

Australian Plants Society South East NSW Group

Newsletter 108
June 2015

Corymbia maculata Spotted Gum and
Macrozamia communis Burrawang

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Next Meeting
SATURDAY 2nd July 2015

Ingredients sourced from Australian Plants for use in Agriculture and Food Production

765 Old Highway Narooma meeting at 10.30am.

Approximately 5Km from Central Tilba, overlooking a neck of Lake Corunna, Annabelle and Leon (pronounced Len) have owned the property for about 2 years. The previous owners provided them with only scant information on the identities of the shrubs and trees planted in orchards, roughly categorised by fruit or leaves as the useful part. Annabelle and Leon are still in the process of identifying all the species and their active ingredients with a view to providing those ingredients for use in agriculture and food production. They are hoping possibly to benefit from knowledgeable members of the Group, who are able to help with identification.

Annabelle and Leon are also concentrating on ridding the property of weed species such as coral tree (*Erythrina X sykesii*) and fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*) and are participating in a Landcare project with Local Land Services that is focussing on the management of fireweed in the area.

As always, we suggest for our APS meetings that those attending bring along morning tea, lunch and a chair. The need to wear appropriate footwear and clothing for the weather and the terrain is also advised.

Directions to 765 Old Highway Narooma From the North Drive through Narooma and continue south down the Princes Hwy. Take the turning on the right signposted OLD HIGHWAY, 1.0km past the Narooma Plaza (WOOLWORTHS). Stay on the Old Highway to the end of the bitumen (approx. 6km). Annabelle and Leon's place is on the left after 1.5km of dirt road.

There is parking for 4-6 cars in the gateway. Should we require more there is space in the next entrance which opens on to the Corunna Cemetery. We could meet at the junction of the Princes Hwy and the Old Highway and car pool there if the numbers dictate.

Members travelling from the South are asked to follow the same directions as from the north to avoid confusion with some of the side roads. As you enter the 50kph zone take the left turn signposted OLD HIGHWAY and follow the directions as above. (see map on page 10)

Jenny John

Presidents Message



One of the joys of being in the garden is the stimulation of the senses. The sights, sounds, tactile sensations, fragrances and of course sometimes tastes add to garden pleasures. It is often easy to overvalue colour and size of flowers when choosing plants, and underestimate other attributes. At this time of the year perhaps we should turn our attention to some. Take aroma for instance. Many Australian plants have highly aromatic foliage which can be enjoyed all year round. The wonderful mixture of fragrances that delight our senses, especially when walking on damp bush tracks can be repeated in our gardens. Apart from the familiar commercial oils of eucalyptus and tea tree, there are other fragrances to be enjoyed. Some of my favourites include the mint bushes (*Prostanthera* species), lemon scented foliaged plants such as *Darwinia citriodora*, *Backhousia citriodora* and *Leptospermum petersonii*, and the fruity scented *Homoranthus flavescens*.

Margaret Lynch Then there are the plants of *Philotheca* species and *Boronia* species..... and lots more worth investigating over the winter months.

Committee news

Future activities

August 1st we will uncover the delights of heathy woodland on the Dreaming Track at Congo. Many plant species grow here, including a number of terrestrial orchids.

September 5th Visits to Narooma gardens of Margaret Lynch and Jenny and Peter John.

October 3rd AGM and meeting at 'Thubbul', the home of Architect and author Phillip Cox

Note the earlier AGM date, as the committee had planned a distant excursion which has not eventuated but we cannot pass on the chance to spend time at 'Thubbul' Thanks to Michele Pymble and Christina Kennedy for arranging this.

November 7th A day out in Brogo, visiting the property of Graham and Denise Krake.

December 5th Picnic at Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Gardens

Your committee meets next on 15th July.

If you have any issues or ideas, any of the committee would appreciate your input.

Yes it is that time again, time to consider putting up your hand to help the Group prosper. The Annual General Meeting is just 4 months away and members need to consider just what they expect of the Group, and how they can help the Group achieve good outcomes for the benefit of all members. The current committee is well organised and keen, but there is always a need for more help. Why not put up your hand. You might just have the ideas and enthusiasm needed. A call to President Margaret will confirm that all members have something to offer. Being a part of the committee is an opportunity to show that you care about APS, and are keen to share your love of Australian Plants.

See the committee contact details at the end of this newsletter.

Newsletter archives

A digital copy of past newsletters is being prepared to ensure our history is maintained accurately. Past committee members have digitized newsletters from number 31 onwards, but there are a few gaps in our early records.

