

# Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) Inc



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## GSG Vic Programme 2014

**Leader: Neil Marriott**

693 Panrock Reservoir Rd, Stawell, Vic. 3380  
p 03 5356 2404 or 0458 177 989  
e neil@whitegumsaustralia.com

Contact Neil for queries about program for the year. Any members who would like to visit the official collection, obtain cutting material or seed, assist in its maintenance, and stay in our cottage for a few days are invited to contact Neil.

## GSG NSW Programme 2014

For details contact **Peter Olde** 02 4659 6598.

**October long weekend Friday,  
3 October – Tuesday, 7 October**

**VENUE:** Camp and accommodation at Oakdale. See our 'Silky Oaks' gardens as well, plants for sale, camp-out on farm. A tour of the 'Illawarra Grevillea Park', Bulli and Peter & Sue Stewart's cut-flower Grevillea farm at Alpine are also planned.

**TOPIC:** The Sydney Grevilleas

*Programme details on page 2 >*

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## GSG SE Qld Programme 2014

Morning tea at 9.30am, meetings commence at 10.00am. We have a meeting every second month usually on the last Sunday of the month. For more information contact **Helen Howard** on 0402 555 573.

### Thursday, 24 July

Regional SGAP outing to Brisbane Mt.Coo-tha Botanic Gardens at 10am. No meeting for GSG just an outing to combine with SGAP members.

### Sunday, 24 August

**VENUE:** Home of Allan and Chris Hotton  
39 Highfields Road Highfields  
(15 mins north Toowoomba just off the New England Highway)

**TIME:** 9:30am for 10am meeting

**TOPIC:** Establishing a new native garden

### Sunday, 26 October

**VENUE:** Home of Steve and Laylee Purchase,  
41 Rocklyn Road (Toowoomba south - take West Street south towards Mt Rascal).

**TIME:** 10am, followed by trip to Peter Bevans Nursery, Lowood arriving there 12:30pm. Lunch arrangements announced at the meeting.

**TOPIC:** YABBA on the Downs.  
GSG meeting to be part of the conference. Presentation on display of Queensland Grevilleas. Flowers will be on display also of as many local species of Grevillea are available at the time.

### Sunday, 23 November

**VENUE:** Home of of Fran and Jim Standing,  
Mt Clunie Woodenbong.

**TIME:** 9:30am for 10am meeting

**TOPIC:** GSG Meeting

Special thanks to the New South Wales chapter for this edition of the newsletter. Queensland members, please note deadlines on back page for the following newsletter.

## The Sydney Grevilleas – October long weekend

### Friday, 3 October – Tuesday, 7 October

Our field trip this year will encompass as many species found in the greater Sydney region as we can possibly see. We intend to hire buses, so it would be useful to have people let us know if they would like to come.

Camp and accommodation available at Oakdale which will serve as the base, and in the wider Camden area. See our 'Silky Oaks' gardens as well, plants for sale, camp-out on farm. A tour of the 'Illawarra Grevillea Park', Bulli and Peter & Sue Stewart's cut-flower Grevillea farm at Alpine are also planned.

We probably won't get everything in so do not hold us to the programme. It will also be weather-dependent. The tour will be informed by expert commentary and you can relax in the process.

Please book as soon as possible.

### Preliminary programme.

#### Day 1

**South and South-west** – *Grevillea sphacelata*, *Grevillea diffusa* ssp. *diffusa*, *Grevillea diffusa* ssp. *constablei*, *Grevillea arenaria* (*Grevillea ferruginea*), *Grevillea parviflora* ssp. *parviflora*, *Grevillea capitellata*, *Grevillea longifolia*, *Grevillea mucronulata* Georges River form, *Grevillea oleoides* red suckering, *Grevillea oleoides* shrubby form, *Grevillea oleoides* white, *Grevillea patulifolia*, *Grevillea rivularis*.

#### Day 2

**Northside** – *Grevillea buxifolia* subsp. *buxifolia*, *Grevillea buxifolia* subsp. *nov.*, *Grevillea speciosa* variously leaved forms, *Grevillea speciosa* suckering form, *Grevillea sericea* subsp. *sericea*, *Grevillea* 'Collaroy Plateau' hybrids, *Grevillea caleyi*, *Grevillea linearifolia* pink, *Grevillea linearifolia* weeping form, *Grevillea parviflora* subsp. *supplicans*.

#### Day 3

**North coast** – *Grevillea shiressii*, *Grevillea diffusa* subsp. *filipendula*, *Grevillea oldei*, *Grevillea buxifolia* ssp. *nov.*, *Grevillea buxifolia* small-flowered form, *Grevillea mucronulata*.

Distance will prevent us seeing *Grevillea montana*, *Grevillea buxifolia* ssp. *ecorniculata*.

