

Save our Flora

AN ONLINE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL PROJECT

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Project launched on 14th November 2013

Maria Hitchcock Administrator
Bulletin Editor

Membership

Individuals: 174

Groups: 21

International 3

Membership is free.

Please encourage others to join.

Quarterly 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.



Philotheca freyciana Tas.

Endangered

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

[http://
coolnatives.com.au/](http://coolnatives.com.au/)

In this issue:

Maria writes	2
Philotheca basistyla	3
Philotheca freyciana	4
Grevillea guthrieana	5
Royal National Park	6/7
Hibbertia fumana	8/9
Threatsearch	10
Rare Flora Search & Rescue	11
Attalaya collina planting	12
ANPC News	13
Endangered Macadamias	14

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:

Welcome to Bulletin No 16. When I began this online group I had wonderful intentions of producing frequent Bulletins but somehow life got in the way and the bulletins became infrequent. Have decided to go down the path of many other groups and will now be producing these Bulletins quarterly, in March, June, September and December. I also intend creating a website when I get time away from my online business and community work.

I would like to thank the groups that have put me on their email list. If you belong to a group that puts out electronic information, please add Save our Flora to your email list - I am always looking for articles or snippets of what is happening out there to share with the rest of you.

We have had an amazing summer here in New England. I have lived here for over 40 years but have never known the level of humidity which we experienced this year. That combined with soaring temperatures and frequent rainfall has actually been quite beneficial for my garden - although my husband got pretty sick of mowing so frequently. Climate change seems to be on the march and it's unbelievable that we could still have deniers out there. Of course many of these deniers are linked to fossil fuel companies which are quite happy to exploit our resources then walk away. Fortunately we do have strong willed people in the community who are willing to be heard.

I have been helping the Beadle Herbarium at the University of New England by propagating new *Phebalium* species. Dr Ian Telford is doing a revision of this genus and passing on excess fieldwork specimens for propagation. Dr John Nevin is putting together a living collection of *Phebaliums* in his garden west of Armidale. This collection should be registered in the near future. It's fantastic to see this kind of collaboration happening. There should be more of it.

Maria Hitchcock

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

Do you have a contact at a local school?

Why not ask them to join

Save our Flora

as a group member

More and more schools are establishing

Endangered Species Gardens

featuring rare plants from

their local environment.

Save our Flora

Philothea basistyla F.H.Mollemans The White-flowered Philothea

Critically Endangered WA

Location: Discovered in 1990. Occurs SSE of Trayning, in the Shire of Trayning, 180 km E of Perth, WA (Mollemans 1993). It is found over a geographic range of only a few kilometres. The two populations, totalling 100 plants, occur on road verges (Brown et al. 1998). The plants were significantly damaged by locusts in 1990 but were found flowering apparently unaffected in 1991 (Mollemans 1993). The species does not occur in a conservation reserve (Briggs & Leigh 1996).

Habitat: This species grows on deep yellow sand in dense scrub heath vegetation. Associated species include *Eucalyptus leptopoda*, *Grevillea eriostachya*, *Allocasuarina acutivalvis*, *Baeckea muricata*, *B. floribunda*, *Hakea coriacea*, *Melaleuca conothamnoides*, *M. sp.*, *Daviesia sp.*, *Choretrum pritzellii*, *Phebalium tuberculosum*, *Pimelea sp.* and *Hibbertia sp.* There is little of this vegetation type left, and what remains is mostly roadside remnants (Brown et al. 1998; Mollemans 1993).

Description: Erect branched, spreading shrub or undershrub (Mollemans 1993), growing to 1 m high and 0.8 m wide (Brown et al. 1998). Leaves narrow and thick when fresh approximately 7-14 mm x 1-1.5 mm, upper surface grooved, glands visible on underside. Single white flowers occur on a short stalk. Petals approx. 6mm long. Flowers from August to October (Brown et al. 1998; Mollemans 1993).

Existing Recovery Actions: The following recovery actions have been or are currently being implemented:

1. All land managers have been notified of the location and threatened status of the species.
2. Surveying of the critical habitat to locate other populations of *Philothea basistyla* was undertaken in 1997 and 2001 by staff from CALM's Merredin District.

