Australian Plants Society South East NSW Group

Newsletter 146

February 2019

Corymbia maculata Spotted Gum and
Macrozamia communis Burrawang

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Next Meeting

Saturday 2nd March 2019

Landscaping a new garden, presented by Landscape designer Shane Doherty

Meeting at the home of

Jenny and Peter John 12 Riley Street Narooma

commencing at 10.30 am

Jenny and Peter moved into Narooma from their acreage, to a much more 'manageable' town block, and are in the process of deciding how to develop the garden.
Shane has agreed to lead discussion on the process of design, and putting to paper some ideas about how the garden could be constructed. Ideas will be canvassed from members attending, trusting that the finished design will resemble a cohesive and workable plan. (see Jenny's introduction on page 2)

Map showing directions to each property is on the final page of this newsletter.

After our lunch break, we will drive to the home of

Paul Hattersley 58 Eucalyptus Drive Dalmeny

Paul too has a clean palette with which to work, as his large Dalmeny block has little established garden. So again, Shane will lead us in discussing the possibilities for this garden, and we hope for a similar successful result.

As always, members are advised to bring morning tea and lunch.
Wear sensible clothing and shoes suitable for the planned outdoor activities.

Note also that dogs are not permitted at APS activities.

12 Riley Street, Narooma

When Pete and I decided the place at Punkalla was becoming too onerous for us to cope with we came into town looking for somewhere smaller. We inspected several houses that were smaller, some were even smaller than the shed we had at 1044 but all were on very small blocks and very close to surrounding houses with little vegetation between. This place at Riley Street commended itself for the space around the house, its proximity to town and the view from the front verandah over part of the golf course to the ocean and out to Montague Island. Looking south, there is also a stretch of spotted gum forest which is home to a variety of bird species and includes a favourite perch of sea eagles in the summer months. Pete and I have replanted a few of the existing beds just to keep up our spirits and encourage more of the smaller birds but there is potential for much more. We have had several old and dying trees cleared from the back leaving a quite large empty space around a few old structures which is in need of shaping and planting. Shane will tell us the factors we should consider in carrying out that reshaping.

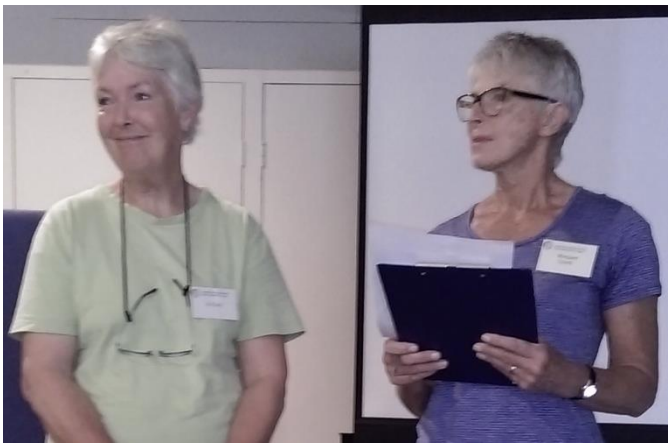
Annual General Meeting

The AGM for our South East NSW Group was held on February 2nd 2019, at the ERBG Meeting Room commencing at 10.30am.
Annual reports, prepared for the year ending 31st December 2018, were presented to members attending. (These reports are included in this newsletter, so members unable to attend the meeting are fully appraised of the business of the South East NSW Group of the Australian Plants Society.)

The minutes of the previous AGM were presented by Vice-President Geoff. These minutes were accepted and unanimously approved. Reports were then presented by the President, Treasurer and Membership Officer. There were no questions arising from these reports, which were seconded and accepted, so the Returning Officer Margaret Lynch, was asked to the floor to call for nominations to the Committee for the 2019 year.

Elections were held for all positions.

President, only one nomination was received, that of **Dianne Clark**, whose acceptance was approved with acclamation.
Each of the following positions also received only one nomination, so the nominations were seconded and the positions were filled without vote.
Vice-President, Geoff Gosling,
Secretary, Paul Hattersley,
Treasurer, Geoff Gosling,
Membership Officer, Jenny John, and
Committee Members, Marjorie Apthorpe and John Knight.



Margaret Lynch announces the result, as a very happy Presidential nominee Dianne Clark stands quietly amid wild applause from the gathering.

Last Meeting,

Taking up the challenge as President, Dianne thanked Margaret Lynch for her role as Returning Officer for the AGM, then thanked those who nominated for committee positions for their commitment in seeing the Group prosper into the future.

She then invited members who brought along plant specimens for the **Show and Tell segment,** to step up and display their treasures. This segment has proved popular in recent meetings, and again there was plenty on display. A few of the different flowers on display included an unusually rounded spike of ***Banksia serrata***, brought along by Norm Hulands. Flowers turned inwards rather than out, giving the spike an appearance similar to ***B. laevigata***, a W.A. species.

We can always rely on Phil Trickett to bring along something none of us grow, and this time it was a tall spike of ***Banksia verticillata***, occurring naturally on granite based soils of W.A's southern coast. Hence the common name of Granite Banksia. This slow growing shrub is rarely cultivated, and again we were shown proof of the benefits gained by grafting difficult to cultivate plants.

There was quite a collection of Goodeniaceae from members, in particular forms of ***Scaevola aemula*** and ***S. albida***, along with some of the hardier Goodenia species. For those despairing that all Christmas Bushes, ***Ceratopetalum gummiferum*** grow too tall, Jan Douglas presented a dwarf form introduced to horticulture by Sydney grower Brian Roach some years ago, known as **Johanna's Christmas**, honouring his daughter who died at an early age. This slow growing compact form, with brilliant red calyces, grows to about 2m over time and flowers prolifically. Plants must be grown by cuttings to maintain the characteristics of the parent.

