



**Celebrating ACRA'S
50th Anniversary**

**June 2012
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Australian Plants

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Front and back covers: *Hardenbergia violacea* "Happy Wanderer", Murray Fagg (front); *Banksia* "Giant Candles" Neil Marriott (back).

Australian Plants articles

Australian Plants is published quarterly to promote knowledge of Australian plants

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Introduction

Paul Carmen, ACRA Registrar

Paul has been on the ACRA Committee since 2002 when he was elected as Secretary. In 2008 he became the Registrar. Paul works at the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra and is manager of the Horticultural Collections Records Unit.

When walking in the bush I always look for the differences between plants – it just seems to be a natural thing to do. Those of you who are propagators will probably collect a few cuttings of the 'best' plants to try to grow and test in the garden. This practice is not unusual (as I am sure ANPS members will all agree!) and this selection process has been going on for thousands of years with plants all over the world.

These plants whether they be selections of wild origin or garden seedlings or purpose bred hybrids are known as cultivars (cultivated varieties) and are given an additional name other than genus and species to tell others that they are special. Having an organisation and a way of recording the existence of these cultivars has been an important step in the horticultural development of the Australian flora.

On 8 May 2012, the Australian Cultivar Registration Authority (ACRA) celebrated 50 years since its Inaugural Meeting at the National Herbarium in Melbourne. During this time, ACRA's role has been one of recording and preserving the history of Australia's cultivated plants. No other registration authority in the world has such a broad responsibility or provides such detailed information.

This edition of *Australian Plants* showcases some of the work of ACRA including a brief history, reports and perspectives by key members of the Committee. There are also profiles of key members of the ACRA Committee who have contributed to the Australian horticultural industry for many years. Former Registrar Iain Dawson explains what ACRA does and the importance of recording cultivar names and Roger Spencer discusses the history of cultivars and their development in Australia. Neil Marriott provides an ANPS perspective and John Wrigley gives a snapshot of his time as ACRA's first Secretary.

There are also examples of cultivar registration profiles and photos for many of the 'great' selections and hybrids which have been produced.

The horticultural exploration of Australia's rich natural flora has barely begun. ACRA's contribution in documenting new selections by observant plant hunters or passionate breeders will continue to help develop a bigger, better garden flora for Australian landscapes.



Australian Cultivar Registration Authority: Definitions and Procedures

Compiled by Iain Dawson, ACRA Registrar from 1994–2002.
Updated and edited by current Registrar Paul Carmen.

What is a cultivar?

“By cultivated plants is meant plants raised in cultivation which differ sufficiently from their wild ancestors or, if taken into cultivation from the wild, are worthy enough of distinction from wild populations for horticultural purposes to merit special names” W.T. Stearn (1986)

The cultivar is the basic grouping, or taxon, for **cultivated varieties**. The word was coined by L.H. Bailey in 1923 and is now commonly used. Their naming is governed by the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP), the current version of which is 2009. This is a separate system to that used for wild plants, the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN).

The rank of cultivar is not the same as the categories ‘variety’ or ‘form’ in ICBN. A cultivar name can only be given to cultivated plants whose origin or selection is primarily due to the intentional actions of mankind. Normal forms of plants brought from the wild into cultivation retain the same name (ICBN) and similarly plant forms maintained solely by cultivation practices (eg. pruning or bonsai) are not eligible for cultivar status. It is important to note that not all plants in cultivation are cultivars, and not all cultivars are in cultivation!

Plants that can be considered as cultivars include:

- Deliberate hybrids
- Accidental hybrids in cultivation
- Selections from existing cultivated stock
- Selections from variants within a wild population and maintained as a recognisable entity solely by continued propagation.

What does ACRA do?

The objectives and purposes of ACRA are:

- to register, in accordance with the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants, names of cultivars of Australian native plants
- to record the names of all cultivars of Australian native plants and hybrids between Australian and exotic plants (excluding Rhododendron and Orchidaceae)

- to encourage the horticultural development of the Australian flora
- to assess and describe cultivars submitted for registration
- to cooperate with other organisations and individuals engaged in activities compatible with these objectives
- to maintain a register, together with correspondence files, herbarium specimens, photographic collections and any other necessary information on cultivars or groups defined above
- to publish information on Australian plant cultivars.

Under the International Code for Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants ACRA is the “International Registration Authority for Australian plant genera excluding those covered by other authorities”. This includes all endemic genera and all predominantly Australian genera. ACRA also registers all Australian varieties accepted by the Australian Plant Breeders Rights Office. There are also some species that belong to genera that are not predominantly Australian eg *Helichrysum*, *Syzygium* and *Microlaena*.

ACRA has also taken on the role of advising the Plant Breeders Rights Office. All applications for new indigenous varieties are submitted to ACRA for an assessment of whether or not they are already known. Under the PBR Act (1994) Section 44.2 “If an application for PBR in a plant variety is accepted and the plant variety is a variety of a species indigenous to Australia the Secretary must require supply of a satisfactory specimen plant of the variety to the herbarium”. Under the Regulations the Secretary has designated the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG) Herbarium as the place for this collection to be kept, and it is integrated into the cultivar collection kept by ACRA for administrative and user convenience. The herbarium collection will become increasingly important as an aid to checking the novelty of new cultivars.

Why are stable names important?

The primary aim is to promote stable nomenclature. This helps:

- nursery owners to protect their property rights
- plant breeders to relate knowledge of genetics to plant material
- taxonomists to know what they are working with
- communicators to have more confidence in the information they publish
- retailers to source plant material; and
- the general public to link their purchases to published information (protologues on Australian Plant Name Index (APNI)).



For the trade user ACRA believes that the correct nomenclature should be a part of quality assurance accreditation and recommends that the approved (internationally accepted) name should appear on plant labels regardless of the trademarked or promotional name used.

Registration of a cultivar does not give the applicant any intellectual property rights (unlike PBR), but it does prevent another individual obtaining exclusive rights through PBR (cultivar piracy is not unknown in Australia).

Why do plant names sometimes change?

Everyone complains when plant names are changed and it always causes some confusion so why does it happen? Names are changed for three reasons. Sometimes they change because a botanical taxonomist has reclassified the plant. This is usually based on more advanced knowledge about the relationships between plants and is often beneficial to breeders as more closely related plants are grouped together. However, it is common for reclassifications to be disputed among taxonomists and in the end it is only common usage that determines whether a new name has been accepted or not. With cultivated plants the cultivar name is fixed – it can't be changed for botanical reasons – but the botanical part of the name (genus, species) can be changed.

A second reason to change a name is when the original name was incorrect. This is usually because the original specimen was misidentified, a common occurrence with new cultivated plants. Finally a name can be changed if it is not in accordance with the rules of nomenclature or if a mistake was made in spelling the name.

What is ACRA?

ACRA is a committee formed by representatives of each of the major regional (State) botanic gardens, the Australian Native Plant Society (ANPSA, formerly SGAP), and the Nursery Industry Association of Australia. In addition other members can be appointed who may represent special interests or who have expertise that is of value. The office is maintained at the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG) in Canberra. ANBG provides some administrative assistance in the form of the Registrar and Secretary as well as office space and services, and the facilities of the Australian National Herbarium. Volunteers assist with some of the clerical work, record keeping and mounting of herbarium specimens.

How do you apply for registration of a plant name?

The actual registration procedure is quite straightforward.

A fresh specimen is required (to check the description, to colour code, and finally to use as a herbarium specimen), a colour photograph, some information about origins, cultivation experience, and distinguishing features, etc.

A new electronic application form is currently being developed to speed up the registration process and reduce the work. It is anticipated that this will be fully operational on July 1, 2012. The fee for registration, which had been \$50 since 1992, will increase to \$99 for the electronic version and \$110 for paper applications. ANPSA Study Groups will continue to have fees waived. The fee is to cover administrative costs and herbarium materials. All applications are assessed by the committee and are only accepted for plants that will be sold to the public.

Who else can register plant names?

ACRA accepts the validity of names approved by the Plant Breeders Rights Office. In this case the name is attached to intellectual property rights vested in the cultivar. Genera that are not covered by ACRA are Orchidaceae and the genus *Rhododendron* which are registered by separate Registration Authorities. Further information about the registration process and the list of registration authorities can be found in the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants* (8th Edition October 2009), a publication of the International Society for Horticultural Science.

Anigozanthos flavidus 'Pink Joey'

Origin: *Anigozanthos* 'Pink Joey' was first found amongst a large stand of *A. flavidus* of mixed colours in the Margaret River area in 1965. It was first propagated for cultivation by the Waneroo Wildflower Nursery.

Diagnosis: This cultivar differs from *A. flavidus* in its small stature and pale purplish pink flowers. It usually only grows to ca. 500mm tall.

Cultivation Notes: This cultivar is well suited to almost any soils though does best in an open position.

Ref No.:ACC011; Registered: 20 June 1975



Photo: Murray Fagg



Australian Cultivar Registration Authority – A Brief History 1962–2012

Paul Carmen, ACRA Registrar

Plants have been developed for food and ornamental purposes for thousands of years. With the surge of interest in the Australian flora which occurred in the 1950s and 60s, enthusiasts and nurseries began selecting forms of plants with attractive or unusual characteristics. A uniform registration system was needed to record the origin, names and to identify the differences between these selections.

When the Society for Growing Australian Plants (SGAP) was formed in the late 1950s, submissions were made to the Royal Horticultural Society in England, requesting it be recognised as a national cultivar registration body. In February 1962, acting on a request from the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants (ICNCP), SGAP, in conjunction with Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium of Victoria, created the Australian Cultivar Registration Authority (ACRA) for registering cultivars of Australian native plants other than those of the genera *Acacia* and *Leptospermum*.

