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### GSG Vic Programme 2019

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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.

See page 3 for details of Easter Working Bee 19-23 April.

### GSG SE Qld Programme 2019/2020

We gather at 09:30 for shared morning tea and a meeting at 10:00. We usually have a BYO lunch about midday. Visitors are always welcome. For more info or to check venues etc please contact: **Ross Reddick** on 0405 510 459 or **Denis Cox** on (07) 5546 8590 as changes can occur.

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#### Sunday, 24 November 2019

**VENUE:** Garden of Adrian & Gail Wockner, 5 Horizon Court, Highfields; via Toowoomba. Their garden –was a 'display' garden during the recent 'Carnival of Flowers' and they support a worthy charity with the admission fees and afternoon tea stall.

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#### Sunday, 23 February 2020

**VENUE:** Garden of Denis Cox and Jan Glazebrook at 87 Daintree Drive, Logan Village.

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#### Sunday, 26 April 2020

**VENUE:** Dave and Catherine Madden at Nightjar Ridge Natives Nursery; a wholesale nursery in the Gold Coast hinterland.

### Illawarra Grevillea Park

NEXT OPEN DAYS 2020

May 2 & 3, 9 & 10

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 [illawarragrevilleapark.com.au](http://illawarragrevilleapark.com.au)

## A FEW WORDS FROM PETER

Peter Olde, NSW

At the risk of repeating myself, something has to be done! Everyone is aware of the extinction crisis facing our animals but no-one is much thinking about the plants and the natural environment. I am talking about rubbish dumping in natural bushland and the increasing risk posed by feral animals and weeds. Nothing seems to be happening.

Of course, there are huge fines for dumping rubbish illegally but there are almost zero prosecutions. Surely it should be a criminal offence. Everywhere you go, just a little off the main track, you find mattresses, furniture, refrigerators, television sets, rubbish of all kinds. I enclose a recent photo taken near Newcastle where the problem is particularly bad. Exclusion fences are being ever so slowly erected but there seems to be little concern for areas that are not officially conserved. They are being polluted, degraded and become less attractive as additional conservation zones when this happens. I have to say it is a very depressing state of affairs. Of course, councils know it well. There are signs everywhere but they are ineffective it seems.

I received a phone call recently from an enthusiastic lady who once helped me with my research into *Grevillea rosmarinifolia* in Gippsland, Victoria. We located lots of plants on the Crooked River, some on very steep land and this was instrumental in resolving the taxonomy of this complex species. The subject of her phone call was to enquire whether I retained any photos of the plants because all the plants we studied are gone, consumed by deer! Deer are an emerging serious problem about which little is being done almost as bad as rabbits. They are big animals and eat a lot of food.

Recently I entered the Blue Mountains National Park west of Mulgoa, just metres from the car park, where I was confronted by three goats. They were completely unafraid, the buck facing me until we got within around 5 metres. Three goats you say! I saw mobs of over 100 out in north west Western Australia, where they were busy parlaying the desert vegetation into manure. What about the camels destroying nearly every water-hole in outback desert country. Unseen and with romantic notions attached, they are displacing even the kangaroos. The birds are nearly all gone because of the feral cats. The desert is silent, not chattering as you would expect from an untouched area. Now they tell us insect populations and fish populations are crashing. Woe betide. Surely the environment must come first. Drastic action is needed.

I received an email recently from Angus Stewart with a photo of *Grevillea involucrata*, asking for its identification. When I enquired where it was taken, it turned out to be in the Dragon Rocks Nature Reserve. During my recent trip to the west I made it my business to chase this up because it

represents a major disjunct population. It seems the species is thriving here and there are some good numbers.

One thing I must recommend to you is RFS Buddy, an app. for your mobile phone. It gives amazingly accurate grid co-ordinates for wherever you happen to be. And it's free. RFS stands for Regional Fire Service, and it is used by our volunteer fire fighters to pin-point fire locations but it also works for plant locations. If anyone knows of a GPS app where you can enter the co-ordinates and it will direct you to the location, like the little lady in MAPS on my iphone, please let me know.

There was only one response to my offer in the last newsletter to reactivate the *Grevillea* Study Group in New South Wales. The offer still stands but presumably there is little interest.

And finally, please give some thought to volunteering. We need a new seed bank co-ordinator, following the retirement of Matt Hurst.



## VALE MERV HODGE (24 NOVEMBER 1933 – 13 JULY 2019)

Peter Olde, NSW



The recent passing of Mervyn William Hodge in his eighty sixth year should not have come as a surprise but it did. He died unexpectedly after suffering a blackout and driving into a tree at his home. During a short stint in hospital he was diagnosed with a calcified aortic valve and preparations were being made for a replacement. However, he died peacefully during the night.

Merv at the time was actively caring for his wife Olwyn at their home in Logan Reserve, Queensland. She has been diagnosed with dementia and can no longer care for herself. Imagining Merv as a carer comes with some difficulty. I went on an extended field trip to Western Australia with him and others in 1988 in which cooking duties were alternately shared. Merv had been so spoiled by Olwyn during their long marriage that he had never got his head around even boiling water. So his later years marked a great transformation. He took the only tip I ever gave him 'if you can read, you can cook'. And so he did. And cleaned, and tidied and organised for many years. He declared towards his last days that 'no-one can look after her better than me'. They were devoted to each other from the time when they first met, in the last years of their school life. Both were athletes. Merv and his sister were exceptional sprinters. Merv got to carry the Olympic flame in 1956 as it passed through Brisbane.

I met him in 1980. In 1979, he had become the leader of the Grevillea Study Group but his enthusiasm outweighed the time needed. He was already undertaking several roles in the Society for Growing Australian Plants which he had joined after a time growing exotics. At that time the Hodges lived in Moorooka, a southern suburb of Brisbane but were planning a move to a larger property on sandstone. Merv had been experimenting with plant breeding and had just crossed *Grevillea bipinnatifida* with *G. banksii*, and was excitedly showing me the first flowering progeny, *Grevillea* 'Superb' and *G. 'Coconut Ice'*. It was there that he asked me to take over the Study Group but he continued to lead, conducting regular meetings at his new retreat for many many years – in fact, until his own ill-health forced him to stand down, nearly thirty years later.

Many of the plants that Merv developed have entered the horticultural lexicon. Apart from the aforementioned, there were *Grevillea* 'Firesprite', *G. 'Goldilocks'*, *G. 'Goliath'*, *G. 'Jory'*, *G. Jo-Lo'*, *G. 'Pink Ice'*, *G. 'Pink Midget'*, *G. 'Strawberry Blonde'*, and a host of others whose introduction he facilitated. Many of his own were open-pollinated seedlings that came up in his garden. The Hodges participated in several Open Gardens and their magnificent garden, replete with a huge *Grevillea* collection of new introductions, featured on 'Burkes Backyard' TV Programme in 2002 and in the local papers.

