



## APS HARBOUR GEORGES RIVER NEWSLETTER - September 2022

**NEXT HARBOUR GEORGES RIVER EVENT:**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October from 10:00 am**

**Note Saturday not Sunday**

**A Mini Flora Festival**

**The Postponed Garden Visits in the Hurstville area  
and a short Bushwalk**

**With chances to socialise over coffee**

Please RSVP to Liz on [elsmere02@gmail.com](mailto:elsmere02@gmail.com) to get address details.

**VISITORS ARE MOST WELCOME TO JOIN US**

Welcome to the September 2022 edition of the APS Harbour Georges River Group Newsletter.

A bumper edition this month as we have 2 events – our own Mini Flora Festival in Hurstville on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>, and a Picnic in Nature, hosted on behalf of the Nature Conservation Council, on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>. We also have extensive reports on our last gathering at Sylvan Grove and on the ANPSA Conference at Kiama. Thanks to Liz and Graham for compiling these, and to the members who provided photos. We look forward to seeing you at our events.

Dorothy Luther, Editor

*In the spirit of reconciliation, the APS Harbour Georges River group acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.*

<https://www.austplants.com.au/Harbour-Georges-River>

## A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

The bi annual conference was a success & congratulations to all who contributed to its happy outcome.

I was delighted to meet three new members in our patch at the event - James Middleton, Chris Bourne & Jennifer Fisher. I am looking forward to catching up with them in the future.

I was involved with Leonie Hogue's team in decorating the function room, foyer, tables and powder rooms. We started at 8 am on the Sunday morning & had a happy time playing with flowers.

The stage looked wonderful with the Gynea Lilies on the left & the Waratah & Flannel flowers on the right-hand side. This stunning arrangement was done by Jill Mc Leland.

The left corner arrangement, near the new banner, featured a Wollemi Pine, orchids and ferns representing the past.

The right side had a gum and flowers for the future. [see the report further down for more photos – Ed]

The arrangements were dismantled on Thursday afternoon and I took bits and pieces including a Gynea Lilly & Waratah to our daughter Anne's, where I made up vases of flowers, delighting to recycle them.



1 ANPSA Conference stage right, arrangement by Jill Mc Leland, photo by Marie



ANPSA Conference, the future  
photo by Marie

Our garden is looking colourful with the Spring flowers and there are some wonderful fragrances.

Looking forward to seeing you on Saturday 8 October at 10 am in our garden.

RSVP TO LIZ CAMERON at [elsmere02@gmail.com](mailto:elsmere02@gmail.com)

Warmest regards to all,

Marie O'Connor.

President Harbour Georges River Group APS NSW.

## NEXT MEETING

### **Saturday October 8<sup>th</sup> Mini Flora Festival from 10 am**

Visit two members' gardens in the Hurstville area – Marie and Des O'Connor in Connells Point, and Graham Fry and Liz Cameron in Hurstville Grove.

See the diversity of native plants suitable for this area and different ways of landscaping, discuss propagation methods, and ways to make gardens more attractive to wildlife.

Some plants propagated by HGR members will be available for sale (cash only).

Map of Connells Point and Hurstville Grove:

<https://www.google.com/maps/@-33.9828896,151.0885028,16z>

For **addresses of the gardens and to RSVP**, please contact Liz Cameron:

[elsmere02@gmail.com](mailto:elsmere02@gmail.com) or ph. 9580 6621; she will contact you if the event has to be cancelled (again).



*2 Rainforest in Marie's garden, photo by Marie*

#### **Timetable**

**10 - 11 am** – Marie and Des O'Connor's garden, Connells Point

We suggest you bring water and/or a thermos and snacks for morning tea. Outdoor toilet available.

**11 – 11:30 am** – walk via Poulton Park to Hurstville Grove or drive. Liz will lead this walk.

The walking route is via Morshead Drive and along a bush track through Poulton Park (sturdy waterproof footwear recommended). See wetland & many species of wading birds.

**11.30- 12.30** – at the home of Graham Fry and Liz Cameron, in Hurstville Grove, with discussion of propagation methods and suggestions for creating a wildlife-friendly garden. Some native plants for sale. Indoor toilet available.