#### Day 4

**West** – *Grevillea acanthifolia*, *Grevillea arenaria* subsp. *canescens*, *Grevillea juniperina* ssp. *juniperina*, *Grevillea laurifolia* - 2 forms, *Grevillea mucronulata* 'Cumberland Plain lignotuberous' form, *Grevillea mucronulata* 'cinerea form', *Grevillea oleoides* Blue Mountain Form, ? *Grevillea* 'Lawson Giant' (*oleoides* x *Grevillea sericea*), *Grevillea phyllicoides*, *Grevillea rosmarinifolia*, *Grevillea* 'gaudichaudii', *Grevillea sericea* Blue Mountains Form, *Grevillea sericea* subsp. *riparia*.

#### Day 5

*Grevillea arenaria* villous form, *Grevillea baueri* ssp. *baueri*, ? *Grevillea baueri* ssp. *asperula*, *Grevillea raybrownii*, *Grevillea sericea* Sydney form, *Grevillea mucronulata* Oakdale-Picton form, *Grevillea mucronulata* Couridjah, *Grevillea oleoides* pink Avon Dam. Garden visits where possible. Cuttings may be freely taken.

## Illawarra Grevillea Park OPEN DAYS 2014

July 5, 6, 12, 13

September 6, 7, 13, 14

Opening hrs are 10am – 4pm

#### Location

The Park is located at the rear of Bulli Showground, Princess Highway, Bulli.

#### Admission

\$5 adults, children with adults are free

email [info@grevilleapark.org](mailto:info@grevilleapark.org) or

visit [www.grevilleapark.org](http://www.grevilleapark.org)

## Grevillea Study Group field trip to Canberra, Snowy Mountains and beyond

The Field trip began with morning tea provided by the Ollerenshaw family at their nursery at Bywong, N.S.W. on 1 November 2013. The participants included Peter & Jennifer Ollerenshaw, Victoria Tanner, Phil & Catriona Trickett, Phil Hempel, Peter Smith, Gordon Meiklejohn, Matt Hurst, David Shiells, Werner Kutsche, Martin Rigg, Ray Brown and myself. Paul Carmen and Cathy Hook also led us on the first day. John Knight led us on the last day.

Allan Cunningham collected the type specimen of *Grevillea lanigera* in the rocky bed of the Murrumbidgee River during his trip to Argyle country in March–May 1824 and its recollection formed no small part of our purpose in starting the expedition in Canberra. Cathy Hook had researched a great deal beforehand and discovered that Cunningham's journal had been transcribed and published in 1953 by W. Havard. The published diary was however an edited transcript and gave no indication of when or where Cunningham collected his plants. Subsequent to the report on *G. lanigera* in the last newsletter I examined a microfiche copy of Cunningham's journal through the Archives of New South Wales at Kingswood. On reading the microfiche it soon became apparent that references to plants and their collection were not transcribed by Havard but were present in the diary. In the journal for April 17 1824 Cunningham gives a typical treatment of species he recognised as new and gives details of his collection of *Grevillea lanigera*. I spent the day transcribing the entry for this date and a few days before. After some attempts at calculating his position we came up with what seemed the nearest locality, Pine Island A.C.T. or nearby. Pine Island Reserve, off Pine Island Rd., off Don Dunstan Drive, near the junction with Athlion Drive seemed a good place to start, with a view of Mt Tennant in the background, also mentioned in the diary on April 15.



So our party set out from the Pine Island South car park and there, not far along the track which winds all the way from Point Hut to Casuarina Sands, we found *Grevillea lanigera*, suckering in the rocky outwash of the Murrumbidgee river bed, with a view of Mount Tennent and the advancing suburb of Tuggeranong in the background. On the opposite inaccessible side of the river we could see sandy banks with natural vegetation, just as Cunningham reported. An ANPS Canberra member Prof. Brad Pillans who is a geologist, kindly sent a scan of the local geology map. The area is part of the quite extensive 'Laidlaw Volcanics', comprising 'rhyodacitic ignimbrite, minor volcanoclastic and argillaceous sediments' (age 423–422 Ma, ie. Silurian, according to Finlayson 2008). The area is somewhat weedy now but still in reasonable floristic condition with an extensive natural flora still extant.



Cathy Hook with *Grevillea lanigera*, Pine Island walk, ACT

Cunningham recorded in his diary, on the sandy banks opposite, the presence of another *Grevillea*, *G. cinerea*. In describing this species Cunningham (1825: 329) had unwittingly used an epithet that Robert Brown had previously used for what is now a distinctive form of *Grevillea mucronulata*. This invalidated Cunningham's epithet. Robert Brown (1830: 18) used another to replace it when he described *Grevillea canescens*. Neither *Grevillea arenaria* nor *G. canescens* have previously or subsequently been recorded for Canberra or the A.C.T. Currently *G. canescens* is regarded as *Grevillea arenaria* subsp. *canescens*. However, not too far away, (Warri Bridge, Braidwood) *G. arenaria* subsp. *arenaria* occurs naturally. It closely resembles subsp. *canescens* except in the indumentum on the leaf undersurface and the leaf

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shape. So, either taxon is a possibility as it is not clear whether Cunningham would have distinguished between them. Cunningham made frequent mention of the similarity of the flora to that at Bathurst. Unfortunately no collections were made at the time. Or so I thought. Recently I have been examining images at CGE (Cambridge University) and a specimen of *G. arenaria* labelled 'Grevillea 133 Argyle' is present (CGE 13337). This may have been collected by Cunningham but William McArthur is a possibility and I have not yet compared the handwriting.