Another of Merv's deserved claims to fame was the 'Mummy Graft', a technique for grafting native plants that he invented and promoted widely, teaching numerous interested parties the technique on the back porch. Nothing would offend him more than if someone accidentally failed to acknowledge this discovery, or worse still, unintentionally claim any credit for it. Merv himself was introduced to grafting by Harvey Shaw but took it on, experimented and used it on the plants he produced in the little home nursery that he started after retiring from a technician's career working on telephone exchanges and their supervision. He also pioneered grafted *brachychitons*, *pimeleas*, *eremophilas* and *chamelauciums*.

You cannot speak about Merv without mentioning photography. His flower photography was inspirational, perfect. He was the driving force behind the Horticultural Guide to Australian Plants, information leaflets issued by the Queensland Region, both as author and photographer. Many of his photos were donated for use in the *Grevillea* Book. In 1994, in Volume 1 of that book, *Grevillea hodgei* was named in his honour. He was also knowledgeable about other genera including orchids. Merv received the Australian Plants Award in 2009 for his contribution in the amateur category. He was a life member of Native Plants Queensland. He was a selfless, knowledgeable, generous person. The Hodges were also generous hosts. I stayed there many times. The first time I remember breakfast on the back porch with different forms of *G. dryandri* in full flower greeting the sunrise. Merv has been cremated. I am not sure if his ashes have been spread or where.

Merv was the author of numerous articles for the *Grevillea* Study Group Newsletter. Here are three of his best articles that appeared first elsewhere.

Hodge MW (1970) *Growing Grevillea*. *Australian Plants* 6 (45): 2, 27–28, 43.

Hodge MW (1989) *Grafting native plants*. *Seminar Papers, New South Wales State Conference*. (Society for Growing Australian Plants, Bonny Hills, N.S.W.)

Hodge MW (2000) *New Hybrid Grevilleas for Horticulture*. In Marriott, N. (Ed.) *Grevilleas*. *Seminar Papers Third Biennial Fred Rogers Seminar* (Grevillea Study Group/Australian Plant Society Victoria: Private) (Reprinted in *Australian Plants*)

## COLVILL'S CATALOGUE AND GREVILLEA NAMES

Peter Olde, NSW

Colvill's Grevilleas are of interest to Grevillea lovers because there are seven names in his catalogues of which the application is either unknown or uncertain and in one case (*G. flindersii*) because they commemorate a true Australian legend. Robert Sweet (1826) was the first to note them in his *Hortus Britannicus*, a list of plants in cultivation in Britain at the time together with their years of introduction. In this publication he marked the names with the symbol 'c.c.' [Colvill's catalogue] which is where they first appeared in print. Bentham (1870: 426) wrote '*G. berberifolia*, *podocarpifolia*, and *trifurcata* Sweet and *G. Flindersii* and *G. mucronifolia* A. Cunn. included in Steud. *Nom. Bot. Ed. 2* are garden names of unpublished species, which, if genuine Grevilleae, must be the same as some of those here described.' Some possibly predate existing names and if validly published would challenge their priority. My search also lists some published epithets that cannot be confidently applied to known species. Some of the epithets appear to have been given by Allan Cunningham.

In 1786, James Colvill (c.1746– 28 Oct. 1822) established the King's Road Nursery on 2 ½ acres of land near the junction of Blacklands Lane, Chelsea, now a suburb in the south-west of London, in the county of Middlesex. King's Road was, until 1830, King Charles II's private road from St James Palace to Fulham and the Royal Palaces at Hampton Court and Kew. People 'with connections' were able to rent land along its course. It is unclear what Colvill's 'connections' were, if any, but the area was mainly rural and with a small population, albeit wealthy. In 1809, the population of Chelsea was reckoned at around 13,000, up from 11,604 in 1801, and growing fast (Faulkner 1810: 11). It was also a fashionable area to visit and shop, and one that was 'much frequented by barges and boats of pleasure; and, in the reign of Charles the Second, it was called Hyde Park on the River Thames' (Faulkner 1810: 3). There were also vast market gardens in the area that serviced the population of London, then mainly contained on the north side of the Thames. Kings Road was then and continues today to be the main arterial road and shopping road through Chelsea, more recently 'home' of the swinging sixties. The availability of fashionable, exotic plants was once a desideratum of people with money, large gardens and social status. Therefore, establishment of a nursery would have been a use complementary to the needs of the people, especially one that specialised in rare, exotic species that might appeal to a social-climbing clientele.

Colvill started his business selling roses and flowers. He was entrepreneurial by nature and soon became involved in the early development of China roses as well as a remarkable range of exotic plants which he sourced from enthusiasts and collectors throughout the world. In 1789, a flowering plant of *Monsonia speciosa* featured in the *Botanical Magazine* 3: t73, conducted by William Curtis. The herbaceous African perennial in the Geraniaceae described has large white to pink flowers and is now rare and endangered in the wild. It was introduced by Francis Masson in 1774 from Africa and was illustrated in February by Sydenham Edwards from a plant given to Curtis by James Colvill. 'We received this elegant plant just as it was coming into flower from Mr. Colvill, Nurseryman, King's Road, Chelsea, who was so obliging as to inform me that he had succeeded best in propagating it by planting cuttings of the root in plots of mould [composted horse dung and leaf litter], and plunging them in a tan-pit, watering them as occasion may require; in due time buds appear on the tops of the cuttings left out of the ground.' The method of propagation I thought might be of interest.

In 1790, Colvill went into partnership with a man named Buchanan but by 1807, it was known as Colvill & Son. In 1795 Colvill's nursery was notable in Chelsea for running a very extensive business in the sale of hard to obtain exotic plants, the culture of which had 'been brought to a high standard of perfection'. In the same year, Colvill's nursery was distinguished for the first display of garden chrysanthemum in Britain. Later it became known for hybrid pelargoniums, gladioli, and hippeastrums. By 1811 it reportedly had between 30,000 and 40,000 sq. ft under glass (Desmond 1994: 162). However, this is tiny compared to the largest and most famous, Brompton Park nursery, owned by George London and Henry Wise, which reportedly had 100 acres under plants.

Although there is no corroborating record, R.A. Salisbury in Joseph Knight (1809: 120) stated that many plants of *Grevillea aspleniifolia* were raised 3 years ago [1806] by Mr Colville (sic!), who received the seeds from Port Jackson, but they were all lost in winter by too hardy treatment. This is quite believable. The seeds are thought to have been remitted by George Caley because he travelled into the area of its natural occurrence while checking Barrallier's journey at Governor King's request in July–August 1806. Caley also supplied seeds to Kew and specimens to Banks which Robert Brown used in the description of new species. Two other species introduced by Caley through Joseph Banks and Kew Gardens were listed in Aiton (1810: 205), *G. arenaria* and *G. acuminata* (syn. *G. mucronulata*).

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Caley though was not constrained from sending seeds to others. According to his agreement with Banks (Banks correspondence November 16 1798) Caley was to be paid 15 shillings per week plus provisions from the Government Store. 'I shall exact no terms from you at all except to be supplied with specimens of such curious plants as you may find for myself and seeds for Kew Garden, but I do not mean to object to your selling seeds or specimens of the very same kinds of plants as those sent to me to any other persons.' Caley was acting with the agreement in sending seeds to Colvill. However, Caley's involvement is by no means certain as other collectors were operating in the colony at the time (e.g. Alexander Gordon 1780–1821 - more on him later).

