



ROTARY MARKETS PLANT SALE

This was held a few weeks back and was our first plant sale in just over 12 months. It also turned out to be our most lucrative sale with the profit making its way into four figures. From the moment we had the 'tent' in place we were besieged by buyers who seemed to know what they wanted. In the Riversdale sale last year, a number of buyers had been attracted by the display of the large 'billy buttons' - *Pycnosorus globosus*. While we had a few of those at the recent sale, they did not attract much attention. It is likely of course that the success of the sale is at least partly related to the current situation in society; there is some belief that people want to get out and do things once again.

The sale of course also points to the excellent species selection by the propagators.

VIEWPOINT ROAD WALK

This took place on November 21 and just a few days after it had become known to us that the area had been affected by the bush fires in the Bundanoon district last summer. This and other factors resulted in a small group doing the trip. The photo below shows what we saw at



Little understory is evident at the start of the walk. There are eucalypts with darkened trunks with crowns still intact. Lots of regeneration was evident in the green layer at ground level.

the start of the walk.

As we went on, tree damage became more evident with lots of epicormic growth to be seen. Much regeneration was also evident in the shrub layer. Very prominent among this was the 'Mountain Devil', *Lambertia formosa*. Splashes of pink were evident among the re-growth - the colour coming mainly from *Scaevola ramosissima*. Colour was also provided by the annual *Lobelia*

dentata; occasional specimens of *Dampiera stricta* also provided blue colour.

The tall sedge, *Lepidosperma neesii* was widespread and very healthy looking. We saw one burnt specimen of *Melaleuca hypericifolia* which can display red 'bottlebrush' flowers; no flowers on this specimen - just some leaves and some seed pods to identify it.

The new growth did not make some plant identifications easier. We are generally used to identifying species when they are mature specimens. With re-growth, floral parts are often missing thus leaving a vital clue out of the picture.

As we went on, tea tree became more evident. Many of these had been affected by the fire but many were re-shooting well and some had flowered where the new growth was. Towards the end of the track, the eucalypt-dominated forest gave way to more of a healthy scenario with rocky sandstone platforms beginning to be seen.

The vegetation changed here too, although it was much more open than on the group's earlier visits to the spot perhaps eight or nine years ago; this suggests that the drier years of recent times may also have been an agent of vegetation change.

Here Peter found a plant whose odour reminded him of some plant



Two members enjoy the view at the end of the track. They are looking over the broad valley of Bundanoon Creek

he knew from his past; however, when Ashlea looked it up he was given the name *Marsdenia suaveolens*. Incidentally, there are two entries in the list (at end of this newsletter) with 'suaveolens' as a species name. The term means sweet-smelling.

A bottlebrush-type plant there is *Melaleuca capitata*, a resident of sandstone ridges/outcrops etc, was in flower. We had seen this on the Belanglo and Box Vale trips but not in flower then. Other species of note in this area were *Boronia anethifolia* and *Banksia serrata*. It was an enjoyable outing; hopefully the years ahead will allow complete recovery for the vegetation. On the way home, I noticed another road leading to the east not far from where we were; on checking later on a map, the road leads to a crown reserve; outing for another day?

Mulch Mini-Working Bee - Saturday 12 December 8-10am

The fabulous season which has heralded strong growth and fantastic floral displays is also encouraging weeds to flourish in our Wetland Gardens. To minimise weed growth, and to retain soil moisture, the plan is to top up the mulch levels early in the morning, before it becomes too warm.

Anyone who can spare 2 hours to assist will be very much appreciated. There are usually a range of tasks, including shovelling mulch, wheelbarrowing and spreading. Meet at the main car park at 8am.

Please bring along your own equipment—mulch forks or rakes, gloves, sun screen, hat and water. And be sure to wear sturdy shoes/boots.

The gardens are looking fabulous at the moment, with many things in flower—including *Anigozanthus flavidus* (Kangaroo Paw) and even some of the things we planted in October! There have also been Blue-billed Ducks and Black-winged Stilts at the Wetlands, so why not bring morning tea for afterwards, and savour the natural serenity, before returning to your pre-Christmas whirl?

Email Pauline if you are able to attend: pauline.husen@gmail.com



Pauline has also supplied a picture of the bird hide garden for those who have not seen it.

NEXT GARDEN, PLEASE!

In last month's newsletter we read about Peter's garden and the competition between two adjacent plants. This month we read a bit of the history of Kaye's garden.

'Hello everyone,

I am Kaye Norman, and have put my hand up to tell my gardening story.

