

A. S. G. A. P. Fern Study Group

Newsletter Number 109

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LEADER: Peter Bostock, PO Box 402, KENMORE, Qld 4069. Tel. a/h 07 32026983, mobile 0421 113955; email: pbostock@ozemail.com.au

TREASURER: Dan Johnston, 14 Bank Rd, GRACEVILLE, Qld 4075.

NEWSLETTER EDITORS: Peter & Pat Bostock, contact as above.

SPORE BANK: Barry White, 34 Noble Way, SUNBURY, Vic. 3429

From the Leader...

Some of you will have heard by now that Calder Chaffey suffered some serious medical problems earlier this year. In mid September, Pat and I managed to catch up with Calder at St Vincents Private Hospital in Lismore, where he was recovering from surgery. He was looking thinner than usual, if that is possible, but was very much on the mend. In his own words, it had been a long and tough period from his initial hospitalisation in mid year. Calder was about to be measured for a prosthetic foot. Calder has since received his foot, returning home from hospital in mid October. He reports that the only thing he can't do with his new foot is 'wriggle his toes'. We look forward to catching up with him soon.

Peter Bostock

PROGRAM FOR THE SYDNEY REGION

Peter Hind

Sunday 27 November. **This year our CHRISTMAS PARTY and GARDEN VISIT is combined with THE GREVILLEA STUDY GROUP CRISTMAS PARTY.** Meet at Margaret and Peter Olde's at 140 Russell Lane, Oakdale. Arrive 9.30 am for 10 am start to allow plenty of time to look around their new garden. Ring Margaret on 46596598 to discuss what to bring or if lost on the way there.

(It's approx. 50 mins from Menai). Drive along M5 Motorway past Campbelltown exits – take Narellan Road (Mt Annan) turnoff, then stay in right hand lane to Narellan not Bulli. Continue along Narellan Road through two roundabouts, then a set of traffic lights then veer left onto the Camden bypass. Not far past Elderslie turnoff is a set of lights to Camden – take the NEXT turn right to Burragorang Dam. Continue along Burragorang Road past Mt Hunter, Glenmore and The Oaks. When you see a sign on the right to Belimbria Park, IMMEDIATELY take that left into Binalong Road. Continue to the end of Binalong and turn right into Russell Lane. We are on the left just past Foxes Hollow – 140 – brown letterbox.

Saturday 14 February, 2006. 11 am at the home of Peter Hind, 41 Miller Street Mt Druitt. How do you tell the difference between *Arthropteris*, *Microsorium* and *Colysis*? Hopefully my fern plantings will still be alive in the heat of summer for you to see. At this meeting we need to discuss our program for the coming months, so please come charged with plenty of ideas and enthusiasm. Phone Peter on (02) 96258705

PROGRAM FOR THE SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND REGION

Peter Bostock

November 2005. There will NOT be a meeting on the first Sunday in November.

Sunday 4 December, 2005. Meet 9:30 am at Graham Nosworthy's place at Unit 72, The Terraces, 34 Tewanin Way, Forest Lake. This is the Christmas meeting so bring a fern or two for the fern swap, and make sure you bring chairs. Also bring along a batch of ideas for meeting topics and outings next year! Car-parking at Graham's place is minimal (3 cars in his driveway, 1 or 2 in a parking area just beyond his house, the remainder in the public carpark just along from his shared access road). Travel south along Forest Lake Boulevard for approx. 2km from the main Entrance, then turn right into Tewanin Way (it is

not signposted - should be next right after Oakview Way). The next intersection is some distance on — Coriander Place to the right, and Rudyard St to the left. Contact Peter Bostock if you need more information.

Sunday 5th February 2006: Meet at Peter and Pat Bostock's house at 59 Limosa St, Bellbowrie 4070. Topic of discussion: Dryopteridaceae, other than *Lastreopsis*! So, bring along your specimens of *Arachniodes*, *Coveniella*, *Dryopteris*, *Polystichum*, *Revwattsia* and *Tectaria* for examination and discussion.

SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND CHAPTER REPORTS

Tenterfield weekend (continued from Newsletter #108)

Claire Shackel

[This report was inadvertently left out of the previous newsletter - it should be read in conjunction with the table of ferns in that newsletter].

On the Queensland May Day long weekend eleven Queensland members and Calder Chaffey met in Tenterfield. Saturday morning was fine and clear and the party headed for Basket Swamp Falls. The road was more suitable for 4WD vehicles, but all made it to the falls. There were few ferns visible on the drive in, except *Pteridium esculentum*.

