

Save our Flora

AN ONLINE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL PROJECT

Contact: saveourflora@gmail.com Ring Maria 02 6775 1139

Project launched on 14th November 2013

Maria Hitchcock Administrator
Bulletin Editor

Membership Individuals: 172
Groups: 21
International 3

Membership is free.

Please encourage others to join.

Bulletins are sent by email only.

Feel free to pass them on.

New members will receive the latest e-Bulletin only. Earlier Bulletins can be accessed online. (See box)

This is an informal interactive sharing group. We welcome your emails, articles and offers of seed and cuttings at any time.

Your privacy is respected and assured with this group. You may unsubscribe at any time.

**Does anyone have
this species
growing in their
garden?**



**You can now access
all our previous E-
Bulletins online**

**Go to
<http://coolnatives.com.au/>**

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Unsure if you have any rare or endangered plants? Check them out on the EPBC list

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=flora>

Save our Flora

Maria writes:

It's been a while since I put out the last eBulletin. We have had some major changes in our local government area. The first part of the year was spent unsuccessfully fighting off an amalgamation of neighbouring Councils. Then in May we were informed that our council was sacked (not sorry about that) and we had an Administrator appointed for 16 months. Fortunately our Administrator seems to be doing all the right things so far. He has an unenviable job trying to blend my town of Armidale with its urban population and the large rural council area of Guyra.

The last urban/rural amalgamation was a disaster for our rural residents with neglected roads and bridges and high rates while money was poured into beautifying the town centre. This time round it might be better as the Administrator is very aware of trying to meet the needs of rural ratepayers. This scenario is happening all over the state of NSW at the present time. It happened in other States at different times with mixed results. Gradually we are becoming more concentrated into regional communities with large urban cores.

Metropolitan and coastal areas are growing rapidly with increasing pressure on the natural environment. We are probably fighting a losing battle trying to save important habitats and now the NSW government is on the cusp of changing biodiversity laws in favour of farmers and developers. In the meantime we chip away at the edges doing what we can in our own way. I think it is important for small environmental groups to join forces with other groups into alliances that are so strong government starts to listen.

Autumn was dry and very warm - breaking many climate records. This was then followed by what is shaping up to be a fairly wet and cold winter. In the north we rely on summer rainfall to fill dams and tanks and ensure good plant growth. This year we are experiencing a southern climate with summer dry and winter rain. The dams are starting to fill and I am hoping for a wet spring which would be a great change after three dry springs in a row. It's very hard to know when to plant out as the frosts can be quite severe in this area.

I welcome your contributions. It's wonderful to read about all the fabulous projects out there. If you have an event coming up let me know and I'll add it to the next bulletin.

Maria Hitchcock

Critically endangered

Lasiopetalum sp. Proston Qld
Lepidorrhachis mooreana Lord Howe Is.
Leucopogon spectabilis WA
Lysiosepalum abollatum WA
Melicytus latifolius Norfolk Is
Meryta latifolia Norfolk Is
Myoporum obscurum Norfolk Is
Nematoceras dienemum Macquarie Is
Notolaea ipsvicionsis NSW, Qld
Oberonia attenuata Qld
Paragoodia crenulata WA
Persoonia pauciflora NSW
Philothea falcata WA
Phlegmariurus squarrosus Qld
Phreatia limenophylax (Plexaure) Norfolk Is
Pimelea spinescens ssp *pubiflora* Vic
Pimelea spinescens ssp *spinescens* Vic
Pneumatopteris truncata Christmas Is.
Pomaderris reperta NSW
Pomaderris vacciniifolia Vic

One of our members has asked

Is anyone selling a rural property (land or land/house)

suitable for a native garden
plus natural veg.
in a good rainfall area.

Looking at escaping the city noise
and sticky beaks
and gaining some peace and quiet.

Flexible with area and location.
Anywhere along east coast, ranges and
down south in to Victoria.

Contact

saveourflora@gmail.com

with details of the property

Save our Flora

From the members:

Ruth Crosson writes:



Cooktown Orchid has a name change

A public poll in November 1959 assisted in the decision to name the Cooktown Orchid the official floral emblem of Queensland. At that time it was known by the botanical name *Dendrobium biggibum*. More recently however the name was corrected to *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* to reflect the Cooktown origin, but it didn't end there. It is now known by the botanical name *Vappodes phalaenopsis* where it is likely to remain at least for now.

Through all this the Cooktown Orchid remains a beautiful but variable epiphytic (growing on trees) orchid. It has travelled the world on letters being printed on stamps, has appeared in artwork and represented business companies and clubs as a floral emblem. It's unique, being the only epiphyte among the Australian state and territory emblems. In 2002 it featured on a specially struck collector's coin with a face value of \$150-00.

Pity that the orchid is now not commonly found around Cooktown in the wild, due to collecting. It has been declared a vulnerable species.

Cultivating the Cooktown Orchid

www.anbg.gov.au/emblems

Plants grow up to 80cm in height, many of the cultivated specimens having much larger flowers than the original species. The petals come in varying shades of purple through to almost white, the base of the labellum being a much darker shade of purple. The flowers are carried on canes 10-40cm long, usually in the dry season in the wild, but sometimes year-round in cultivation.

Commercial growers use seeds sown in agar for the propagation of these orchids but for the home gardener this could be a little bit difficult. Division of pseudo-bulbs in spring or summer is usually the best method of propagating for home gardeners. However, this reduces the plant's flowering for the following season.

The Cooktown Orchid can be grown in an open-textured bark mix in a pot or, being epiphytic, simply attached to the sunny eastern or northern side of a rough-barked tree in a warm humid atmosphere. Avoid its roots drying out by protecting them with a piece of hessian until the plant is established. It doesn't need much in the way of fertiliser, as it will feed off its host. Water it well in summer when growth is active.

It will grow outdoors from Brisbane northwards or in a glasshouse if grown south of Brisbane. As an indoor plant, its flower spikes can last up to three months in a warm, well-lit room, while as cut flowers its blooms will last up to two weeks in water.

