

Blandfordia



North Shore Group
(ABN 87 002 680 408)

November 2021

ACTIVITIES

With the lifting of many of the restrictions for the fully vaccinated, we have all been able to enjoy a renewed sense of “normality”. This is enabling the resumption of many activities, including those of APS NSG. Compliance with Covid safety rules and sensible precautions will continue at all events.

The good news is that the plant sale happened on 31st October. The plant propagating group has been hard at work all year, with concentrated efforts over the past few weeks to finalise the arrangements. A full report will appear in the December *Blandfordia*. Thanks to all concerned.

Three Monday Walks at KWG are happening. These are fully booked.

The November General meeting and election of the 2022 Committee will be on Zoom on Friday 12th November. (See pages 3 & 4 for full details). Hopefully, 2022 will see a return to face to face meetings.

The Christmas Party will occur on Friday 10th December at KWG (see below).

All being well, weekend Group activities such as walks or garden visits will resume in March 2022.

APS NSW is rearranging the trip to several properties in the Central West area- hopefully in early April. (See APS NSW website.)

ANPSA Biennial Conference AUSTRALIAN FLORA – PAST PRESENT FUTURE at Kiama Pavilion, KIAMA NSW
Saturday 10th to Friday 16th September 2022 (see page 7)

APS NSG Christmas Party

FRIDAY 10th December 2021

At Dampiers Clearing KWG

420 Mona Vale Road St Ives

Time: Lunch time

Full details:

see December *Blandfordia*



Painting of NSW Christmas bush by Edward Minchen

Delta crossword *Blandfordia* September 2021

¹ B	² L	A	³ N	D	F	O	⁴ R	D	I	A			⁵ E	
	U		O				I				⁶ G	U	M	⁷ S
	C		⁸ B	U	S	⁹ H	P	E	¹⁰ A		O		¹¹ U	P
¹² L	A	T	I			A			R			¹³ C		E
	S		¹⁴ L	I	L	L	Y	P	I	L	L	Y		C
¹⁵ M	I	N	I			O			L			M		I
	I		¹⁶ S	P	I	R	A	L	S			¹⁷ E	C	O
		¹⁸ I				A					¹⁹ B			S
²⁰ M	E	S	I	²¹ C		²² G	R	E	²³ V	I	L	L	E	A
U		O		O		O			I		U			
D				S		D		²⁴ R	O	S	E	²⁵ T	T	E
	²⁶ W	²⁷ A	T	T	L	E			L			A		
²⁸ S		C		A		²⁹ N	A	³⁰ N	A		³¹ A	X	I	³² L
³³ H	E	A	R	T		D		O			³⁴ M	O		O
E		C		A		³⁵ R	O	D				N		M
D		I			³⁶ B	O	R	O	N	I	³⁷ A			A
³⁸ S	³⁹ C	A	⁴⁰ T			N		S			I			N
	U		A		⁴¹ S		⁴² T	A	M	⁴³ A	R	⁴⁴ I	N	D
	⁴⁵ T	E	L	O	P	E	A			W		C		R
	S		L		P			⁴⁶ P	I	N	N	A	T	A

Thanks again to Wendy Grimm for this contribution. I'm sure that many members spent an enjoyable time grappling with the solution.

If you got the **entire** crossword correct APS NSG will supply a plant at the next face to face meeting, either general monthly meeting or W&T. An honour system will apply :).

ELECTION of the 2022 APS NSG committee

will take place after the speaker on 12th November 2021 (see page 4)

This usually takes less than 15 minutes.

Please consider how you can help. Self nomination is fine.

All positions will be open. While many of our members are dedicated and involved members, the group welcomes new committee members and new helpers. If you would like more information about what a role entails please contact Sue Bowen (President) 0478 957 951

suzanneebowen@gmail.com or Jan Williamson janw7531@gmail.com

The committee currently meets on the Thursday evening after the monthly general meeting which is held on the second Friday evening from February to November (10 meetings per year). The committee also meets in January to get ready for each year. This means that there may be 11 nights during the year with a meeting lasting a couple of hours. Some committee meetings may remain as virtual meetings into the future- still to be decided and may change as the future unfolds.