The ACRA committee was then established (on a voluntary basis) with Maurie Wilson and Ernest Lord (editor of *Your Garden*) representing SGAP, and Jim Willis and Arthur Court representing the National Herbarium. Jim Willis was appointed as Chairman.

The first ACRA meeting was held on May 8th 1962, and the Committee contacted nurseries and horticultural societies to develop a list of cultivars in use in the horticultural trade. The first list was published in 1966. Many of these cultivars have persisted to this day e.g. *Callistemon* 'Harkness', *Correa* 'Mannii', *Eriostemon* (now *Philotheca*) 'Profusion', *Grevillea* 'Crosbie Morrison' and *G.* 'Poorinda Queen'. In 1966, Maurie Wilson retired from the committee due to ill health, and was replaced by Albert Hargrave.

In 1971, John Wrigley (Curator, Canberra Botanic Gardens) and Bill Payne were elected to ACRA. Bill replaced Ernest Lord who passed away in 1970 and John was elected as the first Secretary. The new committee decided that ACRA needed to be more nationally representative and also proposed that it be moved to Canberra.

The move to Canberra occurred in 1973. In that year, the first constitution was developed, and a list of 128 cultivars (compiled by the late Ernest

Lord) was presented for publication in the *Australian Plants Journal* which became ACRA's official publication.

At the next meeting in 1974, the ACRA Committee was expanded to eleven members, with representatives from all Botanic Gardens, SGAP and the nursery industry. The new committee set about defining rules for cultivar registration including the need for herbarium specimens and photographs for identification, and discussing whether fees would be charged. It was an exciting time when there was a great deal of interest in using Australian plants in horticulture and the ACRA committee wanted to provide the official recognition that registration afforded even though it did not give legal protection.

The first cultivars officially registered were: *Grevillea* 'Robyn Gordon', *Grevillea* 'Molonglo' and *Telopea* 'Braidwood Brilliant'.

David Young (CBG) joined ACRA and started a card system for recording the names and publication records of all new cultivars. In October he visited Victoria to resolve some of the identification issues regarding the 'Poorinda' and 'Clearview' cultivars.

In 1978, David Young was appointed the first ACRA Registrar.

In the mean time, John Wrigley had been nominated as an honorary member of the Plant Variety Rights Committee, giving ACRA the opportunity to be involved with the development of legislation to legally protect cultivars. By the end of 1979, 85 cultivars had been registered.

Geoff Butler became the new ACRA Registrar in 1980, taking over from David Young. In 1984, a submission was made to register *Acacia* and *Leptospermum* cultivars and this was formally accepted by the International Society for Horticultural Science in 1985. In the following year, full descriptions of ACRA cultivars were published in the *Australian Horticulture* magazine for the first time.

In 1987, Plant Variety Rights (PVR) laws were introduced, importantly allowing legal protection of cultivars, (this later became the Plant Breeders Rights Act) and ACRA was invited to comment on all PVR applications. Also in 1987, Geoff Butler took the opportunity to put on a display at the Wildflower Spectacular event in Sydney to promote awareness of cultivars and ACRA activities.

In 1988, *Garden Varieties of Australian Plants* was published. This book showcased some of





the best cultivars which had been registered up to that time and further promoted ACRA throughout Australia.

By the end of 1989, 233 cultivars had been registered by ACRA.

In 1990 the fee schedule changed to \$20 for a basic registration and \$50 for a more detailed description. Commercial names were no longer accepted as part of the cultivar name. In 1996, Iain Dawson was elected as Registrar. In 1998, ACRA began receiving a \$50 fee for processing each herbarium specimen from PBR applicants. By the end of 1999, 337 cultivars had been registered by ACRA.

The ACRA website was developed during this period and work was also begun on a database. Iain Dawson with the assistance of volunteers, Anna and Francois Posthumus and Michael Moncur, created the ACRA cultivar descriptions and photos were attached separately.

In 2002, Iain Dawson played a major role in developing a report for the PBR Office which clarified the eligibility of breeding methods.

In the years 2003–2007 a succession of people were elected as Registrar ie Andrew Lyne, Frank Zich and Nola Sloan and in 2008 the current Registrar, Paul Carmen.

In 2009, the Checklist of Australian Cultivars Project began with funding from ANPS groups. In July 2012 a new web based application form was completed and fees increased to \$99 for electronic payment and \$110 for cheques to encourage the use of the electronic form.

Summary

Today ACRA is the pre-eminent organisation for the cultivars of Australian plants. It is internationally recognised as a registration authority and is nationally representative with members from across Australia and the nursery industry. It continues to play a key role in cultivar registration, assessing applications for PBR and recording published names.

Future Leadership

In 2013, ACRA will carry out a national survey of Australia's cultivars to find out which have performed the best and where, how well they are known, which are most popular and why. A top ten list will be developed of recommended cultivars for each state and territory.

Summary of Registration Activity

Cultivar applications for ACRA registration received = 622

Cultivars registered = 411

PVR/PBR applications assessed = 812

Current ACRA Committee

Mark Viler, RBG Sydney (Chairman)

Paul Carmen, ANBG (Registrar)

Maria Mulvaney, ANBG (Secretary)

Neil Marriott, ANPSA

Merren Sloane, ANPSA

David Murray, APS (NSW)

Rob Cross, RBG Melbourne

John Knight, Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden

Trevor Christensen, Adelaide Botanic Gardens

Peter Ollerenshaw, NGIA

ACRA Chairman

Jim Willis 1962–73

Arthur Court 1974–79

Noel Lothian 1980–82

Ben Wallace 1986–96

T. Christensen 1997–
2006

Roger Spencer 2007–10

Mark Viler 2011–

ACRA Registrar

David Young 1978–79

Geoff Butler 1980–94

Iain Dawson 1996–2002

Andrew Lyne 2003

Frank Zich 2003–05

Nola Sloane 2006–07

Paul Carmen 2008–

ACRA Secretary

John Wrigley 1971–82

Mark Richardson 1990–96

Paul Carmen 2002–07

Julie Percival 2008–09

Maria Mulvaney 2010–



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ACRA key office bearers

Sections in each biography marked * were written by Paul Carmen

Court, Arthur Bertram (1927–2012)

Arthur Court was a founding member of the ACRA Committee in 1962 and served as Chairman for seven years. He continued to serve on the ACRA Committee until 2006, having served for over 44 years. *

Arthur Court developed an early interest in ferns and orchids, particularly those of the area in which he lived, the Dandenong Ranges in Victoria. He was educated at the University of Melbourne and graduated with a Bachelor of Science.



Photo: Murray Fagg

Arthur commenced employment with the Department of Crown Lands and Survey, Victoria, at the National Herbarium of Victoria on 21 November 1955, taking up a position as botanist in 1957. His work lay especially in the genus *Acacia* and he collected extensively in Victoria and South Australia. He contributed the family *Mimosaceae* for J.H. Willis's 'Handbook to the Plants of Victoria', as well as preparing the nomenclatural data for that work. During 1966/67 he was Australian Botanical Liaison Officer (ABLO) at Kew.

He held the position of Curator of the Herbarium (renamed Assistant Director, National Collections in 1983) at the (then) Canberra Botanic Gardens from 1974 until his retirement in January 1989.

Source: Extracted from: Austral. Syst.Bot. Soc. Newsletter 59 (June 1989), notice of his retirement by Estelle Canning.

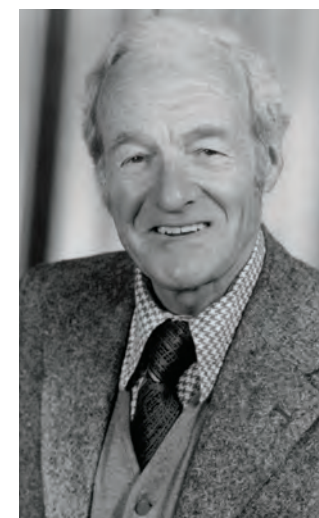
Willis, James (Jim) Hamlyn (1910–1995)

Jim Willis was a founding member of the first ACRA Committee in 1962 and served as Chairman from 1962–1973. He continued to serve on the Committee until 1988, having served for over 26 years. *

Born in Oakleigh, Victoria, on 28 January 1910, died in Melbourne, Victoria, on 10 November 1995.

Served as a forestry officer in many locations throughout Victoria, 1931–1937. In October 1937 Willis joined the National Herbarium of Victoria as a taxonomic botanist, and spent the remainder of his working life there,

until 28 January 1972. He rose to become Assistant Government Botanist, and Acting Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and Herbarium. Throughout his life he collected avidly, both vascular and non-vascular plants, and fungi. For many years he was the focus of taxonomic work in Victoria, and wrote the 2-volume *A Handbook to Plants in Victoria* (1962, 1972) which for over 30 years was the standard reference, not only for that State but for adjacent areas as well. He described 64 plant species alone or jointly and published about 883 books, papers and reviews. His herbarium is housed in the Melbourne Herbarium, but duplicates are widely distributed within Australia and overseas.



Extracted from: A.E.Orchard (1999) A History of Systematic Botany in Australia, in *Flora of Australia* Vol.1, 2nd ed., ABRS. [consult for source references]

Photo reproduced with permission from the State Botanical Collection, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.

Wrigley, John Walter (1934–)

John Wrigley was a member of the ACRA Committee from 1971 to 1993 and served as Secretary from 1971–1983. He played a key role in moving ACRA to the then Canberra Botanic Gardens in 1973. *

Born in Sydney, NSW, 1934.