Davidson's Plum (*Davidsonia pruriens*)

The Davidson's Plum (sour plum) can be found in tropical rainforests in north Queensland. This beautiful palm shaped tree has graceful fronds with fine hairy stems and on the underside of leaves. It produces clusters of large dark blue to black plums 4-5cm in diameter. The dark red flesh contains two unusual flat seeds and has a wonderfully acidic plum flavour. The skin is thin but on the tougher, leathery side, and is covered with very fine hairs. But familial resemblance to their English cousin is skin deep – it would take someone with great fortitude to pluck a Davidson plum from the fruit bowl to eat. Even when fully ripe, they're highly acidic.

They have 100 times the vitamin C found in oranges and also contain lutein, a compound that plays an important role in eye health, along with magnesium, zinc, calcium potassium and manganese.

There are four varieties of Davidson plum or "orray", which grows from the far tropical north of Australia to northern New South Wales. Two – *Davidsonia pruriens* and *Davidsonia jerseyana* (Endangered form from northern NSW) – are commercially cultivated.

Davidson's Plum is usually a small to medium sized tree which can reach 10 metres under ideal conditions. It has distinctive, hairy, foliage which is usually bright pink when new. The leaves are divided into leaflets (pinnate) and may be up to 800 mm long. The reddish-brown flowers occur in pendulous clusters in spring. These are followed by purple, edible fruits up to 3" diameter which resemble plums.

Its decorative foliage has made it a popular plant for a large container and it will tolerate extended periods indoors. The fruits make excellent jams and a full-flavoured, dry red wine. Plants will grow in full to part sun and respond to regular applications of a complete garden fertilizer. Plants are generally propagated from fresh seed but cuttings are also successful.

Harvesting requires no more effort than picking the plums from beneath the tree once they've ripened and fallen off. The fruit is usually ripe around Christmas, just in time to make a sauce or relish to go with the turkey.

Do you have any more Davidson's Plum recipes?

What are your experiences growing this species?



Davidsonia pruriens Image: vanveenorganics.com

Davidson Plum Paste

Ingredients

1 cup water 1 kg Davidson Plums (yielded 885g pulp – pureed) 885g sugar 2 teaspoons anise myrtle 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Method

Cut plums and remove the stones. Puree to break down the skin. Add a little water to the bottom of a heavy based pot and pour the pureed plums in. Stir in the sugar, then the anise myrtle and the lemon juice and cook at a high temperature for about 20 minutes. It's ready when it's one step short of being toffee. (If you are not sure test by putting a very little bit in the fridge to see if it sets.) Pour into a shallow rectangular dish and allow to cool and set. (This keeps well if well sealed.) Serve spoonfuls of paste with a sharp cheese and walnut toast. Also goes well with ham or turkey.

Davidson plums can also be substituted into any plum jam recipe perhaps with an increase in sugar to compensate for the tartness of the fruit. They can also be stewed, mixed with rhubarb or with apples.

Recovery plan for *D. jerseyana* can be accessed at <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/fb994d17-74f5-4eef-a334-4d00752691d2/files/d-jerseyana.pdf>

Pimelea spinescens ssp spinescens

This species is endemic to central western Victoria, where it is known from about 20 wild populations containing up to 12,000 plants in the Victorian Volcanic Plain, Victorian Midlands and Riverina IBRA Bioregions (DEH 2000). Major threats include weed invasion, road works and grazing.

It is a small spreading shrub growing to 30 cm in height. It has narrow green oval-shaped leaves 2 - 10 mm long and 1 - 3 mm wide, that grow from spine-tipped stems and up to 12 small pale unisexual yellow flowers which form the inflorescences. The flowers have four egg-shaped petal-like lobes, while four leaf-like, stalkless green bracts 3 - 7 mm long and 1.5 - 4 mm wide, grow at the base of the flower, which are often subtended by other smaller bracts.

Female flowers have a style shorter than the ovary. Flowering occurs from April to August. Fruits are dry capsules approximately 3 mm long (description from Walsh & Entwisle 1996).

Plants from more northerly populations appear more robust than those from southern areas. Glabrous flowers and stalks separate this subspecies from *Pimelea spinescens* subsp. *pubiflora*. Plants are thought to be slow growing and may live as long as 100 years (Mueck 2000). Fairly frequent burning combined with good seasonal rainfall probably provides recruitment opportunities for the Spiny Rice-flower. This species presumably germinates in autumn or spring. Plants may also re-sprout after fire (Mueck 2000)

The Spiny Rice-flower occurs in grassland or open shrubland on basalt-derived soils, usually comprising black or grey clays (Walsh & Entwisle 1996). Plants from more northerly populations occur on red clay complexes, while plants from southern populations occur on heavy grey-black clay loams. Topography is generally flat but populations may occur on slight rises or in slightly wettish depressions. Vegetation is often dominated by *Themeda triandra*, with *Austrostipa* spp. or *Austrodanthonia* spp. co-dominant. Associated species include *Acaena echinata*, *Calocephalus citreus*, *Chrysocephalum apiculatum*, *Eryngium ovinum*, *Plantago varia*, *Ptilotus erubescens*, *Schoenus apogon* and *Velleia paradoxa*.

Recovery actions include survey and mapping of habitat that will lead to the identification of habitat critical to the survival of the species.

Recovery plan

The overall objective of recovery is to minimise the probability of extinction of *Pimelea spinescens* subsp. *spinescens* in the wild and to increase the probability of important populations becoming self-sustaining in the long term. Within the life span of this Recovery Plan, the specific objectives of recovery for *Pimelea spinescens* subsp. *spinescens* are to:

- Acquire accurate information for conservation status assessments.
- Identify habitat that is critical, common or potential.
- Ensure that all populations and their habitat are protected and managed appropriately.
- Manage threats to populations.
- Identify key biological functions
- Determine the growth rates and viability of populations.
- Build community support for conservation.

The Recovery Plan will run for five years from the time of implementation and will be managed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment. A Threatened Flora Recovery Team, consisting of scientists, land managers and field naturalists will be established to oversee threatened flora recovery in Victoria in general. Technical, scientific, habitat management or education components of the Recovery Plan will be referred to specialist sub-committees on research, in situ management, community education and cultivation. Regional Recovery Teams will be responsible for preparing work plans and monitoring progress toward recovery.

