



# Newsletter of Menai Wildflower Group December 2021

The 2022 committee looks very similar, although we are pleased to see a couple of new faces too. The 2022 committee is –

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President	Peter Olde (also APS delegate)
Vice President	Lloyd Hedges
Secretary	Graeme Davies
Treasurer	Jan Riley
Editor	Pam Forbes
Publicity Officer	Marion Payne
General Committee	
	Margaret Olde
	Mary Hedges
	Alan Ferguson
	Annette Tuckfield
	Helen Patience

Graeme has stepped down from managing the website but any comments on content or items that you think might be appropriate for it can be directed to him. We have also decided not to renew our Bangor mailbox as we don't get much mail. The best method of contact is by phone or email, as listed at the end of the newsletter.

## 2021 coming to an end

We have made it through another disturbed year and managed to navigate through Covid compliance as well as honing our Zoom skills. Great work everyone. On the positive side, we have seen a spectacular spring flowering this year. Our AGM followed the typical pattern with Greg as able Returning Officer and not many candidates standing up.

Annette has stepped down from her role as Secretary after years of sterling service which has been very much appreciated and she is so good that we needed to replace her with several people, each taking on some of the secretarial roles. The title goes to Graeme but Marion P. and Marg will be assisting him.



Waratah, Barden Ridge, J Prats.

To help share the work load, we are looking for volunteers to write a report on the speaker at each meeting. It doesn't need to be too detailed but summarising the key points helps members who couldn't make the meeting. This has been in abeyance with Zoom meetings, as they were recorded and available online, but hopefully we will be back to face to face meetings in 2022. Please let the secretary know if you are interested.

As usual our success has been due to all our wonderful members. A huge thanks to all the people who have contributed not only on the committee but also our many keen workers at the nurseries, gardens and meeting setups and remember they also serve who bake; thanks for the delicious food. We hope you can all join us to celebrate at the end of year gathering.

*Editor*

## Changes for 2022

Due to changes at the fire station, we can no longer hold our meetings on Wednesday night. There is no alternative time that will suit all members, but the committee, after thought and discussion, decided the best option would be to change meetings to the **second Saturday of each month** (except January). This time seemed to work well over winter. Meetings will be held in the fire station and will start at 2pm. Meetings will have the same format as usual: general business, a speaker and plant table. Afternoon tea will be served at the end of the meeting. This does have the advantage of allowing more enjoyment of the garden and easy access to plant sales. Hope to see you all there in 2022.



*Dampiera* sp., Curra Moors. P Forbes.

## End of year social

Since we can't meet on our usual Wednesday evening, we are hoping for good weather on **Saturday, 11 December**. This is a change from the date announced in the last newsletter.

Please bring your own plates, cups and crockery, drink and anything you would like to barbeque. Something to share would also be great and if you are organised enough to know what you are bringing, please let us know so we can publish a list and hopefully avoid all salads and no dessert (all desserts and no salads might work though). We will have a team serving rather than the usual buffet. The garden will be open for a ramble and this should be a good opportunity to catch up with friends after a topsy turvy year of isolation. Please comply with the

NSW Government Covid restrictions which are due to be eased in December. There is a QR code at the fire station entry or you can use the written check in just inside.

## Coming events

- Dec 11** Our Christmas Social this year will be on **Saturday** night.6pm. Usual format, subject to NSW Government Covid regulations.
- January** **Relax.** No meeting or working bees.
- Feb 12** Saturday, 2pm. **A Botanical Ramble through Early Sydney.** Peter Olde will be following the early European botanists in the new colony of NSW. What and where did they collect, where did specimens go and what happened to them? This should be an interesting insight into the motivation and practice of the first scientific, botanical investigation of Australia.
- Mar 12** We are hosting the **APS NSW Quarterly**. More details will be available closer to the date. Chris Gambian from the Nature Conservation Council will talk about how we can influence the conservation of native plants. Details [here](#).
- Apr 9** **TBA**
- Apr 8-19** **Easter Show**
- May 14** **TBA**
- Sep 11-16** **APS Biennial Conference, Kiama**

Covid19 restrictions should be easing but keep you eyes open for updates and confirm details before any event. We are using a Covid-19 safe protocol and activities are subject to NSW Government restrictions. Please remember to check in at the fire station.