Started his professional career as an industrial chemist.

He had a keen interest in the propagation and cultivation of Australian native plants and was involved in the establishment of the Society for Growing Australian Plants (SGAP) and the setting up of the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden in the late 1950s and early 1960s.



Photo: Murray Fagg



Appointed Curator of the Canberra Botanic Gardens (now Australian National Botanic Gardens) in 1967. Landscaped the Australian Pavilion at Expo'70 in Japan. Undertook extensive field collecting 1967-81. Retired from the Australian National Botanic Gardens in 1981 and moved to Coffs Harbour, NSW, to undertake private horticultural consulting. He has also designed botanic gardens in Coffs Harbour, Mildura and Tamworth and a nature park at Port Macquarie.

Made a Member of the Order of Australia in 1983 for services to horticulture.

Published a landmark series of books, in collaboration with Murray Fagg, on the horticulture and general botany of the Australian flora, including *Australian Native Plants – Propagation, cultivation and use in landscaping* (1978, 1983, 1988, 1996, 2003); *Banksias, Waratahs and Grevilleas* (1989) and *Bottlebrushes, Paperbarks and Tea Trees* (1993).

Written by Murray Fagg

Geoff Butler (1951–

Born in Stratford upon Avon, England in March 1951.

Emigrated to Australia (Canberra) arriving June 1955. Butler started his career as a plumber before joining the National Botanic Gardens in 1973 as a labourer. Worked his way through to become Horticultural Manager, leaving in 1994 to establish an environmental and horticultural consultancy.



Butler played a key role as Registrar from 1980–1994. During this time many cultivars were registered as there were many people, both amateur and professional, actively selecting forms of Australian plants or hybrids for cultivation. The ACRA provided a lot of advice on its own operations and functions as well as other advice during the establishment of Plant Breeders Rights legislation for Australia.

Photo Geoff Butler ca. 1990

William (Bill) H. Payne (1926–2005)

Born in Sydney, Bill Payne started his working life as an apprentice electrician and later became an electrical engineer in the electricity supply industry.

In 1954 became interested in Australian plants when his family purchased a property at Picnic Point. Payne was the editor of the *Australian Plants* Journal from 1959 to 2001 and played a key role in publishing and promoting ACRA registered cultivars.



He was made a life member of the Society in NSW in 1972 and was awarded the Australian Plants Award (amateur category) in 1993 for his role in promoting knowledge of Australian Plants.

He was also a founding member and active fund raiser for the Australian Flora Foundation which funds research into Australian plants.

ACRA Committee 1971–2002

Neil R. Marriott (1951–

ANPS representative on ACRA committee since 1990.

Neil Marriott is a conservationist and horticulturalist, starting his career in horticulture with the establishment of the White Gums Nursery in Stawell (Vic.). Neil is actively involved in the promotion and use of Australian plants through the Australian Plants Society (Vic.) and was President from 2001–2004 and Conservation Officer from 2004–2010. He is also the current ANPSA Conservation Officer. Marriott has written extensively especially on the subject *Grevillea*, and is about to publish a major reference with Peter Olde on *Grevillea* hybrids and cultivars.



Photo: Wendy Marriott

Roger D. Spencer (1945–

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne representative on ACRA committee since 1990 and acted as Chairman from 2007–2011.*



Roger Spencer (BSc (Hons.), MSc, PhD, Cert, Gard.) has worked at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne for over 30 years. He is Senior Horticultural Botanist and has written many popular and scientific articles on horticultural topics including books on Elms, Grey and Silver Foliage Plants and Plant Names. Most recently, he completed the 5-volume *Horticultural Flora of South-eastern Australia* which is the most comprehensive source of information about the history and nomenclature of cultivated plants in the state of Victoria.



Photo: Janusz Molinski

Trevor Christensen (1954–

Botanic Gardens of Adelaide representative on ACRA committee since 1991 and acted as Chairman from 1996 to 2007. *

Trevor Christensen is Deputy Director at the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide, where he has close responsibility for policy development, Ministerial briefings and planning and reporting for the Botanic Gardens, including the Gardens Strategic Planning. Prior to this he managed the Garden education and interpretation, information resources and conservation research programs. He has also been closely involved in the establishment and operation of the Sustainable Landscapes project, a partnership project that has been funded through a number of both public and private enterprises.



Photo: Annabel Kloeden

Trevor was born and raised in Queensland where he completed tertiary studies in horticulture and botany. After a short time of working for local government in Queensland he moved to South Australia and has held a number of roles within the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide and Department for Environment and Heritage, including a number of years as Horticultural Botanist.

He has specialist knowledge in the area of harmful plants, working closely with hospitals, doctors and emergency staff in provision of advice and lectures. In recent years he has had close involvement with development of the site Master Plans for the Adelaide, Mt Lofty and Wittunga Botanic Gardens.

Australian cultivar registration authority: Reflections on early days

John Wrigley

John Wrigley was the first person to be made a life member of the then Society for Growing Australian Plants, New South Wales. See article on Key Office Bearers of ACRA for further information on his career.

In the late 60's and early 70's there was confusion in the nursery trade as more and more cultivars of Australian plants, particularly Grevilleas, began to appear on the market. Most of these arose from amateur gardeners finding adventitious hybrids appearing in their gardens and thinking that perhaps profit could be made by marketing these new plants.

The late Leo Hodge of Victoria was responsible for many of these, naming them after his property "Poorinda", near Bairnsdale. The first of these were his cultivars *Grevillea* 'Poorinda Queen' and *G.* 'Poorinda Constance', hybrids of *Grevillea juniperina* and *G. victoriae*, which were produced in the early 1950s and amazingly are still available commercially today.

When I arrived at what was then known as the Canberra Botanic Gardens in 1967, there was an emphasis on raising the Gardens to a suitable standard for the official opening in 1970 but with that achieved it was apparent that some effort had to be made to rationalise the naming of cultivars. The Australian Cultivar Registration Authority (ACRA) was based at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne and it had apparently received applications for registration as early as 1964; these being received from Leo Hodge. Nothing appeared to have been published and enquiries to Jim Willis, the Director at Melbourne, appeared to confirm this.

I visited Melbourne at Willis's suggestion to discuss the Authority with him and Arthur Court who was primarily involved with accepting registrations. Accordingly, I proposed that the Authority would be preferably based in Canberra where we were more involved with horticultural activities with Australian plants and could possibly assign staff to progress the work. This was readily agreed.

One of our first tasks was to establish a group of interested people who could assess cultivars and determine whether they should be registered according to the rules laid down by the International Commission of the International Union of Biological Sciences in their booklet *International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants*. At this point we had liaison with Chris Brickell, Director of the Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, who also had the responsibility of administering cultivar



authorities world-wide. Our Authority was a little different from other cultivar registration authorities as most of them dealt with a single genus or family, whereas ours dealt with the whole flora.

We then contacted the Australian Nurseryman's Association, the Australian Plants Society (SGAP at that time) and each of the capital city Botanic Gardens requesting that they nominate a representative to sit on the Authority. This then became our operating base with representatives meeting annually. To allow investigative work to begin, a Registrar had to be appointed and David Young took up that position in addition to his work with the Seed Bank.

His first job was to analyse the material that came from Melbourne and to research the literature for published names of other Australian cultivars including nursery catalogues and journals. David made a trip to Victoria to obtain further information from Leo Hodge and also his contemporary nurseryman, Bill Cane. This was with limited success as records were either sparse or non-existent.

As ACRA became known in the trade and through the Australian Plants Society, registration applications began to roll in. Australfora Nursery in Melbourne and Waneroo Nursery in Perth were among the first to submit cultivars. Some of the early registrations were initiated by data available from records held at Canberra Botanic Gardens. Outstanding cultivars such as *Grevillea* 'Robyn Gordon' (1974), *Xerochrysum* 'Diamond Head' (1977) and *Boronia* 'Lorne Pride' (1977) were some of these that are still available today.

One of the other early cultivars that has stood the test of time and likely to remain in our nurseries is *Grevillea* 'Poorinda Royal Mantle', which is one of the Poorinda hybrids that, unlike most Poorindas, has proved reliable in the tropics and sub-tropics.

Many cultivars that have been registered show little improvement from their parents and while it has been necessary to satisfy their applicants by registering the names as they are different in some measurable character, it is most likely that the market will not persist with them and they will die out.

I believe that ACRA has achieved its aim by recording new cultivars and in later years by offering advice to the Plant Varieties Rights (PVR) and then Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR) authorities in order to give growers some recognition and remuneration for their efforts.



Boronia 'Lorne Pride'
Photo: Murray Fagg

A brief history of Australian native plant cultivars

Roger Spencer

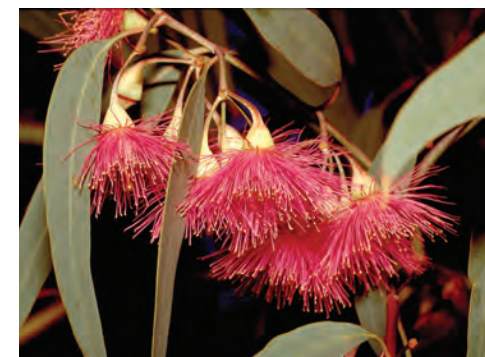
Roger Spencer is a Senior Botanist, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

Currently an estimated 18,000–20,000 Australian native vascular plants have been described (including those growing on offshore islands) with the final total likely to exceed 25,000 (George 1999). Of these, about 2,000 are commonly cultivated (Dawson, 1999 p.109).