Ref: <https://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/05b081c7-f962-46b9-a33f-4aa1af9613b9/files/p-spinescens.pdf>

Save our Flora

Australian Network for Plant Conservation News - March 2016

Seeking articles for the June - August 2016 edition of Australasian Plant Conservation (APC)

The theme for the next issue will be **electronic and integrated tools and resources for plant identification and conservation**. This may include online Floras, keys, resources for citizen science and other new or emerging tools such as phone applications. For this issue, we welcome articles, reports, and short reviews and communications. Reviews may include new tools and resources that you have developed or found useful, or even a wish list of tools or resources that would be useful for plant identification or to support plant conservation. The deadline for submissions for the June - August 2016 issue is Friday 13 May 2016. [Click here to find out more](#)

National Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration in Australia

now available online

These national Standards were launched at The Australian Botanic Garden, Mount Annan on March 15 2016 by the federal Threatened Species Commissioner, Gregory Andrews. The [Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia](#) (SERA) and 12 partner organisations including the ANPC, collaborated and developed the Standards over the last three years. They are designed to encourage all restoration and rehabilitation projects in Australia to reach their highest potential. The Standards list (a) the principles that underpin current best practice ecological restoration and (b) the steps

required to plan, implement and monitor restoration projects to increase their chance of success. They are applicable to any Australian ecosystem (whether terrestrial or aquatic) and any sector (whether private or public sector, mandatory or non-mandatory).

Illawarra and south coast lowland grassy woodland ecological community - potential listing

This ecological community is being considered for potential listing as threatened under the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999. It is proposed to include this ecological community in the category of **critically endangered**. If listed, this would help to protect and restore this ecological community, which has been extensively cleared and modified since the 19th century. The ecological community extends from north of Wollongong to just south of Moruya and includes all plants and animals within these eucalypt dominated woodlands that have forest redgum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) in the canopy and have a grassy or shrubby understorey. The best remaining examples of the woodlands would be covered by a national listing, which proposes to encompass and extend the area covered by the NSW listing of 'Illawarra lowlands grassy woodlands in the Sydney Basin bioregion'.

Save our Flora

Stand Up For Nature is an alliance of conservation groups dedicated to improving protection for nature in NSW. Member groups include:

- *Nature Conservation Council*
- *World Wildlife Fund*
- *Wires*
- *Total Environment Centre*
- *Humane Society International*
- *National Parks Assn of NSW*
- *Colong Foundation for Wilderness*
- *The Wilderness Society*

We are committed to protecting nature in NSW and are actively encouraging the NSW Government to do what is necessary to stop wildlife extinctions and loss of our bushland.

A New Deal For Nature

In September 2015, we launched our vision for a New Deal For Nature, which includes these top 10 requirements.

- Legislate a clear commitment to improving outcomes for nature
- Create a level playing field for all development
- Ensure important habitat is off limits to development
- Strengthen biodiversity offsetting rules
- Invest in reliable and timely vegetation mapping
- Close the loopholes that allow under-the-radar clearing
- Ensure clear requirements for regional planning
- Invest in private land conservation
- Ensure there is rigorous monitoring, compliance and enforcement

- Provide sufficient resources to About Us do the job properly

[Download the full report here.](#)

News 2016

Enviro groups withdraw from NSW biodiversity reform talks

THE LAND: Alex Druce.

Six NSW Environmental groups have formed a Stand Up For Nature Alliance to fight the state government's proposed Biodiversity Act reforms. CONSERVATION groups have declared war on proposed NSW land clearing reforms after abandoning stakeholder talks with the state government. [Read more.](#)

Conservation groups storm out of consultations over land-clearing law

THE GUARDIAN:

Groups including Wilderness Society, Humane Society and Total Environment Centre say NSW process is 'skewed towards radicals in the National party'. The Baird government is in the final stages of scrapping the Native Vegetation Act, which prevents the broadscale clearing of native vegetation. Conservation groups have stormed out of consultations with the NSW government over an overhaul of land-clearing laws they say have been a sham and will fast-track bushland destruction in the state. [Read more.](#)

Green groups blame National Party 'radicals' for breakdown in land clearing talks

SMH: Sean Nicholls.

The state's peak environment groups have pulled out of discussions with the NSW government over proposed land clearing and biodiversity laws, declaring the process has been hijacked by "radicals" in the Nationals. The NSW government is planning to overhaul biodiversity and land clearing laws introduced by Labor that have been long opposed by farming groups and the Nationals. [Read more.](#)

Save our Flora

Myall Botanic Garden

Myall Botanic Garden near Glenmorgan on the Western Downs has a unique collection of inland Australian plants species as well as unique native fauna.

There is an art gallery, accommodation, camping and caravan facilities. Myall Park Botanic Gardens is run as a not-for-profit organisation managed by a group of volunteer Honorary Directors, with the site managed by caretakers. Due to the important heritage status of the Garden, there is some financial assistance from local and federal governments as well as making some income from the accommodation onsite, however it is only through the efforts of many volunteers including the "Friends of Myall Park" and several bush-care groups and individuals volunteering their time and expertise that so much of the work gets done. The Directors are very grateful for the range of skills and time so many of the Garden's supporters contribute every year.

2016 is shaping up to be a great year, with welcome rains helping the garden along and several working bees planned to renovate gardens and displays. The Garden can always use more help and the Directors would welcome any expressions of interest from people who may like to volunteer their time to helping realise their vision of continually improving the Garden. Aside from those keen to the work in the field, the Directors would also welcome the input from people with all sorts of managerial skills including financial management, event organising, marketing and auditing. Volunteers with trade skills are also of great value in helping to look after the gallery and accommodation buildings.

People wanting to be involved and volunteer their time and expertise to help Myall Park Botanic Garden grow and improve are most welcome to contact the Garden by telephoning or emailing Director and Secretary Sue Akeroyd on 0415 291 225 akeroyd.sue@gmail.com

Further information about Myall Park Botanic Garden can be found at <http://myallparkbotanicgarden.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/myallparkbotanicgarden/>

Would You Like to Propagate Plants for The Garden?

