

ASSOCIATION of

S.G.A.P. Fern Study Group



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SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE: PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM AND RETURN A.S.A.P.

SYDNEY MEMBERS' VISIT TO GREVILLEA PARK, NOVEMBER 17th

Contributed by Joan Moore

Grevillea Park is situated on land behind the Bulli Showground, on the lower slopes of the coastal escarpment. We were welcomed there by Ray Brown and one of his volunteers.

The park has an interesting history. In the 1980's Ray Brown was keeping the collection of plants that the Grevillea Study Group was making. He needed more room, noticed that this piece of ground was not being used, so asked Wollongong Council for a lease, which was granted. After much work by Ray and his band of volunteers the garden was officially opened in 1993.

Local businesses and individuals were supportive: Ray received donations of materials like soil, rocks, bricks, etc., even machinery. He and the volunteers made garden plots for the grevilleas, walking paths, a lake, and car tracks. An immense amount of work! The result is a beautiful garden on the lower slopes, and, higher up, the native bush is being reclaimed from the weeds and rubbish. Fortunately there is good tree cover, and the ferns are thriving here. Volunteer Mark and Peter Hind led us on a walk through this area and Peter compiled a list of the ferns seen, all native to the area:

Figure 1: Blechnum Cartilagineum

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Doodia aspera | Hypolepis glandulifera |
| Christella dentata | Pteris tremula |
| Blechnum patersonii | Pteris umbrosa |
| Blechnum cartilagineum | Pellaea falcata |
| Asplenium flabellifolium | Asplenium australasicum |
| Polystichum australiense | Adiantum formosum |
| Lastreopsis acuminata | Adiantum hispidulum |
| Hymenophyllum cupressiforme | |

and Peter added Botrichium australe though it is best in March and April when the fertile fronds are seen.

At this meeting we were delighted to see Sylvia Garlick and her husband, visiting from Perth. Any other members visiting Sydney from elsewhere would be welcomed at our meetings too.



STH. EAST QUEENSLAND - EXCURSION TO JOHNSON'S PLACE BUDERIM - 4/11/01

Contributed by Irene Cullen

This Spring Sth. East Queensland has suffered drought, bush fires and unseasonably hot days. However when we went to Johnsons Place, on the outskirts of Buderim, we were blessed with a welcome cool change. Sixteen members enjoyed the outing.

Johnsons place was originally a banana plantation and later an acreage was planted with slash pines. As an ill-advised retirement cash crop. Still a good portion of the forty acres remains natural Eucalypt forest - mainly blackbutt, with a fairly dense undergrowth. It is Sandstone country and a spring fed creek runs through the property.

It was to this creek that our party made its way. Along it and quite a distance up the slopes the following species of fern were seen:

Adiantum diaphanum ; *A. hispidulum* var. *hypoglaucum*; *A. sylvaticum*; *Arachnoides aristata*; *Arthropteris tenella*; *Blechnum cartilagineum*; *B. indicum*; *Calochlana dubia*; *Christella dentata*; *C. parasitica*; *Cyathea cooperi*; *C. leichhardtiana*; *Doodia hetrophylla*; *Lastreopsis marginans*; *Lygodium microphyllum*; *Pellaea paradoxia*; and *Pteridium esculentum*.

The party returned to the Johnsons overnight camp site at noon, then all drove to Julie Majors home for lunch. Seated on her wide veranda we enjoyed her hospitality and the sweeping view to the coast line. After lunch we walked down and around her steeply sloping garden and viewed her fernery.



HOLIDAYING IN SOUTH/WEST W.A.

Contributed by Mike Healy

On the 10th of October Joyce and I went to Western Australia for a holiday. We spent a week in Perth then toured down in the lower SW Corner to Albany. As the average tourist the scenery around the City of Perth is beautiful, but as a fern lover the lack of species although understandable is noticeable.

Around Perth the only ferns we observed were in the Esplanade Gardens park along the Swan river near the unusual Swan Bell Tower. The Tower is W.A.'s millenium project containing twelve bells from St. Martin's in the Fields London They were cast in 1725 and presented to W.A. by the U.K. Government as a bi-centennial gift. The ferns here included a variety of native and exotic species all growing well under huge Moretan bay figs even though W.A was experiencing a very severe drought and any watering of parks was done with bore water. Not having a paper and pen with me and the roll of film being defective, I must rely on a not very good memory as far as species so here goes;

Asplenium bulbiferum, *Asp. australasicum*, *Blechnum brasiliense*, *B. occidentale*, and a *Nephrolepis* species. For our W.A friends if I have missed any or incorrectly named some please accept my apology.