Settlement to Federation

Native plants have been cultivated from the earliest days of settlement for both their utility and display. However, in spite of the great interest in gardening and the presence of numerous exotic plant cultivars in genera like *Camellia*, *Dahlia*, *Rosa* and *Rhododendron*, the deliberate selection of native plant variants appears to have been extremely limited in these early years. An inventory of plants listed in Victorian nursery catalogues between 1855 and 1889, which might be expected to include any especially appealing selections that had lasted in horticulture, yields only a couple of *Banksia* provenances, a few 'varieties' of *Correa* and *Acacia*, *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* 'Rosea' and 'Coccinea' along with white and pink forms of *Hardenbergia violacea*. Only 13 or so *Grevillea* species were listed (Brookes & Barley, 1992).

Some interest was generated in the late nineteenth century under the influence of groups such as the Heidelberg School of impressionist painters, Field Naturalists Clubs and writers passionate about the bush. Interest was also generated by nature study, bushwalking and activities in schools and botanic gardens. Around the time of Federation a flurry of nationalism included Wattle Day and native plant floral emblems were selected. This was also the period when national parks were being set up (Elliot, 2002).



Eucalyptus leucoxylon 'Rosea' Photo: Brian Walters

1 www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/abrs/publications/other/species-numbers/2009/pubs/06-nlsaw-plants.pdf



1900s to 1950s native plant pioneers

A garden consisting entirely of native plants would have been considered quite eccentric until the establishment of the native plant movement in the 1950s and 1960s. This movement was the manifestation of interested plant growers and nurserymen who had managed to convey their enthusiasm for native plants to a wider public. These pioneer growers and nurserymen had developed their interest in the early part of the century and their work was at its height in the 1940s and 1950s (Payne, 1982). Included among these early enthusiasts were George Althofer, Bill Cane, David Gordon, Leo Hodge, Fred Payne, and George Trapnel, all of whom selected new cultivars that remain in use today.

1960s to 1970s bush gardens

With another surge in enthusiasm for native plants in the 1960s and 1970s the Australian flora provided residents of the expanding suburbia with a new, exciting and under-explored palette of plants. A visit to a native plant nursery would reveal many rarely cultivated treasures – some of which were not ideally suited for a city suburb, others grown only with difficulty. It was at this time that native ‘bush gardens’ joined the horticultural mainstream probably stimulated by the popular writer Betty Maloney and her celebrated Sydney bush garden which was opened in 1960. It was also a period of experimentation, producing a backlash in the 1980s by people irritated by misinformation and misunderstanding of native plant growth requirements. Since that time the botanical and horticultural landscape has been transformed by the greater inclusion of native plants.

1970s to 1980s and on

Possibly as a result of increasing affluence there was an increasing promotion of native plants by professional horticulturists such as landscape architects and designers like John Stevens and Ellis Stones. Native plant cultivation had become more environmentally aware and in the 1980s interest in rainforest trees increased, and from the late 1970s the growth of ‘local indigenous flora’ became more popular along with the revegetation of vacant and public land. This was also a time when ‘bush tucker’ became popular.

Gardens and arboreta

From their early inception Botanic Gardens included native plants and there is little doubt that these gardens and the proliferation of new gardens in the 20th century has encouraged interest in native plants and their cultivars. The growing of cultivars was encouraged by the

proliferation of parks, reserves and both private and public gardens, including botanic gardens, dedicated to the growth of native plants. Included here are: the *Australian National Botanic Gardens* through the 1930s and 40s, *Jervis Bay Botanic Gardens* (an ANBG Annex, 1951; becoming *Booderee National Park and Botanic Gardens* in 1995); the *Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne* (est. 1960s); *Burrendong Arboretum* (1964), *King’s Park and Botanic Garden* (Approved 1962, opened Oct 1965), *The North Coast Regional Botanic Garden*, Coffs Harbour (gazetted 1975, work begun 1981); *Mount Annan Botanic Garden* (1984–5). More recently there is the *Olive Pink Botanic Garden* in Alice Springs, Northern Territory, the *Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden*, Port Augusta, South Australia and the *Australian Inland Botanic Gardens*, Mildura, Victoria. Among the many small and popular native gardens are Maranoa Gardens, Balwyn, Victoria which was an early garden first established and dedicated to wildflowers in 1901 dedicated to native plants in 1920 and opened to the public in 1926 as one of the oldest and largest displays of Australian plants in Victoria, and the extensive native plant collection of the Karwarra Australian Plant Garden established in 1971 in Victoria’s Dandenong ranges.

Nurseries and collections

Much of the history of native plant cultivars relates to the early native plant nurseries which were supplying the new cultivars of their day, many of which were grevilleas.

- **Boddy’s Eastern Park Nursery** Geelong supplied native plants including 150 grevilleas with some hybrids and cultivars.
- **Schubert’s Nursery** at Noble Park, Victoria.
- **Cadwell Nursery**, Annangrove, New South Wales, the property of Mr Sid Cadwell who used the prefix Boongala for many of his selections most notable of which are *Grevillea* ‘Boongala Spinebill’. G. ‘Sid Cadwell’.
- **Kentlyn Nursery**, Kentlyn, New South Wales in 1980s (*Grevillea* ‘Mason’s Hybrid’)
- **Myall Park**, a 90 ha property and garden and herbarium at Glenmorgan, in south-west Queensland. From 1941 the proprietor was horticulturist and grazier David Gordon (1899–2001) who produced a number of important *Grevillea* cultivars in the 1960s, notably two named after his daughters: ‘Robyn Gordon’ (1963) and ‘Sandra Gordon’ (1968), but also, G. ‘Merinda Gordon’. The property continues as Myall Park Botanic Garden Ltd, est. 1991.



- **Poorinda**, the property of Leo Hodge (1904–1994) at W Tree, near Buchan, in East Gippsland, Victoria, growing native plants in the 1940s and producing a number of *Grevillea* cultivars – releasing four in the early 1950s, *G.* ‘Poorinda Queen’, *G.* ‘Poorinda Pink Coral’, *G.* ‘Poorinda Leanne’ and *G.* ‘Poorinda Queen’ in 1952, and later *G.* ‘Poorinda Constance’, continuing to produce cultivars until about 1968, one of the last being *G.* ‘Poorinda Royal Mantle’ in 1967–8, one of the most successful of all native plant cultivars. Using hand pollination techniques he developed forty-five *grevillea* hybrids.



Grevillea
‘Poorinda
Constance’



Grevillea ‘Poorinda
Royal Mantle’
Photos Murray Fagg

- **Clearview Nursery**, Maffra, Victoria was run by Bill Cane. It was planted out in the 1940s, mainly with eucalypts. Bill was a friend of Leo Hodge and a founding member of the Society for Growing Australian Plants. He raised *G.* ‘Clearview David’ in the 1940s. Also at this time *G.* ‘Clearview John’ and ‘Clearview Robin’ were raised and some *Callistemon* cultivars.

- **Nindethana Nursery**, Dripstone, central western slopes of New South Wales was established in 1935 as a native seed and plant nursery by George Althofer (1903–1993), a pioneer grower of native plants who began his collection in the 1920s, and managed by George and his brother Peter Althofer (1918–1991). His cultivars include *Grevillea* ‘Coral’ (1956), *G.* ‘Audrey’ (1957), *G.* ‘Glen Sandra’ and ‘Glen Pearl’ (1960), and *G.* ‘Dorothy’ (1963), named after David Gordon’s wife. He also specialized in the Mintbush genus *Prostanthera*, publishing a botanical account of the genus, *Cradle of Incense* in 1978. George’s brother Peter established and managed the Burrendong Arboretum at Wellington in New South Wales.
- **Austraflora Nursery**, established by Rodger Elliot at Croydon, Victoria in 1959, later moving to Bayswater (1963) then Montrose (1968); it was leased in 1973 to Bill Molyneux then sold in 1982. The nursery has released many cultivars and under Bill Molyneux has specialised in selecting and developing new native plant cultivars. As the name Austraflora is now a trademark it cannot be included as part of the cultivar name as was once the case. Releases include *Callistemon pallidus* ‘Candle Glow’ and ‘Firebrand’ (1973), *Grevillea* ‘McDonald Park’ (1967), *G.* ‘Copper Crest’ (1975), *G.* ‘Lyrebird’ (1979), and *G.* ‘Bon Accord’ (1982).
- **Bush Gems Garden Nursery**, Victoria, is noted for the selection of genetic resistance to the fungus disease Ink Spot in *Anigozanthos*, the Bush Gems series of cultivars being marketed by Biotec Australia.
- **Crystal Waters Nursery**, Victoria produced *Boronia megastigma* ‘Heaven Scent’.
- **Chandlers Nursery**, Victoria *Boronia megastigma* ‘Jack Macguire’s Red’.
- **Native Flora Sanctuary**, Addison Ave, Athelstone, South Australia, proprietor F.C. Payne *Thryptomene* ‘F.C. Payne’
- **Save the Trees Campaign Research Nursery** at Zillmere, Brisbane, was run by pioneer native plant grower George Trapnell (1919–1998) in the 1970s (now disbanded). He raised selections of *Callistemon* cultivars.



Grevillea ‘McDonald Park’
Photo: Murray Fagg



- **Coomba Park**, Harry Infield's property on the mid-north coast of New South Wales has a callistemon arboretum called Demesne Park. Harry was, for many years, leader of the SGAP Callistemon Study Group.