As we peered across the Murrumbidgee, there were the sandy banks to which Cunningham perhaps referred, though his sandy bank was apparently much longer. The possibility that a small population of *G. arenaria* is still growing there can only be discounted by a thorough examination of this and other banks of the river.



*Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *fortis*

Along the track and at the same spot we noted the presence of the beautiful *Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *fortis* (see photo above), which appears to be the only *juniperina* subspecies that does not have yellow flowers. There were abundant amounts of this subspecies and it was flowering prolifically with orange to orange-red flowers. A few intermediates, possibly involving *G. lanigera* and a solitary 'garden-escape' plant of what was a probable hybrid with *Grevillea oxyantha* were also seen.



*Grevillea oxyantha* subsp. *oxyantha* Mt Franklin form  
Photo Fran-mart.blogspot.com

We soon moved on from here to the Botanic Gardens where lunch was welcomed. There we viewed a small population of plants in the gardens, currently referable to *Grevillea alpina*, but now certainly an undescribed species. In a natural area adjacent but outside the botanic garden, *Grevillea ramosissima* subsp. *ramosissima* was flourishing. Some of these plants appeared to be suckering or recovering from a recent fire by epicormic growth.

Led by Peter Ollerenshaw we then headed up to Mt Franklin through a very dry sclerophyll eucalypt forest on a track that yielded clouds of dust. On the way, almost at the top, we met with *Grevillea oxyantha* subsp. *oxyantha* with its rusty cream flowers and broad round leaves.



*Grevillea diminuta* – Photo M. Fagg (Courtesy ANBG website)

Then, as if demarcated by the elevation, *Grevillea oxyantha* disappeared and was replaced by *Grevillea diminuta* with very small leaves and smallish orange-red flowers. This species then crowded the roadside to the top of the range.

More on *Grevillea diminuta* [www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/interns-2003/grevillea-diminuta.html](http://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/interns-2003/grevillea-diminuta.html)

Both species in their various populations were in good health. At the Mt Franklin walking track car park we found a dense suckering colony of *Grevillea lanigera* flowering its head off with pinkish-red and cream flowers. We walked around Mt Gingera right at the top and there found a small semi-prostrate form of *G. diminuta*. *Grevillea australis* is recorded from here too but I did not see it this time.

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Next morning, still under the guidance of Peter Ollerenshaw, we drove to the start of the Hume and Hovell track, 4 km from Wee Jasper and at the top, surrounding a deep sinkhole, was a robust population of *Grevillea iaspicula*, which had been fenced off from marauding goats and deer. Among the weeds and lantana on the walk up were healthy plants of *Brachychiton populneum* and an interesting mistletoe hanging from the branches. The population of *Grevillea iaspicula*, though small, was perceived to be doing well, with numerous seedlings recruited, and a small but healthy flowering adult population. I had never seen this population before. As well as a rare *Grevillea*, the sinkholes are also home to a rare species of bat. On the outskirts of Wee Jasper, behind another fence, 'Thermal Paddock' contained a larger population of *G. iaspicula* that some of us had visited before. This population was advancing strongly after some obviously hard years of drought and fire. Old plants were suckering from the base and from epicormic growth along the branches. There are plenty of weeds at the site including cotoneaster, photinia, St John's wort and blackberry, although the last-named had been sprayed. The dead thorny canes and the resprouting bases were a reminder of their former density and ongoing potential for devastation. The preference of *G. iaspicula* for limestone sink holes is puzzling as it does not appear on surrounding limestone rocks at either site. Other populations at Burrinjuck Dam which apparently also contained sinkholes prior to inundation, are there confined now to rock walls. You need a boat to see them.



An interesting article and photos on *Grevillea iaspicula* here [www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/interns-2004/grevillea-iaspicula.html](http://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/interns-2004/grevillea-iaspicula.html)

A study on the sinkholes can be found here [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/geodiversity/110455nswkarstcaveguide.pdf](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/geodiversity/110455nswkarstcaveguide.pdf)



Matt Hurst led us from there to Tumut where we had lunch and from whence we ventured to Lacmalac some 14 km away. Here we saw robust populations of the pink-toothbrush-flowered *G. wilkinsonii* (see photo above) and *G. lanigera* beside the Goobarragandra River. Most of us crossed this river by means of a swinging metal bridge, an exciting experience in itself as it is poised above the river at some height and sways! To alight safely on the other side (both times) brought even greater relief to all. *G. wilkinsonii* was regenerating strongly here from seed and seemed unaffected by recent floods.