Deciding to visit Wave Rock some 300k.m.east of Perth on one of the days I was surprised to discover a *Cheilanthes* (probably *hirsuta* dwarf form) growing very comfortably in a rocky crevice near a granite formation called Hippo's Yawn. Even the annual wildflowers had found this year's drought too difficult to grow in. Who said ferns need water and shade?

Leaving Perth we drove south to Albany via Margaret River and Pemberton, finding a solitary *Cyathea cooperi* approx. 3 metres high at the entrance to Lake Cave one of a series of underground caves that can be visited in the region. As Joyce has a disability it was great that Mammoth Cave, another of the series, is

wheelchair accessible for some distance allowing other than extremely fit people to experience the beauty and aura of a cave and its stalagmites and stalactites.

On to Beedelup falls (near Pemberton) another area with good access to the top of the falls. I should say here that we had been fortunate that in the month before we left it had rained so there was water flowing over the falls. Leaving Joyce at the top of the falls I walked down to a swing bridge across the river to have a look from the base of the falls. On the way to the bridge the whole side of the wall down to the river was covered in a species of *Adiantum*. The lime green of the fern coupled with the white flowers of *clematis aristata* and a strong purple coloured wildflower made an unforgettable sight.

The rest of the trip was typical tourist trying to see as much as possible of a State we'd not visited before in the time available and while we saw an abundance of southern wildflowers, ferns were not prevalent enough to be obvious.

THE MID NORTH COAST GROUP'S OUTING – On 27th & 28th July 2001

By Steve Clemesha

We drove to Telegraph Point and left the highway there and after about a 15 minute trip west, reached Rollands Plains. This is a rural area of mostly cleared rolling hills.

A short drive west of it is Slippery Rock picnic area. From there we drove around a 32 km loop through State Forest. Most of the area was dry Eucalypt forest but there was rainforest near creeks and these were the best fern habitats. About 15 different ferns were at Slippery Rock picnic area. They included *Asplenium australasicum*, *Platyserium bifurcatum*, *Lastreopsis decomposita* and other common species.

Our most interesting stop was at an area of subtropical rainforest near a creek about ¼ the way around the circuit. We found *Polystichum australiense* growing on a steep slope leading to the creek. *Lastreopsis microsora* grew in the area. *Arthropteris tenella* and *A. beckleri* were widespread.

The find of the weekend was an area of *Arthropteris palisotii* about 10 metres square. Most plants were Juvenile and growing in the ground but a few were climbing and had longer fronds. None were fertile as the time of the year was not right for spore production. This fern is rarely seen in NSW. We found it at Barr Mountain in the Border Ranges National Park. There again the patch was large and *A. tenella* and *A. beckleri* were present. *A. palisotii* has been found at Comboyne in 1935 and at the Richmond River, date and collector unknown, but around 1960 or earlier. Dr. Tindale also reported finding what she considered could be hybrids between *A. beckleri* and *A. tenella* at Minnamurra Falls and she stated Leichardt collected a similar specimen in the 1840s but the locality is unknown. *A. palisotii* is about midway between the two commoner species and at least some of the NSW populations could be hybrids.

The next day we first went to a newly opened area in the State Forest. It is an area where wooden tramways were used for moving logs up to about the 1930s. Only a few sleepers remain and some somewhat obscure other relics also.

There was an attractive pink *Boronia* that has a fairly limited distribution in the area. Some ferns grew under the forest and others near the creek. *Lastreopsis decomposita* grew in moister areas of Eucalypt forests which it usually does. *Doodia caudata*, *Blechnum nudum* and *B. patersonii* grew in the muddy creek bank. Altogether 23 different ferns were found in this area.

Our last place for the trip was to Swan's Crossing, which is only a few km further along. It is a cleared area with rainforest near the creek. Most of the ferns grew under the rainforest but *Vittaria elongata* and *Grammitis stenophylla* grew on rocks under Eucalypts but on a shady slope. Altogether 21 different ferns were seen in this area.

Our next outing will be on 10th November to the Gibraltar Range National Park. We look forward to seeing the Waratahs and *Todea barbara*. List of sightings at Slippery Rock, Swans Crossing & Tramway attached.