Above the falls was a wide expanse of rock, which the creek cascaded through. Between the rocky outcrops were crevices for ferns and other swamp flora. The ferns seen were *Adiantum aethiopicum*, *Blechnum minus*, *Doodia caudata*, *Gleichenia dicarpa*, *Lycopodiella lateralis* and *Sticherus flabellatus*. On the dry hill sides were *Cheilanthes sieberi* and *P. esculentum*.

The party returned to Basket Swamp which was a large swampy area covered with heath type plants and *G. dicarpa* was the dominant fern with *Lindsaea linearis*, *Schizaea bifida* and *Selaginella uliginosa* being added to the list.

Next stop was Boonoo Boonoo Falls. Clambering around the water holes at the top of the falls yielded *Azolla*, *Blechnum indicum* and *Pyrrosia rupestris* as additions to the list. Up on the surrounding hillside *Calochlaena dubia*, *Cheilanthes distans* as well as *C. sieberi* and *Lindsaea microphylla* were observed.

On the return trip, Morgan's Gully had to be bypassed due to an isolated heavy storm but it was decided we would return as the gully looked interesting.

The flora around the World War II Tank Traps was very interesting, as were the tank traps themselves. A moist westerly flowing narrow gully was a more appropriate area to go looking for ferns. *Adiantum hispidulum*, *Asplenium australasicum*, *A. flabellifolium*, *Blechnum cartilagineum*, *Cyathea australis*, *Davallia pyxidata*, *Dictymia brownii* and *Hypolepis glandulifera* were seen for the first time. Thunderbolt's Hideout was an interesting granite rock formation and the vegetation including the ferns was similar to the preceding stop.

On Sunday it was back to Queensland and Girraween National Park. The first walk was to Dr Roberts Water Hole, which was a large tranquil pool but no new ferns. The majority of the party went on to the Underground Creek. This was a large rock formation where the creek disappears under a series of boulders. The only new fern was *Psilotum nudum* but a couple of snakes and lizards sunning themselves on the warm rocks gave interest to the walk.

After lunch most of the party headed for the Junction, a spot where Rocky Creek is joined by a tributary. The walk was through typical heath vegetation and ferns were few. When crossing Rocky Creek to return to the picnic grounds, a group of large boulders in the creek gave a moist haven for ferns, with *G. dicarpa* dominating and *Blechnum minus* again appearing.

Monday morning, after packing the cars, the group headed back to where the road crossed Morgan's Gully. At this point it was very deep and narrow, but it was impossible to be certain if the steep sides were the result of human interference or not. Under the bridge *Blechnum nudum* and *Todea barbara* were growing but *Gleichenia dicarpa* was the dominant fern. At Morgan's Gully picnic area, the water race that had been hand cut in the rock for washing the gold bearing gravel could be seen. Fern wise there were large patches of *C. sieberi* in the mulch filled depressions in the granite rock.

It was then on to Bald Rock National Park and the Bungoona walk. Again in rather unlikely fern country, a group of large granite boulders in a gully provided a habitat for a number of ferns. Seen for the only

time in the weekend were *Asplenium polyodon*, *Doodia aspera* and *Hymenophyllum cupressiforme*. *Todea barbara* was known to be in the area but it took a while to find any specimens. Some of the party did the round trip over Bald Rock but reported no additional ferns. In spite of much searching by all members, *Pellaea calidrupium* was not found. [This fern was recorded for Australia (from Tasmania north to the Granite Belt) during preparation of Flora of Australia volume 48. Michael Garrett (Bicheno, Tasmania) brought it to the attention of herbarium botanists including myself. Previously it had mostly been misidentified as *Pellaea nana*, although Mary Tindale (NSW Nat'l Herbarium) had suggested (via notes on herbarium specimens) that the NSW material might represent a new taxon.]

Outing to the Conondale area near Kenilworth, 3rd July 2005

Claire Shackel

Members of the South East Qld Fern Study chapter met at Little Yabba Creek Bridge for morning tea. The group then ventured over the bridge to the Fig tree walk where much of the circuit was on raised walkways. This was a moist rainforest area with *Adiantum*, *Diplazium* and *Lastreopsis* being prominent (see table for full list).

The Booloumba Creek road was then taken to the camping ground. The walk began along the eastern side of the creek where it was mostly rainforest vegetation. After a pleasant walk, with a number of ferns sighted, the track crossed to the western side. Due to the recent heavy rain, it was impossible to cross without suffering wet feet. As the track went up over the end of ridges, more open brush box forest was passed through. *Asplenium flabellifolium* was growing on the track edge. On returning to the creek, *Pteris umbrosa* was on the flood plain (see table).

