



Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) Inc newsletter

President: Lawrie Smith

Secretary: Jane Fountain

Treasurer: Joan Abercrombie

Email: ANPSAexec@sgapqld.org.au

Address: P.O. Box 191, Lawnton. Qld. 4501

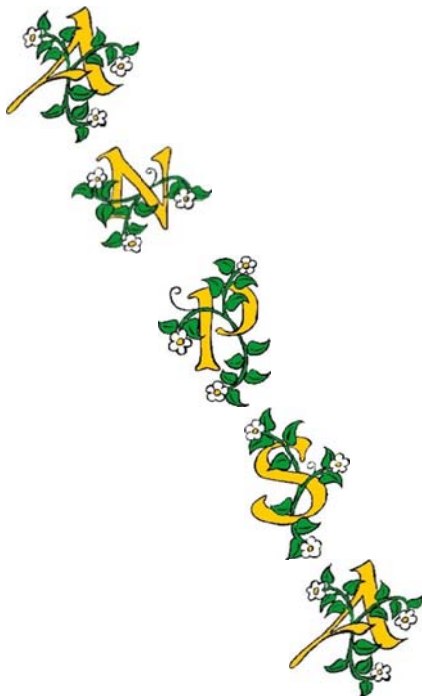
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CONTENTS:	Page
President's Message.....	1
Australian Plants Award.....	2
Council Clippings.....	3
Study Groups	5
ANPSA Canberra Conference	6
Regional Roundup.....	7
Snippets	12
ANPSA Executive.....	15
Appointed Positions on Council.....	15
Delegates & Alternate Delegates.....	15



Editor: Jan Sked
Email: jansked@bigpond.com

Any views or opinions expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the ANPSA Council.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



No doubt many of us will have already registered for this year's Biennial Conference in Canberra which, together with the pre and post conference field trips, seems set to be another quality 'do not miss' event for the Society. Certainly I am looking forward to experiencing many of the special places in Canberra where our native plants rightly give credence to the Conference theme of "Bush Capital - Garden City".

It is very appropriate that the Conference programme gives high prominence to involvement by the Study Groups which provide the strong and fundamental basis for the Society. ANPSA provides support for Study Group Leaders to attend the Conference and I urge all to contact Neville and Lesley to find out how to take advantage of this, so that together the important continent-wide role of the Study Groups can be realised and expanded.

The reports from Member Regions received at the recent Council Meeting teleconference indicate that the Society continues to provide important community outreach, with membership remaining basically static, but with some fluctuation state by state. Many regional groups are experimenting with new initiatives to promote the value of native plants and to attract members with varying success. As we all know ANPSA Member Societies are not unique in this as other comparable groups are experiencing similar problems.

As always, apart from the usual tasks to deal with, there are many interesting and different things to do or investigate as the executive administers the day to day activities of ANPSA. Since the last Newsletter these are several of the principle activities:

Brian Walters continues to manage and update the website in an exemplary fashion as he has done for the past 20 years – congratulations Brian! He always has a ready answer to sometimes unusual requests for information.

The Conservation committee has produced an excellent set of guidelines to coordinate ANPSA responses to proposed impacts on our native flora habitats.

In response to the proposal from Graham Ross to increase the coverage of native plants in the TV programme 'Better Homes and Gardens', our Publicity Officer Nicky Zanen has prepared a draft annual calendar of those events that may have media interest.

All Member Regions are urged to review their own calendars and keep Nicky regularly advised. It is vitally important that we provide selected events in 2016 so that next year's Calendar can be prepared well ahead of time. Unfortunately some of our members have been a little tardy in providing details this year.

There are other items and decisions in the teleconference minutes that may affect your Society, so make sure you check the text and prepare your comments about any of the items.

Importantly, on September 15 you will receive the Notice of Meeting for the November 15 Biennial and AGM Meetings. This date is also the deadline for receipt of nominations for the AGM, as well as Annual Reports from all Member Societies.

Consequently, now is the time to ensure that you have appointed your two delegates to the Biennial Meeting and AGM in Canberra. They will need to know how to participate in the meetings and suitably present the requirements of your Region.

See you in Canberra!



Lawrie Smith AM
ANPSA President



NOTICE to MEMBER SOCIETIES and DELEGATES:

Please advise the ANPSA Executive as soon as possible when there is any change in your details.

Australian Plants Award 2015



As we all know the Australian flora provides a great impetus for many people, particularly our members, to explore, research, propagate and grow, then widely share their knowledge of some of the world's most unique plant species. The Australian Plants Award recognises both amateur and professional people who have provided distinguished service to furthering community awareness of the many values of our flora. If you refer to the list of past recipients it will reveal a 'who's who' of Australia's most eminent botanists, horticulturalists, environmentalists and gardeners.

This year we have two new recipients to add to the increasing significance of this list.

Peter Olde - amateur category.

Peter has provided distinguished service since first joining the Sutherland Group NSW in 1977 and since then contributing so much to the Society at all levels, to botanic gardens, many publications and specifically detail research and demonstration of the *Grevillea* genus through the Study Group.

John Arnott - professional category.

Although not a member of the Society, over the past 30 years he has made major contribution to Australian plants though his various horticultural roles at Melbourne Zoo, and the Botanic gardens of Melbourne, Geelong and Cranbourne. He is a regular contributor to the media and, as speaker to many organisations, always inspiring the community to use and enjoy Australian native plants in their home gardens.

Warm congratulations to both our recipients for 2015. We will learn a great deal more about their contribution to Australian native plants and the Society during the presentation of the awards at this year's Biennial Conference in Canberra.

Lawrie Smith
ANPSA President

Past Recipients:

1983	Adelaide	George Althofer (NSW)
1985	No award	
1987	Canberra	Brian Grieve (WA) professional Peter and Hazel Althofer (NSW) amateur
1989	Hobart	Winifred Curtis (Tas) professional
1991	Perth	Enid Robertson (SA) professional Elizabeth George (WA) amateur
1993	Sydney	Marion Blackwell (WA) professional Bill Payne (NSW) amateur
1995	Ballarat	Rodger Elliot (Vic) professional David Gordon (Qld) amateur Fred Rogers (Vic) amateur
1997	Adelaide	Alan Gray (Tas) professional Neil Marriott (Vic) professional Ivan Holliday (SA) amateur Albie Lindner (Vic) amateur
1999	Brisbane	David Jones (Canberra) professional Gregory Keighery (WA) professional David Hockings (Qld) amateur Brian Powell (SA) amateur
2001	Canberra	Ian Fraser (Canberra) professional Lawrie Smith (Qld) professional Gwyn and Geoff Clarke (Canberra) amateur
2004	Launceston	Gwen Harden (NSW) professional Irene Champion (Qld) amateur Marion and John Simmons (Tas) amateur
2005	Perth	John Knight (NSW) professional George Lullfitz (WA) professional Eileen Croxford (WA) amateur Rosemary Pedler (SA) amateur
2007	Newcastle	Peter Bostock (Qld) professional Elizabeth Corbett (Tas) professional Dick Burns (Tas) amateur Jan Sked (Qld) amateur
2009	Geelong	Bob Dixon (WA) professional Merv Hodge (Qld) amateur
2011	Adelaide	Gwen Elliot (Vic) professional Ken Warnes (SA) amateur
2013	Sunshine Coast	Angus Stewart (NSW) professional Hazel Dempster (WA) amateur