For lunch you are most welcome to bring a picnic lunch to eat at Graham's and Liz's in Hurstville Grove (tea and coffee provided) or visit a coffee shop down the road - Gabriella's @ the Grove: <https://www.facebook.com/Gabriellas-at-the-Grove-108854158256982>

#### **Getting there by public transport:**

Catch train to Hurstville Station, bus 953 (Hurstville to Connells Point loop) in Ormonde Parade at 9.55 am, alight at last bus stop in Queens Road before bus heads back to Hurstville; you will be on the other side of the road from Marie and Des's home.

At the end of the visit, at 1 pm catch bus 954 in Waitara Parade back to Hurstville Station.

Punchbowl Bus Company timetable & route maps:

<https://www.punchbowlbus.com.au/pdf/timetables/route953-954-955timetable.pdf>

### Coming by car:

Street parking available in Queens Road and Whitfield Parade. We can drive you back to Queens Road to collect your car if you choose to walk over to Hurstville Grove.

### Excerpts from the Poulton Park Facebook page:

I can recommend Poulton Park for a visit, in Hurstville Grove. Park your car on Morshead Drive, just north of the junction with Kyle Pde.

From there take the short boardwalk that goes through mangrove to the wetland.

If you come back off the boardwalk and turn right, follow Morshead Drive around the wetland. On the other side of the road is a view to the Georges River.

## Plants for Sale

Graham will have plants for sale at his place. Cash or bank transfer are the payment options.

The following plants are in 6" pots and will be \$7 each.

*Eremophilla mackinlayi* - Desert Pride

*Banksia serrata*

*Buckinghamia celsissima*

*Callistemon linearis*

*Callistemon pinifolius*

*Dianella caerulea*

*Hibbertia scandens*

*Isotoma "Fizz'n'Pop"*

*Kennedia rubicunda*

*Melaleuca pulchella* – Claw Honey-myrtle

*Dendrobium kingianum*

*Chorizema cordatum* – Flame Pea

*Prostanthera incisa* – Mint Bush

*Grevillea obtusifolia*

*Grevillea "semperflorens"*

*Hibiscus geranoides*



3 Bower bird in bush near Graham's garden [from July newsletter]

There will also be some tube stock plants from the Oatley Flora & Fauna group.

## NCC PICNIC FOR NATURE

**Sunday 16 October, from 10:30 am, Girrahween Park, Earlwood**

APS HGR, along with the Wollie Creek Preservation Society (WCPS), are hosting the Earlwood picnic on behalf of NCC. Our event will be held in the picnic areas at Girrahween Park.

NCC will be promoting this event to all environmental groups in NSW, inviting everyone to attend their nearest picnic.

More than just a day for getting out into nature and having fun, the Nature Conservation Council (NCC) see this as an opportunity for our groups, and our community to come together to share ideas and build a powerful grassroots presence. It's an occasion to connect and form relationships with people who may previously have not been involved or known about the area and the issues the community is facing.



### **The Earlwood Picnic**

There will be guided bush walks in the morning followed by lunch.

For the bush walks, you can go in any of 4 directions – longer bush walks up or down stream, short walks on paved paths up or down the hill. Even if you have walked through the valley before, see it from a different perspective, with members of the wider community sharing their views.

For lunch, there are BBQ hot plates which you can use if you want to, or bring a picnic.

This is an opportunity to learn about ongoing projects to protect nature, and discuss ways to conserve & improve our local environment. There is much activity in the Harbour Georges River area. Some of the local groups will have poster displays of their activities.

### **About Girrahween Park**

Wollie Creek flows through the land of the Bidjigal clan of the Eora nation. Girrahween Park is part of the Wollie Creek Regional Park, in the Valley, not the suburb.



*4 Girrahween Park view - main picnic area, photo by Voren, taken in 2012*

There are 3 picnic areas near each other. The main one (photo above) near the toilets has 3 covered tables and 4 other tables, plus 4 electric BBQ plates. The lower area (photo below) has 4 tables & 1 extra bench. There is also an area nearer the Fauna Street entrance with 3 more tables. So we can accommodate lots of people



5 Girrahween Park view - lower picnic area, photo by Voren, taken in 2012

The bush has grown a bit more lush since the photos were taken.