Continuing the drive up Booloumba Creek, the final stop was Booloumba Creek Falls. The walk started through open forest with *Casuarina torulosa* dominant in the canopy. Here *Botrychium australe* was seen among the grass but none were fertile. The track dropped down beside the creek where it cascaded down and formed rock pools. At the Breadknife rock formation, tree ferns were seen among the foliage on the opposite rocky wall but could not be identified even with binoculars.

With the limited area visited, many ferns on a previously compiled list were not seen but another 14 ferns must be added to those known to exist in the area.

Botanical name	L.Y.	B.C.	B.F.
<i>Adiantum atroviride</i>	x	x	x
<i>Adiantum diaphanum</i>	x	x	
<i>Adiantum formosum</i>	x	x	x
<i>Adiantum hispidulum</i> var. <i>hispidulum</i>	x	x	x
<i>Adiantum silvaticum</i>			x
<i>Arachniodes aristata</i>		x	x
<i>Arthropteris tenella</i>	x	x	
<i>Asplenium attenuatum</i> var. <i>indivisum</i>		x	
<i>Asplenium australasicum</i>	x	x	
<i>Asplenium flabellifolium</i>		x	
<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i>		x	x
<i>Botrychium australe</i>			x
<i>Calochlaena dubia</i>		x	x
<i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i>			x
<i>Christella dentata</i>	x	x	
<i>Cyathea cooperi</i>	x		
<i>Cyathea leichhardtiana</i>			x
<i>Davallia pyxidata</i>		x	x

Botanical name	L.Y.	B.C.	B.F.
<i>Dennstaedtia davallioides</i>	x	x	
<i>Diplazium assimile</i>	x	x	x
<i>Diplazium australe</i>	x	x	
<i>Doodia aspera</i>	x	x	x
<i>Doodia caudata</i>		x	x
<i>Doodia heterophylla</i>	x		x
<i>Drynaria rigidula</i>			x
<i>Lastreopsis marginans</i>	x	x	x
<i>Lastreopsis microsora</i>	x	x	
<i>Lastreopsis munita</i>	x	x	
<i>Pellaea nana</i>	x		
<i>Pellaea paradoxa</i>	x	x	
<i>Platynerium bifurcatum</i>		x	x
<i>Platynerium superbum</i>	x	x	
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>			x
<i>Pteris umbrosa</i>		x	
<i>Pyrrhosia confluens</i>		x	
<i>Pyrrhosia rupestris</i>		x	x

Key: L.Y.–Little Yabba circuit
 B.C.–Booloumba Creek circuit
 B.F.–Booloumba Falls walk

On a warm October day, 5 members parked their cars at an Apiary site on the lower part of the Northbrook Parkway near 'Northbrook Knoll' (Brisbane Forest Park) and followed a goat track (quite steep) down to Northbrook Creek. About 25 mm of rain had fallen in the area four days earlier making the track firm and hopefully reviving the plants. We explored down the creek for a way and then up the creek to the mouth of the gorge. The pools were very clear but we opted not to swim. The rock faces near the gorge were covered in dry *Drynaria* (which must look great when the new fronds appear) and orchids. The *Todea barbara* that Peter remembered were still there but in decreased vigour and number. Overall we identified a pleasing number of ferns which are listed below:

<i>Adiantum atroviride</i>	<i>Hypolepis muelleri</i>
<i>Adiantum diaphanum</i>	<i>Lastreopsis marginans</i>
<i>Adiantum formosum</i>	<i>Lastreopsis munita</i>
<i>Adiantum hispidulum</i>	<i>Macrothelypteris torresiana</i>
<i>Asplenium attenuatum</i>	<i>Microsorium scandens</i>
<i>Asplenium australasicum</i>	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>
<i>Asplenium flabellifolium</i>	<i>Ophioglossum pendulum</i>
<i>Asplenium polyodon</i>	<i>Pellaea nana</i>
<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i>	<i>Pellaea paradoxa</i>
<i>Blechnum nudum</i>	<i>Platycterium bifurcatum</i>
<i>Calochlaena dubia</i>	<i>Platycterium superbum</i>
<i>Cheilanthes distans</i>	<i>Psilotum nudum</i>
<i>Christella dentata</i>	<i>Pteris tremula</i>
<i>Davallia pyxidata</i>	<i>Pteris umbrosa</i>
<i>Diplazium assimile</i>	<i>Pyrrosia confluens</i>
<i>Doodia aspera</i>	<i>Pyrrosia rupestris</i>
<i>Doodia caudata</i>	<i>Sticherus flabellatus</i>
<i>Drynaria rigidula</i>	<i>Todea barbara</i>
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	

NORTHERN NSW CHAPTER REPORT

12–13 April 2005 to Mount Warning area

Phil Avery & Julie McIntyre

A successful outing. It's good to be back. We had a few ring-ins with us this time: Rel, Tess, Caroline and Megan. Nice to have them along. The bush was looking good, with lots of ferns. We counted a total of 47 species. First day we spent climbing the mountain. Good weather and we got to see the view. Special congratulations to Harry who made it as far as the chain. Second day a pleasant drive circum-navigating the mountain and a visit to Mebbin N.P. – looks like a nice campsite.