Friends of Myall Park Botanic Garden Newsletter Vol 25 No 1

At Myall Park Botanic Garden we are concentrating on improving the existing planting as a priority but we still need to replace specimens and put in additional planting where we can and we are hoping that some of the Friends of Myall Park Botanic Garden might be able to help.

As a volunteer organisation with a limited budget, sadly we haven't been able to continue any of the propagation work that used to be carried out at the nursery at the garden. During working bees many people generously donate plants but at a recent meeting the Directors discussed how it was a shame that the large seed collection is not being utilised. Whilst some of the seed in the collection is quite old and many may not be viable, some seeds last very well when stored correctly.

Some of the rarer species in the collection are often not possible to buy in nurseries so we felt it would be wonderful to see if some of the Friends might like to volunteer their green thumbs to try and germinate and pot on some seeds for future plantings. Aside from seeds in the collection we will also collect some fresh seed from any specimens we need more of.

If you have a bit of a green thumb and think you would like to try to grow some plants for the garden, please email or phone the Garden to let us know and we will look into starting the program. We are not looking to propagating large numbers so even if you only have space to grow a couple of pots, that will still be a very welcome contribution, and you can also enjoy the satisfaction of planting your tree or shrub at a future working bee. You don't need to be an expert and we can certainly help you with some information with the seeds and growing on if you need.

Let us know if you are interested in helping out by calling or emailing the Garden and we will be touch..

Propagation of *Acacia wardellii*

Published in *Acacia Study Group Newsletter* No 132

One of the wattles recorded during our Study Group Field Trip in 2014 was *Acacia wardellii*. This was recorded east of Condamine. This is a rare wattle known from only a few locations in southern Queensland.

It has been a target species for a number of revegetation projects, and as a result of this, the Myall Park Botanic Garden was approached in 2012 to supply 1000 seedlings. Some research was therefore carried out on how to achieve greatest success in propagating this species. It was noted that field studies in the Thomby Range region of Queensland had highlighted that for many years, no seedlings were recorded even though mature trees produced seeds and those collected appeared plump and intact.

The July 2015 Newsletter of the Australian Flora Foundation included a report by Dr Nita C Lester on the research carried out. Some of the results and conclusions are set out below:

1. The seed raising medium used was 50% commercial seed raising mix and 50% sand.
2. Trials were conducted with two different presowing treatments applied to the seeds. Firstly, seeds were placed in near-boiling temperature water and then left to soak. Seeds that did not swell were re-treated. Secondly, seeds were scarified by rubbing between fine sandpaper. It was found that rates of germination were similar under either method. The soaking process was preferred because the scarification treatment was time and labour intensive (important under a mass planting regime).
3. The research showed that *Acacia wardellii* is one of the species of *Acacia* that germinates best after a period of storage. The percentage of germination success for fresh seed was between about 6% and 8%. After storage of between one and four years, the rate of successful germination was about 60%.
4. It had been observed over many years that, in the wild, *A. wardellii* seedlings were often found in groups, at times with mass seedling numbers (and in situations where no records were found of individual seed germinations). It was conjectured that groups of seeds close together encourage germination under favourable conditions. For this



A. wardellii Image: Myall Park

reason, trials were conducted where some seeds were sown individually into small seed raising pots, and alternatively other seeds were planted in groups of five. Where seeds were sown in groups of five, the rate of germination increased from about 60% (as shown above) to between about 91% and 94%.

5. It was noted that it is sometimes recorded that small seeds should not be sown if larger seeds are available. However, this research indicated that size of the seeds was not an issue. It was noted that plump, intact *A. wardellii* seeds, no matter the size, could germinate and grow on to produce strong seedlings. It was speculated that, considering these findings, seed size may not be an important issue for other *Acacia* species.
6. It was noted that *Acacia wardellii* produces a long tap root within three days of germination. The breaking of this tap root during potting out hinders growth rate of the seedling considerably and often the seedling does not recover when compared with seedlings with an intact tap root. The pricking out process must therefore be carried out with care. For example, washing the seedlings apart in preparation for potting out is beneficial. The groups of five sown seeds were removed from the pots and placed in a bowl of water and gently agitated to wash the tangled roots apart. This procedure proved quite fast as the sand and potting mixture freely released the roots. Being clean of the potting mixture assisted with the potting out process as a long narrow hole could be prepared in the new pot for the long tap root to be dropped into.

References:

Lester, Dr Nita C, *Acacia wardellii* : how to propagate *Research Matters* Newsletter of the Australian Flora Foundation July 2015
The website of Myall Park Botanic Garden is <http://myallparkbotanicgarden.com/>

Save our Flora

NATIVE PLANT WARRIORS: MEET VOLUNTEERS HELPING TO REPLENISH THE BUSH

ABC Capricornia April 12, 2016 Inga Stünzner
published in *Caley* May 2016

Native bushland may be fast disappearing throughout the country, but small groups of volunteers in each state are doing their bit to preserve threatened plant species. One of these is retired entomologist and Rockhampton resident, Dr Bob Newby. "I was always interested in the interaction between insects and plants ... now that I have retired I have been able to indulge in my interest in plants," he said. Dr Newby is secretary of the Native Plants Queensland Rockhampton branch, which has been focusing on preserving vulnerable and endangered species for almost 40 years. He said there was some community awareness of the importance of native vegetation, but it was not quite there yet. "But people are becoming aware of the fact that our bush areas are shrinking and shrinking," Dr Newby said.

"There was a thing on TV the other night about road kills in south-east Queensland, and they are attributing it to the fact that the native bush areas are shrinking all the time."

Where it is legal, Native Plants Queensland volunteers collect plant seeds to propagate and try to get them re-established in the bush. "So those species that are particularly vulnerable are the ones we are interested in, because they will go first — and it would be a shame to lose them, as some of them are amazing plants in their own right," Dr Newby said. Two weeks ago, the local group hit the jackpot when they discovered a species of *Commis sperma* while on an excursion north of Rockhampton. The plant is so rare the Queensland Herbarium has no name for it. "We were so pleased to find it. We just pulled up on the side of the road, wandered into the paddock and found it," Dr Newby said. "We were able to locate specimens, and with the goodness of time provided, we can collect seeds. We will try and propagate it and get it back into cultivation."

