

Corymbia maculata Spotted Gum and Macrozamia communis Burrawang

Australian Plants Society South East NSW Group

Newsletter 163 August 2020

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We're Back! Next Meeting
Saturday 5th September 2020, 10a.m.
Garden visit to Lesley and Norm Hulands
9 Mountain View Road Moruya

An important message from President Di

This newsletter will be herald Spring. Hard to believe. It has been a crazy year and continues to be so. Who can say if and when life will ever get back to normal. The committee has decided that in order for this group to continue to meet, we need to adjust and work around the current Covid 19 regulations.

This means that we are able to meet as a group of 20 people, at an outside venue.

Lesley and Norm Hulands have kindly offered to open their eclectic garden and let us enjoy the first weekend of spring sunshine observing their efforts. In order not to breach the 20 people outside gathering guideline, we will need you to RSVP.

Another email will be forwarded soon, providing details of where to RSVP, to give everyone an opportunity to attend. The first 20 people to RSVP will be advised that they may visit, and should more apply to attend, these will be added to a supplementary list, and be advised if any vacancies arise.

The committee understands that this is very restrictive, but has no choice than other to adhere to the strict rules under which we now live, lest we be precluded from ever meeting again.

We will need you to only come if you are well and prepared to undertake social distancing.

Having all seen many interesting show and tell specimens from Norm and Lesley's garden, it will be wonderful to see where and how they grow locally.

We are also looking forward to sharing some time together again and hearing about your exploits and observations in the garden and beyond. Once again thank you to John for putting together the newsletter and to everyone who contributed. We have been receiving positive feedback for the newsletters and have even gained new members.

Best wishes,

Di Clark

Falling trees (drift by my window)

It is raining, again!

We didn't think we would be complaining about the rain ever again, but it doesn't take much to change our minds. In this case it is one weekend of very heavy rain and strong winds and now another weekend of rain and wind. The extent of damage is yet to be revealed.

In my neighbourhood many trees came down. The ones in my own garden were obvious candidates and this brings me to a discussion of why it was the native plants in my garden that lost their grip.

As explained in a previous article, I have a garden that is part exotic and part native. I have noticed that very few of the native plantings seem to have good root structure. They have often developed a lean and are unstable when pushed, even gently.

I can come up with reasons why this has happened, but why has it happened to just the natives?

I have a theory that the native plants on my recently purchased property have not developed good root systems for two reasons, possibly four.

Firstly the property has an irrigation system that consists of dripper lines placed under the mulch. I suspect that the plants may have, in the past, been over watered or rather not encouraged to seek out water deep in the soil.

Reason two is the mulch itself. In most parts the mulch consists of large amounts of leaves and decomposed organic matter. Rather lovely in itself, but again, not encouraging the roots to go down deep, in fact the opposite.

The third reason is related to overcrowding. Many of the plants are competing for space. As they grow they tend to lean away from each other. If the plant is on a slope or near a path gravity may win out. The paths also pose a problem as they are concrete and when it rains heavily the water runs off into the garden beds. A porous path surface would allow for some of the water to be absorbed.

As I write this I keep on thinking of other possible reasons. The plants in our area have been through a long, difficult drought. My trees that fell over had not been burnt in the fires, but they had lost a massive amount of foliage in the drought. After the fires we had

Di Clark



It's not just that the tree has fallen, it's the great deal of work required to clean up after



Whilst not a true indication of how much rain has fallen, Di's rain gauge barrow does give an idea of the overnight tally

some rain and the trees were putting on a lot of new growth. When the rains came this time the tops of the trees were very heavy with water, the wind was very strong and the roots were compromised due to the long period of drought. The consequence being, that they fell over.

This still doesn't answer the question of why the natives and not the exotics on my property. I am not sure if it was just a case of my trees being in the wrong place. One was an **acacia** that had reached maturity and was growing between two pathways, one was a **Banksia integrifolia**, also between two pathways and leaning badly. The third tree was a **Persoonia** leaning out over the driveway and competing with a **Callistemon** and the fourth was an **Elaeocarpus reticulatus** that had all the runoff from the driveway coming out of a pipe at its base. It was also growing in a raised bed on a slope.

If anyone has any theories about tree stability I would really love to hear them.

The lessons learnt from this episode are;

- give your plants enough space to grow,
- begin with good healthy plants that have a well structured root system,
- prepare your soil well, and do not be tempted to add a bag of potting mix to the soil because the clay is a bit too hard to manage. Whilst this might encourage early growth, plants, like most of us, are inherently

lazy and will not travel unless necessary, therefore will not penetrate to the subsoil if all their requirements are met at the surface.