We have no record of newsletter numbers 16, 17, 22, 23, 26, 30, and 32.

Members could you please have a look through your archives and see if you have any of these please.

We can scan your copy and return it. John Knight is undertaking this task and would be happy to receive any early records. We are coming up to our 20th year and it would be valuable to have a complete history to celebrate this milestone.

The committee is seeking continuing assistance from our members in the Bega Valley Shire area to liaise with the current committee.

Please consider whether you might assist the group in this way. Any support would be welcome.

Report on last outing

Reedy Creek Road Discovery Day on Sat.13th June 2015

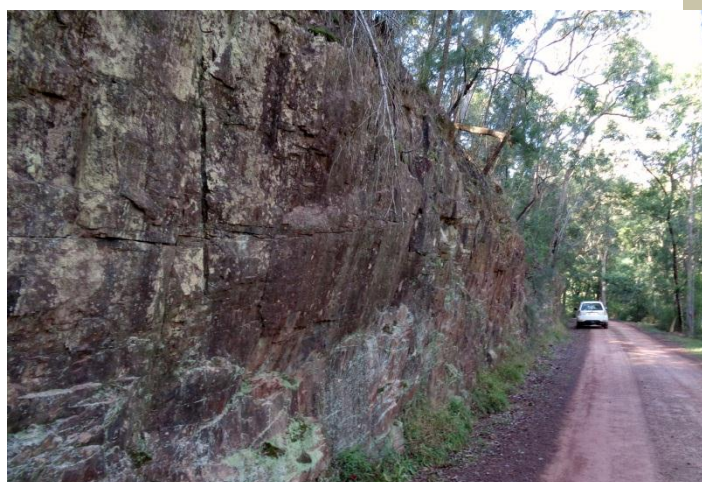
Our latest foray into the bush took us west from Bodalla along Eurobodalla and River Roads, to the picturesque and fascinating area of Reedy Creek Road.

The day started off cool, so at the first patch of sun, we stopped for morning tea, and to enjoy the bucolic scenery of the many dairy farms along the Tuross River.

Show and Tell consisted of a bouquet of lovely pink flowers from Jenny John's garden, including a range of *Hakeas* and *Thryptomene*, which Jenny described as one of her favourite and hardest plants.

Denise & Graeme Krake brought along some *Hakea* and *Grevillea* plants, which he described as some of the best garden plants for our conditions, and which were offered to members. Very generous. Some needed little invitation, (guilty) whilst others needed convincing, but eventually most plants found new homes. This is what APS should be encouraging, members propagating and growing plants for others to try. What a generous gesture. Thanks Graeme. Needless to say, in the presence of many enthusiasts, the conversation turned to the Proteacea family and its varied attributes. Graeme, Phil, Mark, & John were very willing to share their abundant and diverse knowledge on one their favourite subjects.

Ruth questions our logic. Are we really going up there ?



Exposed wall of fine grained granite called Rhyolite



The procession along Reedy Creek Road was a matter of the convoy of cars stopping regularly to inspect the roadside geology and diverse vegetation.

Around every corner the scenery changed from the views down onto the creek's edge, with stands of majestic *Eucalyptus elata* and *E. baueriana* prominent, with a varied understorey which in parts was dominated by *Allocasuarina littoralis*. There were pockets of rainforest in the rocky gullies, then into areas of wooded grasslands. The pink colouring of the old road cuttings made a lovely contrast to the varying shades of green of the many ferns, mosses, lichens and grasses that adorned it.

Delicate foliage growing out of the tiny cracks in the hard rock surface was a delight to see.



Lunch on Reedy Creek Road, not a car came, and we had the pleasure of lyrebird song whilst we picnicked

After scrambling up through the beautiful dark red rock outcrops, we were rewarded with the rediscovery of an unusual variation of *Grevillea irrassa ssp didymochiton*, as well as many other species, including highlights of both terrestrial and epiphytic orchids.

We were able to observe more of the history of this roadway in the form of the rock walling used to shore up the edges where the road crossed the many gullies leading into the creek.

Thankfully our chosen lunch spot, in the middle of the Reedy Creek Road, wasn't disturbed by any other traffic and the sharing and comparing of ideas on our native flora continued.