OUTING FROM SAUERKON 27 & 28 July 2001

FRI. NEWS 26/11/01

	1	2	3		1	2	3
Adiantum aethiopicum	x			Grammitis billardieri		0	
Adiantum diaphanum				Grammitis stenophylla		0	
Adiantum formosum	x			Histiopteris incisa	x		T
Adiantum hispidulum	x			Hymenophyllum bivalve			
Adiantum silvaticum	x	0	T	Hymenophyllum cupressiforme		0	
Arachniodes aristata				Hymenophyllum flabellatum			
Arthropteris beckleri	x			Hypolepis glandulifera	x		T
Athropteris tenella	x	0		Hypolepis Muellieri	x	0	T
Asplenium attenuatum				Lastreopsis acuminata	x		
Asplenium australasicum	x	0	T	Lastreopsis decomposita		0	T
Asplenium bulbiferum				Lastreopsis marginans			
Asplenium flabellifolium		0	T	Lastreopsis microsora	x		
Asplenium flaccidum				Lastreopsis munita	x		
Asplenium obtusatum				Lindsaea linearis			
Asplenium polyodon	x			Lindsaea microphylla	x	0	T
Azolla filiculoides				Lunathyrium petersenii	x		
Azolla pinnata				Lycopodium sp. DEUTERODENSUM	x		
Blechnum camfieldii				Lygodium microphyllum			
Blechnum cartilagineum	x	0	T	Macroglena caudata	x		
Blechnum fluviatile				Microsorium diversifolium			
Blechnum indicum				Microsorium scandens	x		
Blechnum minus	x			Nephrolepis cordifolia		0	
Blechnum nudum	x		T	Ophioglossum pendulum	x		
Blechnum patersonii	x		T	Pellaea falcate	x	0	T
Blechnum penna-marina				Pellaea paradoxa	x		T
Blechnum wattsi		0	T	Pityrogramma austroamericana			
Botrychium australe				Platynerium bifurcatum	x	0	T
Calochlaena dubia (Culcita)	x	0	T	Platynerium superbum	x		
Cheilanthes distans				Polyphlebium venosum			
Cheilanthes soeberi	x			Polystichum australiense	x		
Cheilanthes tenuifolia				Polystichum formosum			
Christella dentata	x		T	Polystichum proliferum			
Cyathea australis	x	0	T	Psilotum nudum			
Cyathea cooperi				Pteridium esculentum	x		
Cyathea leichhardtiana	x	0	T	Pteris tremula	x		
Cyclosorus interruptus				Pteris umbrosa	x		
Cyrtomium falcatum				Pteris vittate			
Davallia pyxidata	x			Pyrrosia confluens	x		
Dennstaedtia davallioides				Pyrrosia rupestris	x		
Dicksonia Antarctica	x			Rumohra adiantiformis			
Dictymia brownii	x			Salvinia molesta			
Diplazium assimile	x			Schizaea bifida			
Diplazium australe	x			Schizaea rupestris			
Diplazium dilatatum				Sticherus flabellatus	x	0	T
Doodia aspera	x	0	T	Sticherus lobatus	x		
Doodia caudata			T	Sticherus tener			
Doodia squarrosa (X)				Tmesipteris sp. TRUNCATA	x		
Gleichenia dicarpa	x		T	Todea Barbara			
Gleichenia microphylla				Vittaria elongata	x	0	
Gleichenia rupestris							

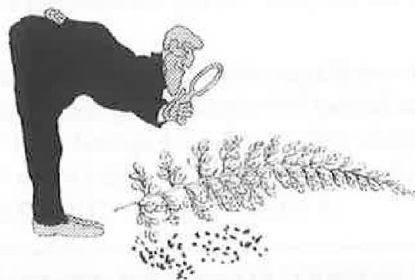
1 SLIPPERY ROCK
2 SWANS CROSSING
3 TRAMWAY

ADD TO SLIPPERY ROCK
ARTHROPTERIS PALISOTII
PELLAEA NANA

SPORE BANK



Congratulations to
Barry on his recent
marriage to Judy



ORDERING SPORE

Spore is available free of charge from Barry White, 24 Ruby St. West Essendon. Vic. 3040
When ordering please include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