COUNCIL CLIPPINGS**AMENDMENT TO ANPSA RULES & BY-LAWS:**

At the ANPSA Council Meeting on 24th March 2015 the following amendment to the Rules and By-Laws was passed:

Section 4 (4) Member Societies of the Association to be amended by inserting after 'Wildflower Society of Western Australia (Inc)' the words 'Top End Native Plant Society (Inc)'.

CONSERVATION COORDINATOR'S GUIDELINES:

The following guidelines have been adopted for the role of ANPSA Conservation Coordinator.

ANPSA Objects

Objectives relevant to the position of ANPSA Conservation Officer

1. To further collaboration between Autonomous Member Societies.
2. To promote the conservation of Australian plants and their habitats
3. To speak with one voice for Member Societies at a national level.

Position Description

1. Prepare submissions as requested by ANPSA Executive.
2. Respond to requests from ANPSA Member Societies. To avoid excessive ANPSA workloads, individual members should be encouraged to bring issues to the attention of the relevant Member Society or Conservation Officer who, on consideration, can elect to forward the matter to the ANPSA Conservation Officer.
3. Suggest areas/issues on which ANPSA submissions should be prepared.
4. Seek input from Conservation Officers/Committees of ANPSA Member Societies in appropriate Regions on relevant issues prior to finalising ANPSA submissions.
5. Encourage collaboration of ANPSA Member Societies to maximise the effectiveness of submissions at State level.
6. Finalise submissions for ANPSA Council members approval.
7. Prepare a report on activities undertaken for each ANPSA Council meeting.
8. Undertake other duties as requested or directed.

Guidelines

Matters appropriate for the ANPSA Conservation Officer on which to make submissions:

1. Projects/issues affecting Matters of National Environmental Significance related to flora and ecosystems (Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities)

2. Projects/issues affecting several Regions requiring a collective response.
3. Projects/issues affecting national assets e.g. World Heritage areas.
4. Projects/issues affecting National Parks.
5. Projects/issues that are very large, cross State borders, have large impacts or are of very high significance.

Submissions are to:

1. Focus on plants, plant communities or plant/animal interactions (eg where a plant's existence is closely determined by the continued existence of an animal).
2. Insure all conservation efforts undertaken are based on good science that is well-researched and objective.
3. Be sent to Conservation Officers/Committees of ANPSA Member Societies in the region/s in which the matter is relevant for comment and review.
4. Make suggestions on how to improve the outcome of the project/issue, based on and using ANPSA expertise in knowing, growing and conserving plants.

ARCHIVING ANPSA RECORDS

Following Kerry Smith's Report on archiving of ANPSA documents, there was discussion on what documents had so far been archived and what documents needed to be archived, what form they should take and who was to undertake this task. It was suggested that an experienced librarian be approached to coordinate it all.

Digital storage was discussed and the Executive will look at researching this method and bring recommendations to the Conference in Canberra.

KIMBERLEY TOUR

Nicky Zanen advised that the proposed departure date for the trip to the Kimberleys was 28th May 2016. Accommodation options include High Class Tents. A revised proposal will be put together and distributed soon.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR STUDY GROUP LEADERS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES

A rather complicated and unwieldy scheme was proposed some years ago to provide financial assistance to Study Group Leaders to attend ANPSA Conferences. The funding was to come from the interest earned on ANPSA investments. This source of funding is still to be made available to Study Group Leaders, but the Study Group Coordinators will look into the way in which this money is to be distributed.

Ben Walcott advised that so far eleven Study Group Leaders had registered to attend the Conference.

NATIVE FLOWER LIST FOR FLORISTS

Webmaster, Brian Walters, advises that the format for the listing of native flowers suitable for florists has been placed on the ANPSA website. He asks that members review this format and give him feedback. Details will be added later. The URL is <http://anpsa.org.au/flowers.html>. This list is intended for the use of florists, not growers of native plants.

ANPSA WEBSITE

Mail Handling Policy:

The handling of incoming emails to ANPSA via the web site is in need of a formalised policy. There has never been a policy for the effective handling of emails and the present system has just evolved over time.

The Webmaster suggests the following:

- A nominated member of the Executive receive all emails that are received via the ANPSA website other than those clearly associated with website matters, and coordinate any necessary responses.
- The Webmaster will receive and respond to any emails concerning website issues, including requests by third parties for the use of website photographs and other material.
- Separate email addresses should be set up by the webmaster to cater for the above and these addresses be published on the 'Contacts' page of the website.

2015 Biennial Conference Website

A special website has been set up for the 2015 Biennial Conference in consultation with the Conference Organising Committee. The site provides details of the Conference programme and Pre- and Post-Conference tours as well as accommodation options and provision for online Registration. The site is updated as required by the Organising Committee. The website can be viewed at:

<http://conference2015.anpsa.org.au>

The website can be updated for use with future Conferences.

Members-only Web Page

A Members-only section has been set up for testing purposes. It can be found at:

<http://anpsa.org.au/admin>

Username: anpsa

Password: anpsa2014

20th Anniversary of Website

Time flies! 2015 marks the 20th Anniversary of the ANPSA website, which started in 1995 in a small way by NSW Region before being officially taken up by ANPSA (then ASGAP). The exact date that the site went live has been lost in the 'mists of time', although it may be buried somewhere in the minutes of NSW Regional Council.

Brian Walters has been ANPSA's Webmaster for all of those 20 years - a valiant effort! Many thanks Brian for all the effort you have put into it.

STUDY GROUPS

There have been quite a few changes to Study Groups as follows:

Eremophila Study Group:

Colin Jennings has been seriously ill in hospital, and has consequently tendered his resignation as the Eremophila Study Group Leader. A number of the Group members met, and a newsletter was published, among other things seeking volunteers to take over as leader and newsletter editor. A number of responses were received, including suggestions. As a result, Ken Warnes has agreed to take on the role of Study Group Leader, and Bev Rice has agreed to be Newsletter Editor.