The layered and misty mountain views from Mort's Folly Road were in complete contrast to those of the creek area, but equally stunning. The vegetation on the ridges changed, yet again. The regrowth stands of young *Eucalyptus*

sieberi were very evident, with their spindly trunks, shading from a black base through the soft grey-brown trunk to the beautiful honey-gold of the upper trunk and branches, are always an appealing sight. In spring, the bronze tips and red stems of the new growth, then the glaucous grey-blue wash over the older growth is the reason why, in my opinion, they should never be taken for granted. The understory in the many colours of the Australian bush was equally appealing but unfortunately we had run out of time for any further exploration. We did note that the vegetation on this side of the range was probably affected by rain shadow, as the trees were sparser, the understory drier and dominated by *Macrozamia communis*, Burrawang and *Acacia obtusifolia*, a scrubby bush that rarely sets seed but does sucker. Here also we observed the uncommon *Stypandra glauca* Nodding Blue Lily.

This excursion into our beautiful environment was definitely worthwhile, not just to marvel at the construction of this scenic and historically significant roadway, but to enjoy the bush experience with other likeminded Australian native plant enthusiasts. And who could forget the wonderful pepperminty scent of the *Eucalyptus elata*, which was so prominent that everyone commented upon it.

Amanda Marsh

Whilst preparing for this excursion, we wondered at the naming of Mort's Folly Road. All our questions were answered when long standing member **Christina Kennedy** presented the following information. Christina is a descendant of Mr. Mort, and kindly asked the right questions of local historian Laurelle Pacey.

Laurelle is an Agricultural Scientist and well respected local journalist but it is her other hat as Historian that I best remember her. She has written a number of books on the history of Narooma and its surrounding districts, including her 2010 work, **Bodalla and the Mort's**

This is a fascinating history of how Sydney entrepreneur Thomas Mort set up the Bodalla Estate in the 1860's and how he made it a showplace for the colony's industrial enterprise by producing cheese to rival English imports. The book tells of the estate's changing fortunes over its 130 year history.

First, let us begin with Christina's recollections.

Years ago we used to camp at my grandfather's property at Brou, near where the tip is now. His name was **Jack Laidley Mort**, and he was the grandson of **Thomas Sutcliffe Mort**. (abbreviated to TSM for this report)

He grew up there in a magnificent big house, complete with a billiard room, schoolhouse, Chinese servants, golf course, polo field etc. The house was demolished after the family left, and he built a cabin there in his old age, returning for periods of time at Bodalla. I remember finding some of that mythical tramline but now am not so sure if it is in my imagination, or was real, as I have no idea where it was. It is interesting that TSM was also a great gardener. He had a big estate in Darling Point called Greenoakes, and it covered the side of a hill from St Marks Church down to Double Bay. His gardener was Guilfoyle, (Director of Melbourne Botanic Gardens following Ferdinand von Mueller) and I have a medal which was presented to him from The Horticultural Society.

I did try to find out why my ancestors called the road Mort's Folly.

The best information comes from Laurelle Pacey who wrote a book about the family and the area.

She supplied this information from Barcelona whilst on holiday.

"I am not sure about Mort's Folly Road, it is puzzling. In the late 1850's, Mort apparently talked about a possible tramway to Wagonga, referring to Wagonga Inlet. The tramway as we know was built after TSM died in the 1880's, and went down to where part of the Mill Bay boardwalk is now. I have not come across any reference to him or the estate ever putting that road through, although that is not to say there isn't a reference somewhere.

When the Bodalla bridge collapsed in the early 1890's, I remember Grierson was somewhat loathe to ship anything via the upper reaches of Wagonga Inlet. Instead they shipped again from the company's wharf (where part of the boardwalk is today) close to the entrance. I think they punted goods across to the Noorooma wharf which was where Rotary Park is now. So far as I can determine, the Bodalla Company and certainly TSM do not appear to have used Mort's Folly Road.

SO.... My gut feeling is that over time people may have confused the route of the 1880's tramway because it went from Bodalla to 'wagonga'

I was often told by some locals that TSM had put a tramway in along that road to the upper reaches of Wagonga Inlet, but we know that is not the case. The tramway was a bit of a folly perhaps because it had a few problems, but that was further downstream. It is amazing how names get attached to maps. Someone could have once told someone from the Central Mapping Authority in the area that is what it was called, and the name stuck. It is amazing how this happens. The real folly is perhaps that it does not appear to have anything whatever to do with TSM or any of the other Mort's, although I cannot say that definitively.

Thanks Christina.

Plants recorded along Reedy Creek roadsides.

