



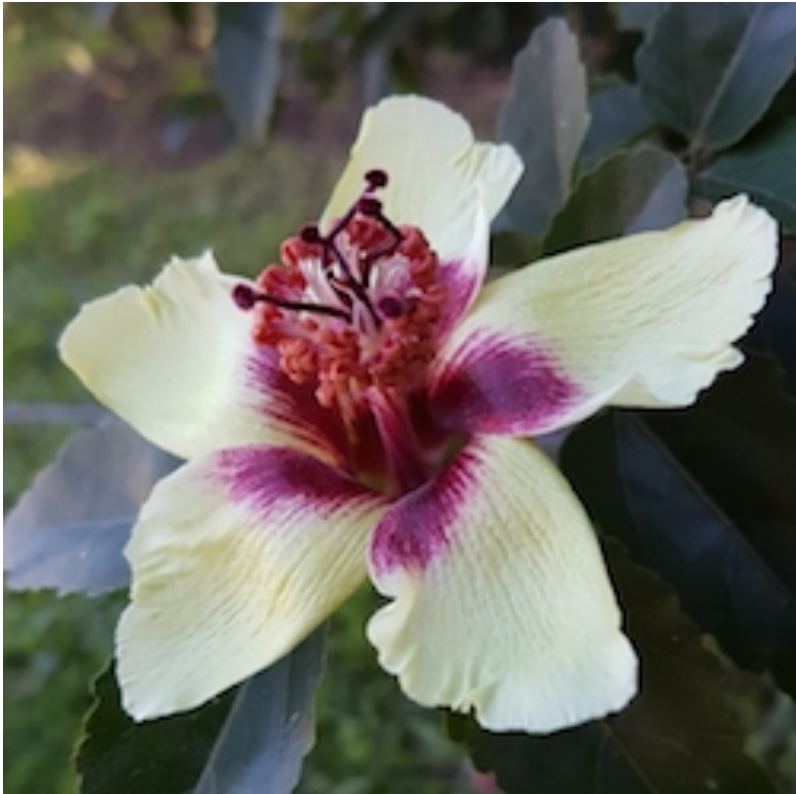
**AN ONLINE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL PROJECT
CONSERVATION THROUGH CULTIVATION**

Contact: E. saveourflora@gmail.com W. saveourflora.weebly.com

Project launched on 14th November 2013

Maria Hitchcock OAM
Founder, Bulletin Editor

Membership
Individuals: 240
Groups: 22
International 3
Membership is free.
Please encourage others to join.
eBulletins are sent by email only.
Feel free to share them with friends and colleagues..
New members will receive the latest e-Bulletin. Earlier Bulletins can be accessed on our website. (See address above)
This is an informal interactive sharing group. We welcome your emails, articles and offers of seed and cuttings at any time.
Your privacy is respected and assured with this group. You may **unsubscribe** at any time.



Hibiscus insularis
Image: jimbobjim

In this issue:			
Maria writes	2	Rediscovered orchid	9
<i>Banksia vincentia</i>	3	Threatened Species Hub	10
<i>Hibiscus insularis</i>	4	Edible Succulents book	11
I spy a Wollemi Pine project	5	Botanic Endeavour book	12
Native Guava	6/7	ANPC Cuttings	13
Threatened Species Hub	8	Seed/cuttings exchange	14/15

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

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

Maria writes:

Well what a year we are having! Here on the Northern Tablelands of NSW it seems as if Covid19 is not much of a problem here. After an initial 4 cases months ago our area has been happily Covid free. Testing clinics have come and gone and life is almost back to normal until you see all the bottles of hand sanitiser at every entry and the odd resident wearing a mask in the supermarket. Not many people are following social distancing restrictions which fits in with the widespread theory that the Australian population has become complacent thanks to a successful suppression of the disease almost everywhere.

Then comes the Victorian situation and suddenly it all seems so real again. Being in lockdown for a month is going to be very hard not to mention pariah status for Melbournians who are being denied access to holiday accommodation in many parts of NSW and border access to other States such as Queensland. We are living through a significant historical period and are coping well but only because of a rapid and hard response.

Somehow the devastating bushfires of only a few months ago are forgotten in the fray. The Eden-Monaro by-election is a reminder but when this is over it will be left to the professionals and enthusiasts to continue their painstaking documentation of bushland recovery and change.

In this Bulletin we have a couple of good news stories. Thanks to Stig Pedersen and his team we can now be ensured of the survival of the critically endangered *Banksia vincentia*. Hopefully in time this species will be available for the home gardener and Botanic Garden. The second story involves a child being taken for a walk in the bush during the Covid19 home schooling period and rediscovering a rare orchid much to the delight of her orchid expert parents.