3. Declared Rare Flora (DRF) markers have been installed at Population 1 and Subpopulation 2a.
4. Dashboard stickers and posters describing the significance of DRF markers have been produced and distributed.
5. The Merredin District Threatened Flora Recovery Team (MDTFRT) is overseeing the implementation of this IRP and will include information on progress in their annual report to CALM's Corporate Executive and funding bodies.
6. Staff from CALM's Merredin District regularly monitor all populations of this species.



Philothea basistyla

Image: Flickr Hive Mind

References: Nuytsia 9(1): 101, figs 3, 4 (1993).
http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=64941
 Interim Recovery Plan can be downloaded from:
<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/publications/recovery/p-basistyla/index.html>.

Is anyone growing this species?
 Please let us know if you are.

Philotheca freyciana

Rutaceae

Freycinet Waxflower Tas Endangered

Location:

Endemic to Tasmania *Philotheca freyciana* only occurs in Freycinet National Park in two subpopulations at Cape Tourville and The Hazards, occurring from just above sea level to the higher elevations (10–440 m). At Cape Tourville there is only a single plant survivor. The Hazards location has 50–50 individual plants near Mt Mayson and approximately 40 more plants scattered in the area.

It occurs on Devonian granite, growing either in rock crevices or shallow sandy soils between massive granite boulders. Associated vegetation includes *Eucalyptus amygdalina*, *E. tenuiramis*, *Leptospermum grandiflorum*, *Kunzea ambigua*, *Calytrix tetragona*, *Epacris barbata*, *Allocasuarina monilifera*, *Dillwynia glaberrima*, *Monotoca submutica* and *Hakea megadenia*.



Philotheca freyciana Image: Flickr

Description: Small woody shrub, up to one metre tall with thick, warty, hairless and distinctly keeled leaves. The leaves are sessile and almost imbricate in appearance, broadly obcordate-obovate, 9–13 mm long, 8–13 mm wide, with prominent tubercular glands on the lower surface and margins tinged with red (TSS, 2009). It has prominent tuberculate glands on

the branches and solitary five petalled white flowers amongst the upper leaves occurring mainly in spring and early summer.

Recovery Plan:

There is no adopted or made Recovery Plan for this species.

Threats:

Inappropriate fire regimes, where too frequent burning poses a threat to the long-term survival of individuals; risk of extinction due to the small population size; and illegal collection by tourists and/or native plant enthusiasts (TSS, 2009). Scattered infestations of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* occur throughout the species' habitat, with mortality observed in species such as the EPBC-listed shrub *Epacris barbata* (Schahinger et al., 2003). Although at the time of listing *P. cinnamomi* was thought to be a threat to this species, laboratory trials conducted in 2007–2008 demonstrated that *Philotheca freyciana* exhibits resistance to the disease, whilst still acting as a host for the pathogen (Rudman et al. 2008).



Philotheca freyciana Seed Orchard at Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

Image: Flickr Hive Mind (Seed Orchard)

References:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/68227-listing-advice.pdf>
<http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/species/pubs/68227-conservation-advice.pdf>

SEARCHING FOR A RARE PLANT

By Mark Abel

(Reprinted with permission from APS Newcastle Newsletter March 2017)

Back in September I had a run up to Booral to have a look for *Grevillea guthrieana*. This is an endangered grevillea that is found in two areas - near Booral & SW of Kempsey. I found a good cluster of plants along Booral Road. It was growing in areas that would get waterlogged from time to time - some were growing in & around the roadside drainage ditches. Whilst not the most desirable of plants for the garden, it is an interesting plant with unusual green flowers. There are a number of plants growing at the Hunter Botanic Gardens for those who want a shorter trip.

Description: A spreading shrub to 2 m high or occasionally to 4 m high. The branchlets are covered with long hairs when young and the leaf under-surface is also hairy. The narrow leaves are 2 to 6 cm long and less than 1 cm wide. The flowers are green and maroon and form at the end of the branchlets”

NSW office of Environment & Heritage



Grevillea guthrieana at Booral

Image: Mark Abell

Letter to the ABC from Bob and Wendy Ross

9/02/2017

We are both regular listeners to ABC 'Breakfast' on our radio - we think Fran is a good interviewer and we appreciate the ABCs relatively 'even-handed' and unbiased approach to subjects.