These are combined records for the 5 sites visited. Members are free to request lists for individual sites.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Acacia</i> | <i>floribunda</i> | White Sally |
| <i>Acacia</i> | <i>irrorata</i> | Green Wattle |
| <i>Acacia</i> | <i>mabellae</i> | Mabel's Wattle |
| <i>Acacia</i> | <i>silvestris</i> | Bodalla Silver Wattle |
| <i>Acacia</i> | <i>terminalis</i> | Sunshine Wattle |
| <i>Acacia</i> | <i>ulicifolia</i> | Prickly Moses Black Stem |
| <i>Adiantum</i> | <i>formosum</i> | Maidenhair |
| <i>Adiantum</i> | <i>aethiopicum</i> | Maidenhair |
| <i>Adiantum</i> | <i>aethiopicum</i> | Maidenhair |
| <i>Allocasuarina</i> | <i>littoralis</i> | Black Sheoak |
| <i>Amperea</i> | <i>xiphioclada</i> | Broom Spurge |
| <i>Aotus</i> | <i>ericoides</i> | Common Aotus |
| <i>Aphanopetalum</i> | <i>resinosum</i> | Gum Vine |
| <i>Arthropodium</i> | <i>milleflorum</i> | Vanilla Lily |
| <i>Asplenium</i> | <i>flabellifolium</i> | Necklace fern |
| <i>Austroanthonia</i> | <i>linkii</i> | Wallaby Grass |
| <i>Backhousia</i> | <i>myrtifolia</i> | Grey Myrtle |
| <i>Banksia</i> | <i>spinulosa</i> | Hairpin Banksia |
| <i>Blechnum</i> | <i>cartilagineum</i> | Gristle fern |
| <i>Blechnum</i> | <i>nudum</i> | Fishbone Water Fern |
| <i>Boronia</i> | <i>microphylla</i> | Small-leaved Boronia |
| <i>Bossiaea</i> | <i>obcordata</i> | Spiny Bossiaea |
| <i>Breynia</i> | <i>oblongifolia</i> | Coffee Bush |
| <i>Callitris</i> | <i>rhomboidea</i> | Port Jackson Pine False Bracken, Rainbow Fern |
| <i>Calochlaena</i> | <i>dubia</i> | |
| <i>Cassinia</i> | <i>aculeata</i> | Dolly Bush |
| <i>Cassinia</i> | <i>longifolia</i> | Shiny Cassinia |
| | <i>austrotenuifoli</i> | |
| <i>Cheilanthes</i> | <i>a</i> | Rock fern |
| | <i>austrotenuifoli</i> | |
| <i>Cheilianthes</i> | <i>a</i> | Rock Fern |
| <i>Choretrum</i> | <i>candollei</i> | White Sourbush |
| <i>Cissus</i> | <i>hypoglauc</i> | Giant Water Vine |
| <i>Clematis</i> | <i>aristata</i> | Travellers Joy |
| | <i>reflexa</i> var <i>reflexa</i> | |
| <i>Correa</i> | <i>reflexa</i> | Native Fuchsia |
| <i>Corymbia</i> | <i>gummifera</i> | Red Bloodwood |
| <i>Cryptostylis</i> | <i>leptochila</i> | Small Tongue Orchid |
| <i>Cyathea</i> | <i>australis</i> | Rough Tree Fern |
| <i>Cyathochaeta</i> | <i>diandra</i> | Bristle Sedge |
| <i>Cymbidium</i> | <i>suave</i> | Snake Orchid |
| <i>Cyrtostylis</i> | <i>sp</i> | Mosquito Orchid |
| <i>Daviesia</i> | <i>ulicifolia</i> | Gorse Bitter Pea |
| <i>Desmodium</i> | <i>varians</i> | Slender Tick-trefoil |
| <i>Dianella</i> | <i>caerulea</i> | Paroo Lily |
| <i>Dichondra</i> | <i>repens</i> | Kidney weed |
| <i>Dodonaea</i> | <i>triquetra</i> | Common Hop Bush |

Grevillea irrassa

When Don McGillivray completed his monumental 1993 work on the Genus *Grevillea*, there were many unanswered questions on the placement of many *Grevillea* species found in the south east of NSW.

Because of the difficulty with classification, many similar, but obviously different plants were lumped within the *G. victoriae* and *G. miqueliana* groups. Differences between these 2 groups were discernable on the leaf upper surface, which in the *G. victoriae* group is smooth, and in the *G. miqueliana* group is rough to the touch.