Many of the plants that Colvill's propagated for sale were featured in the horticulture magazines of the day. Another such plant was *Pittosporum undulatum* which featured in four different horticultural journals. The depiction in Volume 6 of H.C. Andrews *Botanical Register* (1806: Pl. 383) states that it was illustrated at Colvill's nursery. Similarly, the depiction of *Swainsona galegifolia* (*ibid.* Vol. 5. Pl. 319), as *Vicia galegifolia*, was made at Colvill's, where it is stated to have flowered in August 1803. The figure of *Grevillea mucronulata* in Sweet's *Flora Australasica* (t38) was made from a plant at Colvill's nursery, along with several other depictions in that work. In 1807 also, Richard Salisbury (1807: t.73) described *Burtonia* (Syn. *Hibbertia grossulariaefolia*) from a specimen allegedly given to him by 'Mr Colville' sic! From Volume 1 (1815) in *The Botanical Register* Colvill plants were illustrated by Sydenham Edwards but also in Sweet's *The British Flower Garden*, the illustrator being E.D. Smith. You can look at these beautifully illustrated books online through The Biodiversity Heritage Library <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/>

James Colvill junior (1777–1832) carried on for 10 years after his father's death until his own. His death at 55 was recorded in Loudon's *Gardener's Magazine* (Volume 8: P. 256). Soon after this time Colvill Terrace was built on the nursery land fronting the King's Road and by 1856 the Colvill Tavern stood by Colvill Terrace on the other side of Lincoln Street (anglosardo blog.). In 1969, a new development resulted in the last evidence of the name Colvill disappearing from historic street advertising in Chelsea.

Some of what we know about Colvill's nursery comes from two rare publications by Thomas Faulkner under the same title published 19 years apart (Faulkner 1810, 1829). In 1810, Pp. 27–28, Faulkner wrote a brief summary to which he subjoined an incomplete list of plants, some of them from Australia. 'Mr Colvill's nursery, which has been established since the year 1786, contains one of the largest collections of scarce and curious exotics in this country.' The following is a [incomplete] list of some of the most valuable with orthography as published:

*Correa viridescens*...New South Wales  
*Epacris incarnata*, *E. parviflora*, *E. tubiflora*  
*Meleluca teritifolia*  
*Goodea totifolia*  
*Pultnia liniphylla*  
*Steleodium glandulosa*'

Clearly Faulkner then was unfamiliar with the spelling of these plant names which appear to have been dictated to him and recorded phonetically.

In 1819, three years before James Colvill senior died, there came into the Colvill's employment a remarkable young horticulturist by the name of Robert Sweet, apparently replacing the foreman William Malcolm Stockwell, who left the same year. More about Sweet at another time. He remained with the company until 1826. Suffice to say now though that it was through his beautiful publications, especially the *British Flower Garden* Vols 1–3 that we have not only gained an insight into the remarkable variety of plants grown by the Colvills but also their history and source.

In 1821, Colvill & Son issued their first catalogue which contained only four well-known species of *Grevillea*, *G. linearis*, *sericea*, *arenaria*, *buxifolia*. These are listed on P. 16 under Greenhouse Plants. The catalogue, which extended to 37 pages of plants, actually listed 256 Australian species (see below).

P. 5. *Doryanthes excelsa*, P. 6 *Hibiscus tiliaceaceus*. [2]  
 P. 9 *Calostemma purpurea*, *C. lutea*, *Crinum pedunculatum* [3]  
 P.10 *Dendrobium speciosum* [1]  
 P. 11 *Billardiera* (3), *Clematis aristata*, *Eustrephus latifolius*  
*Brachysema latifolia* *Hibbertia* (3) [9]  
 P. 12 *Kennedia* (5) *Marsdenia suaveolens*, *Acacia* (35),  
*Andersonia sprengelioides* [42]  
 P. 13 *Anigozanthus flavidus*, *Astrolooma humifusa*, *Aotus villosa*, *Banksia* (15), *Baeckia virgata*, *Bauera* (2), *Beaufortia decussata*, *Boronia pinnata*, *Bossiaea* (3 ) *Bursaria spinosa*, *Callicoma serratifolia*, *Callistachys* (2), *Callistemon* (5), *Calothamnus* (3), *Calytrix glaber* [39]  
 P. 14 *Casuarina* (2), *Correa* (3), *Chorizema nana*, *Crowea saligna*, *Dryandra* (4), *Dodonaea triquetra*, *Dillwynia* (3) *Daviesia* (3), *Elaeocarpus cyaneus*, *Epacris* (4), [23]  
 P. 16. *Eucalyptus* (6), *Eugenia* (2), *Eutaxia myrtifolia*, *Gastrolobium bilobum*, *Gompholobium* (3), *Goodia* (2), *Grevillea* (4), *Hakea* (16), *Hovea* (3), [38]  
 P. 17 *Indigofera australis*, *Isopogon* (4), *Leucopogon* (2), *Lambertia formosa*, *Lasiopetalum* (6), *Leptospermum* (9), *Lomatia* (2), [25]  
 P. 18 *Melaleuca* (21), *Mirbelia reticulata*, *Myoporum* (5), [27]  
 P.19 *Oxylobium* (2), *Persoonia* (2), *Petrophile pulchella*, *Pimelea* (3), *Pittosporum* (2), *Platylobium* (3), *Pomaderris* (4) *Prostanthera lasianthos*, *Pultenea* (7), *Scaevola microcarpa* (*albida*) [26]

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P. 20 Sowerbaea juncea, Sphaerolobium vimineum, Stenocarpus salignus, Stylidium (3), Styphelia (3), Swainsona (3), Telopea speciosissima Telmpletonia (2), Tristania (3), Viminaria denudata, Xylomelum pyriforme, Zieria smithii [21] 256

In their second catalogue issued in 1823, there was a modest increase in the number of *Grevillea* species listed. These were separated into two sections, Hothouse Plants and Greenhouse Plants. Under Hot house plants, P. 4, Colvill lists but gave no description of *Grevillea trifurcata*, *G. pinnatifida*, *G. berberifolia* and *G. podalyriaefolia*. In the second, Greenhouse Plants on P. 16, he lists *Grevillea juniperina*, *G. linearis*, *G. sericea*, *G. arenaria*, *G. cinerea*, *G. buxifolia*, *G. punicea*.

In his 1827 catalogue Colvill jr. listed (P. 5) *Grevillea trifurcata*, *G. Flindersii*, *G. acanthifolia*, *G. berberifolia*, *G. podalyriaefolia*, *G. podocarpifolia*, and on P. 19, as Greenhouse plants, *Grevillea juniperina*, *linearis*, *sericea*, *arenaria*, *cinerea*, *mucronulata*, *buxifolia*. Clearly popularity of grevilleas was on the up.

Faulkner (1829: 162) wrote "These [Chelsea] nurseries, besides furnishing the choicest variety of early raised flowers, have, each succeeding season, something new to present to the Botanical world...Mr Colvill, within the last ten years, has increased his collection tenfold; and at present, probably it contains as great a variety of rare and valuable plants as any single collection in Europe.