CURRENT SPORE LIST

Acrostichum speciosum 12/01
Arachniodes aristata 5/00
Asplenium australasicum 5/98
Asplenium milnei 5/00
Blechnum camfieldii 5/00
Blechnum cartilagineum 1/01
Blechnum chambersii 2/99
Blechnum fluviatile 2/00
Blechnum minus 6/99
Blechnum patersonii 8/99
Colysis sayeri 12/00
Cyathea celebica 3/99
Cyathea cooperi 11/01
Cyathea cooperi var.
cinnamonia /99
Cyathea leichhardtiana 11/00
Cyclosorus interruptus 3/99
Cystopteris filix-fragilis /00
Deparia petersenii 6/00

Dicksonia antarctica 9/00
Dicksonia youngiae 1/99
Diplazium australe 6/00
Doodia australis 12/99
Hypolepis glandulifera 12/00
Lastreopsis acuminata 3/01
Lastreopsis decomposita 12/00
Lastreopsis hispida 2/00
Lastreopsis microsora 12/00
Lastreopsis rufescens 12/00
Lastreopsis tenera 12/00
Macrothelypteris
polypodioides 4/01
Ophioglossum pendulum 2/00
Platynerium bifurc. cv. Hilo/99
Platynerium bifurc. cv. Hula
Hands /99
Platynerium bifurc. cv. Roberts
/99

Contributed by Barry White

Platynerium bifurc. var. venosa
"Mt. Lewis" /99
Platynerium bifurc. cv
Willinckii Scofield /99
Platynerium hillii /99
Platynerium superbum 11/00
Platynerium superbum
(Cairns) /99
Platynerium veitchii 8/99
Polystichum australiense
12/99
Polystichum formosum 6/99
Pronephrum asperum 3/99
Psilotum nudum 8/99
Pteris comans 10/00
Pteris tremula 2/01
Sticherus urceolatus 3/99
Tectaria Confluens 6/00

Spore Donations – Spore donations are not only welcome, they are essential for the proper functioning of the spore bank.

All types of spore are welcome including fresher samples of ones already on the list. There is no necessity to separate the sporangia from the spore. The whole, or part, frond may also be sent in, all is acceptable. Please include date of collection and, if collected in the bush, the area. In the list, the month and year of collection is shown. The letter B indicates collected in the bush. The area of collection is available on request.



CAN YOU HELP? IRENE CULLEN ASKS: When placing young *Platynerium* sporelings, how do you distinguish the top from the bottom frond?

A.S.G.A.P. STH EAST QLD FERN STUDY GROUP

FORTHCOMING DATES

Sunday 2nd December '01 Meet Graham Nosworthy's home - 609 Grandview Road Pullenvale - at 9.30a.m for Christmas recess and study of *Aspleniums*. Bring Festive cats and ferns for a plant exchange .

Sunday 3rd February 2002. Meet at Nev and Shirley Deeth's home 19 Richards Road Camp, Mountain - at 9.30 a.m. Topic - Plans for the year. Bring relevant information and maps of possible excursion venues.

Sunday 3rd of March - an Excursion. to Cunninghams Gap. Meet 9.30a.m at the main Picnic Grounds - Cunninghams Gap. For further information ring Irene Cullen - phone 07 3423 7347.

N.B. Peter Bostock will be at Kew England until September 2002.

All members of the Sth. East Qld Group Wish our many friends in Fern Study
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR

PROGRAMME FOR SYDNEY MEETINGS, FIRST QUARTER 2002

JANUARY 2002 No Meeting

FEBRUARY 2002 **Sunday Feb. 17th;** Meet at Betty Rymer's home, 48 Annangrove Road, Kenthurst, from 11a.m. We will see the audio-visual on Ferns, made for N.S.W.S.G.A.P. by Fred Johnston, and Visit Betty's extensive native garden.

MARCH 2002 **Saturday March 16th** We will visit Sylvan Grove Native Garden at Picnic Point on the Henry Lawson Drive. Meet at the gate at 11 a.m.

CONTRIBUTIONS SOUGHT – Thanks to those groups who sent articles this quarter. However, I would still like to appeal to individuals or groups to send articles, questions on their favourite plant, an interesting spot they may have visited, a tip on how to grow, or propagate plants, or problems you might be experiencing with growing. Questions have generated a deal of interest in the past.

DEADLINE FOR COPY: Closing date for material to be included in the March 2002 Newsletter is February 15th, 2002. Your Contributions are valuable.

Wishing all Readers of the Fern Study Newsletter a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



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