Assistance was sought for a perennial problem. Experienced grower Shane Doherty, worried by unsuccessful attempts to resurrect plants which in the past had grown well, brought along specimens of citrus which showed signs of disease, and asked whether anyone else was suffering similarly. Members offered all sorts of advice (guesses) from pH issues, poor drainage, lack of water, lack of, or too much nutrient, trace element deficiency, soil disease, and so on. But as might be expected, without scientific evidence, no one was prepared to offer a categorical solution. So the specimens went back into their bag, problem remaining a mystery. This demonstrates that despite our best efforts, some plants just do not perform as expected, and just why that is, well there is no easy answer.

President Dianne then invited our speaker, John Knight to make his presentation.

Goodeniaceae Family,

The following information is selected from the presentations of speakers at the recent Fred Rogers Seminar at Horsham, Victoria. Their valuable contribution is recognised and noted.

Lechenaultia and Dampiera, 2 members of the attractive Goodenia Family

The Family **Goodeniaceae** contains about 400 species, mostly endemic to Australia. The family is named for the type genus, ***Goodenia***, and this, in turn, is named for the Reverend Samuel Goodenough, Bishop of Carlisle.

In addition to his ecclesiastic duties, he was an important botanist. When the Linnean Society was established in 1787 he was one of the framers of its constitution and treasurer

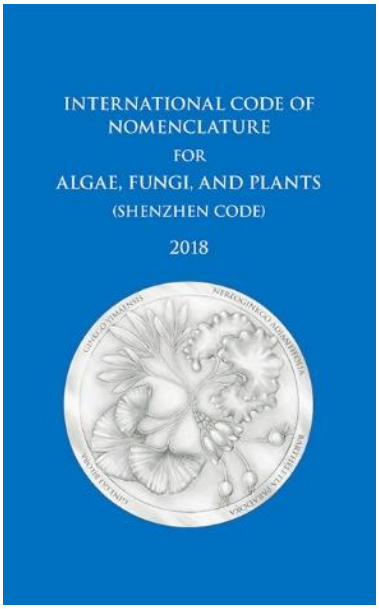
during its first year. He contributed a classical memoir on the genus *Carex*. Unfortunately perhaps, he is better known for his opinions about the Linnaeus system of plant classification. He was profoundly appalled by Linnaeus' decision to use the sex organs of flowers as a basic part of his classification system. "To tell you that nothing could equal the gross prurience of Linnaeus' mind is perfectly needless. A literal translation of the first principles of Linnaean botany is enough to shock female modesty."
It seems that one thing that dismayed him was that ladies would no longer be able to dabble in botany as a genteel hobby. Strange that he could hold such a strong opinion yet play an important part in founding a society named after Linnaeus.

I thought it best to introduce the naming of plants before getting into the tricky subject of systematics.
The following notes were taken from a presentation by Brendan Lepschi
Australian National Herbarium / Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research, from his paper titled

Taxonomy, plant names, and why nothing ever stays the same

with the intriguing but apt subtitle **"Your time would be better spent digging holes"**

Taxonomy versus Nomenclature
Taxonomy is "..the classification and naming of things such as animals and plants in groups within a larger system, according to their similarities and differences."
Nomenclature is "…the naming of groups of organisms in conformity with an international code designed for precision and universal comprehension."



The **International Code of Nomenclature** for algae, fungi, and plants (ICN) – was formalised in 1905 and sets the rules and recommendations in dealing with names of algae, fungi and plants and other organisms "traditionally treated as algae, fungi, or plants"
The code aims to maintain stability in botanical nomenclature and is revised every six years in conjunction with the International Botanical Congress

The Code is available online at: https://www.iapt-taxon.org/nomen/main.php
The ICN Principles are:

- Plant and animal nomenclature are independent
- The application of names of taxonomic groups is determined by means of nomenclatural types
- The nomenclature of a taxonomic group is based upon priority of publication
- A taxon can bear only one correct name – the earliest published that is applicable

Goodenia was described by James Smith in 1793 in his work
"*A Specimen of Australian Botany*"
Smith provides a description of the genus, along with a description and illustration of one species, ***Goodenia ramosissima*.**
Under the rules of the ICN, ***Goodenia ramosissima*** is the type of the genus **Goodenia**
Goodenia ramosissima was transferred to ***Scaevola*** by Kurt Krause in 1912, as ***Scaevola ramosissima***
Despite this transfer, ***Goodenia ramosissima*** remains the type of the genus **Goodenia** and therefore the type of ***Goodenia*** **belongs in** ***Scaevola*** as under the ICN rules "A taxon can only bear one correct name, the earliest published that is applicable"
Scaevola was published by Carl von Linné in 1771 in **"*Mantissa Plantarum*"**, which pre-dates Smith's *Goodenia* by 22 years. The type is ***Scaevola plumieri*** from Hawaii
If the rules of the ICN are applied, ***Goodenia*** **becomes a synonym of** ***Scaevola*** and new names would then be required for the 217 species currently placed in ***Goodenia.*** At the seminar, Brendan discussed many more such anomalies which have surfaced over the years.

Goodenia ovata **(Image: Murray Fagg (APII)**

Maybe you are beginning to understand why Brendan suggested **"Your time would be better spent digging holes".** However, help is at hand. The systematic study by Shepherd *et al*., discussed further in this newsletter proposes **conserving the name *Goodenia* with a new type, *Goodenia ovata.*** If successful, the proposal will preserve the current concept of ***Goodenia***
The proposal will be considered (and either accepted or rejected) at the next International Botanical Congress in Rio de Janeiro in 2023. Further (less disruptive) changes to the circumscription of ***Goodenia*** are foreshadowed as a result of research by Kelly Shepherd and colleagues.

Brendan then detailed the exhausting work of collating all the records of every plant collection made in Australia, which resulted in the publication in 1991 of the ***Australian Plant Name Index (APNI)*** , which over 4 volumes contains 3550 pages and 62,350 names. The information was current to 31st December 1989

In 1992 an electronic database version established, which is maintained via contributions from all Australian State and Territory herbaria and managed at the Australian National Herbarium on behalf of the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH)
Finally, the readily accessible ***Australian Plant Census* (*APC*)** was established in 2005 based on data in the *Australian Plant Name Index* This is also managed at the Australian National Herbarium on behalf of the Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH) and provides an agreed, Australia-wide consensus taxonomy endorsed by CHAH.