*Editor*



Delicate *Bauera rubiodes*, Mt Westmacot. P Forbes.

## Reports from Meetings

### Beautiful flowers

Member Helen Patience created a beautiful Christmas wreath at the November meeting. Helen completed her qualification in floristry and still works in that area but is most famous to MWG members for the brilliant flower arrangements that she and the team create for the Easter Show, where MWG team achieved great success.

Helen had picked a range of flowers from the fire station and her own garden and as she chose and placed them into a festive arrangement, she gave us hints on how to create our own wreath or vase.



A floral centrepiece for a celebration table. J Prats.

Apart from the artistic tricks, like balancing shapes and colours and using odd numbers, Helen had practical advice like cutting/recutting the stems and putting them immediately into water. The container, e.g. vase must be clean and you should not fill it entirely with water as excess water will rot the stems and leaves. It's best to remove any foliage that will be submerged. Helen is equivocal about additives such as sugar and instead relies on keeping the water fresh. Make the arrangement fit for purpose, so the centrepiece should be small and low so as not to obscure views. If you have a wide vase, Helen's tip is to run some sticky tape in a grid across its mouth which will hold the flowers in place.

Helen started with a woven cane wreath to which she attached a basket of Oasis. Oasis is not a great environmental choice but does hold the water that will prolong the wreath's life. Her colour choice was festive red, yellow, white and green. Remember to lay some foliage along the wreath and balance the number of flowers and colours on each side. Put in enough foliage and flowers to hide the basket. The native flowers made a great Christmas welcome

with kangaroo paws, paper daisies, flannel flowers, grevilleas and various foliage.



Helen's finished wreath. P Forbes.

Helen's talk was very relaxed and there was lots of audience participation, with contributions and questions, especially from Peter.

Peter's plant table at the end of Helen's talk showed us more gorgeous plants that would be great for our Christmas decorations. My favourites included the kangaroo paw varieties Yellow Gem and Lilac Queen, *Grevillea sp.* Cherry Surprise and *Banksia wilsonii*, *solanderi* and *medii*.



Helen and Peter share the stage. P Forbes.

Hope you can all create a floristry gem, small or large to brighten the festive table. Feel free to send in photos of your efforts.

*P Forbes*

## Happy Birthday Heather

Having joined Menai Wildflower Group late 1986, Heather Wood holds one of our longest memberships. She is one of the few members who has been able to experience many changes and growth, not only in our Group but APS as well. Whilst she unfortunately is not able to attend our meetings these days, she still enjoys any news or discussions relating to the club.

From the point of joining, Heather's contribution was unstoppable. She attended outings, bus trips, bush walks and if requested, offered her expertise in garden/plant problem solving for any member. Over the years, she held many key positions in the club: Secretary & Editor (1989 - 1994); President & Editor (1994 - 1995); President (1995 - 1997); Assistant Treasurer (1998) and Treasurer (1998 - 2009). She was our first Life Member.

Heather was born in September 1926 and sadly, she was unable to celebrate her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday with family and friends due to the current COVID restrictions. Our Group delivered a beautiful arrangement of native flowers in the hopes of brightening up her special day.



The birthday bouquet. P Forbes.

Heather is an incredible woman and her life experiences are vast. World War II brought blackouts, rationing and many other changes to everyday life, and at 15 she embarked on her working career. Heather became a messenger - during the day delivering blueprints or dylines to factories making components for war weaponry or munitions and at night, she was colouring prints for the various Government Departments. In 1944 she transferred her services to the Drawing Office of the American Army and in 1946 Heather married Robert Henry (Bob) and settled in Lakemba where they raised their three daughters.