However we were concerned at the lack of what we perceive as 'balance' on this morning's segment about 'solar farms on prime agricultural land'.

We listened to a number of interviews with people involved both in the Queensland sugar industry and in agriculture generally, and no one - including the ABC people conducting the interview - pointed out the following points;

- 1, In the case of 'solar farms', the landholder is making a commercial decision to lease his land for use by a company in building solar arrays. This is an important difference to cases where the land is acquired by compulsory acquisition for use in mining!
2. The addition of solar panels does not mean that the landholder cannot continue to use the land for grazing cattle or sheep after construction is finished. In fact the grazing to keep flammable grasses down is an important function, and the land holder is not only receiving income from the use of his land as a 'solar farm' but continuing to receive income from grazing under the solar panels.
3. When the solar farm is obsolete and has to be removed, the land is still available for farming. This is vastly different to cases where the land is altered by mining.
4. We understand the concerns of sugar millers and agricultural people in the sugar industry that prime 'sugar producing' land is 'temporarily' removed from sugar production. However the point WAS NOT MADE that the sugar industry has been criticized for years as being the prime culprit in pollution of the ocean in Queensland due to runoff and excessive use of fertilisers. Removal of land from sugar production may lower the overall profits for sugar millers, but it has the considerable benefit on the environment by reducing toxic runoff into the ocean.

Overall, the use of prime agricultural land for solar farms is governed by location near electricity transmission facilities, and location near load centres - also flat sites. This should continue, because use of land for solar farms is an alternate use of land that has many benefits, including guaranteed income for the landholder (often a farmer that wants to get the income stream and reduce his dependance on heavy work for income.

Save our Flora

This is an example of the double standards which prevail regarding rare and endangered flora.

Why is it that our authorities can impose severe legislation on the community regarding endangered species yet be immune themselves when clearing for 'official' reasons.

Friends of the Royal National Park News

Recent Facebook posts

Contributed by Ralph Cartwright

Bob Crombie, posted some pics of works taking place on Lady Carrington Drive with this comment:

Work has begun on the construction of the Lady Carrington Hwy in Royal National Park. Swathes of rare plants and beautiful ferns cleared, rips into regenerating rainforest, wide enough for the new generation of obese walkers and bike riders to be able to pass each other. Heartbreaking.

Michael Treanor shared that album with our Park Watch page and then Mark DaSilva shared the album onto our general Facebook Page with this comment:

Some very heavy-handed vegetation clearing along Lady Carrington Drive. This picturesque heritage road along the Hacking River is (was) one of the most beautiful popular attractions in the Royal. What the heck has gone on here?

The Leader has now picked-up on it with this article:

Clearing of bushland on the edges of Lady Carrington Drive has dismayed Royal National Park lovers, who have appealed for more sensitivity to be shown when work resumes. However, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) said the work was necessary to allow access for heavy machinery to repair the storm-damaged "critical fire trail".

NPWS has so far cleared about 1.5 kilometres of the heritage track, which has been closed to traffic

for many years and is popular with walkers, joggers and mountain bike riders. Workers have been accused of being 'heavy handed' in pushing bushland back by one to two metres, ripping vines off rock faces and destroying natural habitats.

Bob Crombie, a leader in the campaign for the National Park to be added to the world heritage list, revealed the extent of the work on Facebook.

Mr Crombie told the Leader, "The park is of world heritage value and needs to be managed accordingly. NPWS can do this as evidenced by the excellent work being done on the Coast Track. Lady Carrington Drive needs the same care, attention and expertise. It is a heritage road and some parts need to be trimmed back or repaired, but you don't have to do something like this. They are turning it into a highway, three to four lanes wide. In the time I have been coming here, starting in the 1970s, I have never seen clearing done on this scale. It should be done properly, sensitively and with knowledge, but from what I can see that's just not happening.

This track is used by people to experience beauty and nature, and that should be kept in mind. It is one of the most beautiful places in Australia and should be revered and honoured, but we treat it like an engineering project rather than an aesthetic project. Other countries like Japan or European countries would pay trained people handsomely to come out here and meticulously look after this.

