

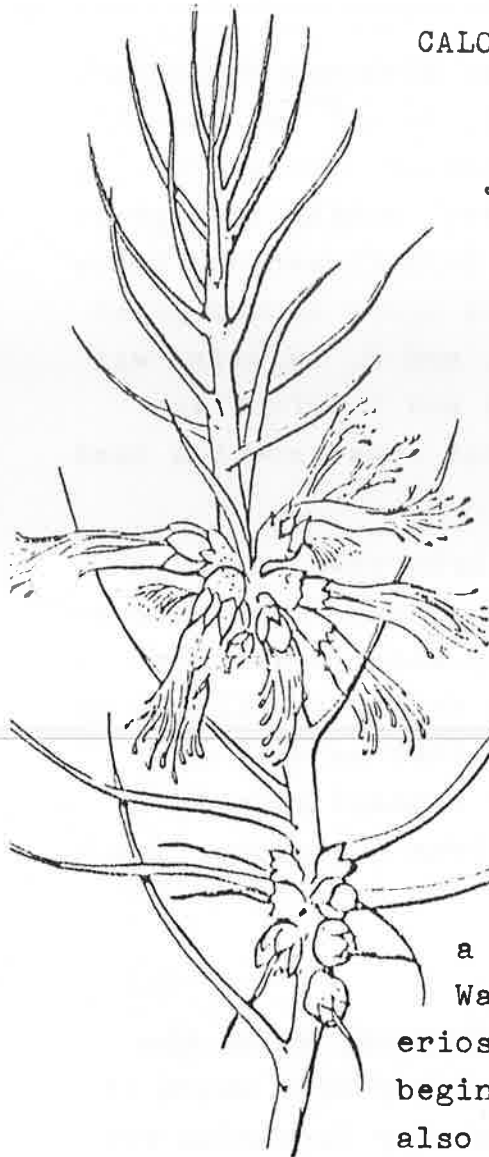
ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS

CALOTHAMNUS & ALLIED GENERA STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER No. 20

July, 1994.

Leader; Barb Graham,
 Nundle Rd.,
 Woolomin,
 N.S.W. 2340



I have recently arrived home from a very interesting stay at an Aboriginal Community, Kaltukatjara, about 200K west of Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) where I have started working at a part time job, three months there and three months at home. This job consists of working with the wonderful ladies as Women's Centre Co-ordinator. I feel guilty getting paid to have such a good time! The main problem is my inability to speak Pitjantjantjara, but we get around that.

Wildflowers were wonderful while I was there, quite a few species of beautiful Ptilotus, brilliant blue Wahlenbergia; Grevillea wickhamii, stenobotrya, eriostachya & juncifolia just starting, Hakeas also just beginning as well as quite a few others. Bush tucker is also plentiful, some delicious and some not.

On my way home (yes I know that it is a bit of a detour, but well worth it for such an enjoyable break) I had another very enjoyable stay with Kaye Bartlett, seeing some of the amazingly beautiful native gardens in the area.

It had been exceptionally dry, so it was amazing to see how well Kaye's Calothamnus and Eremaea are doing as they don't get any extra watering. Quite inspiring.

One garden, Max and Barb Jettner's was simply astounding. Although only four years old it covers a huge area with a mixture of a wide variety of quite large, well grown plants. Even though it was June the majority of the thousands of plants were flowering beautifully. The area is on deep sand, so to introduce a humus layer Max had made wide paths throughout the area, lifting the soil onto the beds with the grass layer on top of the grass on the beds. This grass was buried deeply enough to smother it, the

Leaving the double layer of grass to hold water which was supplied by a drip system.

A lot of thought had been put into the plantings as, although the beds were mass planted, nothing seemed to be crowded out, so all the beautiful flowers and plants could be seen and appreciated. Of course the plants in our Study Group were of particular interest, seeing them growing so well. *Calothamnus rupestris* was just coming into flower and there were some different forms of *C. quadrifidus*. *Regelia inops* looked great with the branches coming out nearly at right angles, and *R. velutina* was magnificent with its silky greyish leaves. *Eremaeas* and *Beaufortias* also were in great condition. I think this shows that these species need really good drainage to do well.

I was also able to see the site for the Pangarinda Arboretum, near Wellington on the lower Murray River near Lake Alexandrina (more information on this later). A delightful site, with lovely water views from the higher areas. There is quite a large sand drift to be stabilized, so they will be doing valuable demonstration work with that as well as making a great show place for our flora. When their concept plan is finished they may like donations of plants or seed from our group. their letter to us is on the next page.

