



# Save our Flora

AN ONLINE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL PROJECT

*Conservation through Cultivation*

**Project launched on 14th November 2013**

**Maria Hitchcock** Administrator Bulletin Editor

**Bob Ross** Conservation Legislation

**Membership** Individuals: 83 Groups: 12

Membership is free. Please encourage others to join.

Bulletins are sent electronic only. Please pass them on.



The Aussie spirit of Christmas.

*Wishing you all a very happy*

**Christmas**

*and a highly productive* **2014.**

*Your next bulletin will be sent in*

*mid February*

*If you are travelling ...*

*Keep safe*

*Encourage your friends and colleagues to*

*join our group and please send us your*

*articles and comments*



**Have you seen this plant?**

The pink Flannel Flower *Actinotus forsythii* photographed in the wild near Kanangra Falls by David Noble in March 2010. It grows in the upper Blue Mountains and appears after fire for a season only then disappears until after the next bushfire. Another population has been recorded in Gippsland. There may be other small populations along the ranges. It grows on exposed sites in association with Banksias.

# Save our Flora

**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>

## From the Members:

**Cathy Powers (APS Melton Bacchus Marsh)** writes:

This is a fantastic initiative. Our group has many members who are doing exactly what this concept proposes. As a group we are promoting the genus *Hakea* by propagating plants for our annual plant sale. This includes some of the rare or difficult to find specimens.

**Arthur Baker (Gatton Qld)** writes:

I have the following plants growing in various stages of growth all obtained from:

**Greening Australia**, 57 Paten Rd The Gap Qld 4061

Ph. 07 3300 6304 or

**Burringbar R/F Nursery**, 380 Burringbar Rd

Upper Burringbah NSW 2483 Ph. 02 6677 1088

*Notelaea ipsviciensis* CE  
*Corchorus cunninghamii* E  
*Davidsonia jerseyana* E  
*Davidsonia johnsonii* E  
*Diploglottis campbellii* E  
*Gossia fragrantissima* E  
*Planchonella eerwah* E  
*Randia moorei* E  
*Triunia robusta* E  
*Cupaniopsis tomentella* V  
*Eucalyptus argophloia* V  
*Fontainea rostrata* V  
*Owenia cepiodora* V  
*Syzygium hodgkinsoniae* V  
*Tinospora tinosporoides* V

The following plants were obtained from  
**Yuruga Nursery**, 5970 Kennedy Highway  
 Walkamin Qld 4872 Ph. 07 4093 3826

*Corymbia rhodops* V  
*Costus potierae*  
*Eucryphia wilkiei* V  
*Gardenia psidiodes* V  
*Leptospermum purpurascens*  
*Lilaeopsis brisbanica*  
*Leptospermum wooroonooran*  
*Phaius tancarvilleae* E

*Spathoglottis paulinae*

*Stockwellia quadrifida*

Arthur also sent a list of plants from his block in the Helidon Hills (approx. 30 kms from Gatton and Toowoomba) which I have attached.

**Steve Munn** writes:

Currently I'm growing the rare plants *Phebalium festivum* (cuttings), *Acacia williamsonii* (seed grown) and *Westringia crassifolia* (cuttings) on my acreage near Castlemaine, Victoria. All plants are sourced from the Bendigo area and were purchased from Goldfields Revegetation, Mandurang. Victoria.

**Richard Thomson** writes:

My experience is in the germination and culture of ground orchids, including pollination, seed collection, fungi collection, seed germination - symbiotically and asymbiotically, translocations, etc. In Victoria the rules in relation to threatened species are similar to those listed in the bulletin.

In relation to our orchid work we always have a permit, but we are not permit holders. We have arranged things such that the Department person responsible for that species /area is the permit holder, but they may in writing (by email) delegate a task or action. We have taken this approach so that the actions are always part of the Recovery Actions for the species and that we are not seen as running off doing our own thing. The Department person is not fearful of not having control of the situation. And we always have the approval in our hand when we are out doing something. Thus the system is coordinated for the species wellbeing and best use of resources -private, public and volunteer. Where the orchid is on private land or is to be established on private land, or council land, the land holder is also involved in the processes.

Which rare and endangered flora are you growing?  
 Send us your plant lists and details of any nurseries  
 that you find useful as a source.