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Matt and Gordon left us here and the group then travelled on to Buddong Falls to look at *Grevillea oxyantha* subsp. *ecarinata* (photo below). The Falls are now badly sign-posted from Batlow. Actually not sign-posted is more correct and we experienced some difficulties in failing light in actually locating it after once-familiar roads had been upgraded and relevant side roads obscured. Still we eventually found it and trotted down to the waterfall viewing area as well. If you are trying to locate the area yourself, the directions are 'From Batlow, via Yellowin, Snubba and Browns roads and De Beaufeville Trail. Roads are sign-posted and are suitable for 4WD vehicles only (in dry weather).



*Grevillea oxyantha* subsp. *ecarinata*

These tracks may be impassable during winter. Access is also possible from the Elliott Way (south of Tumbarumba), via Powerline Trail to Buddong Trail.' This beautiful subspecies has large well-spaced pointy leaves and lovely rusty-cream flowers. It is known from only about 8 populations, of which this is the only one I know personally. From here we took off to Tumbarumba where we encamped for the night.



?*Grevillea rosmarinifolia*

Next morning we assembled on Elliot Way, c. 15 km out of Tumbarumba to examine the area in which the subalpine form of ?*G. rosmarinifolia* (photo above) has its stronghold and centre of diversity. The species grows all along this road but particularly on the sides of Mt Selwyn which the road winds around on its way to Cabramurra. We stopped at several sites along the way including Sue City, a nice enough camp ground beside the river, where we had morning tea. Then up to Cabramurra where we examined a small flowering population of *Grevillea victoriae* subsp. *nivalis* in a somewhat degraded situation beside the road. Most of the leaves of this species were badly infested with leaf miner. One of the plants in flower had rusty cream flowers. We then headed for Yarrangobilly where we found more plants of *G. rosmarinifolia* but this time growing on outcropping limestone. The form here had shorter leaves but we searched in vain for a plant with long lantern-like flowers like *Grevillea* 'Rosy Posy' which originated here, according to Bill Molyneux (pers. comm.)



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Martin and Victoria enjoyed a swim in the warm thermal pool, fed by natural hot spring, an incredible place considering its elevated position, while the rest of us had lunch with a howling wind. On the track down to the pool we passed a beautiful population of *Grevillea arenaria* subsp. *canescens*. A second opportunity to see this plant was afforded the group beside the exit road when it headed out in convoy after lunch. Some lovely photos here of this beautiful population of *G. arenaria* remind us of one of the trip's many highlights.



*Grevillea arenaria* subsp. *canescens*

We headed back to Cooma from here, passing a large population of *G. lanigera* suckering roadside near Providence Portal. At Cooma we were struck by a change in the weather from hot to freezing rain but we soldiered on into the afternoon to a spot at 33°17'S 149° 33'E just within Wadbilliga NP, where a form of *Grevillea oxyantha* subsp. *oxyantha* with red flowers was found growing several years ago by Peter Ollerenshaw (Oxyantha 2). It keys to this species but it is only doubtfully included in it from my observations. It is growing in dense heath of *Casuarina nana* with *Isopogon prostratus*, *Banksia canei* (Wadbilliga Form) and other rare and interesting plants. Access is on Wadbilliga Rd off Tuross Rd, through private property. We encamped for the evening nearby but most of us nearly froze to death as sleet descended on us.

Next morning we were up and about again passing through another patch of *G. lanigera* growing beside a branch of the ?Wadbilliga river where it was growing at the river crossing with *Eucalyptus parvifolia*, an excellent but underused small eucalypt for cultivation. This form of *G.*

*lanigera* has almost glabrous leaves. This led me to contemplate the quintessence of *G. lanigera*. It cannot be the hairy leaves as some are almost glabrous. I decided it was the combination of leaf shape, petiole morphology and scabrous upper surface of the leaves that best separated it from its closest relative *G. baueri*.



*Grevillea oxyantha* (3) from Deua NP

Heading along Cooma Rd we stopped at another population of *G. oxyantha* with red flowers at Pikes Saddle, in Deua NP (Oxyantha 3). These populations of *G. oxyantha* seem to differ from those on Mt Franklin in ways additional to the flower colour but this awaits a complete examination of the specimens.