We can all do our bit to help document bushland recovery. I remember years ago a fire that raged in the lower Blue Mountains revealed a long lost series of stone terraces built for one of our first vineyards. Fires often remove the layer of vegetation at ground level laying bare rocks and other man made features which may have been forgotten as nature took over. Fires (and droughts) are also followed by a massive weed invasion as the bare ground is colonised by unwanted species.

Save our Flora PowerPoint Presentation

Ready to go!

30 slides approx 30 mins. talk

If you are interested in obtaining

this presentation

please email me

I can send it in an email (4.3MB)

or as a CD

**Send me a C5 stamped addressed
envelope**

Attach 2 stamps

or on a memory stick

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

**Is your garden a
native plants**

sanctuary?

All you have to do

**is grow one or
more threatened**

species.

Annual weeds may die out in winter but they usually spread millions of seeds which will germinate the following spring.

It's important that in this bush recovery phase we get on top of invasive weeds. Bush regenerators have developed the right techniques to deal with a range of species and the information is readily available.

Fires also provide an opportunity for long lost species to re-emerge in previously overgrown bushland. iNaturalist Bush Blitz has an app that will help with identification of species.

In the meantime stay safe - follow the social distancing rules and help others in need.

Banksia vincentia Stimpson &
P.H. Weston
Critically Endangered

Conservationists push to save *Banksia vincentia* from extinction

ABC Illawarra May 28, 2020 Sarah Moss
Published in *Caley* July 2020

Fourteen *Banksia vincentia* plants were discovered 15 years ago in the New South Wales South Coast town of Vincentia. But now, with only four remaining in the wild, conservationists from the Booderee, Wollongong, Australian, and National Botanic Gardens are collaborating to keep the species alive.

'In NSW the plant has been declared critically endangered, which in terms of conservation and declaration, is a rarity', Booderee Botanic Gardens acting curator Stig Pedersen said. 'This is the last stage before it's deemed extinct'.

Seeds of survival

Banksia vincentia is among six species that occur in the Shoalhaven region, but it does not grow naturally in the nearby Jervis Bay suburb of Booderee. Where it has grown has left it vulnerable — eight years ago half the population was wiped out by fire, and then in 2016 the remaining seven plants were affected by wet conditions.

'Parts of the other half that survived became inundated with water for weeks', Mr Pedersen said. 'Like most plants that can't handle wet roots, we had a few more die'.

While things are looking dire in the wild, the push to propagate the plants in the Booderee National Park is proving successful so far. 'A decision was made that we would actively do some conservation establishing seed orchards', Mr Pedersen said.

'Now at Booderee we have well over 1,200 individual propagated plants. We aim to establish 800 plants in the wild. We've planted



Stig Pedersen says it took a bit of trial and error to start propagating the *Banksia vincentia*.

Image: ABC Illawarra: Sarah Moss abc.net.au

400 so far, with another planting session this week and a final one in August'.

'I've killed hundreds'. The banksias need good drainage and mild conditions year-round to survive, and Mr Pedersen said getting the plantation going took some trial and error.

'One thing we've found is that, like many Australian plants, they do not like fertiliser, in particular, phosphorus', he said.

'We are at a stage now where we don't give them any fertiliser until they are well established, and we use a seaweed-based liquid'.

'I would estimate I've killed hundreds. I can laugh about it now but it's very distressing and disappointing when you've actually managed to propagate them and they are doing well'.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-05-28/push-to-save-banksia-vincentia-from-extinction/12292550>

***Hibiscus insularis* Endl.**

Phillip Island Hibiscus
Critically Endangered



Hibiscus insularis Image: jimbojim

This very rare plant was mentioned in the June edition of *Caleyi*. There was a link to an article by ABC presenter Jerry Coleby Williams <https://jerry-coleby-williams.net/2014/08/23/the-ultimate-hibiscus/> who had planted the species as a hedge in his Brisbane garden. It flowers all through the warmer months but the individual flowers are short lived. The lemon yellow petals age to a soft pink before falling. They have a purple throat. In the wild this species had been threatened by feral animals which have now been eradicated allowing the species to regenerate and increase population numbers. At one point the species was reduced to seven plants.

It has small leaves which attracted Coleby Williams to plant it as a hedge which could be pruned to shape. In flower the plant exudes copious amounts of nectar attracting birds and bees. It is a large spreading shrub or small multi-trunked tree with arching branches, which can grow up to 3m in height in ideal conditions. Like most hibiscus this species thrives in humid sub-tropical conditions and is idea for Sydney and the north coast of NSW. It tolerates light frost but the flowers will be affected. It prefers a well-drained site and full sun but is not drought hardy and needs watering regularly during summer. Plants are available from selected nurseries for enthusiasts wanting to grow this rare beauty.