Moreover, to show his curiosities off to the fairest advantage, he has now built a large conservatory, wherein they have room to grow and flower in perfection. The house is scientifically divided into two different compartments; the largest part is occupied by what is generally termed "Green House Plants," which are planted out, in a bed of earth, and grow as luxuriantly as if they were in the soil, and under the clime of their native countries; the other part consists of tropical plants, and requires to be kept up with nicety to a tropical degree of heat, throughout the year. The large handsome house, fronting the King's Road, is entirely occupied by the multifarious and costly family of Geraniums, and consists of more than five hundred relatives of that handsome and interesting family; of these, above four hundred have been already described, and their variations published in Mr. Sweet's "Geraniaceae" with a splendid figure, correctly designed, of each.

Another house is occupied with green house bulbs. There is also one with tropical bulbs. In the latter is erected part of a large elm tree, with the outer shells of cocoa nuts nailed thereto, wherein are placed numerous parasitical archideous plants, in imitation of those growing parasitical on the branches of various trees in tropical forests... In the same collection are erected other hothouses and greenhouses for exotic plants, besides houses for forcing

Spring flowers, and pits and frames for the protection in Winter of less tender plants. Underneath I notice, for the satisfaction of my readers, some few of the most rare or interesting plants at present in the collection:—

*Banksia* species, *dryandroides*, *repens*, *prostrata*, *coccinea*.... *Blandfordia grandiflora* and *nobilis*; ... *Doryanthes excelsa*, *Dryandra floribunda*, *cuneata*, *armata*, *falcata*, *formosa*, *baxteri*, *mucronulata*, *obtusata*, *nivea*, *longifolia*, *tenuifolia*, *nervosa* and *pteridifolia*....*Grevillea acanthifolia*, *berberifolia*, *podalyriaefolia*, *heterophylla* and *trifurcata*...'

There are seven names in Colvill's catalogues that we would like to know more about (I have not seen the 1831 Colvill catalogue). *Grevillea berberifolia*, *G. flindersii*, *G. heterophylla*, *G. pinnatifida*, *G. podalyriaefolia*, *G. podocarpifolia* and *G. trifurcata*. Meisner (1856) listed some of them at the end of his *Grevillea* treatment as 'species obscurae et indeductae' [species obscure and undescribed).

If their identity could be established and they have been appropriately described, these names may predate some existing names, requiring name changes. Chapman (1986) however assures us that all are simply names without description, *nomina nuda*, and that therefore there are no nomenclatural consequences. I too have found nothing in my research to suggest otherwise.

***Grevillea berberifolia*** Colvill, *Colvill's Catalogue* 2: 4 (1823), *nomen nudum*.

First listed by Colvill in his 1823 catalogue, and again in 1827 (*op. cit.* 1827: 5). Sweet (1826: 349) cites Colvill's catalogue as his source for the name. Loudon (1830: 40) states 'introd.[uced] 1821. Steudel (1840: 705) credits Colvill and Sweet as the author. No earlier reference outside Colvill's catalogues has been found. The name suggests that the leaves of this *Grevillea* were deeply dissected. A speculative view is that it is possibly *G. acanthifolia*, and that Allan Cunningham sent seed of it after his return in 1817 from an expedition with Oxley and Fraser, during which he discovered this species but did not name until 1825. Colvill (1827) however listed both species for sale.

Colvill 1823: 4  
Sweet 1826: 349  
Colvill 1827: 5

***Grevillea flindersii*** A.Cunn. ex Sweet, *Hortus Britannicus* 1: 490 (1826), *nomen nudum*, as 'Flindersii'.

Sweet (1826: 490) states that it is a stove shrub, introduced from New Holland in 1823 and, by the symbol 'Y', that the plant was a new plant from New Holland in Mr Mackay's nursery, with the unpublished MS name: 'Mackay's Clapton nursery was the source of very many introductions of Australian plants.

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Many were sent by James Anderson, William Baxter, George Caley and some by Allan Cunningham. However, there are no extant catalogues from Mackay's nursery. However, other evidence can be adduced that Allan Cunningham was the source of the plant material and the name. Mackay's nursery was later taken over by chief propagator Hugh Low in 1831. His catalogues were published with his advertisements in the *Gardener's Chronicle*. Loudon attributed the MS 'Flindersii' name to Allan Cunningham, whose manuscripts and specimen labels have been searched unsuccessfully for a reference to it. The name is effectively *nomen nudum*.

Sweet (1826: 490) lists it, *nomen nudum*.

Colvill (1827: 5) also lists it, *nomen nudum*.

Loudon (1830: 39) states introduced 1824. No description.

Steudel (1840: 705) also attributed the epithet to Allan Cunningham, probably following Loudon.

APNI credits Sweet as the authority citing the publication *Hortus Britannicus* 1, 1: 490 (1826).

***Grevillea heterophylla*** Colvill ex Faulkner, *An historical and topographical description of Chelsea* P. 162 (1829), *nomen nudum*.

The name *G. heterophylla* does not appear in any of Colvill's catalogues before 1830 but was recorded by Faulkner (1829) [see above] as a plant available at the nursery. The name *G. heterophylla* A.Cunn. ex R.Br. was not published by Robert Brown until 1830 and is a synonym presently of *G. refracta*. Colvill's name does not refer to the same plant. Except that Robert Brown used Cunningham's epithet and Cunningham is responsible for sending material to Kew where it presumably grew into a flowering shrub. Strangely Brown had already described *G. refracta* in 1810, so the minute nature of the variation induced him to name another species. Conceivably, Cunningham could have sent seed to Colvill or Colvill could have got it from Kew.

Cunningham collected his plant in 1819 and apparently sent seed back to Kew. There is an interesting commentary on plants sent back by Cunningham following his explorations with P.P. King. Hooker (1836) wrote 'During the surveys of Capt. King just noticed, the seeds of no less than twelve species of Proteaceous plants, (and chiefly of Mr. Brown's last section of the genus *Grevillea*) were received at Kew. Plants of each were readily raised, which afterwards, with the treatment they received, grew to the stature of large shrubs, and some eventually flowered, to the admiration of all visitors.' The species included by Brown in his last section of *Grevillea* include *G. heliosperma*, *G. refracta*, *G. parallela*, *G. striata*, *G. mimosoides*, *G. lorea* (now *Hakea lorea*), *G. glauca*. It seems likely that all or most of these species were in cultivation at Kew prior to 1836.



Fig. 1—5. *Manglesia trilobata* Hort.  
 Fig. 6. *Manglesia cuneata* Endl.  
 Fig. 7 u. 8. *Anadenia heterophylla* R. Brown.  
 Fig. 9 u. 10. *Anadenia illicifolia* R. Brown.  
 Fig. 11. *Grevillea Aquifolium* Lindl.  
 Fig. 12. *Grevillea Avelana* Mol.  
 Fig. 13. *Adenanthos obovata* Labill.  
 Fig. 14. *Persoonia ferruginea* Smith.  
 Fig. 15. *Persoonia* sp. Nov. Holl.  
 Fig. 16. *Persoonia myrtilloides* Sieb.  
 Fig. 17. *Persoonia laurina* Smith.  
 Fig. 18. *Persoonia* sp. Nov. Holl.  
 Fig. 19. *Brabejum stellatifolium* L.  
 Fig. 20. *Grevillea illicifolia* R. Brown.  
 Fig. 21—25. *Adenanthos cuneata* Labill.

