



# Eucryphia

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Robertson Environment Protection Society – to promote the protection and enhancement of the Robertson Environment  
PO Box 3045, Robertson NSW 2577 [www.reps.org.au](http://www.reps.org.au)

## REPS Annual General Meeting and Talk

Friday Evening November 11<sup>th</sup>

Robertson Community Centre, Caalong Street  
REPS AGM at 7:30pm and Talk 8pm

### “The Southern Highlands Sustainability Hub” An exciting new Wingecarribee initiative



Guest speaker is **Tim Edwards**, Sustainability Manager, Building Products Innovation Council

An Australian by choice and Canadian by birth, Tim is an environmental consultant responsible for developing and maintaining the

Building Products Life Cycle Inventory. Aware of the need for industry and government to work together to improve environmental outcomes, Tim will outline the CanWin proposal to establish a Sustainability Hub in the Southern Highlands – A physical and virtual focus to promote and facilitate overall environmental sustainability.

Tim Edwards will describe the Climate Action Now Wingecarribee proposal to establish a Sustainability Hub in the Southern Highlands. The Hub aims to establish a focal point - both physical and virtual, to promote and facilitate environmental sustainability.

Tim is an environmental consultant based in Bowral. His work has addressed most sustainability disciplines from the point of view of the need for industry and government to work together to improve environmental outcomes. He is currently the Sustainability Manager for the Building Products Innovation Council.

Tim has a commercial background with companies like Pepsico, DHL and Qantas. In the past ten years Tim has focused on sustainability with organisations like Ecoflex, Good Environmental Choice Australia, The Green Cooling Association and BPIC.

**All welcome, informal discussion, light refreshment, gold coin donation**

## Christmas Time Gathering Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Robertson Community Centre from 6:00pm - 7.30pm

Please come to the Community Centre on Friday, 9th December from 6.00 to 7.30 pm. Bring a snack and drinks to celebrate Christmas and enjoy catching up with fellow members of REPS.

Some of Denis Wilson’s beautiful photographs taken on his rambles around the Robertson area will be running in the background.

### Upcoming Events

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> November** – Eat Better Live Better, Henrietta Rose Room 7pm, see pg 6

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup> November** – REPS AGM and Public Meeting, “The Southern Highlands Sustainability Hub”.

Guest speaker is Tim Edwards, Wingecarribee Sustainability Hub. 7:30pm, Community Centre  
**Sun 20<sup>th</sup> November** – Community Workshop “Clean Energy Future” 1pm, CanWin, Kazcare  
Bowral, see pg 2

**Sat 26<sup>th</sup> November** – Caalang Creek Working Bee from 9.30 onwards, see pg 6

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Time Gathering, 6.00pm, Community Centre

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## REPS AGM

In advance of the REPS AGM (on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November) office bearers' reports for 2011 are published below in this issue of Eucryphia.

## President's Report

This has been a memorable year for REPS with well-attended meetings addressed by highly interesting speakers. We are indebted to these folk for giving of their time and sharing their experiences with us. We look forward to similar fascinating presentations in the new year and thank David Tranter for recruiting speakers. What would those talks be without the welcome refreshment that follows? Thanks to Jane Maxwell. I am convinced that the sharing of ideas with like-minded people at our meetings is our strength. Our considerable membership continues to grow and we are financially viable.

Work by REPS members continues at Caalang Creek and in the Robertson Nature Reserve and these fine ongoing achievements are acknowledged. One has only to walk through the Nature Reserve to realise how much has been done to eradicate the feral plants that were once so rife there. Rampant weeds, particularly on roadsides, are a serious threat to our environment and much needs to be done. The Caalang Creek project has produced a significant public space from what was once a weedy wasteland. What a sight are the flowering shrubs in Pinkwood Park!

REPS has been well represented in various ways this year, including the Wingecarribee Shire Council Threatened Species Day at Mittagong and the Robertson Spring Festival. Eucryphia is our publicity outreach, record of activities, literary expression, scientific reportage medium, forum for opinion, and information bulletin. We must thank Monica Engel and Sheila McInnes for their work to produce our journal and, of course, the various contributors. Helen Tranter is preparing a history of our organisation and the drafts so far written show promise of an important record of the work of REPS.