A spokesperson for NPWS said Lady Carrington Drive was "a critical fire trail" and was significantly damaged by a severe storm in 2016. "Vegetation maintenance was required to facilitate access for large machinery to undertake repair work to this critical fire trail used by NPWS and emergency services," she said. "Emergency Services have set standards relating to vegetation along fire trails and part of the current works is also ensuring NPWS trails meet these standards, providing safe access for our crews and firefighters.

Save our Flora

“All works on park are subject to assessment and approval prior to commencing to ensure the protection of the environment, and in particular threatened species or endangered communities”.

Watch Bob Crombie talk about the destruction here

<http://www.theleader.com.au/story/4383756/video-photos-dismay-over-bushland-destruction/?cs=1507>

Do you have any comments about this project or any other works which threaten an ecological community? Please share your concerns with us. Another problem (below) from the Friends Group which must be widespread across Australia. Does anyone have a solution?

Tuesday 17.01.2017

At 18:32 The crew of Bundeena Fire & Rescue NSW 080 were called to a grass fire at the end of Liverpool St Bundeena. On arrival the crew were advised by FIRECOM that the fire was in fact in Bonnievale picnic ground, the crew responded to this location and found a small area alight and being attended to by campers. The crew blacked out the fire area and found the remains of a **coal fire bbq** that had been dumped there had caused the fire to start. We would like to remind everyone to ensure these coals are fully extinguished and disposed of properly and not dumped into the bush.

The comments on the Bundeena Firey's page included a suggestion for hot coal bins, like those installed by Rockdale Council in several locations. Friends actually looked into this last year as a project that we might fund, but the cost was too high for our limited resources.

We were quoted over \$5,000 each, plus delivery, and installation and each bin would require a concrete base constructed. Parks would also have to agree to empty them at intervals assuming that they were used as intended.

If you have 5 minutes...

Watch one of these videos

Birds of Paradise- New Guinea

-Amazing photography of birds of paradise, high in the rainforests of New Guinea

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/REP4SouqEOc>

Online Articles to read

Three ingredients for running a successful **environmental campaign**

https://theconversation.com/three-ingredients-for-running-a-successful-environmental-campaign-72371?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20of%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20February%2006%202017%20-%2066904879&utm_content=Latest%20of%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20February%2006%202017%20-%2066904879+CID_10e1559b132f2a7be568eed942acc24&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Three%20ingredients%20for%20running%20a%20successful%20environmental%20campaign

YaleEnvironment 360

Published at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

In the Sierras, New Approaches to Protecting **Forests Under Stress**

By Janet Marinelli • February 13, 2017

<http://e360.yale.edu/features/in-the-sierras-new-thinking-on-protecting-forests-under-stress>

'Don't rock the boat': Rediscovery of plant kept under wraps as project approved

Peter Hannam 28/1/17

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/dont-rock-the-boat-rediscovery-of-plant-kept-under-wraps-as-project-approved-20170127-gtzrf3.html>

A plant not seen alive for almost two centuries has been found on Sydney's south-west fringe, the discovery revealed only after a project proposed for the area won planning approval.

Greg Hunt, the former Federal environment minister, approved for the SIMTA Moorebank Intermodal Terminal Facility in March, 2014, but imposed conditions on the rail freight plan, including a "targeted search" for an endangered species of *Hibbertia* flowering plants.

The search instead found 370 individuals of the *Hibbertia fumana* species on the seven-hectare site, formerly owned by the military and largely untouched. The plant was thought extinct and last documented in 1823. It was only named in 2012 as a separate species from pressed specimens held in overseas vaults.

"Finding a species thought to be extinct is not something many scientists get to do in a lifetime, so this is an exciting discovery for everyone involved," said Jane Rodd, a senior ecologist with Arcadis, the consultancy hired to do the search.

But rather than trumpet the rediscovery, staff within the Office of Environment & Heritage were told to keep the finding a secret until the SIMTA project won approval - which it did from the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) on December 12 last year.

"They wanted to keep it quiet," one insider told Fairfax Media. "They didn't want anything to complicate things."

The person, who requested anonymity, said staff are afraid to speak out: "We are all under pressure not to rock the boat - so many of us have already lost our jobs."

Mark Speakman, the environment minister until the appointment of Gladys Berejiklian as the state's new premier this week, said he was unaware of the flower's status.