Next outing to be confirmed, probably Swan's Crossing &/or Boorganna Reserve, based at Judy & Charlie's, first weekend in September.

Mount Warning

Adiantum formosum, Adiantum hispidulum, Adiantum silvaticum, Arthropteris beckleri, Arthropteris tenella, Asplenium attenuatum, Asplenium australasicum, Asplenium flabellifolium, Asplenium harmanii, Asplenium polyodon, Blechnum cartilagineum, Blechnum patersonii, Calochlaena dubia (Culcita), Cyathea australis, Cyathea cooperi, Cyathea leichhardtiana, Davallia pyxidata, Dictymia brownii, Diplazium assimile, Doodia aspera, Doodia caudata, Doodia media, Grammitis stenophylla, Hymenophyllum cupressiforme, Hypolepis glandulifera, Hypolepis muelleri, Lastreopsis acuminata, Lastreopsis decomposita, Lastreopsis marginans, Lastreopsis microsora, Lastreopsis munita, Cephalomanes caudatum (Macroglena), Microsorium diversifolium (pustulatum), Microsorium scandens, Pellaea falcata, Pellaea viridis, Platycterium bifurcatum, Platycterium superbum, Polystichum formosum, Pteris umbrosa, Pyrrosia confluens. TOTAL 41

Mebbin N.P.

Adiantum formosum, Adiantum hispidulum, Arachniodes aristata, Arthropteris tenella, Asplenium australasicum, Asplenium harmanii, Blechnum cartilagineum, Cyathea australis, Cyathea cooperi, Cyathea leichhardtiana, Davallia pyxidata, Diplazium australe, Doodia aspera, Doodia caudata, Hypolepis glandulifera, Lastreopsis

acuminata, *Lastreopsis decomposita*, *Lastreopsis marginans*, *Lastreopsis microsora*, *Lunathyrium petersenii* (*Deparia*), *Microsorium scandens*, *Platycterium bifurcatum*, *Platycterium superbum*, *Pteridium esculentum*, *Pteris tremula*, *Pyrrosia confluens*, *Pyrrosia rupestris*. TOTAL 27

SYDNEY CHAPTER REPORTS

Sydney Group Outing to Adelina Falls, Saturday 20 August, 2005

Peter Hind

Six of us turned up at Lawson for the Adelina Falls walk. Ken Arnold had rung me a few days before with the bad news that a fallen tree had blocked the track. Luckily the local council had fixed up enough of the problem to make it possible to negotiate the affected part of the track with care. One slip and you could end up in the hole left by the base and roots of the toppled tree. It was at this point we saw the first *Blechnum gregsonii* plants. It likes wet rock faces and was growing amongst *Gleichenia dicarpa* and *Sticherus flabellatus* that spilled over from the hanging swamps above.

Our first view of Adelina falls was from a large flat rock, just past the fallen tree, that has been made into a viewing platform with the addition of a handrail and fence. As we descended to the bottom of the falls *Blechnum minus* and, on the creek at the bottom, *Blechnum nudum* became abundant.

At the waterfall face and on a dripping wet cliff face at side of the falls *Leptopteris fraseri* was growing amongst *Libertia pulchella* and the occasional *Acrophyllum australe*. *Todea barbara* is abundant in the valley below the falls and on the wet cliff faces, usually in drier sites than *Leptopteris*. A lone tree of *Atherosperma moschatum* "Black sassafras" graced the foot of the falls, its grey foliage contrasting with the greens of Coachwood (*Ceratopetalum*) and Sassafras (*Doryphora*).

Following the track downstream to Junction Falls, *Blechnum cartilagineum* and *Calochlaena dubia* where the commonest ferns in the forest. Nearing the top of the falls *Blechnum watsii* was observed forming thickets at the moist base of rocks and *Pyrrosia rupestris* appeared on the rocks with a few clumps of *Dendrobium striolatum* (also known as *Dockrillia striolata*).