# Save our Flora

## Links

### The Australian Network for Plant Conservation

celebrated [Fascination of Plants Day 2013](#) by launching a beautiful [slide show of some of Australia's most threatened plants](#), which is available to view online. They also prepared an [illustrated list of 21 of Australia's most threatened plants](#), to mark 21 years of promoting and developing plant conservation.

### Threatened Species of Tasmania

To find the species listed for a particular area

<http://www.threatenedspecieslink.tas.gov.au/>

### Threatened species of Victoria

[http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/\\_\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/210436/](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/___data/assets/pdf_file/0016/210436/)

[Advisory List of Rare or Threatened Plants in Victoria - 2005.pdf](#)

### Threatened species of Queensland

<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/LEGISLTN/CURRENT/N/NatureConWiR06.pdf>

### Threatened species of NSW

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedSpeciesApp/AreaHabitatSearch.aspx>

### Threatened species of SA

[http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/Plants\\_Animals/Threatened\\_species\\_ecological\\_communities/Threatened\\_species](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/Plants_Animals/Threatened_species_ecological_communities/Threatened_species)

### Threatened species of WA

<http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/news/7155-wa-threatened-species-list-updated.html>

### Threatened species of NT

<http://www.lrm.nt.gov.au/plants-and-animals/home/specieslist#.UqLCoGQW07Q>

### Threatened species of ACT

Can someone please provide a link.

## Endangered Grevilleas

*Grevillea acanthifolia* subsp. *paludosa* NSW, Vic  
*Grevillea althoferorum* WA  
*Grevillea batrachioides* WA  
*Grevillea beadleana* NSW  
*Grevillea caleyi* NSW  
*Grevillea calliantha* WA  
*Grevillea christineae* WA  
*Grevillea corrugata* WA  
*Grevillea curviloba* subsp. *curviloba* WA  
*Grevillea curviloba* subsp. *incurva* WA  
*Grevillea dryandroides* subsp. *dryandroides* WA  
*Grevillea dryandroides* subsp. *hirsuta* WA  
*Grevillea guthrieana* NSW  
*Grevillea humifusa* WA  
*Grevillea iaspicula* NSW ACT  
*Grevillea infundibularis* WA  
*Grevillea involucrata* WA  
*Grevillea maccutcheonii* WA  
*Grevillea masonii* NSW  
*Grevillea maxwellii* WA  
*Grevillea mollis* NSW  
*Grevillea molyneuxii* NSW  
*Grevillea murex* WA  
*Grevillea obtusiflora* NSW  
*Grevillea pythara* WA  
*Grevillea rara* WA  
*Grevillea rivularis* NSW  
*Grevillea scapigera* WA  
*Grevillea wilkinsonii* NSW

**Do you have cutting material of any of these listed Grevilleas that you are willing to share with other members?**

# Save our Flora

## Grevillea hybrids and bully birds

Julie Bennett writes:

I have just read your article re Angus Stewart's book with great interest. I have not been in favour of developing hybrids for some years. I just love our native plants in their true form and am worried how the market is being swamped with hybrids..... and don't get me started with the names they are given! The proliferation of large showy grevilleas is attracting far too many "bully birds" with a detrimental effect on the small bird species but the general public is not aware of this and think they are doing the right thing.

I would also like to confess that I had been an APS member for many years but became jaded with the number of members promoting hybrids and increasingly singing the praises of growing interstate plants in their gardens and ignoring their local species. I am not a complete "purist" when it comes to natives but I would love to see more promotion of local indigenous planting on TV gardening programmes and in magazines etc. I live on the Northern Beaches and we have a reasonably large number of volunteer bush carers working under the guidance of Pittwater Council who make every effort to source local provenance tubestock when there is the need for planting.

A Study done by **Birds in Backyards**

<http://www.birdsinbackyards.net/What-characteristics-urban-gardens-influence-distribution-and-foraging-ecology-Noisy-Miners>

found that it is Eucalypts rather than Grevilleas which attract these birds but Grevilleas do provide a large source of nectar for them which may keep them in the area.