"Neither I nor my office gave, or was aware of any, direction about dealing with any discovery of *Hibbertia fumana* at the Moorebank site," he said. An OEH spokesman said it was not his department's role to inform PAC of the *H. fumana* rediscovery. Despite the federal demand for a study, the PAC report made no mention of *Hibbertia*. The plant was granted a "critically endangered" emergency listing by the NSW Scientific Committee four days after the PAC ruling.



Hibbertia fumana

Image: The Sydney Morning Herald

"This area of bushland where the plants have been found is proposed to be set aside as a biobanking site as part of the adjacent development," the OEH spokesman said.

"The species has only been found on the proposed biobanking site and not in the development footprint," he said, adding the government is working with the alliance behind SIMTA and the Commonwealth "to ensure the security of the plants".

It's understood, though, that the rare plants are split by the existing rail siding and the project will cut through half of what's left. Wayne Olling, secretary of the Cumberland Conservation Network, said the government should let outside groups such as his own to examine whether the plants would indeed be secure.

"Here's an opportunity to save a species that we thought was lost and now found," Olling said. "The NSW government should have informed the PAC that there was a significant finding."

"Given all the concealment that's taken place so far, we have no confidence in what they say," Olling said. 'Very dodgy'

Save our Flora

Labor, the Greens and the NSW Nature Conservation Council (NCC), said the project needs to be reviewed after the finding of the rare plant.

"Any attempt to withhold information during the planning process is a very serious matter," said Penny Sharpe, Labor's environment spokeswoman, adding Minister Speakman "must publicly guarantee that there has not been any interference in the planning process either directed by his office or his department".

Mehreen Faruqi, the Greens environment spokeswoman, said there was "something very dodgy" about this whole thing.

"We need to know who knew what and when as well as how the project was approved just a few days before this critically endangered species was listed," Faruqi said.

"The environment minister needs to press pause and understand that this species occurs only on this site and if it is bulldozed, then it is likely gone from this earth forever."

Kate Smolski, chief executive of the NCC, said it was unacceptable the federal government approved projects before the full environmental impacts are known, and a stop-work should now be imposed on the project. The process also revealed "systemic failures" on the part of the NSW planning system, she said.

"The government should also explain why it took until mid-December to list the species as critically endangered when it was rediscovered on the site more than a month earlier," Ms Smolski said.

"It is hard to avoid the conclusion the NSW government delayed listing the species to ensure the project went ahead as scheduled."

Fairfax Media sought comment from Josh Frydenberg, Mr Hunt's successor in Canberra. The federal environment department, though, echoed comments of its state counterparts, saying that no *H. fumana* plants lie within the development site.

An offset site is being prepared so that the *H. fumana* "are not impacted by the project and will be protected in perpetuity", the department said in a statement.

Since the plant was not listed - as it was thought to be extinct - its discovery "will not trigger any review of the project's approval", the government said. "new species listings do not affect pre-existing approvals."



Hibbertia fumana

Image: Illawarra Mercury



BGANZ Notice - 2 February 2017

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/159fc265adcoa893>

This month we are proud to introduce BGCI's new database - **ThreatSearch** - the most comprehensive database of conservation assessments of plants. It contains over 242,000 conservation assessments, representing over 150,000 taxa.

ThreatSearch lists global, regional and national conservation assessments for plants, from a variety of sources with the aim of being a one-stop shop for finding conservation assessments for plants.

Together with our two main collaborators - the National Red List and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew - we have assembled currently available conservation assessments into a single list. [ThreatSearch](#) can be used to measure progress towards several targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

If you would like to contribute any missing conservation assessments, please contact redlist@bgci.org

About ThreatSearch

http://www.bgci.org/threat_search.php?action=about

BGCI's ThreatSearch database is the most comprehensive database of conservation assessments of plants. ThreatSearch lists global, regional and national red list assessments for plants. It lists conservation assessments from a variety of sources. The aim is for ThreatSearch to be a one-stop shop to find conservation assessments for plants. Together with our two main collaborators - the National Red List and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew - we have assembled currently available conservation assessments into a single list of conservation assessments for plants. We are continuing to add new conservation assessments, as well as adding older non-digital sources.