ANPC Cuttings

Wildlife and habitat recovery funding for Queensland National Parks

Recovery actions for threatened plants and animals in Queensland bushfire-affected areas will receive **\$1.95 million in funding** under the Australian Government's \$50 million Wildlife and Habitat Bushfire Recovery package. The Federal Government's Wildlife and Threatened Species Bushfire Recovery Expert Panel has endorsed a range of priority actions established by the Queensland Government to be funded from the \$1.95 million. Priority actions include protecting unburnt areas, on-ground assessments and emergency salvage of targeted species like the critically endangered Nangur Spiny Skink and pest and weed control in Oakview and Nangur National Parks, Bulburin National Park and Gondwana Rainforests. For more information about bushfire recovery visit [here](#).

New IUCN Seed Conservation Specialist Group Website

The new IUCN Seed Conservation Specialist Group new website is now [live!](#) The mission of the Seed Conservation Specialist Group is to promote seed conservation by providing a network for knowledge-sharing in different ecosystems around the world, and aiding in prioritisation, capacity building, and development of best practices.

Critically endangered herb thriving on Macquarie Island after seven-year feral animal eradication program - [The Guardian, 1 June 2020](#)

A critically-endangered herb once thought extinct on sub-Antarctic Macquarie Island has been found growing at a new location as the world-heritage site continues its rabbit-free recovery. The remote island was declared free of pests in 2014, following a seven-year feral animal eradication project.

Galium antarcticum, a type of flowering bedstraw, was thought to have died out in the early 1980s until 500 plants were discovered in 2013 at Skua Lake near the island's west coast. In May, three new populations in close proximity to each other were discovered about 7km to the south.

[Read more.](#)

I Spy A Wollemi Pine project

Heidi Zimmer, Catherine Offord
Excerpt *The Conversation* June 3, 2020

Fifteen years after the Wollemi pine became available for sale, our study asks people to report where Wollemi pines are growing in gardens across the world. So far, results from the online survey have revealed the species grows across 27 different countries, from Australia to Russia, and the UK to Peru. The tallest trees so far – stretching to 7 metres tall (though dwarfed by their wild counterparts) – have been reported from the UK. To date, 987 people have contributed data about Wollemi pines.

What we can learn

Reading comments from survey participants – from “Has survived minus 10 degrees” to “I just love it” – has been a source of interest and joy for us researchers. When the survey is finished, we’ll analyse the responses to understand what influences the growth of this species, such as different climates and soils.

Knowing how Wollemi pines grow in other parts of the world will provide gardening tips for home growers, but more importantly it will inform future conservation efforts in the wild in the face of climate change. For example, this research will provide information on what environments the Wollemi pine can tolerate. We’re discovering the hottest, coldest, wettest and driest places on earth this species can survive in.

This information can help us find places to establish new populations of Wollemi pines. It may also provide clues on the evolutionary history of this species and how it managed to survive multiple ice ages and other dramatic climate changes in deep history.

Conservation with cultivation

Conserving Wollemi pines in backyards is not quite the same as Wollemi pines in the wild – in the same way its important to have pandas in the wild, and not just in zoos. But using cultivation for conservation does mean these species have much greater distribution today than they have ever had in the past.

In fact, this isn’t the first time a rare tree has ended up in gardens. The dawn redwood, thought to be extinct in the wild, was

rediscovered in China in the 1940s and can now be found in gardens across the world.

And the internet is a great place to foster conservation. In online forums, people share every stage of their Wollemi babies’ growth, from seed germination to pine cone production.



Wollemi pines growing in Coates Wood, UK.
Image: Ellen McHale © RBG Kew.

This love and connection to Wollemi pines might even help address “plant blindness”: the propensity for people to see, recognise and focus on animals rather than plants, despite plants being central to providing us with food, the air we breathe and our climate. So, as more species are threatened with extinction every day, everyone’s actions – even in their own backyards or online – can make a difference.

If you have a Wollemi pine in your backyard, or know of a Wollemi pine in a park or garden, and would like to get involved in our citizen science survey, please [click here](#).

https://theconversation.com/backyard-gardeners-around-the-world-are-helping-to-save-australias-deeply-ancient-wollemi-pine-138797?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20June%204%202020%20-%201640715771&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20June%204%202020%20-%201640715771+CID_26606be9e740ab483bf49958c5b9e633&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Backyard%20gardeners%20around%20the%20world%20are%20helping%20to%20save%20Australias%20deeply%20ancient%20Wollemi%20Opine

Australia's native guava plant close to being wiped out by invasive disease – study

Graham Readfearn

Guardian Australia Thu 14 May 2020

'They are the living dead,' researcher says of last trees in the wild to have escaped fungal disease myrtle rust.

An invasive plant disease may be ready to claim its first victim in the wild with Australia's native guava now almost extinct, a study has found. Monitoring of 66 populations of native guava in Queensland and New South Wales has found 23% "could not be located" with another 61% reduced only to root suckers below a dead canopy.

