

Blandfordia



North Shore Group
(ABN 87 002 680 408)

JULY 2018

A few suggestions how we can promote an awareness and love of Australian Native Plants

1. 25th June : Today in Westfield car park, I was approached by a man who had noticed my APS sticker on my car and introduced himself as a former professor in environmental issues in WA, and we had a discussion about Dr Wells' talk on climate change. I gave him our card, unfortunately an old one. So publicity comes in all ways!!! Rae (Rosten)

. Editor's note: Rae is APS NSG's publicity officer and she has done this role most effectively for many years. Thanks Rae

2. Hi,

I am putting together an educational resource for residents of the Canterbury-Bankstown Local Government Area. It's a booklet about creating a native garden and has plant information with images. Unfortunately I don't have all the images required and was wondering if the Australian Plants Society would have any other the following images?

- *Acacia falcate* - close up of flowers
- *Angophora bakeri* - close up of flowers and capsules
- *Centella asiatica* - habit
- *Cymbopogon refractus* - habit
- *Dichelachne micrantha* - habit
- *Einadia trigonos* - close up of flowers and/or berries
- *Eucalyptus piperita* - close up of flowers and capsules
- *Eucalyptus punctate* - close up of flowers and capsules
- *Leptospermum trinervium* - close up of flowers
- *Lomandra multiflora* - habit
- *Myrsine variabilis* - close up of fruits
- *Notelaea longifolia* - close up of fruits
- *Paspalidium distans* - habit
- *Syncarpia glomulifera* - close up of flowers and capsules
- *Zieria smithii* - close up of flowers

Photographers would be acknowledged.

Kind regards,

ROBYN YOUNG - Environmental Project Officer

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www.cbc.city.nsw.gov.au

3. Two members recently attended the Hornsby Shire Council free plant giveaway. They had "vanished" for the photo.



4. You may spot our new banner at a location near you.

If you can help with this request, please email Robyn Young <Robyn.YOUNG@cbc.city.nsw.gov.au> and also cc the office email (office@austplants.com.au) for the attention of Glenda.

A warm welcome to new member, John Byrnes. We hope that you enjoy your association with APS NSG members and look forward to getting to know you and share with you knowledge and enjoyment of our wonderful native plants.

Climate Change- How it affects the distribution of Australian Flora



Image by Phillip Grimm

Dr Graeme Wells drew many visitors, as well as members, to the June meeting. His talk was dedicated to the memory of Noel Rosten. (Noel was a much respected and loved member of APS NSG.)

Graeme spoke of the impact that the late Professor Harry Messel AC, CBE, had on his education and career. Many in the audience identified with the images of THE Science textbooks. He commented on the lack of understanding by many in our community, including politicians, of the practice of Science: how it is constantly a work in progress and subject to constant re-evaluation. Scientific theories are proposed and need to be tested and re-tested and the theories modified as evidence impacts on them.

It is, as he said – a subject based upon error to corrected error and repeatability. It is a subject totally based on Probability. Science puts Confidence Limits on its predictions.

Most of Graeme's work has been in northern Australia, including Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory, the Kimberley in Western Australia and the Gulf of Carpentaria – including Cape York Peninsula. From his work, and that of many others, Graeme wanted to convey the following points:

- **Carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere IS increasing.**

Between 1960 and 2014 carbon dioxide emissions on earth have been constantly rising from 320 parts per million (1960) to 400 parts per million (2014). There has been a constant increase with no fluctuations and that figure is still increasing. The impact of human contributions is now measurable (with repeatable findings). This is a difference when compared with historical cyclic climatic changes which have happened previously.



Diagram of CO₂ readings
Image by Jan Williamson

- **Economic factors are significant in all human decisions.**

- **Higher temperatures impact on a diverse range of life forms** e.g. the activity of insects including native bees decreases at higher temperatures. With nearly 2000 species of native bees in Australia, Science knows next to nothing about their plant pollinating activities. Insect populations worldwide have decreased. Pollination does not happen if conditions are either too hot or too cold when compared with optimal conditions for pollination of each plant species. Bird and bats also have thermal limits beyond which they no longer function successfully. If the pollinators disappear [as the temperatures increase] – what happens to the native plant species?

In addition, many species are greatly constrained in their distributions by soil types, e.g. The Nullabor is a massive block of limestone, so this is a prime example of soil type limiting the plants growing there.

The Science is in on climate change.