- do not over water or over feed
- and choose a coarse mulch which allows rain to flow through to the surface, and suits the plant.

Trees may be staked, but it needs to be done in such a way as to encourage movement and strengthening of the trunk. I have added two website that explain staking.

https://www.gardeningwithangus.com.au/establishing-australian-native-shrubs-in-your-garden/

https://www.abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/staking-a-tree/9493998

Another one bites the dust John Knight

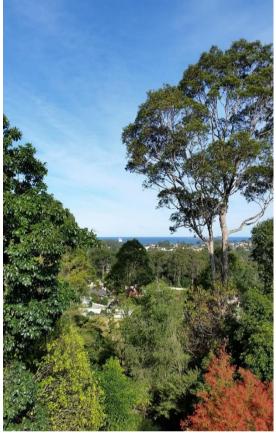
When Sue and I purchased our home in 2009, we were swayed by the magnificent 30m tall *Corymbia maculata* which dominated the bottom corner of the garden, and framed distant views to the coast. This tree was a favoured perch for many and varied birds, being the tallest around, so providing an ideal lookout. Sadly, it is no more. Recent storms caused it to topple, crash actually, creating quite some damage not just to adjacent plants and retaining walls, but also destroying the neighbour's yard, shedding and childrens play equipment. Thankfully all were inside sheltering from the high winds.

Whilst the tree apparently hadn't grown much over the past 10 years, once down, we were able to measure it, and found it had reached 36m, with a girth of 2540mm at 3m from the roots, and the first branch was at 18m from the base.

This plant had withstood all nature could throw at it during its lifetime, so we were disappointed that it finally succumbed. There are many instances in forest environments where Corymbia roots appear to flow like lava across stony ground, and one wonders just how they manage to hold up. In our case the soil consists of clay and broken shale, and it readily worked with a crowbar, and the tree appeared to have good purchase. I am thinking that two weeks of heavy rain contributed to its downfall.



Down and out



Photo, taken by Sue at Christmas 2018, demonstrates just how important the tree was to our landscape.

The challenge of clean-up was daunting. Our block falls away steeply, and has only 1m access to the rear. I had nightmares thinking of how to carry the debris to the front street. The contractor appointed to clear the tree was similarly concerned, and a week passed whilst alternatives were discussed, such as a helicopter to carry the tree away!

Finally he convinced the owner of the block below to allow access for an excavator to the site. We were thinking, maybe a 5 tonne machine that could pick up small pieces and load onto a vehicle. But no! A 28 tonne monster came crashing through the bush below. The operator was very experienced, being as careful as one could be when faced with a difficult task, but it was soon obvious that quite some damage had to be done to clear the tree.

The trunk was cut into four 6m lengths, the branches

gathered and dragged together into a pile, and the whole lot then walked back through the lower block to a truck waiting at a road. The stump, which was estimated to weigh 5 tonne, was too heavy to be carried, so was dragged

by chain to the truck. All this took 4 workers and the machine just over a day to complete.

Many garden plants were unfortunately destroyed in the process, but a treasured Tamarind, *Diploglottis australis* was tagged for identification, and managed to survive. How long it will continue is problematic, as it needs shade to thrive. However I have found a number of our local rainforest plants are quite adaptable in cultivation, so here's hoping.

A large 10m *Syzygium paniculata* was crushed beneath the falling tree, and had to be totally removed, leaving a big open space. As can be seen in the lower photo, the ground is totally bare of plants, presenting an opportunity to totally redevelop. I am not so sure that the old body is up to it, and it will be



slow progress, but I will use this an excuse to ponder. Certainly there will be no more large trees added to the garden. Our neighbour has a couple of self-sown Corymbia already charging away, and with ours gone it won't be long before these create a borrowed landscape backdrop for us.



The back garden looks like a bomb site, and the lone Tamarind looks decidedly vulnerable

Both these plants have survived the drought without additional watering, and as Di suggested, the recent heavy rains, accompanied by such strong winds proved their downfall.

I know that many others have suffered more than us during this "annus horribilis", and we all feel their pain. Hopefully recent storms were the third of 'bad things come in threes' and we can all look forward to the coming spring with enthusiasm.

In My Garden Ponds and Drought Denise Krake

With the last three years of drought and intermittent rains in sunny Brogo, we've finally had 3 decent rain events. Brogo has only had half of the rainfall that our Northern neighbours have experienced but it has certainly moistened the soil at last. We have been gardening here for 12 years now and a steep learning curve from gardening in Melbourne. Here we seem to have extended dry winters, with varying rainfall, relying on good East Coast lows.