Books and horticultural writers

Along with the gathering interest in growing native plants that occurred over the period 1940 to 1970 came the desire to communicate information and enjoyment through journals and books, all of which served to promulgate new cultivars (see e.g. Payne, 1995).

Bill Payne (William Herbert Payne, 1926–2005) was editor of the quarterly journal *Australian Plants* which began publication in 1959 at 3 shillings per issue. This was for many years the main means of communication for Australian native plant enthusiasts and nurserymen and was published by the (then) NSW Society for Growing Australian Plants. Even at this time the national Society for Growing Australian Plants, which was formed by Arthur Swaby in 1957, supported many study groups that specialised in particular genera (this is still an important source of specialist knowledge as each study group produces its own Newsletter) and it was instrumental in the formation of the Australian Cultivar Registration Authority in 1963. Bill Payne was a founding member of both ACRA and the Australian Flora Foundation, the latter aiming to: *“foster research into the biology and cultivation of Australian plants by funding research projects, giving prizes for research, organising seminars, publishing research findings and by any other effective means.”* ACRA would meet once a year and the journal *Australian Plants* would publish descriptions and illustrations of the new cultivar registrations. In 1988 ACRA produced a booklet *Garden Varieties of Australian Plants Vol 1* (ACRA, 1988) with a foreword by Don Burke but unfortunately only one volume was published. The Introduction by John Wrigley describes the 31 cultivars that were illustrated and described as “a few of the most outstanding registered Australian cultivars that are currently available”.

While at the same time Rodger Elliot and his wife, Gwen, have been key figures in the horticultural promulgation of native plants. Volume 1 of the *Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants* by Elliot and Jones contains a section on the History of Australian Plants in Cultivation. This includes a history of Australian plants in cultivation overseas, a history of eucalypts in cultivation, and a history of Australian plants and their horticultural development in Australia (Elliot & Jones, 1980–2010). A wide range of cultivars are briefly described in this 9-volume publication

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APOLOGY TO SUBSCRIBERS

The editors and the printer sincerely apologise to subscribers that the drill holes in the last issue of Australian Plants were incorrectly positioned.

This was an error which arose in the final compilation and was not identified prior to dispatch.

The cost of recalling and re-drilling all issues was prohibitive.

with the cultivars in some genera, like *Callistemon*, being given more detailed treatment so, for example, the cultivars of *C. citrinus* and *C. viminalis* are tabulated for easy comparison.

John Wrigley and Murray Fagg from the National Botanic Gardens in Canberra described a number of cultivars in their *Native Plants of Australia* in 1979. But the genera *Banksia*, *Grevillea*, and *Telopea* and other Proteaceae were covered by them in much more historical detail in 1989 (Wrigley & Fagg, 1989), and *Callistemon*, *Melaleuca* and *Leptospermum* in 1993 (Wrigley & Fagg, 1993).



Callistemon 'Harkness' Photo: Murray Fagg

Among the first cultivars and probably the oldest of the *Callistemon* cultivars is *Callistemon* 'Harkness', purchased as *C. citrinus* in 1937 and propagated for commercial release in Gawler, South Australia in 1948: it is still a widely grown and reliable cultivar. This appears to have been pre-dated by *Boronia megastigma* 'Jack Macguire's Red' a selection from seedlings raised in Chandlers Nursery Victoria in 1928.

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Pimelea ferruginea 'Magenta Mist'

Origin: *Pimelea* 'Magenta Mist' was selected from a wild population of *Pimelea ferruginea* at a coastal area at Northcliffe, WA. Cultivar first received by the Authority 9 October 1980. The applicant is Kings Park and Botanic Garden, West Perth.

Description: This cultivar resembles the usual form of *P. ferruginea* except in regard to the flower colour. The inflorescences are magenta in colour.

Diagnosis: *P. ferruginea* 'Magenta Mist' is readily distinguished from *P. ferruginea* because of the rich magenta colour of its flowers.

Cultivation: This cultivar is readily propagated from cuttings. This method must be used to preserve the cultivar form.

Colour coding: RHS Colour Chart 1966. Perianth segments: close to red purple group 60B (outer edges towards red group 52D (centre of flower)

ACRA Ref No.:ACC228 Registered:18 October 1984



Photo: Murray Fagg

ACRA and the Australian Native Plant Society (Australia)

Neil R Marriott, ANPSA Representative ACRA

Early History

Arthur Swaby, the founding father of the Society for Growing Australian Plants (SGAP) in 1957, wrote in September 1958 of his concerns that the responsibility for the registrations of all *Leptospermum* had been given to New Zealand, and likewise, that France had been given responsibility by the Royal Horticultural Society, London UK for *Acacia* cultivars. He goes on to state that 'SGAP, however, will naturally be the body for future genera of purely Australians if affiliated. Steps will be taken.'¹

In fact, steps were taken and an Australian cultivar registration authority was formed in 1962 directly as a result of a letter sent in 1958 by SGAP to the International Committee of Plant Taxonomy & Nomenclature in Holland. The letter suggested '*that an international registering authority for cultivars of endemic Australian plants be set up and that SGAP would be a suitable body*'².

The International Committee responded in December 1958, agreeing that SGAP could make a start on gathering details on cultivars in an unofficial way until official approval had been granted. This was



Tea-tree *Leptospermum macrocarpum* selection -cultivars like this would have to be registered in New Zealand if not for the formation of ACRA © Neil Marriott



Wattle selections such as this prostrate form of Mealy Wattle *Acacia farinosa* from the Grampians would have to be registered in France if not for ACRA Photo © Neil Marriott

eventually received in February 1962 when the South East Region of SGAP accepted *'the offer of the Secretary of the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants, to undertake the registrations of cultivars of genera endemic to Australia, and to act as the national registration authority, in conjunction with the National Herbarium'*³. (Melbourne Herbarium).

A committee of four was set up with Maurie Wilson and Ernest Lord representing SGAP, and Dr Jim Willis, Assistant Government Botanist for Victoria and Arthur Court both representing the Melbourne Herbarium. At a following South East Region SGAP Committee meeting Maurie Wilson for the first time introduced the name 'Australian Cultivar Registration Authority' (ACRA) and SGAP purchased the first letterheads for the Authority.

This was formative work, all done by the South East Region of SGAP! And yet it was not until 1967 that the SGAP federal body wrote to ACRA seeking their opinion on whether purpose-bred hybrids should be considered as 'native' plants. Dr Jim Willis responded on behalf of ACRA advising that purpose-bred hybrids could not be considered 'native', because garden hybrids are governed by the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants. And he made a request

that SGAP federal body appoint a representative on ACRA. (The SGAP federal body later came to be known as the Association of Societies for Growing Australian Plants [ASGAP] and now is ANPSA.)

Bill Payne, editor of *Australian Plants*, was appointed as such and John Wrigley, then curator of the Canberra Botanic Gardens, was also appointed in 1971. Then in 1973 John Wrigley suggested ACRA be further expanded and relocated in Canberra. The same year, that expansion importantly added representatives from the major botanic gardens around Australia and a representative from the federal Nurserymen's Association.

Bill Payne attended the first annual meeting of the enlarged body in Canberra in 1974 and agreed to publish details of newly-registered cultivars in *Australian Plants*. Then and now, when a plant is submitted for ACRA registration it is assessed by all members of the committee, and if approved it is given a Cultivar Accession Number. When the late Dave Gordon of Myall Park, Glenmorgan, discovered a wonderful hybrid *Grevillea* in his extensive arboretum of native plants in 1963 he was prevailed upon by several nurserymen to register it with ACRA. He did in 1974, (ACRA Accession Number 001) and the plant was named *Grevillea* 'Robyn Gordon' in memory of his late daughter Robyn, who tragically died of cancer as a 16 year old in 1969.

It was around this time that Geoff Butler began working at the National Botanic Gardens, and before long was appointed as Registrar for ACRA. Geoff was an active member of Canberra SGAP and worked for many years in the gardens till his resignation from the gardens in 1994. I was invited by Bill Payne in 1990 to become the SGAP representative on the ACRA Committee, and was privileged to work with Geoff for a number of years prior to his resignation. Geoff was extremely enthusiastic, and under his guidance much was achieved, including the publication of several booklets highlighting new native plant cultivars. These were designed to be released annually as a series.



Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon' –the very first cultivar registered with ACRA
Photo © Neil Marriott



Grevillea 'Desert Gold' –a spectacular natural hybrid cultivar registered with ACRA by the Grevillea Study Group Photo © Neil Marriott

Unfortunately, this series was not popular with the public and resulted in a large financial loss for ACRA. However SGAP NSW and Queensland, who had loaned ACRA the money, eventually agreed to absorb the debt. Since then, ASGAP has become a major financial supporter, regularly and for many years giving generous donations to the authority.

In an effort to promote the ACRA committee, in the mid-1990s it was agreed that each state SGAP region be encouraged to elect a liaison officer on the committee. However, primarily due to the cost of travel, only NSW and Canberra regions have regularly been able to send representatives. Warwick Dix has represented Canberra and David Murray has represented NSW, while Hazel Dempster represented WA and the late Ian Waldron, Queensland helped from the distance for a number of years.

Due to the generosity of ASGAP (and now ANPSA) ACRA has offered to waive registration charges for ASGAP Study Groups and Regions. This has resulted in the registration of many wonderful cultivars grown by Study Group members, particularly a series of *Correa* and *Grevillea* selections.

Bill Payne continued to be actively involved with ACRA until he became ill and had to resign, not long before his untimely death in 2005. He was a tireless worker for our Society, and it was not until he was gone that it

registered just how much he did for our organisation. For example, late in 2003, despite his illness, he was still emailing the ACRA committee offering advice, and offering to organise the promotion of ACRA and new cultivars, complete with colour pictures on the authorities website.