*'This study indicates that Noisy Miners feed on a wide variety of food sources, but that eucalypts provide the most favourable foraging substrate (for nectar, insects and plant sap). Grevilleas are used extensively when they are available, but their presence does not explain the distribution of Noisy Miners at the back yard level. However, it seems that grevillea nectar is a substantial component of the large nectar resource that is present in urban gardens. It is therefore still possible that at the scale of a suburb (rather than a back yard), the abundance of nectar in ornamental gardens might be one of the factors that makes these areas suitable habitat for Noisy Miners'.*

Another study published online in **EMU Austral Ornithology** <http://www.publish.csiro.au/paper/MU07043.htm> (10 June 2009) and conducted by Lisa C. Ashley, Richard E. Major and Charlotte E. Taylor contained the following abstract:

*'Noisy Miners have been described as a 'reverse keystone' species, aggressively excluding many bird species from an ever-increasing range of human-dominated landscapes.*

*Understanding the factors influencing the distribution of Noisy Miners is therefore an important research priority. To determine whether a relationship exists between the distribution of Noisy Miners and the vegetation composition of suburban gardens, birds were surveyed according to a factorial design defined by the presence or absence of grevilleas and eucalypts. Contrary to popular expectation, there was no significant association between the abundance of Noisy Miners and the presence of hybrid grevilleas. However, there was a highly significant relationship between the abundance of Noisy Miners and the presence of eucalypts. Analysis of foraging time budgets showed that Noisy Miners consistently spent 25–30% of their foraging time feeding on grevilleas (only in sites in which they were present). Similar amounts of time were spent foraging in eucalypts or in flowering callistemons (when available), and the presence of grevilleas did not result in a reduction in overall commitments to foraging. Noisy Miners also spent substantial amounts of time foraging on open ground. This study does not support the notion that hybrid grevilleas have played a causal role in the spread of Noisy Miners across many suburban areas of eastern Australia. Our results are consistent with the hypothesis that it is the proliferation of lightly-treed open areas that favours the Noisy Miner'.*

**Here's a good quote:**

*'University of Queensland zoologist Peter Woodall said: "To a noisy miner, a garden of grevilleas is like a big McDonald's'.* <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/01/31/1043804522023.html>



# Save our Flora

**Birdscaping your garden** by Dr Tony Saunders  
**Cumberland Bird Observers Club**  
<http://www.cboc.org.au/birdscaping.html>

*'Hybrid native plants are often chosen because they appear more spectacular having larger flowers and longer flowering periods; but they can present problems. Birds visiting these hybrids will spend less time pollinating local native plant species and the reduction in seed set could lead to their extinction. In addition, these **hybrids are often more attractive to large aggressive honeyeaters and lorikeets which defend the flowers and prevent other smaller birds from entering the garden**, even those that don't take nectar. In particular the Noisy Miner can be a serious pest. Our habit of clearing bush for housing development, leaving a few trees and then planting hybrid grevilleas creates ideal habitat for the Noisy Miner. Use of shrubs with smaller flowers that provide less nectar and more dense cover make it less worthwhile for the Miners and also more difficult for them to defend territories. If you live within a Noisy Miner colony you need to take this into consideration. It is suggested that you avoid selecting plants attractive to them for at least three years while the rest of the garden becomes established and other birds take up residence.*

*Plants that provide fruit and seeds need to be selected carefully as birds will carry seeds back into the bush where they may germinate and compete with the local native plants. This can be as much of a problem with non-local native plants as with introduced species'.*

This article also contains a list of bird-attracting (non-hybrid) plants for the Sydney area)

These might also be of interest to you:

## **The effect of Noisy Miners on small bush birds: an unofficial cull and its outcome**

S. J. S. DEBUS (UNE)

[http://www.une.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/30143/debus-n-miner.pdf](http://www.une.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0011/30143/debus-n-miner.pdf)

## **Noisy Miners harassing a spotted dove in Centennial Park Sydney**

<http://www.besgroup.org/2008/05/28/noisy-miners-harassing-a-spotted-dove/>

## **The Noisy Miner**

### **Challenges in managing an over abundant species**

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/zoology/dept-of-zoology-documents/Final-low-res-LR-LatrobeUni-Birds-Broch.pdf>



Noisy Miner on Grevillea  
[urbandaisy.wordpress.com](http://urbandaisy.wordpress.com)