The Committee has worked well in planning our activities and discussions have demonstrated enthusiasm in the pursuit of our aims. Congratulations to all. We were sorry to lose Lynn Stevenson, from the committee due to health problems, as well as Leo Butler, who has left the Southern Highlands. The work of Georgina Persse,

who replaced Lynn as secretary, is much appreciated. Additional committee members are needed and would be most welcome.

We all look forward to a continuation of these worthwhile activities in 2012.

Allan Stiles  
November 2011

## Community Workshop

### A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE FOR WINGECARRIBEE: What should we be doing now?

Sunday 20 Nov 2011 at Kazcare, Bowral (Cnr Centennial Road & Kirkham Avenue) 1.00pm - 5.00pm

Join us for an afternoon workshop with a panel of experts discussing:

- the key ways in which local communities can take a leading role in reducing climate change impacts, grow their local economy and skill base and reinvest in the fabric of their own community
- options for clean energy that make sense for our community
- success stories from other regions
- practical steps we might take locally to move to clean energy

We will also tap into the knowledge and experience of all participants to assess our local capabilities, and begin to narrow down the choice of feasible options, to embrace new sources of clean energy.

We invite all community members to participate.

Places are limited so be sure to Register at [www.canwin.org.au](http://www.canwin.org.au) before 10th November to be assured of a place.

Speakers:

- Matthew Wright, CEO, Beyond Zero Emissions 2020
- Craig Memery, Alternative Technology Association, Australia
- Professor John Martin, Director, Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities, La Trobe University, Bendigo
- Paddy Manning, Sydney Morning Herald Columnist

Cost \$20 per person, afternoon tea will be provided

Treasurer's Report 2011  
 Anne Wilson, Treasurer

**ROBERTSON ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION SOCIETY INC**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2011**

These statements have been prepared in accordance with section 26(6) of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 and Rule 17 of the Association's Rules.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2011**

		\$
Current Assets		
Balance per Bank Passbook	General Account	8,055.20
	Grants Account	144.77
		8,199.97
Current liabilities		
		0.00
Net Assets		8,199.97

**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FROM 01-10-10 TO 30-9-11**

**GENERAL ACCOUNT**

	\$		\$
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Memberships	1,490.00	Dept of Fair Trading	48.00
	0		
Interest	11.33	Hall hire	160.00
Donations with memberships	435.00	Audit fees	165.00
Donations at meetings	207.85	Other meeting costs	298.80
Donations from plant sales	66.00	Printing/Postage/PO Box/Stationery	528.85
Donation towards leaflet	30.00	Internet Web hosting/domain	131.00
Donation from book sales Aug meeting	260.00	Membership subscriptions/donations	110.00
		Transaction charges	19.25
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>2,500.18</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,460.90</b>
		<b>Excess Income to Expenditure</b>	<b>1,039.28</b>

**Bank Reconciliation at 30-9-11**

Opening Balance per Cash Book	7,015.92	Balance per Bank Passbook	8,055.20
Plus Excess Income to Expend	1,039.28	Less unrepresented cheques (none)	
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>8,055.20</b>	<b>Balance to cash book</b>	<b>8,055.20</b>

**GRANTS ACCOUNT**

	\$		\$
<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	
Interest	0.14		0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>0.00</b>
		<b>Excess Income to Expenditure</b>	<b>0.14</b>

**Bank Reconciliation at 30-9-11**

Opening Balance per Cash Book	144.63	Balance per Bank Passbook	144.77
Plus Excess Income to Expend	0.14		
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>144.77</b>	<b>Balance to cash book</b>	<b>144.77</b>

Anne Wilson, Hon. Treasurer

Note to the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2011

The financial report is prepared, on a cash basis whereby items are brought into account as money is paid or received, from the records of the association.

**Minutes** from the Robertson Environment Protection Society Inc annual general meeting held on Friday 12th November, 2010, 7.30pm will be handed out at the AGM on 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2011.