I have known some great ASGAP supporters of ACRA: already mentioned John Wrigley, who still offers considerable advice from Coff's Harbour. Others include John Knight, CEO of Eurobodalla Botanic Gardens, Bateman's Bay and a lifelong supporter and active member of our Society has assisted our committee; Ben Wallace, ACRA committee member for many years while with the National Botanic Gardens actively supports the organisation, and is still an active member of the Canberra ANPS. Peter Ollerenshaw, Bywong Nursery has represented the Nurserymen's Association of Australia on the authority, as well as being an active ANPSA member and breeder of wonderful native hybrids, particularly *Leptospermum*, *Grevillea* and more recently *Correa*. And finally, Paul Carmen, current Registrar of ACRA has for many years been both an active supporter of ACRA while working in the National Botanic Gardens, and an extremely active member of the Canberra ANPS. Apologies to other members whom I have omitted to record; this is my brief and personal perspective and memory does dim with age!!

But after my 22 years with ACRA, I feel that there is, and always has been, a mutually beneficial relationship between the authority and our Society. Just in the last two years, various branches of our Society around Australia (particularly Canberra) have been generous in their donations and therefore assisted ACRA's work. The current work is a complete checklist of ALL Australian native plant cultivars and hybrids – a huge undertaking that will result in a comprehensive record, complete with pictures where available, of all cultivars, and will be accessible to all on the web. I look forward to that!

Special thanks to John Walter, author of '*SGAP—the story of Arthur Swaby and the Society for Growing Australian Plants*'. His wonderful research into our Society assisted greatly in the production of this article.

1. AJ Swaby in SGAP Newsletter No 8 Sept 1958 p.4
2. SGAP South East Region, Minutes Committee Meeting 27/10/1958
3. SGAP South East Region, Minutes general Meeting 13/2/1962



Descriptions of significant cultivars

Introduction to the descriptions

The following selection of ACRA registered cultivars are some of the original registrations and those that have come since. Many are still around today!

As gardeners we tend to think about how the plant grows but the registration process is about showing that the cultivar is distinct, uniform and stable rather than its performance. As time has shown, there have been plenty of cultivars which have met the registration requirements but not lasted the test of time or consumer demand.

The descriptions have evolved, some are more detailed than others but the format has remained much the same. Some have been edited and abridged for this publishing exercise. The full list of ACRA registered cultivars with descriptions and photos can be found at:

<http://www.anbg.gov.au/acra/acra-list-2009.html>.

Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon'

Origin: The plant was first noticed because it flowered prolifically and almost continuously. It has never set seed and all propagation has been by vegetative means (cuttings). The cultivar was named 'Robyn Gordon' in memory of a member of Mr. David Gordon's family who died tragically in 1969 at the age of 16. It was first distributed to a number of nurserymen in March 1968.



Photo: Murray Fagg

Colour comparison (R.H.S. Colour Chart 1966)

	<i>Grevillea bipinnatifida</i>	<i>G. 'Robyn Gordon'</i>	<i>G. banksii</i>
FLOWERS	1.2 cm long. Red 42B	1.3 cm long. Crimson 52A	1.5 cm long. Empire Rose 48C
STYLE	3.7 cm long. Cardinal Red 53B	4 cm long. Cardinal Red 53C	4 cm long. Cardinal Red 53C

Cultivation: This cultivar has been in cultivation since 1963 and has proven to be stable in its growth habit, its floriferous nature and flower colour. It is, in fact, one of the most iconic cultivars of Australian plants. It can be grown in a wide range of conditions including in Canberra. Has been found to moderately frost resistant if grown in a sunny, preferably north facing site with overhead protection. Prefers well drained soils and is moderately drought hardy.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC001 Registered: 31 May 1974

Below is an example of the new registration format which includes all the information in a slightly different layout.

Grevillea 'Wendy Sunshine'

Applicant: Neil R Marriott

Family: Proteaceae

Origin: Open pollinated, thought to be a hybrid between *G. bipinnatifida* (Chittering Valley) x *G. thyrsoidea* ssp *pustulata*.

Distinctive Characters: Distinguished from *G. bipinnatifida* by its fine divided foliage and its pink/red hairy flowers on long stems beyond the foliage. Distinguished from *G. thyrsoidea* by its larger, coarser and greener leaves and its larger flowers.



Photo: Neil Marriott

Comparators: *G. bipinnatifida*, *G. thyrsoidea*

Habit/Description: A grey-green, low-growing, dense, shrub

Size: 0.3–0.5 m H x 1–1.5 m W





Flower Colour: Pink-red

Flower Size: 46mm; conflorescence 170mm

Flowering time: Jul–Jan

Colour Coding: RHS 1995. Flowers style: 46a Leaves upper surface: 137a

Frost hardiness: High

Drought hardiness: High

In cultivation since: 2003;

Where has it been tested? Melbourne, Sydney

ACRA Ref No.: 1255; Registered: 16 November 2010

***Grevillea* 'Poorinda Constance'**

See photograph on page 251

Origin: *Grevillea* 'Poorinda Constance' is assumed to be a hybrid between a NSW form of *G. juniperina* and a red flowered form of *G. victoriae*. Cultivar first received by the Authority: 21 April 1964.

Description: It can be expected to reach a height of about 4m. The leaves are shiny on the upper surface whilst being covered with short white hairs on the underside. Individual leaves are 2.5 – 3cm long and up to about 7mm wide and pungent. The edges are rolled under. The flowers are produced in clusters at the ends of short branchlets. Each flower is about 1cm long whilst the styles are 2cm long. The flowers are a clear red colour.

Diagnosis: This cultivar resembles *G. 'Poorinda Queen'* but differs from it in having slightly larger leaves. Its leaves are 2.5 – 3cm long compared with *G. 'Poorinda Queen'* which has leaves measuring 2 – 2.5cm. It also differs in its flower colour. *G. 'Poorinda Constance'* has clear red flowers instead of apricot-pink flowers.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC040, Registered: 18 October 1984

***Grevillea* 'Poorinda Royal Mantle'**

See photograph on page 251

Origin: *Grevillea* 'Poorinda Royal Mantle' is said to be a hybrid between *G. laurifolia* and *G. willisii*. It is a prostrate plant with a reported spread of 6.5m after 2.5 years. Cultivar first received by the Authority on 21st October 1975. Applicant is Mr L Hodge.

Description: The leaves vary from entire to lobed. The entire leaves measure up to 90mm long by about 20mm wide. The lobed leaves are about 100mm long and about 40mm wide across their widest point. The new foliage is coppery red in colour and most attractive. The flowers are of the "toothbrush" type and are borne terminally on short branchlets and occasionally on the main stems opposite the leaves. The perianth is dark red and about 10mm long and the styles about 25mm long.

Diagnosis: This cultivar is different from *G. laurifolia* in that most leaves are lobed and from *G. willisii* in that the cultivar is prostrate.

Colour coding: RHS Colour Chart, 1966 edition. Perianth: greyed-purple 186A. style: near red 53D. stigma: yellow-green 144A.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC090 Registered: 28 May 1978

***Grevillea* 'Crosbie Morrison'**

Origin: *Grevillea* 'Crosbie Morrison' was selected by Mr Leo Hodge of the "Poorinda" property near Bairnsdale in Victoria. It is the only cultivar introduced by Mr Hodge that does not bear the property name as a prefix. It was named by the Beaumaris Tree Preservation Society in honour of the Victorian naturalist Crosbie Morrison. It is said to be a hybrid between *G. lanigera* and *G. lavandulacea*. Application for registration was received from Mr L Hodge, Victoria.

Description: This cultivar grows from between 1–2m tall with a spread of anywhere between 2–4m. It generally has arching branches. The leaves are greyish and hairy, terminating in a pungent point. They are ca. 15mm long and 2mm wide. The margins are recurved and meet on the underside. The flowers are ca. 9mm long, and the reddish style ca. 20mm long. They are red and cream in colour. The flowers are borne in small umbel-like clusters produced at the terminal of short leafy branchlets. They are found over the winter to spring months.

Diagnosis: The supposed parents of this cultivar are both polymorphic, with *G. lavandulacea* especially so. There is confusion in determining what is known as *G. 'Crosbie Morrison'* from other hybrids of these



Photo: A Hambly



two species. Confusion can even arise between the cultivar and some forms of *G. lavandulacea*. To add to the confusion, a number of other hybrids from the same parents seem to have been grown and sold under this cultivar name. A diagnostic table was prepared but the similarity between the cultivar and parent species as well as a similar cultivar, *G. 'Poorinda Illumina'* (syn. *Grevillea 'Clearview Robin'*), did not make a positive determination any easier. It has therefore not been included. One feature that distinguishes the cultivar from the parents is the predominantly arching branches, particularly as a younger plant.

Cultivation: *Grevillea 'Crosbie Morrison'* flowers well in well-drained soils in a sunny position in temperate regions. It is hardy to frosts, and withstands drought periods. The general hardiness of the parent species is reflected well in the cultivar. Propagation should be by cuttings which strike easily.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC65,

Grevillea 'Honey Gem'

Origin: This cultivar is said to be a hybrid between *Grevillea pteridifolia* and *G. banksii* (red form). The plant was obtained as a *G. pteridifolia* seedling by Mrs Cherrel Jerks, Taringa, Queensland. It is a robust plant that will grow approximately 6m tall.

Applicant: Mrs CJ Jerks.