When reviewing the placement of various species within these groups, Peter Olde and Neil Marriott concluded in their 1995, 3 volume set "The *Grevillea* Book", that the south east NSW forms of the Yowaka region described by McGillivray as *G. victoriae* (*race l*) were better regarded as a distinct taxon, and a second population further north at Yowrie was also sufficiently distinct to warrant being raised to species level.

Subsequent work by Bob Makinson, Australian National Herbarium, in preparing *Grevillea* for publication in the Flora of Australia series, (see Vol 17a(Proteaceae 2) *Grevillea*) agreed with Peter and Neil, and included both populations under a new species, *Grevillea irrassa*, assigning the Yowaka form as *G. irrassa ssp irrassa*, and the Yowrie form as *G. irrassa ssp didymochiton*.



***Grevillea irrassa ssp didymochiton* growing along Reedy Creek.**

Photo by Mark Noake

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Doodia</i> | <i>aspera</i> | Prickly Rasp Fern |
| <i>Eleocharpus</i> | <i>reticulatus</i> | Blueberry Ash Wiry, or Right Angle Panic |
| <i>Entolsaia</i> | <i>stricta</i> | Common Heath |
| <i>Epacris</i> | <i>impressa</i> | Blue Box |
| <i>Eucalyptus</i> | <i>baueriana</i> | Mountain Grey Gum |
| <i>Eucalyptus</i> | <i>cypellocarpa</i> | River peppermint |
| <i>Eucalyptus</i> | <i>elata</i> | White Stringybark |
| <i>Eucalyptus</i> | <i>globoidea</i> | Ribbon Gum |
| <i>Eucalyptus</i> | <i>viminialis</i> | Wombat Berry |
| <i>Eustrephus</i> | <i>latifolius</i> | |
| | <i>cupressiformis</i> | Cherry Ballart |
| <i>Exocarpus</i> | <i>s</i> | Cherry Ballart |
| <i>Exocarpus</i> | <i>cupressiformis</i> | Scrambling Lily |
| <i>Geitonoplesium</i> | <i>cymosum</i> | Small leaf Glycine |
| <i>Glycine</i> | <i>microphylla</i> | Raspwort |
| <i>Gonocarpus</i> | <i>teucroides</i> | Hop Goodenia |
| <i>Goodenia</i> | <i>ovata</i> | Yowrie Grevillea |
| | <i>irrasa ssp</i> | |
| | <i>didymochiton</i> | Finger Hakea |
| <i>Grevillea</i> | <i>didymochiton</i> | False Sarsaparilla |
| <i>Hakea</i> | <i>dactyloides</i> | Rough Guinea Flower Twining Guinea Flower |
| <i>Hardenbergia</i> | <i>violacea</i> | Grey Guinea Flower |
| <i>Hibbertia</i> | <i>aspera</i> | Scented Holygrass |
| <i>Hibbertia</i> | <i>dentata</i> | Blady Grass |
| <i>Hibbertia</i> | <i>obtusifolia</i> | Dogwood |
| <i>Hierochloe</i> | <i>rariflora</i> | Blue Bottle-daisy |
| <i>Imperata</i> | <i>cylindrica</i> | Variable Sword-sedge |
| <i>Jacksonia</i> | <i>scoparia</i> | Rapier Sedge |
| <i>Lagenifera</i> | <i>stipitata</i> | Prickly Teatree |
| <i>Lepidosperma</i> | <i>laterale</i> | Flaky Bark Teatree |
| <i>Lepidosperma</i> | <i>urophorum</i> | Flaky-barked Teatree Lance-leaf Beard Heath |
| <i>Leptospermum</i> | <i>continentale</i> | Screw Fern |
| <i>Leptospermum</i> | <i>trinervium</i> | Slender Mat-rush |
| <i>Leptospermum</i> | <i>trinervium</i> | Red Stem Mat Rush |
| <i>Leucopogon</i> | <i>lanceolatus</i> | Red Stem mat-rush Spiny-headed Mat- rush |
| <i>Lindsaea</i> | <i>linearis</i> | Many-flowered Mat- rush |
| | <i>confertifolia</i> | |
| | <i>ssp</i> | |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>confertifolia</i> | Holly-leaf Lomatia |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>confertifolia</i> | River Lomatia |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>ssp rubiginosa</i> | Common Milk Vine |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>confertifolia</i> | Tree Violet |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>ssp rubiginosa</i> | Weeping Grass |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>longifolia</i> | |
| <i>Lomandra</i> | <i>multiflora</i> | |
| <i>Lomatia</i> | <i>ilicifolia</i> | |
| <i>Lomatia</i> | <i>myricoides</i> | |
| <i>Marsdenia</i> | <i>rostrata</i> | |
| <i>Melicytus</i> | <i>dentatus</i> | |
| <i>Microlaena</i> | <i>stipoides</i> | |