We then headed to Braidwood. From Braidwood we crossed the Shoalhaven River at Warri Bridge where we examined an interesting form of *G. arenaria* (subsp. *arenaria*). These plants are large grey bushes to 3 m with rather insipid flowers. This subspecies has its epicentre in this area, from around Goulburn to Queanbeyan, the Endrick River, Bungonia Gorge through to Wombeyan Caves. A small outlier, now possibly extinct, from near the Grose River west of Sydney, contained the type of this form. It has a sericeous indumentum on the leaf undersurface. The distributional disjunction has exercised my mind without answer for more than a decade. Perhaps the Grose River population resulted from seed floating from the Goulburn populations down the Wollondilly in a flood prior to the arrival of Europeans and then spread locally to the adjacent flat (known as Iken's sand flat, from where we also have a Caley specimen). It does not occur in the surrounding bushland.

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From the Endrick River we set off on the road to Nowra where at some distance we came upon prostrate mats of *Grevillea juniperina* ssp. *amphitricha* (photo below). These plants had yellow flowers but we saw red ones later. This is a variable subspecies and not always prostrate. A useful plant for horticulture was my observation.



*Grevillea juniperina* ssp. *amphitricha*

Continuing on to the Corang River Picnic area we next encountered beautiful plants of *G. juniperina* ssp. *villosa*, (photo below) mostly red-flowered, but occasional yellow-flowered plants as well. The plants had beautiful form, especially the arching branches, but the leaves were extremely pungent, in contrast with those of subsp. *fortis* which has prickly leaves but nothing like as pungent as subsp. *villosa*. We enjoyed a leisurely lunch and photography session here. A population of *G. oxyantha* subsp. *ecarinata* is recorded from the Corang River but we saw no evidence of it at the picnic area.



*Grevillea juniperina* ssp. *villosa*

At 7 km further along towards Nerriga we stopped to view a newly located roadside population of *Grevillea renwickiana* suckering in the road berm and in adjacent bushland. Three plants had bluish pink to cream flowers but generally the species is very shy on the flowering score. Once thought to be rare, new populations with thousands of ramets have been found in recent years in undisturbed bushland near Nerriga.

Charleys Forest Rd near Mongarlowe next called us in search of *Grevillea imberbis* (photo below) which had been once collected there by Paul Carmen, Cathy Hook and others. After some searching we found the small population suckering profusely in the road verge (see photo at left). Another population occurs at Mt Currockbilly. [Olde & Marriott treated *G. imberbis* as *G. sp. aff. patulifolia* in the *Grevillea Book Volume 3* Pp. 83–4].



*Grevillea imberbis*

Heading out of Mongarlowe we came upon red- and yellow-flowered forms of *Grevillea juniperina* ssp. *amphitricha* which here form shrubs up to 2m high.



*Grevillea bamboka*

We stopped at Moruya Camp Ground overlooking the Moruya River for the night, on John Knight's recommendation. Next morning we headed into the South East Forests NP in search of *Grevillea bamboka* (see photo above).

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This journey was conducted through serious 4 WD country and required us to leave several vehicles behind while the remainder negotiated the steep and loosely stoned fire trail that led some 10 km off Polacks Flat Rd (off Snowy Mtns HWay at Morans Crossing) to a small knoll where Ian Telford first collected the species. Access to the fire trail is via a privately owned farm and must be negotiated. Thankfully our experience was very favourable. The trail does not intersect the population at all but a search of the knoll revealed its presence in good numbers. It grows with *Dodonaea rhombea*, *Eucalyptus spectatrix* (whip-like mallee), *Boronia anemonifolia* and other interesting trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. *G. bemboka* is a robust shrub to 3 m x 3 m and is distinguished from *G. parvula* by its coppery-bronze new growth, its leaves shiny green on the upper surface, slightly wider on average, and by its concave pollen-presenter. *Grevillea parvula* has anthocyanins in the foliage and branches and the new growth as a consequence is red or purple. It has dull leaves and the pollen-presenter is flat or convex. Scattered red flowers in short racemes were still evident, though it was late in the season and very dry. Whatever happened to spring this year? We did not emerge from the National Park until 4 PM, so the search took us most of the day, which was, all in all, a very successful and interesting one. Although no other grevilleas were seen on this day, I half expected an encounter with the Brown Mountain form of *Grevillea johnsonii*, which was collected near here by George Althofer.

Special thanks to Peter Ollerenshaw, Paul Carmen, Cathy Hook, Matt Hurst and John Knight, all of whom were specially significant in making this field trip a safe, enjoyable and productive experience. Jackie Miles also provided some welcome help and advice. All photos taken by P. Olde except where indicated.

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### Recovery of critically endangered shrub through translocation

The future of a critically endangered *Grevillea* is brighter following the success of a seed germination and translocation program coordinated by the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW), Western Australia.



*Grevillea brachystylis* subsp. *grandis*, listed as threatened flora in 2002 due to severe habitat fragmentation, is found south-west of Busselton, with just 195 plants remaining in eight, small roadside populations.

DPaW's Busselton-based Blackwood district has led the recovery of the precious shrub by working closely with land managers, controlling weeds at the site and surveying suitable habitat for new populations.