Isopogon and Petrophile Study Group:

David Lightfoot has retired as Leader of the Isopogon & Petrophile Study Group. Phil Trickett and Catriona Bate have agreed to take over as joint leaders.

Correa Study Group:

Cherree Densley has retired as Leader of the Correa Study Group. New joint leaders are Dot and Bob O'Neill, and Newsletter Editor remains Russell Dahms.

Rainforest Study Group:

The Rainforest Study Group has been in recess for a number of years, the last recorded newsletter being published in 2006. The previous Leader, Kris Kupsch, has agreed to re-establish the Group with an electronic newsletter only; no printed copy and no subscription fee.

National Library of Australia

The Study Group Coordinators have received notification from the National Library of Australia that they no longer wish to receive copies of the ANPSA Study Group Newsletters. The Library does not explain the reasons for this change in policy.

However, Legal Deposit with the National Library is required under the *Copyright Act 1968, s201*. The Act requires all Australian publishers to deliver a copy of 'library material' to the National Library within one month of publication.

'Library material' means a book, periodical (e.g. newsletter, magazine, annual report), newspaper, pamphlet, sheet of letterpress, sheet music, map, plan, chart or table.

National Botanic Gardens Library

The librarian at the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Canberra has expressed a desire to maintain a complete set of Study Group Newsletters, so the Study Group coordinators are working with her to ensure that. The ANBG Library already has a fairly complete collection.

Study Groups and the ANPSA Conference 2015

Planning for the ANPSA Conference in November this year, envisages a major role for Study Groups and Study Group Leaders, including presentations, workshops, and Study Group Leaders meetings.

ANPSA STUDY GROUPS:

ACACIA

Bill Aitchison, 13 Conos Court, Donvale. Vic 3111
Email: acaciastudygroup@gmail.com

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS AS BONSAI

Roger Hnatiuk, P.O. Box 450, Jamison Post Office, Macquarie. ACT. 2614
Email: rjhntiuk@yahoo.com.au

BANKSIA

Cas Liber, P.O. Box 83, St. Paul's. NSW. 2031.
Email: casliber01@yahoo.com

BORONIA & ALLIED GENERA

Doug Coates, 305/87 Yarranabbe Road, Darling Point. NSW 2027.
Email: doug.coates@bigpond.com

BRACHYCHITON & ALLIED GENERA

Kerry Rathie, 6 Bright Street, Toowoomba South. Qld. 4350. Email: krathie6@bigpond.com

CORREA

Dot & Bob O'Neill, 7 Hillsmeade Dve, Narre Warren South. vic. 3805
Email: oneills@heart-reflections.com

DRYANDRA

Margaret Pieroni, 22 Ravenhill Heights, DENMARK. W.A. 6333. Email: mpieroni@bigpond.com

EPACRIS

Gwen Elliott, 81/72 Kangan Drive, Berwick. Vic. 3806. Email: gwenelliott@optusnet.com.au

EREMOPHILA

Ken Warnes, P.O. Box 47, Owens. S.A. 5460
Email: kwarnes@rbe.net.au

EUCALYPTUS

Warwick Varley, PO Box 456, Wollongong. NSW. 2520. Email: tallowwood@hotmail.com

FERN

Peter Bostock, P.O. Box 402, Kenmore. Qld. 4069.
Email: pbostock@ozemail.com.au

GARDEN DESIGN

Benjamin Walcott, 10 Wickham Crescent, Red Hill. ACT. 2603. Email: bwalcott@netspeed.com.au

GREVILLEA

Peter Olde, 140 Russell Lane, Oakdale NSW 2570.
Email: peter.olde@exemail.com.au

HAKEA

Paul Kennedy, 210 Aireys Street, Elliminyt. Vic. 3249
Email: hakeaholic@gmail.com

ISOPOGON & PETROPHILE

Phil Trickett & Catriona Bate, P.O. Box 291, Ulladulla. NSW. 2539. Email: catrionaandphil@gmail.com

WALLUM & COASTAL HEATHLAND

Barbara Henderson, 36 Railway Terrace, Moore. Qld. 4306. Phone: 07 5424 7073

WARATAH AND FLANNEL FLOWER

Maria Hitchcock, 16 Hitchcock Lane, Armidale. NSW. 2350. Email: maria.hitchcock@gmail.com

STUDY GROUPS INACTIVE or IN RECESS:

AUSTRALIAN FOOD PLANTS

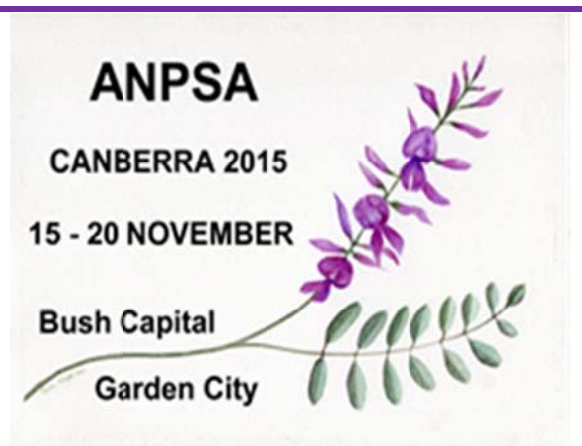
AUSTRALIAN PLANTS FOR CONTAINERS

FABACEAE

HIBISCUS & RELATED GENERA

PALM & CYCAD

WILDLIFE & NATIVE PLANTS



**Australian Institute of Sport
Bruce, ACT**

<http://anpsa.org.au/conference2015>

Pre-Conference Field trip:

NSW South Coast

Monday 9 November

returning on Friday 13 November

The trip will take you from the tablelands of the ACT down the escarpment of the Great Dividing Range to the South Coast of NSW. We will see a range of ecosystems, including wet and dry sclerophyll forests, rainforest and heathland, taking in the South East Corner and Sydney Basin bioregions. Leaders will be John and Sue Knight, Phil Trickett and Catriona Bate.

Pre-Conference One Day Excursion:

Brindabella Mtns

Saturday 14 November 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Ian Fraser will lead a one day excursion up into the Brindabella Mountains on the western edge of the ACT and into NSW. Travel will be by a small bus which takes you on minor roads into the heart of the Namadgi National Park in the ACT and the Bimberi Nature Reserve and Brindabella National Park in New South Wales.