The type specimens for both was collected in 1997, and the new names adopted in 2000. I had previously collected both forms in 1995, first the Yowrie form with ANBG nurseryman Paul Carmen, which is found growing in ERBG on the path from the carpark to the Visitor Centre bridge, and the *Grevillea sp. nov* 'Belowra' with members of the Grevillea Study Group. This form was also brought into cultivation at the ERBG, and was planted in the carpark bed adjacent to the bus lane.

The 2 forms are quite distinct. The Yowrie plants are strong growing large shrubs of 3m with grey foliage, whilst the plants from Reedy Creek are more slender, open plants but may be either erect or procumbent in habit.

It is almost 20 years since I visited the site, so the excursion with APS members was to an area which now looks quite different.

Grevillea irrasa ssp didymochiton grows along the roadside adjacent to Reedy Creek, which is some distance below the road. The plants occur in a very narrow range, on a western aspect, but well protected from the elements. The area on the hillside is subject to bushfire, with evidence that a burn went through within the last 2 years. The plants on the creek side of the road had not been affected, and were surrounded by lush green vegetation. These were all upright plants, and we spent some time combing the drier hillside looking for plants of the open, procumbent form which displays its flowers away from the foliage on pendant stalks. We did manage to find a few plants on rocky ground in an area which is recovering after fire. None however were the really low form I in particular was looking for.

One thing that was noticeable is that the plants regenerate well after fire, as many seedlings were found. Interestingly, a number of plants were also resprouting from the base, suggesting that the plant can reproduce from suckers as well as seed.

Observing plants in their natural habitat gives good clues as to how they might perform in cultivation. These of Reedy Creek are quite happy in shade, were flowering in June, and will continue to do so for some months.

The Yowrie plants are much more dense and vigorous, but seem to prefer a sunny, well-drained to dry aspect.

Grevillea irrasa is named for the granular upper leaf surface, which is noticeably rough when gently stroked. *irrasa* = unshaven, and the *ssp* epithet *didymochiton* refers to the 2 types of hairs on the undersurface *didyos* = double, and *chiton* = tunic, literally clothed with 2 types of hairs.

John Knight

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Monotoca</i> | <i>scoparia</i> | Prickly Broom-heath |
| <i>Morinda</i> | <i>jasminoides</i> | Morinda |
| <i>Olearia</i> | <i>erubescens</i> | Silky Daisy-bush |
| <i>Oplismenus</i> | <i>imbecillis</i> | Creeping Beard Grass |
| <i>Pandorea</i> | <i>pandorana</i> | Wonga Vine |
| <i>Parsonsia</i> | <i>straminea</i> | Common Silkpod |
| <i>Patersonia</i> | <i>glabrata</i> | Purple Flag |
| <i>Pellaea</i> | <i>falcata</i> | Sickle Fern |
| <i>Persoonia</i> | <i>linearis</i> | Narrow-leaf Geebung |
| <i>Philothea</i> | <i>trachyphylla</i> | Rock Wax Flower |
| <i>Pimelea</i> | <i>linifolia</i> | Slender Rice-flower |
| <i>Pimelea</i> | <i>linifolia</i> | Slender Riceflower |
| <i>Pittosporum</i> | <i>revolutum</i> | Yellow Pittosporum |
| <i>Pittosporum</i> | <i>undulatum</i> | Pittosporum |
| <i>Platysace</i> | <i>lanceolata</i> | Lance-leaf Platysace |
| <i>Poa</i> | <i>labillardieri</i> | Tussock Grass |
| | | Fine-leaved Snow Grass |
| <i>Poa</i> | <i>meionectes</i> | Grass |
| <i>Podolobium</i> | <i>ilicifolium</i> | Native Holly |
| <i>Polyscias</i> | <i>sambucifolius</i> | Elderberry Panax |
| <i>Pomaderris</i> | <i>aspera</i> | Hazel Pomaderris |
| <i>Pomaderris</i> | <i>sp like andromedifolia</i> | |
| <i>Pomaderris</i> | <i>sp round leaf like Spyridium</i> | |
| <i>Pratia</i> | <i>purpurascens</i> | White Root |
| <i>Prostanthera</i> | <i>incana</i> | Velvet Mint Bush |
| | | Victorian Christmas Bush |
| <i>Prostanthera</i> | <i>lasianthos</i> | |
| <i>Prostanthera</i> | <i>sieberi</i> | Sieber's Mint-bush |
| <i>Pseuderanthemum</i> | <i>variabile</i> | Pastel Flower |
| <i>Pteridium</i> | <i>esculentum</i> | Bracken |
| <i>Pterostylis</i> | <i>parviflora</i> | Tiny Greenhood |
| <i>Pyrrosia</i> | <i>rupestris</i> | Rock Felt Fern |
| <i>Rubus</i> | <i>rosifolius</i> | Forest Bramble |
| <i>Sanantha</i> | <i>pluriflora</i> | Tall Baeckea |
| <i>Senecio</i> | <i>linearifolius</i> | Fire Groundsel |
| <i>Smilax</i> | <i>australis</i> | Sarsaparilla |
| <i>Solanum</i> | <i>pungentium</i> | Eastern Nightshade |
| <i>Stylidium</i> | <i>graminifolium</i> | Grass Triggerplant |
| <i>Stylidium</i> | <i>graminifolium</i> | Grass Triggerplant |
| <i>Synoum</i> | <i>glandulosum</i> | Scentless Rosewood |
| <i>Tetrateca</i> | <i>thymifolia</i> | Black-eyed Susan |
| <i>Thelychiton</i> | <i>speciosus</i> | Rock Lily |
| <i>Themeda</i> | <i>australia</i> | Kangaroo Grass |
| <i>Tristaniopsis</i> | <i>collina</i> | Hill Tristania |
| <i>Tristaniopsis</i> | <i>laurina</i> | Water Gum |
| | <i>hederacea</i> | |
| <i>Viola</i> | <i>form</i> | Native Violet |
| <i>Xanthorrhoea</i> | <i>resinosa</i> | Spear Grasstree |
| <i>Xanthosia</i> | <i>atkinsoniana</i> | Tufted Xanthosia |
| <i>Zieria</i> | <i>smithii</i> | Sandfly Zieria |