**To get to the park by car** - Park in the Earlwood shopping centre lower car park and follow the signs to walk down the wooden steps to **Fauna St**. The park entrance is thru the boom gate on your left. The gate will be open, but this is only for disabled guests, as there is no on-site parking available.

**Arriving by public transport** – Bardwell Park station is a short walk away, across the creek. There are buses along Homer Street through the Earlwood shops.

We would be delighted if you would join us. Please RSVP using the NCC web site:

[https://www.nature.org.au/earlwood\\_picnic\\_for\\_nature](https://www.nature.org.au/earlwood_picnic_for_nature)

## LAST MEETING

### September, Sun 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am – Sylvan Grove Visit



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, schematic layout. Photo by Dorothy

Sylvan Grove Native Garden is a Canterbury Bankstown Council property at 7 Sylvan Grove, Picnic Point in southern Sydney. It is open on weekdays all year from 7:00am-3:00pm and on weekends from mid-August to 27th November 2022 from 9:00am-4:30pm. Admission is free.

Website: <https://www.cbccity.nsw.gov.au/environment/parks-reserves/sylvan-grove-native-garden> Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SylvanGroveNativeGarden>

For those who could not join us on the day, we strongly recommend a visit on another occasion; it really is an underappreciated gem which contains over 1,500 native plants from all over Australia. The garden is only 1.5 ha in area but the winding paths lead through a range of leafy plant communities and the impression is of a much larger space.

The date of our visit needed to fit in with the dates of the biennial ANPSA conference and unfortunately it coincided with Father's Day, so only eight HGR members were able to attend. Our gathering began with morning tea at 10.30 before Senior Horticulturist Jim Mackay led us on a very informative guided walk, pointing out rare, unusual and spectacular plants. He described some of the problems the garden has faced in the recent wet conditions – root rot, myrtle rust, downpours that washed mulch off the path and onto the gardens; plants like flannel flowers (which prefer drier conditions and sunlight to flourish) have not done well.

Our memorial plants are all doing well.

Here are the plants that Liz Cameron recorded, with some information gleaned from websites.



*Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, rainforest area photo by Dorothy*

#### **Some rare species:**

*Zieria prostrata* (Headland Zieria) restricted to just four headlands in northern New South Wales, 20km north of Coffs Harbour. pink flowers, shiny deep green leaves, compact ground cover; both Marie and Graham have this flowering in their gardens

*Syzigium paniculatum* (Magenta Lilly Pilly) – relatively uncommon in the wild and a threatened species in NSW; Grows in subtropical and littoral rainforest on sandy soils or stabilized dunes, often near the sea. Occurs in scattered localities between the Taree area and Conjola.

*Rhodamnia rubescens* – grows naturally in Swamp Mahogany Forest on alluvial deposits along Georges River; critically endangered, highly to extremely susceptible to infection by Myrtle Rust

*Haloragodendron lucasii* - very rare, occurs naturally only on the North Shore; produces white flowers but apparently does not set seed; resprouts from its rootstock

#### **Some unusual species:**

*Pisonia umbellifera* (Birdlime Tree) widespread but not common; in coastal rainforest north from the Shoalhaven R.; also grows on coral cays of the Great Barrier Reef, including Heron Island.

