**HARBOUR GEORGES RIVER Group of APS NSW NEWSLETTER – December 2023**

**NEXT HARBOUR GEORGES RIVER EVENT:**

**TBA**

**Your chance to have your say**

**What would you like to do next year?**

Welcome to the December 2023 edition of the APS Harbour Georges River Group Newsletter.

This is not a normal newsletter as nothing has been planned for next year yet, so we can’t tell you anything about it. Instead, we’re giving you a chance to have your say, by replying to the questionnaire attached to this newsletter. We have a list of ideas for talks and a list of ideas for excursions. Please tell us what you would like to do. Any other ideas are also most welcome – we don’t know every corner or every amazing speaker in our patch.

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>

# NEXT MEETING

## Vote for Planning Meeting

There will be a planning meeting via Zoom on Wed 17th January. I’ll circulate the link when I get it. The system is being difficult as the moment. You are most welcome to attend.

Last year, our strategy was to Explore Our Patch. This resulted in several outings to different parts of the Harbour Georges River area, from Bankstown to Maroubra. We are fortunate to have many beautiful patches of bush, both natural & created, in our highly urbanised area.

For next year, we’re giving you a chance to cast your vote for your favourite topics, by replying to the attached questionnaire. Please tell us what you would like to do. Record your vote in the Votes column and email the spreadsheet back to me. I’ll collate the results to present to the planning meeting.

Note that none of the speakers have been approached yet, so we can’t guarantee that they will be available.

# LAST MEETING

## Christmas Party & AGM

Our Christmas meeting was held on Wed 13th December, from 6 pm, at the Clemton Park Uniting Church Hall, at 6 Dunkirk Avenue, Kingsgrove, (Corner of Miller St).

The event started with the AGM, followed by a card game & plant sale.

## Annual General Meeting

The formal Reports were circulated by our admirable secretary Liz Cameron on 20th December, attached to the following email:

“Dear fellow members of Harbour Georges River, on Wednesday 13th December, we held our AGM and had an enjoyable Christmas gathering at the Clemton Park Uniting Church Hall.  There were 22 in attendance, but we missed the company of our outgoing President Marie O'Connor, who has stepped down from that role because of a health issue.

I have attached the minutes of the AGM, a financial report from our Treasurer Sandra Rogers, and my report on the activities of our group in 2023.

Best wishes for Christmas and we look forward to your participation in some of our activities in 2024.”

To recap, the new office bearers are:

The following were nominated, and elected unopposed:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Candidate** | **Nominator** | **Seconder** |
| President | Graham Fry | Kerry Snelgrove | Karen Fong |
| Vice-President | Dorothy Luther | Ebony Jennings | Ashlie Stevenson |
| Vice-President | Vacant |  |  |
| Secretary | Liz Cameron | Karen Fong | Sandra Rogers |
| Treasurer | Sandra Rogers | Liz Cameron | Dorothy Luther |

The following members accepted appointment to other positions in the group:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Appointed** |
| Newsletter Editor | Dorothy Luther |
| Website Editor | Kerry Snelgrove |
| Membership Officer | Kerry Snelgrove |  |
| Publicity Officer incl. Facebook | Andrew Sinclair |
| Plant Table Recorder | Boyd Webster |
| Propagation Co-ordinator | Graham Fry |
| Program Co-ordinator | Vacant |
| Hospitality | Liz Cameron |

# GROUP NEWS

## Plans for Next Year

Our meetings occur at different times and days of the week. We’re trying to work out what suits our members best.

We usually have 3 or 4 evening meetings at Burwood RSL or in the church hall, on Wednesday nights.

Otherwise, daytime meetings are usually on the weekend, if it can be arranged. They are outings to some nice bush place or a garden.

We’d love to hear your ideas, especially any secret bush patches that you know about, or people with amazing knowledge on a plant related topic.

Our **first Business Planning meeting** for the new year will be on **Wednesday 17th January** 2024, at 7:30 pm, via Zoom. We will work out a tentative plan for the year at that meeting, so come along with your ideas.

We hope to hold an indoor meeting on Wed Feb 7th at 6 pm at Burwood RSL, with Ruby Sweet, a visiting horticulturist from the UK, who has a particular passion for the study of native plants & wildflowers and their conservation. Details to be confirmed.

**EAST HILLS GROUP CONTACTS**

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