The fungal plant disease myrtle rust was first detected in Australia in 2010, but already has more than 350 known hosts across the country. Dr Rod Fensham, lead author of the study in the journal *Trends in Ecology and Evolution*, said there were only a handful of native guava now left in the wild.

"They are the living dead," he said. "I'm shocked because I don't like to see things going extinct."

Plant ecologists have held serious concerns over the impacts of myrtle rust since it was detected at a new South Wales nursery in 2010.

In early 2019 *Guardian Australia* revealed calls for an emergency national action plan to respond to the disease. Myrtle rust attacks trees in the Myrtaceae family which, in Australia, includes more than 2,000 species. As an insurance policy, about 80 native guava have been cultivated and planted at two garden sites in southern Queensland run by Toowoomba Regional Council.

Ian Thompson, Australia's chief environmental biosecurity officer, said the disease was one of the most significant to enter the country. He said: "This research has highlighted the existing and potential impact of myrtle rust on many native species and underlines the

importance of working to prevent new diseases entering and establishing in Australia."

Fensham, an associate professor at the University of Queensland, said myrtle rust could produce trillions of wind-blown microscopic spores, making it highly contagious and hard to contain. "It is particularly catastrophic for many rainforest species like the native guava, and could change the nature of some of our rainforests."

Since monitoring native guava in 2010, Fensham said plants had died at all 66 sites except one population in a national park at Byron Bay, NSW, where 10 plants remained. An earlier survey in 2014 had found that half of all individual trees across 18 sites had been killed within three years of myrtle rust arriving. Fensham said containment and eradication had "so far been unsuccessful" and a search was now on for strains of the plant that may be more resistant to the disease.

The tree was once common in subtropical rainforests across a 1,000-kilometre range from Gympie in Queensland to Newcastle in New South Wales.

"People remember native guava being so thick that you couldn't walk through it – it was once extremely common," said Fensham. The study explained that native guava had evolved to be able to grow quickly in areas disturbed by impacts such as cyclones, but this role was likely to be taken up by the invasive lantana. In turn, lantana had the ability to "render fire-retardant dry rainforest flammable."

"The loss of native guava and replacement by lantana will increase the flammability of rainforests," the study said. Local extinctions of native guava would have a knock-on effect on more than 100 species of insects and their interactions with flowering plants. A disease such as myrtle rust had the potential to have the same impact on Australia's flora as feral cats and foxes had on the country's fauna, he said.

Native Guava (cont.)

Botanist Bob Makinson, a myrtle rust expert with the Australian Network for Plant **Conservation**, said there was evidence that even though the native guava trees were dying, their root systems were still pushing up suckers almost a decade later. "They keep pushing up root suckers, but they get knocked back pretty quick. But that means more of the original stock of trees is still out there." Makinson said more work needed to be done to investigate the small numbers of trees that were surviving, "to see if there's any resistance traits out there" that could help push a natural recovery.

"Myrtle rust is undoubtedly serious and we are still likely to lose some species and see some serious ecological change in some places."

SAVE THE DATE! 13th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference (APCC13) - Albury NSW, 19-23 April 2021

Albury City Council will be hosting the 13th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference (APCC13) from 19-23 April 2021. The conference organising committee has been formed and will meet next week to start planning this exciting event. To keep up with the latest news, go to the [conference website here](#).

Available Propagators

The following people have indicated a willingness to work with projects that require good propagation skills. If you would like to be added to this list please let Maria know.

Maria Hitchcock Armidale NSW
Life member NSW - APS
Over 40 years propagating experience.
Cool Natives Online Nursery
<https://coolnativesnursery.com>

Col Jackson
Over 20 years propagating experience
Member of the Latrobe Valley APS Victoria
coljackson57@hotmail.com

Spencer Shaw
We operate two nurseries,
Brush Turkey Enterprises Wholesale
www.brushturkey.com.au and
Forest Heart Eco-Nursery
www.forestheart.com.au
and specialise in SE QLD native plants,
particularly rainforest.
spencer.shaw@brushturkey.com.au
0428 130 769

Helen Howard
grevillea.hh@gmail.com
I have grafted Eucalypts, Grevilleas,
Eremophilas and Brachychitons. My
teacher was Merv Hodge. If any BG has a
project I could help out with let me know.

Threatened Species Recovery Hub After the catastrophe: a blueprint for a conservation response to large scale ecological disaster.