Other minor disasters included a favourite 5m high and very bushy *Grevillea arenaria* which was grown from cuttings collected at Shallow Crossing about 10 years ago, and was thriving. Maybe a little too well, as it was laid low during the storms. It was too heavy for me to stand up, so it lost the top 2m to the chainsaw, and then pulled up and is now secured to the house with rather substantial ropes.

Hope it doesn't pull the bricks out! I noticed a seedling has germinated below it, so this might end up as the survivor if the shrub doesn't recover.

Grevillea barklyana is another that grows tall, and was buffeted severely, although the surrounding plants prevented it from blowing down. A 1650mm star post now holds it securely, although its roots suffered, and were exposed.



A very natural effect has been achieved in Graeme's created ponds

Graeme has done all the landscaping, and had built two ponds, one close to the house and a larger one down the bottom of the garden. The holes were dug and lined with newspaper and carpet, followed by a quality pond liner, covered in sand then rocks laid on top. The ponds have a gentle sloping edge. Having collected granite rocks from the property, Graeme placed them gently over the surface of the sand coming up the sides to the soil of the garden.

The bottom pond is now protected from three *Eucalptus spectatrix* (Mallee type found on Dr.George mountain) which has profuse white flowers twice a year. I remove excess leaves and twigs once a year but the top pond is still more exposed to wind and sun. The top pond does

have three *Leptospermum brachyandrum* silver to the west of it. I had cloud pruned these but are now letting them go to give the shade protection.

Both ponds are designed to dry out so I'm not tempted to use our tank water to top them up. They have both been dry for 12 months with only intermittent showers having fallen. Our first decent rain was in February after the fires. The ponds quickly dried out again. Now we have had 3 main rain events the ponds have filled and gone down again after each event.

Now the interesting point is when we first built the ponds we thought we had a leak but soon realised the water had been wicking up the sides due to the sand reaching to the soil. These ponds go up and down with rain and evaporation normally. This year we seem to be experiencing the same problem from being so dry for so long that even with full ponds from 3 rain events they soon went down to half level.

They seemed to be stabilising, although the bottom pond has gone down again. Another downpour would be nice. The plants are coming back and with warm weather coming they will have recovered nicely. If the bottom pond doesn't hold to half full, either way the frogs and birds will be happy and at least it will still have water and plants in it and fill rapidly from the overflow of our 20,000 gal tank which was plumbed directly to it. The top pond receives run off with rain.

The water plants that are coming back are *Triglochin procera*, Nardoo, *Marsilea mutica* and *M. drummondii*, *Crassula helmsii*, *Philydrum lanuginosum*, *Potomogeton sp.*, *Myriophyllum sp.*, *Ranunculus inundatus*, and *Villarsia reniformis*. Having lost *Schoenoplectus validus* and *Baloskion tetraphyllum* (syn. *Restio tetraphyllus*), I realise I should have watered them during the dry.

As a prelude to our next story, Denise has quite a collection of *Actinotis helianthi* seedlings coming up in the gravel by the house







Out and about Jackie Miles

APS members may remember a year or two back hearing on the radio of mass flowering of Flannel Flowers (*Actinotus helianthi*) in NSW north coast heathland reserves after a wildfire. It is likely that Shoalhaven residents will be able to find this phenomenon locally this coming spring and summer after the 2020 fires, but those of us living further south will miss out.

The distribution of the Flannel Flower extends from south-east Queensland to southern NSW, on the coast, tablelands and to a lesser extent slopes. However, its south coast distribution ends at around Ulladulla except for an outlying occurrence at Tura Beach.

The Tura beach area missed out on the 2020 fires. The geology in this area is unusual, consisting of infertile sandy soils derived from Tertiary sediments, and the vegetation tends to be heathy forest with hints of the Sydney sandstone flora about it. Perhaps it is this soil type that explains the presence of Flannel Flower so far from the remainder of its distribution, but if so, it is odd that it does not also occur in Nadgee Nature Reserve south of Eden. This area also has poor sandy soils, although derived from Devonian sandstones, not Tertiary sediments, and it also carries heathy vegetation with some similarities to the Sydney sandstone flora.