*Ficus superba* (Deciduous Fig) - strangler, usually a tall buttressed tree and more or less deciduous – Jim said it loses its leaves on an average of every three years

*Podocarpus grayae* (Northern or Weeping Brown Pine) tall tree to 30 m, blue seed on an edible red receptacle; as Ana pointed out, these fleshy fruits are unusual amongst conifers

*Sarcopteryx stipata* (Steelwood) – Jan Douglas had identified the deep pinky-red fruits for Jim on a previous visit and he has planted more; natural distribution is in warm rainforest, north from the Bulga Plateau



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, *Telopea* hybrid photo by Carol

*Telopea* cultivar – hybrid between NSW Waratah (*Telopea speciosissima*) and Gippsland Waratah (*T. oreades*); Jim pointed out the leaf margins were entire, like those of the Victorian parent, not toothed like NSW Waratah; the flowers are susceptible to damage by the Waratah bud and stem borer (the caterpillar of a native moth that also damages Macadamias

*Melicytus dentata* (Tree Violet) formerly *Hymenanthera*; prickly and superficially similar to Blackthorn; looks very different from herbaceous

violets but the small flowers have a fragrant perfume

*Lomandra obliqua* (Twisted Mat-rush) low-growing wiry ground cover, common on sandstone in Sydney area; unlike the large strappy lomandras, its leaves are twisted and superficially resemble a fern, creamy/yellow flowers form clusters in spring

#### Pea flowers:

*Pultenaea villosa* (Hairy Bush-pea) – a graceful weeping shrub 2 m high by 3 m across, much branched and spreading with dense flowering

*Pultenaea flexilis* (Graceful Bush-pea) Graham has several growing in his garden

*Oxylobium robustum* (Tree Shaggy Pea); it was also flowering profusely along Henry Lawson Drive

*Platylobium formosum* (Handsome Flat Pea) attractive understory shrub with heart-shaped leaves and large yellow flowers; hardy species for moist, shady sites

*Daviesia mimosoides* (Narrow-leaf Bitter Bush) it has a multi-stemmed open habit and grows to a height of 1-2 m; the clustered yellow flowers and foliage resemble some acacias



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, *Oxylobium robustum* photo by Ana

#### Orchids:

*Pterostylus baptistii* (King Greenhood), the largest greenhood



Sylvan Grove, Sept 2022, Dendrobium speciosum photo by Dorothy

*Calanthe triplicata* (Christmas Orchid) native to Oceania, Asia, and the islands of eastern Africa; in Australia its distribution ranges from Iron Range to the Illawarra region

*Dendrobium speciosum* (Rock Orchid) – Jim was disappointed that recent cool wet weather had delayed the emergence of the flowers but we saw a few beautiful sprays and by late September this orchid has spectacular blooms

*Dendrobium kingianum* (Pink Rock Orchid) grows well in pots 10 - 15 cm in diameter in a mixture of woodchips and charcoal (not soil)

#### **Bush tucker:**

*Citrus australasica* and hybrids (Finger Limes) CSIRO has developed several *Citrus* hybrids by crossing the finger lime with standard *Citrus* species and these hybrids created finger limes in

many different colours ranging from light pink to deep blue-green.

*Austromyrtus dulcis* (Midyim or Midgin Berry) popular bush tucker, pleasant peppery/gingery flavour; in full sun it forms a dense spreading shrub up to 40 cm high by 1.4 m in diameter, easy to propagate from cuttings

Also macadamia (*Macadamia tetraphylla*) & walking stick palm (*Linospadix monostachya*), which both have long strands of flowers & fruit.

#### **Vines:**

*Cissus antarctica* (Kangaroo Vine or Water Vine) This is a vigorous and dense climber and may need to be cut back to keep it to a manageable size

*Palmeria scandens* (Anchor Vine) a vigorous woody climber that can take over like *Wisteria* if not kept pruned; widespread in rainforest north from Batemans Bay

*Piper hederaceum* (Giant Pepper Vine) it was growing along a fallen trunk, attached by adventitious roots, like an ivy

#### **Colourful flowers:**

*Ozothamnus diosmifolius* (Rice Flower) specimen with deep pink buds; Marie grows and dries the flowers for long-lasting arrangements

*Grevillea* 'Flora Mason' was flowering prolifically; a shrub with potential to grow to 3 x 3 m, it benefits from pruning; a hybrid between two Western Australian species - *G. pinaster* and *G. olivacea*

*Acacia pravissima* (Ovens Wattle) has deep yellow ball flower heads and wedge-shaped leaves; Graham has grown some propagated by Menai Wildflower Group

*Prostanthera incana* (Velvet Mintbush) pink-flowered variety

*Micromyrtus ciliata* (Fringed Heath Myrtle) tiny leaves and pink and white flowers, hardy and attractive shrub; seen growing beside Eastern Boardwalk at South Maroubra on our visit in August.