Higher global temperatures will also impact on sea levels and vegetation currently at sea level, e.g. mangroves, and areas like the coastal plains of Kakadu National Park will be adversely affected. More rain will also result. For every one degree rise in temperature – the air will hold 7% more moisture and with more CO₂ – plants might get confused.

Graeme predicted a marked increase in the usefulness of some of the new technologies. Currently drone technology is having a marked impact on surveying plant and animal populations and geographical features. He made the suggestion that it would be highly beneficial to know the exact limits of distribution of individual Australian native plants now. Google Earth and drone usage make this possible – then knowing this – in future years changes in plant distributions can be measured and hypotheses advanced.

One thing that was of interest to me was Graeme's comment that when various protocols are drawn up international flights and activities in international waters are not included, as they are in locations not subject to national jurisdictions. All those emissions from international jets and bulk carriers etc, plying the world's oceans, aren't counted!

Our speaker gave a challenging and thought-provoking talk and we thank Graeme very much for coming to the meeting.

Written by Jan Williamson

WALKS and TALKS Programme (A one hour talk followed by a one hour walk)

Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden, 420 Mona Vale Rd. St. Ives **10 am to 12 noon, Mondays**

\$5 per session: APS NSG members \$2 per session Enquiries - 9417 5217 see page 6 for more details.

Bookings are not necessary except for the Event on Saturday 28th July which is being run by Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden staff.



Thirty people attended the first session of Walks & Talks on Monday 18th June.

Thanks to Bill Jones and Bob Failes for all their efforts in co-ordinating the 2018 W&T Programme and for leading the first session.

Happenings at Ku-ring -Gai Wildflower Garden

Sunday 26th AUGUST: Wildflower, Art and Garden Festival 2018

Please put this date in your calendar now. Help is also needed to set up on Friday 24th August & Saturday 25th August. Please contact Jan Williamson (APS NSG Festival co ordinator) janw7531@gmail.com to let me know of your availability. People are needed to move plants, make floral arrangements and bunches of flowers, sell plants and flowers, run the raffle..... A job will be there for you.

WANTED: SMALL CARDBOARD boxes are needed for plant purchases. Please start collecting these now. They can be brought to the July or August meetings or to the Festival.

50th Anniversary of the Opening of the Ku-ring-gai Garden on 6th & 7th October

A dinner is being planned for the Saturday night and a "mini festival" for the Sunday.

If you have any photos/images/ archival materials which you would be happy to lend for this event please contact Jan Williamson jwil7531@gmail.com.

APS NSG is planning to produce a visual presentation for the dinner and a stand/ display for the dinner and the Sunday activities.

A recently received request

I work as a volunteer at the University of New England Botany department each week. We have a PhD student, Tim Collins, who is exploring the paper daisies for his thesis. He is hoping to collect *Xerochrysum bracteatum* specimens from the Sydney region in December, and has asked if APS members would be able to assist him by indicating where populations of these grow in the Sydney region. Would it be possible to put out a request to the Sydney groups for help in locating them. I can forward names or addresses of those willing to help or of actual sites, onto Tim. Thank you for your help. I think these sorts of collaborations are helpful in building bridges with the professional botany group. I think they realise that we have specialised knowledge, especially local knowledge that can be of help to them with their botanical projects.

John Nevin Please reply directly to John at jrnevin@nsw.chariot.net.au if you can assist.



*******GROUP ACTIVITIES*******

The Group Activity is held on the weekend immediately after the general meeting. It may be either Saturday or Sunday.

GROUP ACTIVITY FOR JULY 14TH (Saturday) TO MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY'S ARBORETUM

Macquarie Uni's Arboretum was launched in 2010. It comprises all the trees and shrubs on the campus. To quote the Arboretum's website:

Macquarie University was established in the 1960's on the site of market gardens. It is adjacent to Christie Park and Lane Cove National Park. Native vegetation that was retained on site represents four recognised communities: Sydney Sandstone Gully Forest, Shale Sandstone Transition Forest, Sydney Sandstone Ridgetop Woodland and Sydney Turpentine Ironbark Forest. Some remnant vegetation has continued to flourish on the grounds of the university. Extensive plantings since have included many native trees plus interesting trees from other parts of the world.

As well as providing a teaching resource in the fields of science, botany and history, to name a few, the arboretum provides pleasant surroundings for staff, students and the general public. It is also important in providing habitat for birds and animals and protects vulnerable plant associations.

