

October 2011

General Meeting

8.00pm Wednesday
12th October

Community Centre,
Annandale Shopping
Centre

Committee Meeting

7.30pm Monday
24th October 2011

2 Hoya Court
Annandale

Dates to Remember

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Abelmoschus moschatus
subsp. *tuberosus*

The Native Gardener

Newsletter of the
Society for Growing Australian
Plants

Townsville Branch Inc.

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sgaptownsville.org.au

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Committee			

Wednesday 12th October 8pm

Rex Grattidge

will present

*A report of his recent trip to Western Australia
Wildflower areas*

plus

Keith's 'tech-spot' on 'Stem Systems'

Burra Range outing 4th September 2011

We are now in our fifth year of renewed annual outings to the Burra and despite the distance, our enthusiasm seems to increase annually. We ran two official outings this year; the first in early July as usual for the *Grevillea*, *Jacksonia*, *Homoranthus* and a range of Wattles, and the second in order to catch the mass pink/purple flowering of *Calytrix microcoma* in early September. This last event is short lived and requires good timing, but is most likely to occur in the first half of September. We chose September 4th and were not disappointed, especially at the second lookout where *Calytrix* forms a hedge along the roadside at up to 2metres in height. We were fortunate to find that the more exposed areas on clifftops were in full flower and the more protected areas back in the forest were about two weeks behind, as this gives us greater scope for planning future visits.



As well as our organised outings, several of our members have made additional trips to the Burra, and spent many happy hours inspecting the flora, which has never looked in better condition following two generous wet seasons. As a result we have all learnt a good deal and added to our stock of knowledge. Several species have been added to our plant list which is on view on our website.

Botanical Name	Family	Common Name
<i>Ameyema quandang</i> var. <i>bancroftii</i>	Loranthaceae	
<i>Boronia bipinnata</i>	Rutaceae	
<i>Dampiera adpressa</i>	Goodeniaceae	
<i>Dodonaea boroniifolia</i>	Sapindaceae	Fern Leaf hop Bush
<i>Eremophila longifolia</i>	Myoporaceae	Emu Bush
<i>Gompholobium foliolosum</i>	Fabaceae	
<i>Goodenia purpurascens</i>	Goodeniaceae	
<i>Kardomia squarrulosa</i>	Myrtaceae	
<i>Maytenus cunninghamii</i>	Celastraceae	Yellow Berry Bush
<i>Mirbelia aotoides</i>	Fabaceae	
<i>Phyllanthus carpentariae</i>	Ephorbiaceae	
<i>Solanum ellipticum</i>	Solanaceae	
<i>Viscum articulatum</i>	Viscaceae	

Lysicarpus angustifolius, or Budgeroo (right), a tree that occurs here close to the northern end of its range, was starting to put on a good show of flowers on our second visit.

This tree favours the shallow sandy soils associated with sandstone country and occurs in small colonies at various places along the track.



The later visit, however, is not restricted to one or two species and we found old standards such as *Grevillea parallela* in magnificent flower. In fact it seems to get better as the season progresses.

Other plants showing up were *Dampiera adpressa*, *Hovea* sp., *Personia falcata* (above) and the tiny pea-flowered *Gompholobium foliolosum* (right), with its exquisite yellow-orange flowers.



A Feast of Green and Gold..... and other Delicacies

Keith Townsend's well-illustrated talk at our last meeting was very aptly named taking in a staggering range of native flora over a wide area. Taking advantage of attending a family wedding down south, Keith treated himself to a few side trips both on the way and coming back, and was well rewarded by seeing the best of the winter flowering.



Carnarvon Gorge saw *Swainsonia galegifolia* and *Ajuga australis* to name but two attractive plants. The palm, which dominates this gorge, is *Livistona nitida*, which incidentally can be seen in our own Palmetum.

The extensive grounds of Myall Park Botanic Garden filled a whole afternoon with unusual plants collected from all over Australia.



Eucalyptus rhodantha and *Grevillea insignis* at Myall Park Botanic Garden.

Ever wondered why Grevilleas are sometimes referred to as 'Spider Flowers'?



A short visit to Goondiwindi Botanic Gardens was followed by another special place – Gurulmundi State Forest, north of Miles. This unpretentious area yielded a treasure trove of wonderful plants, and is well worth the effort of a special visit.



Calytrix gurulmundensis and *Boronia rosmarinifolia* at Gurulmundi State Forest

Keith saw so many *Eremophilas* that he stopped trying to record names. This is one of many in a dedicated garden at Goondiwindi.

Many thanks to Keith for sharing all of this with us. The title of the talk referred to the fact that Wattles were in bloom for the whole trip and I am sure it has given many of us the impetus to visit these places in the future.

John Elliott.



Did you know?

June 6th 1770 Banks and Hickee went ashore at **Cleveland Bay** looking for coconuts but found the trees were only cabbage palms.

One of the many facts presented by the Cooktown Symposium to be held in November 2011 for more information contact the Cooktown Visitor information centre on 0740696004



In flower for September 2011

Acanthaceae	<i>Graptophyllum excelsum</i> <i>Graptophyllum ilicifolium</i>
Caesalpinaceae	<i>Cassia brewsteri</i>
Cochlospermaceae	<i>Cochlospermum fraseri</i> <i>Cochlospermum gillivraei</i>
Fabaceae	<i>Hovea longipes</i> <i>Indigofera pratensis</i> <i>Swainsona formosa</i>
Flindersiaceae	<i>Flindersia sp.</i>
Labiatae	<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>
Myrtaceae	<i>Melaleuca 'Pink Alma'</i> <i>Syzygium 'Pink Cascade'</i>
Proteaceae	<i>Darlingia darlingiana</i> <i>Grevillea banksii</i> (red) <i>Grevillea 'Ivory Whip'</i> <i>Grevillea 'Lana Maree'</i> <i>Grevillea prasina</i> <i>Grevillea venusta</i>
Thymeliaceae	<i>Phaleria octandra</i>



Society for Growing Australian Plants, Townsville Branch Inc.
P.O. Box 363 Aitkenvale, Qld. 4814

Membership Application or Renewal Form

Membership Year is from 1st April to 31st March
(Initial half yearly membership is available for those joining around October)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Fee: \$ _____

If claiming full time student fee please quote Student No.....

Additional household members may be registered for a nominal fee
of \$2.00 per person but they will not receive newsletters or magazines.

Society for Growing Australian Plants Townsville Branch Inc ABN 32 302 397 597
Membership Fees:

New Ordinary Member	\$45.00
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Renewal Student	\$30.00
New Member (Half Year from Oct.)	\$25.00
Additional Household Member	\$ 2.00
Queensland Bulletin subscription only	\$30.00

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The Society for Growing Australian Plants promotes
the conservation of Australian native flora
by encouraging its introduction into gardens.