The following notes are taken from the first presentation of the seminar, by **Dr. Kelly Shepherd**, but placed after Brendan's notes because I felt the technical issues discussed followed more naturally.
Kelly was a most entertaining speaker, and made what could have been a difficult topic easy to understand.

Kelly, in the field with a specimen of Goodenia mimuloides aff.

Molecules, morphology and classification: understanding old and new relationships within the family Goodeniaceae

Dr Kelly A. Shepherd
Western Australian Herbarium,
Dept. Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions

For the last 7 years Kelly has been working in collaboration with these wonderful US scientists and their students.
The **Goodeniaceae Working Group** (GWG) comprises
Dr Kelly A. Shepherd, WA Herbarium, DBCA, Australia
Dr Rachel Jabaily, Colorado College, Colorado, USA (previously Rhodes College, Memphis, USA)
Dr Andy Gardner, Cal. State University, Stanislaus, USA
Dr Dianella Howarth, St John's University Queens, NY, USA
Dr Emily Sessa, University of Florida, Florida, USA

In 2013 the Goodeniaceae Working Group was awarded a three year **USA National Science Foundation Grant 2013–2016** to study the evolutionary history and floral evolution of the Goodeniaceae; a great opportunity considering this is a predominantly Australian plant family.
Each scientist has brought their own expertise to this project and so the findings Kelly discussed reflect a combined effort.

As mentioned the Goodeniaceae is a predominantly Australia plant family that currently includes 12 genera and more than 420 species.

Scaevola porocarya

Goodenia convexa

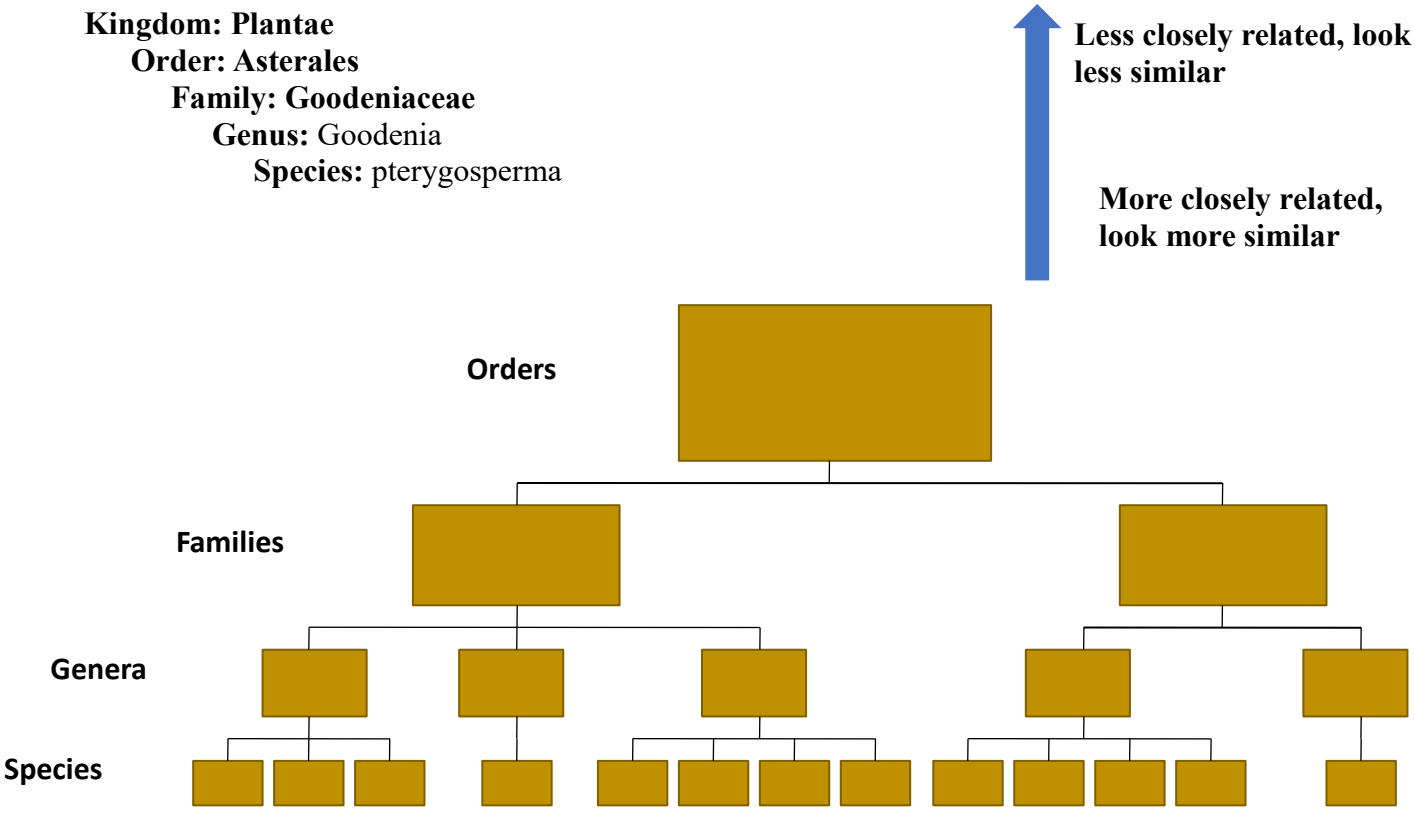
What are the features that define this family?
They are easy to spot in flower, as this is the only plant family that has an unusual pollen presenter called an **indusium**; a cup-like structure at the top of the style, seen on the photos (arrowed).