Junction Falls consists of two waterfalls just above the confluence of two creeks, thus forming a fairly large Coachwood – Sassafras rainforest amphitheatre. Under the falls and around the amphitheatre we saw more *Leptopteris fraseri* and *Todea barbara*. *Blechnum patersonii* was abundant in darker sites such as the back of moist shallow caves. *Grammitis billardierei* and *Hymenophyllum cupressiforme* were scattered around on the rocks. Large clumps of *Lomandra montana* around rock bases and on ledges were impressive, with its light green, slender but abundant foliage.

An inviting sign to another waterfall only 150 m away called Federal Falls was noticed by Ron, so we all went along, particularly as the track was more or less level, unlike the steep ascent which we would do later. The track to Federal Falls is mostly under the rainforest canopy. *Blechnum watsii* and *Calochlaena dubia* are the most abundant ferns here. A small amount of *Histiopteris incisa* was also present. A fern in a small soil pocket on a large rock looked quite different, it was the only plant we saw of *Lastreopsis decomposita*, which is usually abundant in the ground on the rainforest floor! Perhaps it's trying to become an epiphyte.

Back to the steps and a moderately steep ascent to the drier ridge top, then as we followed a small valley, some rather large rocks looked interesting and inviting, the other side of a small creek. The track after crossing this creek at a point where *Cyathea australis* was locally abundant, led us up to these same rocks as big as a house. A large cleft between two of them held a sizeable shawl of *Asplenium flabellifolium*, we had seen very small plants of this earlier on the walk.

We had a quick look at Cataract Falls (by now we had seen enough waterfalls). Cataract Falls descends in several cascades, making it the tallest waterfall on the circuit.

After a fairly long walk back to our cars along the roadway, we were invited to the Arnold's place at nearby Hazelbrook to eat our packed lunch and have afternoon tea. Ken and Elaine have quite a nice fern and native plant collection for such a small backyard.

On 21 June 2005 Peter Bostock sent me an email detailing his recent visit to NSW, in which he recounted a trip to the Minnamurra Falls Reserve near Wollongong. Peter was testing out his new digital SLR camera and with a borrowed macro lens was on the lookout for filmy and other small ferns to photograph.

On the track to the falls he saw a familiar sight on a large boulder at side of the track—the dark green smear of *Crepidomanes* (*Microtrichomanes*) *vitiense*. As he continued the walk he realised the unusual nature of this. *C. vitiense* is only recorded from as far south as the Lismore district in far north-eastern NSW. Furthermore it prefers to grow on trees such as *Sloanea*, *Syzygium* and *Cryptocarya* and this was first time Peter had ever seen it on a rock. It was now too late in the day to obtain permission from the rangers to collect a herbarium sample so the only record was a photo from this new site about 700 km south of any other known occurrence.

Peter's email ended with a request for someone with access to the site and permits to collect herbarium specimens to consolidate this record.

On Tuesday 5 July Barbara and Chris Wiecek and myself (Peter Hind) were able to revisit the Minnamurra Falls Reserve. Chris brought along his very good digital camera and a very keen interest in the flora of the region – besides being Barbara's brother he is a schoolteacher in nearby Nowra and has a good local knowledge of the Illawarra region.

We first introduced ourselves at the rangers' office in the visitors centre, and they were keen to help us achieve our mission. As we walked along the wheelchair accessible boardwalk the ferns came in thick and fast, *Arthropteris tenella* and *Microsorium scandens* were particularly abundant climbing on trees and rocks. *Adiantum formosum*, *Doodia aspera* and *Blechnum cartilagineum* were the most noticeable ground ferns. The tree ferns *Cyathea australis* and further on *Cyathea leichhardtiana* were relatively abundant. Most of the large rocks along the track and near the creek were encrusted with *Peperomia tetraphylla*. Small patches of *Arthropteris beckleri* and in darker spots *Blechnum patersonii* were seen near the creek. Young stinging trees, *Dendrocnide excelsa* occupied the light breaks in the rainforest and at side of the creek. *Livistona australis* was also prominent along the creek and *Pisonia umbellifera*, Birdlime Tree, although not abundant was a noticeable component of the creek-side vegetation. After crossing the creek (Minnamurra River) a very large mossy rock attracted our attention – unfortunately we couldn't get close to it at this time as a Lyrebird was scratching around the base of it and a family group or two were engrossed in watching it. A few minutes further on and higher up the slope after carefully scanning every likely looking rock and finding most of them too dry to support more than the occasional *Arthropteris* or *Grammitis* ferns we came to some unusual rocks with marked ironstone banding, looking like some sort of sculpture. Eureka! Here it was, *Crepidomanes vitiense* in all its minutissimal glory - a large frond being close to 5 mm long. A search of nearby rocks did not yield any more colonies. As we wended our way back, both the Lyrebird and tourists were no longer near the big rock nearly as high as a house seen earlier, so I was able to scramble up the slope to inspect the very dark green patch on the sheltered side of it and yes it was a larger and healthier looking colony of *Crepidomanes vitiense*. Surprisingly no other filmy ferns were seen on this walk.