I checked the far south coast records of Flannel Flower on Australia's Virtual Herbarium and the four more or less contemporary ones (1984 to 1998) come from either the northern or southern end of Tura Beach, with the 1984 record mentioning that it is regenerating after fire. There is one tantalising undated but obviously old record apparently labelled "at the summit of Mt Imlay" and "East Gippsland near Mt Imlay". Mt Imlay is actually 25 km north of the Victorian border, so it is not clear where this record really comes from, but Mt Imlay is another plausible location for this species, based on its geology and the nature of the vegetation. However, the summit of Mt Imlay gets quite a lot of botanical exploration due to having several rare plants on it, and the Flannel Flower has not been recorded there since.

At Tura Beach one of the strongholds of the Flannel Flower is along the firebreaks between the numerous patches of retained forest and tracts of suburbia. The firebreaks are about 20 metres wide and are kept slashed, suppressing trees and shrubs and giving the smaller plants somewhere to proliferate.

Unfortunately in the last couple of very dry years, well-founded paranoia about fire has resulted in the firebreaks being more scalped than slashed, with loss of habitat for the Flannel Flowers. However, the odd plant still can be found lurking along the edges of the forest.

There was a planned burn in Bournda National Park north of Tura Beach in 2017 or perhaps autumn of 2018 and I visited the area in search of Flannel Flowers in spring of 2018. I was probably a bit early and only found a few patches of young plants, with just a few in flower. By that stage drought was starting to clamp down, so the plants didn't get much of a chance to respond to that fire.

There is a record of post-fire Flannel Flower action on Budawang Coast Nature Map, from prior to the 2020 fires: https://budawangcoast.naturemapr.org/Sightings/3851762



A small Flannel Flower plant at North Tura in October 2018 after a fire the previous autumn.



A much lankier specimen in unburnt forest on the edge of a cleared firebreak.

It is notable in that sighting that the plants are also concentrated along the edges of the walking track through burnt heath, where they get some extra freedom from competition with other plants. This species definitely seems to fall into the post-disturbance coloniser group.

In this it is joined by its smaller relative, *Actinotus gibbonsii*. Not many people would have seen this little cutie, as it is inconspicuous and tends to live in rather remote locations, according to the Flora of NSW mostly on the tablelands and slopes.

However, I am aware of one coastal occurrence on the Numbugga Walls not far from my home at Brogo (https://atlasoflife.naturemapr.org/Sightings/4240483).

Its habitat is said to be "eucalypt woodland and shrubby heath in sandy soils" but where I have seen it is in *Allocasuarina nana* montane heath and rock scrubs on skeletal soils, where it appears almost exclusively after fire.



Actinotus gibbonsii is a ground-hugging plant usually less than 20cm across, and much less conspicuous than its larger relative. However, it can become a significant proportion of the groundcover after fire in montane heath, disappearing again after a few years as larger plants reclaim the area.



Its flowers are quite attractive, but need a hand lens to be fully appreciated.

In My Garden Welcome, or unwelcome visitors

John Knight

The recent drought conditions were maybe beneficial for some rainforest plants. Summer flowering of both *Stenocarpus sinuatus*, Firewheel Tree, and *Brachychiton acerifolius*, Illawarra Flame Tree was spectacular, and each set copious seed.

Sulphur crested Cockatoos feasted on the Brachychiton seed for weeks, and for sweets decided our bountiful mandarins were ideal. The shame is they just take a whole fruit, find the few seeds then discard the perfectly formed flesh. Our efforts at discouraging them failed miserably.

More recently, Pied Currawongs with their lovely ringing calls, are happily devouring what Brachychiton seed remains, and for sweets are swallowing, whole, the fruits of *Syzygium australe* before attacking the mandarins for afters.

Now Brush-tailed possums have arrived with a taste for the sweet fruit, and argue noisily outside our bedroom window late into the night.

It's called sharing, and we still did manage to get our fair allocation.

Pandemonium: up to 20 Cockies arrived regularly to select the fleshiest Brachychiton seed



An unwelcome visitor, which took up a determined residence, was a very vigorous Dutchman's Pipe, *Aristolochia elegans*. This South American climbing plant must have arrived by seed, and quietly secreted itself away, sneaking to the sunshine atop our group of *Callistemon* Kings Park Special. It was only noticed because the Callistemons lost a lot of foliage in the dry, so the spectacular tubular flowers, up to 10cm across became visible.

The foliage is somewhat similar to the native climbers **Pearl Vine**, *Sarcopetalum harveyanum*, and **Snake Vine**, *Stephania japonica*, both which inhabit our back garden, having arrived via bird deposits. These are quite vigorous plants which climb quickly through trees to the canopy. As garden plants both are probably a bit too big, but in the bush

are lovely to observe. They each sucker prolifically from damaged roots.