The society, which used to be called the Society for Growing Australian Plants, has broadened its scope to include conservation, education and revegetation. One of its current projects is to help connect two fragments of national park together with a corridor of native plants. "We'll help in terms of manpower, but we also help in terms of identifying native species and general ecological advice on how to keep things going," Dr Newby said. "Anyone can plant a plant, but the trouble is if you walk away from it, it will probably die, so the follow-up is just as important as the planting."

About 18 months ago, the group was given plots in the Kershaw Botanical Gardens, where it propagated rare and unusual plants from an area north of Rockhampton. "It's quite unusual country. It stretches from Canoona to Marlborough and it's called Serpentine country and it's rich in nickel," Dr Newby said. "And for that reason, there are not

Native Plant Propagators

Are you an expert native plant propagator?

Would you be interested in propagating for ex-situ plantings of rare and threatened flora?

I am compiling a register of propagators

with contact details to send to Botanic Gardens.

Save our Flora

PowerPoint Presentation

Ready to go!

30 slides approx 30 mins. talk

If you are interested in obtaining this presentation please email me

I can send it in an email (4.3MB)

or as a CD

Send me a C5 stamped addressed envelope

Attach 2 stamps

or on a memory stick

Send me a blank memory stick plus a stamped addressed envelope - 2 stamps

a lot of plants that have colonised the area, and those that have are unique." An entire suite of animals and insects had adapted to tolerate a high-nickel diet, Dr Newby said.

When not heading off on excursions, Dr Newby can be found across the road from his home on crown land that stretches up towards Mt Archer. "It was neglected and covered in sisal and lantana, so I cleared it and it's become a full-time hobby," he said.



Save our Flora

Native Plants Queensland (NPQ)

Honorary Secretary
 P.O. Box 586
 FORTITUDE VALLEY 4006
 EMAIL: secretary@npq.org.au

Yabba Capricorn - Rockhampton

October 7, 8 & 9, 2016

All NPQ members are encouraged to meet together in Rockhampton for the Yabba Capricorn 2016. The Rockhampton Branch is preparing a very interesting program and a series of field trips to special areas of their region. Also as a result of our President Ian's recent state-wide visits to Branches there will be much discussion about the exciting changes to ensure the future of NPQ and encourage growth in membership.

It is strongly recommended that you book your accommodation NOW. We understand that the Singapore Army will be on manoeuvres in the region at the same time as Yabba and accommodation is even now at a premium.

TRANSPORT

We are investigating the feasibility of a coach from Brisbane (October 7 – 10) which will also be used for the excursions on Saturday and Sunday. Depending on the ultimate patronage numbers the costs would be of the order of: full four day fare approx. \$200 and two day weekend fare approx. \$70;

ACCOMMODATION

- Members must make their own bookings - desirable as soon as possible.
- Recommended venue: Parkhurst Motel and Van Park (northside); it has camping, van and cabin accommodation – economic and acceptable – phone (07) 4936 1126 Double rooms \$70 / room Family rooms \$110 / room – 4 beds
- Aboriginal Cultural Centre Motel – within walking distance of above
- There are other motels on the northside but not within walking distance
- The Parkhurst Hall adjacent to the Parkhurst Motel will be the Yabba meeting venue. There are no café or restaurant facilities but a simple kitchen is available.
- Friday evening – to be BYO food and drinks
- Saturday evening – to be a BBQ organised by the Branch – (fee)
- The Parkhurst Tavern, a short drive away has food and drinks available.

INTERIM PROGRAM - there may be some minor changes as the planning proceeds

Friday October 7

Members will make their own way to Rockhampton from throughout Queensland

Those arriving earlier will be offered suggestions for Friday afternoon to explore local areas of interest and Branch projects: Kershaw Gardens, Botanic Gardens, River Bank stabilization, etc

5.00 Yabba together over a BYO drink and nibbles

6.00 Evening meal - either BYO or simple catering (fee) – to be decided

7.00 Introduction to the weekend excursions

7.30 NPQ Yabba – discussion evening re NPQ and our future

Saturday October 8

Today is a BYO food and beverage excursion

8.00 Serpentine Country, Marlborough (30 minutes north of Parkhurst)

12.00 lunch – somewhere along the way

1.00 Through the Trachyte Plug Country to Yeppoon, then to Coastal Scrubs of Double Heads, back through Emu Park and Cawarral (Mt Headlow)

5.00 Back at Parkhurst – BYO drinks and nibbles

6.00 Yabba BBQ Dinner (fee)

7.30 Bill Tulloch Memorial Lecture – Leslie Lowe (2013 Diversity Bursary recipient)

8.30 “Species Profile” fantastic digital tools that are available for information, collection and plant identification of value to NPQ members.

10.00 BYO Supper

Sunday October 9

Today is a BYO food and beverage excursion

8.00 depart Parkhurst for Blackdown Tableland

10.30 arrive Blackdown Tableland

3.30 depart Blackdown Tableland

6.00 return to Parkhurst

It is expected that some members may decide stay on at Blackdown.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW

Immediately book your own accommodation!

Before May 22 advise NPQ Secretary if you are interested in travel Brisbane to the Yabba by coach

Before May 22 advise NPQ Secretary if you are interested in travel to Blackdown Tableland

Lawrence S. Smith
 DISPLAYS OFFICER
 Native Plants Queensland
 (SGAP Queensland Region Inc.)
 Please send reply emails to
secretary@npq.org.au

Threatened Species Recovery Hub (TSR Hub)

<http://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/about>

The conservation of Australia’s biodiversity is founded on an extensive reserve system, good environmental legislation and stable governance. Our community is relatively affluent and interested, and our human population density is comparatively low. Yet, more plant and mammal species have been rendered extinct in Australia than any other country.