An easy stroll along Reedy Creek Road, eyes right looking for more *Grevillea* plants



It wasn't really that steep, but a few had issues with stability.

Note the Rock Lily, *Thelychiton speciosus* growing on exposed rock facing west. A clue as to where they should be grown in the garden. They need plenty of light to flower well, but don't like frost.

Apologies for the untidy columns in the plant list. Computers have a mind of their own, and despite some over the phone help from both Mark and Carolyn, the columns refused to snap to position.

Isopogon anemonifolius: a strong plant with plenty of character

Many of our Australian flowering plants have flexible branches and branchlets. I expect that this is a strategy to cope with strong winds and low moisture levels – the more they can bend, the more pressure they can withstand.



However, the genus *Isopogon* goes in quite the opposite direction. To manage these weather extremes, *Isopogon* plants are stiff and unyielding. This means that they are great survivors, hardy to frost and drought, growing in sandy to loam soils, moist to dry, in full sun or part shade. The only thing they do not like is wet feet.

The genus, all the species occurring only in Australia, belongs to the very variable family Proteaceae. The flowers are arranged in globular clusters, prominently displayed at the ends of branches, each flower in the cluster (conflorescence in botanic-speak) having the typical Proteaceous structure. Fruit are elongated globular, in the form of a cone that remains on the plant for a very long time. When the fruit is fully mature, or the cone removed from the plant, the woody bracts open to release hairy seeds.

Isopogon anemonifolius, common name Drumsticks, has yellow flowers and thick, rigid, very much divided leaves. The whole plant is stiff and upright, growing slowly from about ½ to 2m in height, although mostly they are much smaller than 2m high.

The generic name *Isopogon* comes from the Greek *isos*, meaning equal, and *pogon*, a beard, referring to the equal hairs on the fruit;



anemonifolius, as one would guess, means having foliage like the genus *Anemone*.

The base name for this species, *Protea anemonifolia*, was given by an English botanist Richard Anthony Salisbury in a paper published in 1796. The type specimen was collected from ‘Port Jackson’. However, in 1809, botanist Joseph Knight bestowed the generic name *Isopogon* in a publication *On the Cultivation of the Plants belonging to the Natural Order of Proteaeae*. Since then, several names and varieties have been published, but they all have been declared invalid names or synonyms.