We will be lucky enough to have the Arboretum's coordinator **Samantha Newton** accompanying us on a tour of the Arboretum that will cover the main features but will focus on native vegetation and the teaching gardens, including the Bush Tucker garden. She will meet us at **2 pm at the Bush Tucker Garden. This is located at the eastern end of the campus between Wally's Walk and building E7B, near the thermal storage tower.**

There is a convenient railway station for Macquarie Uni. Using the train will avoid parking issues (see below for railway meeting details) and you will then be guided to the meeting place and not have to find it yourself. If you do drive, it is perhaps convenient to park at Macquarie Shopping Centre which has free parking for 3 hours and which is closer to the eastern end of the campus than the university carpark which is at the western end, is for 2 hours only and is not free.

Incidentally, it is likely that there will be a fair bit of walking involved for today's activity as the campus is spread out.

Date and time and meeting place: Saturday 14th July : from 1 pm Hornsby station outside the Opal card barrier to catch the 1.13 pm train to the city via Macquarie University. We will travel in the 2nd carriage if you intend joining the train further down the line. Alternatively, if you drive, meet at the Bush Tucker Garden at 2 pm.

Bring: Good walking shoes, water and snacks, rain protection gear.

Contact person: Sue Fredrickson mobile 0401 362 921. Please ring to check that the activity will go ahead if the weather looks like it will be bad (we tend to usually go ahead unless it is very nasty). Also, the phone contact could be handy if Sydney Trains decide between now and then to schedule track work and provide bus replacements (they haven't yet).



Nine people attended the outing on 9th June to Barangaroo Reserve. It was a most enjoyable time and despite the threat of showers we only used our umbrellas once. Sue Fredrickson took the image on the left and Jan Williamson took the other images.



CONGRATULATIONS to Maria Hitchcock who was recently awarded an Order of Australia Medal for Services to Conservation and the Environment. Maria is a life member of the Australian Plants Society.

Read more at <https://www.armidaleexpress.com.au/story/5458282/maria-hitchcock-honoured-for-tireless-environmental-work/?cs=471>

Group Trip to Wollongong in September

Everyone is welcome. To date it is a group of 11. It is a chance to learn more about the plants and the surrounding area and an opportunity to enjoy each other's company and good food.

The dates are **Monday September 17th to Thursday 20th**, so three nights away in total.

In the Wollongong area there is plenty to see. A good Botanic Garden, beautiful rainforest at Minnamurra National Park, Macquarie Pass NP, Buderoo NP and its waterfalls, Barren Grounds Nature Reserve, perhaps the Grevillea Park in Bulli and other places of interest to people such as ourselves.

Our base is the Wollongong Surf Leisure Resort in Fairy Meadow. It's a good idea to secure your accommodation of choice at your earliest convenience. They have a very good website to help you to choose accommodation type. Please register your interest in attending asap by contacting Sue Fredrickson on 0401 362 921 (mobile).

Sue is happy to help with organising accommodation and any other queries.

Sue Fredrickson

*****HELP*****

Do you know of a hall which would be suitable for our meetings? There is a strong possibility that we will no longer be able to meet at the Beatrice Taylor Hall on a Friday night in 2019. HSC has changed the conditions of use for all its facilities. The committee is exploring various options but we would like to hear from anyone who knows of a suitable venue, which is available on either a Friday or Thursday night, regularly and once a month.

The venue would preferably have some space available for permanent storage of the library.

If you have any suggestions please contact Barry Lees on 9653 3691 or barrylees99@bigpond.com

Notices and Reminders

Menai Wildflower Group Super Meeting ALL WELCOME

Speakers Dr Mark Ooi and Dr John Porter Topic: Season and Smoke: Key Elements in Dormancy and Germination
Includes Plant Sales & Raffle

Saturday 14 July, Meeting Commences at 1 pm, Gardens Open at 12

Illawong Rural Fire Station, Old Illawarra Rd, Illawong

Email: menaiwildflower@austplants.com.au

<https://austplants.com.au/Menai-Wildflower>

Visit **APS-Parramatta/Hills inaugural native plant sale**. Find our table in the mall. **Saturday, 28th July** 9 am to 5:00 pm
North Rocks Shopping Centre 328-336 North Rocks Rd. North Rocks

National Tree Day Sunday 29th July <https://treeday.planetark.org/>



This year marks 25 years since the **Illawarra Grevillea Park** was established by Ray Brown and the Grevillea Study Group.