Back at the Visitors Centre, discussions turned to why there is such a wide disjunction. There are several other plant species present in the Illawarra that do similar jumps to the north, generally avoiding the sandstones of the Sydney basin. The Illawarra region is outside that basin, while the steep escarpment near the waterfall is the edge. *Ficus macrophylla* jumps to the Hunter Valley and *Cyathea cooperi*, whose type locality is near Dapto, reappears near Bulahdelah but doesn't become common until the far north coast. Recordings of *C. cooperi* in the Sydney area are all fairly recent and close to the metropolitan area.

C. vitiense seems to have adapted to grow on sandstone rocks in this area, but perhaps it was originally on large *Sloanea* and other large trees that are no longer abundant in this region. Most trees seen on the walk were not very large in diameter with the exception of a few large old *Ficus obliqua* specimens, as most of the larger timber trees would have been logged long ago.

(Editorial note: I hope to have Chris Wiecek's photo of the Minnamurra fern available on a web site soon - in the meantime the photo above is reproduced from previous newsletter)

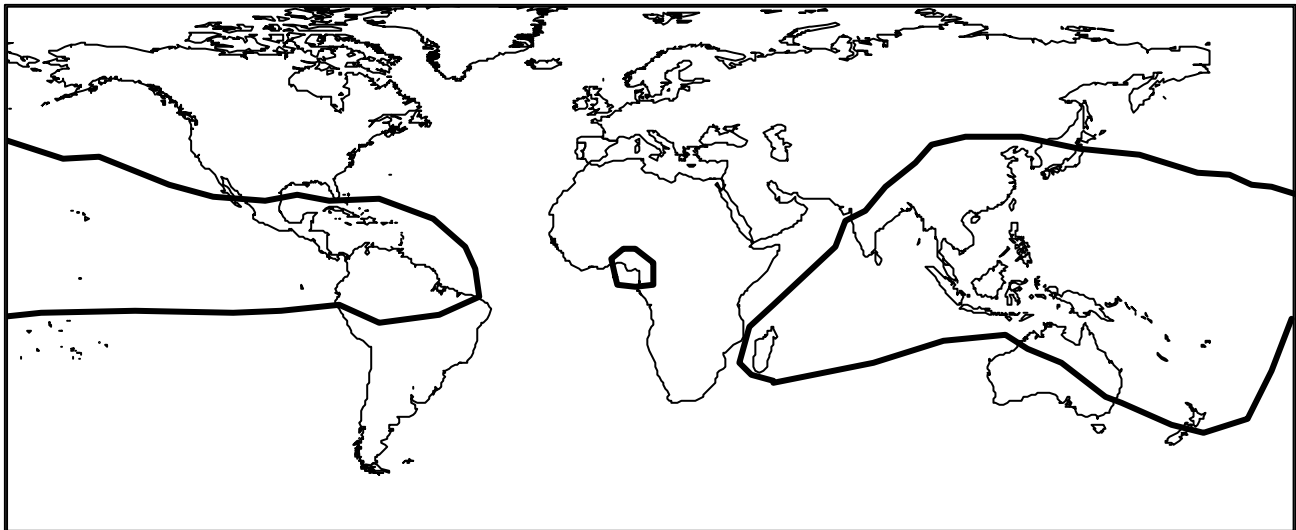
Peter Hovenkamp & F. Miyamoto¹ have published a revision of *Nephrolepis*. Nineteen species are recognised for the world, plus 7 confirmed or suspected hybrids. This paper recognises a new species for Australia—*Nephrolepis brownii*—based on a Robert Brown specimen collected from North Queensland in the early 1800s. This new species had previously been misidentified as *N. hirsutula*. It is widespread in tropical Asia, and also occurs in northern Queensland. *N. brownii* has minute brownish hairs on the upper surface of the pinna midribs, while *N. hirsutula* has only scurfy scales. Peter Hovenkamp (via email) offered the following guide to distinguishing *N. hirsutula* from *N. brownii*: “there are three distinctive characters which usually occur together in *N. hirsutula*—the dense brown rachis scales with dentate acumen (pointed apex of the scales), the sori set a little way in from the pinna margins, and the absence of hairs on the upper pinna midribs. *N. brownii* always has the midrib hairs, and has less dense rachis scales with their acumen ciliate or entire”.