Back to the **Aristolochia**, it was removed and the roots dug out. Although not notifiable, it is a **recognised environmental weed**, with its vigorous nature and prolific seeding has potential to severely impact the quality of our bushland flora.

Spring is definitely in the air, despite our recent cold spell. Wattles are all telling us it is time to get out and about. In our garden, the first is always *Acacia terminalis*, but as it flowers through autumn and winter, doesn't count as a harbinger of the coming season. *Acacia cognata* and *Acacia floribunda* are definite candidates, but if I had to choose, maybe *Acacia brownii* would get the gold star. This lovely little shrub, under a metre high, just covers its prickly foliage with the most intense yellow balls, ands proves a magnet for the many native bees busy in the garden at the moment. Tough and easy to grow provided it has good drainage, *A. brownii* would have to be one of the most under appreciated of our local plants. The similar, but more erect



Acacia ulicifolia, is also flowering now, and be recognised by its pale cream, almost white flowers.

Plants throughout the garden are having an absolutely wonderful time, flowering with gay abandon after the rains of the last couple of months. What a great time for others to get writing, and photographing your own treasures, and sharing the joy. There is a page for each of you in subsequent newsletters. Don't be bashful

More Out and About, Lesley Vincent

On our morning walks in the Mogo State Forest I am always on the lookout for fire survivors. Recently I noticed the seedlings of *Prosthanthera incana* Velvet Mintbush, emerging from the new undergrowth in an area of burnt forest near our house. This area had several Prosthanthera bushes before the fire. It is now over 6 months since the fire, so I was very pleased to see these plants returning.



Another seedling I spotted coming back from the fire which may not be so surprising is that of the *Acacia paradoxa*, seen here germinating on apparently hostile rocky ground. This tough shrub deserves to be grown more than it is, but its prickly demeanour sees it shunned by gardeners. Pity.



Prostanthera incana seedling

In My Garden

Carolyn Noake

A FAIRY TALE or A NIGHTMARE????? What are you doing in lockdown ?????

Getting "HELP" in the garden:

Once upon a time when our lives were filled with worry about friends and family, drought, fires, big winds, drought breaking rain, plant deaths from all of the previous and covid 19, I can honestly say our garden seemed well cared for and maintained as best we could given the varying conditions.

We weeded, mowed, propagated and planted to our hearts content. Whilst life was fraught and we were wondering what was coming next, it didn't take long for us to realise...........

We received visitors for a 3 day stay to help us out and settle us all back into a 'normal' routine. Great work little sister.

Then a two week visit, (which has stretched to two months ago now due to the family being unable to return to Victoria) in an endeavour to assist with the mental health issues of the fires on our immediate family at New Year,

is turning into a very big adventure with definitely NO GARDENING involved. Re-learning the art of teaching (and a four year old no less), trying to stay awake and alert, becoming a domestic goddess and playing grandparent, along with staying cool, calm and collected at my time of life is no mean feat. I include Mark in this effort though NOT the domestic goddess bit!!!

I've found 15 minutes to throw this article together. Mark is resting and the little family is riding bikes at the beach.

In a much earlier newsletter I wrote a report about scaevola etc. John had suggested cuttings should be done annually so I did as I was told. That's a first eh John:)

The cuttings looked great having been nurtured by the on/off system of Mark's propagating tunnel and the roots on these plants were rather magnificent.



Proud of my propagating efforts





Successfully getting roots on cuttings is always a thrill.

Plants of the Goodeniaceae family fill this container.

The plant with large light blue flowers is *Scaevola porocarya*, which will grow to about 60cm high and can spread to a metre or more. Flowers throughout Spring and Summer, attracting any number of native bees and butterflies.

Members interested in this plant can contact John, who has plenty of tubes ready to be planted

My grandson is always up for activity so digging, planting and watering was the order of the day apparently. **Oops, rough handlings and pruning as well!!!!!!**







With the rough handling and the extra watering of the would-be-gardener along with the flooding rains all of the plants are thriving.... So far that is......

Now No GARDENING. The garden is caring for itself and the weeds make for wonderful ground covers and potential textile dye materials.

I think life is a nightmare and will be for some time to come **BUT** the fairy tale joy of spending precious time with our loved ones far outweighs the nightmare.

In My Garden

Marjorie Apthorpe

New Currowan Grevillea hybrid is handsome... but of unknown parentage.