Winter Open Days Sat/Sunday July 7th & 8th Sat/Sunday July 14th & 15th

Spring Open Days Sat/Sunday Sept 1st & 2nd Sat/Sunday Sept 8th & 9th

<http://www.grevilleapark.org/> John Elton johnelton@grevilleapark.org Ph 0424 830 925

Threatened Species Children's Art Competition 2018

The 2018 Threatened Species Children's Art competition will be open for entries between **June 4 and August 3 2018**.

Children from 5-12 years old in NSW are invited to unleash their creativity while learning about our threatened species.

Full details: www.threatenedspeciesartcomp.net.au



Nature Conservation Council Annual Conference & NSW Environmental Awards Saturday 20th October

Details in August *Blandfordia*

12th FJC Rogers Seminar 20th-21st October 2018 to be held in Horsham Victoria. For full details

<https://apsvic.org.au/fjc-rogers-seminar/>

Registrations open: 1st April 2018 Early Bird Discount: 1st April to 30th July 2018 Registrations close: 1st October 2018

Plant Propagation at KWG on Wednesdays from 1pm to 4pm on 4th & 18th July 2018

Contact:

Margaret Hamilton on 9488 5234.

Ku-ring-gai Council Bushcare at KWG on Wednesdays (fortnightly)

at 9 am on 11th & 25th July

Contact Sue Bowen on 0478 957 951

Members and friends are always welcome at these activities.

Monday Walks and Talks at the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden

St Ives. 9.45 am

Term 2

JULY

2nd Eucalypts, Angophoras & Corymbias (Myrtaceae Family)



Term 3

JULY

28th **Saturday** Major Plant Families & ID (bookings required)

kwg@mnc.nsw.gov.au

AUGUST Mondays

6th Wattles (Acacia family)

13th Boronias, Waxflowers etc (Rutaceae family)

20th Heath Plants (Ericaceae family)

27th The Peas (Fabaceae family)

June Committee Notes

- Venue for general meetings 2019
- Location and content of APS NSG archives and how to preserve these
- Position descriptions are still being updated
- New name tags
- 2018 Wildflower, Art and Garden Festival
- KWG 50th Anniversary 6th & 7th October

Next Meeting of our North Shore Group

Friday 13th July (7.30 pm for 8 pm)

Willow Park Community Centre, Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby



Presenter: Vic Cherikoff

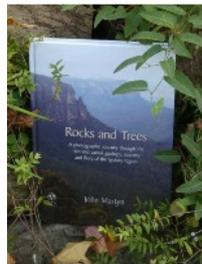
Topic: Selecting and preparing local wild foods

Background: Vic will explain how to identify and cook with wild foods of the Sydney region and also why we should be eating them for our health.

He will have copies of his recent book, *Wild Foods*, available for sale on the night.

August meeting Friday 10th August

Speaker: Barry Lees Topic: Hornsby Herbarium



Look out for John Martyn's new Book, *Rocks and Trees*

Rocks and Trees captures the dramatic scenery of the Greater Blue Mountains, the beauty of the coastline and the great sweep of plains west of the CBD, but its main purpose is to highlight the geology and flora and their interrelationships. The book journeys from the Illawarra along the coast to Newcastle and inland to the Greater Blue Mountains, staying within the framework created by the massive sandstones and conglomerates of the Triassic Narrabeen Group.

Committee Contacts

President: Barry Lees 9653 3691

Secretary: Judy Jeffery 0429 438 598

Address for general correspondence:

Australian Plants Society, North Shore Group, PO Box 141 ROSEVILLE 2069

Email: secretary@blandfordia.org.au

Website: <http://austplants.com.au/North-Shore>

Membership Applications and Renewals with payments (including a cheque, if applicable) should be mailed direct to PO Box 141 ROSEVILLE NSW 2069

Membership Applications & Renewals can also be completed by downloading the form from our website & recording your details online & emailing to membership@blandfordia.org.au or

by post to PO Box 141, ROSEVILLE 2069.

For your convenience, an EFT payment option is now available.

Newsletter Editor: Jan Williamson

9875 2262 janw7531@gmail.com

Newsletter submissions: Deadline for submissions is the third Friday of the month.

For the August 2018 edition this will be 20th July 2018 Editor: janw7531@gmail.com

Blandfordia

The Newsletter of the Australian Plants Society North Shore Group PO Box 141 ROSEVILLE NSW 2069