

CALEYI



NORTHERN BEACHES GROUP
austplants.com.au/northern-beaches



November 2019

Australian Plants Society Northern Beaches
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CALENDAR

APS Northern Beaches meeting Thursday November 7, 2019 at Stony Range Botanic Garden, Dee Why.

7.15 pm Plant family - Anne Gray Dilleniaceae.

7.30 pm Presentation: Penny Hunstead. "My Life in Gardens".

Penny will cover her childhood interest in plants; being a "lady gardener"; types of gardens; types of clients; gardening in old age.

Supper: Please bring a contribution.

APS NSW Quarterly Saturday November 16 hosted by **APS Northern Beaches Group** at Warriewood. Full details on page 3.

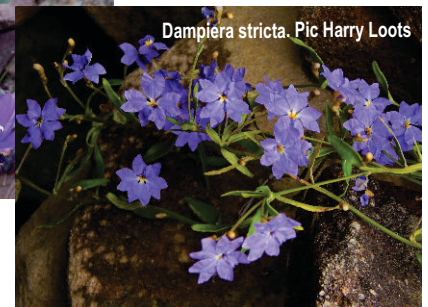
APS Northern Beaches Christmas lunch 12 noon for 12.30pm **Saturday December 14** at Stony Range Regional Botanic Garden, Dee Why.

Many thanks this month to Russell, Georgine, and Harry for their reports and great photographs. As usual we seek contributions of any articles or photographs that you think will interest our members. Deadline is 2 weeks before next meeting.

Editor march@ozemail.com.au

OCTOBER MEETING

Harry gave a Powerpoint presentation called "From Purple to Pink". The photos were all taken in Harry's garden over a number of years, giving us a wonderful colourfest. Species included *Patersonia sericea*, *Dampiera stricta*, *Thysanotus tuberosus*, *Hardenbergia violacea* and *Boronia ledifolia* (how did he manage to grow that?). A standout was *Kunzea capitata*, a substantial shrub covered in its lovely pink flowerheads.



After Harry's presentaion, Russell produced some scrawny looking bits of *Carpobrotus*. These were not shown for their beauty but to draw attention to the fact that there are question marks about the identity, by species, of much of the *Carpobrotus* growing on the Northern Beaches.

Carpobrotus glaucescens is the local native species but much of what has been planted are introduced species, most likely *C. aequilaterus*. Identification is tricky, even for experienced botanists, particularly as hybridization is known to occur. Russell is pursuing the matter with people in the Royal Botanic Gardens.



Anne and Gorgine showed samples of flowers from their gardens or, in Gorgine's case, from bushland at Cromer.

It was disappointing that our scheduled speaker had to withdraw at late notice, but the "show and tell" filled the gap really well.

Russell Beardmore

VISIT TO JENNIFER'S GARDEN

Russell Beardmore

The weather was perfect for a visit by seven members to Jennifer's garden on 19 October. Walking down the driveway, we were impressed



pic: Georgine Jakobi

with the amount of new planting, all well mulched. Further down, there were a few small *Prostanthera ovalifolia* in flower and then a very large and spectacular example of the species. *Leptospermum 'Cardwell'* was in full flower and a substantial oak-leaved shrub with interesting flowers attracted a lot of attention. We were unable to identify it (other than to



Leptospermum 'Cardwell', pic: Georgine



Leptospermum 'Cardwell' pic: Ed.

decide that it had to be something *quercifolia*) but after she returned home, detective Jane came to the rescue to tell us it was *Chorilaena*



Chorilaena quercifolia pic: Georgine

quercifolia, a plant from the Karri forests of Western Australia - it is always surprising to find plants thriving in places far removed from their natural habitat.

The bush to the north of the house had been burnt about six weeks



Darwinia fascicularis pic: Georgine



Eutaxia ovovata pic: Russell

previously but there were still plenty of plants close to the house. These included *Darwinia fascicularis* and *Dianella caerulea*, *Grevillea sericia*, and a few of the lovely blue "flags" of *Pattersonia sericia*. There was more to be seen at the front of the house including two impressive yellow pea flowers - *Oxylobium robustum* and *Eutaxia ovovata*. A fine specimen of Dwarf Apple (*Angophora hispida*) - looking anything but dwarf - was in bud. *Grevillea speciosa* was in flower as was some *Kunzea capitata* - definitely one of my favourites.



Morning tea pic: Georgine



Morning tea pic: Georgine

We adjourned to the cool of the deck where Jennifer served a sumptuous morning tea featuring cheese scones and choc chip banana bread - much appreciated.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16 – APS NSW QUARTERLY GATHERING

Our final APS NSW event of the year will be held on Saturday, 16 November, and will be hosted by the Northern Beaches Group in Warriewood on Sydney's Northern Beaches at: Angophora Room, Nelson Heather Community Centre, 5 Jacksons Rd, Warriewood NSW 2102.

Nearby are the Warriewood Wetlands which make for a great walk. As well, there are wonderful places to visit such as Narrabeen Lakes.

Program:

10am Meet at the Nelson Heather Community Centre for tea and coffee. **Please bring your own plates and cups.**

10.30am Choice of two guided walks through the beautiful Warriewood Wetlands. Meet in the car parking area at the Nelson Heather Community Centre.

Warriewood Wetland is the largest remaining sand plain wetland in the northern Sydney area. It provides a variety of habitats for native animals and also plays a vital role in flood mitigation, nutrient recycling and filtering sediments. The wetlands contain several Endangered Ecological Communities.



12 -1pm Lunch. Bring your own lunch to the Centre where tea, coffee and refreshments will be available. Plants will be available for sale from 12 noon.