DPaW Conservation Officer Ben Lullfitz said more than 1000 seeds were collected from existing populations of *Grevillea brachystylis* subsp. *grandis* between 2009 and 2012.

"A small number were germinated by DPaW's Threatened Flora Seed Centre to determine their viability and these were then grown on at the Kings Park and Botanic Gardens nursery to produce seedlings," Mr Lullfitz said.



Kings Park and Botanic Gardens staff preparing seedlings for pick up at the nursery in Perth.

"We were able to plant 92 seedlings in 2012 and 172 in 2013 at a secure site within a nature reserve close to the existing populations, after receiving funding through the Commonwealth's Caring for our Country program."



DPaW staff member (Ron Howes) preparing the site for planting.

Mr Lullfitz said the translocation had been very successful, with 97 to 99 per cent of the plants surviving after the first two years, 95 per cent of them flowering and 80 per cent bearing fruit.

"This translocation has more than doubled the known number of plants of *Grevillea brachystylis* subsp. *grandis* and will help ensure the conservation of the species into the future," he said.

"The new population has 260 healthy young plants, which represent genetic material from seven of the original eight populations.

"These will be used as a source of seed to establish new populations, along with further seed from the existing populations, and will further enhance plant numbers."

For more information contact [ben.lullfitz@dpaw.wa.gov.au](mailto:ben.lullfitz@dpaw.wa.gov.au) or (08) 9752 5555.



Bunbury Regional Herbarium Volunteers who assisted with planting seedlings. This was taken at a different site however the same volunteers assisted with the *Grevillea brachystylis* subsp. *grandis* as well.

All photos taken by Department of Parks and Wildlife. This article has been reproduced with permission. It appeared originally in Parks & Wildlife News, January 2014 prepared by DPAW, Western Australia.

***Grevillea victoriae* subsp *nivalis***

Last week (early February) I went on an overnight hike from Guthega Power Station up to Valentines Hut and back. The grevilleas were very healthy at both the start and end of the track (Schlink Trail and Disappointment Spur), Kosciusko National Park. This is probably because they grow on the rugged slopes of the valley which collects the water which then flows down into the stream at the bottom and from there into the power station. Despite the lack of rain, there was still significant moisture on the two slopes (helped by the aqueducts that Hydropower had built on both sides, no doubt).

Anyhow, thought you may be interested especially if you go up that way. You don't have to walk far up either trail from the power station to see them. They were much healthier than the specimens that we saw on the field trip to the Snowy last year.

***Grevillea wickhamii***

Have you ever seen *Grevillea wickhamii* attended by honey-eaters? If you have, can you put a name to the bird? Any observations welcomed. Please send to Peter Olde. Some replies have already been received:

**Denis & Jan Cox:** We have seen birds on *G. wickhamii* but only King Parrots, probably after seed. We can't recall any birds working on the flowers. They do set seed, so something is pollinating them. Do you have any ideas?

**Merv Hodge:** In answer to your question - NO – nor have I noticed birds on any of the other related species in group 9. However *G. 'Kimberly Gold'* the plant which Jan and Denis found is presumed *G. miniata* X *G. wickhamii* so there must be some vector involved. I also have a presumed *G. miniata* X *G. aurea* (group 11). Native bees or ants might be the answer.

***Grevillea speciosa* white-flowered form**

Sorry to report that the Kuring-gai Wildflower Garden plant of *Grevillea speciosa* white form has succumbed to old age and the drought.

I phoned Neil and he has also lost his young plants in the terrible conditions that they have experienced. It sounds like they were fortunate to save their property from the fires.

***Grevillea* 'Firesprite'**

I looked at a photo forwarded by Max McDowall of his *Grevillea* 'Firesprite' and thought I wish that mine looked that good. Mine has become a large unkempt mess. No doubt pruning would do it the world of good.

The use of Phosphoric acid was mentioned. I have forgotten about its effect on Proteaceae but I have a vague recollection that it is not harmful but was recommended to combat *Phytophthora* spp. Anyway, you would apply it to the leaves for your problem, not drench the soil. If you wish to risk it, why not try it on a *Grevillea* that you can easily replace.

Any suggestion of phosphorus seems to create a sense of disaster for *Proteaceae*. It is rather like comparing *Dihydrogen monoxide* and *Hydrogen peroxide*. As a matter of interest *Coca-Cola* contains Phosphoric Acid. Maybe you could buy some and spray it on your plant!

In so far as applying any chemicals to a particular plant, without affecting other plants nearby, try using a large paintbrush or a paint roller. I have a T shaped device here specially manufactured to selectively apply chemicals to plants in this manner - it is one of the devices called a *Weed Wand*.