Description: Leaves are very deeply pinnately lobed ie. as deep as the midrib. Each leaf is around 290mm long by about 240mm wide. Individual lobes of the leaves are 18mm long and from 2–4mm wide. The upper surface of the leaf is dark green and the underside is covered with silky hairs. The leaf margins are rolled under. Young stems are covered with silky hairs. Flowerheads are apricot with yellow styles, borne on a spike 160mm long and 80mm wide. Individual flowers are more or less 40mm long and set fertile seed.

Diagnosis: *Grevillea 'Honey Gem'* is distinguished from its parents in that the leaves are intermediate between the two parent species with a bearing towards *G. pteridifolia*. The flowers are whorled around the flower spike as in *G. banksii* and not one sided as in *G. pteridifolia*. *G. 'Sandra Gordon'* is a hybrid that has a common parent with *G. 'Honey*



Photo: Murray Fagg

Gem'. The common parent is *G. pteridifolia*. These cultivars differ from one another in that *G. 'Sandra Gordon'* has flower racemes to 120mm long and the individual flowers are densely packed on the raceme. The flowers are a bright yellow and the deep lobes of the leaves are generally wider than *G. 'Honey Gem'*. *G. 'Honey Gem'* has a raceme 160mm long and the individual flowers are borne relatively loosely on the racemes. The flowers are a brownish-orange to apricot colour. The leaves are wider and longer but the individual lobes are generally narrower than those in *G. 'Sandra Gordon'*.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC178, Registered: 16 October 1992

Grevillea juniperina 'Molonglo'

Origin: *Grevillea 'Molonglo'* was developed during hybridization experiments in 1964 by Mr R Willing of the Australian National University, Canberra. It is *Grevillea juniperina* (upright red flowered form from the Canberra region) x *G. juniperina* (yellow flowered prostrate form from the western foothills of the Budawang Ranges, New South Wales). ANBG applied for registration on 31 May 1974.

Description: A low spreading shrub 1m high x 1–1.5m across; branches pubescent, arcuate to declinate, the longer branches becoming decumbent; leaves 8–20mm long and 1–2mm wide, linear-subulate, somewhat angular, with pungent apices, the upper surfaces glabrous, the lower pubescent and almost hidden by the revolute margins; flowers apricot (RHS colour Chart 1965 609/1 to 609/2) in sessile racemes,



Photo: Murray Fagg



terminal on short lateral branches; perianth tubes 10–12mm long, silky pubescent outside styles ca 30mm long red.

Diagnosis: *Grevillea juniperina* 'Molonglo' differs from *G. juniperina* (yellow flowered prostrate form) in its spreading, not prostrate habit, its narrower, more pungent leaves with closely revolute margins and in its larger apricot flowers with red styles. It also differs from other forms of *G. juniperina* in its low spreading habit and in flower colour.

Cultivation: It has been tested by the Research Section of the City Parks Administration at Canberra and over several years has displayed high frost and drought tolerance. These factors, together with its low spreading habit, contribute towards its suitability for planting on steep banks especially in cooler districts.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC002; Registered: 31 May 1974

Callistemon 'Kings Park Special'

Origin: *Callistemon* 'Kings Park Special' is a seedling that was raised at Kings Park and Botanic Gardens in Perth. The origin of the seed is not known. The original plant was selected and propagated by Mr E. Wittwer as it showed great potential for cultivation. The cultivar was first received by the Authority in October 1980. Registration applied for by Kings Park and Botanic Garden, West Perth.



Photo: D Greig

Description: This cultivar grows into small bushy trees from 3–5m tall by 3–4m wide. The inflorescences are in multiple heads on branch terminals and are bright red in colour. They are up to 130mm long by 60mm wide. The flowering season in Western Australia is from mid September to October with a smaller flowering in autumn. The leaves are up to 110mm long by up to 15mm wide. The shrub is much branched and the branchlets are slightly pendulous.

Diagnosis: There is some similarity between *Callistemon* 'Harkness' (syn. 'Gawler hybrid') and *C.* 'Kings Park Special'. *Callistemon* 'Kings Park Special' thrives in an open position and is fast growing. *C.* 'Kings Park Special' has proved to be more floriferous in Western Australia than *C.* 'Harkness'.

Cultivation It responds well to pruning after flowering and the original plant has been severely pruned on two occasions and recovered well. This cultivar sets fertile seed but must be grown by vegetative means to

preserve the cultivar form. It is adaptable to a wide range of soil types though can suffer frost damage to the younger shoot growth when grown in areas that experience severe frost. This latter factor could well be an indicator of *C. viminalis* being involved in the parentage of this cultivar.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC227; Registered: 27 October 1986

Chamelaucium uncinatum 'Purple Pride'

Origin: A cultivar selection of *Chamelaucium uncinatum* from a home garden in Nedlands WA made by Mr George Lullfitz of Wanneroo in 1977. Specimen first received by the Authority on 9 September 1977. Registration applied for by Mr George Lullfitz, Lullfitz Nursery, Wanneroo.

Description: A moderately dense bushy shrub to 4m high and 3m wide, becoming more open with age, unless pruned. Leaves medium to dark green hooked at the end to 32mm long by 1.5–2mm across. Terminal flowers in clusters are two-tone, dark and light purple, 17–20mm across. Flowering period in WA June to October.

Diagnosis: Habit and form similar to locally occurring forms, that is, southern forms of *Chamelaucium uncinatum*, however the branches are more upright in growth. The distinctive feature of this old cultivar is its two-tone flower colour. It has been in the nursery trade and well recognised for many years. At present there are no known similar named cultivars, though many similar seedlings, which originate from this plant, are now being cultivated. Probably the closest cultivar is *C.* 'Munn's', which also has two-toned flowers, ie deep purple on the edge of the petal and light purple centre. However this cultivar is also later flowering and the leaves are much thinner.

Cultivation: Tolerates a wide range of growing conditions and soil types as long as they are well drained. Widely grown in suitable conditions throughout Australia and overseas. Drought tolerance good, frost tolerance unknown, though light frosts are known to damage flowers and young growth. Propagation must be by vegetative means to preserve the cultivar form.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC142;
Registered: 16 October 1992



Photo: Murray Fagg



Telopea 'Braidwood Brilliant'

Origin: *Telopea* 'Braidwood Brilliant' was a selection from the crossing of *Telopea mungaensis* R. Br. and *T. speciosissima* Cheel. This work was undertaken in 1962 by Dr RW Boden at the Research Section of the Canberra Botanic Gardens. The pollen was collected from *T. speciosissima* by the Rev. Colin Burgess at Wentworth Falls NSW. Applicant Mr R Powell.

Description: *T.* 'Braidwood Brilliant' is an upright and compact glabrous shrub producing five or more stems from the ground level. It is estimated that a mature plant will reach a height of about 2m. The leaves are coriaceous, narrow and cuneate tapering from a long petiole. The margin is slightly undulating but at the top is distinctly toothed. The leaves measure between 150–200mm in length. The flower colour, a brilliant cherry-red has been determined using the RHS Colour Chart (1966) to be Red 53B to 53C (ie style 53C).

Diagnosis: The inflorescence is slightly less conical and less dense than *T. speciosissima* but vastly superior to *T. mungaensis* in this regard with a flower diameter of 60–80mm. Bracts are present but these are less colourful than in *T. speciosissima*. The flowering period lasts for 2–3 weeks in October.

Cultivation: It appears that this cultivar is quite well suited to the colder regions when afforded protection. Frost damage has so far not been noted. This cultivar has distinct possibilities for use in areas too cold for the NSW waratah.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC003. Registered: 31 May 1974



Photo: C D Crisp

Xerochrysum bracteatum 'Diamond Head'

(once known as *Bracteantha* 'Diamond Head', formerly *Helichrysum* 'Diamond Head')

Origin: *Xerochrysum* 'Diamond Head' is a natural form of *X. bracteatum* which was found at Diamond Head, NSW. Cultivar received by the Authority 21 February 1977. Applicant: ANBG Canberra.

Description: Prostrate habit height to approximately 80mm. Flower heads grow on stems up to 80mm above the level of the plants. Flowering begins in early November and continues through to mid February. Individual plants will grow to approximately 600mm across and are perennial. Leaves green, approximately 70mm long and about 5mm wide. They are rough to the touch due to a covering on both upper and lower surfaces of short stout hairs. Flowers bright yellow, approximately 30mm across. The ray florets are papery and remain on the plant for some months. The centre of each flower head is orange.

Diagnosis: This is a prostrate, perennial form of *X. bracteatum*.

ACRA Ref No.: RHS Colour Chart 1966 ray florets: yellow group 13A; inner florets: orange group 24A.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC107; Registered: 17 May 1977



Photo: Murray Fagg

Brachyscome multifida 'Breakoday'

Origin: *Brachyscome* 'Breakoday' is a seedling variation of the *Brachyscome multifida* that arose in cultivation at Lilydale, Victoria in 1979. The cultivar was first received by the Authority in June 1984. Registration was applied for by Mrs M E McAllister of Lilydale, Victoria.

Description: This cultivar grows to around 20mm tall by up to 80mm wide. The heads are a deep mauve in colour and up to 20mm across.

Diagnosis: *B.* 'Breakoday' has a more compact habit and heads with deeper coloured ray flowers than the more usual form of the species. It is also immediately distinct because of its darker and broader leaf lobes.