When the flower is in bud the indusium is situated below the anthers.
As the style elongates the cup-like structure collects pollen from the anthers. This ensures the pollen is available to pollinators when the flower opens.
The stigmatic tissue, which receives pollen from other flowers to ensure pollination, grows outwards from the indusium (in most species) as the flower matures.
Another important character is the presence in most species of extra-petal tissue that are the wings of the corolla lobes.

After this brief introduction, Kelly went on to discuss taxonomy, and how her current work is reinforcing the important work of Roger Carolin. (See further into this article)

Taxonomic classification is hierarchical

Kingdom: Plantae
Order: Asterales
Family: Goodeniaceae
Genus: Goodenia
Species: pterygosperma



Kelly commented "I am sure most of you have had an abiding interest in plants and with experience you have begun to understand the common features that unite related groups of species. You can spot a eucalyptus vs a paperbark or a ***Banksia*** vs a ***Grevillea*** and so on. These two examples contrast different genera of the families Myrtaceae and Proteaceae respectively".
The diagram highlights the hierarchical nature of plant classification, whereby closely related species that look similar belong to a genus, and closely related genera belong to a family and so on. As you move up the taxonomic hierarchy from species to kingdom, the degree of evolutionary relatedness among the organisms decreases as does their morphological similarity.

The job of a plant taxonomist is to name and describe genera and species so their systematic classification reflects evolutionary relationships accurately. Sometimes with new information we gain new insights, for example when two species or genera that were previously thought to be closely related because they look similar turn out to be quite unrelated, then we may need to update the taxonomy to reflect a more accurate classification.

Molecular data (DNA) tells us how species (genera, families etc.) are related to one another

Unexpected things:

morphologically similar species may be genetically distinct (convergence)

i.e. things that look alike may not be closely related

morphologically distinct species may be genetically similar

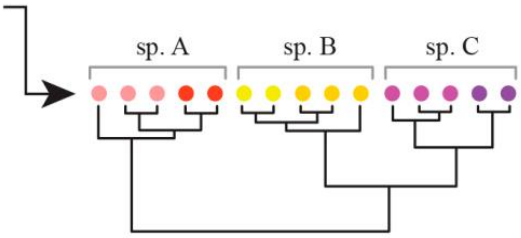
i.e. things that look different may be closely related

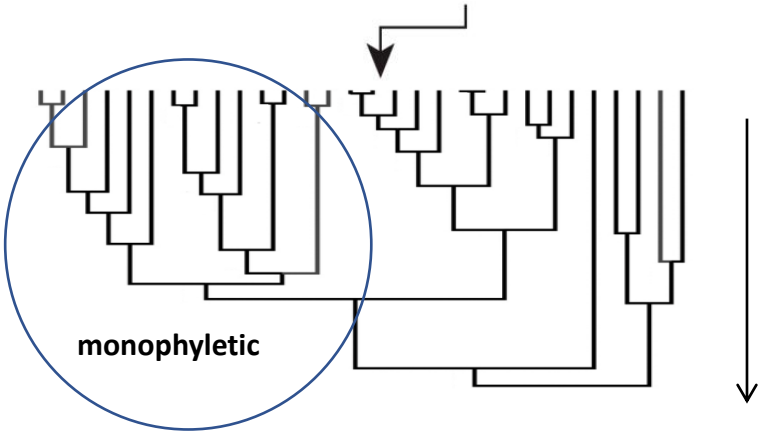
With the development of new technologies over the last 20 years we can routinely extract and examine plant DNA (Deoxyribonucleic acid) We now have an independent data set to determine which organisms have the most similar DNA and therefore are the most closely related (i.e. sister species or genera) without getting confused by factors such as convergence, when species have evolved to look alike even though they aren't closely related.

Genetic data can also highlight other unexpected things such as when organisms that look quite different turn out to be closely related.

An example of this could be when chance mutations such as smaller flowers or more succulent leaves help a plant prevent water loss. This may convey a selective advantage to these plants allowing them to now inhabit harsher environments such as around salt lakes. Over time these saline adapted plants may look so different that it is difficult to determine what their closest relatives are without comparing their DNA

Phylogenetics – study of evolutionary relationships





A phylogenetic tree reflects the evolutionary history of a group

By sequencing plant DNA we can now access large amounts of data to statistically test our understanding of evolutionary relationships. We do this by constructing evolutionary trees or phylogenies, which reflect how species, genera and families are related and how they have diverged over time as speciation has occurred (like the tips of an ever-branching tree).

Modern day taxonomists use these methods to test old hypotheses about relationships and classification. Ultimately, we want our taxonomic classifications to reflect true relationships, not those that we thought were true based on how we interpreted the morphology of organisms previously (under the assumption that all things that looked alike were closely related).

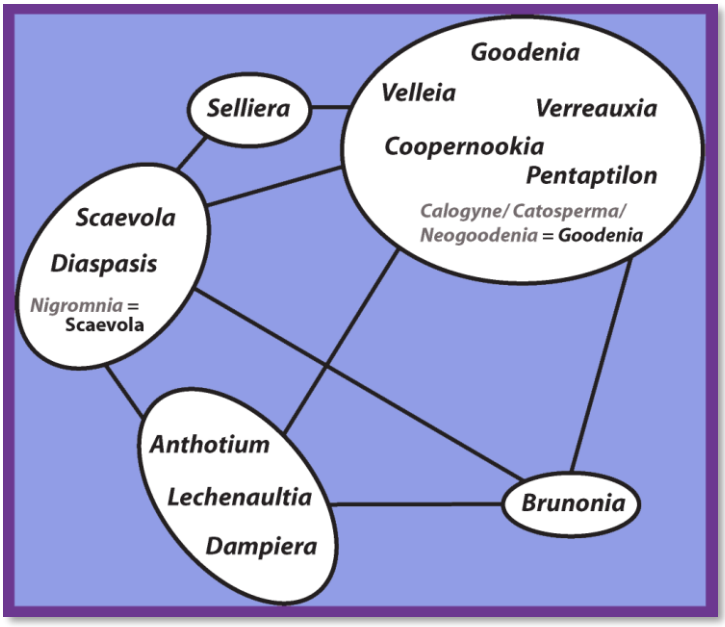
For example if all of the members of a genus group together in the same branch or clade (as shown by the blue circle) we say they form a monophyletic group. However, if a group that we previously thought was a genus

doesn't group together in a monophyletic clade then the taxonomy will need to be updated because we now know that while they may look alike these species aren't as closely related as we first thought.