Since European settlement, 30 Australian native mammals have become extinct. To put this in a global context, one out of every three mammal extinctions in the past 400 years have occurred in Australia. And the rate of decline continues unabated. More than 1,700 species of animals and plants are listed by the Australian Government as being at risk of extinction.

The \$60 million Threatened Species Recovery Hub is supported by funding through the Australian Government’s National Environmental Science Programme (NESP), and matched by contributions from 10 of the country’s leading academic institutions and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

It works closely with more than two dozen collaborating organisations, including management agencies and conservation groups, to ensure its research has an on-ground impact in threatened species management.

Established in June 2015, the Threatened Species Recovery Hub will conclude in June 2021.

TSR Hub Project: 1.2

Conserving critical and threatened habitats

<http://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/news/strategic-fire-management-can-reduce-extinctions>

Project Leaders: Peter Vesk

This project will study how best to conserve threatened ecological communities and critical habitats for threatened and endangered species. Initial focus is on the Box Gum Grassy woodlands and endangered Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions as well as Alpine Bogs and Fens. Research will include a series of field trials, experiments and prioritisation of management of critical habitats and threatened ecological communities from across Australia.

TSR Hub Project: 1.3

Managing fire regimes with thresholds to save threatened flora and fauna

Project Leaders: David Keith

This project will improve fire management strategies and conservation outcomes to save threatened flora and fauna from extinction.

On-ground trials and experiments, new data, modelled scenarios and improved management practices will assist fire management authorities to implement sustainable fire regimes and avoid further declines in threatened species.

Strategic fire management can reduce extinctions.

Australia is one of the most fire prone continents on earth and our influence on fire regimes plays an important role in the ecology of our flora and fauna.

Planned burns are just one of several tools for achieving strategic fire management objectives. As well as protecting lives and property from unplanned fire, planned burns are used to conserve biodiversity, boost agricultural production, fulfil cultural objectives and much more.

“Making the right decisions about exactly when and when to burn can make all the difference between success and failure,” says Professor David Keith, who leads Project 1.3. Burns can be an effective conservation tool for managing the availability of food, shelter and nesting sites to a range of threatened fauna.”

Fire can also be a complex threat – compatible with some species in certain contexts while remaining a hazard to others.

“While fire is both necessary and inevitable, certain types of fire regimes are also a potential threat across a large variety of Australian ecosystems. Some native plants invest all their growing energy at a particular time of the year, and there can be very negative consequences if this is interrupted by fire.

“Australia is also home to large numbers of ‘obligate seeders’, which release seeds after the plant is killed by fire. If the next fire occurs before the new plants have accumulated seeds of their own, this can lead to local extinction. High frequency fires are therefore widely regarded as a threat to a range of ecosystems in which these species occur.”

Fire managers will often approach their burning strategies in different ways that reflect contrasting objectives, as well as cultural differences and varying states of knowledge.

“In parts of rural Australia there are a lot of human ignitions to support grazing livestock. Much of the landscape is dominated by native grasses, which re-emerge from fire much more palatable and nutritious for livestock. Forestry agencies will sometimes use prescribed fires to reduce the risks to timber resources from unplanned fires.

“A big driver in fire management planning to date, for both safety and conservation, has been fire frequency. We know where major events occur each year and also in the longer term, partly due to the El Nino cycle, and work to reduce the likelihood of larger unplanned fires.

“But we are learning that the intensity, season and spatial pattern of fire in the landscape can also be very important for conservation of native flora and fauna. So our fire management strategies have to be much more sophisticated than they currently are to avoid loss of species and ecosystem degradation. ”

Professor Keith aims to improve fire management strategies and conservation outcomes for threatened flora and fauna, to avoid species extinctions and collapse of ecosystems.

“Our project will be working toward a more

integrated focus which, as well as fire frequency, incorporates fire management paradigms around managing fire intensity as well as seasonal timing.”

On-ground trials and experiments, new data, modelled scenarios and improved management practices will assist fire management authorities to implement sustainable fire regimes and avoid further declines in threatened species.

The Department of the Environment, government and state agencies will be actively engaged around new ideas and approaches due to their active role in this area, as will fire management and conservation agencies.

“Government has often been the focal point for planned burning – it’s the place people look to in terms of leadership and examples of how to resolve fire management problems. We’re quite well placed in the project as we do have substantial buy in from key government agencies across the continent.”

Fire is something Professor Keith has been working on for quite a lot over the last 30 years.

“From an ecological perspective, it’s almost hard to avoid fire in Australia. There are some habitats and issues that you can happily work away on and ignore fire, but for a lot of Australia – fire is a key part of it.”

Join us in celebrating the iconic Kangaroo Paw

A month-long celebration of the iconic Kangaroo Paw at Cranbourne Gardens is planned for November this year and will see the Australian Garden transformed into a riot of colour, with an abundance of displays featuring this most distinctive of Australian plants.

The celebration is being held in association with the Cranbourne Friends and renowned Kangaroo Paw breeder Angus Stewart. Activities will run throughout November with program highlights, including a three-day symposium, held in late November:

- **Kangaroo Paw Picnic, 19 and 20 November** with displays and a plant sale of a wide range of Kangaroo Paws grown by the Cranbourne Growing Friends.
- Launch of the new Anigozanthos ‘Landscape Violet’ bred by Angus Stewart on **Saturday 19 November**.
- **Three-Day Symposium, 24 – 26 November:** covering the whole Kangaroo Paw Family (Haemodoraceae). Speakers will include Prof Stephen Hopper (world authority on the Haemodoraceae Family), Prof Kingsley Dixon from Curtin University, Dr Brett Summerell, Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, Angus Stewart, plus many more local and overseas people with special expertise.
 - **Day One:** Thursday 24 November — Science & Botany; for those who want to gain a greater understanding of this intriguing plant family.
 - **Day Two:** Friday 25 November — Cultivation, Design, Diseases etc especially suitable for people working in Botanic gardens & parks, Landscape design & contractors, Nurseries.
 - **Day Three:** Saturday 26 November — for home gardeners, enthusiasts and anyone else.

A first in celebrating this iconic plant, pop the dates in your diary now for the Kangaroo Paw Celebration. It will be an exciting and fascinating time and we hope to see many visitors at Cranbourne.