Photo: Murray Fagg

Cultivation: It is an excellent plant for use as a ground cover, especially in rockeries but also has an application for use in pots or hanging baskets. Full sun and adequate moisture are required for maximum flowering potential. Some flowers are produced all year but the main seasons are spring and summer. The plant can withstand moderately dry conditions. It has been damaged by severe frosts in Canberra, but quickly recovers with the advent of warm weather. It grows well as far north as Cairns.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC336; Registered: 30 October 1987

Correa 'Dusky Bells'

NOTE: Originally *Correa* 'Pink Bells'

Origin: *Correa* 'Dusky Bells' is most probably a hybrid between a form of *C. reflexa* and *C. pulchella*. Its origin is obscure and its time of introduction to horticulture equally so, though it has been suggested that it may have been as long as fifty years ago. The cultivar was first received by the ACRA in July 1980. Registration applied for by W R and G M Elliott of Montrose, Victoria.



Photo: Murray Fagg

Correa 'Dusky Bells' has been known by a number of names in the past, including *Correa* 'Pink Bells', *Correa* 'Rubra', *Correa* 'Carmine Bells' and *Correa* sp. (pink).

Description: *Correa* 'Dusky Bells' is an extremely compact and very dense shrub, rarely exceeding 0.6m in height. Plants can spread from 2–4m across. Leaves vary considerably in size, from 10–40mm long by 5–20mm wide. They are elliptic to lanceolate or ovate in shape. The leaf apex is usually obtuse but can be emarginate, dull green above and lighter green below. The tubular flowers are solitary and axillary. The exterior of the corolla is a pale carmine pink. The corolla is from 25–40mm in length. The flowering period is from March–September though occasional flowers may be found at other times of the year.

Diagnosis: This cultivar is easily distinguished by its dense compact habit, the distinctive foliage and the colour of its flowers.

Cultivation: *Correa* 'Dusky Bells' is a long-lived shrub and is proven to be frost hardy and moderately drought resistant, though it grows best in a moist soil in semi-shaded situations. Good results can be achieved from cuttings at most times of the year.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC203; Registered: 27 October 1986

Correa 'Mannii'

Origin: *Correa* 'Mannii' is probably a hybrid between *Correa pulchella* and *C. reflexa*. It is believed to have first appeared as a chance seedling in Sir Frederick Mann's garden in Melbourne, after whom it is named. The cultivar was first received by the Authority in July 1980. Registration applied for by WR Elliot, Montrose Vic.



Photo: Murray Fagg

Description: This cultivar is a small to medium shrub which grows from between 0.6m–1.5m tall (but when scrambling up through other shrubs has been known to attain a height of 2.5m) and from 2–3m across. It is a much branched open shrub with long arching branches and with long internode spaces, but is more compact in an open situation. The leaves are dark green, leaf shape is cordate and they vary considerably in size. The flowers are tubular, up to 40mm long by 10mm across. The flowers are a vivid red on the exterior and a paler pink inside. Flowering occurs mainly in the cooler months, especially from April to July/August but may be intermittent.



Diagnosis: The cultivar differs markedly from the purported parents and can be distinguished by the flower colour alone. *Correa* 'Mannii' has glabrous leaves and strongly reflexed perianth tips while *Correa* 'Bett's Red' has scabrous upper surface of the leaves and partially reflexed perianth lobes. *Correa* 'Bett's Red' also has dark pink flowers while *Correa* 'Mannii' is red.

Cultivation: *Correa* 'Mannii' is a particularly hardy plant and is adaptable to a wide range of soil types and aspects. The plant does well even in heavy soils though the position should be moist. A full sun to partial sun position is required.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC204

***Crowea* 'Festival'**

Origin: *Crowea* 'Festival' is said to be a hybrid between *C. exalata* and *C. saligna* and was selected from a number of seedlings that arose in the garden of Mr and Mrs Cooper in Turramurra, NSW. Cultivar received by the Authority 9 February 1980. Applicant: Mrs I Cooper, Turramurra, NSW.

Description: This cultivar is a small, dense shrub that grows to approximately 1m high by 1m wide. The flowers are star shaped, deep pink in colour and plus/minus 20mm in diameter. It flowers from November to March in Sydney with occasional flowers being found at other times of the year. The leaves are 30–40mm long by plus/minus 4mm wide and narrow elliptical to elliptical in shape. Leaf margins are entire.

Diagnosis: *Crowea* 'Festival' can be distinguished from *C. saligna* as the leaves, even though of a similar shape to *C. saligna*, are smaller. *C. saligna* and *Crowea* 'Festival' have narrow elliptical to elliptical leaves 30–40mm long by plus/minus 4mm wide. *C. saligna* has very distinct angular branches, to the point of being "winged". *C. exalata* has just discernable angular branches. *C. 'Festival'* has branches similar to *C. exalata*. Colour forms similar to this cultivar can be found in both *C. exalata* and *C. saligna*. However, propagation of these species can be difficult at times.



Photo: Murray Fagg

Crowea 'Festival' propagates readily in a few weeks, giving a good percentage strike. This cultivar must be grown by vegetative means to preserve the form. It readily accepts heavy pruning and is a good cutflower.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC194
Registered: 20 March 1981



Photo: Murray Fagg

***Tetradlea thymifolia* 'Bicentennial Belle'**

Origin: *Tetradlea* 'Bicentennial Belle' is a cultivar selected from a natural population of *Tetradlea thymifolia* near Bega, NSW, in 1979 by Mr Doug Graham of Thorpdale, Victoria. The cultivar was first received by the Authority in November 1985. Registration applied for by Austraflo Nursery.

Description: The cultivar is a dense form of the species which grows to about 0.7m tall by up to .9m wide. The cultivar suckers freely and flowers all year round. The flowers are a mauve pink in colour and are up to 20mm long.

Diagnosis: *Tetradlea* 'Bicentennial Belle' flowers all year round and the flowers are larger than is usual, ie. the petals are 20mm long compared with the usual 6–15mm long.

Cultivation: This cultivar has grown well in cultivation in Thorpdale, Victoria, in medium loam soils. Vegetative propagation must be used to preserve the cultivar form. It is frost hardy and has a medium level of drought tolerance. For best results some soil moisture should be available all year round.

Colour code: RHS Colour Code 1966:
petals: purple group 77B

ACRA Ref No.: ACC374; **Registered:**
27 October 1986



Photo: B Molyneux



Photo: Murray Fagg

Westringia 'Wynyabbie Gem'

Origin: *Westringia* 'Wynyabbie Gem' was the result of a purposeful hybridisation between *W. fruticosa* and a mauve flowered form of *W. eremicola*. The cross was made by I Barbour of Wynyabbie Nursery and was selected for propagation in the early 1970's. The cultivar name is derived from the nursery name. The cultivar was first received by the Authority in March 1979. Registration applied for by F D Hockings of Wavell Heights, Qld.

Description: This cultivar is a medium dense shrub growing to 1.5m tall by 1.5 m high. The leaves are narrow-lanceolate to 20mm long by 3mm wide and greyish-green in colour. They are moderately dense along the branches and found in whorls of four. The branchlets are covered in closely appressed white hairs which becomes slightly fewer as the branchlets age. The nodes are tufts of white hairs. The flowers are a light lilac-mauve to blue-mauve and are in small axillary groups in the upper leaf axils. They are borne prolifically in the spring but some occur all year round.

Diagnosis: *Westringia* 'Wynyabbie Gem' is a more open and erect shrub than *W. fruticosa* and is more dense than *W. eremicola*.

Cultivation: It was immediately successful around Brisbane and does well in subtropical to temperate areas. Sunny, open situations are desirable and most soils are suitable as the cultivar will become open and sparse in shadier sites. Pruning is beneficial to keep the plant compact. The cultivar is drought resistant and frost hardy. It is a

rapidly growing plant and the grey-green of the foliage provides a useful contrast in the garden.

ACRA Ref No.: RHS Colour Chart 1966

corolla: violet group 85C; spots: brown–orange

ACRA Ref No.: ACC451; Registered: 20 October 1989

***Hardenbergia violacea* 'Happy Wanderer'**

Pictured on front cover

Origin: Applicant: ANBG, Canberra.

Description: Leaves are lanceolate in shape and plus/minus 80mm long when mature, glossy green. The flowers are 10mm wide and are a rich violet-mauve in colour. They are borne profusely in racemes 90mm long that arise from the leaf axils. Flowers from June to early spring.

Diagnosis: *Hardenbergia* 'Happy Wanderer' is a selected form of *H. violacea* which has very vigorous climbing habit. Leaves also tend to be sparser with longer than normal internodal distances

Cultivation: This cultivar is a useful plant for use on pergolas, trellises or fences.

Colour coding: RHS Colour Chart 1966. Standard and keel: violet 86D; eye of standard: yellow green 144C.

ACRA Ref NO: ACC185; Registered: 20 March 1981

***Banksia* 'Giant Candles'**

Pictured on back cover

Origin: *Banksia* 'Giant Candles' is a spontaneous hybrid between *B. ericifolia* and *B. spinulosa* var. *spinulosa* that arose in cultivation. Cultivar received by the Authority 17 March 1979. Applicant is Ms Sylvia E Peach of Sunnybank Hills, Queensland.

Description: The leaves are ca.45mm long, not toothed and are intermediate between the two parents, being whorled around the stem as in *B. ericifolia* and with the revolute margins of *B. spinulosa*. The flowers measure from 380–400mm. When fresh, flowers resemble *B. ericifolia*. The flowers are rich orange in colour, as compared to the gold flowers with black styles of *B. spinulosa* var. *spinulosa*. In Brisbane the flowering period is from autumn through winter.

ACRA Ref No.: ACC175; Registered: 23 July 1980