Denkschriften der mathem.-naturw. Cl. XV. Bd. 1858.

Further to say on this subject, Ettingshausen (1858) records a plant, with illustration, under the name *Anadenia heterophylla* R.Br. growing in the royal gardens of Schönbrunn Palace, Austria but the description and leaf illustration (figs 7 & 8) are not *G. refracta* or any plant known that can be identified with certainty from the leaf illustrations. It is not inconceivable that this plant is the same as Colvill's, considering the trade in plants that occurred between nations and private individuals such as Baron Karl von Hügel.

Sweet (1826: 349) - cites no authority; no date of introduction;

Loudon (1830: 40) states introd. 1821;

Brown (1830: 24) described *G. heterophylla* formally. Now a form of *G. refracta* R.Br.

Steudel (1840: 705) credits Cunningham as the author and cites Dr. 68 [described by Dr. D. Dietrich *Synopsis of Plants* (1840 (2))]. This description would postdate that of Brown.

Ettingshausen CR (1858: 254, t 36 figs 7, 8)

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***Grevillea pinnatifida*** Colvill, Colvill's Catalogue 2: 4 (1823), *nomen nudum*.

Possibly *G. acanthifolia*, for which name it is substituted in his 1827 catalogue. This is NOT the same plant now treated as a synonym of *G. baileyana*.

Colvill (1823: 4) *nomen nudum*.

***Grevillea podalyriifolia*** Colvill, Colvill's Catalogue 2: 4 (1823), as 'podalyriaefolia', *nomen nudum*.

There is strong evidence that the name *Grevillea podalyriifolia* should replace *Grevillea mucronulata* R.Br., for reasons that I will discuss separately. However, the name in Colvill's catalogue plays no part in this rationale. Colvill's name cannot be assigned with certainty, even though it is likely that it represents the same taxon as Joseph Knight's *Lysanthe podalyriaefolia*. Colvill made no reference to Knight's original publication or to Brown (1810) who synonymised Knight's name under *G. mucronulata*. Therefore it is just another name. Sweet (1826: 349) cited C.C. [Colvill's Catalogue] as the source of the name.

Knight (1809: 117) *Lysanthe podalyriifolia*, as 'podalyriaefolia'.

Brown (1810b: 378)

Colvill (1823: 4) (1827: 5);

Sweet 1826: 349.

Sweet (1827–28)

Loudon (1830: 40) states introd. 1821.

= *G. mucronulata* R. Br.;

*Grevillea podalyriaefolia* Colvill (1823: 6)(1827: 5)

Sweet (1826: 349) cites his authority as c.c. which implies an earlier publication by Colvill. (It was listed in his 1823 catalogue.)

***Grevillea podocarpifolia*** Sweet, *Hortus Britannicus* P. 490 (1826), *nomen nudum*.

As foreman in Colvill's nursery, familiarity with all the plants in the nursery led to Sweet putting this name into print before Colvill.

Sweet (1826: 490);

Colvill (1827: 5);

Loudon 1830: 40 states introd. 1824;

Steudel (1840: 705) credits Sweet as the author

***Grevillea trifurcata*** Colvill, *Colvill's Catalogue* 2: 4 (1823), *nomen nudum*.

This is probably a reference to *Hakea trifurcata* (Sm.) R.Br., misidentified as *Grevillea*.

Sweet (1826: 349) Even though Sweet was familiar with Brown's work, he cited Colvill's catalogue as the source of the name, perhaps without realising they were possibly the same taxon.

Colvill (1827: 5);

Loudon 1830: 40 states introd. 1821;

Steudel (1840: 705) credits Colvill and Sweet as the author Meisner (1856) 'Possibly a reference to *Hakea trifurcata*'.

***Grevillea mucronifolia*** A.Cunn.

Another mystery name attributed to Cunningham without description. Colvill did not catalogue it but I have included it here because it fits into the mystery of Cunningham names.

Loudon (1830: 40) states introd. 1824.

Steudel (1840: 705) credits Cunningham as the author but cites no reference.

Meisner (1856: 393) cites Cunningham - no further reference.

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1826 Pp.1–240 Part 1 Aug–Sep; Pp. 241–492 Part 2 were published Sep–Oct 1826

1827 The whole book was then reissued unchanged with an 1827 title page.

Screen shots (images) are from Ettingshausen 1858

## GREVILLEA SQUIRESIAE

Peter Olde, NSW

A number of members have queried me on the correct spelling. In the original publication and description it was given as *Grevillea squiresiae*. However, it was pointed out post-publication that the epithet was grammatically incorrect. Given that I have studied Latin at tertiary level, this came as quite a shock and a degree of embarrassment. The formation of epithets under the rules of botanical nomenclature are relatively strict and accordingly the name has had to be corrected. The manner in which this is done is usually in the following way, which is how you will find it in the Flora of Australia treatment.

*Grevillea squiresiae* Olde & Marriott, *Nuytsia* 15(1): 96–98 (2002), as '*squiresae*'

There was a recent 'issue' (GSG Newsletter 112, Pp. 4–6) concerning the conservation of *Grevillea squiresiae*. Some facts need correcting, apart from the orthography. In this article it was stated that '*For a number of years, Department of Environment field officers carried out extensive systematic searches of nearby roadsides and reserves in a vain attempt to discover new populations. Sadly all searches were in vain!*' This is not correct. A quick check of the Florabase website shows that there are four additional populations which have been discovered. This includes the population on Hunter Rd. Westonia, which was first collected in 1989 and probably misidentified as I have never seen it. Apparently Werner Kutsche discovered a new location containing 30–40 plants in 2005 nearby. I do not remember Werner advising me of this and there is no record on the official Florabase website. While it is a good thing that members search out localities for species, it makes no sense if this is not reported officially to conservation officers, who in turn supposedly advise Shire administrators, thus preventing the tragic loss of plants as reported in the article.

In this case, serious damage has been done to plants at the type location. This is not good enough. Absolutely unforgiveable! Government is legally bound to protect declared rare flora. Here is the response of Mr Stuart Barter, Senior Investigator, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Locked Bag 10, Joondalup DC WA 6919 (Email: [stuart.barter@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:stuart.barter@dwer.wa.gov.au)) to a complaint lodged by Chris Long, president of Australian Plant Society Victoria.

Dear Mr Long,

**ROADSIDE VEGETATION CLEARING - MUKINBUDIN W.A.**

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has completed an investigation into the alleged clearing of native vegetation impacting on a priority one flora species, *Grevillea squiresiae* at Mukinbudin Western Australia, as detailed in your letter to the Minister for Environment (W.A.) dated 15 March 2019.