***Grevillea decora***

*Grevillea decora* is a delightful plant originating in Queensland in a few places like the Atherton Tablelands area and other small patches dotted down further south on the eastern side, like Kingaroy, to the border. It thrives in higher humidity and performs well on its own roots. It does not mind a warm, wet summer or a cooler, wet summer and responds well to watering in drier conditions, so for most people it is a good choice. The foliage is very attractive, new growth being brown turning to a lovely grey on maturity. The mauve pink flowers contrast beautifully with the rusty new growth and silvery foliage.

If grown on its own roots it likes a well-drained soil so will perform better on a bank, slope or free draining soil with good mulch around the base of the plant.

*G. decora* is tender to severe frost, but will become hardier as the plant matures. It is happy with a really good prune. This can be a general hair cut a couple of times a year to keep it in shape and, though it grows 2-5m tall, it still flowers well if you keep it low, obviously watching for the stage the flowers are at when pruning. I would recommend October and February as good months to prune *G. decora*.

This is a great *Grevillea* to have if you want a winter flowerer. In Queensland and NSW it flowers well from April to August. At times it is affected by gummosis but generally it has few pests and diseases.

I have noticed over the years that *G. decora* can lose a branch here and there and will often snap off at the graft. I feel it grows better on its own roots but is short lived in this case in comparison with grafting. I feel that *G. robusta* pushes the growth more vigorously than other rootstocks like *G. tovera* or *G. barklyana* hybrid. So avoid grafting it onto *G. robusta* or use an intergraft if possible.

Do give this plant a chance to grow in your garden. You will be rewarded with a constant gathering of birds to its flowers, and it is nice to know that there is one great *Grevillea* that will supply nectar for the birds and bees in the cooler months.



## Seed bank

**Matt Hurst**

37 Heydon Ave, Wagga Wagga 2650 NSW  
Phone (02) 6925 1273

Please include a stamped self addressed envelope.

### \$1.50 + s.a.e.

<i>Grevillea aurea</i>	<i>Grevillea nana</i>
<i>Grevillea baileyana</i>	ssp <i>abbreviata</i>
<i>Grevillea banksii</i> alba	<i>Grevillea newbeyi</i>
prostrate	<i>Grevillea nudiflora</i>
<i>Grevillea biternata</i>	<i>Grevillea occidentalis</i>
<i>Grevillea</i>	<i>Grevillea paniculata</i>
<i>candelabroides</i>	<i>Grevillea paradoxa</i> (ltd)
<i>Grevillea crithmifolia</i>	<i>Grevillea pilulifera</i>
<i>Grevillea decora</i>	<i>Grevillea polybotrya</i>
<i>Grevillea decurrens</i>	<i>Grevillea preissii</i>
<i>Grevillea eriobotrya</i>	<i>Grevillea pteridifolia</i>
<i>Grevillea eriostachya</i>	<i>Grevillea pulchella</i>
<i>Grevillea excelsior</i>	<i>Grevillea refracta</i>
<i>Grevillea floribunda</i>	<i>Grevillea ramosissima</i>
ex Coonabarabran	<i>Grevillea ramosissima</i>
<i>Grevillea glauca</i>	ssp <i>ramosissima</i>
<i>Grevillea johnsonii</i> (ltd)	<i>Grevillea stenobotrya</i>
<i>Grevillea juncifolia</i>	<i>Grevillea striata</i> (ltd)
<i>Grevillea leucopteris</i>	<i>Grevillea superba</i>
<i>Grevillea longistyla</i>	<i>Grevillea synapheae</i>
<i>Grevillea magnifica</i>	<i>Grevillea teretifolia</i>
<i>Grevillea magnifica</i>	<i>Grevillea tetragonoloba</i>
ssp <i>magnifica</i>	<i>Grevillea triloba</i>
<i>Grevillea manglesii</i>	<i>Grevillea triternata</i>
ssp <i>manglesii</i> (ltd)	<i>Grevillea vestita</i>
<i>Grevillea monticola</i>	<i>Grevillea wickamii</i>
	ssp <i>aprica</i>
	<i>Grevillea wilsonii</i>

### Free + s.a.e.

<i>Grevillea nana</i> ssp <i>abbreviata</i>	<i>Grevillea leucopteris</i>
<i>Grevillea banksii</i> alba	<i>Grevillea longistyla</i>
<i>Grevillea banksii</i> – grey leaf form	<i>Grevillea mimosoides</i>
<i>Grevillea banksii</i> – red tree form	<i>Grevillea</i> ‘Moonlight’
<i>Grevillea banksii</i> – red prostrate	<i>Grevillea</i> ‘Moonlight x
<i>Grevillea Bon Accord</i>	Ivanhoe’?
<i>Grevillea caleyi</i>	<i>Grevillea occidentalis</i>
<i>Grevillea crithmifolia</i>	<i>Grevillea plurijuga</i>
<i>Grevillea decora</i>	<i>Grevillea pteridifolia</i>
<i>Grevillea didymobotrya</i>	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>
<i>Grevillea diversifolia</i>	<i>Grevillea</i> ‘Sandra Gordon’
ssp <i>subtersericata</i>	<i>Grevillea stenobotrya</i>
<i>Grevillea eriostachya</i>	<i>Grevillea superba</i>
<i>Grevillea floribunda</i>	<i>Grevillea synapheae</i>
<i>Grevillea goodii</i>	<i>Grevillea tripartita</i> ssp
<i>Grevillea johnsonii</i>	<i>macrostylis</i>
<i>Grevillea johnsonii</i> ‘Orange’	<i>Grevillea vestita</i>
<i>Grevillea juniperina</i> ‘Little Red’	<i>Grevillea wilsonii</i>