## Agenda for REPS AGM 2011

1. PRESENT
2. APOLOGIES
3. OPENING REMARKS / ANNOUNCEMENTS
4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS AGM held on 12th November, 2010
5. REPORTS
  - 5.1 President's Report
  - 5.2 Treasurer's Report
6. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS
  - President
  - Vice-President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Committee members
  - Talks Convener
  - Publicity Officer
  - Public Officer
  - Librarian
  - Supper Convener
  - Caalang Creek Project Group

NEXT MEETING: TBA

## REPS Positions for re-election

Position	Current Office Bearer
President	Allan Stiles
Vice President	David Mee
Secretary	Georgina Persse
Treasurer	Anne Wilson
General Committee	Leon Hall, Helen Tranter, David Mee, Bruce Clarke, Peter Glass, Monica Engel, Chris Stevenson, David Tranter
Publicity Officer	Monica Engel
Eucryphia Editors	Monica Engel, Sheila McInnes
Talks Convenor	David Tranter
Librarian and Public Officer	Helen Tranter
Supper Convenor	Jane Maxwell
Caalang Creek Project Group	Steve Douglas

## Hot weather burst finished off some Orchids, kick-started others.

by Denis Wilson

After three weeks of cold weather, with the Sun Orchids sitting there refusing to open, suddenly in late October, we got a burst of hot weather (27.9 C max). Two things happened: the little pink *Caladenia* type things ("Finger Orchids") which had been flowering prolifically for 5 weeks in Kangaloon, nearly all shrivelled up; and in response to hot weather (which suits them) the Sun Orchids, Beard Orchids and Flying Duck Orchids all popped open.

So, it is a case of win some, lose some.

Firstly, the most prolific Sun Orchid which is found along Tourist Road - The Spotted Sun Orchid - *Thelymitra ixioides*.



Photo: Denis Wilson

As a matter of record, these are the very first of this species of Sun Orchid to open, in Kangaloon, on 24 October 2011. The same species was rampantly in flower in Nowra, on 28 August.

- Similar habitat - both are slashed grasslands on sandstone base soil.
- Different altitude - approx 60 metres in the Nowra case, and approximately 600 metres in the case of Kangaloon.
- Difference in flowering time: 7 weeks delayed flowering - owing to the altitude and cooler climate.

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The next "new season" Orchids to open in the heat were these Leek Orchids. This is an as-yet unnamed species of *Prasophyllum*. The closest species is probably *Prasophyllum fuscum*, (but it has been determined not to be that species, by CSIRO experts, which means I can safely refer to this one as "*Prasophyllum* sp. aff. *fuscum*").



Photo *Prasophyllum* sp. aff. *Fuscum* DW

Have a look at Denis' blog for more about this topic as well as other observations of nature in Robertson.

[www.peonyden.blogspot.com](http://www.peonyden.blogspot.com)

## Barren Grounds Wildflower Walk

by Helen Tranter

In spite of a heavy downpour during the thunderstorm on Friday afternoon it had stopped raining by Saturday morning and 6 people met at the picnic area in Barren Grounds. We decided to take the track to the west past the stone lodge, and here we noted an *Acacia binervata* (Two-veined Hickory) in flower. This track starts out as open heath, merges into mallee and then low forest.

The widespread white heath flowers of *Epacris obtusifolia* (Blunt-leaf Heath) and *Epacris microphylla* (Coral Heath) provided a background for the other colourful flowers. We identified the dark pink *Boronia barkeriana* (Barker's Boronia), the lighter pink *Sprengelia incarnata* (Pink Swamp Heath) and *Bauera rubioides* (River Rose) while the purple *Sowerbaea juncea* (Vanilla Lily) was just coming into flower. Most delightful though was the beautiful blue of the many patches of

*Dampiera stricta* (Blue Dampiera) on both sides of the track and which seemed to be an even stronger blue than usual.