North Shore Group has the following positions. President, Vice president, Correspondence secretary, Minutes secretary, Treasurer, Conservation officer, Membership officer, Assistant membership officer, Excursions/group activity co-ordinators (i) walks (ii) garden visits, Health and Safety officer, Publicity officer, Delegate to APS NSW, Web master, Newsletter editor, Coordinator/s of Speakers Programme, & General Committee members .

Non committee positions: Walks and Talks coordinator, Val Williams Scholarship Convener, KWG Flower Display coordinator, Propagation coordinator, The Knoll coordinator & Library.

Dendrobium kingianum in full bloom at Sue Bowen's home in mid to late September. Such a display certainly lifts the spirits.



Callistemons (bottle brush) in full bloom in Jan W's garden in early to mid October. The yellow and green forms provide a change from the red forms.



Next Meeting on FRIDAY 12th November 2021 7.45pm for 8pm by ZOOM

Speaker: Jonathan Lidbetter B.Sc.Agr (Hons), M.Sc. (Hons)
Topic: "A Surprise" with Jonathan adding: " My main passion is propagation and development of native plants for commercial cultivation and my experience covers the full range from seeds, cuttings, budding and grafting to tissue culture."

Background:

I have close to 30 years experience working in the horticultural sector largely as a plant production researcher in government but more recently as a farm manager for East Coast Wildflowers. My current focus is the propagation and management of over 100 species of commercial cut flower and foliage for the domestic floristry trade.

East Coast Wildflowers is one of the premier native cut flower wholesalers in NSW and is owned and run by Mr Craig Scott, a 4th generation flower grower who has been growing native flowers commercially for over 30 years. We have 20 hectares under cultivation with 0.5 ha under cover at Mangrove Mountain (growing almost exclusively native products), and have a warehouse at Flemington markets as part of operating Stands in the Flower Shed 6 days/ week 51 weeks a year (COVID pending). We wholesale product for growers from all mainland states. More visual information can be found on Instagram @ craigoscott or @jonathinny. Craig's daughter Bess is a leading NSW florist using native flowers and can be found @bess_paddington.

[Election of 2022 APS NSG committee will follow talk.](#)



NEW SEGMENT for *Blandfordia*

What are your top 3 favourite fauna/flora?



Jeff Howes has set the ball rolling with

1. *Isopogon anemonifolius*
2. *Banksia spinulosa* as I am partial to yellowish flowers.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isopogon_anemonifolius

3. Grey Butcher bird *Cracticus torquatus*. For its melodious tunes.
<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/scienceshow/understanding-birdsong/8710298>

Please send your contributions with a short explanation for your choice to janw7531@gmail.com

Vale Pat Pike

APS NSW Life member and long term North Shore Group member

Some very sad news. Pat Pike, our dear friend and fellow North Shore member has passed away after she had endured poor health for years due to Parkinson's Disease.

We all very much admired Pat and were very fond of her. She had a tremendous knowledge of local Native Plants and the bush and she quietly and generously shared that knowledge with us all. Her specialty became Native grasses in particular. Pat lived in Mt Colah raising her children John and Kathy. Later as she aged, it became necessary for her to downsize and then ultimately go into Nursing Home care.

On completion of her Science studies at Sydney Uni, Pat entered the Education profession. She inspired many of her High School students who then went on to also work in Science and Botany in particular. She taught at Hornsby Girls High where Merle Thompson remembers Pat, her Biology teacher in the Leaving Certificate taking her under her wing and also being an inspiration. Pat also taught and influenced Dr Annette Salt, wife of the late Bob Salt OAM, both of them prominent local environmentalists. Many locals also remember Pat from her years teaching Science at Pennant Hills High. She did a bush regeneration course with the National Trust and set up a group working on a remnant of bush in the school grounds. Parents and students, including Ross Rapmund, who now manages the Hornsby Council Plant nursery, would come and help. Alison Hewitt was also a former student-bush regenerator at Pennant Hills High who went on to do a PhD on *Melaleuca deanei* and lecture in Botany at UWS. Pat again, no doubt, had a strong influence on Alison and many others at the school.