In recent years the use of molecular data to understand evolutionary relationships has obviously resulted in some very large changes in the taxonomy across various plant groups. Taxonomists know that people struggle with name changes but if you can think beyond the immediate impact you can see these changes reflect exciting developments in our knowledge about our amazing plants.
The next generation will not appreciate the difficulties you face having to learn new names because updated classifications will be familiar to them.

Morphology & taxonomy - Roger Carolin (1950s–90s)

Carolin was an early adopter of new technologies and ideas and he was one of the first people to undertake statistical analyses of morphological data.
The diagram here is a modified version of a figure he published in 1977 summarising the similarity of genera based on these analyses.



Carolin hypothesised that ***Lechenaultia, Dampiera*** and ***Anthotium*** were closely related, as were ***Scaevola*** and ***Diaspasis***.

He thought that the small genus ***Selliera*** was intermediate between and a large group of genera allied to ***Goodenia***.

Carolin also realised that some of the genera that were recognised at the time were not supported as distinct and he ultimately sank the genus ***Nigromnia*** into ***Scaevola*** and ***Calogyne, Catosperma*** and ***Neogoodenia*** into an expanded ***Goodenia*** (so taxonomic upheaval has occurred in this family before).

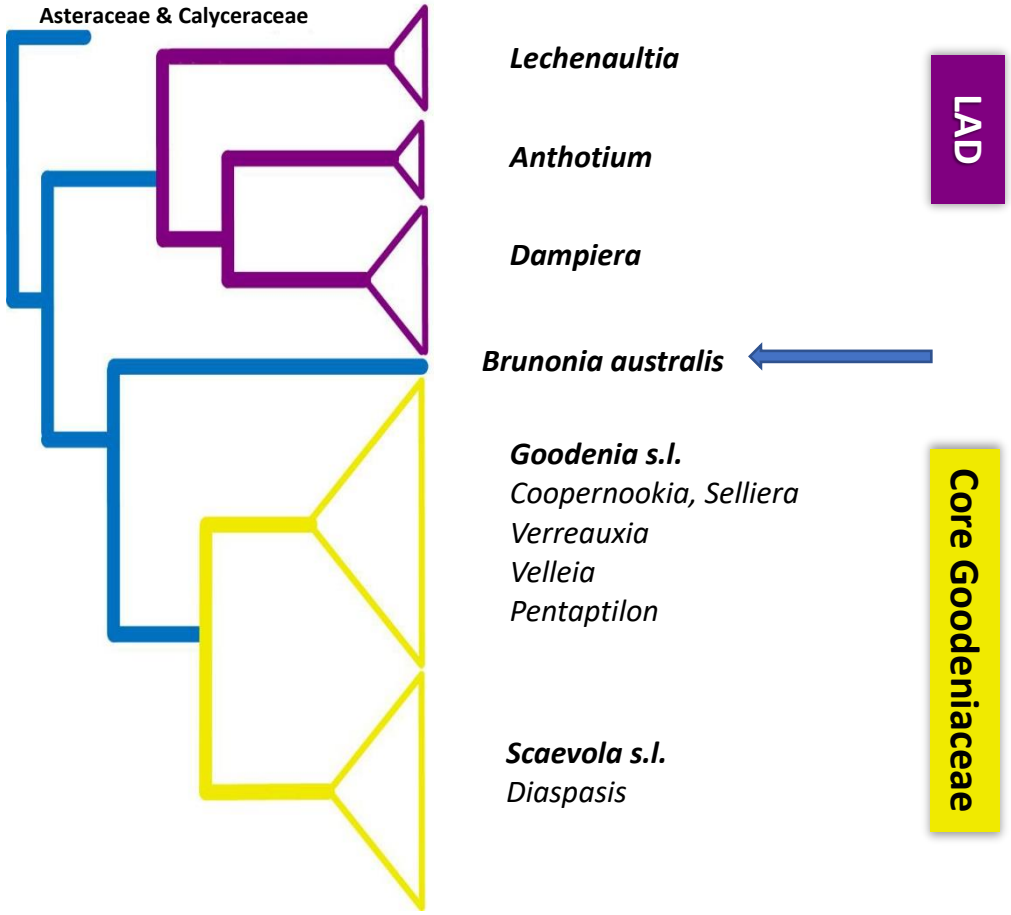
This diagram is really insightful and gives a good visual summary of Carolin's concept of relationships within Goodeniaceae, many of which we have found to be supported by molecular data more than 40 years later.

One of the first outcomes from the **Goodeniaceae Working Group** (GWG) collaboration was the publication of a detailed molecular phylogeny of the family Goodeniaceae in 2012.

Our molecular study unequivocally demonstrated that *Brunonia* was indeed embedded within Goodeniaceae and should not be recognised as a distinct family.