Conference Program

Sunday 15 November:

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM a free culture bus will run from the AIS to areas in the parliamentary triangle such as Old Parliament House, Portrait Gallery, National Museum of Australia, National Gallery and War Memorial

Monday 16 to Thursday 19 November

9:00 AM to lunch: Speakers and Study Group presentations

Lunch at the AIS and after lunch, excursions

Friday 20 November

Excursions in the morning then lunch at the AIS

Afternoon: Talks and closing remarks followed by plant sale

CONFERENCE EXCURSIONS:

Each day of the conference, there will be 5 different excursions to:

- A. Australian National Botanic Gardens
- B. National Arboretum, Southern Tablelands Ecosystem Park, National Bonsai Collection and National Rock Garden
- C. Pillans Garden and Queanbeyan Nature Reserve
- D. Kowen Traveling Stock Route and associated grasslands
- E. Walcott Garden

Post Conference Field Trips:

One Day Excursion to Brindabella Mtns with Ian Fraser

Saturday 21 November 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

This will be a repeat of Ian's pre-conference trip.

Post-Conference Field Trip: To the High Country

Saturday November 21 to Thursday November 26

From the Tablelands to the Mountains, an exploration of the flora from the Monaro grasslands (1000m) to the alpine herbfields (2000m) with Roger Farrow and Jo Walker

Accommodation:

The Conference organising committee has made arrangements for people to stay at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). Cost is \$90.00 for bed and breakfast per person. Further information is available on the Conference Website: <http://anpsa.org.au/conference2015>

The committee has also compiled information about alternative accommodation for those not wishing to stay at the Australian Institute of Sport. A larger list is available on the Conference website of ACT-wide accommodation provided by the Canberra and Region Visitors Centre. This has contact details, star rating, and available facilities.

Accommodation providers can be contacted direct or through the Canberra and Region Visitors Centre.

Phone: 1300 554 114; URL:

<http://www.visitcanberra.com.au/>

Registration:

Forms will be distributed to all Regions and Societies and will be available on the Conference Website (<http://anpsa.org.au/conference2015>), by email request through the website or by mail to: Registrar, PO Box 187, Deakin West, ACT 2600.

Early Bird Registration until 1 July:	\$355.00
Regular Registration until 1 November:	\$395.00
Day trip to Brindabellas including lunch	:\$ 75.00
Pre-Conference trip to coast:	
Twin/double share per person:	\$ 595.00
Single	\$ 795.00
Post-Conference trip to alpine areas:	
Twin/double share per person:	\$ 610.00
Single	\$ 873.00

REGIONAL ROUNDUP



ANPS Canberra Region:

ANPS Book:

The fifth edition of “Australian Plants for Canberra Region Gardens and Other Cool Climate Areas” was released on 15 March, 2015, with a book launch at the Australian National Botanic Gardens. The launch had a capacity audience of 100, and the book has been well received. The official launch was undertaken by well-known Canberra journalist, Ian Warden.

Memorandum of Understanding with ANBG

The Memorandum of Understanding between ANPS Canberra Region and the Australian National Botanic Gardens is working well. The ANBG provides ANPS with facilities, including meeting rooms and storage space, and provides twice a year a venue for plants sales. In turn, ANPS makes significant cash donations to the Gardens.

Autumn Plant Sale

The ANPS Autumn Plant Sale was held on Saturday, 21 March, 2015, in almost perfect weather conditions and almost every one of the 8,000 plants on offer were sold. The Autumn Sale usually draws less than the October Spring Sale, but this year seems to have been an exception.

Conference 2015

Arrangements for the National ANPSA Conference in November, 2015, are progressing well under the leadership of Ben Walcott. The Conference will be at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra, and registrations opened in April.



APS NSW:

Membership

Membership fees increased by \$3 in every category from 1 January 2015, with individual membership now \$53 per year. This was the first increase in fees since January 2008. The membership form in *Native Plants for NSW* and the website was redesigned to encourage payment by direct deposit.

Membership is increasing. At 31 December 2014, APS NSW had 1,045 memberships, compared to 1,022 at 31 December 2013 – the first end-of-year annual increase in many years.

The Growth and Promotion Committee continues to implement the Growth and Promotion Action Plan adopted in April 2014 to increase membership.

- The membership incentive launched in October 2014 to encourage existing members to buy a gift membership before Christmas and receive a \$10 gift card was not successful for several reasons.
- Wide-brimmed hats with the APS logo have been ordered to sell at cost to members to help with branding.
- Resources to support groups continue to be added to the new members-only Growth and Promotion section of the APS NSW website.

Publicity – Royal Easter Show 2015

APS NSW had a presence in the horticultural pavilion at the Royal Easter Show in April with a small stand at which were displayed Australian plants and hand-out APS information. District Groups had entries in the Australian plants competition, and used any prize wins to promote APS in their local media. Talks were given by APS members on stage in the horticultural pavilion.

Activities – APS NSW quarterly gatherings and get-together

The November 2014 quarterly gathering was held in the Hawkesbury area in western Sydney and the March 2015 gathering at Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden hosted by North Shore Group. Future gatherings include 23 May 2015 and AGM hosted by East Hills Group, and the annual group get-together on 4-5 July 2015 hosted by Blue Mountains Group.

Other issues

John Andrews joined the Board in February 2015 and Jim Ward resigned. The new Study Group Liaison Officer is Wendy Grimm. As part of the handover, a USB with digital copies of newsletters from the last 5 years was collated and sent to the ANPSA Study Group Co-ordinators.

There have been inquiries from members about insurance which has required checking the full policy details with APS NSW for volunteers, directors and members of the public and with ANPSA for Study Group activities.

The January 2015 issues of *Native Plants for NSW* and *Australian Plants* were dispatched by a mail house for the first time, saving volunteer time. Future issues of *Australian Plants* journal include (to be confirmed):

Autumn 2015 – Canberra Australian Native Plants Society preconference issue

Winter 2015 – Goodeniaceae

Spring 2015 – Australian native gardens
 Summer 2015/16 – to be decided

The Editors John Aitken and Merle Thompson welcome any suggestions for future issues.



SGAP Qld. Region:

Queensland Region has a new trading name and its first real logo - the Queensland floral emblem, the Cooktown Orchid. Over the previous twelve months a review of the public name of the Society has been on the Council agenda and feedback from the Branches confirmed that members were no longer using the full original name of the Society, but had a preference for a modern name to which the public would more easily relate.

Over the years membership interests have broadened and, while they support the growing aspect, there is also strong interest in the conservation of our many rare and threatened native plants in situ.

Consideration was given to using an APS format, but the concern was that it would not give the immediacy of recognition required and therefore may need further review in the future. The choice of *Native Plants Queensland* also dove-tails nicely with the lead provided by longstanding native fauna societies in Queensland who have adopted a very similar format. The final choice was also driven by research undertaken into favourite “search words” experienced on the Internet which the Society recognises will play a more significant role in the future. The Society’s original name however remains as the legal name of the organisation.