Date: 22 January 2020

Author: Chris Dickman, Don Driscoll, Stephen Garnett, David Keith, Sarah Legge, David Lindenmayer, Martine Maron, April Reside, Euan Ritchie, James Watson, Brendan Wintle, John Woinarski
Publisher: TSR Hub

[Download \(PDF\)](#)

Threatened Species Recovery Hub News

Saving an Endangered wattle: Translocating *Acacia cochlocarpa*

Known only from a single road-side location in Western Australia and with only 30 individual plants left, the spiral-fruited wattle was facing extinction.

Dr David Coates and his team decided to attempt translocating it to establish a population at a new and safe location and to increase the number of plants. The team overcame some unknowns to establish a large and self-sustaining population. The research has advanced our knowledge on achieving successful translocations and will be of value to the conservation of many other rare and threatened plants.

[Watch here.](#)

This Threatened Species Recovery Hub project is a collaboration between the Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Murdoch University and The University of Melbourne. It receives support from the Australian Government's National Environmental Science Program.

Bush Blitz goes digital!

For the last decade, Bush Blitz, Australia's largest nature discovery program has taken taxonomists to remote parts of the country to document plants and animals. This program is a partnership between the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Parks Australia, BHP and Earthwatch Australia. Those who have participated in Bush Blitz have helped to discover more than 1700 new species and added thousands of species records. It's estimated there's between 580,000 and 680,000 species in Australia, with three quarters yet to be identified and scientifically described. With species

discovery expeditions currently on hold due to the pandemic, the Bush Blitz team has organised a virtual expedition to continue adding to our knowledge of Australian biodiversity while keeping everyone practicing their social distancing. This is a great activity to get involved in with your family and friends, and while we can't promise you'll find a new species, you will discover some amazing plants and animals living in your own backyard and learn how to identify them with the help of Bush Blitz scientists. If you would like to get involved you can check out their [video on Youtube](#) or visit the [BushBlitz website](#).

Rare macadamia trees destroyed in Queensland bushfires - SMH, 30 April 2020

A cluster of rare and important macadamia trees that were already at risk of disappearing has been destroyed by bushfires in Queensland. Denise Bond and her team at the Macadamia Conservation Trust watched nervously as fires edged closer to the Bulburin National Park last summer. It was there that 150 rare macadamia *jansenii* trees were discovered in 2018. "(It) only grows along this eight-kilometre stretch of one creek in the Bulburin National Park, so we were very concerned when we saw fire getting close," Ms Bond said on Wednesday. When she and her team were finally able to reach the burnt-out area in April, they were devastated by what they saw: a third of the trees were gone. That small patch of trees made up a quarter of the wild population.

[Read more.](#)

Home schooling led eight-year-old to rediscover long lost orchid

Amelia McGuire SMH April 29, 2020

Eight-year-old Arabella Hanisch Jasiak was bushwalking in the Blue Mountains with her parents when she stumbled upon an orchid last seen more than 140 years ago. Her parents Ben Jasiak and Sabine Hanisch, who have authored books on the orchids of the Blue Mountains, knew immediately their daughter had made a rare find. Research scientist Mark Clements was able to confirm the orchid was the *Corunastylis reflexa*, last seen 145 years ago.

"He (Mark Clements) is the king of Australian orchids so it was really exciting for Bella to help reinstate the species," Ms Hanisch told the *Herald*.



Corunastylis reflexa Image: Sabine Hanisch

The family had been taking a lunch break in Newnes in the Wollemi National Park during a day of COVID-19 enforced home schooling when Arabella came upon the species last month.

"For us, Arabella understanding nature and conservation is extremely important, and we try to explore outdoors most weekends ... when she discovered the plant population that day it

was so unexpected and we were absolutely thrilled."

Scientists estimate that about 75 per cent of Australia's biodiversity remains undocumented. To rectify this, the federal government has partnered with Earthwatch Australia and BHP to provide everyday Australians with opportunities to identify plants and animals across Australia in a program known as "Bush Blitz".

The multibillion-dollar project began in 2010 and has uncovered thousands of new species. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Bush Blitz would join taxonomists, Indigenous communities, park rangers and local councils across the country to explore remote parts of Australia and classify new species.

Since the COVID-19 social distancing regulations came into play the project has had to think creatively to motivate discoveries virtually. Using the app iNaturalist Bush Blitz is providing every day Australians with the opportunity to have their discoveries analysed and verified by the country's best taxonomists. After an individual's discovery is verified by one of the experts on the app the data is categorised in the Atlas of Living Australia as a new species.

Bush Blitz manager Jo Harding said this process will help "solidify the place of citizen science data in research". Their aim during COVID-19 is to nurture curiosity through technology "we want to help teachers and parents to motivate children to behave like scientists in the field and discover things in their backyards" she said. Although aimed at involving all Australians, Ms Harding said children especially will help reveal Australia's unknown biodiversity.

"Adults have often lost the ability to wonder in awe. The way that children look at the world as if everything is new and worth examining is exactly how discoveries are made," she said. "We finally have the technology to tap into that lack of expectation and nurture that quality."