Additional details, including photographs of the clearing, were obtained from witnesses Mr Barry and Ms Elva Teague. This evidence was assessed determining that although populations of *Grevillea squiresiae* were impacted, the clearing undertaken was authorised by Regulation 5 Item 22 of the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulation 2004* (W.A.) - *Clearing for maintenance in Transport Corridors*.

This exemption authorises the clearing of native vegetation for specific purposes and stipulates clearing extents for each of these purposes. However, it does not legislate clearing 'best practice' to implement methods to reduce impacts to native vegetation. *Grevillea squiresiae* is a 'priority' species and does not require the additional authorisation (permit to take) that is required for flora that is declared to be 'threatened' under the *Biodiversity and Conservation Act 2016* (W.A.).

DWER has determined that there is no evidence of a breach of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (W.A.) and has no legislative power to enforce clearing methods or best practice. The investigation has therefore been closed, however all information collected has been formally recorded for future reference. I understand that the relevant Shire's have been advised of the impact of their roadside maintenance on priority flora.

The DWER undertakes regular educational strategies directly with local government authorities and the public, both by itself and in conjunction with the Roadside Conservation Committee. This includes face to face meetings and organised seminars. DWER also provides educational materials in the form of Guidelines and Fact Sheets that are published on the public website, which can be accessed at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au>

The DWER will continue to provide a proactive response to encourage compliance with the EP Act.

Stuart Barter Senior Investigator Enforcement Branch  
10 September 2019.

We hope some better outcomes will be produced from this appalling lack of responsibility. You might like to ring or email your opinion to Mr Barter. T: (08) 6364 6563 M: 0409 197 365.

## THANK YOU MATT HURST

Peter Olde, NSW

In casting my eye over early newsletters I noted that in Newsletter 67 published in January 2004 we had no Seed Bank curator. Our early curator Judy Smith had handed the seed bank over to me. In the following newsletter the name Matt Hurst of Wagga Wagga appeared as the Curator. I can't ever remember making an appeal but Matt must have noticed the absence and volunteered his services. So, for almost 15 years Matt Hurst has been our Seed Bank Curator.

Nowadays, for reasons that elude me, there do not seem to be a lot of people propagating from seed. Matt has decided to call it a day and has returned the box of seeds to me. I hope we can entice someone to take over. It is not a particularly onerous duty but consistency is required. Perhaps you have an interest in seed propagation and could write an article or two on the viability of the seed in the bank or on new techniques learned.

I would like to thank Matt very much for his quiet support and service to the Study Group over the last 15 years and wish him well into the future.

## ON GREVILLEA BATRACHIOIDES

Peter Olde, NSW

We have received a note from Sarah Barrett, Threatened Flora Albany District, who forwarded the information below.

This is from Leonie Monks:

"We planted *Grevillea batrachioides* in 2004, 2005 and 2007 (161 seedlings in total). All was going well, around 60% survival and plants reproductive, when a very hot wildfire went through in Feb 2011 and all plants were killed. But, out of the ashes came 50 seedlings and then Jurien staff planted another 123 seedlings in 2012 and at last count there were 145 plants."

Sarah Barrett

Note. When John Cullen and I re-discovered this species on Mt Lesueur, there were only 10 plants that we could find. It subsequently transpired that no further plants were found. This is a Priority One species and it is good to see positive intervention in its situation.

Peter Olde

## NEW MEMBERS

Peter Olde, NSW

We love to find out about our members, so feel free to send a few sentences about yourself or your activities by way of introduction.

**Jude Locke**

Uki, NSW

My interests are in growing and propagating grevilleas and have dabbled with propagating grevilleas from southern Victoria with varied success. I enjoy the grafted grevilleas as grown here in northern NSW and SE QLD but my real interest is the species forms.

## DRIVING OVER GREVILLEAS

Catriona Bate, ACT

You may have heard of driving over lemons in southern Spain (the title of a 2007 memoir by Chris Stewart). The idea conjures up the sunny bounty of that hot and beautiful place, the lemons so plentiful they end up on the road. Who would have thought that half a world away we would come across grevilleas so numerous we were forced to drive over them just like Stewart and his over-abundant lemons?

Where were we? A very different hot, dry and beautiful place. Stewart's Spanish farm was described as isolated but there is nowhere more remote than the Australian desert. Stick a finger in the centre of WA on a map and that will give you an idea. We were on the edge of the Gibson Desert west of Wiluna, southeast of the Canning Stock Route. This flat and dry country is scattered with hills and waterholes which once sustained the traditional owners. It is where Warri and Yatungka were found and rescued from severe drought in the 1970s; they are believed to have been the last of the Mandildjara tribe of desert nomads to live permanently in the traditional way. Their extraordinary story is told in *The Last of the Nomads* by W.J. Peasley.

The last place people associate with plenty is the Australian desert. We often get asked why we would go there to botanise. Isn't it just vast swathes of sand? The answer of course is a definite no, but it does depend on the season and the timing of rain. It is actually quite common to see grevilleas flowering beautifully in the outback. This visit was in August 2018 and rain had obviously fallen some weeks or months earlier. Although not a wonderful wildflower season for plants overall, the grevilleas showed early on they were going to put on a show. On this trip we had timed it just right for them.

At first we saw just the odd grevillea in full flower – *Grevillea juncifolia*, *G. eriostachya*, and *G. wickhamii* ssp. *aprica*, the usual suspects in arid areas. On some of the sandhills we also spotted a small number of white *G. stenobotrya* flowers. One relatively common species was a challenge to identify as we never found any flowers or fruit. The traditional owners hosting us shared their knowledge of this species, demonstrating how they collect water from its roots.

A likely candidate was *G. nematophylla* but it turns out that this particular area only has *G. berryana*. The two species are considered very similar with *G. nematophylla* extremely widespread across arid Australia and *G. berryana* widespread in WA only. Both species produce creamy white flowers later on, in summer. The distinguishing feature for us was the bark – *G. berryana* has dark, rough bark while *G. nematophylla* has smooth, silvery bark.

Heading north to camp at a lovely permanent waterhole, the narrow, winding track was lined with stunning red flowers of *G. wickhamii*, likely responding to previous rains which had pooled on the track. Its leaves gave our new vehicle a good wipe over as we pushed our way through, any scratches a worthwhile sacrifice in our view. This track is actually named the Eagle Highway, a highway in name only. Our excursions from the waterhole yielded more beautiful grevillea specimens to photograph (especially a *G. juncifolia* at its absolute flowering peak) but disappointingly, great herds of feral camels.

*Grevillea juncifolia*Panorama *Grevillea eriostachya* field

CONTINUED &gt;

Turning to the west to visit some other traditional waterholes no longer in use we came upon a *G. juncifolia* woodland bursting with birdsong, moving on to enjoy fields of *G. eriostachya* and *G. wickhamii*. In fact, *G. wickhamii* was one of the most common flowering species of the entire trip, often found in crowds, their bright flowers (red with prominent yellow style) against holly-shaped pale green leaves a bit like little desert Christmas trees. I note with interest that this species is named for the captain of the famous vessel the *Beagle*, who collected the type specimen. Interesting botanical finds in this area were native plums (*Santalum lanceolatum*) and impressive clouds of yellow flowers produced by *Micromyrtus flavifolia*.