*Philotheca myoporoides* (Long-leaf Waxflower) Jim mentioned that Karlo had photographed the plant just a week before our visit

*Phebalium* – small plants with deep pink, vivid yellow or cream flowers

*Leionema* – masses of creamy-white flowers; prior to 1998, all species within this genus

were included in the genus *Phebalium*

### Ferns:

*Microsorium pustulatum* (Kangaroo Fern) previously *Microsorium diversifolium* - large glossy fern with sunken sori (containing the spores) creating raised bumps on the upper surface of the fronds

*Lepidozamia peroffskyana* (Pineapple Cycad) – a favourite of Kyrill Taylor and a cycad that we also saw on our visit to the Royal Botanic Garden in June.



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, *Microsorium pustulatum* photo by Karlo

The garden was also rich in bird life, we noted King Parrot, Rainbow Lorikeet, Kookaburra, Noisy Miner, Little Wattlebird, Spotted Pardalote, Masked Lapwing and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos.

Also see Karlo's photos on APS Facebook Members group site:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10228314530431300&set=pcb.1732152187149397>

Sorry, it's a private site & you have to join APS to get access.



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, action shot, do not attempt this without supervision

And the Sylvan Grove Facebook page is regularly updated <https://www.facebook.com/SylvanGroveNativeGarden>

Action shot of Ana up a tree photographing the *Phebalium squamulosum* Plants people get a bit carried away sometimes. 😊 Do not do this without supervision!

Here are some websites for more info on native plants:

NSW Flora Online - National Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney:

<https://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/search/simple.htm>

Australian National Botanic Gardens – Botanical Information

<https://www.anbg.gov.au/plantinfo/index.html>

Australian National Botanic Gardens – Growing Native Plants

<https://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp>

Australian Plants Society NSW – Plant Database

<https://resources.austplants.com.au/plant-database/>

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage – Threatened Species

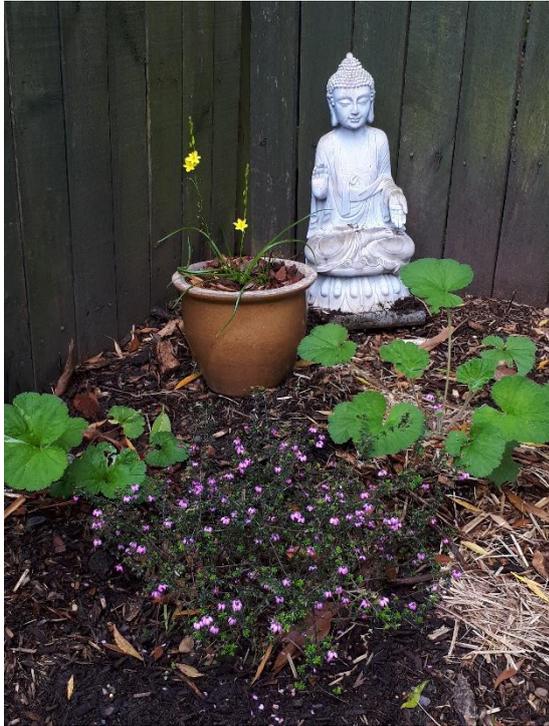
<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/>

Wikipedia <https://en.wikipedia.org>

Atlas of Living Australia <https://bie.ala.org.au/>

## GROUP NEWS

### From Members' Gardens



**From Karen's garden** - a small patch of natives (including recently planted *Pelargonium australe* and *Bulbine bulbosa*) in my backyard. The pretty little native flowering in the foreground is *Bauera rubioides*.

Beautifully mulched with a collection of leaves from the surrounding streets to add to the compost bin and scatter around the garden.

#### From Dorothy's garden:

My garden is now mulched with wood chips from the Magpie Tree (see last month's newsletter), so it lives on in a new

form. During winter, I collected fallen leaves & camellia flowers from the local footpaths. The wild raspberry (*Rubus parvifolius*) seems to like them. Does anyone want a plant? It is reproducing like mad. Hopefully some fruit this year.