Threatened Species Recovery Hub News (cont.)

[ACT grasslands and woodlands listed as critically endangered - Canberra Times, 26 May 2020](#)

Swathes of wood and grasslands across the ACT have been officially designated as "critically endangered". On the advice of a panel of scientists, the ACT government said it was particularly worried about two types of area: "Natural Temperate Grassland" and "Yellow Box - Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland".

The ACT government is trying to balance increasingly powerful forces: the fierce desire for land for housing versus the desire by many to keep at least remnants of nature within a fast-growing city. The ACT's Environment Minister Mick Gentleman said of the newly designated areas: "their transfer to Critically Endangered will help preserve some of Australia's largest woodlands and grasslands." [Read more.](#)

[Hands Healing the Land Booja-Moort-Kaartdijin Community Science Conference - Alfred Cove WA, postponed to November 2020.](#)

Be inspired! Join land care practitioners, scientists and community volunteers come together to celebrate how community make a difference in caring for our unique flora and fauna, learn from traditional owners and build community. This one day event will bring speakers from all walks of ecological restoration land care, natural resource management and environmental education who will share their experiences and give you a chance to learn, connect and build community. [Click here for more information.](#)

[Plant profile: Red-flowering Kurrajong - ABC Gardening Australia, 12 June 2020](#)

A short video introduces the Red-flowering Kurrajong (*Brachybiton megaphyllum*) and endemic to Australia's Top End this plant was listed as the official emblem of the city of Darwin in 1988.

[Click here to watch the video.](#)

Rare/Endangered Species Framework Activities

APS NSW members are involved in various personal or group activities on the Rare/Endangered species front. This is often bottom up and while some of it appears as stories, much seems lost to communication between us. A template and data from recent activities by members Parra Hills Group has been prepared in a spreadsheet. It is an attempt to create a process of communication between APS members. It is envisaged that the spreadsheet may be stored on the APS NSW website for member access.

A simplified version might even be useful for wider publicity on the website. If there are other systems in use elsewhere the organiser would love to hear about them – they may well be better. The organiser would greatly appreciate any comments – positive or negative. A spreadsheet of all the parks and reserves in NSW has also been prepared and is available upon request.

For a copy of the spreadsheets email Tony Maxwell tonymax@optusnet.com.au or phone 9651 6682.

ANPC Cuttings

[Logging and fire both make forests more flammable - Sydney Morning Herald, 7 June 2020](#)

The clear and overwhelming evidence is that logging makes forests more flammable. These are the findings of four peer-reviewed, published scientific studies from four institutions in six years, and of multiple scientific reviews. The likely reasons are that after logging, increased sunlight dries out the forest floor, thousands of fast-growing saplings per hectare increases the fuel for a fire to burn, and the wind speed on hot days increases because of the lack of a tree canopy (wind speed is a key factor in creating extreme fire conditions). Most branches that burn in a bushfire are smaller than the diameter of a human thumb. Young trees burn almost completely while big, tall trees often remain alive and standing after fire.

[Read more.](#)

New Book***Edible Australian Succulents***

Attila Kapitany

Reviewed by Maria Hitchcock



Most people are unaware of our edible native plants even though they sustained our First Nations people for thousands of years. In recent times there has been an awakening of interest in this topic led by enthusiasts and progressive chefs. Our settlers had a bias against so called 'native foods'. This was not helped by the botanist J.D. Hooker who claimed that many native plants were 'eatable but not worth eating'. This beautifully illustrated book covers just a small selection of the huge range of edible species and concentrates on succulents.

Attila Kapitany is the author of the popular 'Australian Succulent Plants' published in 2007 and now out of print. Since that time he has produced a wealth of small booklets dedicated to aspects of the succulent world. This edition is the

roth in his 'The Australian Series'. All his works are listed on his website as well as seeds and plants for sale. He and his wife Michele also grow a wide range of succulents in their display garden at Narre Warren Vic.

In this book species are described in detail with information on habitat, distribution, cultivation and edible parts. Multiple photos show the species both in close-up and as mature specimens in the garden or in the wild. A map indicates the range of each species. I was quite interested in the section on *Bulbine glauca* which I have grown but never attempted to eat. The edible rhizome I assume should be roasted. Knowing which plants are safe to eat is invaluable information, much of which has been lost over time. Attila's research in this area is an important contribution to the botanical and ethnographic record.

I was fascinated with the section on *Portulaca* and headed for the chapter on *P. oleracea* or Purslane. We have just come out of the worst drought in living memory on the Northern Tablelands. *P. oleracea* was everywhere after the rains in January and February, colonising bare ground and looking remarkably vigorous. I had heard it was edible but wasn't sure which parts. Most people regard it as a garden weed and pull it out. I now know that the leaves, stems, roots and seed are all edible. The final section of this book, under the heading 'Rewards', describes some of the culinary uses of plants covered in this volume and it has whet my appetite to try growing a few *Enchylaena* or saltbush species so that I can harvest the fruits for afternoon snacks!