In 1960 Heather saw an article written by the Smith Family asking for help to form a V.I.E.W. club (Voice, Interest, Education for Women). She established a firm relationship with the organisation and over the years, became Secretary, President, Delegate, Zone Councillor for Canterbury Bankstown and sat on the State Council. Heather was instrumental in forming Roselands V.I.E.W. Club and helped raise much needed funds for the Smith Family.

In the late sixties Heather decided horticulture was for her. She subsequently applied and was successful in starting a course, at Bankstown TAFE for first year and Ryde TAFE for the remaining two years. The teacher explained to her that she may have a few problems with some of the subjects such as soil science and plant identification - given she was a mature student. Although she found it 'challenging' Heather persisted and succeeded, she became one of the 10 students out of 51 who passed. In 1980 Heather and Bob made the move from Lakemba to Menai. It didn't take her too long to find new activities within the area. Heather was a member of the Koi Society, raised money for various charities and dedicated many hours to her beautiful craftwork. She built up a stunning garden in their home with a mixture of native and exotic plants that she keenly tended, along with her beloved Koi pond.

Sadly, Bob died in 2002 but Heather's large and loving family surrounded her - three daughters, nine grandchildren (one deceased) and four great grandchildren. Heather continued to support her local community and pursue her artistic and horticultural endeavours. Her life has been full and her interests and talents varied.

Menai Wildflower Group values her friendship and contribution over these past 35 years and wishes her nothing but the best.

*Marion Payne*

Thanks to Marian and Jan who organised the bouquet and delivered it.

*Editor*

## What members are up to

Lloyd has expanded his media personality with appearances on Ten News and in the SMH online. This was prompted by the interest in waratahs which were blooming fantastically this year. A single tree along Barden Creek had 19 blooms on it and the track at the end of Bottle Forest Road, Engadine was awash with them.

Lloyd also had 20 years of service with Bushcare recognised. Pam F. received a certificate for 10 years' weeding.

*Eristiostemon australis*, Waterfall. P Forbes



Lloyd being snapped for newspaper article. P Forbes.



*Grevillea patulifolia* P Forbes.

More waratah photographs are on Facebook. Lloyd, John P, Pam F and Greg made an interesting “discovery” on a recent walk to Mt Westmacot, behind Waterfall. As well as Pixie Aprons (a type of bladderwort) and Bearded Orchids they noticed the uncommon *Grevillea patulifolia* which is known in the area but not often noticed. Its range is a narrow band south of Sydney: Waterfall to Budderoo, the Budawangs, Braidwood and Bundanoon. It prefers moist heath and woodlands, often beside streams. It is a small erect shrub with smaller leaves and flowers than the common *G. sericea* but a similar appearance. . It also somewhat resembles *G. sphacelata*. The flowers are also a similar colour to *G. sericea* but are more open  
Lloyd, Patsy (NP ranger) and Peter checked them out and plan to investigate further.



Flying Duck (*Caleana major*) and Bearded (*Calochilus* sp.) Orchids

The mass flannel flowers at Kurnell also attracted several members.



Flannel flowers at Cape Bailey, Kurnell. P Forbes

A walk from Garrawarra Farm in the RNP to Otford rewarded members with stunning views and lots of profusely flowering *Cymbidium suaves*. These plants look like *Lomandra*, although they grow in trees. But along with most plants, they found this year's spring perfect weather for flowering, alerting us to their presence. Karlo's talk on orchids was most appropriate this year as so many orchids have flowered well including swaths of Flying Duck Orchids and Bearded Orchids.

Lloyd's article in this and earlier newsletters are useful for identifying the local species as is Margaret Bradhurst's book *Native Orchids of Southern Sydney*, a more complete handbook with great photos, clear descriptions and sensible layout. Copies are available online at the Friends of Royal website [here](#).

Again, more photos are on our Facebook page.



Members enjoying the coastal view, RNP. P Forbes.