FINANCES:

The Study Group has a savings account with St. George Bank, which has been very satisfactory, but now if our balance goes below \$250 which it will do after the newsletter expenses & materials for the Herbarium are withdrawn) there will be a charge of £2 per month until the account goes over \$250. Also there will be an extra charge if the account is not used for six months. Even though this is a small amount we could put that money to better use, so I made enquiries at the Northern Inland Credit Union about their charges. If we were to transfer to the Credit Union we would have to pay \$10 to open the account, but this would be refundable if we closed the account, and there would be no charges except, naturally, the government charges. If the account was to be in the name of B.Graham trading as *Calothamnus & Allied Genera Study Group* I wouldn't have to supply identification other than personal I.D., but if it was to be *Calothamnus & Allied Genera Study Group* I would have to have the Society's identification as leader. Unfortunately Newsletters & Bullatins wouldn't be enough, but this could eventually be arranged.

So could I please have your ideas on this problem? Thank you.

BALANCE SHEET

Income

Fwd.	244-55
Subs	54-00
Donations.	81-00
Interest.	2-26
	<hr/>
	381-81

Expences

Copying. N. letters,	
Keys, Record sheets	48-70
Postage	36-90
Seed envelopes	3-30
FID	<hr/> 17
	89-07
Cash in Bank	<hr/> 292-74
	381-81

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Kaye Bartlett
Secretary
Pangarinda Arboretum Committee
C/- "Winpara"
JERVOIS 5259

*Colothamnus 2 Allied Genera
Study Group*

Dear Barbara

We are writing to you on behalf of the Pangarinda Arboretum Committee. The project aims are to grow, display and preserve a collection of plants of lower rainfall area, rare and endangered species for scientific, horticultural, educational and recreational use by the public.

The Arboretum is being developed on 75 acres of undulating sandy ground, Section 72 Hundred of Seymour at Wellington East South Australia.

It is a project of the District Council of Meningie who have title to the land. The committee consists a group of enthusiastic people who were elected at a public meeting.

The committee is preparing to vermin proof an area, (approximately 12 acres to enable initial plantings to commence in autumn. These will consist largely of Windbreaks of direct seeded local species.

Preliminary plans being developed by the committee include:-

1. Grid reference map, for contour and soil survey and planting orientation.
2. Infrastructure map, roads, pathways, reticulation, landscaping and amenities.
3. Plan of plant communities, specific project areas, establishment of micro climates, specific general areas, aesthetics, agriculturally useful species, native food plants, cut flower development etc.

A draft of the preliminary plans will be distributed for comment to people who register an interest in the project.

Upon adoption of this concept plan the committee will be responsible to ensure that participants in this project comply with it.

we are seeking from you an expression of interest in involvement, immediate or deferred, short term or long term, ie:-

- a. Specific projects, educational/scientific.
- b. Assistance with infrastructure.
- c. Industry product trials.
- d. Propagation/plantings/direct seedings.
- e. Promotion of Native plants and Marketing.
- f. Vermin and Weed control practices.

Although funding for preliminary works is already in hand we would appreciate sponsorship, financial support or other from Private or Public sources to ensure that this project is achievable.

Project participants will be invited to advertise but strictly in accordance with guidelines to be established by the committee.

If this project is of interest to you, your group or institution, please advise the Pargarinda Arboretum Committee of your possible involvement even if you are unable to contribute within the foreseeable future.

Yours faithfully,

Kaye Bartlett

K. Bartlett,
SECRETARY.

Dear Barb,

I didn't know what I was in for when I took this job on I guess you know all about it. I will be glad when the ground work is finished; but have a funny idea its not going to end there.

We are sending a copy to any study group we think may be able to help out in any way, with seed or spare plants from members. If reprinting please correct Arboretum for me as our council word processor missed that one as I did when rechecking.

Guess you may have headed to Docker by now, that area should be looking good after all the rain of late.

Have I subs due or not please let me know if so.

This insulator collecting is telling on my spare time any day off we are chasing them. My garden is suffering. Have installed another ATCO unit to house the bottle collection and the insulators now overflowing the old bottle shed. Now my old sampling office from the silo has taken up residence with us so its waiting my spare time to clean it and move in a few insulators, which add up ready for cleaning after each day away collecting.

As you can see I will be little help with news for our group until the insulator bug eases.

I can't tell what is going on in the plantations as haven't seen them for a while.

Guess I best get a few more of these ready to go so enjoy the Docker River stay, and may catch you as you pass by again.

ALL THE BEST
Kaye

Best wishes to all

Barb
P.S. Must apologise if I have missed answering any letters, as for a couple of months our mail was mixed up.