

EAST HILLS GROUP NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2018

NEXT EHG MEETING:

Group planning meeting

7.30 pm, Wednesday 7 February 2018

Please bring specimens for the plant table, something to share for supper and your ideas for the year!

LUGARNO-PEAKHURST UNITING CHURCH

909 Forest Road Lugarno (opposite the Chivers Hill Lugarno shops)

WELCOME to the February 2018 edition of the East Hills Group Newsletter, the first for the new year.

This very short issue includes the President's Report, a report of our AGM and Christmas celebrations, information about some other activities that you may wish to add to your diary, and is decorated with photos taken at a marvellous private garden at Horse Island (near Bodalla).

Hope to see you at the meeting!

Jan Douglas
Editor



<http://austplants.com.au/East-Hills>

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We had a good Christmas meeting with 23 people present, including eight visitors. I would like to thank all the hard workers, particularly Marie O'Connor, for the excellent food and the Christmas decorations - it made for a friendly and happy evening.

The meal was followed by our AGM. Our finances are in good order, and for that we can thank Karlo and of course all of you who have bought most of the plants he and the propagation team have produced. The plant sales have significantly improved our financial position. A final financial statement will be produced in early 2018 as the financial year has changed to a calendar year.

Lloyd Hedges capably chaired our election of office bearers. The results are shown elsewhere in the newsletter. The evening finished with card games, professionally organised by Dorothy, which was followed by supper and more Christmas food.

It was good to briefly catch up with Hugh Stacy when he and Beverley paid a short visit during the evening, and we hope to see him well and back attending meetings in 2018.

Our small group continues to function well, our meetings are friendly, interesting and very informative. I am always astonished at the knowledge that our members have about Australian flora and their readiness to share that knowledge. I think our speakers also appreciate an informed and interested audience.

Finally I would like to sincerely thank Jan Douglas for the excellent newsletter she produces each month. The Newsletter is the glue that helps keep the group going and therefore is an essential aspect of our continuing operations. Jan is always on the lookout for articles so please consider contributing. It would be nice if we could say that each of our members wrote an article for the newsletter during 2018 - the challenge is there!

Graham Fry
President, APS East Hills Group



Special General Meeting and Quarterly Gathering Saturday, 3 March 2018

This event is being hosted by the Sutherland Group of APS NSW.

- 10.00 - 11.30 am Guided tours around Joseph Banks Native Plants Reserve
- 11.30 am - 12.45 pm Lunch at Joseph Banks Reserve or in the grounds of Loftus Community Centre – bring your own or buy it in Sutherland.
- 12.45 - 1.30 pm Special General Meeting – Loftus Community Centre Hall
- 1.30 - 3.30 pm Gathering: How to create wildlife habitat at home: workshop with Geoff Doret, Greenweb Officer at Sutherland Shire Council

Loftus Community Centre Hall is at 119-129 Loftus Ave, Loftus NSW 2232. It is opposite Loftus Railway Station, next to the fire station.

THE BUSINESS

East Hills Group AGM and Christmas celebration – 6 December 2017

Notes by Liz Cameron

We welcomed eight guests from Sutherland and Menai Wildflower Groups and the event began at 6.30 pm with a delicious meal of salads, meat and vegetarian options co-ordinated by Marie O'Connor with contributions from all the EHG members present. The tables were decorated with a Christmas theme and vases of natives including Christmas Bush, orange-flowered gum blossom, white Crinum lilies and other flowers from members' gardens.

The raffle followed for the two Christmas hampers stocked with members contributions and decorated by Jan and Dave, and two pots of flannel flowers donated by Lloyd Hedges / Menai Wildflower Group.

The East Hills Group 2017 Annual General Meeting opened at 7.35 pm with 23 in attendance including eight visitors from other groups. There were apologies from Boyd Webster and Carol Drew. Hugh and Beverley Stacy turned up briefly to say 'hello' and Noel Summerell sent greetings to the group via Jan Douglas.

Business:

1. President's Report. Graham Fry reported that the regional meetings held during the year had been good, especially the annual get-together at Coffs Harbour in September, featuring rainforests and attended by eight members of East Hills Group.

Graham reminded EHG that we would be hosting the Spring regional meeting in 2018 and hoped to have Alan Fairley as a speaker, depending on the date.