*P Forbes*

## Leafless orchids

In late October a number of us went on a bushwalk from Garrawarra farm to Otford. It was a highlight of my bushwalking year. The reason Garrawarra had been a farm became immediately obvious with the towering trees telling the story of improved soils. Perhaps the most impressive thing was the number of orchid species in evidence.

We missed the beardies (*Calochilus*) flowering - the flowers were gone and the seed pods bulging. There were remains of *Pterostylis* but what brought us to a standstill was the sight of *Cymbidium suaves* in full flower. There were trees with half a dozen, and

some were conveniently down at eye level or even lower.



*Cymbidium suaves*, RNP. P Forbes.

The Leafless Orchids were doing well: The Hyacinth (*Dipodium*) orchid stalks were emerging but yet to flower. Then we came across the Potato Orchid *Gastrodia sesamoides* which I had long looked for but never seen before. This season the Bootlace Orchid *Erythorchis cassythoides* was almost common around August. All these orchids apparently have no chlorophyll.

Back a minute or two to the time when I was a lad at high school. I was led to believe plants were the basis of the bio-pyramid and chlorophyll was the magic ingredient that allowed them to manufacture their own food. Chlorophyll therefore was an essential ingredient of being a plant. But apparently that is an old idea that has long been superseded. As knowledge increases everything becomes more complicated.

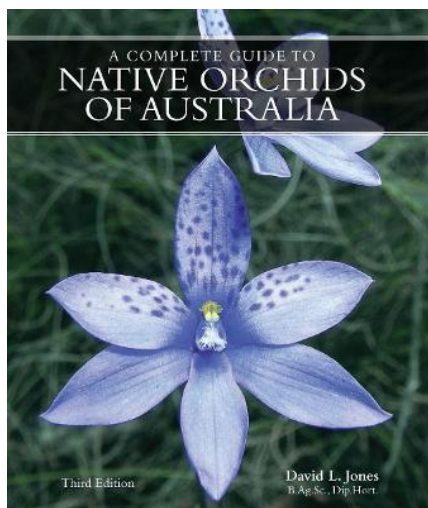
Organisms that feed on decaying vegetation are referred to as saprophytes. When it was realized that plants had no means of feeding directly on the organic matter, it was discovered that it was the fungi attached to their roots, in a relationship termed mycorrhizal, that did the work. The fungus supplies moisture and minerals to the plant and the plant through photosynthesis supplies sugars to the fungus. But these leafless orchids are mycorrhizal cheaters, all take and no give. They are referred to as myco-heterotrophs.

Many other local orchids are also myco-heterotrophs such as *Cryptostylis hunteriana* which we have seen in the Royal in years past. Hopefully it may reveal itself again this January. These are only the ones I have come across, but there are sure to be many more!

*L Hedges*

## More on orchids

The Science Show on RN recently featured the work of David L. Jones, who, as a rank amateur, I was unaware was an orchid expert. The latest edition of his “orchid bible”, *A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia*, is a new and much improved version of what was already described as the best and most authoritative book on the subject.



The first, spectacular and comprehensive edition by Jones was published in 1993 but the latest edition reflects the large amount of work done over the last 25-50 years in identifying new species and recognising the diversity of orchids in Australia. Australia is the world centre of orchid biodiversity, with more than 1,300 species and subspecies of Australian orchids, meaning that they make up 1 in 10 of our plant species.

The third edition covers more than 100 additional orchid species, including some which have not yet officially been described. The single species of *Dipodium* recognised in Victoria in the 70s for example has grown to 5 species, with a total of 12 across Australia. *Dipodium*, commonly known as hyacinth orchids, are found in South East Asia and the Pacific as well as Australia. The genus includes terrestrial and climbing species, some with leaves and some leafless, but all with large, often colourful flowers on tall flowering stems. Robert Brown was the first to formally describe the genus in 1810.