### ANPSA Conference Report

Australian Flora Conference – Past, present, future. Hosted by Australian Plants Society NSW and held from 10-16 September 2022, at The Pavilion, Kiama.

**Notes by Graham Fry and Liz Cameron**, who attended the three days of presentations in Kiama.

This was the first ANPSA conference we have attended and so were keen to get the most out of it. The organisation, venue and catering for the conference were excellent. There were **day excursions and pre- and post-conference tours** taking in local areas as well as long distance trips to special places such as Lord Howe Island and the Pilliga. We did not take part in the trips but on reflection, we probably should have, as they did go to some excellent places.

We thought **the outstanding presentations** were the keynote address by Professor David Keith “The past, present and future of Australian native plants”, Professor David Lindenmayer’s “Fire, forests, plantations and biodiversity” and Professor Michelle Leishman’s “Building resilience – from species to landscapes”.

A tightly choreographed **program of ‘chatrooms’** on the Tuesday morning allowed participants to select five sessions of 30-minute presentations from a panel of 14 speakers. The five we attended were: Dr Kevin Mills ‘Rainforests: impacts of climate change – past, present, future’; Dr Jennifer Pierson (Australian Wildlife Conservancy) “Conservancy Safe Havens: vegetation inside and outside the fence”; Ben Coddington (Shoalhaven City Council) and Jennifer Owens (NPWS) “Learnt Regenerating Five Islands”; Patsy Nagle (NPWS, University of Wollongong) “Models of conservation – from bush care to private land conservation” and Bruce Maynard (Narromine) “Granaries in the



ANPSA Conference - The Past - wollemi pine, ferns & orchids  
photo by Marie

grasslands: producing food with Australian plants”. As you can see, the chatroom topics covered a broad range of topics.



ANPSA Conference, the stage at at The Pavillion, Kiama  
photo by Marie

**Indigenous knowledge of native plants** and their uses was explained in talks by Clarence Slockee and Aunty Joyce Donovan. The **scope and activities of ANPSA study groups** were described by the Study Group Co-ordinator Jane Fountain and representatives of six groups – *Eremophila* - Dr Lyndal Thorburn (who spoke to East Hills Group in 2019), *Grevillea* - Peter Olde, *Isopogon* and *Petrophile* - Catriona Bate, *Eucalyptus* - Warwick Varley, *Banksia* – Karlo Taliana and Garden Design – Lawrie Smith.

On the Thursday morning, **Costa Georgiadis gave the A J Swaby address** on “What the future holds for Australian native plants”. Costa’s talk was admirably summed up by Harry Loots on Facebook “Costa is enthusiastic about involving people in the act of gardening. He is also a passionate advocate for growing Australian plants. His animated presentations draw in more people than the expert but serious and dull speech. His off the cuff statements are spontaneous and provocative while at the same time amusing.

“Costa is the celebrity gardener without having to speak a "botanical" language. He's not spruiking scientific expertise. He describes how we relate to plants and what plants can do for us. While we learnt little from Costa's talk it sure was enjoyable. Actually, we learnt that talking about plants can be entertaining.

“Not to overlook his emphasis of the sense of community when working together and the importance of a cup of tea and cake [at bushcare]. And Costa's passion for inclusiveness of the younger ones.”

Among his many other roles, Cosa is **Junior Landcare Ambassador** and following his address, he chaired a **panel of local young people** expressing their views on the future of native plants, climate and the environment. It was refreshing and inspiring to see this age group represented at the conference and hear their enthusiastic and positive responses to the challenges.

The conference concluded with a preview of the 2024 ANPSA conference in Melbourne and addresses by the Australian Plant Society leaders from each state, on “Honouring the past, embracing the future – my vision of what’s possible”.

Apart from the quality of talks that we heard, for Graham and me a highlight of the conference was **renewing acquaintances and meeting new people from all over Australia**. It certainly refreshed our interest in the Australian flora and its conservation. We will probably attend future conferences.