Details: Full colour, 52 pages A4 RRP **\$42.00**
Also available with a seed kit of 10 different native food plants.

Purchase via website

<http://australiansucculents.com/books/australian-native-plant-series/edible-australian-succulents>

BOTANIC ENDEAVOUR

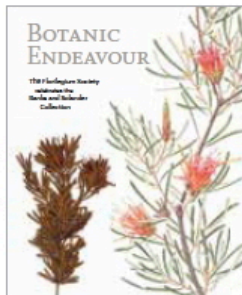
The Florilegium Society celebrates the Banks and Solander collection

A beautiful new limited edition publication featuring the recent botanical paintings by artists of The Florilegium Society at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney.

The paintings link the historic Banks and Solander specimens held in the National Herbarium of NSW with the Living Collection of the three Gardens and mark the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook's voyage in HMB Endeavour.

The focus is the time and place of the collection of these specimens, their history and invites reflection on what they mean to science, to the Indigenous peoples, to those who collected them and to the Gardens today.

The 45 paintings are reproduced in a full colour and paired with the newly digitised Banks and Solander specimen images. Written by Colleen Morris, each species has its indigenous names and uses where known, a description and quotes from the journals of Joseph Banks, Daniel Solander and artist Sydney Parkinson. It includes a preface by Denise Ora, Executive Director, Botanic Gardens and Centennial Parklands, a foreword by Dr Shirley Sherwood OBE, an introduction to the Florilegium by Beverly Allen and an essay on the Banks collection by Dr Brett Summerell, Director, Research & Chief Botanist, Botanic Gardens and Centennial Parklands.



Published by the Florilegium Society with support from the Australian Garden History Society and limited to 600 copies.

The size is 245 x 300mm and 132 pages.

The price is AUD65.

As our exhibition has been postponed, the book is now available from the Society by mail order from May 2020.

Enquiries to: botanic.endeavour@gmail.com



For payment and postage within Australia

Please add AUD20 for postage, this covers up to 5 copies in one order

Payment by EFT: The Florilegium Society at the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney Inc.

BSB: 112 879 Account number: 028 301 737

For payment and postage from outside Australia

Please add AUD70 for postage, this covers up to 2 copies in one order

Payment by via Paypal to the email account: beverly@beverlyallen.com.au

Please be sure to include your name in the transfer reference and advise the delivery address and payment reference by email: botanic.endeavour@gmail.com



Lambertia formosa
(Mountain devil)
by Elaine Musgrave

ANPC Cuttings

[Volunteers called to help plant 50,000 seedlings in fight to conserve Ludlow Tuart Forest](#) - South Western Times, 22 June 2020

Between Busselton and Bunbury stands Ludlow Tuart Forest, the largest remaining forest of its kind in the world with trees soaring more than 33m into the sky. But while tall and mighty, the tuarts are facing a conservation crisis, last year listed as “critically endangered” following decades of land clearing, the timber industry, farming and urban sprawl restricting the population to ever smaller pockets. Despite the pouring rain last week, volunteers from across the region came out in droves to plant some 50,000 seedlings to restore stands of the iconic South West species.

[Read more.](#)

[Drought-breaking rains transform endangered woodlands into a flower-filled vista](#) - Australian Geographic, 25 June 2020

After Queensland’s drought-breaking rain earlier this year, scientists surveyed private farmland and found many dried-out woodlands transformed into flower-filled landscapes. In the box gum grassy woodlands, widely spaced eucalypts tower over carpets of wildflowers, lush native grasses and groves of flowering wattles. It’s no wonder some early landscape paintings depicting Australian farm life are inspired by this ecosystem. But box gum grassy woodlands are critically endangered. These woodlands grow on highly productive agricultural country, from southern Queensland, along inland slopes and tablelands, into Victoria.

[Read more.](#)

[Online Survey - COVID 19 and the Baw Baw Frog](#) - Peter Cullen Water and Environment Trust

An Invitation from the Peter Cullen Water and Environment Trust to all Australians who are concerned about our water, oceans, plants and animals. It is timely to now capture the diversity of insights, reflections and ideas for the future as many of the COVID-19 restrictions ease

around Australia. What has this time meant for us, the way we work, the way we lead, and the opportunity to learn, re-iterate, and create new futures for Australia’s water, oceans, plants and animals. This is an invitation to [complete a reflective survey](#) to capture the insight, hindsight and foresight experienced by professionals in Australia's NRM sector.

