. Council agreed that the following members be ANPS Canberra Region delegates to the Geelong conference: **Gwyn Clarke; Roger Hnatiuk; Shirley Pipitone; and Reet Vallak.** If you have any issues that you would like to have discussed at the ANPSA General Meeting in Geelong, please contact any of these four members.

Open Gardens

September/October

26-27 Sept: Woodburn Garden, 20 Mulga St, O'Connor.

17-18 Oct: *Green Fingers* (Pamela Finger's garden), 10 Rechner Place, Flynn. Both open 10am-4.30pm, \$6.

Australian Open Garden Scheme Guidebook 2009/10

Available at the August and September meetings from Shirley Pipitone, only \$15. Includes one free garden entry ticket.

Selecting Gardens for the Open Garden Scheme.

 Shirley Pipitone needs

your help now to find gardens for the AOGS 2010/11 season. Please let her know all the native plant gardens you love in the Canberra region. You do not need to contact the owners or make a judgment about the suitability of the garden. You don't even need to know the owners. Just tell Shirley the address and whatever contact details you have and she will do the rest.

Contact: info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

☺ A very warm welcome to our new members ☺

- ☺ Ian Hirst
- ☺ Jen Shallcross
- ☺ Jemma Martin
- ☺ Marilyn McColl
- ☺ Meg Richardson
- ☺ Paul Edwards
- ☺ Paul Tickell
- ☺ Dimity Phillips

Call for Nominations

Nominations are called for positions on Council. Elections will be held at our General Meeting in November. We need volunteers to stand for general positions on Council and we also need specifically members willing to serve as President and Secretary. Please consider serving your Society by standing for election and send your nominations to John Carter info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Propagation

Cutting Bee

11am- 2pm, Sunday 20 September

Change of Venue

4 Beeby St, Ainslie

Please bring (named) cutting material if you have some (Grevillea, Correa, Westringia, Leptospermum and Persoonia cuttings have previously done well in September), secateurs and your lunch.

Contact: Pauline info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Book Sale News

For a considerable time we have not been able to obtain stocks of *A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia* by David Jones. We now have some copies for sale at \$35 (this is a lower price than previously).

If you would like to reserve a copy for collection at the next meeting phone Murray Dadds info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Black Mountain Wildflower Ramble

9.30am to 12 noon, Saturday 10 October

Belconnen Way entry, just before Caswell

Drive turnoff. Join wildflowers lovers for the 38th annual Burbidge/Chippendale ramble around Black Mountain to enjoy the spring diversity. This will be an easy guided walk. 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 info@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au

Quote of the Month

' Janet Edstein now lives in Canberra and is a keen native plant grower and a member of ANPS in Canberra. However, she originally comes from Adelaide where her father, Noel Lothian, was the Director of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens for 33 years from 1948.

Janet tells us tht her father worked very hard to get the acacia as the Australia floral emblem in the 1970s. She recalls her father telling his family that it was a most suitable plant to represent Australia, as somewhere in Australia a wattle was flowering each day of the year.

Janet also recalls her father telling her about the rare *Acacia peuce*, and how these had been planted in the Gardens by Madigan from seed he collected from his Simpson Desert Expedition in the 1930s (it survived for about 10 years). ' p. 10, ASGAP Acacia Study Group Newsletter #105, June 2009.



Acacia pycnantha – Golden Wattle – Australia's Floral Emblem

Photo Ben Walcott

Plant of the Month



Eucalyptus caesia ssp. magna 'Silver Princess'
Photo by Benjamin Walcott

What's On – September 2009

Next Council Meeting:

12:30-2pm, Monday 14 September. Sponsorship Board Room, CSIRO Discovery, Black Mountain.

Next Collation: 7pm, Tuesday 29 September. Collation is from 7pm at Pauline Adams, 4 Beeby Street, Ainslie. Please come along and help.

Bulletin Editor: Rosalind Walcott or email bulletin@nativeplants-canberra.asn.au. **Note:** Please ensure material for the October Bulletin reaches me by Wednesday 23 September.

Australian National Botanic Gardens

Plants vs. Animals

Dick Rowe

Thursday 10 September, 12.30pm

Reminiscences on a Life of Collecting

David Kilby

Thursday 17 September, 12.30pm

Insects and Their Feeding Habits on Plants

Paul Cooper

Thursday 24 September, 12.30pm

Recent Developments in Conservation in Eastern Australia

Bob Makinson

Thursday 1 October, 12.30pm

All talks at ANBG Theatre, except when otherwise specified

Contact: Visitor Information Centre

☎ 6250 9540

Calendar of Events

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|----------|--------------------------------|
| 8 Sept. | Daytime Meeting |
| 10 Sept. | Members Meeting |
| 14 Sept. | ANPS Council |
| 20 Sept. | Cutting/Seed Bee |
| 23 Sept. | Oct. <i>Bulletin</i> Items Due |
| 29 Sept. | ANPS Collation |

17 October Spring Sale

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