Administration

The promotion and implementation of the new name is a major task for the new Council since the April AGM.

There is a review underway by the Regional Council of display equipment to assist Branches and this will progress to all promotional literature. At the risk of sounding commercial, some Councillors have pointed out that after fifty seven years the Society’s image (or branding) has become very inconsistent, so it is hoped the new image will bring a more clear identification in the public arena.

Conservation

After a surprising election result Queensland now has a new State Government that is showing positive early signs of engaging with interested habitat related groups. Unfortunately, the more relaxed

attitude to tree clearing has seen clearing rates rise rapidly in recent years. Early data suggests the clearing rate to be about 20 percent higher in 2013-14 than in 2012-13.

Publications

The recent release of Kerry Rathie’s 220-page book “*Brachychitons*” encapsulates one of Queensland’s most noted trees species. Kerry has had a long association with the various forms both as a grower as well as being instrumental in their adoption for significant public landscaping features.

Website

The re-building of the website continues with its new image very much interrelated with the new trading name. A real attempt is being made to make it very inviting to the public, plus offer an on-line shop for the purchase of publications. It is heartening that some Branches have their own websites underway, which will only increase the Society’s public presence.



APS SA Region:

Membership

As of February 2015 the membership was approximately 341 and attendance at General Meetings is relatively stable at between 40 & 50 members attending each month. A new meeting format has been established to encourage members and visitors to share stories and information about their gardens and other topics of interest. This has proved popular.

As well as changing the meeting structure, new speakers have been sought on a diverse range of subjects. New locations for excursions are also being explored and members are encouraged to open their gardens so other members can visit and share growing tips and social activities.

Successful nominees for service awards and life membership were presented with their awards at the AGM in March.

Events

The Spring Plant Sale was held on the 11th & 12th October at the Adelaide Showground and since then there has been thought about the future of plants sales. They are still popular and well attended, but more volunteers are required, especially to help Margaret Lee, who has been a stalwart of the Plants Sales for many years.

Investigations have also been conducted into ways growers could sell plants left over after the ‘official’ Plants Sales to help dispose of plants as well as increase the Society’s public profile. Local Council approval has

recently been received to sell plants from the Society's Clubrooms and some of the local farmer's markets and other similar venues have also been looked at. These options are currently being explored with the growers.

The COOTS group is still going strong and has a full schedule planned for 2015. The activities at Pine Point (Yorke Peninsula) and at Land's End (Fleurieu Peninsula) continue and they have seed sowing days and workshops at the Clubrooms.

Biennial Gathering

In October 2014 the Biennial Gathering was held in the Mid-North of SA and hosted by the Brinkworth Group. It was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by the 100+ members and friends present. There have even been some 'spin-off' activities pursued by regional groups, for example, a grafting workshop held by the Northern Yorke Peninsula Group to put into practice things learned at the Gathering.

The keynote speaker, Angus Stewart, spoke at both the Gathering and at the Saturday night dinner and was a most amusing and inspiring speaker. The dinner was catered by the local Lutheran Ladies and everyone enjoyed a delicious meal and excellent company.



APS Tasmania:

In November 2014 the APST had 235 members with 182 memberships, as many are couples. There are only three local groups, one in Hobart, one in Launceston and one on the North West coast with meetings held in Devonport.

The membership has been slowly going down in recent years. This has resulted in financial difficulties for the State Council, as basically the only income for the Council is derived from the membership fees. The annual income does not cover the expenses.

The local groups, however, are financially sound, as they raise funds by plants sales. The Hobart group also receives money from selling plant identikits and has accumulated substantial assets. The State Council also has assets and the decision has been made to allow dipping into the capital if necessary.

A major expense for the Council is the State Journal *Eucryphia*. As a cost saving measure it was decided to cut down the number of complimentary copies that have been sent for years to various organizations. The electronic option has been investigated, but would not be a cost saving measure as long as there remain members who prefer their Journal as a paper copy. In which case, a smaller print run would in fact be more costly.

Despite challenges at the State level there is activity and enthusiasm at the local groups. Monthly evening and some daytime meetings, field excursions, garden visits and plant propagation are the main activities. Once a year, a local group hosts a weekend gathering for the members state-wide, usually in spring.

There is much overlap with the memberships of the Field Naturalists, Land Care and other local conservation groups and sometimes joint events.

Planning for the Tasmanian Conference in January 2018 has begun and looks promising so far. Despite being a small State there is plenty of talent.

At the November Council meeting Mark Geeves was given a certificate of appreciation. Due to work pressures he has become unable to continue his involvement. Mark is well known to many outside Tasmania as a long standing member who has held many official positions over the years.



APS Victoria:

Awards:

At our 2014 AGM, we presented the first Impressa Awards. Philip Robinson (APS Mornington Peninsula, and one-time ANPSA Study Group Coordinator) received an award for Outstanding Service to APS Victoria. Virginia Barnett (APS Waverley) received her award for Outstanding Service to a District Group. Five other members received Certificates of Commendation from APS Victoria.

Membership:

Numbers continue to fluctuate, with memberships failing to renew being offset by new members joining the Society. APS Victoria continues to offer special membership rates at the external events that we attend and our Affiliated District Groups continue to support this process by running approved membership drives at their events. These usually consist of either a discounted annual membership fee or a two-years-for-one offer.

Events:

The 2014 FJC Rogers Seminar was successfully run by the Bendigo Native Plant Group in October, although there were some reported problems with the catering of the dinner event. The next FJC Rogers Seminar will be jointly conducted by SGAP Warrnambool and SGAP Hamilton in 2016, on the subject of Native Orchids.

APS Victoria continues to maintain a presence at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show each year.

The Future:

Succession planning for committee positions and our aging membership continue to be areas of concern. Priorities will be to keep improving our relationships and communications with Affiliated District Groups, improve membership benefits, provide effective advocacy for our native flora and continue successful collaboration with organisations having similar goals.



Wildflower Society of W.A.

The WSWA continues to work on its future direction as part of the Strategic Planning exercise. Some representatives of the WSWA decided in January that they wanted a Society which promotes the knowing, growing, conservation and enjoyment of Western Australia's wildflowers through sharing our knowledge and passion by building a robust organisation which will carry the message for the next 20 years.

The major recommendations resulting from this decision were the following:

- review Management Committee business model and modus operandi, including delegations to business groups, to ensure the finances and accounts of the Society are verified as true and correct and the organisation is solvent
- develop a new website to meet the contemporary needs of the Society and Branches, including a members only area for business process and information sharing between business units, branches and members, and a public area for services to the public, promotion of the Society, reason for being and activities including social media capability
- develop a program of whole of Society activities, activate more of the membership and galvanise the different arms of the WSWA into a sense of one Society. This needs to be done in consultation with the membership/Branches and needs to be held at various locations around the metro area and in country areas. The first proposed action was a website marketing launch to engage stakeholders in an event to promote the Society's achievements, capacity, objectives and membership.