Save our Flora

Gladstone Regional Council recently released a discussion paper for their **Biodiversity Conservation Strategy**

If you would like a pdf copy please contact saveourflora@gmail.com

Here is a list of their significant flora

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Rare or Threatened Species Listed for the Gladstone Region (SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd)

Table B1 Flora species of conservation significance in Gladstone region

Family	Species	Common Name	Qld	EPBC	Records
Cycadaceae	<i>Cycas megacarpa</i>		E	E	49
Acanthaceae	<i>Graptophyllum excelsum</i>		NT		14
Acanthaceae	<i>Graptophyllum ilicifolium</i>	holly-leaved graptophyllum	V	V	3
Apocynaceae	<i>Parsonsia larcomensis</i>		V	V	7
Apocynaceae	<i>Parsonsia kroombitensis</i>		V		5
Asteraceae	<i>Cassinia collina</i>		V		2
Campanulaceae	<i>Lobelia membranacea</i>		NT		16
Celastraceae	<i>Apatophyllum olsenii</i>		E	V	6
Combretaceae	<i>Macropteranthes leiocaulis</i>		NT		24
Combretaceae	<i>Dansiea elliptica</i>		NT		18
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Fontainea rostrata</i>		V	V	1
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Fontainea venosa</i>		V	V	15
Fabaceae	<i>Sophora fraseri</i>	brush sophora	V	V	3
Flacourtiaceae	<i>Xylosma ovata</i>		NT		17
Loranthaceae	<i>Muellerina myrtifolia</i>		NT		1
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia eremophiloides</i>		V	V	1
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia</i> sp. (Castletower N. Gibson TOI345)		V		1
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia pedleyi</i>		V		1
Mimosaceae	<i>Acacia storyi</i>		NT		1
Myrtaceae	<i>Rhodamnia glabrescens</i>		NT		26
Myrtaceae	<i>Melaleuca formosa</i>		NT		5
Myrtaceae	<i>Rhodamnia angustifolia</i>		E		15
Myrtaceae	<i>Xanthostemon oppositifolius</i>	southern penda	V	V	3
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus decolor</i>		NT		12
Phyllanthaceae	<i>Phyllanthus</i> sp. (Bulburin P.I. Forster+ PIF16034)		V		16
Phyllanthaceae	<i>Actephila bella</i>		V		6
Proteaceae	<i>Grevillea venusta</i>	grevillea	V		8
Proteaceae	<i>Macadamia jansenii</i>		E	E	16
Proteaceae	<i>Triunia robusta</i>		E	E	2
Rubiaceae	<i>Oldenlandia gibsonii</i>		E		11
Rutaceae	<i>Clausena smyrelliana</i>		E		2
Rutaceae	<i>Medicosma elliptica</i>		V	V	22
Rutaceae	<i>Zieria actites</i>		E		6
Sapindaceae	<i>Cupaniopsis shirleyana</i>	wedge-leaf tuckeroo	V	V	28
Sapindaceae	<i>Atalaya collina</i>		E	E	15
Sapindaceae	<i>Arytera dictyoneura</i>		NT		41
Sapindaceae	<i>Cossinia australiana</i>		E	E	6
Simaroubaceae	<i>Samadera bidwillii</i>		V	V	4
Thymelaeaceae	<i>Pimelea leptospermoides</i>		NT	V	1
Hernandiaceae	<i>Hernandia bivalvis</i>	cudgerie	NT		18
Burmanniaceae	<i>Thismia rodwayi</i>		NT		2
Cyperaceae	<i>Fimbristylis vagans</i>		E		2
Orchidaceae	<i>Bulbophyllum globuliforme</i>		NT	V	2
Orchidaceae	<i>Habenaria xanthantha</i>		NT		1
Orchidaceae	<i>Bulbophyllum weinthalii</i> subsp. <i>striatum</i>		V		2
Poaceae	<i>Germainia capitata</i>		V	V	14

I couldn't find any references in the discussion paper as to the abbreviations. One assumes that V = vulnerable, E = endangered NT = not threatened?

Australian Association of Bush Regenerators (AABR)

<http://www.aabr.org.au/about-aabr/what-is-aabr/>

The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators was established in 1986, out of concern for the continuing survival and integrity of bushland and its dependent fauna. Our aim is to promote the study and practice of ecological restoration, and foster and encourage effective management of natural areas by qualified people, based on sound ecological principles. We seek new members and friends to help promote good work practices in natural areas, strengthen our industry, and network with like-minded people.

The activities of AABR and its members are motivated by a deep sense of respect and awe for the complexity, intrinsic values and beauty of locally adapted ecosystems, many of which persist and flourish in every location of the globe. Such ecosystems represent aeons of evolutionary input and encompass living components (plants, animals, microorganisms) as well as non-living components (soils, water and climate) and their interactions. This motivation translates as a desire to see such ecosystems conserved in perpetuity – and brought back to health when they are degraded by human impacts.

AABR is an association incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 [NSW]. It has a committee of volunteers, and several hundred members and subscribers from all over Australia.

AABR walk and talk - Bathurst

Saturday 24 September 2016

Time: 10am until 3 pm

Where: Exact meeting place to be determined.

Enjoy a day in and around Bathurst in the Central West of NSW to see what work is being done in the area. AABR Member Diana Kureen and her colleagues at the Local Land Services will show us a variety of sites. The day will include visits to: Box Gum Grassy Woodland - Endangered Ecological Community; Restoration sites, on and around Mount Panorama; Various creekline restoration projects, including Schauberger Sills, and a site that is looking to restore Regent Honeyeater habitat.

Whilst the site visit is on Saturday, it is anticipated that a number of people will be there on Friday night. A meal out to meet others will be arranged and also possibly a talk on the Regent Honeyeater.

For more information and booking:

Email AABR Secretary Jane Gye

or call AABR on 0407 002 921.

Save our Flora

Seed and Cuttings Exchange

Please send all requests directly to the person making the offer.