After Pat retired from 30 years of high school teaching, in 1988 she took on a new career in bush regeneration. Pat and Sheila Woods were employed by Hornsby Council which had contracted Tein McDonald to set up a bush regeneration program. Tein set up training and workshops, and employed Pat and Sheila to do on site training. Pat also taught at Ryde TAFE from 1992 till 2003, the Bush Regeneration Certificate, as it was then, with Robin Buchanan and others.

Pat was also involved with protection of bushland in ways other than education.

From 1995, Pat was one of the Friends of the Berowra Valley Regional Park who produced a beautiful book called "A Guide to the Berowra Valley Regional Park", published in 2001. She did many of the plant descriptions and pictures. This area is now a National Park, in part due to lobbying by the 'Friends'.

Also as a volunteer, with the late Ross Doig (APS Life Member), in 1997 she surveyed many kilometres of the road verges between Glenorie and Wisemans Ferry to assist the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Trust. Some rare plants were found and recorded.

With fellow members of the Australian Plant Society, Pat for many years worked on the Hornsby Herbarium surveys from when they started in 1998 until 2014 when the expeditions with Jenny Lewis, Barry Lees, Noel Rosten and others became too much for her physically. Pat's vast knowledge of native plants, especially grasses and sedges, has been an enormous help to the group.

The North Shore Group runs a weekly programme called 'Walks and Talks' where a 1 hour talk on a certain plant aspect is followed by a 1 hour walk to illustrate that aspect. It is open to the public and is very successful. For many years, Pat ran the session on native grasses, developing an excellent set of notes to hand out with her talk. She was Librarian of the Group for many years.



About 7 years ago, the North Shore Group committee, knowing just how much Pat has contributed to APS and Conservation over the years, nominated Pat to APS NSW for consideration as a Life Member. This resulted in a proud day for Pat and her friends when she was presented with the Life Membership in May 2015 at Lugarno.

A couple of quotes from Pat....

“People who have the conservation ethic are drawn to the restoration of bush land. It’s disappearing rapidly with new legislation that allows clearing. But it’s important to realize there’s no quick fix. Bush regeneration is a slow process”.

“One of my favourite places is the Turpentine Ironbark Forest at Carrs Bush. I think it’s a bit magic, so peaceful and quiet. There are only a few pockets of TIF left now; whereas it used to extend right across to Burwood. Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*) is an important tree for the bats, and possums love it. My favourite tree would be the Sydney Red Gum (*Angophora costata*) with its lovely twisted branches.

Pat, we’ll think of you when we are in TIF forest and when we see a particularly magnificent *Angophora costata*.

Rest in Peace, Pat.

Written by Sue Fredrickson

Images provided by Wendy and Phillip Grimm



Armidale APS NSW Gathering in October 2013



Pat receiving her APS NSW Life Membership Award in May 2015

In lieu of flowers, a donation from the group is being made to the Nature Conservation Council (NCC) as a tribute to Pat and her passionate concern and work for conservation.

If you would like to give an additional contribution please email treasurer@blandfordia.org.au by 15th November.

Our treasurer, Helen, will then send you the details for a bank transfer to the APS NSG account and send the final donation to NCC.

New members

Welcome to James M, Nicholas L, Norbert & Veronique B, Karen H, Elena D and Wendy L.

We look forward to meeting you and sharing with you our interest in, and knowledge of, Australian native plants.

Please see page 8 for the contact details of people coordinating various activities of the group.

*Note: for privacy reasons full names are not being used

October Committee meeting notes (virtual zoom meeting)

The following items were discussed:

- Resumption of various activities with lifting of NSW Govt restrictions
- Plant sale - 31st October
- Neutrog agreement: APS NSG involvement on hold as no volunteers to manage the deliveries
- APS NSW & UTS project . Final presentation on Sat 30th October.
- APS NSW Delegate report : (i) APS NSW is now a member of Nature Conservation Council (ii) membership matters and experiences are being upgraded (iii) Technological Skills Development programme for all members (iv) upgrading of video content on website in youtube format
- Beatrice Taylor Hall at Hornsby has been booked for 2022 general meeting dates

MANGROVES Flowering plants at the land sea interface

Professor Robert King

Talk on 8th October 2021 Notes by Jan W



What a wonderful insight into the world of mangroves. Thank you very much, Professor King for sharing your extensive knowledge and enjoyment of mangroves with us.