There was even more in store for us grevillea-lovers along this stretch of deep sand. Soon we came upon a number of plants which looked a bit different. Closer examination showing them to be natural hybrids of *G. eriostachya* x *G. juncifolia*. Holding their long floral plumes high above waist high grasses just like *G. eriostachya*, the buds about to burst into flower were many, and located all along the upper stem in leaf axils like *G. juncifolia*. One plant had a handsome unwanted guest, easily the biggest borer we've ever seen! Later on we found a very interesting example of *G. wickhamii*. This specimen was unlike any others of the same species found nearby, even the one immediately next to it, being smaller and denser, obviously an unusual dwarf form. Covered with inflorescences, it was quite attractive.

it hardly mattered. The road, an extremely rudimentary track, was rarely travelled so once our convoy of four-wheel drives departed the hardy grevilleas would be able to spring back to their best. Whether this will always be the case is an interesting question with the area set to experience increased visitation due to the likely building of a uranium mine near Wiluna.



*Grevillea wickhamii* dwarf

We often spend time botanising in arid Australia, especially the deserts of WA, but Proteaceae (*Grevillea* and *Hakea*) rarely dominate. However, this time the grevilleas were a real highlight of our 2018 desert trip.



Borer in presumed *Grevillea* hybrid

Yet it was the fields of *G. eriostachya* which summed up the trip. All around us were grevilleas scattered as far as the eye could see poking up through waist-high grasses (mostly *Triodia schinzii*), their arrow shaped, terminal flower heads just turning from green buds to gold. Having to drive over perfectly good grevilleas growing in the track was less painful than it might have otherwise been because none were actually in flower, and there were so many that



Driving over grevilleas

## GREVILLEA METAMORPHA

John Ewing, WA

I recently joined the Grevillea Study Group to further my relatively new interest in grevilleas. I have spent many years as part of the WA Orchid Study Group and am also keen on eremophilas. Some in the Orchid Group see me as a bit of a traitor for splitting my allegiance – ah well....

As part of the Orchid Group I am involved in a program called ADORP (Adopt an Orchid). This is a DBCA (Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions) program and involves over 30 small groups of 2 to 4 people surveying high priority orchids. I am part of one group looking after *Caladenia dundasiae* and we have been keeping records for 7 years. In the process we have found some new locations and have monitored the effect of rainfall variations over the years.

Recently the WA Herbarium granted me a Research Associateship to look at priority 1 and priority 2 grevillea species in Western Australia, of which there are 38 currently listed. I anticipate that there are many members of the Grevillea Study group who have more knowledge and experience than I have. If you are coming to WA (or if you live in WA) and would like to help I am very pleased to invite you to join in.

A couple of years ago I went to a site at Canover Road which is near Jurien Bay. There I found a population of what I believed to be *Grevillea delta* (priority 2). In chatting to Peter Olde, he enlightened me that this was similar, but not the same species. Earlier this year my wife and I had been to the site on the Coorow-Green Head Road where we found 30+ plants of the 'real' *G. delta*. The challenge for me now is to collect a specimen (yes, I do have a licence) of the Canover Road species and determine for myself what the differences are.

Earlier this year my wife Alison and I went to the Dallwalinu area and found a good population of *G. rosieri* (priority 2). We counted 20+ plants in a brief survey. We have also been to Cataby and found *G. calliantha* (threatened) and *G. synapheae* subsp *minyulo* (priority 1). We found the latter on a roadside verge which had been mowed, presumably by the shire or a local farmer. The plants were in flower but only 50mm tall. Further up the road was a single plant that was less than 30cm away from where the shire grader had removed much of the roadside vegetation. I reported this to the local DBCA office in Jurien Bay. As well as protection, this species needs more investigation.

Last week I visited the Dale area just east of Perth and located a good population of *G. hislopii*. I counted over 30 plants which were all in good condition. However, the best find was earlier that week when I was invited by the owners to their private property north of Badgingarra to come and look at a grevillea that grows there - *G. metamorpha* (priority 1). I had never seen the species and all I really knew was that it was a white flowered spindly plant to 2m. The owners did not know what it looked like but they drove us to the creek area that was fenced with a strong barbed wire fence. As we drove along the fence line I saw a branch waving in the wind. Stopping the car, we climbed the fence and lo and behold, THIS WAS IT. The owner broke off a sample branch and gave it to me. We counted over 20 shrubs; the only 20 in the entire world as far as we know. A couple of days later Peter Olde, who was staying for a couple of days at our house confirmed the identity. When I rang the owners they were very excited by the news.

*Grevillea metamorpha*

As you can see that a start has been made. There is a lot more to do. If you would like to help with the project and wish to contact me, my email is [jrewing45@gmail.com](mailto:jrewing45@gmail.com) and my phone to ring or text is 0408 628 781.

## GREVILLEA PARVIFLORA AT LAKE MACQUARIE

Kevin Stokes, NSW

In November last year I had a request from Peter Olde to accompany him to locate some populations of local *Grevillea parviflora*. The history of this request goes back a number of years when Peter and Ray Brown were in the area looking for Grevilleas and finding small populations at Fassifern and Wangi Wangi, along with *G. sericea*.

Some of the local populations of *G. sericea* have a distinct suckering habit and can form dense thickets with, on inspection, very few roots and extensive rhizomes. One population near Toronto occurs in a power line easement and is constantly mown to reduce vegetation under the power lines. This is one area that this form has rhizomes as its main method of reproduction and is very enthusiastic in responding to the heavy trimming. Perhaps the mowing is responsible for this form of growth, although this habit occurs elsewhere in the Lake Macquarie area.

Peter was keen to find and relocate some plants of *G. parviflora* to expand on the work he is doing on the taxonomy of this and similar plants. From what Peter said it may be assumed there are some distinctions between populations that could reveal new species. I'm sure Peter will elaborate on that topic in due course.

Peter arrived in the trusty troop carrier and after coffee we conducted what was the equivalent of a minor archaeological dig and found a seat on the passenger side of the car. The rear compartment presented an almost equal challenge, but I managed to get my gear in. So off we went a massive four or five kms to the first location Peter had on his list. This was located off Wilton Road not far from Toronto or Awaba.



*Grevillea parviflora* at Awaba Road

It wasn't long before Peter found the plants and collected specimens. (I learned some time ago that Peter and Ray can see a Grevillea in dense vegetation with their eyes shut, (perhaps sense them might be a better word). This population wasn't flowering. The next stop was not far about 1km along Wangi Road and this search was a bit longer, mainly due to us looking along a couple of hundred yards of highway instead of just going into the bush right next to where the car was parked. I felt a little hurt by the comments Peter made about people who look everywhere else but where the plants are and never find them so I replied s.a. Once again, the eagle eye (or Grevillea eye) of Peter found another small population of *G. parviflora*, this time we found one flower which I photographed and made a meal of it; but more specimens were taken.