ANPSA Conference, the future  
photo by Marie

## NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

There is a lot happening in our patch, with community groups and local councils being active in promoting native plants. My plan is to feature a local group or event each month. I welcome contributions - stories about your other favourite groups.

### **Wolli Creek Preservation Society (WCPS) Annual Dinner**

*Thursday 20 October at Bardwell Valley Golf Club, 2A Hillcrest Ave, Bardwell Park, from 6:30 pm.*

**We are invited to this event**, which follows soon after our visit to the Wolli Creek regional park, which WCPS protects.

From 6:30pm enjoy some drinks and dips at sunset overlooking Bardwell Valley followed by dinner and guest speakers.

### **Recovering Gumbramorra Swamp: Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal perspectives**

We will be joined by Jennifer Newman and Sue Castrique who will explore both perspectives on the Gumbramorra Swamp in Marrickville. Once an extensive wetland in Marrickville Valley, Gumbramorra Swamp was sold, built over and drained. But water still flows through the catchment that fed the swamp, exerting a powerful presence that floods and ebbs across Marrickville. This is a conversation about living with creeks, waterholes and swamps.

**Jennifer Newman** is Wiradjuri; presently residing on Wangal Country. She values story as a way of connecting and as a tool for teaching, learning and cultural exchange.

**Sue Castrique** is a local researcher & writer. Her essay, 'On the Margins of the Good Swamp' won the Nature Writing Prize (2019)

For booking details, please see <http://www.wollicreek.org.au/annual-dinner-thursday-20-october-bardwell-valley-golf-club>

## **National Parks Working with Aboriginal Custodians**

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/parks-reserves-and-protected-areas/park-management/community-engagement/aboriginal-joint-management-model-consultation>

A ground-breaking proposal has been announced to develop a new model for Aboriginal joint management of the NSW national park estate in consultation with Aboriginal people and other national park stakeholders.

The proposed new model will be developed in consultation with Aboriginal communities and native title holders, as well as with other stakeholders who use and value our national parks, including conservation groups, tourism bodies, local government and recreational users.

This consultation process is expected to take around 18 months.

## **Kamay Botany Bay**

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/news/nsw-national-parks-and-wildlife-service-partner-with-aboriginal-rangers>

NPWS recently signed a partnership agreement with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council's Gamay Rangers to care for Kamay Botany Bay National Park and Towra Point Nature Reserve. This is powerful recognition of the Gamay Rangers' authority, knowledge and responsibility to care for and be involved in the operations of national parks on their Country. We're looking forward to working together to protect this incredible land and sea Country.

## **Gardening Responsibly**

<https://www.gardeningresponsibly.org.au/about/about-us/>

This is also a NPWS initiative to discourage using plants that may become bush invaders.

At the heart of this is the Certified Gardening Responsibly eco-label — the gardening responsibly tick of approval! They are just at the beginning of the journey, currently piloting the use of the eco-label with a small group of trailblazing suppliers. [Bunnings is not one of them!]

## **RANDOM JOTTINGS**

These are items of general interest found on the World Wide Web. All contributions for future editions gratefully accepted.

### **Adding Captions to Photos**

I use a piece of software called **Photo Caption Creator** to add captions to my family history photos. It suddenly dawned on me that it could also be useful for the newsletter photos, rather than wrestling with the Microsoft Word 'References > Insert Caption' feature, which doesn't keep the caption with the photo.

It is a free desktop application, which means it isn't supported, but also has no frills & 'helpful advice' that get in the way. It has very good Help text written by the author.

You can download it from <http://photo-caption-creator.findmysoft.com/>

It claims to run on all versions of Windows, but I don't know about on a Mac.

It works well for family photos when you are viewing the photo in full size. It doesn't work so well for the newsletter, when the photos are scaled down. The caption is scaled down too. I didn't think of that. I'll be returning to the Microsoft feature next month.

**If you want to use it, here are some Tips:**

Open a folder under 'File' & do the images one by one. Take care with saving each updated image explicitly back to its file name, or create a new file.