The strategic plan, further action items and other issues arising from the plan will be discussed with members at a forum we are currently arranging.

It is with sadness that we report that our President,

Sue Dempster has resigned because the task of the facilitating the changes required have become too onerous for her. Unfortunately our Vice President Eddy Wajon and another Management Committee member have also resigned. In the absence of Sue and Eddy on the Management Committee, Kerry Smith has agreed to stand in as the ANPSA representative until our upcoming AGM in June 2015.

As indicated in previous reports, the WSWA is involved in a planning and feasibility study for a new building adjacent to our Perry House office, which is designed to house a number of natural history societies who have outgrown their offices or need better accommodation. The WSWA could potentially take advantage of joint facilities such as reception, library, bookstore, larger meeting room and a laboratory/herbarium. The groups received a Lotterywest grant to engage a consultant, but not before the size of the grant was reduced. The first meeting to provide information to the planning consultant was held in February.

The WSWA, especially the Branches, have plans for a large number of wildflower walks, talks and special events, including a Garden Design workshop in May. Unfortunately, our proposed public seminar and workshop on "WA's Bushland – Ours to protect" on 22 November 2014 had to be cancelled a few days before the event because of the small number of registrants (less than 50). However, the seminar proceedings were already printed, so these were given to registrants and sold to others. The associated wild Mooja (*Nuytsia floribunda*) tree hunt to find 20 trees around the Perth metro area marked with QR codes still went ahead, and a keen band of WA munzee fans hunted these down. These activities generated some interest and resulted in articles in local newspapers and in *The Australian* as well as interviews on ABC and commercial radio.

The WSWA is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its Bushland Plant Survey (BPS) in May 2015 with a picnic at Point Walter. Each year, the BPS team surveys 3-5 different areas around the southwest of WA, identifying, documenting and lodging plants and creating a field herbarium for local custodians. The program for 2015 may include trips to Bunbury, Coolup and Kulin.

The Murdoch Branch is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and has created a fantastic book with photos and stories of events over those years. The Murdoch Branch is organising a free community event to celebrate this event and launch the book, with music, free food and wine, book, plant and other merchandise sales, as well as short speeches for the launch of the book and recognition of 25 years of passion. The Northern Suburbs Branch is celebrating its 30th anniversary with a special issue of its

Newsletter and special refreshments for its June meeting.

The WSWA participated in an Open Garden at one of our member's houses in March. Members assisted with provision of information and refreshments. We also had photographic displays, and books and plants for sale. This will be one of the last official open gardens held as Open Gardens Australia will cease operations from 30 June 2015.

Our next AGM and State Council meeting is at the historic country town of York on 27/28 June 2015. This is to be organized by the Avon Branch, another small country Branch with a few passionate members.

The WSWA has sent through details of many of these special events to the ANPSA Executive so they can be passed on to Better Homes and Gardens as part of their promotion of ANPSA, as discussed at previous teleconferences, but so far we have not heard anything from the producers regarding their interest or action. It would be good to get an update and some greater clarity as to their intent and interest.

The WSWA continues to be very active in conservation issues. The proposal by a mining company to undertake mining in the Helena and Aurora Range, one of the last and the best examples of Banded Iron Formations in the state, has raised the ire of several conservation groups and has been assessed by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) as not environmentally acceptable. The company is appealing this decision. The WSWA has been active in the media (*The Kalgoorlie Miner* as well as on an ABC *Landline* program with Brian Moyle, our Conservation sub-committee chair) and in a Perth Town Hall information dissemination evening, supporting the EPA's decision and seeking to create a more equitable balance between resource extraction and conservation. The WSWA thanks ANPSA Conservation Officer Neil Marriott for supporting us by writing a letter to the WA Premier, Minister for Environment, Minister for Mines and EPA Chair supporting protection of this magnificent area containing a number of threatened and special plants. Neil Marriott also supported the WSWA in its continuing opposition to the extension of Roe Highway through the Beelir wetlands and adjacent Banksia woodland, despite its being given environmental approval and Commonwealth and State funding, by writing to the Deputy Prime Minister, the WA Premier and the WA Minister for Transport. Neil highlighted the impact on special plants and the banksia/marri habitat of threatened black cockatoos. The WSWA endorses the draft ANPSA Conservation Officer Guidelines created by Neil and his team which are consistent with this action.

In addition, the WSWA is active on the WA Roadside Conservation Committee but is relatively impotent

against the rising tide of road reserve clearing and widenings for safety and now bushfire risk reasons. The WSWA wanted to introduce the concept of valuing the vegetation alongside roads to try to capture the importance of vegetation in terms planners and engineers could understand, and we have found that Austroads has recently updated its report on Environmental Externalities Unit Values. As the report has professional standing it may be useful in trying to persuade road builders and maintainers to keep as much bush as possible.



Top End Native Plant Society

A broad range of activities have been conducted over the last year. There have been speakers at monthly meetings, field trips, stalls and plant sales and a very successful film night at the Deckchair Cinema. These activities have been supported by services such as production of a regular newsletter and maintenance of a library for members to use.

These events do not happen by themselves and there is often unseen work by members, particularly the committee, to make things materialize. There are lots of unsung deeds such as responding to emails or being here to open the building for meetings.

We had the pleasure of recognition of Russell Dempster for his long-standing contribution with a Certificate of Appreciation at the Chief Minister's Volunteer Awards in May. If one was to look at innovation awards, Ingrid Nadjarian would get an award for bringing Top End Native Plant Society and CALMA Gardens together to conduct a very successful fundraising event with a screening of the classic Humphrey Bogart film, *Casablanca*, at the Deckchair Cinema. The 189 paying film goers ignored the spots of rain early in the evening and turned up for a classic film, Burgers with the Bogart and an excellent selection of cakes and treats for desert. There are plans being hatched for another such event next year.

An array of speakers talked about a diversity of topics at meetings. Louise Finch talked about the Australian Native Plants Society Conference in Queensland, including the Bunya Mountains Excursion; Don Sands spoke on conservation management plans for threatened Lepidoptera in Australia; the 2013 TENPS Scholarship recipient, Jenni Low Choy, spoke about Groote Island; Diego Cortes and Michael Stauder spoke on Territory

Wildlife Park surveys and Old Growth Forest; Tom North, Seed Bank Manager from the National Seed Bank, located at the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Canberra was a guest speaker; Michael Braby talked about the range expansion of the Tawny Coster butterfly; Emma Lupin informed us about Land for Wildlife; Neil Smit spoke on seagrasses; Melissa Fontes, who is a landscape architect from Outsidesign, was guest speaker; Sue McKinnon spoke about cycad surveys at Territory Wildlife Park; Dave Liddle talked about priority areas for conservation in a peri-urban area near Darwin.