Why so many new species? A generation of botanists has focused on orchids since the 70s with more expeditions to remote and inaccessible places and changes to the methods of preserving specimens. Preserving specimens in bottles of preservative as well as using the traditional method of pressing and drying them, allows novel fine features to be distinguished and additional species recognised. Genetic investigation has also allowed

species which share very similar morphology to be discerned.

Some have argued that Jones is a botanical “splitter” and the increased number of species has resulted from the inclination to divide what may previously have been seen as subspecies. Greenhoods, *Pterostylis*, are a case in point. The first formal description of a greenhood was by Labillardiere who collected *Disperis alata*, a specimen from Bruny Island in 1791 now known as *Pterostylis alata*. John White, our first surgeon-general, collected several species and George Caley collected specimens from 16 species and described them in great detail, giving them names like *Druids Cap Patersoni*. He didn’t publish his work and it was Robert Brown who formally described 19 species and named the genus *Pterostylis*.

In 2001 the genus *Pterostylis* was split, based on morphological characters, into two new genera; *Plumatichilos* and *Oligochaetochilus*. In 2002, David Jones and Mark Clements proposed further separating *Pterostylis* into sixteen genera based on a combination of molecular and morphological characters: the genera *Bunochilus*, *Crangonorchis*, *Diplodium*, *Eremorchis*, *Hymenochilus*, *Linguella*, *Oligochaetochilus*, *Petrorchis*, *Pharochilum*, *Plumatichilos*, *Ranorchis*, *Speculantha*, *Stammorchis*, *Taurantha* and *Urochilus*. However, these changes were not adopted widely and further molecular work eventually reinstated *Pterostylis* as a monophyletic group with two subgenera in 2010. Thank heavens we didn’t have that to learn so many new names!

Another interesting and sad trend is the accidental release of exotics into our native environments, including the Disa and Bamboo Orchids. *Disa bracteate* from South Africa, was first recorded in Western Australia in 1944, in South Australia in 1988 and Victoria in 1994. It is now classified as invasive in Australia and densities as high as 80 individuals/m<sup>2</sup> have been recorded in some sites. Bamboo Orchids, *Arundina graminifolia*, is another exotic species, from tropical Asia which has become naturalised in Queensland as well as the Pacific. It’s a terrestrial, perennial orchid with reedy stems, forming large clumps from 70 cm to 2 m high and bearing pretty purple flowers. And how many of us have a Crucifix Orchid, *Epidendrum radicans* somewhere in the garden? It is a common roadside weed at middle elevations in Central America and sometimes pops up at Bushcare sites here.

Reviewers say that for orchid enthusiasts the Third Edition, at 800 pages, contains many more species and photos, and much more detailed text than previous editions. The line drawings help the reader

to easily determine the genus of each orchid observed, although it is too bulky to take into the field. References are now included in the text, distribution maps are included, and there is a more complete and comprehensive introduction. There are better and clearer layouts for species entries, with greater emphasis placed on conservation aspects, which is important because so many of our orchids are now under threat from all sorts of factors. The price is around \$240 so you need to be very keen on your orchids! For the less devout orchid lovers, Jones has also written a more concise, *Field Guide to the Native Orchids of Southern Australia* which sells for around \$25 or you can rely as Lloyd does on Margaret Bradhurst's excellent local guide.

References

Book Depository, review of *A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia*, David L. Jones at <https://www.bookdepository.com/Australia>  
 Wikipedia <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>  
 RN Science Show 27/11/2021, review of *A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia*, David L. Jones.  
 Podcast available at <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/scienceshow/>

P Forbes

**Of interest**

Check out what's coming up at APS NSW in 2022 using the calendar [here](#).

For the pessimists, or those who have embraced the huge online world APS NSW has also provided information on using Zoom at - <https://resources.austplants.com.au/stories/lets-boost-our-confidence-with-zoom/>

Let's hope we don't need it for future meetings! One advantage though is that a range of presentations has been compiled on the NSW APS Youtube channel and Liz Aitken and Ralph Cartwright have recently revamped the channel to improve the quality and make it easier to use.