ThreatSearch can be used to measure progress toward several targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. First and foremost, by listing all conservation assessments for plants it helps to track

progress towards Target 2 (an assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, as far as possible, to guide conservation action).

ThreatSearch will further help to measure Target 7 (At least 75 per cent of known threatened plant species conserved in situ) and Target 8 (At least 75 per cent of threatened plant species in ex situ collections, preferably in the country of origin, and at least 20 per cent available for recovery and restoration programmes). ThreatSearch also aims to be directly relevant to conservationists, educators, horticulturists, researchers, policy makers and many others who are working to save and understand plant diversity.

Taxonomy

Species names have been matched to The Plant List (www.plantlist.org) whenever possible, and accepted names will be shown in bold. Names not in bold may be synonyms, or unassessed, names or names that have not yet been matched to an entry in The Plant List -- to come early 2017

Scope

The scope of the assessments has been assigned as Global, Not Global or Unknown. For many national or regional assessments, it has not been possible to assign a scope, as it is not known if the species is endemic to the geographical extent to which it was assessed.

Conservation status

Conservation assessments are carried out using a variety of different systems, an interpreted threat category has therefore been given:

If you know of any conservation assessments that are missing, please let us know ([redlist\(at\)bgci.org](mailto:redlist(at)bgci.org))

Citing ThreatSearch

Please cite any use of ThreatSearch data as: BGCI. [YEAR ACCESSED]. ThreatSearch online database. Botanic Gardens Conservation International. Richmond, UK. Available at www.bgci.org/threat_search.php

8th BGANZ Congress

22-25 October, 2017
Adelaide, South Australia.

Botanic Gardens South Australia warmly invite you to attend the **8th BGANZ Congress**, to be held at the National Wine Centre in Adelaide, SA, from 22-25 October 2017.

[Register Now](#)

The world-class program will feature international speakers who will highlight the key role that botanic gardens in Australia and New Zealand play to enhance and protect our environments.

Botanic Gardens of South Australia will host the 8th BGANZ Congress and hope all BGANZ Members and non-Members can attend the first BGANZ Congress to be held in Adelaide.

The theme for the 8th BGANZ Congress is, 'Preservation: Exploring and Adapting'.

[Register Here](#) and view all the Congress details.

Yarwun Whitewood

Attalaya collina (endangered)

Contributed by Ruth Crosson - Gladstone

Invitation from Gladstone City Council

I would like to invite you to the inaugural planting of the new presently developing Demonstration Gardens at Tondoon Botanic Gardens.

We are excited to undertaking a world first, by planting the first arboretum of its kind of the endangered Yarwun Whitewood tree.

The planting will take place on Thursday, 9 March from 9am, followed by a morning tea at the Gardens. Please let me know the number of persons attending. Members from your Native Plants Queensland Gladstone Group are welcome to attend.

Maria: What a fabulous outcome! Some of you will remember this all started with council workers chopping down Ruth's tree. I emailed the Mayor and it all snow-balled from there. Now Gladstone has turned a complaint into a positive tourism asset. Great work Ruth!

Rare Flora Search and Rescue Project

Judith Harvey

Reprinted from Wildflower Society of WA Newsletter, February, 2017

This new and exciting project, a collaboration between The Wildflower Society, WWF-Australia and the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW), is looking for community volunteers to help with the search for our rare and poorly known flora. These species, listed as Priority 1 and 2 by DPaW, are those that are under threat and known from only a few records, but are not protected, as they are in need of further survey to ascertain their conservation status. The project will focus on 50 species of Priority 1 and 2 flora known from the Lesueur Sandplains, Esperance and eastern Wheatbelt areas. We aim to inform, train, support and equip community volunteers to enable them to continue to search for these rare and poorly known species independently, in the future.

We are now seeking Expressions of Interest from community groups or individuals interested in becoming part of this project. Small teams will be formed to cover the range of skills required. Roles include; a registered user of the collection tool, volunteers with some basic botanical knowledge (to understand plant descriptions), GPS operators, licenced plant collectors, drivers and searchers.

Registration as a DPaW Volunteer is required to ensure appropriate health and safety training, insurance cover and eligibility for volunteer rewards. There will be training, organised group excursions and opportunities for skilled individuals and small groups to survey independently. A smart phone app, developed specifically for this project, will enable the collection and collation of information from volunteers in the field.