Unfortunately, the common perceptions of mangroves are that they are nasty, dirty and smelly areas. However, you reinforced the facts that they are essential ecosystems which can wonderful, beautiful and sustain a wide variety of flora and fauna.

Some of the factors that make mangroves a distinctive environment include

- Exist in an intertidal zone
- Variable and often high salinity environments
- Waterlogged and often anoxic substrata
- Unstable sediments
- Plants are exposed to mechanical effects of wave action and tide action

Plant adaptations include shallow root penetration, supporting structures such as buttresses and stilt roots, breathing roots (aerenchyma and pneumatophores), propagules (a vegetative structure that can become detached from a plant and give rise to a new plant, e.g. a bud, sucker, spore or large seeds floating on water), viviparity (seeds germinate on the plants).

Many images of the plants and the areas demonstrated these adaptations.

For the full talk see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g56dCZKzbZs>

As with every ecosystem mangroves require management and protection from detrimental effects and exploitation. Mangroves are important for fish and crustaceans populations, water filtration, stabilisation of the coastline and protection from storms.

Repeat of references in September *Blandfordia* about Mangroves

MANGROVES - our smelly friends <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Rv4BSOEqA>

Helping Hand for MANGROVES <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tuwd65jata0>

<https://www.hornsby.nsw.gov.au/environment/flora-and-fauna/bushland-management/floating-landcare>



Australian flora - Past present future

ANPSA 2022 Biennial Conference - Kiama



Save the date: Kiama Pavilion, Saturday 10 to Friday 16 September 2022

It is recommended that accommodation be booked ASAP .

For full details: <https://austplants.com.au/ANPSA-Biennial-Conference-2022>

If you have any questions or need any assistance, please contact organising group at

conf2022@spin.net.au.

The glorious Capertee Valley

Many thanks to Hugh Jones for a most enjoyable virtual trip to his property at our October meeting. If you would like to see the full presentation it is available at <https://youtu.be/lgfUBmWYbQA>

These images were taken in mid August



an orchid - a Caladenia or Glossodia sp.?



a Leucopogon



Critically endangered
Phebalium bifidum

Other APS NSW youtube recordings are available at the home page of APS NSW <https://austplants.com.au/> and click on the your tube icon right at the bottom of the page or go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSqvvYJSvPv-MU-rQVAJug/videos>

APS NSG activities

Subject to Covid restrictions

Please contact the coordinators prior to any attendance and check NSW Government restrictions as well at this website <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/rules/greater-sydney>

Propagation at KWG Wednesday *Contact:*Tania Lamble 0415 043 671

Bushcare at KWG *Contact:* Sue Bowen 0478 957 951

The Knoll *Contact:* Michael Griffith michaelgriffith1@gmail.com

The Flower Display at KWG *Contact:* Jan Marshall 0403 908 042

Walks and Talks at the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden St Ives *Contact:* Wendy Grimm wagrimm@tpg.com.au
0419 323 035

Committee Contacts

President: Sue Bowen 0478 957 951

Secretary: Judy Jeffery 0429 438 598

Email: secretary@blandfordia.org.au

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

The preferred method for Membership Applications & Renewals is to go to the APS NSW website and follow the instructions at <https://austplants.com.au/about-membership>

If joining or renewing online presents any problems assistance can be given by emailing your query to membership@blandfordia.org.au For your convenience, an EFT payment option is now available.

Treasurer: Helen Ray treasurer@blandfordia.org.au

Newsletter Editor: Jan Williamson 9875 2262 janw7531@gmail.com

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

For the December 2021 edition this will be 19th November 2021 Editor: janw7531@gmail.com

Blandfordia *The Newsletter of the Australian Plants Society North Shore Group*