A similarly diverse list of field trips occurred throughout the year with the Australia Day long-weekend trip to Kakadu National Park; Atlas Moth at Dundee Beach; old growth forest at Berry Springs, Darwin River conservation agreements; Howard Sand Plains; Land for Wildlife at Virginia, Mangroves with Kristen Metcalfe; plant propagation workshop at Territory Wildlife Park; rainforest on Cox Peninsular; and a visit to the George Brown Darwin Botanic Gardens.

These field trips exemplify the collaborative nature of the Society. The conservation agreements was a joint trip with the NT Field Naturalists and attracted over 30 participants. The May trip was a joint outing with Greening Australia, covered a broad range of topics and attracted over 50 participants.

This year TENPS has become a member of the Australian Native Plants Society of Australia which is a national group with a keen interest in native plants.

TENPS put in a submission to an early draft of the Darwin Regional Land Use Plan, and at an on-ground level got our hands dirty pulling weeds to protect a population of the near threatened *Citrus gracilis* at Sayer Road.

TENPS have provided advice, such as addressing email queries on plant names or providing information on cultivation at plant stalls and sales, or guiding a Heritage Walk at Palmerston on a wet day. A stall was conducted at the Tropical Garden Spectacular and members participated in two open gardens events. The committee has discussed options as to how a couple of open garden type events each year could be run.

The Society has pursued an educational role with support for Yerasha Herath, an honours student at Charles Darwin University, through the Top End Native Plant Society Scholarship. And TENPS web site is being maintained.

Thanks to all who have contributed towards and participated in these activities.

(Taken from TENPS President's Report to their AGM)

SNIPPETS

Rust Fungi on Acacias *Endoraecium* sp.

by Bill Aitchison

Leader, ANPSA Acacia Study Group

Probably the most well-known rust fungus found on *Acacia* species in Australia is *Uromycladium tepperianum* (this being one of a number of *Uromycladium* species found in Australia). This has been recorded on many species of *Acacia* and typically induces galls on phyllodes, stems, flowers and seed pods.

There are, however, other genera of rust fungi, one of which is *Endoraecium*. Until recently, there had been seven species of *Endoraecium* described from Australia, but a further nine new species have recently been described, giving a current total of 16 Australian species (in addition to these Australian species, there is one in South-East Asia and five in Hawaii).

Species of *Endoraecium* infect only *Acacia* sp. and produce a range of symptoms that include bullate swellings or pulvinate sori on phyllodes, or galls and witches brooms on stems. Each species of *Endoraecium* has either a single *Acacia* host species, or a very limited number of host species.

The 16 currently described Australian species of *Endoraecium* are listed below:

Endoraecium auriculiforme - host is *A. auriculiformis*.

E. bicinctum - host is *A. fasciculifera*.

E. carnegiei - this is one of three species that form galls on the stems of its host, and is only known to occur on *A. dealbata* in south-eastern Australia.

E. digitatum - host is *A. notabilis*. It forms galls on the stems of its host.

E. disparrimum - host is *A. disparrima*.

E. falciforme - host is *A. falciformis* (on phyllodes and fruit). Recorded in south-east Qld.

E. irroratum - host is *A. irrorata*. It forms galls on the stems of its host.

E. maslinii - this is the only species of *Endoraecium* known from WA. It is found on phyllodes of *A. daphnifolia*. It is named in honour of Bruce Maslin, who assisted in identifying many *Acacia* species in the study of this rust.

E. parvum - host is *A. leiocalyx*.

E. peggii - host is *A. holosericea* (from northern Australia). The rust was also collected in south east Qld on a plant in the Mt Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.

E. phyllodiorum - host is *A. aulacocarpa*.

E. podalyriifolium - host is *A. podalyriifolia*.

E. tierneyi - host is *A. harpophylla*.

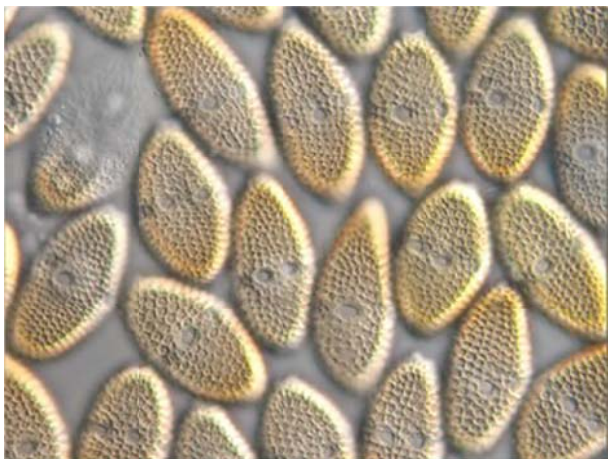
E. tropicum - host is *A. tropica* (in the NT and NW Qld).

E. violae-faustiae - hosts in northern parts of Australia are *A. aulacocarpa*, *A. crassicarpa* and *A. difficilis*.

E. walkerianum - this is found in southern Australia. Hosts are *A. penninervis* and *A. obliquinervis*.



Endoraecium podalyriifolium on *A. podalyriifolia*



Urediniospores of *Endoraecium maslinii*

My thanks to Alistair McTaggart for providing the images accompanying this article. Alistair points out that these rusts are very important pathogens on *Acacia* (both from a point of view of biological control and forestry-wise). It is predicted that many new species of *Endoraecium*, which have diversified by coevolution with their *Acacia* hosts, remain to be found in Australia. Whilst *Uromycladium* is very important, *Endoraecium* may be an upcoming pathogen, especially on bipinnate species of *Acacia*.

Note: As noted above, without doubt there are many new species of *Acacia* rusts to be found. If you see rust fungi on an *Acacia*, you are most welcome to contact Dr Roger Shivas, who is Curator of the Queensland Plant Pathology Herbarium in Brisbane (contact roger.shivas@daf.qld.gov.au) and to possibly deposit a specimen.

The following website is an excellent resource: <http://collections.daff.qld.gov.au/web/key/rustfungi/Media/Html/browse.html>.

This website contains images and keys for the identification of over 100 rust fungi and is constantly updated as new rusts are collected. It is a fantastic starting point for people interested in collecting or identifying rust fungi.

Reference:

McTaggart AR, Doungsaard, C, Geering ADW, Aime MC and Shivas RG 2015. A coevolutionary relationship exists between *Endoraecium* (*Pucciniales*) and its *Acacia* hosts in Australia *Persoonia* 35: 5062.