Please note: seed from hybrid -substitute -cultivated plants does not necessarily come true to type.

Direct deposits can be made into the Grevillea Study Group account

**BSB 112-879**  
**Account Number 016526630**  
(St George Bank).

Please notify the Treasurer of transfer by email  
([bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au](mailto:bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au))

or by post to  
**Grevillea Study Group,**  
**32 Blanche St Oatley, NSW 2223**

### Fresh stocks of garden seed are desperately needed as most species are almost out of seed.

Can members asking for seed please give an alternative list in case some species are no longer in stock. It is preferred if requests are sent with a small padded post pack. It costs less to send at approx \$1.50 per letter than padding an envelope at \$2.00 each or more so the seed will survive the trip down the sorting rollers. It's a good idea to send extra stamps with requests as extra postage is usually needed to be paid with almost every request. Leftover stamps would be sent back with your seed.

## Financial report – July 2014

### Income

Subscriptions	\$270.00
Interest	2.64
Transfer from Term Deposit	5,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,272.64

### Expenditure

Newsletter publishing	\$240.00
Printing	153.92
Postage	45.00
Stationery	3.90
Fuel costs for field trip P Olde	424.11
	<hr/>
	\$866.93

Amount in interest bearing deposit till 13/12/2014  
**\$18,090.65**

Balance in current account 6/7/2014  
**\$5,945.26**

Balance in business cheque account 6/7/2014  
**\$519.68**

## Office bearers

### Leader

Peter Olde  
 140 Russell Lane, Oakdale NSW 2570  
**p** (02) 4659 6598  
**e** peter.olde@exemail.com.au

### Treasurer and newsletter editor

Christine Guthrie  
 32 Blanche Street, Oatley NSW 2223  
**p** (02) 9579 4093  
**e** bruce.moffatt@tpg.com.au

### Curator of Living Collection

Neil Marriott  
 PO Box 107, Stawell Vic 3380  
**p** (03) 5356 2404 or 0458 177 989  
**e** neil@whitegumsaustralia.com

### Curator of Illawarra Grevillea Park, Bulli

Ray Brown  
 29 Gwythir Avenue, Bulli NSW 2516  
**p** (02) 4284 9216

### Curator of Seed Bank

Matt Hurst  
 37 Heydon Ave, Wagga Wagga 2650 NSW  
**p** (02) 6925 1273

## Email group

This email group was begun by John and Ruth Sparrow from Queensland. Free membership.

To subscribe, go to groups.yahoo.com and register, using the cyber-form provided. You must provide a user name and password as well as your email address to enable continuing access to the site which houses all emails and discussions to date.

You will receive a confirming email back and then you are able to access the site wherein you can select the groups to which you would like to subscribe. In this case search for 'grevilleas' and then subscribe.

Following this you will receive the latest emails regularly in your email to which you can respond. This is a good way to encourage new growers and those interested in the genus.

Postmessage: grevilleas@yahoogroups.com

Subscribe: grevilleas-subscribe@yahoo.com

Unsubscribe: grevilleas-unsubscribe@yahoo.com

List owner: grevilleas-owner@yahoo.com

URL to this page: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/grevilleas>

### Online Contact

1. President's email address  
[peter.olde@exemail.com.au](mailto:peter.olde@exemail.com.au)
2. The email group  
[grevilleas@yahoogroups.com](mailto:grevilleas@yahoogroups.com)
3. URL for Grevillea Study Group website  
<http://asgap.org.au/grevSG/index.html>

**Deadline for articles for the next newsletter is 1 September 2014, please send your articles to peter.olde@exemail.com.au before this date.**

If a cross appears in the box, your subscription is due.

Please send to the Treasurer, Christine Guthrie, 32 Blanche Street, Oatley 2223.

Please make all cheques payable to the Grevillea Study Group.

2013      2014



If a cross appears in both boxes this will be your last newsletter.

### Membership fees

The annual subscription is \$10 per year or \$40 for 5 years. If you choose to receive the newsletter by email there will be a 50% discount ie membership will be \$5 per year – \$20 for 5 yrs. I would encourage everyone to take advantage of the savings by paying for 5 years, and choosing email. Overseas membership \$20 if posted.