We then travelled to the town of Cooranbong, near Morisset at the southern end of Lake Macquarie, and after entering a fenced area of bushland and braving the rusty barbed wire we found more of the plant. This time there were several flowers and a seed pod which pleased Peter no end. On exiting the bushland via the hazardous fence again we looked along the path and here was more *G. parviflora* sticking out of the fence right next to a concrete pathway. I'm not certain of the status of this small area of bushland but I've been assured it will not be cleared even though it is in the middle of the town and would be prime real estate.

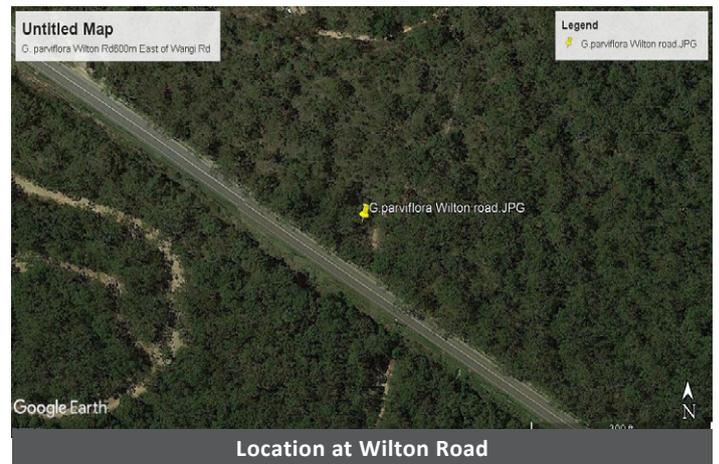


*Grevillea parviflora* at Cooranbong

Peter then dropped me home and continued towards Kurri Kurri to try to find more populations on his way back to home. Before leaving he ~~threatened~~ suggested he might return and look for further locations where *G. parviflora* has been recorded.

CONTINUED >

There was much discussion about technical stuff on the day which Peter will probably elaborate on at some stage. As many of you know it is no small thing to spend time in the bush with Peter, so I'll look forward to the next possible visit and I'll try and hone my location skills as well as I can with my aging eyes. For reference I have included some images of the plants we found and location maps.



IN YOUR GARDEN

NOTE ON ROOT-SUCKERING

Suellen Harris, NSW

We have spoken before about *G. linearifolia* at South Pacific Heathland Reserve, Ulladulla (SPHL). The area is in constant transition as there has been an arsonist on the rampage lighting fires and scampering away. She has hit other areas of bush as well. So, Milton Rural Landcare (which has been there nine years) has been propagating not only *G. linearifolia* but *G. macleayana* as well. SPHL has both narrow and broadleaf forms of *G. macleayana*.

But getting back to *G. linearifolia*, we have one in the garden at the nursery and it's doing especially well (not so the last lot of cuttings but that's another story) and I've been noting that there are little pieces of vegetation appearing around the plant. Last week I dug around and found, like in the story in the newsletter, that it suckers. As with any amount of digging around there was a little collateral damage but I still have more coming on the root system.

I was going to ask the question but you have now answered it. The *G. linearifolia* that has not been burnt in SPHR is suffering incredibly in this dry season. There is a group of them that are a dark pink but I don't think they are going to make it. I have taken cuttings but no luck in striking and now they look like there is a deficiency (iron) in the soil and this small group is slowly dying out. The ones that have been burnt, some twice in the one year (2016 & 2017, nine months apart) are doing very well. Those that regularly monitor that area are saying the same thing. As this small section was creamed twice in a year, the vegetation is looking so well, especially the waratahs. This area is mainly Proteaceae.

Love to see you if you are down this way and take a look at the nursery as I have a grevillea that I have no idea what it is and neither does anyone else but it's growing really well :-).

CONTINUED >

From Peter Olde:

Suellen, I am not sure exactly what question you were going to ask or how I answered it. *Grevillea linearifolia* is a seed-obligate shrub to 2.5 m from north of the Parramatta River-Sydney Harbour. It may have reached Botany Bay because there are a few early collections from the Vaucluse area, and another from Botany Bay (the type of *Embothrium linearifolium*).

Be that as it may, the only other plant that meets this life-history criterion occurs at Falls Creek, near Nowra. It is narrow-leaved, consistently riparian shrub to 2 m and in my judgement is a distinct undescribed species (?*Grevillea rheophytica* MS). The remaining plants from near Ulladulla, Dolphin Point, and the backblock forest country west of the Pacific Highway are all root-suckering, low-growing plants and should probably be recognised as an undescribed species or two. I am engaged in a taxonomic study of these plants, which has not progressed very far at present. The pink-flowered plants from Ulladulla may represent a separate taxon. Most of the others are white-flowered. In the Flora of Australia, this population was included in *G. patulifolia*.

Best regards

Peter



Root-suckering *Grevillea linearifolia*



Root-suckering *Grevillea linearifolia*



Root-suckering *Grevillea linearifolia*

SEED COLLECTING TIPS FROM BOB DIXON

Peter Olde, NSW

One of the most informative talks at the recent (September 2019) ANPSA conference in Albany was that given by the now-retired Kings Park plant specialist, Bob Dixon. Over the years Bob has collected and germinated seed for large-scale ecological restoration and worked on the translocation of *Grevillea scapigera* and other rare *Grevillea* species, including *Grevillea dryandroides* and *G. maccutcheonii*. Bob has written to me concerning his methods of seed collection, one of which is the employment of seed sleeves.

‘The seed sleeves are different sizes, depends what you want. First of all, when applying them grab hold (bunch together) the branches/shoots, after pollination of course, then slip the pipe, with the seed sleeve on, over them. Then slide out the pipe a bit and tie the end, I prefer to use wool, then fully withdraw and tie the other end it doesn’t matter if the end of the shoots is protruding as long as the seeds are inside the sleeve. You can then go back to collect the seed whenever you like. It’s a great way of doing it in distant locations. I harvest the whole seed sleeve, shoots and all, to avoid losing any seed. Always use seed sleeve material that is open enough to retain the seed yet allow air in to make sure the seed can dry out after rainfall events. Some synthetic materials can break down after long periods in the sun and therefore may not be able to be used again. You can also use old tights which stretch over really well. On small terminal seed heads, I use jeweller’s bags as they already have drawstrings. I always use white material, easy to find, never use pink as the parrots will chew them off.

The photo of *G. maccutcheonii* illustrates how you can tie the seed sleeves to stop them being blown in the wind. By the way, a large new population was found near Corrigin by the Keighery’s. If my memory serves me correctly there were over 300 plants. Also attached photos of *G maccutcheonii* illustrating fruit and jeweller’s bag in place. Not much seed at the moment as the red capped parrots have eaten most of them and they tend to produce more seed as the weather warms up.’

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Grevillea maccutcheonii fruit



Jeweller's bag



Seed collecting bags in place



Seed collecting materials

**Income**

Donations	135.00
Interest	0.86

**Total income \$135.86**

**Expenditure**

Newsletter publishing	\$270.00
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**Total expenditure \$270.00**

**Bank account details**



The term deposit was terminated on 28/6/2018 and the balance of 18,955.99 was deposited in the current account.



Balance in current account  
04/11/2019 **\$4,172.64**

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