[Volunteers wanted: Help Restore & Protect SA's Native Vegetation](#) - Trees for Life

Trees For Life is a not-for-profit, community-based organisation working with everyday people to help restore our natural environment through revegetation and conservation. We have many volunteer and learning opportunities, [learn more here.](#)

[Save the Date: 2021 National Landcare Conference](#) - Sydney NSW, 10 - 11 March 2021

The National Landcare Conference was scheduled this year for November 11 to 13. Due to COVID-19, the National Landcare Conference Steering Committee have announced the conference will now take place from March 10 to 12, 2021 with the National Landcare Awards Gala dinner taking place on Thursday, 11 March. The 2021 National Landcare Conference will be held at the International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour in Sydney from Wednesday 10 to Friday 12 March. The 2021 National Landcare Awards gala dinner will be held on Thursday 11 March, 2021 at the same venue. We encourage you to please register your interest for more information about both events. In September 2020, we will be making more announcements about the conference program and how you can get involved. [Register your interest here.](#)

Seed and Cuttings Exchange

Please send all requests directly to the person making the offer or the group email

saveourflora@gmail.com

Please follow the correct protocols for requests of seed or cuttings. These are detailed on the next page. Please note that some species are in very short supply and cutting material may be limited.

Maria Hitchcock

16 Hitchcock Lane Armidale NSW 2350

Acacia pycnostachya

Boronia clavata

Boronia keysii

Correa eburnea

Correa calycina

Correa baeuerlenii

Callistemon pungens

Callitris oblonga

Grevillea iaspicula

Grevillea juniperina

Melaleuca irbyana

Phebalium daviesii

Phebalium speciosum

Prostanthera askania

Prostanthera cryptandroides

Prostanthera staurophylla

Zieria adenodonta,

Zieria prostrata,

Zieria floydii,

I am also licensed to sell some endangered species through my online nursery. All are grown from seed and cuttings taken from established garden plants.

<https://coolnativesnursery.com>

Arthur Baker

55 Moran ST Gatton Qld 4343

Gardenia psidiodes

Grevillea quadricauda

Phaius tancarvilleae

Phaius australis

Kunzea flavescens

Kunzea graniticola

Lilaeopsis brisbanica

Choricarpia subargentea

Spathoglottis pauliniae

Spath plicata

Murdannia graminea

Thysanthus tuberosus

Charles Farrugia (email saveourflora@gmail.com)

Eremophila denticulata ssp trisulcata

Eremophila denticulata ssp denticulata

Eremophila nivea (blue form)

Eremophila nivea (white form) - limited.

Eremophila vernicosa – extremely limited

Russell (email saveourflora@gmail.com)

Boronia clavata

Denise & Graeme Krake

752 Warrigal Range Rd. Brogo NSW 2550

Seed of

Hakea dohertyi, *Hakea ochroptera*

Hakea longiflora, *Grevillea maccutcheonii*

Geoff & Gwynne Clarke

Grevillea humifusa - cuttings

Angophora robur - seed

Dodonaea crucifolia - cuttings or seed

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

Bob O'Neill

7 Hillsmeade Drive, Narre Warren South, Vic. 3805

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

Paul Kennedy (Leader ANPSA Hakea SG) (email

saveourflora@gmail.com)

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

Verna Aslin

20-22 Bega St Cobargo NSW 2550

Asterolasia beckersii

Grevillea iaspicula

Do you have any EPBC plants growing in your garden with sufficient foliage to share cuttings with our members? Let me know and I'll print it here. It would be easier if we can add your address so that members can contact you directly. Please make sure you follow the protocols on the back page. (Ed)

Requesting and sending seed by post

Please follow these simple steps.

Make a request

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

Send seed

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

Receiving seed

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

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

Requesting and sending cuttings by post

Please follow these simple steps.

Make a request

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

Send cuttings

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

Receiving cuttings

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

Group Members

ANPSA Groups

APS Echuca Moama Vic
 APS Melton Bacchus Marsh Vic
 APS Sutherland NSW
 NPQ Ipswich Qld
 NPQ Sunshine Coast and
 Hinterland Qld

Botanic Gardens and Reserves

Burrendong Arboretum Wellington
 Crommelin Native Arboretum
 NSW
 Hunter Regional BG NSW
 Lindum Park Flora and Fauna
 Res Tamworth Regional BG NSW
 Swan Reserve Garden Vic

Nurseries

Bilby Blooms Binnaway NSW
 Cool Natives Armidale NSW
 Mole Station Tenterfield NSW
 Forest Heart Eco-Nursery SEQld

Seed Suppliers

Victorian Native Seeds

Study Groups

Acacia SG
 Correa SG
 Epacris SG
 Garden Design SG
 Grevillea SG
 Hakea SG

Landscapers

Brush & Bush Tamworth NSW