Richard Anthony Salisbury had a somewhat contradictory personality, once described as ‘being between a rogue and a fool’. He was a meticulous botanist who contributed significantly to the science, but was hopeless with money, disagreed with Linnaeus’s binominal *systema sexuale* for classifying plants and quarrelled with most of his peers. It was reported that ‘there was a tacit understanding on the part of the botanical leaders of the period, including Brown, Banks, and Smith, that Salisbury’s botanical work and names should, as far as possible, be ignored’ – *Journal of Botany*, 1886.

He had a short marriage that ended when it was claimed that he had misrepresented his finances when he had proposed marriage, had large debts and had declared bankruptcy for dubious purposes.

The manuscript that included a description of *Isopogon* was published under the name of Joseph Knight (then gardener to an enthusiastic plant collector). However, it turned out that Salisbury had worked on this paper with Joseph Knight, providing names that he (Salisbury) had memorised from a reading on the Proteaceae by Robert Brown to the Linnean Society of London in 1809. Thus Knight and Salisbury beat Brown to print and claimed

priority for the names that Brown had authored. In botanical nomenclature, a printed description takes precedence over a verbal one.

So today, even though the honour of being included in the citation of this species was obtained in an underhand fashion, we cite Drumsticks as *Isopogon anemonifolius* (Salisb.) Knight. The brackets around Salisbury's name indicate that although the generic name was changed by Knight (1809), Salisbury remains as author of the species name.

Jenny Liney

APSSE NSW heads north to Nowra

The invitation to join with the Nowra APS in a visit to three gardens in the Ulladulla area, was taken up by seven members of APSSE and it proved to be worth the drive.

The first garden visited was at Kings Point, just south of Ulladulla on the southern shores of Burrill Lake. This is an established garden with a mix of native and exotic plants, facing north over the lake, it is owned and maintained to perfection by Karen & Brian.

After morning tea, Karen enthusiastically detailed the interactions of the Shoalhaven Shire, the property owners adjoining the lake, Landcare and Bushcare volunteers, of which she is one.

Their objective was to re-establish the shoreline to a condition that would satisfy all involved.

Protection and revegetation of the indigenous plant species, without blocking the access or view to the lake for the residents, has been successful. As well a lovely meandering pathway has been constructed along lake reserve. All this was achieved by volunteers, under the guidelines set down by the Shire.

This is an ongoing project and the result so far, is a very pleasant natural environment for the residents and the public to enjoy and it is a credit to all the participants.

The next garden we visited had been recently established by Suellen and Brian around their new house in a new housing estate in central Ulladulla.

Suellen's extensive knowledge of native plants was very obvious here and amongst the some interesting varieties of plants is a native grass lawn. The use of a *Zoysia* cultivar in commercial turf production has produced an extremely thick and robust lawn, which would more than rival any exotic grass species, let us hope that development and production of this turf continues.

With time this garden will become a beautiful showcase for Australian native plants and we will look forward to watching it evolve, that is if we can find our way back there.

The visit to the third garden entailed a drive further north beyond Milton and out along the Little Forest Plateau Road. Here we were greeted by an amazing property perched on the edge of the plateau with spectacular views, east to the ocean and west to the escarpment.

Some of us were so enthralled by the scenery around us, we didn't bother with lunch, and others took up the kind offer of dining on the terrace, whilst taking in the vista.

Owned by Catriona and Phil, this garden is a fantastic display of Australian native gardening at its best, and some of the plants here have been developed to their utmost potential.

Phil's grafting expertise has produced an incredible array of 'dry climate' plants able to survive in our east coast soils and humidity, such as a collection of *Banksia*, *Grevillea* and *Eremophila* species that he has grafted onto more robust local rootstocks.

These 'drop dead' gorgeous plants are now able thrive in an environment which is completely alien to their natural habitat and this is all due to Catriona and Phil's diverse talents, hard work and persistence.

The enthusiasm of the owners, for native plants was very evident in all the gardens we visited and results are obviously rewarding to both owners and their visitors.

We were all very grateful for their willingness to share their gardens and their knowledge with us.

We thank all those involved in organising this wonderful day and any future invitations to visit will be gratefully appreciated and accepted by all of us in APSSE.

Amanda Marsh & John Knight

(This article should have appeared last month, but I ran out of space. ed)



These 2 pictures were stolen from the Nowra Group's newsletter.

The first shows some of the visitors having lunch on the deck at Phil and Catriona's garden during our April visit.

The second shows a visitor who was watching us have lunch, thinking mmm maybe. Our red bellied black friend stayed quite a while enjoying the first sunny day for some time.



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