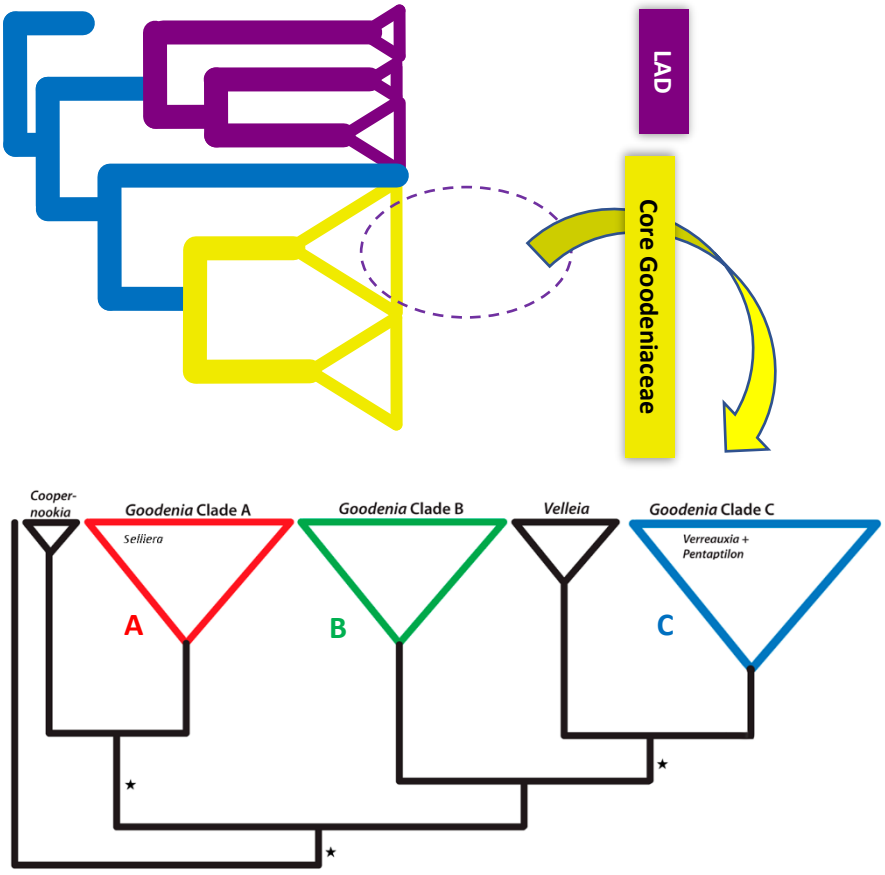
The other major finding was that Goodeniaceae resolved into two groups.
The smaller "LAD" clade, comprising *Lechenaultia, Anthotium* and *Dampiera*, while *Brunonia australis* placed sister to the "Core Goodeniaceae" clade, which comprised two subclades representing *Goodenia* and *Scaevola* along with the remaining smaller genera in the family.

Carolin back in 1977 recognised these two broad groups based on morphological differences. For example the LAD group and ***Brunonia*** have connate anthers and a base chromosome number of X=9.
While the second group is charactersied by free anthers and a base chromosome number of X= 7 or 8.
Diaspsis is the exception as this monotypic genus has connate anthers even though it is embedded in the core Goodeniaceae. (see diagram next Page)



Diagrammatic interpretation of the evolutionary tree of Genera in the Family Goodeniaceae (GWG)

Kelly then went on to discuss each Genus, detailing how morphology and molecular studies confirm both the work of Roger Carolin and the Goodeniaceae Working Group.



So now we are starting to collate the results from the last 5 years of research and we need to make a decision.
But what do we do?
The current best practice in taxonomy is to name only well-supported monophyletic clades.

It is clear in this group we have three very strongly supported clades A, B and C. ***Selliera*** and ***Scaevola collaris*** are not distinct from typical ***Goodenia*** in clade A so these four species require name changes regardless of any other decisions we make.

Within clade C we have three genera *Velleia*, *Verreauxia* and *Pentaptilon*, along with 5 other clades.
Therefore we have two options…

Option 1.
If we want to retain ***Velleia*****,** ***Verreauxia*** and ***Pentaptilon*** as distinct genera then the following changes would be required.
Only the species in clade A would remain as ***Goodenia***.

Clade B would be recognised as a genus and according to the rules of nomenclature that Brendan discussed in his talk, we would need to use the earlier name ***Calogyne*** (a genus first recognised by Robert Brown in 1810).
In 1979 Carolin published a revision of the genus ***Calogyne*** which at that time included nine species. However, in the *Flora of Australia* treatment published in 1992 he sank ***Calogyne*** into ***Goodenia*** as he didn't think it warranted recognition as a distinct genus.

If we follow option 1 we would need to expand ***Calogyne*** to include all of the species in this large clade (the largest in ***Goodenia***), **which would require 107 name changes.**

Finally, we would also need to name another five genera in order to accommodate all of the monophyletic subclades within clade C.
In the end Option 1 would result in a total of 159 name changes and six 'new' genera.

Alternatively in Option 2
We would accept that ***Velleia*****,** ***Verreauxia*** and ***Pentaptilon*** are in fact embedded within ***Goodenia*** and so their respective species would need to be renamed.
This outcome would result in only 29 name changes in total.

This is by far the less disruptive option and I would like to believe that if Roger Carolin had access to the data that we now have he would have also decided this was the best solution.

In rounding off her very detailed discussion, Kelly presented a succinct and compelling case to adopt the results recorded by the GWG, and offered what she and her group considered the ideal scenario.
By adopting her recommendations, minimal changes would be required to existing plant nomenclature, whilst reflecting the accuracies determined by modern scientific analysis.

I hope I have done justice in summarising two very detailed and complex papers, and that this summary has filled in some gaps in our knowledge

There is not enough space to continue with all the other talks from the seminar, or to record the fun session we had at the gardens propagating some of the Goodeniaceae plants. However if I don't get too many complaints about this, there just might be space next month.

John Knight

Committee news

Australian Plants Society South East NSW Group, Annual Report 2018

Over the past year, 8 general meetings were held, with an attendance range of 22 to 35, averaging 29 members. From this statistic, we can be sure that our year's activities, arranged by your committee on behalf of all members, met the needs of the Group.
With such a diverse group, spread over large geographical distances, it is pleasing to note.