Fact sheets will be issued for each target species with information about existing and potential locations, plant descriptions, habitat, other indicator species and key differences between similar common and priority species. Permission to search on private property will also be sought. This project is funded by State NRM through the Community Capability Grants Program.

If you are interested in being involved in this exciting project, please contact Judith Harvey at Judith.Harvey@dpaw.wa.gov.au or on 9219 9050 or 0409 290 610. Alternatively, contact Shenaye Hummerston at SHummerston@wwf.org.au or on 0455 066 897.

Attalaya collina planting day
Thursday 9th March
Tondoon Botanic Gardens
Gladstone Qld.

Images supplied by Ruth Crosson



Left- Mayor Mat Burnett, MP Glen Butcher planting tree, Ruth Crosson SGAP, (who was involved in discovery of species with Ted Johansen about 1981 or 1982, on Mervin Boyle's Yarwun property) and right is MP Ken O'Dowd.



The whole group involved on the day. On the right is the tray of trees to be planted. Only one was planted that day because of rain. More trees will be planted on the original site at Yarwan and a grove will be planted at Tondoon BG.



Mayor and Aldermen involved in the planting. Wonderful to see Council taking a leadership role. When Ruth's tree was cut down I contacted the Mayor with a formal complaint from Save our Flora. She was very understanding. This planting is in response to Ruth's advocacy in having this species saved and promoted as a feature tree of the region.



After the ceremonial planting. Volunteers at the Gardens attended as well.

Australian Network for Plant Conservation News February 2017

<http://www.anpc.asn.au>

ANPC survey on the Australian native seed industry - new closing date 28 April 2017

Due to popular demand, the Australian native seed industry survey, undertaken in October 2016 prior to the APCC11 seed industry workshop, has now re-opened! Anyone who is interested in completing the survey, and missed out last year, can [email Martin Driver](#) and he will send you the survey link.

Australian seed collectors, growers/sellers/suppliers, purchasers/distributors and other interested parties are invited to participate in this survey on the status of the Australian native seed industry.

[Review of the ANPC's 'Guidelines for Translocation of Threatened Plants in Australia'](#)

The ANPC is delighted to announce that we have received funding from the [National Environmental Science Program's Threatened Species Recovery Hub](#) to produce the third edition of the [translocation guidelines](#). The project forms part of the Hub's larger Project 4.3 - '[Improving threatened plant reintroduction success and species recovery](#)'. The review will be undertaken during 2017 through consultation and liaison with a wide range of experts (scientists and practitioners), community representatives and organisations, and a final draft will be produced in early 2018. More information will be available soon and a national consultation workshop is planned for May 2017.

[Proposed listing of the 'Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains' ecological community - invitation to comment on draft conservation advice](#)

In 2013, the national Threatened Species Scientific Committee received and accepted a nomination to list the Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains as a nationally threatened ecological community under the Federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act). The Committee has since undertaken its scientific assessment, and drafted a Conservation Advice, which compiled information from published papers, reports, and also drew on advice from key experts familiar with this ecological community. The draft conservation advice clarifies what vegetation should be the basis of any listing and what national

threat status is likely to apply. The Committee invites you to provide input on the draft conservation advice regarding the proposed threatened status and priority management actions. The [draft conservation advice can be downloaded here](#). The closing date for comment is Friday 10 March 2017.

[Information guide is now available for the 'Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain' ecological community](#)

The ecological community was listed as endangered under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 in September 2016. The guide is intended to assist the public to understand the national listing of the Banksia Woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain ecological community – What it is? Why it is threatened? What does national protection mean for people in the region? This guide accompanies the approved Conservation Advice, which is the definitive source of information on the ecological community. For more information to [Species Profile and Threats Database](#).

[Rainforest Plants of Australia – Rockhampton to Victoria, by Gwen Harden et. al. is now available as an app for your mobile device.](#)

The app is based on the popular computer key (distributed as a USB) of the same name. It identifies trees, shrubs and climbing plants that occur naturally or have become naturalized (including exotic weeds) in rainforest from Rockhampton to Victoria. At the core of this app is an interactive identification key powered by Lucid. The key includes 1140 plant species, to help confirm identification the app provides line drawings, over 8000 photos and extensive information on each species, including previously unavailable botanical details. A customised image gallery walk-through tutorial assists the user in working the key and accessing the content. The introductory sections include a glossary, information and images on rainforest and the types of rainforest used in this key. Click on the relevant link below for more information and to purchase. Note: once installed an internet connection is not required, so great for field work.