Please follow the correct protocols for requests of seed or cuttings. These are detailed on the next page. Please note that some species are in very short supply and cutting material may be limited. Please note that in order to streamline this activity addresses will be published with the offers so that people can apply to the grower directly. Where there is no address please send your request to saveourflora@gmail.com

Maria Hitchcock

16 Hitchcock Lane Armidale NSW 2350

Correa eburnea

Correa calycina

Callistemon pungens

Grevillea wilkinsonii

Zieria adenodonta

Zieria prostrata

Arthur Baker

55 Moran ST Gatton Qld 4343

Gardenia psidiodes

Grevillea quadricauda

Grevillea glossadenia

Eucryphia wilkiei

Graptophyllum ilicifolium

Xanthostemon formosus

Phaius tancarvilleae

Plectranthus nitidus

Zieria prostrata

Grevillea mollis?

Eremophila nivea

Dodonaea rupicola

Xanthostemon arenaris

X verticulatus/seeds or cuttings

Kunzea flavescens

K granitica

Callistemon pearsonii

C flavovirens{seeds}

Melaleuca irbyana

Lilaeopsis brisbanica {Water plant}

Hernandia Bivalis

Spathoglottis Pauliniae {Tropical ground orchid}

Rhododendron Lachiae

Charles Farrugia (email saveourflora@gmail.com)

Eremophila denticulata ssp trisulcata

Eremophila denticulata ssp denticulata

Eremophila nivea (blue form)

Eremophila nivea (white form) - limited.

Eremophila vernicosa – extremely limited – plant just recovering from a winter battering also I need to do some more grafts.

Russell Dahms (email saveourflora@gmail.com)

Boronia clavata

Denise & Graeme Krake

752 Warrigal Range Rd. Brogo NSW 2550

Seed of

Hakea dohertyi

Hakea ochoptera

Hakea longiflora

Grevillea maccutcheonii

Geoff & Gwynne Clarke

Grevillea humifusa - cuttings

Angophora robur - seed

Dodonaea crucifolia - cuttings or seed

This was named a couple of years ago by Ian Telford who came down from Armidale to look over our block. Many people were calling it *Dodonaea hirsuta*, but it is not very hairy and has no hairs at all on the fruits. It also grows in a nearby flora reserve. If people would like to try this I can make it available when the material is ready. I have grown it successfully from cuttings, but it does not live long after planting out. It also produces seed and I can collect that after the next flowering (spring fruits). It grows happily around the block, popping up from seed here and there, produces plenty of seed, but it is not long lived even when self sown. Fruits are showy reds. I think it's worth a try.

Bob O'Neill

7 Hillsmeade Drive, Narre Warren South, Vic. 3805

I want to increase our range of Lechenaultias and *Correa pulchellas*. Can anyone help us out? Both of these groups of plants are doing well for us at Narre Warren South, Vic. I would be delighted to offer cuttings from our range to interested people. Some plants may be available to people who are able to come to our home address.

Paul Kennedy (Leader ANPSA Hakea SG) (email

saveourflora@gmail.com)

I am looking for seed or cuttings of *Hakea pedunculata* which grows naturally on Cape York near swamps. We have moved into our new home at 210 Aireys St. Elliminyt Vic. and have now begun the task of reintroducing all the Banksia and Hakea species.

Do you have any EPBC plants growing in your garden with sufficient foliage to share cuttings with our members? Let me know and I'll print it here. It would be easier if we can add your address so that members can contact you

Save our Flora

Requesting and sending seed by post

Please follow these simple steps.

Make a request

1. Send your request by email first. It will be forwarded to the grower so you can request seed and ask for the address.
2. Send your request enclosing a self-addressed envelope with two 60c stamps attached. Post the envelope.

Send seed

1. When you receive an envelope with a seed request, package up the required seed which includes the name, provenance (if known) and date of collection. Add any tips on germinating the seed and post.

Receiving seed

1. Seed should be stored in paper (small manilla seed packets are best but any cheap envelopes will do) and kept in a cool dark place. Some people use those small paper lolly bags and staple them at the top. Add mothballs if you like. This will prevent insect attack. I save moisture absorbers from medicine bottles and add them to my seed drawer to ensure the seeds do not rot.

Seed life varies according to species. Acacias will last for many years while Flannel Flower needs to be really fresh. Old seed may not germinate and needs to be thrown out. Test some of your seed periodically. It's worth asking seed suppliers for the age of certain species of seed before purchasing.

Requesting and sending cuttings by post

Please follow these simple steps.

Make a request

1. Send your request by email first. It will be forwarded to the grower so you can request cuttings and ask for the address.
2. Purchase an Express Post small satchel for \$10.55. it will hold up to 500 gms.
3. Self address your satchel and place it in an envelope with your cuttings request. Add a label/s with the name of the species and sender. Pencil is best for writing on labels.
4. Post the envelope.

Send cuttings

1. When you receive an envelope with a satchel inside, cut about 6 stems of the requested species. The best time to do this is early morning. Store cuttings in the crisper part of the fridge until they are ready to be posted.
2. Wrap the cuttings in damp newspaper and place them in a cliplok plastic bag. Make sure you label each parcel with the names of the species and sender. Squeeze air out of the bag and fasten top.
3. Put the bag in the satchel and post.

Receiving cuttings

1. As soon as you receive your cuttings put the unopened plastic bag in the crisper part of the fridge until you are ready to prepare them.

Group Members

ANPSA Groups

APS Melton Bacchus Marsh Vic
 SGAP Ipswich Qld
 SGAP Sunshine Coast and Hinterland Qld
 APS Echuca Moama Vic
 Crommelin Native Arboretum NSW
 Swan Reserve Garden Vic

Botanic Gardens and Reserves

Hunter Regional BG NSW
 Tamworth Regional BG NSW
 Lindum Park Flora and Fauna Res.
 Burrendong Arboretum Wellington

Nurseries

Bilby Blooms Binnaway NSW
 Cool Natives Armidale NSW
 Mole Station Tenterfield NSW

Seed Suppliers

Victorian Native Seeds

Study Groups

Acacia SG
 Correa SG
 Epacris SG
 Garden Design SG
 Grevillea SG
 Hakea SG
 Waratah & Flannel Flower SG