The end of the year might be a chance to catch up on some great talks at other groups through 2021.

A couple of botanic garden websites are also worth a visit. Both Kings Park in Western Australia and Cranbourne Garden in Victoria were featured on Gardening Australia in the last six months.

Kings Park Botanic Gardens, WA has a wonderful collection of native plants and works to breed Australian plants suitable for gardens. More information at

<https://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/>

One of the most unusual varieties that they have developed is the Blue Kangaroo Paw

<https://www.bgpa.wa.gov.au/about-us/information/news/2887-blue-kangaroo-paw>

Another fantastic looking garden is the Cranbourne Garden in Victoria

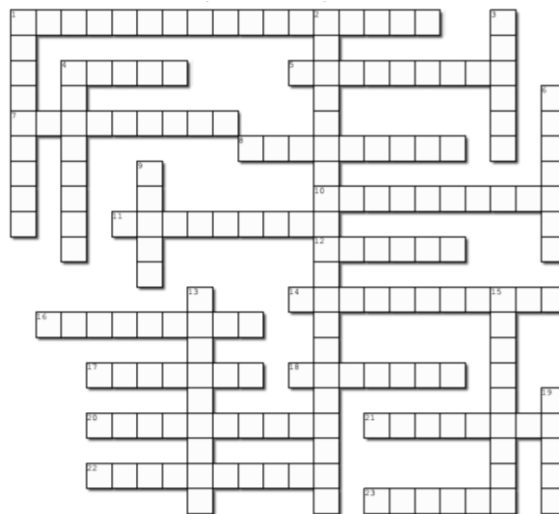
<https://www.rbg.vic.gov.au/cranbourne-gardens/>

Editor

**Crossword answers**

Here are the promised crossword answers. No discussion will be entered into!

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Across                | Down                    |
| 1. Smilax glycyphylla | 1. September            |
| 4. Gymea              | 2. Hardenbergiaviolacea |
| 5. Grevillea          | 3. stamen               |
| 7. exocarpus          | 4. glossies             |
| 8. pycnantha          | 6. Banksia              |
| 10. Eucalyptus        | 9. Brown                |
| 11. WoodyPear         | 13. phyllodes           |
| 12. gumnut            | 15. Melaleuca           |
| 14. Callistemon       | 19. calyx               |
| 16. forsythii         |                         |
| 17. corolla           |                         |
| 18. Boronia           |                         |
| 20. Philotheca        |                         |
| 21. Dampiera          |                         |
| 22. Proteaceae        |                         |
| 23. Bauera            |                         |



**Across**

1. Creeper with sweet tasting leaves with parallel veins and white flowers
4. Sutherland's giant lily is named after this suburb
5. Peter's passion (sorry Marg)
7. Outside fruit
8. Which acacia species is Australia's national flower?
10. This genus name is Greek for well covered
11. Xylomelum pyriformis's most appropriate common name
12. Snuggle Pot & Cuddle Pie are ... babies
14. If you want to clean bottles you need a ...
16. The Pink Flannel Flower is Actinotus ...
17. Usually the floral display and Toyota makes one
18. Croweas have 5 petals but these have 4
20. I used to be Eriostemon
21. This genus name indicates a moist time
22. A family of many forms
23. Small genus of moisture loving shrubs with pink-purple flowers, endemic to eastern Australia

**Down**

1. What month is Wattle Day in?
2. I'm not really sarsaparilla
3. Flower part is unchangeably male
4. Allocasuarina for which friends in the mist?
6. Iconic genus named after one of the botanists on Cook's voyage.
9. First European botanist to survey the flora of the Georges River
13. Acacias have no leaves but instead ...
15. Black and white genus!
19. Part of a flower, nix the healthy brassica

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.r



## Photographic challenge

MWG has some fantastic photographers whose wonderful images we enjoy online and in print. We are hoping to inspire you with a photographic challenge in 2022. All welcome! Each month we would like you to submit a photo on the month's theme as set out below. Depending on the interest, we plan to put the best up on our Facebook page or in the newsletters and maybe collate a selection for a calendar for 2023.