*'Noisy Miners are gregarious and **territorial**; they forage, bathe, roost, breed and defend territory communally, forming **colonies** that can contain several hundred birds. Each bird has an 'activity space' and birds with overlapping activity spaces form associations called 'coteries', the most stable units within the colony. The birds also form temporary flocks called 'coalitions' for specific activities such as **mobbing** a predator. Group cohesion is facilitated not only by vocalizations, but also through ritualised **displays** which have been categorised as flight displays, postural displays, and facial displays. The Noisy Miner is a notably aggressive bird, and chasing, pecking, fighting, scolding, and mobbing occur throughout the day, targeted at both intruders and colony members. Foraging in the canopy of trees and on trunks and branches and on the ground, the Noisy Miner mainly eats **nectar**, fruit and insects. Most time is spent gleaning the foliage of eucalypts, and it can meet most of its nutritional needs from **manna**, **honeydew** and **lerp** gathered from the foliage. The Noisy Miner does not use a stereotyped **courtship display**, but copulation is a frenzied communal event. It breeds all year long, building a deep cup-shaped nest and laying two to four eggs. **Incubation** is by the female only, although up to twenty male helpers take care of the nestlings and fledglings. Noisy Miners have a range of strategies to increase their breeding success including multiple broods and group mobbing of predators. The Noisy Miner's population increase has been correlated with the reduction of avian diversity in human-affected landscapes. Its territoriality means that **translocation** is unlikely to be a solution to its Overabundance, and **culling** has been proposed, although the Noisy Miner is currently a protected species across Australia'.*

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noisy\\_Miner](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noisy_Miner)

# Save our Flora

## IMLAY MALLEE

### *Eucalyptus imlayensis*

EPBC Critically endangered

by Bob Ross, Conservation Officer for APS NSW

(adapted from an article by Bob Ross in the July 2013 edition of *Native Plants for NSW*)

‘Conservation through cultivation’ is an appealing idea to those of us who enjoy growing Australian native plants. We are concerned about the loss of endangered native plants and we like the idea of saving a threatened species by propagating it in our patch of private bushland.

But there could be a problem if we just grow an endangered native and stick it in our own garden. When we eventually have to sell our lovely patch of native plants and move to the retirement village, most likely the new owners will convert what was a beautiful garden of native plants (including a few endangered native species) into a kikuyu lawn so the kids can practice footy on the weekend.

However there are other reasons for propagating endangered natives, and I don’t just mean the example of the mass propagating of Wollemi pines (to help protect the secret location of the original trees in Wollemi NP). An excellent example is the Imlay mallee planting on the top of Mt. Imlay in late September 2011.

The Imlay Mallee was listed as ‘critically endangered’ in 2008 by the Scientific Committee established under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act. At that time the only population of this smooth-barked mallee consisted of 80 mature trees on a steep slope on the top of Mt. Imlay, in Mt. Imlay National Park, in south-eastern NSW. Mt. Imlay is an isolated peak surrounded by much lower hills and the single location of the trees is near the top, at an elevation of 850 metres. How they got there is a mystery, but they may be a remnant left over from the period when this part of Australia was much cooler.

**Do you have an article on a listed EPBC plant you would like to contribute to our next Bulletin?**

The problem of protecting the isolated location of Imlay mallees was complicated by the lack of seed on the trees, no young trees coming up, and an infestation of the soil-borne pathogen *Phytophthora cinnamomi* on the top of the mountain that had already killed other native plant species.



Planting Imlay mallees on Mt. Imlay in September 2011

The Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG) worked with NSW National Parks and Wildlife (NPWS) Ranger Lyn Evans and other NPWS staff to propagate new seedlings of the eucalypt, and in late September 2011 a team of people (including three APS members) planted 23 seedlings of *E imlayensis* on the top of Mt. Imlay as part of a trial. Lyn reports that so far all 23 seedlings are surviving.

We understand the Imlay Mallee is also being grown at the ANBG in Canberra.

**Are you growing the Imlay Mallee or do you know anyone who has grown it successfully in a garden?**



# Save our Flora

***Grevillea wilkinsonii*** Makinson ms. [67246]  
Tumut Grevillea (EPBC Endangered)



*Grevillea wilkinsonii* Image: [asgap.org.au](http://asgap.org.au)

The species was discovered in 1982 by a local naturalist, Mr Tom Wilkinson, and was brought to scientific attention in 1991. It was formally named and described in 1993.