Wattle Day at Colac Botanic Gardens 1st September 2015

The Colac Botanic Gardens in Victoria are celebrating 150 years this year and various Wattle Day Celebrations have been planned.

APS Colac/Otway Group have potted up 760 species of wattles to give away free to anyone who attends the "Wattle Day" celebrations at the Colac Botanic Gardens on September 1st 2015.

Brendon Stahl had propagated the wattles and the Group had two potting up days where they potted up the 760 wattles. The species were *acinacea*, *alata*, *aphylla*, *boormanii*, *buxifolia*, *cultriformis*, *cyclops*, *drummondii* ssp *affinis*, *drummondii*, *elegans* and *grossus*, *lanigera*, *genistifolia*, *glaucoptera*, *guinettii*, *iteaphylla*, *mucronata*, *myrtifolia*, *provincialis*, *stricta*, and *verniciflua*.

The emphasis was on smaller growing wattles that would fit in smaller properties.

The APS Colac/Otway Group is also combining with the Friends of the Colac Botanic Gardens to conduct a talk about *Acacias*, and have a "Walk and Talk" about the Gardens, and also hand out the *Acacias* they have propagated.



Acacia buxifolia

A New Fern Record for Australia *Adiantum caudatum*

by Peter Bostock

A recent collection from a limestone outcrop SSW of Cooktown by Keith McDonald and Rigel Jensen has resulted in the recognition of *Adiantum caudatum* L. as a native species. This is, as far as I know, the first record for Australia.

A. caudatum is a so-called 'walking fern', with habit somewhat like *Adiantum philippense* or *Asplenium flabellifolium*. It has a simply pinnate frond, and the rachis usually extends beyond the pinnae to produce a long tail, ending in a proliferous bud.



Undersurface of pinnule of *Adiantum caudatum*

This fern has many forms throughout its range, and some have been recognised as species in their own right. Based on the stiff dark green hairy pinnae with relatively few marginal incisions, the brown rhizome scales with dark centres, and the general form of the plants, I believe the Queensland collection matches the true *Adiantum caudatum*.

Note this species appears to have veins ending in the apex of marginal teeth. The pinnae themselves are somewhat lime-green, asymmetric, but not as blunt or rounded as *Adiantum hispidulum*. If anything they are more leathery than that species.

This is not a large fern – the sampled population had fronds up to about 15cm long.

Pollination of *Boronia* and Allied Genera

by Wendy Grimm
APS North Shore Group

We were photographing *Boronia serrulata* plants during a plant survey for NPWS in Marramarr National Park. The target species was *Tetratheca glandulosa*, but the *B. serrulata* was coming into bloom and the perfume was exquisite. We had lunch on a rock surrounded by the plants. I noticed two tiny moths in the cup of one flower and took many photos from all angles.



On later inspection on the computer screen I could see that the abdomen of the larger moth was inserted into the ring of anthers of the *Boronia* flower.



Scientists at the Australian Museum passed the images on to the Heliozelidae moth family expert in Melbourne. He said that several genera in that moth family are associated with Rutaceae; including *Correa*, *Boronia*, *Microcybe*, *Phebalium*, *Zieria*, *Philothea* and *Geleznovia*. The association may involve predation of the leaves, flowers and seeds and may involve pollination of the plant.

The Heliozelidae Study Group are discovering many new and undescribed moths and are interested in receiving detailed observations of moths associated with Rutaceae plants.

ANPSA Executive

President: Lawrie Smith.

Mob. 0411 228 900

lawries@landplanstudio.com.au

Vice President: Margaret Lee.

Ph. 08 8296 1849

leemarg@tpg.com.au

Vice President: Ben Walcott.

Ph. 02 6161 2742

bwalcott@netspeed.com.au

Secretary: Jane Fountain.

Ph. 07 3720 2882

jlfountain5@gmail.com

Treasurer: Joan Abercrombie.

Ph. 07 5496 5103

joan.abercrombie@skymesh.com.au

Study Group Coordinators: Lesley & Neville Page.

Ph. 03 9898 4816

lesandnevpge@gmail.com

Appointed Positions on Council:

Public Officer: John Carter.

Ph. 0428 501 454

carterjg@iinet.net.au

Newsletter Editor: Jan Sked.

Ph. 07 3285 3322

jansked@bigpond.com

Webmaster: Brian Walters.

Ph. 02 4776 1485

brianwal@westnet.com.au

Rules & By-Laws Officer: Lorna Murray.

Ph. 07 3376 1125

lgmurray.sgapa@iinet.net.au

Conservation Coordinator: Neil Marriott.

Ph. 03 5356 2404

neil@whitegumsaustralia.com

Horticultural Officer: David Hockings

Ph. 07 5494 3385

dohhod@bigpond.net.au

Publicity Officer: Nicky Zanen.

Ph. 03 9761 1933

nicky.zanen@hotmail.co.uk

AFF Representative: David Murray.

Ph. 02 4229 2171

dmu50532@bigpond.net.au

ACRA Representatives: Neil Marriott.

Ph. 03 5356 2404

neil@whitegumsaustralia.com

Merren Sloane.

Ph. 02 6232 5881

sloane.merren@ozemail.com.au

Member Society

Delegates & Alternate Delegates:

ANPS Canberra: Pamela Finger.

nbpfemu@bigpond.com

Paul Carmen.

Paul6Carmen@gmail.com

APS New South Wales: Rhonda Daniels.

Ph. 02 9521 8381

rhodaniels@bigpond.com

Mark Abell. Ph. 02 9477 4231

abellm@bigpond.net.au

SGAP Queensland: Ian McMaster. Ph. 07 5494 1149

imcmaster@iinet.net.au

Glenn Leiper. Ph. 07 3287 4377

leiper30@bigpond.com

APS South Australia: Ali Ben Kahn.

ali.benkahn@ncsa.asn.au

Rod Belchamber. Ph. 08 8332 8569

rodbel@tpg.com.au

APS Tasmania: Riitta Boevink. Ph. 03 6428 6909

riittavink@gmail.com

Jill Clark.

plantladyjill@bigpond.com

APS Victoria: Mike Beamish. Ph. 03 5163 6543

secretary@apsvic.org.au

Greg Brown. Ph. 0421 331 954

president@apsvic.org.au

Wildflower Society of WA: Kerry Smith.

wildflowers@ozemail.com.au

Top End Native Plant Society: David Liddle.

Ph. 0406 445 727

topendnativeplantsociety@hotmail.com

Russell Dempster. Ph. 08 8983 2131

russell.dempster@ntschoools.net