January	Red; flower, fruit or leaves, even landscape as long as it features red.
February	Geometry; shapes, patterns and symmetry of anything on a plant.
March	Members at work, in the garden or nursery.
April	Seeds and fruits; native plants reproducing.
May	Landscape; forests or plains, coast or mountain.
June	Members having fun, one or many on walks, meetings, nursery or gardens.
July	Winter, something botanical that is emblematic of winter.
August	Spring, bright start for the botanical year.
September	Flowers, a single bloom or a flowery field.
October	Garden friends, insects, birds, lizards or mammals that share our gardens or bush.
November	Leaves and bark, it's not just flowers that are beautiful.
December	Season's greetings, something that represents the festive end of the year.

*Editor*



*Banksia serrata*. J Prats.

## News from the Nurseries

The Tip and Fire Station nurseries are back to serious production with new orders for *Allocasuarina* for the Glossies. We have just cleared our benches with a pickup of tubes to be planted in the Southern Highlands this month and we are tubing up another 5000 for the autumn's planned planting. Excellent work from Marian W., Janine and Pam F., ably supported by Greg, Adrian and John under the supervision of Lloyd.

The tables in the greenhouse failed and Greg and Lloyd had to engineer new and improved legs. All the plants had to be moved out, the old legs removed and replaced with treated pine, before the plants were reinstated. They are now looking good (the tables that is). Excellent team work!



5m benches are a handful! P Forbes

Lots of plants were sold over the last month so both the tip and fire station volunteers are rebuilding our stock and there should be some interesting plants available soon. The Pink Flannel Flowers are starting to bloom so be sure to have a look at the end of year social.

Lloyd split one of the native bee hives It has been a hard time for bees with extremes of weather so many hives haven't been able to expand sufficiently

over the last year to be split but most are now making honey again. If you look closely, you can see that the bees were not impressed with Lloyd's disturbance. Thanks heavens they don't sting!



Bees objecting. P Forbes.

We have many enthusiastic workers at both nurseries at the moment but all new volunteers are welcome. You can turn up casually, Tuesday 9-12ish, and weed or propagate. Training is cheerfully provided! It is a good opportunity to enjoy the garden too. We do have a break over January. Thanks to the stalwarts at the fire station– Lloyd, Ann, Jan, Cameron, Matt, Pam F., Marion P., Greg, Tony P., John P., Andrew.



Who is this Masked Weeder?? P Forbes.

Finally, Lloyd recently had an update on the Glossies Project from Pearce Thomas a Project Officer from Threatened Species, South East Branch (NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment). Another commendation for the great work of the propagation team! Pearce picked up 2550 *A. littoralis* from Lloyd and transported them to the depot at Moss Vale. From there they hope to revegetate more properties in the near future. We are currently growing more *Allocasuarina* for the autumn plantings.



The propagation team at the Tip Nursery, with our *Allocasuarina*, Lloyd and Marian aren't in it unfortunately. L Hedges.

## Bird lovers needed to spot glossy black-cockatoos - from home

If you are inspired by our involvement in the Glossies program, here's an opportunity to participate in a different way. The Saving our Species program is calling on citizen scientists to help identify which species are using specially made Glossy Black Cockatoo nest boxes that were installed in the Southern Highlands in 2020 in response to the 2019-20 bushfires. Each nest box was fitted with a remote camera to monitor its effectiveness at providing shelter for Glossies, and to see if Glossies or other wildlife are using the boxes. Listed as vulnerable, Glossies are easily spotted with their distinctive red tail markings. An incredible 75,000 images have been collected. You can sign up to the Glossies in the Mist project on DigiVol and view images [here](#)



Gum blossom on the mound at fire station. P Forbes.



Burchardia sp., Curra Moors, RNP. John Prats.

Website [www.menaiwildflower.austplants.com.au](http://www.menaiwildflower.austplants.com.au)

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