Meetings covered a broad range of topics, offering practical information to assist members. Our year began with the AGM, well attended by members wishing to hear from **Paul Hattersley, whose topic, Grasses, Diversity, Photosynthesis and Climate Change** certainly gave the audience food for thought. The afternoon ramble around adjacent bushland amply illustrated Paul's talk, as we could readily see the migration of some grass species, which were now occupying niches previously held by species less able to cope with drying conditions.

Birds are an added bonus for growers of Australian plants, and in March we were entertained by renowned ornithologist, **Bill Martin**, who regaled pertinent stories about his avian visitors. Again an afternoon ramble, along the coastal fringe at Bermagui, with Bill in the lead, allowed members to learn a bit more about the birds which add so much enjoyment to our gardens.

The April meeting was all about giving us the dirt on soil composition, and the response of plants to such conditions. Retired Geologist **Ralph Vine** entertained a large gathering, explaining in some detail just how rock minerals, over time, assisted by rain,air, both hot and cold, and algae, altered to become soil from which plants can obtain the nutrients to grow. Growing plants on granite based soils can be challenging, as illustrated in **Jenny Vine's garden**. Here plants survive on what nature provides, but as Jenny explained, growth can be slow. The afternoon excursions to local forests showed the diversity of flora, and we were lucky enough to find some of the local ***Crowea exalata*** in full flower.

Murramarang National Park, in May, showed us a different picture. After visiting **Anne Phillips'** North Durras garden, where she has managed on a small block to grow plants from diverse habitats, such as coastal dunes to rainforest, we ventured to Anne's favourite spot. Adjacent to Durras Lake, the magnificent forest of Spotted Gum and Sydney Blue Gum protects temperate rainforest species. Venerable Cabbage Tree palms, and impressive Bangalow Palms dominated low lying areas, with many other rainforest species along creek banks and protected slopes. Recent forestry historical relics were an added bonus. To finish off the day, we returned to North Durras to Leonie Kestel's garden, where an unbelievable number of plants have been crowded into the garden to reflect the busyness of the local bush.

Following the winter break, members journeyed to Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens. First on the agenda was a **showcase of winter flowers**, and members brought along a vast array of treasures for display. It was obvious that spring was not far away. In preparation for spring and summer, a tool maintenance workshop, led by **Norm Hulands**, offered members the opportunity to clean and sharpen their own tools, or take the option of letting Norm do the job. With secateurs now clean and ready to go, it was off to the propagation workshop, led by **Di Clark**, to learn more about growing one's own plants.

Just how big a range of **Grevilleas** can we grow? Our best attended meeting of the year, September, saw us at **Mark and Carolyn Noakes** large Moruya garden, where Mark first talked about identifying, or recognising certain characters, to help us remember just which species is which. Then we wandered slowly around his ever growing collection, marvelling at the diversity of form and flower. It was not the current crop of big flowered hybrids which stole the show, but some of the smaller flowered species, many of which are not often grown, or even known by members. Cuttings taken by those keen enough, should see more of these unusual species in more gardens.

The threat, or promise of rain after our long dry spell, did not deter members from travelling towards Budawang National Park to visit **Cliff and Marjorie's garden at Currowan**. The garden sits within a forest dominated by Sydney Blue Gum, with many naturally occurring rainforest plants. Wombats call the garden home, and despite solid fencing, have little trouble "going where they want to". And we complain about wallabies! Rich clay-based soil, and a range of microclimates, ensures that the garden can support plants both local and even from Western Australia. Leaving the garden behind, we moved to a little used forest trail into Budawang National Park. A short walk through woodland brought us to Cliff's special place, a well-protected creek supporting Figs, Palms, Ferns and Orchids. We appreciated the fact that Cliff had personally cleared the track of many fallen trees, regrowth after logging ceased in the area.

Our year ended with another meeting at Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens, where **Di Clark** introduced us to some useful online resources for plant identification. In particular, **Atlas of Life Budawang Coast**, which covers the area from Milton south, and covers all the areas included in the ERBG collecting region. Di explained the workings of the program, and urged members to join in this Citizen Science project. The afternoon session was presented by **John Knight**, with discussion on the history of Victoria's **Fred Rogers seminars**. These biennial events are hosted by various regions throughout the state, and attract huge audiences, as illustrated by the recent Goodeniaceae seminar at Horsham, attended by over 250 people.

So ended another year, one which I believe was successful, both in the content of meetings and member participation.

On a sad note, I record the loss of two of our founding members, firstly **Helen Rees**, and more recently that of our founding President **Robin Corringham**. Whilst neither has been involved in our activities recently, both are remembered for their love of, and knowledge of Australian plants freely given.

Your committee deserves congratulations for their endeavours on behalf of all members.
Without a strong committee, the Group would not be able to function successfully, and I commend all committee members for their unselfish and diligent efforts on behalf of the Group.
Vice President Geoff Gosling has taken on the additional roles of **Minute Secretary and Treasurer**. Both tasks have been efficiently and effectively undertaken without fuss. The role of Secretary was unfilled at the last AGM, and remained so through the year. Committee members split the administrative tasks to ensure we met our obligations to NSW Region. **Jenny John**'s valuable efforts as **membership secretary** continued as she kept tabs on members, a task which at times can be a challenge. Recent changes to the administration of membership at Regional level has caused Jenny much additional work. **Di Clark** has continued to promote our group in the media, and is looking at the issue of establishing a "Facebook" presence. We are indebted to the support of **Mark Noake** as our Information Technology manager and advisor. Mark is liaising with NSW Region as the website migrates to a common platform. Thank you to Mark for this work.

We are fortunate in having the resources of the Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden generously made available, in particular the use of meeting facilities. Our thanks go to Manager Michael Anlezark, and also Di Clark for assisting as needed to ensure our activities at the Garden proceed smoothly.

I thank all those members who have contributed to the group over the past year be it through sharing of information and ideas, bringing "show and tell" specimens, opening their homes and gardens to meetings or simply becoming involved in our activities. Such contributions all add to our shared enthusiasm for growing and promoting the benefits of Australian plants in our gardens.

The committee looks forward to an equally successful 2019.