Hovenkamp and Miyamoto have retained the broad circumscription of *Nephrolepis biserrata* and *N. obliterated*, and have provided some useful diagnostic characteristics to separate these often very similar species. In particular, *N. obliterated* seems to have (on first glance) smooth and glabrous rachises, but under a magnifying glass, the rachises can be seen to have very flat, almost circular scales about 1 to 3 mm in diameter. *N. biserrata* on the other hand, has quite obvious spreading scales with pointed apices on the rachis surfaces.

Comment from the editor: for those who ask “is *Nephrolepis cordifolia* native?”, I offer a distribution map from Hovenkamp & Miyamoto. I should add that as far as I can tell, among the first plants to colonise new lava in Hawaii are (you guessed it) *Nephrolepis* species, and *Nephrolepis cordifolia* was one of the first to establish on the islands of Krakatau after the last big bang.

My overall verdict on this revision is that it is quite conservative, and probably doesn't go far enough to determine variation in the genus and in individual species. But *Nephrolepis* herbarium specimens are often fragmentary, which makes the task of revising the genus quite difficult, and this is a creditable and workable outcome for the present.

¹P.H.Hovenkamp & F.Miyamoto, 2005. A conspectus of the native and naturalised species of *Nephrolepis* (Nephrolepidaceae) in the world. *Blumea* 50: 279–322).



Distribution of *Nephrolepis cordifolia* (after Hovenkamp & Miyamoto 2005)

	January–June 2005 \$	2004 calendar year \$
Receipts		
Member subscriptions	300.00	315.00
Donations:		
ASGAP Regions	55.00	90.00
Members	25.00	---
Bank Interest	<u>119.22</u>	<u>210.27</u>
Total receipts	499.22	615.27
Payments		
Newsletters paper/printing	32.79	306.79
Postage etc		
Newsletters	60.00	174.65
Correspondence	11.00	9.50
Stationery	—	27.98
Total payments	<u>103.79</u>	<u>518.92</u>
Cash in bank	5569.30	5142.87
Cash in hand	—	31.00

Comment: Only one newsletter was sent out during the January/June 2005 half year. This half-yearly financial statement is in preparation for a change in the accounting period of the Fern Study Group to conform with the Australian financial year and with the majority of ASGAP member societies and study groups.

SPORE BANK

Barry White

All types of spores are welcome including fresher samples of ones already on the list. There is no necessity to separate the sporangia from the spores. The whole, or part, frond may also be sent in, all is acceptable. Please include date of collection and, if collected from the bush, the area. In the list, the month and year of collection is shown. The area of collection is available on request. Order spore from Barry at the address shown on page 1 of the newsletter. [I forgot to mention in last newsletter—please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope when you request spore from the bank. *Peter Bostock*].

Current spore list:

<i>Acrostichum</i> sp. 6/04	<i>Deparia petersenii</i> 12/04
<i>Adiantum formosum</i> 6/05	<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i> 2/04
<i>Adiantum hispidulum</i> var. <i>whitei</i> 6/05	<i>Diplazium assimile</i> 12/04
<i>Amphineuron opulentum</i> 2/05	<i>Diplazium melanochlamys</i> 12/04
<i>Arachniodes aristata</i> 6/05	<i>Doodia australis</i> 12/04
<i>Asplenium aethiopicum</i> 6/05	<i>Doodia dissecta</i> 6/05
<i>Blechnum chambersii</i> 4/05	<i>Hypolepis glandulifera</i> 1/05
<i>Blechnum minus</i> 5/05	<i>Lastreopsis acuminata</i> 11/04
<i>Blechnum patersonii</i> 6/04	<i>Platynerium bifurcatum</i> 3/03
<i>Blechnum wattsi</i> 4/05	<i>Platynerium superbum</i> 8/04
<i>Christella dentata</i> 1/05	<i>Polystichum australiense</i> 12/04
<i>Cyathea australis</i> 4/05	<i>Polystichum proliferum</i> 4/05
<i>Cyathea brownii</i> 2/04	<i>Pteris tremula</i> 1/05
<i>Cyathea cooperi</i> 1/04	<i>Pteris umbrosa</i> 3/04
<i>Cyathea cooperi</i> 'Cinnamon' 2/05	<i>Pteris vittata</i> 6/05
<i>Cyathea leichhardtiana</i> 6/04	<i>Rumohra adiantiformis</i> (Native) 4/05
<i>Dennstaedtia davallioides</i> 2/04	

Thanks to the following spore donors: Keith Ross, Keith Hutchison, Crosby Chase and Ron Wilkins.

Please note that subscriptions became due in January 2005, nominally for the period January to December 2005. However, as mentioned last newsletter (No. 108, July 2005), we are changing to a Financial Year accounting period to take effect on 1 July 2005. Subs will remain at \$5.00, and if paid in 2005 will cover members until June 30, 2006, unless circumstances change drastically.