A *Grevillea* seedling appeared last winter on a rocky bank next to our pool. Due to other distractions (fires, burnt garden, floods, weeds, winds) it was dismissed as probably a seedling of *G. rhyolitica* 'Deua Flame' and ignored. It grew rapidly on the rock and clay bank and is now 1m high, and has a mass of flowers. These are a bright, uniform red, borne at the tips of the branches, and resemble *G. rhyolitica* but are a more uniform red. The leaves of the new form are medium-dark green, slightly shiny, and contrast well with the brilliant red flowers. Looking closely at the bush, we realised "No, this is not just another *rhyolitica*" (of which we have four bushes

and a number of self-sown seedlings).

We will watch with great interest to see if it produces the year-round flowering of *G. rhyolitica*.

I have been puzzling over the parentage of this new and handsome *Grevillea*, based on the adjacent *Grevilleas* in our garden.

The new form, *Grevillea* 'Currowan', has terminal bright red flowers, and medium-dark green oval leaves, slightly glossy and reflecting light from the upper surface, 30–40 mm long and 10–12 mm wide at their widest point, ending in a small blunt point or spine, less than 1 mm in length.



Comparison of the new Grevillea, against others growing in the vicinity.

From the left, Grevillea victoriae, the 'new' Gevillea, Grevillea 'Lady O' from Peter Ollerenshaw, and Grevillea rhyolitica 'Deua Flame'





One parent appears to be *G. rhyolitica*, which has similar but slightly lighter-coloured flowers on opening, that mature to a bright red. It also has broader leaves, 30–40 mm long and 15 mm wide with a medium green colour, and a dull matt appearance on the upper surface of the leaves. The terminal point on the leaves is prominent and 1.5 to 2mm in length.

Grevillea 'Lady O' is another possible parent, also with red flowers, but the leaves are much lighter green and narrower (8 mm x 30 mm) than our new form.

Grevillea victoriae has darker blue-green leaves, 25–35 mm long, 8 to 11 mm wide, that are narrower than our new form. The terminal point of the leaf is short, 1 mm or less. The flowers of our *G. victoriae* are pale orange, and often set back along the branches rather than being terminal in position. The strongest similarity to the new form is the dark green leaf colour and the shiny upper surface of the leaf that reflects sunlight.

My guess is that the new form is a hybrid between *G. victoriae* (some leaf characters) and *G. rhyolitica* 'Deua Flame' (similar flower colour).... but that's just a guess.

More Out and About, part 2

Chrysocephalum semipapposum

I was interested to hear member's observations of plants recovering from the bushfires.

I took these photos last week (mid August) along the side of the Cooma Road just north of Numeralla.

This area was completely burnt out in January, as can be seen from the blackened trunks along the top of the photo. For a stretch of about 5km the road sides and some surrounding meadows were entirely covered in Clustered Everlasting (*Chrysocephalum semipapposum*).

In July these everlastings were in full flower and looking beautiful. In these photos they have all but finished flowering but are still stunning.

Anne Kearney



These plants were growing almost as a monoculture to the exclusion of any other groundcovers.

Although quite common, I have read that clustered everlastings almost never grow en mass and so thought this display to be quite special.

In any event I drive the Cooma Road quite often and have never seen this before. Somehow the fires must have created the perfect conditions for them. My guess is that the extreme drought followed by the fires completely removed all plant competition . Some rain in February then stimulated them to grow, although I'm not sure if this is the growth of existing plants regenerating, or new plants from seeds germinating, or both. It was also interesting to see them flowering over winter as they normally flower in spring and summer into early autumn. I have noticed the same with my Yellow Buttons (Chrysocephalum apiculatum) in my garden at Braidwood and presumably this relates to the timing of the rain we received in February.



Nothing but Chrysocephalum semipapposum as far as one can see

Committee News

With the good news that we will now be able to meet again, albeit in small numbers, we are looking to the future, and will soon be planning for coming gatherings.

Your committee would welcome any suggestions about future activities. If you have any ideas on what excursions the group could undertake, or ideas about meeting topics, please contact any, the details of which are listed below.

Also, we would love more member contributions to the newsletter. Let's hear your stories. Everyone could, or should, contribute an article. No matter how small, or detailed, your garden, or special plant are of interest to us all. This is what being member is about, sharing knowledge and experience.

Also if you come across an item of interest, why not let others know.

To help the editor, it is best to provide your article as an email attachment in word, not PDF format, and pictures as separate jpg.

Look out soon for details of how to RSVP for the September event, coming to your email soon

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