**Description:** Straggly to dense shrub, up to 2 m tall and 2 m wide having oblong shaped green leaves up to 15 cm long by 2 cm wide which are smooth on the upper surface but coated in silvery silky hairs below. The leaves have scalloped edges with each scallop separated by a tooth. Young foliage may be bronze coloured. The small purple flowers are arranged to form a 3 - 5cm long toothbrush-like inflorescence and may have a strong unpleasant perfume designed to attract insects. Styles may range in colour from lilac-pink, green or yellow. Seed is held in dark brown woody follicles which split longitudinally. This species flowers from September to November and individual flower clusters can last for some weeks. Fruits mature during December.



Map: [http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon\\_id=56396#distribution](http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=56396#distribution)

## Distribution

Restricted to the NSW south-west slopes mostly along a 6 km stretch of the Goobarragandra River approximately 20 km east of Tumut where about 800 plants are known. Another small population of only seven mature plants occurs on private land near Gundagai.

## Habitat

Most healthy adult plants occur in open areas with those under a canopy of dense vegetation becoming spindly and subject to sooty mould. At the Goobarragandra River sites the species generally grows in close proximity to the water, at altitudes between 310 and 340 m. Associated species form remnant riverine shrub communities adjacent to open-forest and include Blakely's Red Gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*), Apple Box (*E. bridgesiana*), Yellow Box (*E. melliodora*), and Red Stringybark (*E. macrorhyncha*). Kurrajongs (*Brachychiton populneus*) grow in nearby paddocks.

The species tends to be fertile with a high rate of fruit set, although there is also a fairly high predation of the ripening fruits by parrots. Most sites contain individuals of varying ages and numerous seedlings have been observed at some sites.

## National Recovery Plan July 2001

The first significant efforts to conserve the species commenced in 1991, when members of the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG), the local community and the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) successfully negotiated with Tumut Shire Council (TSC) to prevent proposed roadworks destroying a portion of one of the larger colonies. In 1992 a formal Recovery Team was established by the NPWS and the ANBG to coordinate conservation actions for the species.

You can download the full recovery plan here

[Recovery Plan for the Tumut Grevillea \(\*Grevillea wilkinsonii\*\) \(PDF - 241 KB\)](#) | [\(RTF - 4.07 MB\)](#)

## References:

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10381>  
<http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/21c57340-2a5a-458e-b1b3-b816bd3a29b1/files/g-wilkinsonii.pdf>  
[http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon\\_id=56396#distribution](http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=56396#distribution)

**Are you growing this species in your garden?  
Send us your comments.**

# Save our Flora

## Group Members

### APS Groups

Melton Bacchus Marsh Vic

### Botanic Gardens

Hunter Regional Botanic Gardens

Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens

### Nurseries

Bilby Blooms Binnaway NSW

Cool Natives Nursery Armidale NSW

Mole Station Native Nursery Tenterfield NSW

### Study Groups

Correa SG

Epacris SG

Garden Design SG

Grevillea SG

Hakea SG

Waratah & Flannel Flower SG

### Cuttings Exchange

For cuttings of

*Boronia clavata*

*Callistemon pungens*

*Grevillea wilkinsonii*

Send request to:

**Maria Hitchcock**

[saveourflora@gmail.com](mailto:saveourflora@gmail.com)

## Requesting and sending cuttings by post

Please follow these simple steps.

### Make a request

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

### Send cuttings

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

### Receiving cuttings

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

## For cuttings or seed of

<i>Gardenia psidiodes</i>	all of which have been
<i>Grevillea quadricauda</i>	established in the garden
<i>Grevillea glossadenia</i>	plus any other species
<i>Eucryphia wilkiei</i>	from Arthur Baker's list
<i>Graptophyllum ilicifolium</i>	(attached) depending on
<i>Xanthostemon formosus</i>	material available
<i>Phaius tancarvilleae</i>	
<i>Plectranthus nitidus</i>	Send request to:
<i>Zieria prostrata</i>	<b>Arthur Baker</b>
<i>Grevillea mollis?</i>	<a href="mailto:saveourflora@gmail.com">saveourflora@gmail.com</a>
<i>Eremophila nivea</i>	
<i>Dodonaea rupicola</i>	

*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. (Ed)*

## Privacy

Your privacy is protected with this group. Unless you specify that we can publish your email, we will only use the group email on this page. All requests will be forwarded on to the grower and you can then establish your own private email exchange.