The confusion over accounting period has clearly resulted in some members over-paying by a year or more, so I will be returning some cheques shortly. I particularly ask State & Territory Region Treasurers to ensure that cheques are accompanied by some indication of the breakdown of payments i.e. whether a cheque is for subscriptions only, or for subscription(s) plus donation, as suggested in the guidelines for Study Groups.

The address label on your envelope containing this newsletter will show one of the following codes:

- 2004** You are \$5.00 in arrears.
2005/6 You are up to date (and do not need to pay again until after June 30, 2006)
2007 You are 1 year in credit—that is, you are paid up until June 30, 2007!

CHECKLIST OF FERNS OF BRISBANE FOREST PARK

Peter Bostock, Oct. 2003

- | | |
|--|---|
| <i>Adiantum atroviride</i> (split from <i>A. aethiopicum</i>) | <i>Crepidomanes vitiense</i> (formerly
<i>Microtrichomanes vitiense</i>) |
| <i>Adiantum diaphanum</i> | <i>Cyathea australis</i> |
| <i>Adiantum formosum</i> | <i>Cyathea cooperi</i> |
| <i>Adiantum hispidulum</i> | <i>Cyathea leichhardtiana</i> |
| var. <i>hispidulum</i> | <i>Davallia pyxidata</i> |
| var. <i>hypoglaucum</i> | <i>Dennstaedtia davallioides</i> |
| var. <i>minus</i> | <i>Dicksonia youngiae</i> |
| var. <i>whitei</i> | <i>Dictymia brownii</i> |
| <i>Adiantum silvaticum</i> | <i>Diplazium assimile</i> |
| <i>Arthropteris beckleri</i> | <i>Doodia aspera</i> |
| <i>Arthropteris tenella</i> | <i>Doodia caudata</i> |
| <i>Arachniodes aristata</i> | <i>Doodia maxima</i> (= <i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i> ×
<i>Doodia aspera</i> ??) |
| <i>Asplenium attenuatum</i> | <i>Doodia australis</i> (formerly <i>Doodia media</i> subsp.
<i>australis</i>) |
| var. <i>attenuatum</i> | <i>Drynaria rigidula</i> |
| var. <i>indivisum</i> | <i>Gleichenia dicarpa</i> |
| <i>Asplenium australasicum</i> | <i>Histiopteris incisa</i> |
| <i>Asplenium flabellifolium</i> | <i>Hypolepis glandulifera</i> |
| <i>Asplenium polyodon</i> | <i>Hypolepis muelleri</i> |
| <i>Belvisia mucronata</i> | <i>Lastreopsis decomposita</i> |
| <i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i> | <i>Lastreopsis marginans</i> |
| <i>Blechnum nudum</i> | <i>Lastreopsis microsora</i> |
| <i>Blechnum patersonii</i> | <i>Lastreopsis munita</i> |
| [<i>Blechnum wattsii</i> - reported but not confirmed] | <i>Lastreopsis smithiana</i> |
| <i>Botrychium australe</i> | <i>Lindsaea microphylla</i> |
| <i>Cheilanthes distans</i> | <i>Deparia petersenii</i> subsp. <i>congrua</i> (formerly
<i>Lunathyrium japonicum</i>) |
| <i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> subsp. <i>sieberi</i> | <i>Macrothelypteris torresiana</i> |
| <i>Christella dentata</i> | <i>Marsilea mutica</i> |
| <i>Calochlaena dubia</i> (formerly <i>Culcita dubia</i>) | <i>Microsorium scandens</i> |
| <i>Cephalomanes caudatum</i> (formerly <i>Macroglena</i>
<i>caudata</i>) | |
| <i>Crepidomanes saxifragoides</i> (formerly
<i>Gonocormus saxifragoides</i>) | |

Nephrolepis cordifolia
Ophioglossum lusitanicum
Ophioglossum pendulum
Pellaea nana (formerly *Pellaea falcata* var. *nana*)
Pellaea paradoxa
**Pityrogramma calomelanos* var. *austro-americana*
Platycerium bifurcatum
Platycerium superbum
Psilotum nudum
Pteridium esculentum

Pteris tremula
Pteris umbrosa
Pteris vittata
Pyrrosia confluens var. *confluens*
Pyrrosia rupestris
Schizaea bifida
Sticherus flabellatus var. *flabellatus*
Todea barbara
Vittaria ensiformis

* **naturalised species**

Deadline for copy for the next newsletter (send to Peter Bostock by email or post): February 15th, 2006