1 -3pm Guest speaker **Liz Benson 'My Life with Wally' or My Life with the Wollomi Pine.**

Liz Benson is a very accomplished speaker who will trace the discovery of the Wollomi Pine and discuss current and fossil relatives. She will also discuss the causes of the forest types that have arisen in Australia in the past and present. In her role as an Education Officer with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Liz has had the opportunity to talk about the Wollomi Pine on many occasions. Particularly in the schools Program for Senior Biology students studying the topic Evolution of the Australian Biota. This syllabus topic had been prompted by the interest generated in Gondwanan history of Australia by the discovery of the Wollomi Pine in 1994. A member who has previously heard Liz commented: "her presentation was first class. She went back to the time before the continents were separated and traced the development of today's flora. Her coverage of the discovery and significance of the Pine was excellent and well-illustrated."

JOIN US IN KIAMA IN SEPTEMBER 2021 AUSTRALIAN FLORA – PAST PRESENT FUTURE



The Australian Plants Society NSW is delighted to be hosting the Australian Native Plants Society Australia (ANPSA) Biennial Conference at the Kiama Pavilion in September 2021.

These conferences are held every two years and are hosted by each state in turn.

In 2021, the conference is being hosted by the **Australian Plants Society NSW** and is being held at the Kiama Pavilion in the beautiful village of Kiama on the pristine south coast.

Australian flora - past present future: a journey of inspiration

Focusing on 'Australian flora – past present future', we will take you on a journey:

Travel back to the past to appreciate the land of thousands of years ago
Experience the beauty of the current world and the threats it's facing
Project ourselves into the future to design solutions to better protect and enhance our unique floral heritage.

With a series of expert speakers and excursions to surrounding areas, we'll be sharing:

The evolutionary history of the Illawarra – its landforms and plants
How the land was used and cared for, pre-white settlement
Successes in environmental protection, regeneration, horticultural trends and the threats of fire, weeds, feral pests and population growth and development
Opportunities with education, plant resilience, collaborations and seed and plant conservation

Focus on solutions - future proofing

There will be many chances to explore new solutions, hear about what our young people think and get out and about with field trips to Minnamurra Rainforest, Fitzroy Falls, Illawarra Grevillea Park and the Australian Botanic Garden – Mt Annan, to name a few.

Pre- and post-tours

Tours to extend your stay before and after the conference are being planned. Early indications are that we will hold tours to the following places:

Serene Southern Highlands
World Heritage Blue Mountains
Spectacular Lord Howe Island
Dramatic Warrumbungles and Pilliga
Surprising Sydney sandstone flora
Sunny Sapphire Coast

Acknowledgements

We are thankful for the support of the local **Kiama Council** to hold the conference in their beautiful region. We'd also like to acknowledge the contribution of **Destination NSW**, our Strategic Sponsor, whose grant is assisting us to enhance the impact of the conference.

More information

Heather Miles, Secretary@ austplants.com.au, 0408 696 356
Ralph Cartwright, Conf2021@spin.net.au, 0416 030 872



Kingia australis

SUBLIME TO THE RIDICULOUS

ANPSA Albany 2019

To see more and learn more about the flora of Western Australia I planned to attend the ANPSA Biennial Conference in Albany this year. To further capitalise on the opportunity I chose to participate in one of the pre-conference tours that conveniently started in Perth and deposited you in Albany.

My chosen five day tour featured the treasures of Coasts and Forests.

This proved to be an intensive experience. Guided by Western Australian botanists and naturalists Greg and Bronwen Keighery our coach became a mobile classroom.

The Keigherys grasp of not just botany but also geology, zoology, local history, legal and political effects on the area, were phenomenal.

The eager participants in our coach were from ACT, NSW, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria. All very personable and generous with their knowledge both of botany and photography.

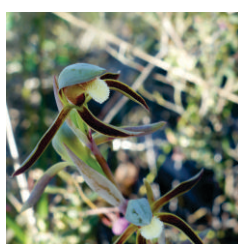
I called this report 'Sublime to the Ridiculous' because in size alone the flora echoed the title. On the nutrient poor outcrops the range of minute flowers including orchids, Drosera and Stylidium was amazing. Here are a few of my orchid pics. (please excuse poor quality).



Thelymitra macrophylla



Caladenia latifolia



Lyperanthus serratus



Caladenia pectinata



Caladenia flava



Elythranthera brunonis

The ridiculous aspect refers to the trees. Whether tuart, marri, karri, jarrah or tingle they tower over the observer and no still photograph can do them justice. Most of these are actually eucalypts or corymbias. The karri (*E. diversicolor*) grows up to 90m high but the red tingle outstrips it in the drama stakes with its huge trunk (in excess of 20m circumference). Many red tingles are estimated to be over 400 years old.

Prominent among the plants flowering during our visit to WA were the *Hardenbergia comptoniana*, *Hovea pungens*, various *Hibbertias*, whole swathes of *Clematis pubescens* and *Xanthosia rotundifolia* (southern cross).

The remainder of my pics will feature just some of my favourites.



Hypocalymma robustum



Conostephium pendulum



Crowea angustifolia



Darwinia oxylepsis



Anthocercis littorea



Dampiera linearis



Hibbertia cuneiformis



Hakea oleifolia fruit



Anigozanthus humilis

Next month more on Albany and the actual conference.

Experiencing South West WA for the first time was both joyous and sad. The unique flora is astonishing but the effects of *Phytophthora* dieback and fire are evident everywhere. If you plan to explore the area please follow hygiene requirements as 40% of native plant species in the South West are susceptible to this dieback pathogen.

Jane March, words and pictures 2019.