It seems to have an unfortunate habit of turning my landscape mobile phone pictures upside down. You can correct this by using the 'edit image with jpegfile' button to rotate the image by 360 degrees & save it again. Nothing is ever as simple as it looks with computers.

Place caption 'on bottom' - the default is 'on image'.

You may need to play with the font size depending on the resolution of the image.

The caption becomes part of the image. You can't edit it afterwards. You need to crop it off & start again.

The 'image description EXIF tag' appears in File Manager in the right-hand panel as 'Title'. Useful when viewing the icons.



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, *Dendrobium kingianum*, photo by Carol



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, *Hibbertia empetrifolia*, photo by Ana



Sylvan Grove Sept 2022, *Epacris impressa*, photo by Ana

## CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED



*6 in sympathy with all the other newsletter editors who struggle with it too*

### Newsletters Received – September

The full text of the APS newsletters is available from the APS website, on the District Group pages – usually under ‘Resources’. Not many this month.

#### Australian Plants Society, South East NSW Group - Newsletter September 2022

2 garden visits – a new and an established garden; October meeting road trip to Little Forest Plateau in the Budawangs and walking tour of the southern end of the Sydney sandstone.

#### Australian Plants Society, Sutherland NSW Group - Newsletter September 2022

The varroa mite is specific to honey bees **and will not feed upon native bees**; Walk Report, Sat, 20 Aug. Kamay Botany Bay NP at Kurnell. “Some will know that we have been looking for plants that were on the Banks and Solander list of 132 species that were collected in 1770. To date we have recorded 85 species, having added another on this walk.”

#### Australian Plants Society, Northern Beaches NSW Group - Newsletter September 2022

Bush tucker talk, recipe boos & guided tours; pitcher plants; relocation of the Royal Botanic Gardens herbarium collection to Mt Annan. Southern conifers “One group of southern seed ferns constituted what’s now called the Glossopteris flora, which was of Gondwanan origin. From this diverse group of Glossopterids, flowering plants in all their variety evolved”.

## COMING EVENTS

For further details of coming district group events, please see the APS NSW website at <http://austplants.com.au/calendar>

<b>Sat 8 Oct 10:00 am to 1 pm</b>	APS Harbour Georges River group Mini Flora Festival – 2 private gardens in Hurstville plus bush walk.
<b>Sun 9 October, 9 am to 3 pm</b>	Stony Range Spring Festival, 810 Pittwater Rd, Dee Why, supported by Northern Beaches group
<b>Mon 3-12 Oct online, Saturday 15 Oct</b>	APS Central Coast online plant sale <a href="https://www.austplants.com.au/event-4665054">https://www.austplants.com.au/event-4665054</a> Pick up Kariong Saturday 15 Oct 10.30 am - 12 noon.
<b>Sun 16 Oct 10:30 am to 1 pm</b>	Nature Conservation Council Earlwood Picnic in Nature - Girrahween Park in Wollie Creek Regional Park, hosted by APS HGR & WCPS. <a href="https://www.nature.org.au/earwood_picnic_for_nature">https://www.nature.org.au/earwood_picnic_for_nature</a>
<b>17 to 23 October 2022</b>	the <b>annual bird count to celebrate Bird Week</b> . sit in our backyards or some suitable place & count birds for 20 minutes. Full details are on the web site. <a href="https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/">https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/</a>
<b>Thurs 20 October from 6:30 pm</b>	WCPS annual Dinner, at Bardwell Valley Golf Club, 2A Hillcrest Ave, Bardwell Park. <a href="http://www.wollicreek.org.au/annual-dinner-thursday-20-october-bardwell-valley-golf-club">http://www.wollicreek.org.au/annual-dinner-thursday-20-october-bardwell-valley-golf-club</a>
<b>Wed 2 November, 7 pm</b>	APS HGR members night at Earlwood Uniting Church, 12 William Street, Earlwood, including propagation kits set up
<b>Saturday 12 - Sunday 13 November 2022</b>	APS NSW November Annual Gathering, hosted by the Southern Highlands group. Venue: Exeter Village Hall, 10 Exeter Rd, Exeter and other sites

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