2. Treasurer's Report – (informal summary by Graham Fry on behalf of Liz Cameron). There has been a big increase in income from plant sales, thanks largely to Karlo's initiative and his contribution to the propagation days at Menai Wildflower Group's Illawong facility. Income from plant sales has helped our Group keep ahead financially whilst still paying for the use of the Lugarno-Peakhurst Uniting Church premises.

Graham expressed pleasure in Hugh's brief visit during the evening and hoped to see him well and back attending meetings in 2018.

3. Secretary's Report - in the absence of a formal report, Liz Cameron referred members to the comprehensive meeting notes published monthly in the Newsletter.
4. Elections: Graham invited Lloyd Hedges, Menai Wildflower Group member, to take the chair to conduct elections for the 2018 committee.

Lloyd declared all positions vacant and called for nominations. The following positions were filled:

Position	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by	Successful candidate
President	Graham Fry	Graham Walters	Dave Crawford	Graham Fry
Vice-President	Graham Walters	Graham Fry	Dave Crawford	Graham Walters
Vice-President	Karlo Taliana	Dave Crawford	Dorothy Taylor	Karlo Taliana
Secretary	Karl Schurr	Liz Cameron	Dave Crawford	Karl Schurr
Treasurer	Liz Cameron	Dorothy Taylor	Karlo Taliana	Liz Cameron
Council Delegate	Graham Fry	Liz Cameron	Dorothy Taylor	Graham Fry
Propagation Officer	Karlo Taliana	Jan Douglas	Graham Walters	Karlo Taliana
Speaker Coordinator	Graham Walters	Graham Fry	Dave Crawford	Graham Walters
Hospitality	Marie O'Connor	Dorothy Taylor	Jan Douglas	Marie O'Connor
Newsletter Editor	Jan Douglas	Liz Cameron	Graham Fry	Jan Douglas

Jan earnestly requested members to help her with the Newsletter by contributing articles on matters of interest to our group. Karl explained he might not be able to attend all meetings in 2018, in which case Liz offered to take minutes and undertake other secretarial jobs.

5. Dorothy Taylor announced that Ian Cox was offering two sewing machines and a knitting machine that had belonged to his late wife Tamara, to any APS members who could use them. Please contact Dorothy if you are interested.
6. John Aitken, President, APS NSW, announced that the first regional gathering for 2018 will be hosted by Sutherland Group on Saturday 3rd March in the Loftus Community Hall.

The AGM finished at 8 pm and was followed by a series of light-hearted games of Hearts, overseen by Dorothy Taylor, and a Christmas supper to which members and guests contributed generously.

Income at meeting:

Plant sales	\$67.80
Raffle tickets	\$55
Door entry (23 people)	<u>\$115</u>
Total	\$237.80



COMING EVENTS – CHECK YOUR DIARY!

You can find more district group events on the APS NSW website at <http://austplants.com.au/calendar>

Wednesday 7 February 2018 From 7 for 7.30 pm	East Hills Group meeting – Planning for 2018 Bring your ideas, suggestions for speakers and activities, supper to share and specimens for the Plant Table.
Saturday 10 February 1 pm	East Hills Group propagation meeting with Menai Wildflower Group. Illawong Rural Fire Brigade Headquarters. [click for map]
Wednesday 14 February	Menai Wildflower Group – daytime tour of the Seed Bank at The Australian Botanic Garden Mt Annan – bookings required: contact Lloyd Hedges 0400 431 216 asap. (Only two places remained as this newsletter was being compiled.)
Wednesday 14 February 7 pm	Menai Wildflower Group – evening meeting with speaker. Illawong Rural Fire Brigade Headquarters. [click for map]
Wednesday 21 February 7.45 pm	Sutherland Group meeting – Tassia Kolesnikow holds a PhD in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics from the University of California at Los Angeles. She will give a personal account on the experiences and events that led her to change career path from classical violinist to microbiologist and why she finds the current transformation of energy from fossil fuels to renewable sources to be so compelling. GyMEA Community Hall, 39 GyMEA Bay Rd, GyMEA
Saturday 3 March	APS NSW Special General Meeting and Quarterly Gathering See page 3 for timing and other details.
Wednesday 7 March 2018 From 7 for 7.30 pm	East Hills Group meeting. Details yet to be decided!

East Hills Group contacts

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