[Android - Google Play Store](#)

[iOS - Apple iTunes](#)

<http://www.anpc.asn.au>

Endangered macadamias find a permanent home

Echo Net Daily

<http://www.echo.net.au/2013/10/endangered-macadamias-find-a-permanent-home/>



Macadamia integrifolia (Dwarf Macadamia)

Image: Daleys Fruit Tree Nursery

Australia's favourite nut and one of the northern rivers' best exports – the macadamia – is so ubiquitous that who would have thought the original varieties could be an endangered species?

But, strange as it seems, that proves to be the case.

Most of the Big Scrub that was once home to the macadamia has of course been cleared and, with it, most of the original varieties have vanished.

Enter the Macadamia Conservation Trust and Lismore City Council, who have hatched a plan to conserve and protect wild macadamias by planting the endangered species in perpetuity at the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens.

Last weekend, the two well-known commercial species, *Macadamia integrifolia* and *Macadamia tetraphylla*, were planted alongside the rare *Macadamia ternifolia* and *Macadamia janseni*, making it the first time all four species have been displayed together in the region.

Historian and representative of the Macadamia Conversation Trust, Ian McConachie AM, said the industry was thrilled to be working with Lismore City Council to rescue the Australian icon from extinction and educate the local community.

'There is a lack of public awareness of the wild macadamia species and an ever-increasing number of threats to their existence. They are highly vulnerable to risks such as fire, weeds, vandalism,

urban sprawl and population growth,' Mr McConachie said.

'By planting all four species in Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens, we're highlighting the real risk of extinction in the future and conserving their genetics while allowing the public to view and appreciate our beautiful indigenous flora,' he said.

'The *Macadamia tetraphylla* tree, commonly known as the rough-shelled macadamia or the bush nut, originated from tiny remnants now left of the Big Scrub and symbolises what was Australia's largest single rainforest.'

The trees, taken from local rainforests, will have signage placed next to their new home to illustrate and educate the community about the Australian macadamia story. It will take approximately four to five years for the species to flower and about 10 years to become fully mature. They grow best in subtropical conditions of good soil, warmth and rain.



Macadamia tetraphylla (Rough Shelled Macadamia)

Image: Canarias

Lismore City Council assisted by planting and maintaining the trees in the Botanic Gardens, which have been established on waste land on the southern outskirts of Lismore by a dedicated group of local volunteers with the indispensable support of Lismore City Council.

It is estimated that more than 80 per cent of wild macadamia trees have been lost since European settlement with many of the remaining populations at risk of extinction today. The Macadamia Conservation Trust is a not-for-profit environmental organisation aimed at conserving wild macadamias in their native habitat as well as facilitating research and education.

Save our Flora

Seed and Cuttings Exchange

Please send all requests directly to the person making the offer or the group email saveourflora@gmail.com

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.

Maria Hitchcock

16 Hitchcock Lane Armidale NSW 2350

Correa eburnea

Correa calycina

Callistemon pungens

Grevillea wilkinsonii

Zieria adenodonta

Zieria prostrata

Zieria floydii

I also sell some species through my online nursery

coolnatives.com.au

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 verticulutus/seeds or cuttings

Kunzea flavescens

K graniticola

Callistemon pearsonii

Callistemon 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

Russell Dahms (email saveourflora@gmail.com)

Boronia clavata

Denise & Graeme Krake

752 Warrigal Range Rd. Brogo NSW 2550

Seed of

Hakea dohertyi

Hakea ochroptera

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.

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 have seed of *Hakea dohertyi* and a large plant of *Hakea ochroptera* from which cutting material could be taken. I also have a plant of *Callistemon megalongensis* which has not flowered yet, but cutting material would be available in autumn. The seed originally came from the Melaleuca Study Group seed bank many years ago.

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 directly. Please make sure you follow the protocols on the back page. (Ed)

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