I have been a gardener for at least 40 years, growing predominately "exotics" and deciduous trees in large country gardens, propagating lots of these plants and trees from seed and vegetative matter. In fact when we moved here I had over 100 plants in pots which had to be kept alive until they either died or were eventually planted out.

I hardly knew anything about native plants until moving to these 40

acres in the locality of Baw Baw, five years ago.

My interest was sparked in the springs of 2015 and 2016 as I walked around this new place of ours when I found so many flowering plants I knew nothing about. This encouraged me to purchase some books on what grew in our area and I endeavoured to put names to things.

So began my interest in Australian native plants that would grow in this difficult climate.

The terrestrial orchids in those first couple of years caught my fancy, and my camera thank goodness because the subsequent years produced none or hardly any orchids. I just had my memories and photos to remind me that they weren't a figment of my imagination.

Since joining this APS group I have learnt a lot, and forgotten a lot of what I've learnt, but that's OK.'

Thanks for that story, Kaye, of one who had to start from scratch and progressed to the Lilac Time prize as detailed in the previous newsletter.



Above are two photos of flowering plants in Kaye's garden. Top photo shows Peach Heath - *Lissanthe strigosa* - an early-Spring flowering plant with prickly foliage. Bottom photo is the Fringe Lily or *Thysanotus tuberosus*. This is an early-summer flowering species but is dependent on conditions; conditions this year with plentiful moisture have been ideal. The common name is related to the fine hairs that grow along the fringes of the purple petals.

PLANT DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Peter has asked me to bring to your attention a new section on the NSW APS website. This was also referred to in the latest APS e-newsletter which would have landed in your email box a few days ago. Peter writes: 'Noticed a new segment on the State APS

website. There is a list of native plants that covers the state. Accessing the link below, there is a heading - REGIONS STUDIED - click on Native Plant Distribution - Southern Tablelands North and South.'

The link: <https://resources.austplants.com.au/information/conserving-native-plants-and-habitats/>.

One of the uses of this system will be to locate where particular species of plants are to be found. For example - where could I see *Callistemon sieberi*? There are other web sites that can be used to find the same information but this one is set up for APS members. Bob and I played a role in the preparation of the Southern Tablelands North section. More information about this scheme will be forthcoming.

AGM:

We have arrived at the end of a very unusual year and thoughts will soon turn to next year. Kaye has informed all of the AGM details; just summarising: Sat Dec 5 at 295 Mulwaree Drive Tallong at 10.30 am; bring own lunch.

PLANT SPECIES LIST - VIEWPOINT ROAD

Acacia mearnsii
Acacia obtusifolia
Acacia suaveolens
Acacia terminalis
Actinotus helianthi
Actinotus minor
Allocasuarina littoralis
Banksia serrata
Banksia spinulosa
*Blechnum nudum*¹
Boronia anethifolia
Bossiaea sp.
*Caleana major*²
Caustis flexuosa
Chloanthes stoechadis
Dampiera stricta
Dianella caerulea
Dillwynia ramosissima
Dillwynia retrata
Epacris pulchella
Eucalyptus agglomerata
Eucalyptus globoidea
Eucalyptus piperita
*Gleichenia microphylla*¹
Goodenia bellidifolia ssp. *bellidifolia*
Goodenia glomerata
Goodenia heterophylla
Goodenia ovata
Haemodorum corymbosum
Hakea dactyloides

Hakea laevipes
Helichrysum leucopsidium
Hybanthus monopetalus
Hypericum gramineum
Isopogon anethifolius
Kunzea ambigua
Lambertia formosa
Laxmannia gracilis
Lepidosperma neesii
Leptospermum trinervium
*Lindsaea linearis*¹
*Lindsaea microphylla*¹
Lobelia dentata
Lomandra longifolia
Lomandra obliqua
Lomandra sp.
Lomatia ilicifolia
Lomatia silaifolia
Marsdenia suaveolens
Melaleuca capitata
Microtis sp.²
Mitrasacme polymorpha
Patersonia sp.
Persoonia mollis ssp.?
Petrophile pedunculata
Pimelea linifolia ssp. *collina*
Platysace lanceolata
Pomaderris sp.
Poranthera microphylla
*Pteridium esculentum*¹
Pultenaea hispidula
Pultenaea linophylla
Scaevola ramosissima
Schoenus apogon
Thelymitra sp.²
Thysanotus juncifolius
Thysanotus tuberosus
Xanthorrhoea sp.

1 = fern

2 = orchid