Photo: Jan Hainke

Two of our group were looking for fungi as well as flowers and they introduced us to some unusual fungi growing on old *Banksia* cones and on the gall on a *Leptospermum* bush. Because of the recent wet weather we also noticed many flourishing patches of moss as well as the Club Mosses *Selaginella* and *Lycopodium*. Two flowering plants we saw which are not always recognized as members of the Proteaceae were *Symphionema paludosum* (Swamp *Symphionema*) and *Conospermum ellipticum* (Smokebush).

Several mallees with lots of striking white flower clusters attracted the photographers as it is not usually so easy to get close enough to photograph eucalypt blossoms. One of these mallees had unfortunately been blown down by the recent high winds and so we had the opportunity to really see the flower clusters close up. The track down the slope to the stone bridge was a bit wet underfoot in places but it was here we saw big bushes of *Boronia thujona* full of flowers and some large pink flowered *Tetralochea* (Black-eyed Susan). Some Waratah plants were seen but none were in flower this year.

We sat on the rocks by the stream to eat our lunch but it was just as well we didn't need to cross over because the water was deep and flowing fast. After lunch we returned at a steady pace back to the cars.

We had noted more than 60 plants, some in flower, some not, and all agreed it had been an interesting day. Perhaps next year, with better weather, more will join the walk and suggestions for other different walking tracks are always welcome.



### **Caalang Creek Working Bees**

Caalang Creek Working Bees are usually held on the last Saturday of each month from 9:30am onwards subject to the weather. Please come and join us for as long as you are able. Please note there will be no working bees in December or January.

### **The next Working Bees will be on the 26th November and the 25th February**

Meet at the footbridge in Hampden Park. Don't forget water, hat and gloves. We now have tools available, but bring your own if you can. Queries to Steve Douglas 4271 4957 or Leon Hall 4888 2222.

### **Help Care for Our Nature Reserve**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month  
9:00am to noon**

All welcome. Please bring garden gloves. For further information, phone Ford Kristo (NPWS) during business hours: 4887 8244

### **REPS Membership Renewals now due**

It is that time of year again when REPS Membership renewals are due. Please find the 2011-12 Annual Membership Renewal/Application form with this edition of *Eucryphia*. Please complete this form as soon as possible and return it with your membership fees to REPS, P.O. Box 3045, Robertson NSW 2577.

Your ongoing membership and support is much appreciated.

If you have any friends or neighbours interested in joining REPS pass a copy of the application form on to them. Alternatively new forms can be obtained from the Secretary, or via email: [monicaengel@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:monicaengel@robertsonctc.org.au).

### **Welcome New REPS Members**

Simon Smith

### **REPS Meetings for 2012**

The dates for next year's public meetings are as listed below. Each meeting will include a talk that will be publicised in the *Eucryphia* prior to the meeting.

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August

Saturday 6 or 13<sup>th</sup> October - Walk

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November (Annual General Meeting)

### **Eat Better, Live Better: From Farm to Fork**

**Wednesday, 9 November 2011, 7-9pm**

**Bowral Library (Henrietta Rose Room)**

A free seminar on healthier eating, with Maria Mitzikis of The Food Muse and Jill Cockram of Moss Vale Community Garden.

RSVP to: [thefoodmuse1@optusnet.com.au](mailto:thefoodmuse1@optusnet.com.au)

*All proceeds to Southern Highlands CanAssist and Moss Vale Community Garden.*

### **Contact REPS**

All those who are interested in supporting our aim are welcome to join REPS. Our aim is to promote the preservation and enhancement of the Robertson environment. We welcome contact with individuals and other community groups. For further information and subscriptions please contact: The Secretary – Georgina Persse

PO Box 3045,

Robertson NSW 2577

or President – Allan Stiles on 0415 309 760

We are always looking for new contributions to *Eucryphia*. If you have an essay, article, poem or photograph that you would like to share with other REPS members please contact Monica Engel or Sheila McInnes

email: [monicaengel@robertsonctc.org.au](mailto:monicaengel@robertsonctc.org.au)

All contributions will be most welcome.

**Visit the REPS website**

[www.reps.org.au](http://www.reps.org.au)