John Knight, President,

APS South East NSW
31st December 2018

Australian Plant Society South East NSW Region

Treasurer's Report ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING February 2019,
Geoff Gosling

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2018

ITEM	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
Opening balance 1st January 2018			**2338.86**
Memberships		718.00	
Donations	300.00	162.00	
Gifts to speakers	198.00		
Life membership paid	58.00		
Newsletter expenses	81.16		
Interest		0.24	
Total	**637.16**	**880.24**	
Closing balance			**2581.94**
Petty cash on hand			**125.00**
TOTAL AT BANK AND IN CASH			**2706.94**

Membership Report for AGM Feb 2019

Our South East Group can now boast 90 members whose enthusiasm was demonstrated in high turnouts for our 2018 meetings.
This year we have welcomed
Stephen Shugg from Moruya who joined in July Susan Christie and David Richards from Malua Bay Stacey Cullam from Kiama Downs and Julie Holstegge from Milton who joined in August Andrew Hennell from Yass and Jill Sleeman from Sunshine Bay who joined in September.

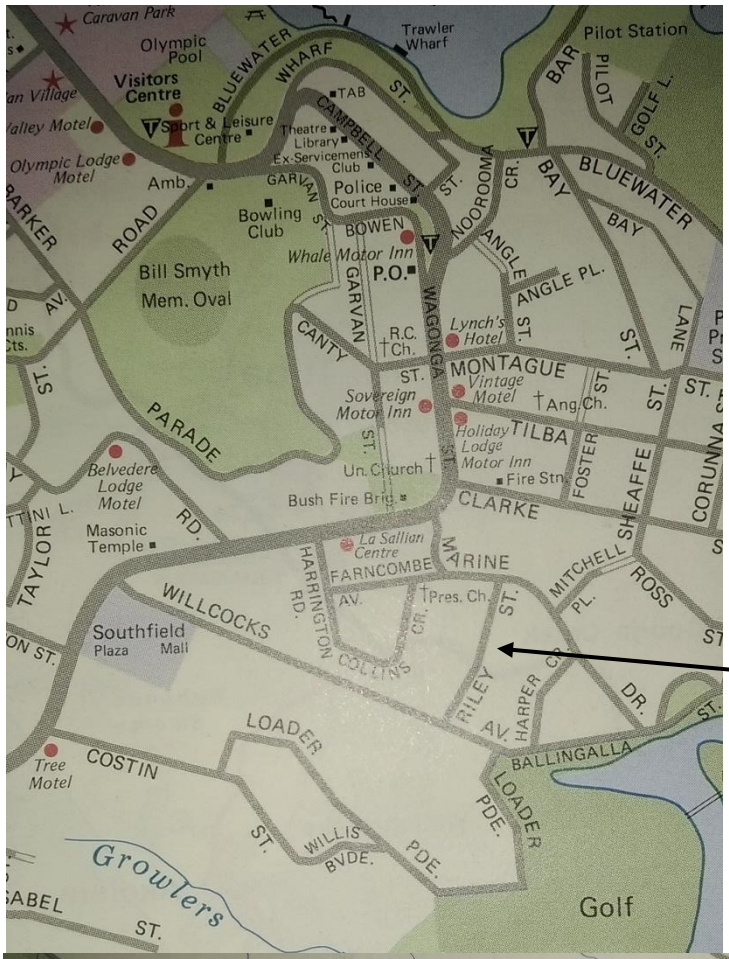
Can I say a few words about the management of membership by the new NSW website. Now, it is the website that holds members' names, contact details and renewal data and has been designed by a well- meaning developer to cover all possible requirements. There are several places to record your address or addresses and your phone numbers and various other bits of information which are downloaded each month into a multi- columned spreadsheet. I would maintain that it really is not necessary for the Australian Plant Society to hold all these details about you, so I would ask you to log on to the website, *austplants.com.au* ,go to Membership and Renew your membership, where you will be given the option to edit your profile. It only needs to include one postal address, one e-mail address and one phone number as well as your name and the type of membership and publications you require. You will be notified by e-mail when your renewal is due and receive the journals Australian Plants and Native Plants for New South Wales by snail mail. Our Group Newsletter uses the e-mail addresses from the website data to distribute the information about meetings and other topics.

If you do not want to use the website, or have not been receiving notification of renewals , the journals you requested or the Group Newsletter will you please contact me. I don't think I can edit the website for you but I can make a note of any errors and inform Regional Office who administer the site.

Jenny John Membership Officer
peteandjenny.john@gmail.com 0437 304 173

COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

President,	**Dianne Clark**	**Ph 0402 555 330**	**e.** dianneclark293@gmail.com
Vice-President	**Geoff Gosling**	**Ph 0438 286 382**	**e.** geoff.gosling@bigpond.com
Secretary,	**Paul Hattersley**	**Ph 00000000000**	**e.** paul.hattersley26@outlook.com
Minute Sec.,			
Treasurer,	**Geoff Gosling**	**Ph 0438 286 382**	**e.** geoff.gosling@bigpond.com
Membership	**Jenny John**	**Ph 0437 304 173**	**e.** peteandjenny.john@gmail.com
Publicity	**Dianne Clark**	**Ph 0402 555 330**	**e.** dianneclark293@gmail.com
Members	**Marjorie Apthorpe**	**Ph 02 4478 1142**	**e.** aptpal@clearmail.com.au
	John Knight	**Ph 0434 674 347**	**e.** johnonvista49@outlook.com
Website.			southeast.austplants.com.au



Jenny suggests the best approach to her street is off Willcocks Ave.

After we leave Jenny's, head back along Willcocks Ave to the highway, and turn right, heading north towards Dalmeny. Turn right off the highway at Dalmeny Drive, (just past the Ecotel Motel) and just follow Dalmeny Ave along its pleasant route until you reach Eucalyptus Dr. (2nd on the left after passing Duesburys Road)

Riley Street

Eucalyptus Drive